



Lest We Forget

George Town RSL Inc.,
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Newsletter December 2024

This Issue:

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Board of Management update:

The main work of the Board of Management, in recent months, has been focused on getting the support vehicle purchased and ready for the important work of transport for our Veterans and their families and indeed the community through, Lions, Hospital Auxiliary and Ainslie House in need. The media release and handover on Monday 25th Nov by Richard Curtis of Rio Tinto Bell Bay Aluminum, the major sponsor, \$25,000, Craig Byrne representing Lions Club of George Town \$3,000 and Phil Hawkins with his support of signage on the vehicle.

Our President, Max Griffiths, spoke of the need for the vehicle to be community based for local, needs and joined those in attendance and very much appreciating these sponsorships. It is recognised in the community some struggles people have with getting transport at a reasonable cost, to go to appointments and such. Some RSL Sub Branch volunteers were meeting some of this need, using their own transport and meeting the cost of fuel etc out of their own pockets. We sincerely thank them. However, the need was growing and with the Veteran Hub being based at the Sub Branch the need for transport for Veterans and families was an obvious area to address.



Veteran Views

As most members would know, the George Town RSL Sub Branch is a 'Spoke' in the network of Veteran Hubs being established around the state to address queries and needs of Veterans

and families in perspective regions, North, North East, North West and the South. The Veteran Hub is a vital link for Tasmanian Veterans to seek support. We encourage Veterans and families to Register on the Veteran Hub website www.veteranhub.org.au

This site is for Tasmanian Veterans to seek support at a local level through one of the Veteran Hubs in your region.

Veteran Services State Branch

State Branch will be closed from Friday 20th December and returning 2nd January at 9AM. During the closure period the Veteran Hub phones will not be monitored. People are welcome to leave a voicemail or email.

If there is anyone in need of support during the closure period see the flyer below containing information. It is currently missing information particularly for people sleeping rough however the information in the table below is available.

Requiring Crisis accommodation -homeless	Housing Connect	1800 800 588
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Support Services flyer for contact details for any assistance.

 Support Services Feeling like you need someone to talk to? Here are some contact numbers that may be of assistance		
Service	Focus	Contact
Open Arms Veterans and Families Counselling (24/7)	National face-to-face, telephone, and online counselling service for people that have served in the Australian Defence Force and their families	1800 011 046
Lifeline (24/7)	National phone crisis counselling service and online counselling for people experiencing emotional distress	13 11 14
Suicide Call Back Service (24/7)	National phone counselling service for people at risk of suicide, concerned about someone at risk, bereaved by suicide, or experiencing emotional or mental health issues	1300 659 467
Beyond Blue (24/7)	Phone support and online chat service and links to local services	1300 22 4636
Mental Health Families and Friends Tasmania	Tasmanian phone support for families and friends supporting someone with their mental ill health including someone impacted by suicide	03 6228 7448
Mens Line Australia (24/7)	National phone support and online counselling for men	1300 789 978
13 Yarn (24/7)	National phone support for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people	13 92 76
Qlife	National phone and website, and LGBTIQ+ peer support for people wanting to talk about a range of issues including sexuality, identity, gender, bodies, feelings, or relationships	1800 184 527

Sub Branch Dues and Membership

Most will have received a reminder notice of Sub Branch Membership dues.

Membership renewal is annual and should be paid up by the 31st March each year to stay current. We thank all our members and those members who volunteer. If you would like to actively participate in your Sub Branch please phone the office in the new year. We need volunteers for much of what we do for veterans and families. If you have an hour or two to give we would value your input.

Membership Fees are:

Service & Affiliate members \$40 annually

We also welcome Social Membership - \$20 Annually.

Your Sub Branch is assisting and supporting Veterans and families in our community, every day. Fundraising helps to meet the needs of those doing it tough. Thank you.

RSL Bursaries for Further Education.

The RSL Bursaries for Further Education Interviews have been completed we congratulate all students from the three George Town schools who applied for the Bursaries. The standard of applicants was extremely high and we commend them all on their effort, presentation, and knowledge of the RSL and its aims and purpose. Photos in January Edition. Recipients will be announced at perspective school assemblies.

Legacy Luncheon

Legacy members will have received their invitation to the Legacy luncheon to be held at Don Mario's. We look forward to seeing our legacy group at the Luncheon with Legacy representatives in Terry and Sonja Byrne. This will be a good opportunity for questions to be asked and give input to ways Legacy can assist families of Veterans.

Bingo

The last Bingo night for the year will be held on the 15th December. Bingo will restart in the New year on Wed 15th January.

Christmas Party and Break-Up:

The Christmas party break-up for Members, Veterans and families and friends of the RSL Sub Branch will be held on Friday 20th December from 3PM- around 6PM

Fundraising Christmas Raffle is currently running. A Kitchen package valued at \$700. Tickets \$2 each or 3 for \$5. Call into the RSL to purchase tickets or watch for Volunteers at Woolies selling tickets. This Raffle will be drawn on Dec 20th at our Christmas Breakup. Thank you to everyone for supporting our fundraising.

The Next Bunnings Sausage Sizzles will be on Sunday 15th Dec and 29th Dec 2024. If you would like to volunteer in the morning or afternoon. Please let Phil Evans know or leave a message on 0409001623

Happy Hour and Mateship

Next Happy Hour is on Friday 6th Dec between 4-6PM.

Holiday Closure:

The George Town RSL Sub Branch and Memorabilia Display will be closed from 20th Dec until 6th Jan 2024

Calendar December

Friday 6th Dec

Happy Hour will be from 4-6 PM at the sub Branch

Tuesday 10th December

Board of Management Meeting 3:15

Wednesday 11th December

Star of the Sea College RSL Bursary Presentation at Awards Assembly

Thursday 12th December

The Legacy Luncheon will be held at Don Mario's 12PM

South George Town Primary School Bursary Presentation at Awards assembly

Tuesday 17th December

Port Dalrymple School RSL Bursary presentation at Awards assembly

Friday 20th December RSL Sub Branch Christmas break

A big thank you to our supporters, volunteers, and all those who have helped at the Sub-Branch throughout the year.

Merry Christmas Everyone. Keep yourselves safe over the festive season.

Photo Gallery of official Media Release and hand over to George Town RSL Sub Branch by Rio Tinto - Bell Bay Aluminum of the support vehicle. A BIG thanks for this major sponsorship.

