



BOXHILLRSL

BOX HILL NEWS



Contributions can be emailed to the Editor
Faye Clark at: welfmgr@boxhillrsl.com.au



Remembrance Day 2021



At the Box Hill RSL Committee Meeting held on Friday the 29th of October 2021 the Committee unanimously decided, in light of the eased COVID restrictions, to hold a Remembrance Day Service at our Cenotaph. Also discussed was our representation at the Springvale War Graves Cemetery Commemoration Service on Sunday the 7th of November 2021. And so all the people who make these ceremonies look like it can happen with the snap of a finger started work.

Judy Coates and Lindsay Burke were designated to attend the RSL Vic Springvale War Graves service. Judy organised a wreath to be laid on behalf of the President and members of Box Hill RSL.

Lindsay organised the Cadets of 305 ACU to attend and assist with the Order of Service and organising and handing out wreaths to the various dignitaries.

The commemoration service went very well and the weather was kind to us as we paid homage to the soldiers (mostly from the Second World War), buried there and to all Australian soldiers.

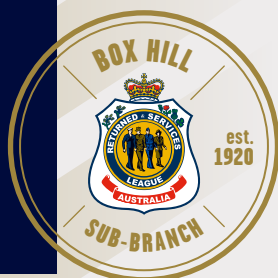
Welfare Report.

For all welfare matters telephone: Faye Clark on 9897 6780



BOX HILL NEWS

Stories by Members for Members



Our best wishes are with those members who are, or have been in hospital since the last issue.

Vic Allen, Keith Oliver

VALE

lest we forget



Violet DAWES
AFFILIATE

Margery MAXWELL
AFFILIATE

Philip BRETNALL
65281 RN

Donald MCDONALD
410364 RAAF

Joan CLARKE
AFFILIATE

Bob CLARKE
A38689 RAAF.NS

Donald EDWARDS
AFFILIATE

Gareth DAVIS
A42643 RAAF

Members in Aged Care

GEORGE AGIUS, Blue Cross,
Livingstone Gardens, 39
Livingstone Rd, Vermont South

COLIN BARRACLOUGH, Alawarra,
Inala, 220 Middleborough Rd,
Blackburn Sth

ERICA CAMPBELL, Opal Salford,
100 Harold Street, Wantirna

ALWYN CHARLESWORTH,
Uniting AgeWell, 75 Thames St,
Box Hill

ALMA & JAMES D'ARCY, Blue
Cross, 48 Dorking Road, Box Hill

JOHN DONALDSON, ESTIA
Health, 879 Plenty Road, South
Morang

ALMA GEORGE, Broughton Lea, 9
-17 Broughton Road, Surrey Hills

RHODA GORDON, Faversham
House, 27 Shierlaw Ave,
Canterbury

SUSIE HALL, Rathdowne Place
Aged Care, 497 Rathdowne St,
Carlton

KATHRYN HOLMES, Alawarra,
Inala, 220 Middleborough Rd,
Blackburn Sth

NORMA IRELAND, Eva Tilley,
110 Burke Road, Balwyn North

NORMAN JARMAN, Blue Cross,
48 Dorking Road, Box Hill

JOY JONES, Blue Cross,
48 Dorking Road, Box Hill

RON KELSALL, Regis Shenley
Manor, 440 Camberwell Road,
Camberwell

GEORGE LEONDAS, Blue Cross,
48 Dorking Road, Box Hill

GARRY LEVEY, Broughton Lea,
9-17 Broughton Road,
Surrey Hills

DON McKIRDY, Inala,
220 Middleborough Road,
Blackburn South

NOEL MC MAHEN, Faversham
House, 27 Shierlaw Ave,
Canterbury

ALEX MAGNER, Blue Cross,
48 Dorking Road, Box Hill

BERYL MAINON, Arcare Surrey
Hills, 18 Florence St, Surrey Hills

MAURICE MATHERS,
Grand Cedar, 61-63 High Street
Road, Ashwood

ALEX MATHIESON, Broughton
Lea, 9-17 Broughton Road,
Surrey Hills

JOHN NICHOLSON, Arcare,
75 King Street, Templestowe

RHONDA O'TOOLE, Strathdon,
17 Jolimont Road, Forest Hill

NOEL OUTHRED, BUPA Donvale,
296-304 Springvale Road,
Donvale

FRED PIKE, Faversham House,
27 Shierlaw Avenue, Canterbury

LOIS PRICHARD, Arcare Surrey
Hills, 18 Florence St, Surrey Hills

MYRA SPENCER, Faversham
House, 27 Shierlaw Ave,
Canterbury

BRENDAN STAFFORD,
Manna Care, 371 Manningsham
Road, Doncaster

BARBARA STRUDWICK,
Nellie Melba ACF, 2 Collegium
Ave, Wheelers Hill

EDNA TANDY, Alawarra,
Inala, 220 Middleborough Rd,
Blackburn Sth

DAVID TAYLOR, Blue Cross,
250 Waterdale Rd, Ivanhoe

KEVIN TREVARTHEN, Bapcare,
Karana, 55 Walpole Street, Kew

JOHN VALENTINE,
Emerald Hill, 215 Napier Street,
South Melbourne

PHIL WALTER, Regis Lake Park,
40 Central Road, Blackburn

LANCE WARD, Arcare,
75 King Street, Templestowe

ERIC YOUNG, The Orchards,
107 Anderson's Creek Road,
Doncaster East

RUSSELL ZENNER, Broughton
Lea, 9-17 Broughton Road,
Surrey Hills

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS FOR 2022 DUE 1ST JANUARY

As you would appreciate due to the numerous COVID lockdowns over the past two years the Box Hill RSL Sub-Branch Inc. ("Box Hill RSL") was closed for lengthy periods. Box Hill RSL Committee have determined the Membership Fees for 2022 for full Members will be \$20, and 3 Year subscriptions will be discounted by \$20 to \$85.

Also, the Box Hill RSL Committee determined Birthday & Drink Vouchers will not be issued in 2022. The Box Hill RSL Committee agreed all outstanding unused Birthday and Drink Vouchers issued in 2020 and 2021 will be honoured upon presentation in 2022.

Remembrance Day 2021

For the Box Hill RSL Remembrance Day Service to happen, there were many who had tasks for the day.

Faye Clark and Judy Coates who organised the order of service, the wreaths, the public address system, guest list and volunteers to assist on the day. Most volunteers were from the Bowls Section

Chantelle Casse organised the Upton room, food and staff.

Lindsay Burke organised the bugler, Nick Chiselett, the Cadets from 305 ACU who provided the Cenotaph Guard, and the Australian National Flag.

And if you thought our bugler and Cenotaph looked great, Lindsay had also collaborated with Whitehorse Council to have the Cenotaph and WW2 Statue cleaned, the surrounding wall straightened and the gold leaf lettering replaced.

There were some very busy people organising this tribute to our fallen.

On behalf of our President and members, thank you for all that you do.

Thursday the 11th of November 2021 arrived again, the weather was kind to us.

Our President John Haward opened the service of commemoration, the cenotaph guard mounted vigil and the Salvation Army Chaplain to say a prayer. A homily was read, wreaths laid, John Haward recited the Ode and the bugler sounded the Last Post using an original WW1 Bugle. A minutes Silence was observed, John said the words "Lest We Forget" and the bugler sounded Rouse to symbolise the new day.

After all the lockdowns, the uncertainty, the trepidation as to whether we could hold a service at all, and, because of all the people who work behind the scenes and their determination to make this day happen, Box Hill RSL had organised and run a very successful and moving tribute to our fallen Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Service Women and the Merchant Marine and our allies who made the supreme sacrifice for our freedoms.

Lindsay Burke
Committee



Nicholas Chiselett (Bugler), Michael Charenko, John Sheehan and Andrew Guest



Thalia Kinsman, Brenda Burr, John Sheehan and Joan Waters



Ray Wall, John Haward and Arthur Merryweather



LC Debra Stevens (Salvation Army), Denis Fernando and Judy Coates



Helen Harrington and Cheryl Frail



Epworth Eastern Building Site Workers

Remembrance Day 2021



Cadets from 305 ACU



John Haward, SS Ronald Sinclair (Box Hill Police),
Claire Harrison, and Veronica Lyons (Eastern Health Foundation)



Graeme Lansdown, Ray Wall and Don McKirdy



Ingrid Nelson, Jocelyn and Phil Kinnear, Mary and John Simpson



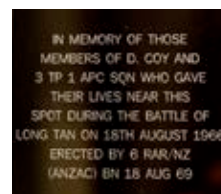
Chris Gray, Geoff Smith and Neil Brown



Bill Gilmore, Gladys Liu (MP) and Don McKirdy



Wreaths



50 YEARS SINCE OUR TROOPS LEFT SOUTH VIETNAM

Our latest display in the main memorabilia cabinet is based on 50 years since our troops left South Vietnam. This display was put together three months ago, just before we had lockdown.

Because many of our members had little chance to view it, I have decided to leave the display in until the end of the year, and commence 2022 with a new display in January.

It is hard to believe after 10 years, Australian troops were fighting in South Vietnam, however on the 26th July 1971, and as taken from the Cabinet Minutes of the time, Cabinet took up the question of the future of the Australian Forces in Vietnam.

Cabinet conducted its discussion in the light of the development in the United States Policy, which the US President's proposal to visit Peking implies the report of the Defence Committee was already received. It also noted that there could be no assumption that the United States would not speed up its own program of withdrawal.

Under the circumstances, Cabinet decided it should move immediately to withdraw to an "accelerated" timetable. In respect of the Task Force, it would be the objective that the first of the two remaining battalions be withdrawn in October 1971 and the second in December 1971.

Our display shows a model of a "Huey" helicopter which were used extensively during the war. The display also

features a helicopter pilot in his original uniform with his original flying helmets of Squadron Leader Hillsmith.

Also shown is a typical Australian infantryman. The iconic photo of the Long Tan Cross is shown with the diggers of D Company of the 6th Battalion RAR (second tour). In this display is a replica of the Long Tan Cross, by the digger who built the original cross. Box Hill RSL is the custodian of this cross which was built during the 50th Anniversary of Long Tan.

With our troops withdrawing in 1971, the Vietnam War was regarded then as Australia's longest conflict. During that time, 521 troops were killed and a further 3129 troops were wounded. The Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison said at a Remembrance breakfast recently that all of Australia should hang their heads in shame the way the Australian troops were greeted on their return to Australia. He also told the gathering that the shame wouldn't go away easily especially when red paint was thrown over them and they were called baby killers. This time has now passed and life goes on, and the Vietnam Veterans certainly hope our younger troops from Afghanistan are not treated in this manner.

Brian Tateson
Memorabilia

BOWLING SECTION

On Friday November 5th we had a very successful working bee at the club with over 20 members in attendance. After a big effort by all, the Bowling Green, surrounds and the Green Room were looking great.

The next day we had 40 members attend our first Pennant practice and this was followed by a most enjoyable BBQ which gave everyone a chance to renew acquaintances after such a long break.

Thanks to the catering team for organising the BBQ and to Cheryl Frail for her many hours of toiling over the hotplate. It was all cooked to perfection.

Also, thanks to Kat Jones for the sweets.

Saturday November 13th was our first day of the 2021/22 Pennant

competition and this proved to be a very challenging time due to the swirling wind and very cold weather conditions. The upside to all this was Side 1 started the season with a win - well done.

Side 2's game was cancelled.

Tuesday Pennant commenced on November 16th.

All the best to all our members for a most enjoyable Pennant season.

To anyone who is interested in taking up bowling, new members are always welcome to join our friendly club.

Judy Smith

Bowls Vice Chairperson.



Surprise visit to Doncaster RSL by PM

John Haward, Andrew Guest, Chris Gray, Brian Tateson, and I attended the Remembrance Day Breakfast Service at the Doncaster RSL.

We were unaware that the Prime Minister of Australia was to be in attendance and would be serving

us breakfast. I was delighted the Prime Minister chose to sit next to me and we chatted over breakfast.

John Sheehan

Committee



Vale

JOAN AND BOB CLARKE

Sadly, we advise that two of our respected members have passed away, Joan Clarke passed on the 22nd November, and her husband Bob passed shortly after on the 29th November. Their support of this RSL over the years was really appreciated, Joan served the Women's Auxiliary for 15 years as the Honorary President, and Bob served for a time as Vice President of the Sub-Branch. Condolences go to their family from the President John and Committee, the General Manager Denis and staff, Faye and her welfare Volunteers, the Women's Auxiliary and members.

Faye

Welfare Coordinator



Above Left: Scott Morrison PM and Keith Wolahan MP serve John Haward

Above Right: Scott Morrison PM and John Sheehan

Life Membership

"TWO OF OUR BEST"

Recently, some members of Box Hill RSL Sub-Branch attended a special general meeting to cast their vote on an issue to deal with RSL Victoria. However, they also had a surprise in store for them, in fact two surprises. Don McKirdy and John Haward were awarded Life Membership of the Returned & Services League of Australia. Neither were aware that this was happening and were completely taken aback when Ray Wall (Secretary), announced the awards and read the citations.

Don McKirdy as many of you know collected money for the Anzac and Remembrance Day Appeals for many, many years. The money he raised is in the hundreds of thousands of dollars. It is a credit to Don who started collecting at the station each morning at 6am looking for customers. Don was very competitive and he always checked how much Annie Yeowart raised to see who had the highest amount on the day. Don has been a valued Box Hill RSL Sub-Branch member for forty-eight years,

and it is with great pride that Box Hill RSL Sub-Branch nominated Don to RSL Victoria and RSL National for a "Life Membership" of the RSL. John Haward (President) pinned the Life Membership Badge onto Don's lapel. Arthur Merryweather (Treasurer) then said a few words affirming Don is indeed a worthy recipient of Life Membership of the RSL.

The other person to receive "Life Membership" of the RSL was our President John Haward. I, as Vice-President had the honour of pinning John's Life Membership badge on him.

Over the years, John has fought for many worthwhile issues, succeeding in most. One that stands out is fighting for the Civilian Medical teams in Vietnam rights to gain the Gold Card and the privileges that go with it. John promotes the Box Hill RSL and the League regularly by speaking at local schools, businesses, sports and aged care facilities explaining the role of the RSL in our society. John and I impart our knowledge to youth members of the Scouting and Cadet movements.



Above: Don McKirdy and John Haward

In 2002 he was a founding member of the Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia Box Hill Sub-Branch (VVAA Box Hill), and elected as Vice President. In 2004 John was elected President of the VVAA Box Hill. He retired from the Presidency of the Vietnam Veterans in 2019 because of his duties and obligations with Box Hill RSL.

Like Don, it is with pride that Box Hill RSL Sub-Branch awards Life Membership of the RSL to John Haward.

Brian Tateson

Vice President

REMEMBRANCE APPEAL

Great to let you know that regardless of COVID restrictions, we still managed to run an appeal although somewhat limited. We were unable to



Above: Lindsay Burke, James Willson, Bep Dawes and John Haward

support the shopping centre venues and many aged care and nursing homes.

Many thanks to all the volunteers wanting to help out but could not due to these restrictions.

A special thanks goes to James Willson from the CMFEU who delivered 15 Poppy trays to the various construction sites raising over \$15,000. What a great effort.

Thanks also to Lindsay Burke and the 305 Cadets who were restricted to selling for only one weekend of the Appeal but still managed to raise over \$5000. Another great effort.

A limited number of schools, businesses and aged care were able to accept trays. Their efforts are much appreciated.

From the Veterans and their families and the Committee of the Box Hill RSL, we thank everyone for their support of another limited but successful Appeal. **We raised over \$40,000!**

Bep Dawes

Appeals Manager

TPI EASTERN SUBURBS SOCIAL CLUB VETERANS HEALTH WEEK 2021 RECAP.

Due to Covid restrictions again this year, our activities for VHW were somewhat restricted. We worked with the theme "Get Moving" and decided on a plan to incorporate the theme in lockdown together with some good cheer and getting together virtually.

Our committee decided to use the DVA funding, matched with our own funds, to purchase hamper bags and deliver them to our members. The items for the bags, selected and packed by some of the committee, consisted of happy hour goodies including cheese, crackers, drinks and chocolates.

We also asked an exercise physiologist from NJF Wellness to put together an appropriate exercise program for our members. The exercise program was produced and a copy went into each bag.

The day before our VHW event, the committee delivered a hamper bag to each member family at their homes. There were 45 bags delivered via a series of a drop-and-spoke point system so that no one committee member had too many bags to deliver in their area.

On Wednesday October 20, our VHW event day, we organized a Zoom meeting for our members so we could have a virtual get together. The first part of the meeting was a presentation by an exercise physiologist from NJF in which she explained the exercise program in the Hamper Bag and answered a number of questions from our members. The balance of the meeting, which went for just over an hour, was spent with members chatting and sharing what they had been up to during lockdown.

Since our VHW event, COVID restrictions have eased somewhat, and we now have a luncheon planned for Christmas on December 8.

The committee received a lot of good feedback from our members about the hamper bags and the virtual meeting and we will be encouraging our members to work on the exercise program on a regular basis.

The TPI ESSC Committee

FREE MOVIES FOR MEMBERS

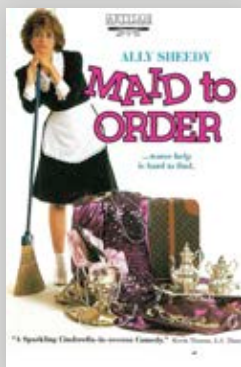
Presented by Ray Wall



Thursday 27th January, 2022 at 10.30am

The Thursday, January 27, movie is "**McFarland**" a 2015 Disney movie that runs for 129 minutes.

Synopsis: This is a true story about Jim White (Kevin Costner), who moves his family after losing his last job as a football coach. At his new school, he turns seven disappointing students into one of the best cross-country teams in the region. The movie is truly good and sometimes moving. It's an inspirational story like you have seen many times actually, but it is made so well that this movie never drags and is involving from start till finish.



Thursday 24th February, 2022 at 10.30am

The Thursday, February 24, movie is "**Maid to Order**" a 1987 comedy that runs for 93 minutes.

Synopsis: After a night of partying lands the spoiled heiress Jessica (Ally Sheedy) in jail, her millionaire father wishes he had never had a daughter, and he just happens to be overheard by genuine fairy godmother Stella (Beverly D'Angelo), who makes it so. Now, without Daddy's name or money, Jessica is forced to get a job as a maid in one of the mansions where she used to live. The supporting cast is made up of wily and likable characters. "Maid to Order" leaves you smiling and that means it has done a good job.



Box Hill R.S.L. Sub-Branch Inc. trading as Box Hill RSL
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Sub-Branch Secretary: Ray Wall
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