



Alstonville RSL Sub-Branch



Standfast 2023

Issue 245

April 2023

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FOR YOUR DIARY:

**Next sub-branch meeting
WEDNESDAY MAY 10**

@ 11.00 am

Followed by lunch from 12.30

Alstonville RSL Sub-Branch Office Bearers

President	John Porter	0476677626	All emails to:
Vice President	Robert Wilson JP	0414708662	AlstonvilleSB@rslnsw.org.au
Vice President	Phil Skinner		
Secretary	John Gordon	0437509790	
Treasurer	Garry Henderson-Smith	0400474413	

PLEASE NOTE THE NEW MEETING DATE AND TIME. The second Wednesday of the month. The May meeting will be on **Wednesday 10th at 11am**, followed by lunch (partners & family welcome) please advise the Secretary by Monday 8th of numbers attending lunch.

Presidents Message

Dear Fellow Members

Well, this is my first Standfast message and hasn't there been lots going on.

Firstly, I would like to thank my Fellow Members for voting me in as the new President. I am honoured and humbled to be asked and thank everyone for their support, to date.

In order, this month has seen lots of celebrations. The Tibouchina Club celebrated their 20th Anniversary followed by their ANZAC Service. Both were lovely days with lots of smiles and laughter.

Our Bunning's sausage sizzle was conducted and lots of members participated. Special thanks to those who worked the stall and organised the day. Thanks Rob W.

ANZAC week is now over and all should be very proud. A special thanks to all who made the week go by in such a professional manner. I'd like to thank the committee for assisting me through the ANZAC Day festivities. The Dawn Service was attended by 400-500 people which is sensational. The ANZAC March saw rows of people lining the streets, all the way to Elizabeth Ann Brown Park War Memorial. The rain tried to spoil the day but each and all just got on with the job. It's called Military Spirit!!

It was lovely to see the involvement once again of the surrounding Schools. To see the faces on the school children was priceless. Who said the spirit of ANZAC Day would eventually die out. Think again as the Spirit of Anzac is growing all around our Country.

Badges and other memorabilia sales were very good this year. Many thanks to those who worked their craft at the stalls. The EFTPOS machines worked a treat. Great job John G.

We are all looking forward to our new meeting arrangements. Our meetings now start on the second Wednesday of each month.

Your sincerely,

John Porter

President



From the President

Next Meeting:

Wednesday 10 May at 11am

Sub-Branch Meeting Minutes

MINUTES of the sub-Branch General Meeting 15 April 2023.

The President, John Porter, declared the meeting open at 0906hrs with the wreath laid by member Phil Skinner followed by the Ode and a half minute's silence.

Attendance was 24, with 6 apologies.

MOTION: That apologies be accepted.

Moved – Secretary

Seconded – Phil Skinner

CARRIED

Minutes of the meeting held on 11 March

MOTION: That the Minutes of the meeting on 11 March as printed, be accepted as a true record of that meeting.

Moved – Secretary

Seconded – Mark Quilligan

CARRIED

Business arising from minutes - Nil business arising.

Correspondence:

Secretary read the received and sent correspondence including:

- State Circulars
- Report on attending Wollongbar PS ANZAC Day service by Tony Tyler, well received by members.
- St Joseph's advised of their entries in School competition, waiting for the entries to be sent.

- Alstonville PS submitted three entries, read to meeting, very impressed with the standard.
- Invitation from Trinity College to attend ANZAC Day service on 28th at 0930, at SCU, Pres & Sec will attend. Comment that Trinity will never rebuild and their move to SCU is permanent.
- Land Valuation has arrived, my offers to buy at that price were forthcoming!!!
- Ballina Shire Council (BSC) advised that Cr Nigel Buchanan will lay a wreath at Dawn Service and Cr Eoin Johnston at the Main Service.
- A reply came from member Bruce Dobbie's email, advising that he has passed away. Keith row confirmed with a neighbour & Bob Wilson has been in contact with the granddaughter. No funeral details.
- Alstonville Community Preschool have contacted about marching and laying a wreath.
- There is a new Commemorative Medallion and Certificate being issued for Vietnam Veterans. Apply through DVA.
- Printing of Raffle tickets worked out, should be able to produce Quilt Raffle and Bear Raffle ticket later in the year.
- There have been a flurry of emails relating to ANZAC Day, all approvals have been granted, Padre will do Dawn Service Piper & prayers, RFS OK, 4 vehicles from Vintage Cars, Guardian Funerals will print programs.

Outwards:

ANZAC Day letters and invitations

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 Mar and the Accounts for Mar/Apr for payment.

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

Moved – Garry Henderson-Smith

Seconded – Fozzie Milnes

CARRIED

State HQ – Nothing to report

FNCDC –

The next meeting is late May at Casino.

Welfare & Hospital visits

Grahame Gooding reported that visits to St. Vincent's are going ahead, averaging 4 patients.

Hall Bookings

All renters are now back on deck. The planned rent increase to \$25 per hour will come into effect 01 Jul.

Membership:

A new Affiliate member Betty Duncan was welcomed by the members. Membership numbers are being checked against Sydney records.

Memorabilia

10% stocktake completed.

Fundraising

Rosters to man the sales tables at the Plaza and Main Street still need a few names. Trays for tables have been stocked and priced.

General Business

- MEETING DAY & TIME – It was suggested at the last meeting that we change the day/time of the Monthly meeting on a trial basis to see how it works. The committee discussed this and were all in favour.
- **Motion:-** That the Committee Meeting be changed to the Second Wednesday of the month at 0930, and that the Monthly Meeting be held at 11am the same day (second Wed of the month) for a trial basis for 6 months. The Monthly meeting will be followed by a lunch that spouses, partners and family are encouraged to attend from 12:15. Effective next meeting, which will be 10th May.
PLEASE ADVISE OF NUMBERS ATTENDING LUNCH by the Monday before (8th May).
- **Moved** Blue Skimmings **Seconded** Rob Fry **Against** – Les Daley

CARRIED

- Beacom Shield – the annual Bowls tournament against the Alstonville Bowls Club is on again 26Apr at 0900 – cost \$30 for Green Fees & lunch. All proceeds for Legacy.
- President, Secretary & Rob Fry attended the Tibouchina Day Club 20th birthday, a good time had by all. Several volunteers were presented with 5, 10 & 20 yrs. badges, with one 20 yr. member also celebrating her 100th birthday.
- Quilt Raffle, yes it will go ahead this year, probably Jun/Jul. We will also have a couple of Bear raffles.
- ANZAC Day – Everything is progressing, permissions for assembly have been received, invitation replies received, hire of equipment arranged.
Wreath Wrangler – Keith will do it again this year with Blue Skimmings as a shadow.
Gunfire Breakfast - needs volunteers to assist – several members agreed to help out, so the breaky will go ahead from 6.30am.
Working Party – Sound check on 24th at 1500. Set-up Dawn Service from 04.30-ish.
Main Service set-up from 0700 – string ropes, lay tarps etc.
Bugler & Padre confirmed/
Need for an usher to direct kids onto tarps. Flag Bearers (4 AHS students) confirmed – Alan Brown will do a walk-thru with them 24th at 2pm.
Discussion about arranging a fly-over, it the request has to be submitted in October.
- EAB Park – the final stage of the make-over will be done this year! Finally, after 13 years of pestering BSC, it will be completed! We will have to discuss a celebration of some sort when it happens!!!
- Motions for Congress – If anyone has any motions to go to RSLNSW Congress, please submit them next meeting to go to the District Council's May meeting for endorsement.
- Secretary asked about getting a mobile phone for the sub-Branch, his personal number is the de-facto contact number. It was suggested that 2 phones be purchased, 1 for President & 1 for Secretary. The members agreed.
- Members offered their best wishes to Phil Skinner as his wife is now in palliative care.
- Names for Beacom Shield at back of hall.

The Meeting closed at 10.15

Next Meeting – Wednesday 10th May at 1100

From DVA's webpage

Vietnam War commemorative medallion and certificate

Last updated:

27 March 2023

To acknowledge the 50th anniversary of the end of Australia's involvement in the Vietnam War, the Department of Veterans' Affairs will produce a Commemorative Medallion and Certificate of Commemoration.

The medallion and certificate will be made available to every living veteran, widows of veterans and other family members of veterans of the Vietnam War. Please note that only one medallion is available per Vietnam War veteran. While Australia can never repay the debt we owe to the 60,000 who served in Vietnam, this medallion and certificate are a small but meaningful way to honour their service and to recognise the sacrifice of those who never returned home.

The obverse design will feature the Commonwealth Coat of Arms with 'Vietnam War' inscribed at the top and "Australia remembers" at the bottom. The medallion reverse design will feature words of thanks at the bottom with the years 1962-73 inscribed at the top to represent the years in which Australia was involved in the Vietnam War. The medallion also features a UH-1 Iroquois "Huey" Helicopter, a depiction of HMAS Sydney (III) "Vung Tau Ferry" and an Australian soldier holding an SLR.

The medallion will be presented in a display case and will include a card that explains the design and contains a brief expression of thanks.

The design of the commemorative certificate will complement the medallion. The design includes the Commonwealth Coat of Arms, 'Australia Remembers' wording and includes the signature of both the Governor-General and the Prime Minister.

The certificate will be contained within its own folder that will allow for independent display, framing and mounting.

Applications can be made online at National Mail & Marketing through the link below:

<https://portal.nationalmailing.com.au/DVA/Account/Login?ReturnUrl=%2fDVA%2fVietnam>

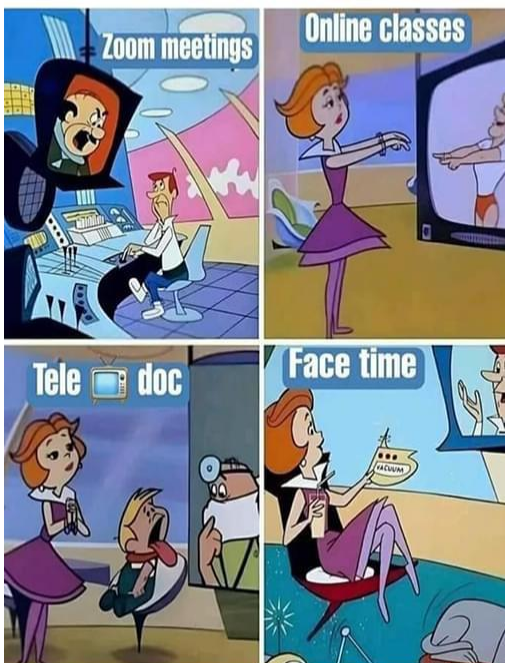
You will need to register as a new user (bottom of the page)

NEXT MEETING 10th May at 1100!!

The funny side of life:



The Jetsons really did predict our future...



Happy birthday

Brian Snart	18 May
Vic Anderson	19 May
Sid Lewis	19 May
Jamie Walton	23 May
Keith Row	27 May
Graham Hellyar	30 May

Information:

DVA – Lismore VAN Office:
Suite 8 Level 1 17 Conway Street
Lismore (next to Australian Hearing)
Email: NSWVANLismore@dva.gov.au
Ph 1800 VETERAN (1800 838 372)
GPO Box 9998
Brisbane QLD 4001

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”.

SPONSORS – THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR SUPPORT

- Alstonville Plaza Meats & Deli
- Alstonville Quality Meats
- Alstonville Cellars
- Village Fresh Fruit and Vegetables, Alstonville
- 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/as on Freepik)