



RSL

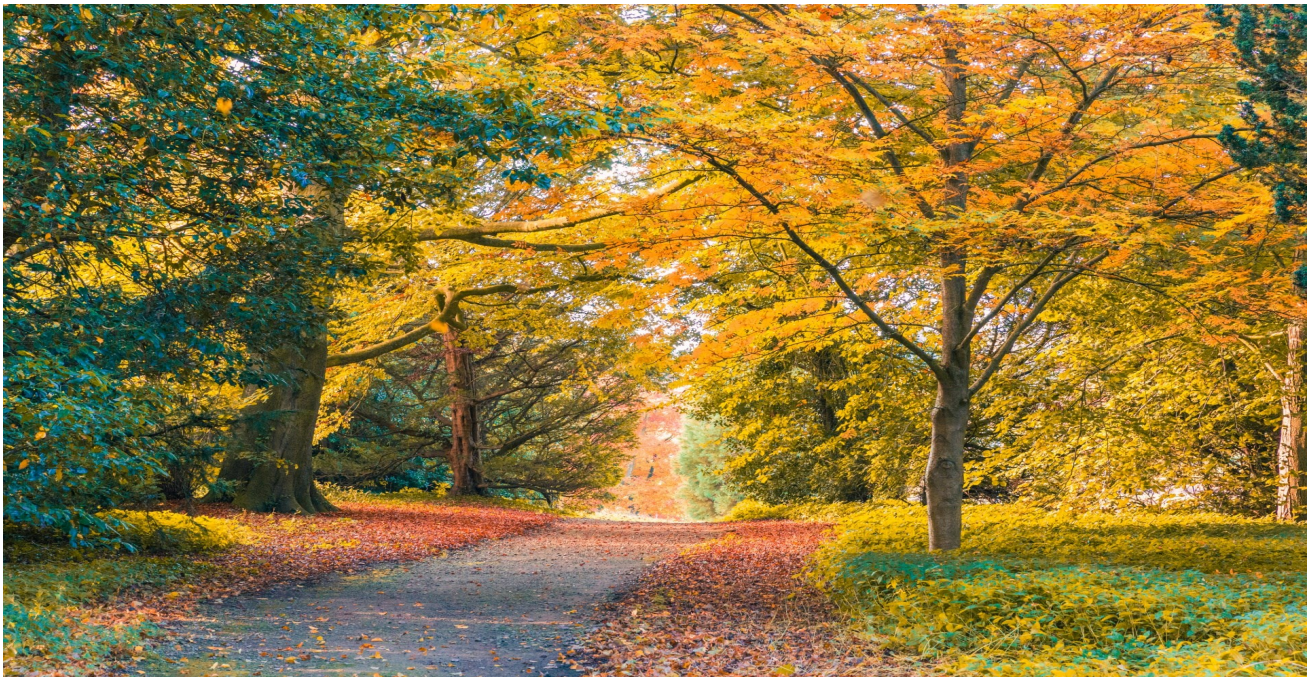
Toowoomba
Sub Branch

‘CARRY ON’

AUTUMN 2023



**OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE
TOOWOOMBA RSL SUB BRANCH.**



IN THIS EDITION-

- * What's happening on ANZAC Day**
- * Café Chat launch**
- * Meet our new Life Members**
- * Our latest Centenarian**
- * Reports from the 2023 AGM**
- * A member discovers her father's WW2 adventures**
- * Loads more info & items of interest**



INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS 2023

SUB- BRANCH OFFICE- Located at the RSL Community Hub, 407 Hume St Kearney's Spring Qld 4350.
Office hours are Monday- Friday 9am – 12noon. Ph: (07) 4632 3506.
All email enquiries should be directed to the Secretary – secretary@toowoomba.rslqld.net.au
Website- www.trsl.org.au Facebook- <https://www.facebook.com/pg/ToowoombaUnitedRSL/about/>
Young Veterans Toowoomba Facebook- <https://www.youngveterans.com.au/>

YOUR COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT-

President- Mr Scott May. In addition to leading our Sub Branch, Scott is a founding member of the Young Veterans organisation & continues to initiate an expanded range of programs/activities to benefit all our members. He leads a small team responsible for grant submissions, and coordinates the highly successful Emu Gully Family Camps every two months.

Deputy President- Mr Sheldon Rogers. Sheldon is our Commemorations Co-ordinator who oversees the planning and implementation of ANZAC Day, Vietnam Veterans Day and Remembrance Day Services and associated activities. He is also the Sub Branch Delegate to District and RSL Qld.

Vice President- Mr Ben Quirke. Ben's portfolio includes assisting with grant submissions. He is also the Sub Branch's alternate delegate to District and RSL Qld.

Secretary/ Membership Officer/ Merchandise Coordinator- Mrs Wendy Holt. Wendy undertakes a wide range of Secretarial duties and manages the daily operation of the Sub- Branch office. She is also the Membership Officer as well as the Merchandise Co-ordinator and Newsletter Editor.

Treasurer- Mrs Ashley Hurst. Ashley has responsibility for the financial affairs of the Sub Branch. She is also involved in organising a range of activities particularly for our female members/partners.

Committee Members-

Mr Huey James OAM- Huey has been involved in the Sub- Branch for many years, serving in numerous positions. Currently, he acts as the Wellbeing Co-ordinator responsible for ensuring requests for welfare assistance are promptly actioned.

Mr Lindsay Morrison. Lindsay is our Resource Officer with a special interest in the preservation and restoration of the items of memorabilia in our care. He has a passion for military history and enjoys responding to enquiries from the public.

Mrs Rhonda James. Rhonda is a Life Member of both the Toowoomba Sub-Branch and the former Women's Auxiliary. She holds the portfolio of hospitality coordinator responsible for responding to requests for Sub Branch assistance at external events/activities.

Mr Allan Traise. Allan is involved with several activities particularly Veterans' Volleyball.

Mr Tavis Smith. Tav is a Warrant Officer with 25/49 Battalion who advises the Committee on our engagement with the local bases, particularly issues concerning current serving members.

Mr Simon Thompson. Simon was recently elected to the Committee. He is looking forward to contributing to the Sub Branch in numerous ways.

PLEASE NOTE- GENERAL MEETINGS OF ALL MEMBERS ARE HELD ON THE 3rd SUNDAY IN FEBRUARY (AGM), MAY, AUGUST & NOVEMBER COMMENCING AT 10.30 AM.

TOOWOOMBA COMMEMORATES ANZAC DAY 2023



DAWN SERVICE & MARCH - MOTHERS' MEMORIAL

4.30 AM- MARCHERS ASSEMBLE AT BUS INTERCHANGE,
NEIL ST (RUM & COFFEE SERVED.)

5.10 AM – FALL IN

5.15 AM- MARCH TO MOTHERS' MEMORIAL

5.30 AM- SERVICE BEGINS

6.15 AM- CONCLUSION OF SERVICE

*FOLLOWING THE DAWN SERVICE, YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE TRADITIONAL
GUNFIRE BREAKFAST HOSTED BY TOOWOOMBA RSL AT THE RAILWAY GOODS SHED,
VICTORIA ST. DONATION ONLY*

*FULL COOKED BREAKFAST, COFFEE VANS, BAR OPERATING FROM 6.00AM, RAFFLES,
MERCHANDISE STALL.*

MID MORNING SERVICE & MARCH - MOTHERS' MEMORIAL

9.00AM - WREATH LAYING

9.15AM- MARCHERS ASSEMBLE NEAR CNR MARGARET
& NEIL STS

10.00AM- MARCH TO MOTHERS' MEMORIAL

10.15AM- SERVICE BEGINS

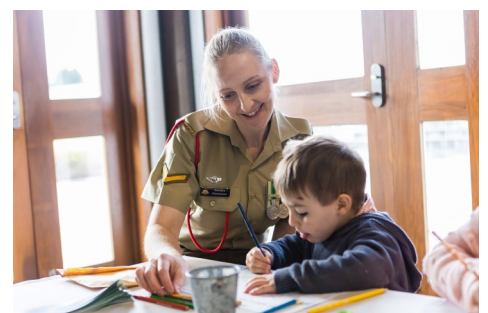
11.00AM- CONCLUSION OF SERVICE



*YOU ARE WELCOME TO RETURN TO THE RAILWAY GOODS SHED FOR COFFEE, LUNCH
AND TWO UP. FULL BAR FACILITIES, FOOD VENDORS, CRAFT BREWERY,
KIDS ACTIVITIES, ARMY FLYING MUSEUM DISPLAY, RAFFLES, MERCHANDISE STALL.*



ATMS & EFTPOS
AVAILABLE.



THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE

For those members who missed the recent AGM, we are repeating Scott's report for 2022.

The past twelve months has definitely had its ups and downs for the Sub Branch, with our organisation suffering some blows while at the same time ensuring that we continued to deliver the welfare and ceremonial requirements for the veterans and families of Toowoomba. With the members wishes being made clear in the survey we posted out last year, the committee is dedicated to ensuring we adhere to the needs and wants of our membership base and are very aware that 99% of you expressed a desire to have a permanent veterans hub established at an alternate site, while retaining a footprint at the Soldier's Memorial Hall.

The election of the Albanese Government saw the scrapping of the 'Building Better Regions' Grants Scheme in which we had a strong submission supported by State and Federal MP's. The scheme was scrapped with the intent of re-establishing it under a different name, but our application was not assessed based on its merit, rather it was simply cast aside with the many other submissions from other community groups for the sake of playing politics. The news was a setback for the Sub Branch with key members putting a lot of time and effort into the 160 page submission, but such is life.

With the disbanding of the aforementioned grant scheme, our committee has been looking at alternate possibilities that will ensure we can meet the needs of the members. With this in mind, we approached RSL Queensland with an expression of interest to occupy the recently vacated South Street Offices, on the provision we secure the capital to demolish and rebuild a 'fit for purpose' facility. Taking the approach that RSL Queensland would be amenable to entering into an agreement that supports a small Sub Branch, adheres to the interim report from the Royal Commission with the recommendation to establish 'Veterans Hubs', and would see capital improvement works on their assets which would only go on to increase its value....we misread the situation, with RSL Queensland not wanting to take the conversation further then a cursory email stating that "The building does not meet disability access standards for upstairs and the RSL Queensland Board have decided to sell the property". This was an amazing opportunity to establish a facility in the heart of Toowoomba that would support the greater Darling Downs Region, yet it appears as if profits have been put before people. As far as our long term future is concerned, we are committed to exploring several other options to secure a 'fit for purpose' venue and our Senior Executive is working on bringing this to fruition.

While Plans A through Z fell apart on us, we still had the Soldiers Memorial Hall concurrently being renovated by the Toowoomba Regional Council. Works were recently completed, and the official re-opening was held late in the year with a select few invited to see the new facility. As much as the building has returned to a higher standard than its former glory, the council has offered very limited space for exclusive use by the Sub Branch which will see us occupy the two main rooms downstairs at the front of the building with ad-hoc access to upstairs.

Negotiations have been slow and tedious in relation to the rental of the space offered at the Soldier's Memorial Hall with several requests being made over the past 6 months for figures pertaining to rent and rates. To date we have received a draft lease agreement that states there will be an annual rental fee in the vicinity of \$600 however there is no financial advice in relation to rates. To some it may seem that this process is being drawn out for no reason, however we are ensuring that our due diligence is being adhered to, making the most sound financial decisions for the Sub Branch that will see the organisation move into 2023 and beyond. All going well we should commence occupying the Soldiers Memorial Hall in early May with the lease at Hume Street ending in July.

On a brighter note, with all the turmoil surrounding our future location the Sub Branch continues to deliver much needed welfare and innovative programs that see veterans and families engaged on a social level, indirect welfare at it best. Our Friday Fellowship is still going strong as well as Monday Coffees. As much as these seem to be fairly low key, on the grand scheme of it these two places are where most of the ideas come from when we talk about some of the bigger keystone projects we have planned. To all those involved in these smaller initiatives I thank you and keep up the good work.

From a statistical point of view, I had the opportunity to sit down with the Treasurer and run through the last three years of financials with her. This provided a great snap shot as to the health and viability of the Sub Branch and I am delighted to say that over the past three years there has been significant growth in income from grants, donations and merchandise sales and conversely our biggest expenses have been in welfare delivery and commemorations. I am happy with where we are focusing our energy and feel we are being financially responsible in ensuring the majority of our income is spent delivering on the objects of the league.

Finally, I would like to thank the committee for all their efforts over the past year, taking particular note of Jason and Ashley Hurst who in the coming months will be setting off on a grand adventure traveling our big brown land for the next 2 years.

Scott May
President

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW LIFE MEMBERS



We are proud to announce that the League has awarded Life Membership to two members of the Toowoomba Sub Branch, Mr Trevor Fuelling and Mr Lindsay Morrison.

Trevor joined the League in 1965 while living and working in Tully. He held an executive position at the Tully RSL Sub Branch. After moving to Toowoomba, he transferred his membership to our Sub Branch where he became involved in the Visiting Team. In 2001, he took over the role as

Team Leader and has continued leading a team of six volunteers who undertake weekly visits to local private hospitals as well as retirement communities and private homes.

Over the past 21 years, Trevor has personally visited hundreds of veterans. He has combined his genuine interest in people with his love of good conversation to bring comfort and joy to many of his fellow veterans, demonstrating the camaraderie that is one of the strengths of Toowoomba Sub Branch. In addition, Trevor has always been happy to volunteer his time to assist with commemorative activities and other fundraising initiatives.

We congratulate Trevor on a well deserved award.

Lindsay Morrison is a familiar face to many of his fellow members. He joined the Toowoomba Sub Branch in 2004 where it soon became evident that he had a real passion for military history, particularly the stories of our local veterans. He has always enjoyed assisting members of the public and families with enquiries and research. In 2009, Lindsay was elected to the Committee of Management and has remained on the Committee ever since. In 2011, he assumed the position of President which he held until 2019. During his tenure as President, Lindsay led the Sub Branch through some challenging times and it is a credit to him that he 'soldiered on'.

Following his presidency, he took on the role of Research Officer/Librarian which finally gave him the chance to pursue his love of military history and concentrate on cataloguing and preserving the numerous historical items held in our collection. His crowning achievement came in 2021 when he saw the 'World War One Unmarked Graves' project come to fruition. This involved the placement of plaques on the graves of 63 WW1 servicemen who had previously lain in unmarked graves in the Drayton and Toowoomba Cemetery. It was in no small way a tribute to Lindsay's dogged determination to ensure our service personnel were recognised for their contribution that this project culminated in a service of dedication prior to Remembrance Day 2021.

He has been a cornerstone of our Sub Branch over many years and we thank him and congratulate him on a job well done.

Both gentlemen were officially presented with their Life Member Certificates, Badge and Tie at a ceremony prior to the Western District AGM where District President Dennis Pollard and RSL Qld Vice President Bill Whitburn did the honours.





Introducing our monthly informal get togethers for the ladies of the Sub Branch.

CAFÉ CHATS

are held at Café 63, Southtown Shopping Centre
South St, Centenary Heights (opposite the High School)
on the first Thursday of the month at 10am.

A warm welcome is extended to all wives/partners of our members, female veterans, and non-league members to join us for a cuppa and a chat.

Please note- Hot/cold drinks are provided with compliments of
Toowoomba Sub Branch.

There is no need to RSVP please just come if you can.
For further info, please contact Sandra Jones 0457 475 106 or
Secretary Wendy 0488 379 604



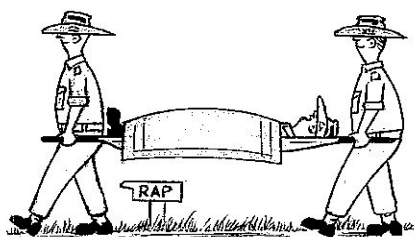
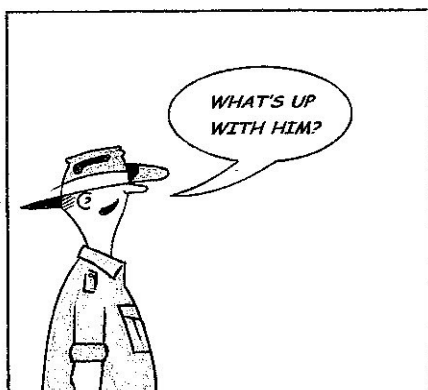
JOHN FRENCH VC LUNCHEON

In early December, 17 of our members travelled to Crows Nest where we joined local Sub Branch members and other veterans from around the District to commemorate the service of local hero John French VC. 2022 marked the 80th Anniversary of the death of Crows Nest's local hero who served in Papua New Guinea during World War 2.

We enjoyed a delicious meal and some great company, and thank President Greg and the members of the Crows Nest Sub Branch most sincerely for their hospitality.



MILITARY MICK BY RON PARSONS





FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK

MEMBERSHIP REPORT 2022

Service Members 343
Non-league 17
Total membership 360

New members -
Service members 19
Life Subscribers 5
Total 24

Deceased members 14
as per the list of Vales

Membership increases -
2022 10
2021 36
2020 23

Demographics-
< 26 5
26-35 26
36-45 21
46-55 34
56-65 46
66-75 95
76-85 76
86+ 40
Total 343

We continued the trend of the past few years by increasing our membership during 2022. A total of 24 new members joined the Sub Branch which is tangible proof that the model adopted by Toowoomba continues to find favour with veterans and current serving members looking for a home.

In early 2022, a decision was made to disband the Citizen's Auxiliary. It was becoming increasingly challenging to administer both administratively and financially, and the small pool of active members was being called upon to carry the work of the Auxiliary. There was a strong desire to retain the active members as part of the Sub Branch, so we held off until after RSL Qld's AGM in June to present a clearer picture of the direction we should take.

Finally, it was agreed that we would offer the former Citizen's Auxiliary members the opportunity to become non-league members within the Sub Branch. This category of membership ensured that they remained as valued members of TRSL with input into its activities, whilst also maintaining the integrity of the service membership category with its voting rights. Moving across to the non-league category means that these people are still recognised on RSL Qld's Membership Management System (MMS) and suitably acknowledged for their ongoing contribution. The non-league category was further broken down within the Sub Branch into either Defence Family Member (for those with immediate familial relationship) or Community Supporter (a broader category which can also include businesses/community organisations who support our activities). I am pleased to report that 17 of the former Citizen's Auxiliary members chose to transfer across to the new non-league category, and I thank them on behalf of us all for their commitment.

During the past year, we had another of our members reach his centenary. Mr Bill Penson, who served with the RAAF in New Guinea during the Second World War celebrated his 100th birthday in June surrounded by family and friends. I was honoured to be invited and presented Bill with his RSL Qld Certificate as well as a hamper from the President and members of Toowoomba Sub Branch. Bill also received honorary life membership of the RAAF Association. Another of our members Mr Jarvis Fuss was due to turn 100 in early 2023 but sadly he passed away on 29 December only a few weeks before reaching this milestone.

I must thank the members of the RSL Qld Marketing Team for their ongoing Christmas Hamper project which is now in its third year. In December 2022, we were able to present four Sub Branch members and their families with hampers. The recipients were delighted to receive these unexpected gifts.

When we visit a veteran or a family member whether it be to deliver Christmas joy, or to sit beside their hospital bed, or to treat them to a coffee and a chat, it is obvious that a kind gesture occasionally is a simple way to let our members know that they are valued and cared about. Thank you to all our wonderful volunteers who continue to perform these acts of kindness all throughout the year.

Wendy

100 wonderful years for William

It's time to wish another of our members a very happy 100th birthday.

William (Bill) Dolley was born in Toowoomba on the 25th February 1923, the third eldest of 11 children who grew up on the family farm at Flagstone Creek. Following in his father's footsteps, Bill joined the Army at the tender age of 17 (he lied about his age) with his elder brother John and a couple of friends.



He did two tours of Papua New Guinea serving on the Kokoda Track, spending a lot of time around the Owen Stanley Ranges, Shaggy Ridge, Ramu Valley, then on to Borneo and the battle of Balikpapan. During his time in New Guinea he contracted malaria which forced him to spend a short time recuperating at the Rocky Creek Army Base Hospital near the Atherton Tablelands in far north Qld. Bill married his sweetheart Mary on the 7th June 1947 in Toowoomba and went on to have three children. The family has grown to now include 9 grandchildren, 17 great grandchildren and 2 great great granddaughters.

After discharging from the Army, Bill served a brief stint at the Toowoomba City Council before moving to the Toowoomba Golf Club at Middle Ridge where he spent 28 years taking care of the expansive greens and rolling fairways which earned him life membership of the Club upon retirement.

Needless to say, his love of golf continued and he enjoyed a game with his veteran buddies right up until he was 92 years old. He always enjoyed catching up with his wartime buddies at the annual 2/25th Battalion reunions.

Today Bill is extremely passionate about football and displays an extensive knowledge of the game and its players. He enjoys keeping up with world happenings through reading, watching TV and scanning the newspapers. Family outings are another pleasure especially trips to Toowoomba to visit his three surviving brothers. Just to keep life interesting, Bill likes nothing better than a trip to the local tavern for a beer and a steak.

Bill celebrated his 100th birthday at his daughter Sandra's home surrounded by family and friends. We all hope you had a great day Bill. Thank you for your service during World War Two and for being a member of our Sub Branch for over 41 years.



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR LONG TIME MEMBERS

The following members were recently presented with Certificates to mark long term membership of the League. We thank each of them for their loyalty to our Sub Branch.

30 Years Membership

Mr Ivan Eiser
Mr Keith Pearce
Mr Geoffrey Anderson

50 Years Membership

Mr Frederick Mitchener

A Journey around my Father

One of our Sub Branch members, Wendy Ingle recently travelled to Europe with her husband Bernie to finally discover some fascinating facts about her father's service during World War Two. Here Wendy shares her story.

My story begins in the usual way as a child of a Vet who fought in "his" war but was almost completely silent on the subject when asked for the details by his young family. All I ever really knew was that dad had been a pilot flying Lancasters in England and there were certain "uncles" in our family who were not really related to us by blood but were as brothers to him - such was their unspoken bond. Dad was also extremely helpful translating German when we watched combat movies on TV!

Dad had made a success of life post 1945 when he arrived back in Australia on his 21st birthday. He did not go to ANZAC Day services after the first few due to Churchill and his involvement in the Dresden Raids over Germany - the details of which I only found out when he was 92 and telling all sorts of things about his war to his grown-up grandsons.

However, there was one amazing year, 1985, when dad and his wife Pauline were invited to attend the official Commemoration of the Lancaster Monument in Goeren near Linkhout, Belgium. The monument was constructed using the struts out of a Lancaster bomber that was retrieved from the swampy ground at the crash site - the bomber being ARF2 (Alpha Romeo Foxtrot 2) - Dad's plane.

Pauline remembers this January day as being one of the coldest she has ever lived through, even for a girl from Orange NSW, but to dad and her absolute surprise that ceremony was attended by the whole town plus senior NATO officials, military and civic officials and even concluded with a F16 flyover made up of 6 jet aircraft. In a time before the Internet, attending this event was only made possible by the dogged research done in Belgium by Rudy Kenis who pieced together the story of the aircrew and finally found out that dad was still alive and living in Australia.

Dad had visited the Commonwealth Communal War Cemetery in Hasselt in the 1960's with my mother and had politely told the War Graves people that there was one grave too many - the one with his name on it!

This may have been a bit disconcerting for dad at the time.

Late last year my husband, Bernie, and I shot through as soon as Covid allowed and went overseas for three months travelling through parts of Europe and the Suez Canal.

We contacted the War Visitors Linkhout through their website before leaving Australia and organised a meeting over coffee with Andy Truyers and Nico Cypers of this group. Coffee turned out to be a whole day given over to literally walk in dad's footsteps from the place he parachute-landed in a tree outside the church in Linkhout to the Commonwealth War Graves at Hasselt, where dad's first crew are now buried. We were welcomed into Andy's home for lunch where we met up with a number of other members of the War Visitors Linkhout, their families and Rudy Kenis, researcher extraordinaire who had driven down from Flanders where he now lives, especially to see us. English is now lingua franca for everyone under 40 years so we didn't have to translate from Flemish as Dad and Pauline had to do in 1985. Dad was told by survivors of that fateful raid over Lummen in 1945 that the sound of Lancaster bombers flying overhead was the "sound of freedom" for the folk living in the low countries of Belgium and the Netherlands as while the bombers were still in the air, then Hitler hadn't won the war. If a crew were shot down over Germany the chances of survival was nil, over France only marginally better, but in Belgium and the Netherlands the locals risked their lives to rescue aircrew. That appreciation of service and sacrifices by aircrews, and especially Bomber Command in saving Europe during 1943 to '45 is still alive and well nearly 80 years on,

Lest We Forget.



Young members of the WVL greet Wendy and Bernie on Alex Jenkinsstraat, named in honour of Wendy's father.

Please take a minute to visit the War Visitors Linkhout website and read “How it all Began” for these amazing young Belgians. Anyone in our veteran community who is planning on travelling to Europe to visit battlefields or war cemeteries need to contact the historian, Rudy Kenis, the WVL group, or others like it, to hear from the locals the stories of the things that happened in the war that didn't make it into military history books or official documents. There is a real respect for Australians travelling to Europe trying to make sense of their family stories. One final anecdote about my father. For years dad had some amazing black-and-white photos in his home in Orange NSW showing the devastation inflicted on Dresden and Cologne with the carpet bombing resulting in a complete conflagration and destruction of both cities. The detail in these photos was so sharp - better than any black and white photos I had ever seen. It turned out that dad had kept back some of the film his crew (including photographers) had taken during the official “post- mortem flights” at the end of the war in Europe. These were military photos taken on special cameras (square negatives) of an event that was authorised for a political, not purely military outcome, and which played on the minds of all those airmen who had to undertake the missions. Dad kept the photos on the wall at his house in Orange as a constant reminder of the insanity of war. Churchill has a lot to answer for in his treatment of Bomber Command! Officialdom will be relieved to know that these photos are now at the Australian War Memorial for safekeeping along with his original logbook and route maps of each raid that he was involved in.

The 460 squadron that dad flew in, was reformed in Canberra on July 2, 2010 as an intelligence unit (Defence Imagery and Geospatial Organisation - DIGO) in the RAAF. Dad was the guest speaker at this event. Not long after this amazing turn of events Dad contributed recollections of “his” war at the Oral History Interviews - Veterans stories gathered by the Australian War Memorial.

Wendy Ingle,
Daughter of Flight Lieutenant Alexander Elliott Jenkins.
C Group, 460 Squadron, Binbrook UK

References:

Rudy Kenis – email – kenis.derycke@telenet.be

War Visitors Linkhout website– warvisitorslinkhout.be – (press the Australian flag for the English translation) and Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/WarVisitorsLinkhout>

Oral History Interviews WWII Alexander Elliott Jenkins – copy available at Toowoomba Sub-branch RSL

There is also a documentary (2015) where Rudy tells the story of the Lancaster and her crew:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i9QqOKlsoy4>

On the website from Rudy Kenis you can find the story and pictures from what happened with the Lancaster ARF 2 and her crew. Select left ” 460 SQ PB471 Lanc “

<https://aircraft-crashes-belgium.jouwweb.be/>



Piece of the tail assembly of a Lancaster
retrieved in Goeren



Struts from the Lancaster landing gear
used to erect the Monument.

A thoughtful gesture makes a member's day.

On Thursday 23rd February, we went to the Puma Service Station Wyalla Plaza to fill the half-empty tank of our Mustang.

My husband, Beven is a TPI Gold Card holder who has P.T.S.D. dementia, Parkinson's, and diabetes together with other painful physical health issues due to his 20 years of service in Artillery in the Australian Army.



On this occasion, after Beven had filled the car with fuel, I gave him our debit card and the RACQ Member card to pay the Puma assistant. Beven returned to me in a confused state, saying that the EFTPOS card machine requested a 'number' so he could use the card, that he didn't know what was requested, and he had never had a 'number'.

As I returned inside to pay the \$81 fuel bill, a young gentleman sporting a neat beard raced out past me, greeting me with words to the effect, "Good morning, have a lovely day". I turned my head to reply, but he had already hurried to his vehicle, an older model 4x4, only a pump or two away from our Mustang (being the only two vehicles there).

I went up to the counter with our debit card, and the Assistant said, "I wasn't supposed to tell you yet, but that fellow who passed you on your way in has already paid for your fuel." Surprised and shocked, I immediately turned to go outside to speak to the young man, but he was already getting into his vehicle and quickly sped out of the service station – then it was me who was confused! The young man turned the corner, driving west along Taylor Street, and there was nothing I could do but wave a very grateful 'thank you' as he drove past. We were driving a Mustang so we certainly didn't look very 'needy' – then why?

Beven had been wearing his favourite green polo shirt with the Army "Rising Sun" crest, and the 'Australian Contingent Southern Rhodesia 1979-1980' badge applique on the chest of the shirt. He was also wearing his knee supports, so together with Beven's confusion, I believe that this young man felt compassion and gratitude for a Veteran, and that this his very generous and noble gesture was a **"Thank You for Your Service"**.



Beven became quite emotional, with tears in his eyes. We salute you young man, whoever you are, and pray that you will be greatly blessed by your giving. You are very much admired and appreciated, and we will never forget your kindness. We thank God that there are still people like you this in the world, and it takes a precious moment like this to make us believe again that the world does have good and compassionate people in it. We will 'pass on' your thoughtful and kind act.

Thank You from Beven & Lynn.

PLEASE SUPPORT THESE BUSINESSES WHO SUPPORT US

- Copper Bench Café
- Westridge News
- Brumby's Wyalla Plaza
- Toowoomba Sunset Superbowl
- Harvey Norman Computer Superstore
- Bunnings Toowoomba North
- Bunnings Toowoomba West



WHAT'S HAPPENING ON ANZAC DAY?

JOIN US AT THE RAILWAY GOODS SHED, VICTORIA ST FROM
6AM FOR A DAY TO REMEMBER.

A COMFORTABLE WALK FROM THE MOTHERS' MEMORIAL
DOWN CHALK DRIVE OR LIMITED OFF- STREET PARKING AT THE
GOODS SHED.

- TRADITIONAL GUNFIRE BREAKFAST
- COFFEE VANS
- FOOD VENDORS- DELICIOUS LUNCH OPTIONS
- FULL BAR OPERATING FROM 6AM
- TWO UP AROUND AUSTRALIA'S BIGGEST RING
- KIDS ACTIVITIES
- CRAFT BREWERY
- MERCHANDISE STALL & RAFFLES
- ARMY FLYING MUSEUM DISPLAY
- WALL OF HONOUR DISPLAY



EVERYONE WELCOME- BRING YOUR FAMILY, MEET UP WITH YOUR
MATES.

ENTRY BY DONATION



THANK YOU JIM



Jim Danskin became a member of the Toowoomba Sub Branch over 41 years ago. In 2002, he joined the Funeral Team under the leadership of the late Nev James before assuming the role of Team Leader in 2005.

Over a period of 22 years, Jim attended more than 1000 veteran funerals where he & his team conducted the Poppy Service which includes reading the Statement of Service and presentation of the national flag to the family.

Jim led by example, putting duty first. He was always available to support the bereaved family &

liaise with local funeral directors, clergy and celebrants. We must also acknowledge Jim's late wife, Denise who provided unfailing support to him in his role. The Toowoomba RSL Sub Branch Funeral Team built an enviable reputation for its professionalism & the respectful way in which it performed its duties & this is in no small way due to Jim's leadership.

In addition to his role with the Funeral Team, Jim also assisted with fundraising & commemorative Activities. He has always been happy to do a shift or two on the merchandise stalls, & continues to attend commemorative services at local schools, particularly St. Mary's College where his attendance is requested at its ANZAC Day Liturgy year after year.

Jim's contribution was acknowledged in 2010 when he was awarded the Toowoomba Sub Branch 'Volunteer of the Year' & more recently in 2019 when he was awarded Life Membership of the League. His input into the life of the Sub Branch has been greatly appreciated so it was a pleasure to present Jim with a plaque on behalf of all members along with a big thank you for a job well done.

VETS IN VANS

We have received the following email from Roustabouts RV Club.



'Recently a veteran mentioned to us that there was no caravan club in Australia dedicated to supporting veterans so we decided to open the club to veterans and organize events for them and our other members.

Events include travelling to various locations to celebrate ANZAC Day, attending Bribie Island RSL for Vietnam Veteran's Day, and Remembrance Day. Additionally our coffee and dining events now include RSL and service clubs, and musters to military related caravan parks like Standown Park. '

The Club's offer has been fully supported by RSL Qld and Open Arms. They would like to get the word out to all veterans who own caravans or other type rigs by offering membership. It doesn't matter if you are already a member of another club, you are welcome to join the Roustabouts RV Club.

If you would like to find out more, you are invited to check out the website

<https://roustaboutsrvclub.com.au/> or please call Secretary Chris Lloyd on 0412 614 260.

EMU GULLY FAMILY CAMPS- DON'T MISS THIS EXPERIENCE!

Places are still available on upcoming camps. This is your opportunity to spend a weekend reconnecting with your family as they gain some insight into your service. Please contact Scott to make further enquiries & to book your places.

14-16 April

27-29 October

23-25 June

24-26 November

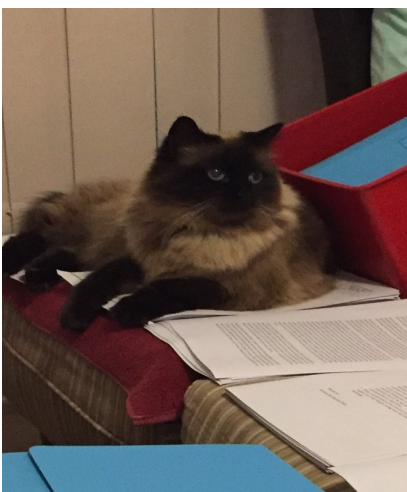
HUB HAPPENINGS



**TEAM WENDY'S
HIGHLY QUALIFIED PERSONNEL**



EAGER MEMBERS AT OUR RECENT AGM



**ASSISTANT SECRETARY
MOLLY WAS EAGER TO
HELP WITH COLLATING
THE AGM REPORTS**



**THANKS TO BUNNINGS FOR THEIR
SUPPORT AGAIN WITH OUR SUCCESSFUL
STALLS.**

‘ CARRY ON ‘ © 2006 Toowoomba RSL Sub Branch Inc.

This newsletter is published by Toowoomba RSL Sub Branch Inc. for its members. Whilst great care is taken to ensure information is accurate, readers should not act upon any information provided in this publication alone. Readers should confirm the accuracy of information with the relevant government department or other authority prior to acting upon said information. Toowoomba RSL Sub Branch Inc. accepts no responsibility whatsoever for actions taken by members and/or readers as a result of the publication.

The opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of RSL Qld or its members. Contributions including articles, correspondence, and photographs are welcomed. It is assumed that all items contributed are able to be used free of charge, and implied consent is given for such items to be amended and/or edited at the discretion of the newsletter editor.

PRINT POST
Toowoomba RSL Sub-Branch Inc.
100004878

POSTAGE PAID
AUSTRALIA

PLEASE REMEMBER THESE DATES

- 6 April– 'Café Chat' 10am at Café 63, Southtown Shopping Centre. All Sub Branch ladies welcome.
- 7-10 April– Easter
- 12 April– Committee of Management meeting at the Hub.
- 21-23 April– Merchandise stalls at both Bunnings
- 25 April– ANZAC Day. Dawn and mid-morning march & services. Activities all day at the Railway Goods Shed including Gunfire Breakfast, Two Up, food vendors, kids activities, bar, raffles. Entry by donation only.
- 21 May– General Meeting of all members at Club Toowoomba, Hume St. 10.30am

WE THANK



**FOR THEIR
ONGOING
ASSISTANCE WITH
THE PRINTING OF
OUR NEWSLETTER**

Pioneers Room

A quiet and private space to relax after the ceremony and appreciate the value of reunion.



TOOWOOMBA OAKLEY DALBY WARWICK GATTON

24 freecall 1800 803 196
www.burstows.com.au

BURSTOWS
Funeral Care Since 1900