

BEAUMARIS RSL SUB-BRANCH INC.

Accommodated at Black Rock Sports Club 2 Fern Street, Black Rock Victoria 3193. Post Office Box No. 7409, Beaumaris, VIC., 3193. Telephone: 0418 318 862 Email: beaumarisrsl@gmail.com

June 2022 MEMBERS NEWS



Dear Member

Our activities for this years ANZAC Day were on any measure exemplary. We raised a record amount for the appeal, conducted our march and service with enormous numbers, undertook the pre-game ceremony at the Sharks football lunch and were very well represented at the Black Rock Sports Club event. I thank all our members for their efforts to ensure all these tasks and occasions were so successful.

With our accommodation project progressing so well it is a fillip to all of us and allows our members to get back to some normality including the Women's Auxiliary's 'Mid-Winter Feast' 21st of July see details below. I encourage you all to get behind this important get together.

Over the next few months, we expect to be able to provide you with further detailed information regarding the refurbishment of the BRSC to incorporate our Sub Branch. We have started to get some very good numbers to our weekly Wednesday Night 'Stand To's at 6.30pm so please come along to one soon. We are very hopeful to be able to offer a meal soon and arrange a number of Sub-Branch events during 2022.

Enjoy the news!

ANZAC Day March and Service

With a record number of marchers, a beautiful day and brilliant reviewing officer and speaker the day was extremely memorable. Commander Ali Withers, RAN provided an extremely pertinent account of the courage of <u>Ordinary Seaman Edward 'Teddy' Sheean VC</u> Although wounded in the chest and back, the 18-year-old sailor shot down one bomber and kept other aircraft away from his comrades in the water. He was seen still firing his gun as *HMAS Armidale* slipped below the waves on 1st December 1942 while evacuating troops in Timor.



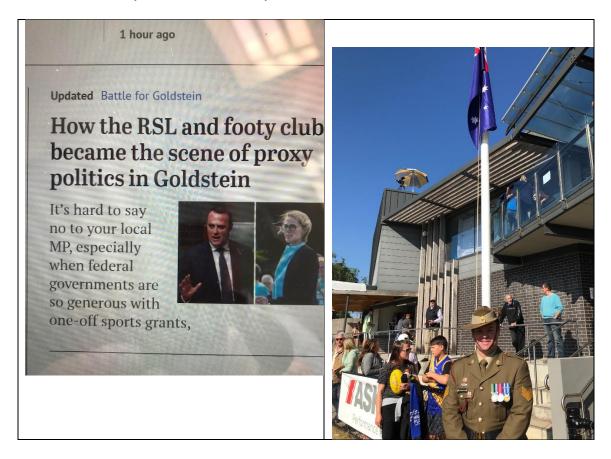


Observing the marchers and band navigating the unexpected stopping of our escort cars was an absolute highlight. The St Leonard's Band and Vocally Wild Choir provided a high-quality performance and as always we were very grateful for the extremely well disciplined catafalque party.

ANZAC Day Game and lunch

Who would of thought our little lunch affair attracted broad media attention. The Age published a story before the event which is a joint venture between our sub-branch and the Beaumaris Football Club when the member for Goldstein Tim Wilson MP and the Candidate Zoe Daniels both accepted invitations to attend.

Of course, with the expertise of our President hosting Zoe and the President of the Football Club hosting Tim the event went through without incident. The guest speaker Sgt Braedan Heyerin provided details of his posting to Afghanistan and his feelings of the US withdrawal in August 2021. Coincidentally the club was referred to Braedan well before it was known that he was is the grandson of one of the RSL founders of the football club and WWII prisoner of war Stanley James (Jim) Kirkby.

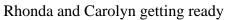


The lunch, pre-game ceremony and game itself made for a very memorable day. The event has become a major part of our year and we certainly encourage you to book your seat for next year.

ANZAC 2022 Appeal

What an incredible effort by our team of volunteers to raise well over \$20,000. Under the leadership of our new Appeals Officer Caroline Strong who was well supported by Rhonda Corfield





The 102 Ralph Butcher manning the stand



We had stalls at the Beaumaris Concourse, Black Rock Village, Sandringham and Seaview shops. We also had plenty of Badge Trays located at schools, clubs and libraries. We thank all of our volunteers for their contribution.

Long Term Accommodation Project Update

The lease documentation has now been with the State Branch lawyers for a number of weeks which have now come back with some amendments. We are on track to complete the process present to ANZAC Hourse for formal approval by endo of June.

Our new Region 4 assistant delegate

Paul Maple has volunteered to assist our Vice President John Douglas to attend our Region bi-monthly meetings. Paul is a very keen member of our Appeals Team and is an active and regular volunteer at the Shrine of Remembrance. We thank Paul and wish him well on his new role!

The Stories behind our Memorabilia Collection



Steam Tug James Patterson's Binnacle

A binnacle is a chest-high case or stand on the deck of a ship, generally mounted in front of the helmsman. Its traditional purpose is to hold the ship's magnetic compass, mounted in gimbals to keep it level while the ship pitches and rolls.

The Beaumaris RSL received this very important piece of Victorian maritime history in the early 1960's through a member that was involved in the maritime industry. We remember the role of this vessel in home defence during both World Wars and the huge contribution made by civilians.

James Patterson founded his coal shipping business in 1852 after arriving in Melbourne from the Newcastle coal fields. The business was extremely successful propelling Patterson into a range of pursuits including being elected as a Melbourne City Councillor and becoming the Lord Mayor

in 1876/77. He was also philanthropist establishing the West Melbourne Presbyterian Church. He played a part of the early VRC through his passion of horse racing. The best-known being Hymettus and the successes of his stable included the Oaks, the Adelaide St Leger and two Caulfield Cups. He died before WW1 in 1906. His business continued to operate until 1960.

ST James Patterson was a 247 gross ton steam tug built by J P Rennoldson, at South Shieldsin in the 1880's and operated right up until the 1950's. The vessel was part of the many shipping incidents that occurred in Port Phillip and outside the heads in Bass Strait. For example, on the 29th August 1908, the visiting American Great White Fleet, consisting of sixteen warships and six auxiliary vessels, steamed up Port Phillip as the famous 'Great White Fleet' of the USN.

During the 'Fleet Week' celebrations that followed, a collision occurred in Hobson's Bay on the 4th September between the USN auxiliary Ajax and the steamer SS Leura. The latter vessel was crowded with sightseers.

The tug James Patterson went alongside and took on board the passengers from the SS Leura. The vessel was towed up the River Yarra for repairs. The Alfred Graving Dock was hastily prepared for Ajax, which proceeded there with pumps working continuously to keep down the in-rushing water. Ajax was docked and a new stern, 63 feet in length, was constructed and fitted.

BEAUMARIS RSL WOMEN'S AUXILIARY MAY 2022 NEWSLETTER



BEAUMARIS Sub-Branch Victoria

WOMEN'S AUXILIARY

President: Mairi McIntosh 0419 882 501 Secretary: Reg Black 0408 324 866

Treasurer: Hilary Ferguson 9592 6234

BEAUMARIS RSL WOMEN'S AUXILIARY
MAY 2022 NEWSLETTER

SAVE THE DATE

A MID WINTER FEAST is on the agenda!

The Women's Auxiliary is organising a function on July 21st

We are very excited to announce that we are planning a Beaumaris RSL Community luncheon to be held at Sandy by the Bay and are thrilled that we have had confirmation that Wendy Stapleton will be our entertainer on the day.

I have attached a flyer advertising this event. Please save the date and invite your family and friends to come along and join us for a heart-warming event in the middle of winter. This is an open invitation to everyone not just RSL members. We hope to fill the room with fun, laughter and great entertainment provided by Wendy.

Looking forward to catching up with you all on the 21 July. If you are in need of transport, please let Mairi or me know so that a roster system can be organised.

BEAUMARIS ANZAC COMMEMORATIVE MARCH AND SERVICE

The Beaumaris RSL Community RSL ANZAC Service was a very special day. In the early hours of the morning the Cenotaph was abuzz with volunteers headed by our ANZAC Convenor John Douglas who, with their plumb lines ensured that not one chair was out of place. After months of planning the day fell into place and was a credit to all the hard work done by John and his team.

Cars were polished, brass band instruments were shining and voices were on pitch. The march was headed by our revered WW2 Veterans with Roy McIntosh partnered by Mairi and Ralph Butcher proudly heading the parade up Reserve Rd in a 1923 Rolls Royce tourer. A spectacular sight. Also, part of the parade were a 1923 Alfa Romeo tourer and a beautifully restored mid-50's Riley sedan.



I would like to thank all the volunteers from the Auxiliary who once again chipped in and ensured that the afternoon tea was well catered and that the set up at Beaumaris Bowls Club was ready for our guests to enjoy the after-service celebrations. Your hard work was very much appreciated and your support on the day made it such a success.

Thank you also to Carolyn Strong, who, with considerable support from the Corfield's, ensured that all venues for Badge sales were well manned and that the presence of Beaumaris RSL was out in the community. Word got around and the numbers at our ANZAC Service were enhanced by the fact that locals bought badges and received a prompting notice of the event being held.

Thank you to you all for your commitment and hard work. Special thank you to the Beaumaris RSL Committee which recognised the hard work of the volunteers and put on a wonderful spread at Stand To on the following Wednesday night at the Black Rock Sports Club. Abundant food, wine and laughter was the order of the day and a welcome acknowledgement to the work of the many who willingly put their hand up and supported the ANZAC event.

The Women's Auxiliary AGM

Our meeting was held at 32 Bayview Cres in Black Rock on Wednesday **13th April at 1.30 followed by our monthly meeting.**

Thank you and congratulations to the "incoming" committee. As in previous years we do not need to have any initiation periods as no new nominations for committee were received so the current executive committee remains unchanged. We welcome Annie Tolliday as Vice President, Noelene Muller as Assistant Secretary and Rhonda Corfield as Assistant Treasurer.

The old adage seems to apply here "If it ain't broke, why fix it....?." Having said that we always welcome new members and are always open to suggestions on what social events we can hold to keep our connections going.

The committee invited our members to lunch at The French Patisserie in Beaumaris on Wednesday the 18th May and enjoyed the company of other Auxiliary members and to brain storm ideas for our Mid-Winter Feast. Transport was provided for those who were not able to independently get there and we were delighted to have 12 members. We thank Christopher at Flavours who supports the Auxiliary for making this event a happy and pleasant gathering.

HEATHLAND DAY CLUB

The Day Club is up and running and due to the commitment and hard work of our President Mairi McIntosh the numbers have increased. We welcome 5 new members who now participate weekly in the appropriate exercise program designed and presented by a qualified exercise physiologist.

These exercises are designed to keep things moving and to maintain and increase balance and mobility. If you are interested on joining the group for a welcome chat, coffee and banter before the class please don't hesitate to contact Mairi on **0419 882 501**. Join in the fun and benefit from great company and friendships.

VALE

It is with great sadness that we inform you of the sudden passing of John Tilley, son of past member Jess Tilley, and much loved and devoted husband of current member Julie. Together they have supported our Auxiliary and have always supported our functions. John was a much-loved member of the Beaumaris wider community and is greatly missed. Our deepest sympathy and constant thoughts are with Julie and her extended family.

Our sympathies also are extended to Jean Morecroft whose brother Leonard (Len) Wallace passed away this month and will also be missed.

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 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

Please note the Black Rock Sports Club Annual Presidents Gala Dinner is coming up!!

