



BEAUMARIS RSL SUB-BRANCH INC.

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JUNE 2021 MEMBERS NEWS



Dear Member

After a very busy April including our AGM and ANZAC activities your Sub-Branch's momentum has continued to build. I am very pleased to report that the negotiations for our accommodation with Black Rock Sports Club has resulted in in-principal agreement which will now be taken to our memberships for discussion. This comes on the back of our long-term debt project entering the very final phases providing us with a great deal of certainty and I must say a lot of relief too.

What great news it was to hear 4 members of our Sub-Branch on their recent awards which are highlighted in this months edition.

Your committee continues the work of the Sub-Branch and as you can see from this Newsletter we have so many volunteers helping with this work which on behalf of all of us I am very grateful for. We are working on some events to bring us all together in the not-too distant future and in the meantime please feel free to drop in to the Black Rock Sports Club on any Wednesday, Thursday or Friday night where many of our members are starting to attend regularly.

Finally, if you are not travelling so well please remember we are here for you and often the best medicine is catching up with friends. Enjoy the news!!

Long Term Accommodation Update

Since our AGM our Sub-Committee has been in on-going discussions with the Black Rock Sports Club on securing accommodation for our Sub-Branch.

It is very pleasing to report that a draft lease agreement has in-principal approval between both committees. We will be holding an information meeting on **Wednesday 21st of July to all members at 7pm** at the Black Rock Sports Club. Looking forward to seeing you all there. Please call Shayne Benedict 0418 318 862 if you have any questions before the 21st.

Queen's Birthday Honour's Recipients



Shirley Bare OAM for her commitment and support to people with Mesothelioma and Asbestosis.



Reg Black OAM awarded for her work for Veterans and their families. Reg is also a Life Member of the Women's Auxiliary.



John de Cruz Douglas OAM for his services to veterans. John is also a Life Member of the RSL Victorian Branch.



Mairi McIntosh OAM awarded for her work for Veterans and the wider Community. Mairi is a Life Member of the RSL Victorian Branch and a Life Member of the Women's Auxiliary.

HISTORICAL DEBTS

After our unanimous vote at the AGM regarding the long-term debt proposal we have received confirmation from the State Branch Board that the Beaumaris Sub-Branch's legacy debt to RSL Victoria has been written off.

RSL Victoria has also confirmed that it will pay the outstanding debt owed to the Victorian Government if and when it becomes due.

The BRSL committee have resolved to write to the Trustees of the Patriotic Fund to formally request the debt between BRSL Inc. and the BRSL Patriotic Fund also be written off. This will then require the Trustees to liaise with Consumer Affairs Victoria to seek approval for and confirmation of the debt write off. We expect these matters to be finalised in the next few months.

TWO TREASURERS FOR THE PRICE OF ONE!!



Beaumaris RSL - Honorary Treasurer and RSL Victoria - State Honorary Treasurer

At the BRSL AGM held on 24 March 2021 a resolution was passed nominating our Sub-Branch Honorary Treasurer (Timothy Holden) for the State Executive position of State Honorary Treasurer.

The following is extracted from the "News from RSL Victoria" published on 8 June 2021.

"As communicated to Sub-Branches early last week, three applications were received for the role of State Honorary Treasurer, which were considered by an independent external panel of accountants. The recommendations were submitted to the State Executive and Mr Timothy Holden was appointed to this position, through to the conclusion of the 2022 Annual Conference.

Timothy joined the RSL as a service member of the Beaumaris RSL Sub-Branch in 2013 and was elected Treasurer in 2017. After his service in the Royal Australian Navy, having joined

in 1979, Timothy graduated in 1989 with a Bachelor of Behavioural Science (Psychology). Working in accounting and insolvency since 1990, he went back to university and gained a Graduate Diploma of Accounting in 1993. He has gone on to qualify for membership of the Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand (CAANZ) in 1997 and advanced to a Fellowship (FCA) with the CAANZ in 2007.

In 2001 Timothy became a Director/Partner of an accounting firm and was involved with the CAANZ on various committees, panels and the CAANZ Victorian Regional Council from 2002 to this day. In 2018, he completed the Company Directors Course with the Australian Institute of Company Directors and was awarded an Order of Merit (GAICD).

With a background in accounting, psychology, communications and business management, Timothy's extensive financial and corporate experience, paired with his knowledge of and understanding of the RSL made him a perfect candidate for this role. RSL Victoria welcomes Timothy in his new role as State Honorary Treasurer, with his extensive experience and expertise a great addition to the State Executive."



Lindsay Robinson and Ross Brimmer ensuring correct social distancing is achieved at the service

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT on the BRSL COMMUNITY ANZAC MARCH

Due to COVID 19 making it impossible to hold our traditional Beaumaris RSL Community ANZAC Commemorative March and Service last year, we had hoped at the time, that things would be entirely back to normal well before this year's event came around.

We started planning in earnest in the third week of January, preparing our "Plan Alpha", knowing full well that anything could happen between then and the 18APR21. We went

ahead planning for the best whilst being well aware that a “Plan Bravo” may have to be substituted along the way.

Almost every day, “brick walls” started appearing out of the ground where ever we went. Early in the piece, we received very good advice from Georgia Starke at the Municipal Offices that under State Government COVID Regulations, we were classed as “Tier 3” and as such, were entitled to have up to 1000 people in attendance.



Pick the members! We can see Graeme Scott and Christine Benedict spouses of our President and Secretary. Is that Tim Wilson MP?

In addition to the normal City of Bayside Permit Application, that involves the usual Risk Management and Traffic Management paperwork, a COVID 19 Safety Plan had to be prepared and our own QR Code had to be applied for. With only a month to run, the Frank Reade Sporting Pavilion was demolished and temporary fencing appeared everywhere. On top of that, shipping containers, temporary Site Offices were craned in to the north, but even worse, temporary Changing Rooms, Heads and Bathrooms were installed at the eastern end of the Art Club. This caused considerable angst, as it made it difficult for the March to pass smoothly onto the playing fields, un impeded.

For the Vintage Motor Vehicles, provided by our Transport Officer John Humphris with his 1923 Rolls Royce Tourer, ably assisted by our “Nasho” friend Peter Shepard, with his 1923 Alpha Romeo Tourer, it was soon determined that these lovely vehicles, bearing some of our more senior members, would be unable to complete the March in a manner befitting them. In fact, there was no way the cars could navigate the curved gap to get onto the playing fields for stabling.

A site inspection took place by our Engineer, Lindsay Robinson and numerous measurements took place, with the aid of precision instruments, such as Theodolites, Sextants, Plum bobs and even a 25-foot Measuring Tape. Lindsay determined that the problem could readily be

solved by bringing in a crane, hoisting one changing room, rotating it 90 degrees anti clockwise and returning it to the ground. This would have solved the problem for us and also provided a more private mini quadrangle for the sports people.

The Council staff shuddered at this suggestion and said it couldn't be done, however after a little persistent encouragement, they finally agreed.

Then along came the Building Company's Site Manager, right on cue. He pointed out that a crane would muck up the lawns. He said "we will simply remove a section of fence and put it back at some in the future", problem solved.

From then on, all the magic started to happen. One of the builders spent a whole week working to make our Memorial Site look the very best it could be under the circumstances. All the builder's temporary fencing were moved back as far as possible, sky blue shade cloth was installed on our side of every section, single handed, in a Force 12 gale. Nothing was too much trouble.

Thanks to our friends at City Wide, our lawns and gardens looked better than ever.

Our Appeals Director, Andy Coogan and his avid team of ANZAC Badge sellers had already been working at the Concourse for a couple of weeks and publicising our event with small flyers.

Along came Sunday 18th and Covid or no Covid, we had a very good turn out for the March and a very good crowd for the Service. It was estimated that approx. 750 people attended, even with Physical Distancing. We had our usual lovely weather, a great band of 60 Musicians from St Leonards College, under the Baton of Mark Ford and our wonderful "Vocally Wild" Choir with Dr Bill Miles as Musical Director.

Our President
Shayne Benedict
MC



I would like to thank all those people who worked so hard in the weeks before and on the day.

Mairi McIntosh and Reg Black who never stop working and the huge team that work in the background every time we have some sort of function and are too numerous to mention. You know who you are. Thank You!



Commander Cindy Jenkins, RAN taking the salute. Her Commemorative Address was the RAN's role in the landing of Gallipoli

Thanks to our Medical Officer Dr Rob Cuthbertson, who I am glad to say, didn't have any really serious medical emergencies, just the few people who sagged at the knees!

To Lindsay, Rosco, Andy, Peter & Rhonda and Terry Black Shayne and Stephan and others who all take charge of setting up before and packing up on completion. Thank You!

Let us all look forward to our next event and hope that it is not impeded by any more COVID restrictions.

Best Wishes, John de Cruz Douglas -- Vice President

ANZAC Appeal 2021

We can't thank you enough for hopping in, and what a great result you achieved. I felt if we did two solid weeks before ANZAC Day that would be perfect but it turned out we started a week earlier in part due to a couple of spots becoming available at Bunnings, so with that plus a good weekend at The Concourse we kicked off with about \$4000 that week.

The results below were entirely due to your effort. We actually only missed one spot, due to horrid weather so thank you to our regular volunteers, you're so appreciated but also to some new friends who joined in including the ladies from Vocally Wild Choir who enthusiastically offered to fill in any vacancies as needed. In all there was thirty-two of us, thanks for fitting in as needed.

Black Rock Woolworths was a new point of sale which went well and a last-minute burst by Hilary Ferguson at Brighton was an unexpected winner. (I wouldn't get in the way of Hilary where a sale was at stake) Mick Lapa made a wonderful effort at Seaview, turning up relentlessly. I think he almost bled the place dry. Well done and thanks Mick.

The following figures are for your interest.

I banked \$20398.85

Plus, Eftpos contributions - \$2399.57

Plus, incidentally

Beaumaris Sec. College \$579 +

Beaumaris Primary School \$503.35

In closing can't mention everyone's name but whatever you did, be assured it's appreciated.

Keep safe and well.

Andrew Coogan

Birthdays

We wish our Octogenarian, Nonagenarian and Centenarian members for birthdays in June and July!!

JOYCE	BECKWITH		RAYMOND	HICKEY
EDWARD	MORECROFT		SHIRLEY	TURRELL
PETER	WINDSOR		JACK	STEVENSON
JOHN	MOLLER OAM RFD		COLIN	TREBILCOCK
BRIAN	GRIFFIN		RONALD	CHEATER
HILARY	FERGUSON		VALERIE	CROZIER
ALLAN	TRINCA		RALPH	BUTCHER
NEVILL	BLAND		JUNE	MCVILLY

Beaumaris RSL Women's Auxiliary News

It is with great pleasure that I advise that three members of our Women's Auxiliary were recognised in the 2021 Australian Queen's Birthday honours.

Mairi McIntosh OAM awarded for her work for Veterans and the wider Community.
Shirley Bare OAM for her commitment and support to people with Mesothelioma and Asbestosis.

Reg Black OAM awarded for her work for Veterans and their families.

What a hat trick!!!

We also congratulate John de Cruz Douglas OAM for his services to veterans.

We, as a community should be equally proud and grateful that members of our Beaumaris RSL have been honoured with this auspicious award. These awards do not stand alone. They also should be seen as a recognition of all those whose hard work and willing support make things happen for our wider community. We thank you and acknowledge your enormous contributions that have undoubtedly assisted these honourees.

We have had to face further lockdowns in Melbourne and have experienced isolation and loneliness yet the phones have been running hot. Contacts have been ongoing and care and support has been paramount. We have also been restricted by the inability to gather and meet in groups and yet the Sub Branch remains vital. This is greatly attributed to the dedication and support of members and shows that barriers are not a reason to stop contact with others.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all those who so willingly stepped up and gave of their time in helping with the ANZAC appeal and with the catering for our ANZAC afternoon tea. Thank you to Noelene Muller who ensured that the setup was done and that all the food was set out on tables at the post-service venue at Beaumaris Bowls Club.

We would also like to acknowledge the wonderful assistance that the Bowls Club gives to us when organising these post-service functions. They ensure that the club is available, the bar stocked and also provide manpower to ensure that we are all looked after on the day. Thank you also to the many members who made sandwiches, sausage rolls, cakes and slices. Your time and efforts are very much appreciated.

Our May meeting was not without drama. We all assembled outside the Black Rock Sports Club waiting for the doors to be unlocked and the room setup, but as it happened, we were locked out!! Not to be deterred, we jumped into our cars and drove to Reg's house where we conducted our meeting in the warmth and comfort around the dining table. Lots of cups of tea, coffee and biscuits were had as we planned for the unknown future and where we would meet next month. With Covid still looming we did not conduct our usual June meeting and will hope to resume in July, with possibly a lunch in one of the local cafes to support our local traders. You will be notified of where and when as we get closer to our meeting date. Thank you all for your continued support. A reminder that Subs are due and can be sent to Hilary Ferguson C/- 339A Beach Road Black Rock 3193.

HEATHLAND DAY CLUB

The Day club has also had fits and starts and had opened up for some weeks prior to our latest lockdown. Participants limited their contact by adapting their weekly exercise program to fit within the restrictions and physical distancing. The lunches had to be stopped to avoid any innocent transmission. Although these changes were made, the members again supported the programs organised by Mairi. With the lockdown, the Day Club has been closed and Mairi will inform members when these classes will be up and running again.

VALE

Betty O'Dea passed away in January 2021. Betty was a wonderful supporter of the members of the club, always there to chat and enjoy the exercise programs. She was a regular attendee and was a good friend.

Ruby Wingrove passed away in April. Ruby supported the Heathland Day Club always attending our festive luncheons and enjoying the exercise classes. Ruby was working towards her Ph D and was an inspiration to us all.

Gwen Carney passed away on June 4th. Gwen was a much loved and respected stalwart member of the Heathland Day Club. She attended every week and supported the many celebration luncheons that we held. She will be remembered for her hard work, always first in the door to set up for the day, making teas and coffees and creatively making hats to make our luncheon events more festive. Gwen was also a supporter of the Women's Auxiliary and knitted dozens of poppies which helped to create our ANZAC poppy displays. For this she will be always remembered.

Joyce Bagwell passed away on June 5th. Joyce was a vibrant member of the Heathland Day Club, Affiliate member of the Beaumaris Sub Branch and social member of the Black Rock Bowls Club. She was on the Day Club Committee for many years and was the heart and soul of the party.


Our members will be greatly missed.


LEST WE FORGET

VALE

LSCD John Branch who was a strong supporter of our Sub-Branch during our transition to a new home. John was the guest speaker at this year's Beaumaris ANZAC Day Football Luncheon.

IN MEMORIAM OF AN RAN CLEARANCE DIVER





VALE

LSCD John Richard Branch
R64433
07/06/47 - 22/06/21
Qualified CD 4/1966
Op Service HMAS Yarra &
CDT3 Vietnam
USNUC - RVCGP
Fellow of RANCDA 2008

Our thoughts are with wife Tess & family

"RIP Fellow frogman"

*"O God in Heaven, hear our plea, for Clearance Divers neath the sea,
While in the Ocean's dark embrace, keep us Thy sons within Thy Grace.
And hear us Lord, o Thou who saves, for us Thy servants beneath the waves"*

"Fair Winds & Following Seas John"

UNITED & UNDAUNTED

Shayne Benedict
President
Beaumaris 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 beaumarisrsl@gmail.com