



Beaumaris RSL Sub Branch

Temporarily located at Beaumaris Sports Club
68 Oak Street Beaumaris VIC 3193

August 2018

MEMBERS NEWS

Dear Member

John Douglas and Clarke Martin conducted an inspection of our property on Monday 16th of July 2018.

Submariners

Recently the DVA has provided an update for RAN Submariners who served during the many special operations conducted during the cold war between 1978 and 1992. If you this concerns you or anyone you know please either direct them to the DVA or contact the committee through the below contacts.

- Our property is being well looked after (Anthony the caretaker care's)
- The space needed was smaller than a standard home garage
- A temporary static display of some items would be feasible at the BSC
- It appears around half the space is for financial archives
- We share around about half the space with other groups

Below is what we have in there and the approximate size. Our collection of weapons are stored in the armoury at Box Hill RSL which we also intend to visit (see below invitation).

6 pallet boxes 1.2m x 1.2m

2 pallets with plastic tubs 1 metre high

1 pallet of brass objects 500mm high

Binnacle from Steam Tug James Patterson 1.2m high

Weary Dunlop electronic statue Pallett 1metre high by 1metre diameter

SS Edina Ships Wheel 1.5m x 1.5m

SS Edina Bow Boards 2.5m x 400mm

Display Cabinet 1m x 1m x 2.2m

Banister from SS Shannon 5m



John Douglas inspecting property at storage. Large pallet boxes in foreground.

I hope you have enjoyed the newsletter and please do not hesitate to call me if you need.

Clarke Martin

President

Beaumaris RSL Sub Branch

0412 259 631

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 beaumarisrsl@gmail.com

Beaumaris RSL Sub Branch, PO Box 7542, Beaumaris VIC 3193

VALE

VALE John Francis Laughton, JP. ("JL") ex RAN R33731 23AUG1928 - 30MAY2018

Much loved and loving step father of Joanne and Megan Hill.

The funeral was held in the Stratus Chapel, Bunurong Memorial Park, Dandenong South on FRI08JUN18.

Our Sub Branch was represented by our Vice President, John de C. Douglas, President of our Women's Auxiliary and Life Member, Mairi McIntosh, Reg. Black, Past President, Grant Coultman-Smith, OAM,VA,BJ,JP. ,former Secretary, Terry Black, OAM and Life Member, CMDR John Moller,OAM, RFD, RANR (Ret'd).

All together,over 400 people attended. John served in the RAN for a period of 12 years and saw active service during the Korean War. He served in HMA Ships SYDNEY III and BATAAN, the latter being his favourite ship. He attained the rate of Petty Officer in the Communications Branch. After paying off from the navy, he started his career in the

civilian world, but never ever forgot his time in pussers. His motto was that of the Naval Association of Australia, "Once navy- always navy" and he really lived up to that motto. He was President of the HMAS BATAAN Association for quite some time. He was a member of many associations and attended nearly every naval function possible. He was widely known throughout the wider naval family and held in high esteem. This was evident by the range of people present, starting with the Senior Naval Officer Victoria, CDRE Greg Yorke, CSC, RANR , who was representing the Chief of Navy desig. RADM (soon to be VADM) Mike Noonan, AM, RAN. The CO Recruit School, CMDR Andrew Hough, RAN and numerous other Officers, Senior Sailors and Junior Sailors, from throughout HMAS CERBERUS, also attended.

There was a detachment of Australian Navy Cadets from TS BATAAN, led by PO Deb Suttie, who has attended our March and Service in Beaumaris for the last few years. She just happens to work with Megan. TS BATAAN was a favourite of JL's and he did a lot to support the unit that was very dear to his heart.

There was a Civil Celebrant who gave a welcoming address and an introduction to all those who spoke subsequently. Joanne and Megan gave a very fine Eulogy and related stories of growing up with JL and how after many years in retail, he took over as Secretary / Manager of the Dandenong RSL Sub Branch for 25 years.

Other members of the family and old shipmates spoke of John and his exploits over the years.

The State President of the Naval Association of Australia, Russell Pettis, presided over the Naval segment of the Service and poppies were placed on the Coffin by a large proportion of those present. Russell recited the Naval Ode and a Bugler from the RAN Band - Melbourne sounded the Last Post and after a period of silence, sounded Reveille.

Commodore Yorke, finished his address with the words: "Petty Officer Laughton, you have served the Queen, your Country, the Royal Australian Navy and the wider navy family. Your job is done. RIP."

An Australian Army Piper, who promised John that he would play at his funeral, did just that. He played at the beginning and the end of the Service.

LEST WE FORGET.