



Lest We Forget

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

Newsletter Month of March/April 2021

This Issue:

- **AGM and Elections**
- **Max Harris Memorial Reserve Update**
- **ANZAC Day**
- **Naval Association News**
- **Other Sub Branches**

SUB-BRANCH OPENING HOURS:

10-2pm Monday -Friday

Important information from the Board of Management:

Update Max Harris Memorial Reserve and the George Town Mountain Bike Trails.

Following a recent meeting with GT Council General Manager, Shane Power and George Town Mountain Bike Trails (GT MBT) Project officer, we are pleased to inform everyone that our proposal (included with last Newsletter) for limited impact on our Max Harris Memorial Reserve, through the developments of the GT MBT has been accepted by Council along with some additional ideas and upgrades. As part of the proposal Council will support and assist in further work to the Memorial of another wall to acknowledge Conflict and Peace keeping efforts beyond WW1 and WW2. A level deck area at the flagpoles, which is needed for safety when individuals are raising and lowering flags during commemorative services.

We are also in ongoing conversations with Council to further look at how best to preserve and keep the area around the Cenotaph, adjacent to the War Memorial Hall, from being encroached upon by Regent Square works and carpark area. We believe this area has been eroded by previous developments and is visually unappealing and very stark, not conducive of a memorial and reflective place for those visiting the Cenotaph. Conversations with Council thus far have been positive.

Annual General Meeting:

This meeting was held March 21st at 11 AM.

Positions open were: President, Treasurer, and four (4) Board members.

We thank Members for their interest and support and for participating in the Board of Management Elections process.

Congratulations to Max Griffiths elected President

Robyn Moody re-elected Treasurer and Public Officer.

James Soul, Terry Morris, Alex Dustan and Brian Bull all elected to the Board of Management. Congratulations to all the new members of the Board.

Your Board of Management

Position	Y/ Elected	
President	2021	Max Griffiths
V. President	2020	Barry Sherrin
V.President Affiliate	2020	Audrey Evans
Secretary	2020	Robyn Moody
Treasurer	2021	Robyn Moody
Board of Management	2020	Greg Rush
Board of Management	2021	Terry Morris
Board of Management	2021	James Soul
Board of Management	2021	Alex Dustan
Board of Management	2021	Brian Bull

George Town Sub-Branch Membership:

George Town RSL Sub-Branch Memberships renewals for 2021 are now due. Membership dues should be paid up by 31st March. Thanks to all those who have already renewed their membership.

Events and Commemorations

ANZAC Day 2021

We will hold both ANZAC Day Services in 2021. The Dawn service will be conducted at the Cenotaph, adjacent to the War Memorial Hall, followed by Gunfire Breakfast and Hot Toddy in the Hall area. This year, due to restrictions, breakfast will be limited in number to 100 and so we encourage everyone to purchase breakfast tickets, which will be available through the Sub-Branch office, from a fortnight prior to ANZAC Day.

The usual Parade and Wreath laying service will be held at Max Harris Memorial Reserve at 11 o'clock. The Parade will commence from the Cenotaph at approximately 10:30 AM. We are encouraging participation of small representative groups from Schools and Community organisations to join the Parade this year.

At both events everyone will continue to need to be mindful of social distance requirements and there will be check in stations using the Check In Tas App as well as sign in books if needed.

ANZAC Day merchandise will be on sale leading up to ANZAC day and we thank you for your support of all our fundraising efforts.

Lest We Forget.

A well-deserved Recipient

As some will be aware, Michael Barrenger was recently awarded for his many years of Service to the Community. The RSL Sub Branch nomination for the State Services Award was in recognition of Michael's unassuming nature, to give where he can, in our community, in a variety of ways. He was also awarded 2021 Community Citizen of the Year. We took the opportunity to congratulate Michael on his awards recently and thank him for his efforts. Michael was very humble in his appreciation of these recognitions. We say a well deserving recipient for his many contributions to Community and in particular George Town. Well Done and Thanks Michael Barrenger.



Michael Barrenger with his Awards;

L-R Barry Sherrin (V.P) Michael and Max Griffiths (Pres)

SUB Branch Meeting The next Sub Branch meeting is **schedule for 6 PM 20th April**. We encourage members to attend meetings, to help them to be more fully informed about their Sub-Branch. Thanks for the attendance of members at the last meeting which enable information to be shared with those other than the Board of Management in attendance.

WELFARE

The next Bus trip is set for Wed April 28th. This trip will to the Historical Town of Westbury for morning Tea and Pearn's Steam World then lunch at the Water garden at Country Club Launceston.

Please book early as limited seats.

Fundraising



A Bunnings Sausage Sizzle will be held on Tuesday 6th April. Thanks to all our Volunteers and if you would like to help, Please give Barry Sherrin a call at the RSL 63822745 between 10 and 2pm. Barry is regularly at the Sub Branch on Tuesday. If you would like to help the teams at Bunnings, it would be appreciated.

BSG Bingo is going well and held each Wednesday. Doors open at 6pm eyes down at 7pm. COVID19 Restrictions are in place, with those attending signing or checking in. The Sub-Branch is now using the Tas Health QR code. Download the App for this quick, easy to use, method for contact tracing purposes. Please remain seated during BINGO. Thanks to regular volunteers, Viv, Pirjo, Gigi, Cindy and Board members who spend the night ensuring all goes well.

Farmers Markets are finished for the season. Thanks to Greg Rush and the team of helpers who regularly gave their time to ensure the markets were up and running each Saturday morning. A huge effort and very much appreciated.

History Group – New Initiative

Member, Kaye Ross, is keen to get a history group off the ground. Some will be aware of Kaye's involvement on the Committee of the Descendants of the Rats of Tobruk. Kaye brings to this endeavour an enjoyment of research and working with service and ex-service people and families to bring their story to life. We have a dedicated research computer and Kaye and others are available to work with individuals to assist them to trace their family war history. Kaye's idea is to work and plan with individuals to capture their stories and make a coffee table book that they can have for posterity.

Happy Hour and Mateship



Viv, Gigi, Kaye and Robyn organise the Ladies morning tea. 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 Ladies Morning tea is scheduled for 10:30 AM, 8th April at the Sub Branch.

Next Happy Hour is Friday 9th April 4-6PM. All welcome. The last couple of happy Hours have been well attended and we are all enjoying the opportunity to catch up. There is finger food offered and we thank those who donate nibblies to go with a choice of beverages. You may have noticed the HH falls on off pay for some members. As the date change is impacting on some members, we will review in time for the next calendar update.

Partners and guests are most welcome. We look forward to seeing you there.

Around the Region

Lilydale Sub Branch

Some members of the Board recently attended the Lilydale RSL Sub Branch 100th Anniversary Luncheon. The function was held in the Lilydale Hall and was well attended by other Sub Branch Groups, local Government representatives, Members of Parliament and the RSL State President, Robert Dick. Lydia Kelly, the 2018 Frank MacDonald Award recipient, spoke passionately about her travel in Europe and the battlefronts of France

as part of the Award. She encouraged all Grade 9 students to consider applying for this worthy award.



L-R

Bridget Archer, Lilydale SB President, Michelle O'Byrne, Vince Davis, Lydia Kelly, Robert Dick and Lilydale V.P.

Scottsdale Luncheon

Recently Scottsdale Sub-Branch also held their Annual Luncheon. Some of our Board members attended and were pleased to meet and network with other Sub Branches and their members. Unfortunately, we were unable to print a photo of the Scottsdale function at the time of publishing this newsletter. It is pleasing to hear that Sub Branches in our region have been working hard in their communities for Veterans and families.

George Town Sub Section of the Naval Association of Australia

Long-time member the Naval Association, Brian Shepherd, received Life Membership at the February annual general meeting of the Sub Section of the Naval Association of Australia. Brian has worked tirelessly as treasurer of the Sub Section for many years and is also a long serving member of the George Town RSL.



In the photo Brian is seen with his certificate accompanied on his right by Brian Ellis, State President of the NAA and on his left, Chris Spalding, President of the George Town Sub Section of the NAA.

At the recent AGM of the Tasmanian State Council of the Naval Association, three members of the George Town Sub Section were elected to positions. Chris Spalding and Tony Gerding were each elected state vice president and Robyn Spalding was elected state secretary. This is quite an achievement for the smallest Sub Section in the state. (Article submitted by NAA George Town Sub Section)

Congratulations Brian Shephard from all at the RSL Sub Branch.

Sub Branches and Sub Sections remain relevant and important in many small communities, thanks to the hard work and endeavour of many in our communities to keep them alive and operating for the need of their members.

Calendar: March/April

Mar 3rd	Wed	Bingo	RSL Sub Branch	6.00p
6th	Sat	Farmers Market	RSL Sub Branch	9.00am
8th	Mond	Board Meeting	RSL Sub Branch	3.15pm
10th	Wed	Bingo	RSL Sub Branch	6.00pm
11th	Thurs	Ladies Morning Tea	RSL Sub Branch	10.30am
12th	Fri	Happy Hour	RSL Sub Branch	4.00pm
13th	Sat	Bunnings Sausage Sizzle	Bunnings Nth	8.00am
17th	Wed	Bingo	RSL Sub Branch	6.00pm
21st	Sun	Annual General Meeting	RSL Sub Branch	11.00am
24th	Wed	Bus Trip	RSL Sub Branch	8.45am
24th	Wed	Bingo	RSL Sub Branch	6.00pm
26th	Fri	Happy Hour	RSL Sub Branch	4.00pm
31st	Wed	Bingo	RSL Sub Branch	6.00pm
Date	Day	Function	Venue	Time
Apr 7th	Wed	Bingo	RSL Sub Branch	6.00pm
8th	Thurs	Ladies Morning Tea	RSL Sub Branch	10.30pm
9th	Fri	Happy Hour	RSL Sub Branch	4.00pm
12th	Mon	Board Meeting	RSL Sub Branch	3.15pm
14th	Wed	Bingo	RSL Sub Branch	6.00pm
20th	Tues	Sub Branch Meeting	RSL Sub Branch	6.00pm
21st	Wed	Bingo	RSL Sub Branch	6.00pm
23rd	Fri	Happy Hour	RSL Sub Branch	4.00pm
25th	Sun	Anzac Day	Memorials	All Day
28th	Wed	Bus Trip	RSL Sub Branch	8.45am
28th	Wed	Bingo	RSL Sub Branch	6.00pm