



BEAUMARIS RSL SUB-BRANCH INC.

Accommodated at Black Rock Sports Club
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August 2022 MEMBERS NEWS



Beaumaris RSL Sub Branch Long Tan Dinner 18th of August 2022

Dear Member

After 7 long years it was an absolute thrill for the entire Beaumaris RSL Sub-Branch to be part of our traditional Long Tan Dinner celebrating Vietnam Veterans Day. Terry and Reg Black along with many others organised not just a sold-out event but also an extremely enjoyable and fitting occasion. From the feedback on the night, it very much appears next year is just about sold out already!

We have had a number of members start to put their hands up for the many jobs that need doing as the year unfolds. The dinner has been a great example of that. We very much thank them for their contribution and continue to assure volunteers we always work with them on what their capacity is, so they are not burdened.

I am very pleased that the State Branch has provided us with an update on the use to date of our \$5million+ Welfare contribution. Our accommodation project also remains on track and we are very pleased with the momentum our branch is building with ANZAC House.

Please make sure you come down to our formal thank-you to the volunteers who made the Long Tan dinner such a success. As noted in the newsletter we will be having platters of food and most importantly Executives of the State Branch in attendance. It would be terrific if we could have a large turnout for this occasion. I encourage you to organise a few friends and family members and come along this Wednesday 24th August from 5.30pm (6.30pm Ode).

Enjoy the news!

Long Tan Dinner 18th of August 2022

Anxious moments during a rain event hitting right at the time of arrival certainly didn't dampen the spirits of all the attendees. The Women's Auxiliary provided a perfect room with table's decorated including lovely center pieces (later to be used as fund raisers) and a terrific welcome desk on arrival.

Terry Black was the Master of Ceremonies and was entertaining throughout. Of course, the highlight of the night was the guest speaker "Sly of the Underworld", John Silvester. You could have heard a pin drop during the talk and his stories and knowledge of Melbourne's shadowy characters is simply second to none. Sly donated a copy of his latest book as the nights key fundraising auction conducted by Buxton Real Estate auctioneer, Tim who did a fine job. The night was completed with our own 'Rossco' doing the formal acknowledgements peppered with his very own anecdotes!! A very special pat on the back went to 'Scotty' and his team who provided a beautiful and plentiful meal! Lock in 18th of August 2023!

Special Stand To Wednesday 24th Aug 2022



Beaumaris RSL Sub-Branch meets for a 'Stand To' every Wednesday from 5pm (Ode at 6.30pm)

We are very keen to have a large turn out to thank our organisers of the Long Tan dinner and meet members of the State Branch Executive. There will be platters of hot tasty snacks, drinks served by our lovely bar staff and of course lots of members to catch up with. We hope to see you there and don't forget the doors open early and the Ode is at 6.30pm. It would be terrific if you could bring a guest or two.

RSL Victoria Veteran Welfare Hubs.

As reported last year our Sub-Branch made a very significant contribution to this most high priority welfare initiative of over \$5million. The State Branch was also provided with a similar grant from the Federal Government and is focused on the roll out of the hubs across the state. Your committee understands the scale of this roll out and the need to get each project right. We are continuing to work with the State Branch on this major project. We will keep you informed on the progress of where our funds are being used. In the meantime, please have a read of the below article on the latest Hub under construction.

[Construction begins on the Tim Fischer AC Veteran and Families Wellbeing Centre \(rslvic.com.au\)](http://rslvic.com.au)

Long Term Accommodation Project

Our committee representatives have had a very successful meeting with the new RSL CEO and members of the property team. The proposed leasing arrangement with the Black Rock Sports Club was stepped through and no major concerns were identified. Refinements to the draft lease documentation need to be undertaken to meet the requirements of the RSL Patriotic Trustee. We expect this to be completed over the next few weeks.

Birthdays

We send all our best wishes to our members who celebrate birthdays in August and September.

Month	Title	First Name	Last Name
August	MR	ROBERT	MARCHBANK
August	MRS	DIANNE	VANCE
August	MR	JOSEPH	WURSTHORN
September	MR	BRUCE	ADAMS
September	MR	SHAYNE	BENEDICT
September	MR	KENNETH	BENNING
September	MS	SAMANTHA	DONOVAN
September	MRS	JULIE	HODSMAN
September	MR	BARRY	MARTIN
September	MR	CLARKE	MARTIN
September	MR	ROLAND	MURRAY
September	MR	ANTHONY	PHILLIPS
September	MR	MICHAEL	READ
September	MR	LINDSAY	ROBINSON
September	MR	MICHAEL	SEXTON
September	MR	JAMES	SPOTSWOOD
September	MR	BARRIE	TAYLOR
September	MR	SHANE	TEMPLETON
September	MRS	LOYCE	GIBSON
September	MR	JOHN	HUMPHRIS
September	MRS	WENDY	SHENFIELD



RETURNED SERVICES LEAGUE

BEAUMARIS (Sub-Branch Victoria) WOMEN'S AUXILIARY
ABN Number 88265918231

President: Mairi McIntosh OAM - 0419 882 501 **Secretary:** Reg Black OAM - 0408 324 866
Treasurer: Hilary Ferguson - 0407 926 234

Vietnam Veteran's Day is commemorated on August 18 each year and this year was the 60th anniversary of Australians involvement in Vietnam. Australian soldiers fought valiantly and sadly this battle involved the greatest casualties of Australian lives during the Vietnam war.

The Women's Auxiliary offered to run a Commemorative dinner on behalf of the RSL Committee, a revival of a traditional dinner hosted by the Beaumaris RSL from 1988 till our closure in 2015

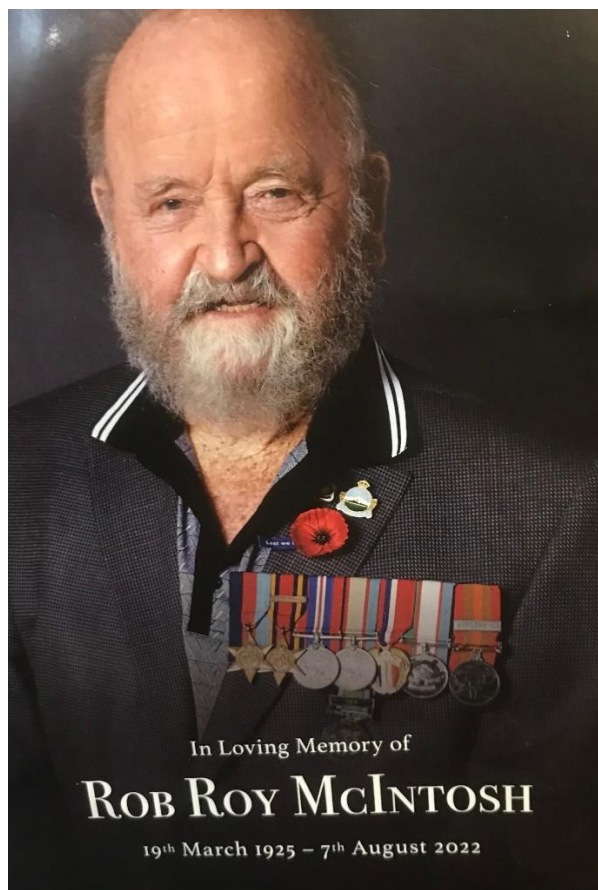
With guest speaker, John Silvester, and our MC for the night Terry Black, it was a night to remember. Thank you to the Auxiliary members who worked tirelessly to ensure the success of the night and the 164 attendees had a thoroughly enjoyable evening. Proceeds from this event will go to support veterans and their families.



Our next meeting of the Women's Auxiliary will be held at Black Rock Sports Club on September 21 at 1.30 pm followed by afternoon tea in the Club Rooms
Until then take care, be kind to yourselves and don't hesitate to call the executive if you are in need of support or assistance. We are here.

Regards,
Reg Black OAM,
Hon Secretary

VALE



Rob Roy McIntosh 19.03.1925 – 07.08.2022 enlisted in the Royal Australian Navy on 17 March 1943, 2 days before his 18th birthday. After his initial training at HMAS Cerberus and a month at HMAS Lonsdale, he joined the crew of the N Class Destroyer HMAS Napier in which he served until 5 November 1945.

By the time Roy joined the ship she had moved from the Mediterranean to the Indian Ocean, and was active round Mombasa, Aden and India. By 24 February they were based at Trincomalee in North Eastern Ceylon (Now Sri Lanka), then on to the Bay of Bengal. In May 1944 the ship called at Exmouth Gulf to and from a raid on Surabaya. By this time, they were joined by 4 American ships, the largest being USS Saratoga.

After a refit at Williamstown and a well-earned 30-day break for the crew, Napier joined the British Eastern Fleet, during which time they were assisting the Army bombarding Japanese positions along the Mayu Peninsula in Burma.

Roy or Mac as he was called in the Navy was an Ack Ack gunner and in an armchair chat with Neal Stewart, he said that when they were under heavy attack by Zeros "I'd harness myself into the Oerlikon, knees shaking like hell ... out of excitement I suppose and say to myself

‘You’re the Gunner, they’re relying on you!’ The nearest bomb was 4 Feet off their starboard bow and luckily did not explode.

Napier was the first ship into the harbour when Akyab Island was retaken from the Japanese in January 1945 and assisted the Army with its landing at Myebon, fifty miles from Akyab. Then on to Ramree with Capital ships to assist.

Napier then went off to join the British Pacific Fleet which joined the American navy operating in the Philippines, Okinawa and the Formosa Islands (now known as Taiwan). Here they were faced with floating mines and Kamikazes, not to mention cyclones and typhoons. It was Mac’s job to sink the floating mines. He lost count of how many he blew up. During this stint of duty, they were 70 days without stepping onto dry land.

The war was coming to an end by now. The morning after the second Atomic bomb was dropped on Nagasaki they were sailing north east when they passed through a strange dark cloud hugging the sea. It has since been confirmed that it was some of the fallout from that bomb. I guess Mac was lucky he was wearing antiflash gear.

Roy was very proud of the fact that their Captain H J Buchanan was the First Commonwealth Officer ashore after the surrender and took control of the huge Yokosuka Naval Base near Yokohama.

Their ship was the lead Fleet destroyer which Roy was very proud about. He was very proud of the fact that they were in Tokyo Bay for the surrender.

He was demobilised on 17 April 1946.

LEST WE FORGET

I hope you have enjoyed this newsletter and if you ever want a chat or have an idea, please do not hesitate to call me or any of the team.

Shayne Benedict
President
Beumaris RSL Sub-Branch
0418 318 862

Please contact Jane Lapa our membership officer with any enquiries.
Phone 0415 935 513 or email jane.lapa@icloud.com

If you have any feedback or an item you would like to include in the newsletter, please email it through to beumarisrsl@gmail.com