

Drum
Wyong RSL Sub Branch
Newsletter
April 2021



Naval Gun
Fort Scratchley
Newcastle

Letters to the editor can be sent to
P.O. Box 423, Wyong, 2259
Or email to info@wyongrslsubbranch.com.au
Our Website address is
www.wyongrslsubbranch.com.au

Presidents Report



Hello Members, It is good news knowing that all have survived the covid 19 pandemic and keeping safe.

Further good news is Jason Hicks has returned after six months deployment to the middle east safe and well.

Welcome back Jason.

No doubt all are aware of the merger between our Club Ltd and the Mounties Group. There has been some concern that our Sub-Branch has lost all its money and will no longer function as a Sub-Branch. Let me assure you all that this is a load of B.S. and our Sub-Branch will continue to operate as usual.

Plans for Anzac Day are well in place and will go ahead with reduced services being held in the car park for both Dawn and Morning services. The Dawn Service will be followed by a breakfast and after the morning service our traditional lunch in the upstairs auditorium.

In case of inclement weather, the services will be held in the Oasis Auditorium opposite the police station.

Please let the Secretary know if you plan on attending both services and the luncheon by Tuesday the 20th April 2021.

Our Sub-Branch meetings of late have been well attended followed by lunch and a few drinks consumed afterwards. The office is running very smoothly and our finances are in good shape.

Keep safe, Keep well, Stay in good Spirits.

Alan Stanford

President

Secretary's Report

Well things are now certainly on the move.

We have just held our AGM and are rapidly approaching ANZAC Day. As we began planning for ANZAC Day we were not allowed to hold a march so we decided to retain the Dawn Service and hold a Morning Service at 1100. Both will be held in the carpark with current limitations restricting numbers to 400 seated.

Breakfast will be provided by Club Wyong RSL on completion of the Dawn Service and lunch will be provided by the Sub-Branch after the Morning Service.

Breakfast will be for all attendees, but lunch will be by **booking only** so if you would like to attend the lunch please let me or our office know. If you are not booked in for the lunch you cannot attend. Cut off date for lunch bookings will be next month's meeting 11th April.



The date for the **Centenary Dinner** has now been set for Saturday night, 30th October 2021 here at Club Wyong RSL.

It is a black-tie event so boys brush off your dinner suit and polish your miniature medals. Girls it maybe time to frock up and bring out your best glitter! There will be more details as we get closer to the event.

Keep your contact details up to date

If you have recently moved or your details have changed, please let the sub Branch office know so that we can update your address and contact details.

The information is required so that we can send any correspondence and membership renewals to the correct address.

Also, if you know of a member who has moved, either to another area or to an aged care facility, please notify the sub Branch office.

Sub Branch Happenings

ANZAC DAY

Dawn Service will start at 0545. Breakfast after the service provided by Club Wyong RSL.

Morning Service will commence at 1100. There is no march this year.

Lunch upstairs after a few drinks. Lunch by bookings only let the Sub Branch office know.

Both services will be in Club Wyong RSL carpark. We are restricted to 400 in the carpark with the 1 per 2 square metre COVID rule.

Arrive Early

Entry for both services need you to register with your details on arrival and this can be done via the QR code at the entry to the carpark or by writing your details on the Club forms again at the carpark entry. This will cause delays so please be there well before the start of the service.



Attached are the draft service booklets so you can practice your singing which is now allowed.

Club Entry

We strongly recommend that you change over your membership to the new Mounties club as this will be required on entry to the club. Avoid the delays on ANZAC Day and do it now.

We also expect all of the Sub Branch members to be Club Wyong RSL Club members so if you haven't joined yet please do and support our club.

Sub-Branch Happenings

If you haven't been into the club for a while the CEO asks that you do so soon and change your Club Wyong membership card over to the Mounties Group membership card.

If you are attending our Anzac Day services it will make entering the club an easier task, rather than lining up and changing it on the day.



From this

The Club was closed for a few days recently to let in a lot of workmen that gave it a going over. Carpets were changed, painting was done, walls were built, the leaks in roof were fixed, signage was done among other improvements. Why not come in and have a look.



To this in just 2 days

Sub Branch Happenings

We had a bus trip recently where we went to visit Fort Scratchley in Newcastle. Unfortunately we were restricted in numbers to 24 but the next trip will be able to accommodate more.



We had a guided tour of the tunnels

Pat & Jean hitch a ride



Irish lines up a shot using a restored gun.

Sub Branch Happenings

We had a great lunch at West Diggers Club



We then boarded the Newcastle Tram for a tour around the city and surrounds.



An old carriage put on a truck chassis

The start of the Anzac Memorial walk at Meriwether



Veterans Recognition

By now you should have received your new look Gold or White card and can apply for a Lapel Pin and Certificate of Thanks for your service.

The new Card and Lapel Pin will for the first time enable everyone across the nation to recognise and acknowledge the unique nature of military service and support the more than 300,000 veterans in Australia and their families. The Prime Minister will be writing to businesses and communities to urge them to recognise the service of our veterans. Phone DVA on 1800 555 254 to apply.

DVA Announcements

In addition to the record \$11.2 billion annual support our government delivers for veterans and their families, we will invest \$11.1 million to deliver a national approach to recognise veterans and will further consult Defence and Veterans communities.

DVA will also deliver \$6.7 million to develop the Soldier On Fussell House accommodation facility to be co-located at the Concord Repatriation Hospital in Sydney that the NSW Berejiklian Government is investing more than \$340 million to rebuild. This includes the National Centre for Veterans Health – an Australian first, state of the art centre for specialised health care for veterans.



Named for Lieutenant Michael Fussell who was serving with the Special Operations Task Group in Afghanistan when he was killed in action by an Improvised Explosive Device detonation, the facility will house up to 40 veterans and their families at a time and will especially benefit those from regional and rural areas when veterans are getting treatment.

Our Government will also invest \$7.6 million for the Kookaburra Kids Defence Program to boost their targeted support to children of ex-serving defence force members who are experiencing mental health issues due to their service.

The Kookaburra Kids Defence Program was first supported by our government with a \$2.1 million injection in a pilot program in NSW, the ACT, Queensland and the NT for 569 children, and this extra investment will see the program expand into Victoria, South Australia and Western Australia for 1,750 children.

As a country we can always do more for our veterans. Our government is committed to setting Australia up to support the veterans of today and tomorrow .

Sub-Branch Happenings

If you need advice on certain benefits like

- ◆ Benefits for Dependants
- ◆ Partner Service Pensions
- ◆ Family Support Package for Widowed Partners
- ◆ Help for the Cost of Childcare
- ◆ Income Support Supplement
- ◆ Compensation for Dependents under the MRCA Act
- ◆ Bereavement Payments
- ◆ Pensions for Orphans & War Widow/ers
- ◆ Vietnam Veterans children support
- ◆ Dependent children and your income Support Payments
- ◆ Student Support
- ◆ Special Disability Trust



Australian Government
Department of Veterans' Affairs

You can find out more on these topics and much more on the DVA website, www.dva.gov.au or phoning the DVA on 1800 555 254.



Sub Branch Happenings

We seem to be back to normal as far as our trips are concerned (for the time being at least) so I have had a few requests for a combined bus and ferry trip on the Hawksbury River.

To this end I'm looking into doing the famous Riverboat Postman tour out of Brooklyn.

Hopefully we can organise this trip to be in May, before the cold weather sets in.

Dates will be advised when they can be confirmed, so if you would like to join in the fun with fellow sub branch members and enjoy a day out please contact the office and we'll put your name on the list.

As usual the cost will be just \$10.



Airforce Humour

Q: What's the difference between a co-pilot and a jet engine

A: The jet engine stops whining when the plane stops



A good landing is when you can walk away from the plane whereas a great landing is when you can reuse the plane.

Bravery is being the only one who knows you're afraid

If you see a bomb technician running, try to keep up with him.

If you hear me yell; "eject, eject, eject", the last two will be echo's

Without ammunition the Air Force is just an expensive flying club.

If the wings are traveling faster than the fuselage it has to be a helicopter and therefore, unsafe.

We are not retreating, we are advancing in another direction.

You know that your landing gear is up when it takes full power to taxi to the terminal.

Some Trivia

- 1: What state is Area 51 found?
 - 2: How many colours are there in a rainbow?
 - 3: True or False—the colour orange is named after the fruit?
 - 4: What year was the Lego company formed?
 - 5: What is Cynophobia the fear of?
 - 6: The flag of the European Union has how many stars on it?
 - 7: What does the letter G mean in G-Man?
 - 8: True or False—there are 86,400 seconds in each day?
 - 9: True or False—An eggplant is a vegetable
 - 10: What year was Queen Elizabeth II born?
 - 11: Nephelococcygia is the practice of doing what?
 - 12: How many notes are there on a standard grand piano?
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As A.J. and his platoon of recruits were marching, their sergeant slipped and tumbled down a ravine. The irate sergeant scrambled back up amid guffaws and barked, “Those who laughed, get down and give me 20!” A.J. and some others fell to the ground quickly and did their push-ups. Meanwhile, the sergeant glared at the others. “As for the rest of you, get down and give me 40 for lying!”



When I enlisted in my teens, I took up smoking cigars to make myself look more mature. Did it work? Well, one time, as I proudly puffed away at our NCO club, an older sergeant growled, “Hey, kid, your candy bar’s on fire.”

- Answers**
- 1: Nevada 2: 7 3: True 4: 1932 5: Dogs
6: 12 7: Government 8: True 9: False 10: 1926
11: Finding shapes in clouds 12: 88

Wyong RSL Sub Branch

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Sub Branch Patron: David Harris
Member for Wyong

President: Alan Stanford

Vice Presidents: Jason Hicks
Peter Woodhouse

Secretary: Tony Drover

Treasurer: Chris Isted

Committee: Brian Barnes Fred Roome
Rod Sykes Bill Stewart
Jan Arnold Mary Bernsdorff
Laima Drover JP Glenn Murray
Laurie O'Sullivan Davis Watts

Trustees: David Watts
Alan Stanford
Peter Woodhouse

Welfare: Peter Niven JP Jan Arnold

Office opened Tuesday & Thursday 10am to 12pm

Club Wyong opens at 10am