



Beaumaris RSL Sub Branch Inc.

Temporarily located at Beaumaris Sports Club
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March 2020

SPECIAL MEMBERS NEWS

Dear Member

Your committee met on the 18th of March and we have made a number of significant decisions which are detailed below in relation to the CONVID 19 pandemic. Our first and foremost considerations have been the welfare of our veterans. We are an organisation that has a number of elderly members who have done a lot for our country and we will be doing everything we can to ensure they get what they need. We are working closely with State Branch which is providing continued communications and support to Sub Branches.

Our committee is undertaking outward welfare check calls to our elderly members to ensure they have the support they need. The good news is there is currently a healthy level of support available.

Please read the below and if you need anything or have capacity to volunteer sometime please get in touch. There are a lot of uncertainties at the moment but one thing you can be absolutely certain of is that the Beaumaris RSL Sub-Branch is fully engaged on the pandemic.

We are assisting and supporting those in need and are ready to assist those who may need a hand in the coming weeks and months. We will providing another update once ANZAC Day appeal and commemorations are finalised.

ANZAC Day Appeal

State Branch will have the final details of this year's Appeal very soon. To date the plan calls for a predominately online campaign seeking digital donations. Badges will be available from Woolworths and Officeworks but there will not be any physical sales by volunteers as the risk is too great. More information will come out on this over the next two weeks.

ANZAC Day March and Service and WW2 Lunch

As you can understand we have had to cancel the March and Service and we are postponing the lunch indefinitely.

The National ‘#Standto for the ANZACs’ campaign is currently being developed and should be finalised soon. Once it is launched we will be getting right behind it to mark ANZAC Day.

Women’s Auxiliary

Our amazing auxiliary has advised they are suspending activities and are looking at other ways to provide the much welcome support for their members during the pandemic. The Sub-Branch will continue to supply the resources that are requested and keep our communication lines open.

AGM and election of office bearers

It was planned that our AGM would be conducted on the 22nd of April using the Australian Government Social Distancing protocol. However, we have received advice that AGM’s should not be conducted as the following extract states:

“This morning (24th March) the RSL Victoria State Executive (STEX) met via telephone conference to be updated on our COVID19 response. One of the items on the agenda was the effect COVID19 will have on outstanding Annual General Meeting’s (AGM) not yet held.

Under the general powers conferred on the STEX by rule 7.2(a)(3) of the State Branch rules the STEX resolved to cancel all outstanding Annual General Meetings (AGM) not already held.

“Sub-branches should cancel AGMs and reschedule for a time in the future where is it appropriate to do so for their members health and wellbeing. This is especially important for sub-branch’s where you would expect to have a large attendance or where your attendees are within the COVID19 high risk group (the elderly)”.

RSL Vic will release a circular with more details and provide options for how you may hold your AGMs in other format’s in the future. The circular will detail that financial management matters still need to be finalized, such as audits. RSL Victoria has also been in contact with Consumer Affairs and they are happy with the approach we are taking.

As soon as we hear more we will be in touch.

Weekly Stand To

We have been meeting on Wednesday evenings at the Beaumaris Sports Club since December 2017. Unfortunately, we have had to suspend this gathering until further notice. We hope that as the pandemic crisis unfolds new protocols can be established to enable our 'Stand To' to recommence.

Other Sub Branch Clubs

All clubs in Victoria have now closed. State Branch has provided detailed instructions to the Sub Branches in relation to staff and members. Although this action does not effect our Sub Branch directly it does have profound consequences for the RSL movement. The State Branch Executive is working on a package of financial and welfare supports which we will be kept informed about. In the mean time we are thinking of all the Sub Branches affected.

Long Term Accommodation Project

Since our last update in January after the news in December the 2019 proposal being not approved our sub-committee has been meeting with the Council and the sports clubs. We are very pleased that we have not had to go back to square one. The progress being made is substantial but continues to reflect our members agreed negotiating principals. We are taking a very methodological and cautious approach which takes time. There are a lot of details to work though and all of us are guided by the objective of majority support for all decisions. This takes time but it ensures all parties to the final agreement are in strong support.

Historic Debt

State Branch and the Sub-Branch have been in continuous dialogue regarding the 'operational debts' from the past. Over the two years we have been working on this it is clear a significant portion of debt was in relation to the proposed joint venture on the corner of Bay and Reserve Rds. It is very pleasing that progress is being made and we are confident an agreed settlement will be completed soon.

Vale

We are saddened to have lost three of our esteemed members, all WWII Veterans, over the February – March period. In the first two instances, a very fine and moving RSL Service was conducted by our member Mr Errol Driver and the Sub Branch Welfare Officer Peter Corfield was in attendance.

In the third instance, Dr John W. Bough had a private family funeral, which was his wish.

Mr Burke Tidex , PM 5793 Ex RAN 03JAN 1926 – 26FEB2020 Former CDRE of BMYC.

Mr William Affleck (Bill) Adams, OAM. VX83481 2/6 Australian Survey Battery 20JUL1922 – 11MAR2020 Twice Mayor of the City of Sandringham and Life Member of the Lions Club of Sandringham.

Dr John W. Bough, Surgeon Captain, RN, (Ret'd). RSL 1088581 05JAN1928 – 12MAR1920

LEST WE FORGET

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