



Lest We Forget

**George Town RSL Inc.,
44 Macquarie Street,
George Town
PH 63822745**

Newsletter July 2019

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The George Town RSL Sub Branch Board of Management, continues to invest time into seeking ways to best assist veterans and families to meet their needs. Towards that end RSL NE Vice President was invited to lead our board and relevant stakeholders through a workshop to develop ideas for priority based on identified needs. The Sub Branch sought involvement from members and families to offer views and perspective to get a truly collaborative development process for our strategic plan. The main aim of this process was to identify those points that were raised and plan projects to best meet, real needs and issues faced by service personnel and families. There were two opportunities to be part of this process. A SWOT Analysis was a process used to gather information. These sessions were held on Saturday 13th & Monday 20th July. Thanks to some 30 people who attended these sessions and brought to the table excellent contributions. The next step is for the Board of Management to collate, prioritise and develop these ideas for projects as we move forward.

Veteran Views

With the Tamar Valley Veteran Support Centre based in the Sub Branch at 44 Macquarie street, we encourage individuals and families to enquire or seek information about claims, benefits, DVA queries, and other agencies. This service is offered to the community of the North East including Beaconsfield , Lilydale, Scottsdale, Exeter, Bridport and George Town and encompasses rural areas in between. The assistance that people can access in relation to Pensions, Welfare and Advocacy is wide and varied. If you have had some difficulty with claims or understanding processes please make contact with Greg Rush Pensions and Advocacy officer at the Sub Branch. Greg works both at the TVVSC at 44 Macquarie Street George Town on Tuesday as well as Launceston on Thursday.

Data Information Project

One of the key roles of the RSL Sub Branch is to connect with those who have served. Our team, is about to embark on bringing our Sub Branch records, of service personnel, from our community, up to date. There is a need for a willingness of individuals to help

with this data collection. Please make contact, with the Sub Branch with any queries or for clarity of understanding about this collection. This information cannot be gained through Government agencies and would rely on the willingness of those who serve and /or their families to share details.

The value of such a collection is for posterity and understanding for future generations as was done in the past. We would like to update Honour Boards and unless individuals come forward with accurate details we cannot guess such information. If you know of anyone who has served or is currently serving with the ADF from our community, would you please consider making contact with the Sub-Branch office on 65822745 and ask how you can help with this collection. A survey form will be available from the George Town RSL Sub-Branch from late September. Further details will be contained in the next newsletter.

George Town Sub Section of the Naval Association of Australia

At the July meeting of the George Town Sub Section of the Naval Association of Australia, we were pleased and proud to be able to present a cheque for \$500.00 to the George Town Hospital Auxiliary. The money will be used as part of an ongoing upgrading of the hospital wards.

The photo, taken at the TS York Navy Cadets building, shows the Sub Section Treasurer, Brian Shepherd presenting the cheque to Karen Hall from the Hospital Auxiliary.

From the left in the photo are:

Tony Gerding, Chris Spalding, Karen Hall, Brian Shepherd, Brian McDonnell and Daryl Camino



The next meeting of the Sub Section will be on Friday 9th August at the TS York building starting at 1100.

Events

Vietnam Vet Day on 18th August

As in past years, RSL's Sub Branches in our region have taken turns at hosting this day for Vietnam Veterans. Beaconsfield RSL Sub Branch are holding the commemoration this year. They extend an invitation to all Vietnam Veterans to meet in Beaconsfield. A service will begin at the Cenotaph at RSL Park, Weld Street Beaconsfield, at 11am. Followed by a gathering at the Ophir Hotel in Weld Street Beaconsfield.

If there are any Vietnam Veterans considering attending and are interested in travelling in a group by bus. George Town RSL would need to have firm numbers for the bus hire by August 8th, if there are enough interested in going to Beaconsfield, a bus can be organized for travel. The RSL Sub Branch office will need confirmation of numbers by Thursday 8th August. Please contact Secretary Robyn Moody on 63822745

Sub Branch meeting on the 20th August 6:30 pm at the Sub Branch we encourage as many members as possible to come along to the meeting. Retired Major General, Dave Chalmers, will be the guest on this occasion and will be speaking of experiences in Somalia.

Fundraising

The last Bunnings Fundraiser was held on the 29th June. This was the last Bunnings Sizzle for the next couple of months for our volunteers. Thanks to all who gave their time to cook and serve at Bunnings. We will be looking for volunteers to assist again once Bunnings have notified us of dates for the next quarter. If you can offer an hour or two, please give the RSL Sub Branch a call on 63822745 between 10 and 2pm.

We neglected to announce to you the winner of the winter wood raffle. Congratulations to John Tyrell. Thanks to everyone for their generosity, which raised approx. \$380.00.

Happy Hour and Mateship

Ladies morning tea is an enjoyable get-together for family of veterans and we encourage anyone who knows of a spouse or relative of a service person to make contact with the office so that we can assist them in attending Morning Tea with other veteran family members. The next Morning Tea is held on 8th August at 10:30 at the Sub Branch.

The next Happy Hours will be held the 9th & 23rd August and 6th Sept, all welcome. We look forward to seeing you there. There is always a raffle or two which contributes to

fundraising, but the main purpose is to catch up with mates. Partners and guests are most welcome.

Leave

Due to some of our volunteers going on holiday and others taking time for health issues as well as slowing down of visitor numbers, our opening hours will change from the 16th August – 16th September reducing opening to 3 days a week, for one month. The opening days will be Tuesday- Thursday 10pm – 2pm for this short period of time.

Our Advocacy and Welfare team will still be in attendance or can be contacted during this time. Please contact the office on 63822745 or Greg Rush

Calendar: August

- 8th Ladies Morning Tea 10:30
- 9th Happy Hour 4-6pm
- 16th Temporary change to Opening hours Tues-Thurs 10-2pm
- 20th Sub Branch Meeting with Guest Speaker R'td Major General Dave Chalmers
- 23rd Happy Hour 4-6pm