



Alstonville RSL Sub-Branch



Standfast 2023

Issue
Month

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PO Box 692 ALSTONVILLE NSW 2477

FOR YOUR DIARY:

**Next sub-branch meeting
WEDNESDAY**

**@ 1100 hr. Followed by a light
lunch**

Alstonville RSL Sub-Branch Office Bearers

President	John Porter	0476 677 626	All emails to:
Vice President	Robert Wilson JP	0414 708 662	AlstonvilleSB@rslnsw.org.au
Vice President	Phil Skinner	0427 291 292	
Secretary	John Gordon	0437 509 790	
Treasurer	Garry Henderson-Smith	0400 474 413	

John Porter is still recovering from his surgery and is doing well and will be back for the next meeting

The biggest issue from last meeting was the statement from Alan Brown about the meeting day. It is definitely food for thought! Please consider this, we still have a few months of the trial left.

The other big issue is the Sport & Rec Program. Several members have mentioned the love of playing Euchre, Crib and Mahjong? Maybe we can hold a games afternoon. Your suggestions please, it doesn't have to be a BIG event, just a few playing their favourite cards/board games.

The Annual Raffle is BACK!! Tickets will be on sale next week (If the Secretary gets them done!!) \$5 per ticket with First Prize – The RAAF Centenary Quilt donated by Irena McDonough, Second prize – a 2012 \$2.00 Poppy collectable coin – mint condition on RSL card (value approx \$800+). Third Prize – Framed Poppy Mosaic. 4th – Crocheted blanket. 5th – set of Drink Coasters. 6th – Great War Bear. 7th \$100 Bunnings Gift Card. 8th – handmade Necklace.

We need people to sell tickets from next week, 11th – 15 at the plaza, 19-21 at Wollongbar, 22 & 23 at Bunnings and 24-29 in Main St. Please contact Bob Wilson to put your name down for a time-slot. See you all on Wed 12th.



From the President

Sub-Branch Meeting Minutes

Draft MINUTES of the sub-Branch General Meeting Wed 14th June 2023.

The Chair, Vice President Bob Wilson, declared the meeting open at 11.10 hrs with the wreath laid by member Phil Skinner, followed by the Ode and a half minute's silence.

Attendance was 23, with 6 apologies.

MOTION: That apologies be accepted.

Moved – Blue Skimmings Seconded – David Anderson

CARRIED

New members Alanna Luvisi, Anthony (Lou) Luvisi and Jim Yeo were welcomed to the meeting and presented with their cards, badges, pen & stickers. The members were enthusiastically welcomed by the meeting.

Minutes of the meeting held on 10 May 2023

MOTION: That the Minutes of the meeting on 10 May as printed, be accepted as a true record of that meeting.

Moved – John Gordon Seconded – Mark Quilligan CARRIED

Business arising from minutes - Nil business arising.

Correspondence:

Secretary read the received and sent correspondence including:

State Circulars and various other flyers

MOTION: That the Inwards correspondence be adopted, and the Outwards correspondence be endorsed

Moved - John Gordon

Seconded – Phil Skinner

CARRIED

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer presented the Revenue statements and accounts as at 31 May 2023 and the Accounts for payment.

MOTION: That the Revenue Statement as at 31st May be accepted, and the Payment of Accounts for May/Jun be approved.

Moved – Garry Henderson-Smith

Seconded – Grahame Gooding **CARRIED**

State HQ – Nothing to report

FNCD –

Nothing to report.

Welfare & Hospital visits

Grahame Gooding reported that visits to St. Vincent's still going ahead, averaging about 4-6 veterans. No other matters.

Hall Bookings

Grahame reported no changes.

Membership:

Membership is now 76 with Alanna, Anthony and Jim as new members.

Memorabilia

10% stock take not completed. Brian said he couldn't find items due to the new cupboard and boxes in the shed. He also explained that the Hall has displayed memorabilia donated by Alstonville sub-Branch members and families, the northern wall depicts local WWI material, then clockwise Paddy Bugden, WWII, Korea, Vietnam and Iraq, Timor, Afghanistan, and Peacekeeping as you go around the room. These are things pertaining to Alstonville, and Brian has had to decline some offers of memorabilia.

Photo's have been taken down that have been there since the 50's due to the wall unit and he believes the north wall should be put back to the way it was. Members had various comments and the Chair asked that everyone have a think about the situation.

Fundraising

John has produced the tickets for the first Bear Raffle, \$2 each, with Captain Murray, the wounded Great War Bear as the prize.

Bob Wilson and John will get together to finalise the Quilt Raffle prizes and will try to kick it off in July.

John will also check with LJ Hooker about selling tickets in the Plaza itself!

General Business

- Bus Trip – Blue advised that the Ballina SB Bus is booked for 4th July to go to Evans Head Bowlo for lunch, the meal will be subsidised by the sub-Branch by \$10 hd. This is the first for us & and it will be a good time to kick off the raffles!
- Meal of the Day for this meeting is Individual Quiche, Savoury Mince followed by Fresh Fruit Salad.
- Alan Brown commented that the change of meeting day has resulted in 3 newer members that he knows of not attending because it is during the week. Food for thought, and Chair suggested consider a move to a different day, possibly back to Saturday, but keeping the same format – Committee, then general meeting, followed by lunch!
- Korean Veteran's Day = Thursday 27 July in EAB at 1100 – volunteers are needed as Flag Hand and to read prayers.
- Vietnam Veteran's Vigil – 3 August – Brian Partridge gave an explanation of this, it is a service at the gravesite of all KIA from Vietnam, (4 or 5 on the Far North Coast (FNC)) on the 3rd Aug. Program information has been sent out, FNC coordinator is Dick Wills from Ballina.
- Vietnam Veteran's Day – 18 Aug – service at EAB commencing at 1100. Are there any suggestions for a guest speaker?
- EAB Park – Council now have the funds for the final stage of the EAB Park upgrade, the removal of the garden beds and installation of the pathway & additional seating. They hope to be completed by Nov. but we don't want to interrupt the process seeing as how long it has taken to get here!!
- Legacy Centenary Torch Relay - Friday 23 Jun – relay started in France, went to London then WA and on 23rd will travel through Casino, Lismore and Ballina (1230 start). The Torch Relay Dinner is still open for tickets.

- Paddy Bugden Memorial – Grahame Gooding met with John Barnes (Rotary) and Geoff Vidal (Current Rotary President) to discuss the wear & tear on the memorial. John B will get quotes for repairs and we will attempt applying for a grant. The Fig Tree was also mentioned as it is causing damage to the memorial, but it is part of the Paddy Bugden Memorial Ave.

Meeting closed at 11.58.

Next Meeting: Wed 12th July 1100hrs.

RSL NSW Sport and Recreation Program



The Program will consist of three options for sub-Branch participation:

1. **The Participation Competition:** A point-based competition with a focus on participation and collaboration. Bonus points are offered for hosting family-friendly activities and collaborating with nearby sub-Branches and local veteran-serving organisations. This can include ex-service organisations, for-profit entities that benefit veterans, and veteran-owned or operated businesses.
2. **The Challenge Ladder:** A team-based, multi-activity competition held between proximate sub-Branches. (NB: To participate there must be a minimum of four teams registered within the district)
3. **The Social Program:** A non-competitive option that focuses on promoting activities without accruing points or positions.

What events would interest you? Don't be shy!! If you're a bit of a card shark, suggest a card afternoon! Cribbage, Euchre, Old Maid! It doesn't matter!

We can start just between ourselves, then, as we get an activity established, we can promote it to the wider community and challenge other sub-Branches!

Bring some FUN back into being a member of a sub-Branch again and hopefully this will start to attract new, younger members! Maybe even some volunteers to help out (potential Auxiliary members).

Many tears ago, I proposed that we form a Social Club, with a constitution etc. The only stumbling block was coverage by our RSL Insurance. I believe that have a slight change to Auxiliaries, as we are proposing to Congress, this will make the Auxiliary a defacto Social club, and bring in new ideas and people.

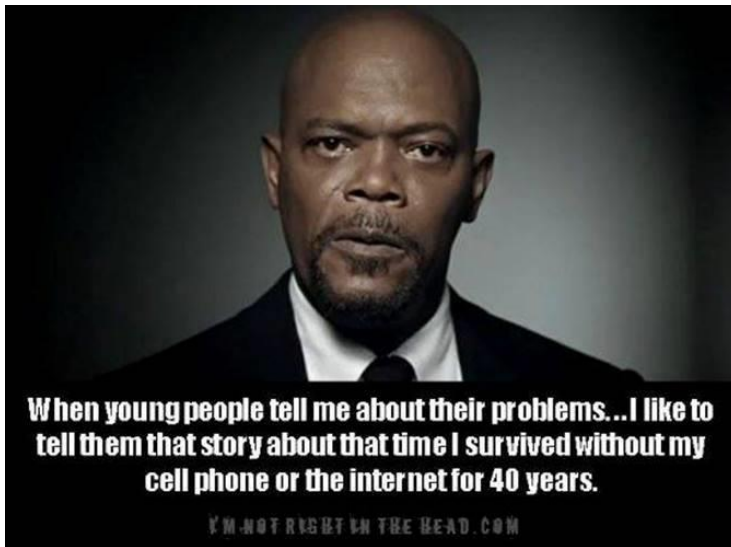
Please consider what things you would like and make some suggestions or put your hand up to participate! Nothing will happen without YOU.



Some examples! We can apply for funding assistance to have Professional conduct classes for us, like Gym, Pilates, Zumba, Tai Chi, or link with existing activities to bolster the activity in our community, we could even become the leading group in activities that aren't offered on the Plateau yet!

Let Secretary John, or our Social Butterfly (Oops, I mean Social Events Coordinator) Blue know!

The funny side of life:



SHARED ON I'M NOT RIGHT IN THE HEAD.COM

The phone my sister has (she's six)



The phone I had when I was six



AMM



How do you milk
sheep?

Bring out a new
iPhone and charge
\$1000 for it.

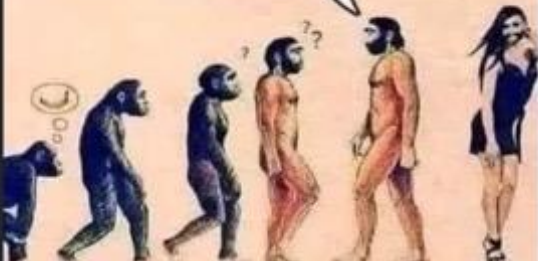
Remember when you
used to be able to call a
person 57 times, and
hang up, and they never
knew it was you.



...good
times.

SHARED ON I'M NOT RIGHT IN THE HEAD.COM

Turn back,
something has
gone wrong.



Husband: "Why do
you keep buying
plants when you
just end up killing
them?"

Wife: "Just to
remind you what
I'm capable of."

Make
Today
Amazing



Happy birthday

Colin Perkins	1-Jul
Joyce Wong	4-Jul
Anthony Luvisi	15-Jul
John Sewell	15-Jul
Mal Tolson	21-Jul
Blue Skimmings	21-Jul
Rob Fry	22-Jul
Kayleen Cooper	28-Jul
Ron Whittaker	29-Jul

Those aren't gray hairs that you see. They're strands of birthday
glitter growing out of your head.

Have a very special and wonderful day for your birthday!

Information:

The planned Bus Trip to Evans Head was cancelled due to lack of numbers!! Blue will try again in August! Keep your calendar free!

DVA Gold Card – Many Vietnam and other Returned from Active Service Veterans are not aware of their entitlement to a DVA Gold Card which is not means or asset tested.

To check for your entitlement complete the DVA form D3057 "Application for a Gold Card for Veterans of Australia's Defence Force". Those under 70 and not in receipt of any DVA payment can complete DVA form D0506 "Claim to determine Qualifying service by current or ex-member of the ADF".

DVA – Lismore VAN Office:
Suite 8 Level 1 17 Conway Street
Lismore (next to Australian Hearing)
Email: NSWVANLismore@dva.gov.au
Ph 6625 8300
DVA
GPO Box 9998

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- Alstonville Quality Meats
- Alstonville Cellars
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- Federal Hotel, Alstonville
- Melanie Stewart Real Estate, Alstonville
- Coles Supermarket, Alstonville
- Parkview Funeral Home, Ballina
- Guardian Funerals – Alstonville, Ballina, Lismore
- McGraths Real Estate, Alstonville



ESP Contracting Services

- NDIS & DVA Support work
- Concreting
- Handyman
- Pressure wash cleaning
- Yard maintenance

Please call:

Ross - 0488078987 or Kim - 0400 983 113

(Image by macrovector/freepik)

RSL Tibouchina Day Club

When: Wednesdays @ 10:00am

Where: Rous Mill Hall

What: Enjoy good company, live entertainment, light exercise (suitable for the elderly). Mental stimulation activities, morning tea, lunch. A bus will pick you up and return you to your home within the Alstonville / Wollongbar villages for a \$10:00 contribution.

Who: For members of our community who are looking for social interaction in a friendly welcoming environment.

Contact Marett for more details: **0421 272 643**