

# Rededication of the Box Hill First World War Memorial 2022

by the His Excellency, General, The Honourable David Hurley AC, DSC (Ret'd) Governor General of Australia

At a Committee meeting early in 2021 I raised the fact that our First World War Memorial had been dedicated by the then Governor General of Australia Lord Henry William Forster, 1st Baron Forster, GCMG, PC on Sunday the 19th of February 1922. With the permission of the Committee I wrote to the current Governor General's Office to enquire if the Governor General would rededicate the memorial on Saturday the 19th of February 2022, 100 years to the day of the original dedication. I received a letter in January this year stating sadly, the Governor General's office had declined our invitation due to multiple engagements.

About a month later Brian Tateson stated he might be able to get the Governor General to attend through his friendship with Doug Baird (father of Cameron Baird VC). Brian and our Secretary, Andrew Guest, went to Canberra to lay the groundwork for an invitation to the Governor General's office. Their mission was successful.

After a few date and time changes, we were finally set for Sunday 13th November 2022.



John Haward, Governor General, with unveiled plaque

Again, the wheels of organisation kicked in with all the usual suspects: Faye Clark, Judy Coates with wreaths, Order of Service, Guest Lists, Volunteers, and the Bowling Section. I organized the bands, Shrine Guard and Cadets.

Wei Wei Dai and Denis Fernando organised the wonderful reception after the rededication.

There was no plaque commemorating the original dedication. The Committee decided we would obtain two plaques, one for the original dedication and one for our rededication. I wrote the inscriptions for both plaques which were approved by the Committee and sent them off to A1 plaques to be manufactured. When the plaques arrived, I gave them to Brian Tateson who had them mounted on a board.

# Welfare Report.

For all welfare matters telephone: Faye Clark on 9897 6780



Stories by Members for Members



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

Geraldine MacDonald, John Brownbill

Edna Tandy

lest we forget

VALE

Affiliate

**Roger Ackland** Affiliate

Erica Campbell Affiliate

**Charles Ferguson-Foden** 5076 Home Guard **Vilma Dodd** Affiliate

Barbara Strudwick Affiliate

**Ken Cooper** 3712605 NS

ON BEHALF OF JOHN AND HIS COMMITTEE, DENIS AND HIS STAFF AND MYSELF - HAVE A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR! HOPE TO SEE ALL OUR VOLUNTEERS BACK NEXT YEAR.

Faye Clark Welfare Coordinator



# Members in Aged Care

#### GEORGE AGIUS,

Blue Cross, Livingstone Gardens, 39 Livingstone Rd., Vermont South

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

RENE CALDWELL, Arcare Surrey Hills, 18 Florence St, Surrey Hills

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

ALWYNNE FAIRWEATHER, Faversham House, 27 Shierlaw Ave, Canterbury

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

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

**DON McKIRDY**, Alawarra, Inala, 220 Middleborough Road, Blackburn South

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

BETTY MORTON, Blue Cross, 48 Dorking Road, Box Hill

**JOHN NICHOLSON**, Arcare, 75 King Street, Templestowe **FRED PIKE**, Faversham House, 27 Shierlaw Avenue, Canterbury

HELEN PRICE, Blue Cross, 48 Dorking Road, Box Hill

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

BARBARA SATCHELL, Banfields, 192 Thompson Avenue Cowes

MYRA SPENCER, Faversham House, 27 Shierlaw Ave, Canterbury

BRENDAN STAFFORD, Manna Care, 371 Manningham Road, Doncaster DAVID TAYLOR, Blue Cross, 250 Waterdale Rd, Ivanhoe

MARJ TURRIFF, Faverhsam House, 27 Shierlaw Ave, Canterbury

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

**JOAN VERBECK**, Faverhsam House, 27 Shierlaw Ave, Canterbury

IAN WARD, Alawarra, Inala, 220 Middleborough Road, Blackburn South

LANCE WARD, Arcare, 75 King Street, Templestowe

RALPH WEATHERELL, Uniting Agewell, 75 Thames Street, Box Hill



Cr Tina Liu, Cr Blair Barker, Mayor Mark Lane, Major Brian Saunders



Cadet & Aggie Kost Rep Box Hill Inst.



Cheryl Frail & Helen Harrington



Bugler Nicholas Chiselett, Piper Steve Iverson, Cadets & Lindsay Burke



Arthur Merryweather & Cheryl Ryan



President John Haward



Cadets dismounting

# **REMEMBRANCE DAY 11TH NOVEMBER 2022**

Finally free from the Covid-19 restrictions, Box Hill RSL was able to hold a "normal" Remembrance Day Service at our WW1 Memorial and Cenotaph.

Weeks prior to the service, The Cadets from 305 ACU started practising their drill, Faye and Judy were working at a frenetic pace organising all they do to make the ceremony happen.

The day arrived, and the weather was kind to us as we remembered and paid homage to all Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Merchant Marine and the Women who served in all wars.

Our President John Haward opened the service of commemoration, the cenotaph guard mounted vigil and the Salvation Army Chaplain said a prayer. A homily was read and wreaths laid as the piper played a lament for the fallen. The wreaths that were laid at the cenotaph looked beautiful with all the bright colours of the spring flowers.

John Haward recited the Ode and the bugler sounded the haunting tones of Last Post as the Catafalque party presented Arms and the Australian Flag was lowered. A minute's silence was observed, John Haward said "Lest We Forget" and Rouse was played, the Bugler using an original WW1 Bugle for the service. The Australian flag was raised. A few final words from our president and the Remembrance service was over. As always, there are a myriad of people who make these ceremonies happen and they all work behind the scenes not expecting any thanks.

Judy Coates and Faye Clark who organised the orders of service, guest lists, the public address system, wreaths, volunteers and more.

The Bowls Section who transport and set up the table and chairs and at the end of the ceremony pick them up and take them back to the RSL. A thankless task which they always perform well.

Wei Wei Dai and Denis Fernando who organised the reception in the Upton Room

Lindsay Burke organised: the Cadets of 305 ACU who did a superb job as the cenotaph guard, the bugler, Nicholas Chiselett from the 4th/19th Prince of Wales's Light Horse Regt Band and, the piper Sgt Steve Iverson from the 5th/6th Battalion Pipes and Drums.

On behalf of our President John Haward, the Committee and members of Box Hill RSL, thank you to all of our great volunteers and employees for all that you do for us.

### Lindsay Burke

Committee Member / Memorials Officer

## CONTINUED // Rededication of the Box Hill First World War Memorial 2022

We were able to have the Pipes and Drums of the 5th/6th Battalion, The Royal Victoria Regiment, and Australian Army Band Melbourne for musical support.

The Melbourne Shrine guard provided two guards for the vigil on the cenotaph and 305 ACU provided three Cadets to round the guard out.

Two Cadets were tasked with three jobs, being door openers for the Governor General's car on arrival, presenting the wreaths to the Governor General and Mrs. Hurley and our President John Haward for the wreath laying, positioning the commemorative plaques in front of the memorial and holding the cloth which was draped over them and then waiting for the Governor General to unveil the plaques with John Haward. They were very busy Cadets.

Steve Bennet, Chris Gray, and I set up marquees in the morning as the weather forecast was not looking good.

The Governor General and Mrs. Hurley arrived, the Cadets opened the doors and saluted. Their Excellencies were welcomed into the RSL by our President John Haward. The Governor General was piped into the RSL and introduced to the Committee.

Brian Tateson then showed the Excellencies through our RSL, and our memorabilia displays.

I and the Cadets left and went straight to the memorial for our next jobs. I was the MC, and the Cadets had several tasks.

The Governor General arrived at the Memorial and was greeted with a Royal Salute and musical fanfare.

We started the service with an Acknowledgement of Country, then John Haward welcomed the Governor General and Mrs. Hurley.

The rededication service commenced, the Guard mounted vigil, the Shrine Guard in traditional WW1 Light Horse Uniforms with .303 SMLE rifles and the Cadets with swords.

The service followed a similar format to that of Remembrance Day. The Governor General and Mrs. Hurley laid a wreath on behalf of the people of Australia and our President John Haward laid a wreath on behalf of BHRSL. After the wreath laying the plaques were unveiled by the Governor General and John Haward. The memorial and plaques were blessed by Father Owen Mason, a Roman Catholic Priest, Capt. Akhil Gardner, an Anglican Priest, and Major Brian Saunders, a Salvation Army Chaplain.

Army Band Melbourne provided a bugler for Last Post and Rouse and a vocalist, MUSN Lauren Stewart, to sing the National Anthem which she sang magnificently.



Governor General & Mrs. Hurley laying Wreath







John Haward, Governor General, Mrs. Hurley, Heather Haward, Brian Tateson



Father Owen Mason



John Sheehan, Bep Dawes, Judy Coates, Carmel Guest and Governor General



Capt Akhil Gardner



Lindsay Burke, Arthur M., Louise & Steve Bennett, John Sheehan, Bep Dawes



John Haward, Governor General, Janice Tateson, Heather Haward, Brian Tateson



Governor General, Jim Burrowes, Mrs. Hurley



Major Brian Saunders

David Grierson, Governor

General



Army Band

Chris & Alison Gray



Army Singer MUSN Lauren Stewart



Graeme Agnew, Emily, Sophie, Governor General



Don McKirdy and Governor General



305 Army Cadets with Governor General and Senator Raff Ciccone



Pipe Band



Governor General, John Haward, unveiling plaque



Lindsay Burke, Pipe & Drums of the 5th/6th Bn, RVR, RSM W01 Brad Percy and CO, Lt. Col. Cameron Warfe

The Guard dismounted, there was a Royal Salute to farewell the Governor General and Mrs. Hurley. The Governor General graciously agreed to have his picture taken with the Cadets before moving back to the RSL for light refreshments in the Upton Room.

During the reception, the Governor General was presented with a gift by Brian Tateson and Mrs. Hurley was given a beautiful bunch of flowers by Judy Coates. The Governor General chatted with many of our members and Mrs. Hurley got all the room to sing "You are my sunshine" just to brighten our day.

They were farewelled by the President and Committee. Their cavalcade left and we all went back into the Upton room. Remarks were made about how friendly and gracious both the Governor General and Mrs. Hurley were.

It was a great day for our First World War Memorial, BHRSL and our members.

Thank you to everyone who made it happen.

Lindsay Burke Memorials Officer

# Women's Auxiliary

Who would have thought we would be experiencing such cold wintry conditions at this time of year. Let's hope the sunshine and warmer weather is not too far away. We have so much to do at this busy time of year.

On 26th September, Women's Auxiliary had Box Hill RSL member Barbara Sutherland as guest speaker on her experiences in Vietnam as a Radiographer. It was firsthand information on the sacrifices, trials, and tribulations made by many whilst experiencing the horrors of war. Barbara has since returned to Vietnam to again meet the many Vietnamese friends she made whilst there.

On 5th October, Box Hill RSL Women's Auxiliary committee was invited to Ringwood RSL for morning tea where a friendly get together and chat took place on ideas and ways to fund raise for our Sub-Branches. Box Hill will reciprocate in the New Year.

On 12th October, we had a chicken and salad lunch in the Upton room. The Committee members made a nice variety of salads, and the chickens were purchased from Red Rooster. Joan Waters won the \$20, while Denise Collier won the main Raffle which was a basket filled with lots of wonderful goodies. This was put together by committee members Maxine and Kay. Well done ladies. Bingo was played in the afternoon with even more prizes "Eyes Down, Everyone ".

On 9th November, our Bus trip to Castlemaine was highly successful. It was a relaxed trip with a nice lunch, fresh home-grown tomatoes and cucumber with chicken, which was enjoyed in the Garden Room. We all thought we were going to a Buddhist Temple, instead it was a heritage listed Historic Home & Garden, built in 1853 during the gold rush by Hungarian born jeweller Ernest Leviny. The house itself displays furnishings, artwork, and domestic items of its former owners. The garden is enchanting & expansive, it would have taken a lot of looking after. Some took advantage of the trip home for a few minutes shut eye after such a pleasant day.

On 24th November, we had Ken Smithies a Bowen Therapist as guest speaker to talk and demonstrate the benefits of Bowen Therapy which mainly deals with the relief of severe pain and muscle tension. He emphasised the importance of body balance, which we all need to improve on as we get older. That day Mary Simpson won the \$20 for \$2.

We recently gained 3 new members making a total of 11 for the year. Everyone is welcome!





Don't forget our Christmas Raffle which is on display in the foyer. Buy your tickets, \$2 each or a book of 10 for \$20. The prizes will be drawn in the Upton room at 7pm on 16th December.



Looking forward to our Auxiliary members Christmas lunch on the 2nd of December, our member's final get together for the year.

Thank you to our Committee Members, the Sub-Branch, and staff for their support during the year.

Merry Christmas everybody! Peace, Health, and Happiness for the New Year 2023.

### Helen Harrington Vice President.

6. BOX HILL NEWS

# **BOWLS SECTION**

The Official Opening of our NEW GREEN on Saturday October 8th was a very successful day.

It was well supported by 46 Members and their guests with the Official Opening conducted by Richard Sluggett (Treasurer) from the Eastern Ranges Bowls Region Inc. Board.

John Haward, President of the Box Hill RSL spoke glowingly of the value of the Bowls Section to the RSL, and these words were supported by Andrew Guest, the newly appointed RSL Secretary.

On completion of the Opening, players then commenced and enjoyed a pleasant afternoon of Bowling followed by a light meal in the Upton Room. We were delighted to have Richard join in the Bowling and then stay on to enjoy our hospitality at the Celebration Function.

Thanks to Cheryl Frail who once again did a wonderful job of providing us with a few laughs when conducting the raffles.

Our Pennant Season is well underway now and all 4 teams are currently in the top four.

This is a wonderful effort. Keep up the good work everyone & hopefully we will be able to retain these positions all season.

Bowls is a great game so if anyone is interested in joining our Section please contact; Phillip Johnson 0431 271 805 or Dennis Arnel 0403 520 750. They are also the contacts if you would like to have a Corporate Bowls Function or Barefoot Bowls evening.

### Judy Smith

Vice Chairperson





L: Judy Smith (Ladies Winner) R: Kat Jones (Ladies Runner up) L: Gordon Lear (Mens Runner up) R: Russell Keast (Mens Winner)

Congratulations to the winners and runners up of the Ladies and Men's Singles for the 2022/23 season.

### LADIE'S SINGLES FINAL

After 32 ends and almost 3 hours Judy Smith prevailed over Kat Jones 25/21 in a very tight match. Congratulations to both ladies on the quality of bowling they delivered.

### **MEN'S SINGLES: FINAL**

Congratulations to Russell Keast who, 3rd time lucky (his own words), defeated Gordon Lear 25/18 after 25 ends and 2 1/2 hours. Congratulations also to Gordon as the score was 18 all before Russell came home with a run. Not bad for a 95 year old, Gordon. Well done to both players.

Thanks to those who officiated i.e., Neville & Johnno for the Men, and Peter and Mal for the Ladies, also the spectators who added to the occasion.

### Peter Houghton Committee

# REMEMBRANCE Appeal 2022

The 2022 Remembrance Appeal has been a success. It's great to see the support given by our donors and volunteers. **We have raised in excess of \$57,000**. We are in the process of finalising the count. Figures will be provided to all involved once completed. Our volunteer groups - the NASHOS, 305 Cadets, 401 Squadron, the Bowls Section, Box Hill Central, Age Care and small businesses have all raised money for our Veterans and their families. We thank all for their loyal support.

A special thank you to our individual sellers and members of the Box Hill RSL for their generous donations.

Sincere thanks from the President and Committee of our Club for all your efforts and hard work. Heartfelt thanks from our veterans and their families for your generosity.

Pictured (right) we have a photograph of the display cabinet from Deepdene Post Office. Mikhail, the Manager of the Post Office has provided dedicated support for our appeals over the years.

### Bep Dawes Appeals Manager









Keith Wolahan MP, Dot Conway and John Haward

Matthew Bach MP, Richard Tregear and John Haward

Blair Barker, Mal Hams and John Haward

# **CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR**

**Dorothy Conway** who has been an outstanding volunteer since 2010. Dot has been an enthusiastic member of the Knitting Group for all that time and was their leader for a period. She has made hundreds of knitted articles, including rugs, clothing, toys etc. for charities like Cottage by the Sea, Wantirna Palliative Care, Missionary Ventures Aust., Knit One-Kogo, and Vinnies. She also made heaps of Poppies for the 100th Anniversary of WW1. She has always been an eager volunteer, responding to any request for help. Dot always made herself available for our Social Support Program Lunch, helping residents of the Aged Care Facilities to their table and helping them with their requirements during the lunch. A worthy recipient!

**Malcolm Hams**, an ex- farmer, relocated from Western Australia and joined the Box Hill RSL and Bowls Section in 2017 and readily volunteered to be involved in work for the Bowls Section such as the weekly maintenance of the Green. Mal participates at all levels on the bowling green and is an accomplished Pennant bowler.

He has also provided transport and involved himself in setting up the ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day ceremonies at the Cenotaph for the Sub-Branch every year since 2018.

In 2018, Mal nominated and was elected Treasurer of the Bowls Section – a position he still holds.

Initially, Mal knew little of financial records and reporting but undertook training – in his own time – to now be a most capable Treasurer – and highly valued member of their Management Committee. Despite the difficulties of 2022, Mal has prepared appropriate budgets and controls that have ensured the Bowls Section continues to operate with a surplus. He has developed a good relationship with the Sub-Branch Treasurer to ensure that his books are always in order.

Mal's constructive teamwork, his positive attitude, his involvement in building our Section, his willingness to go well beyond his primary role and for his commendable achievements – particularly in 2022, makes him a worthy recipient!

**Richard Tregear** is currently the Treasurer of the Whitehorse Sub-Branch of the National Servicemens Association (NSAA), Treasurer of the State Victorian Branch, and Treasurer of the National, National Servicemens Association of Australia.

He has held these positions for a number of years, although he has taken on the National Treasurer position just last year. As Treasurer of the Whitehorse Sub-Branch NSAA Richard has been an exemplary contributor for the committee and members.

As Treasurer of the Day Section, Richard produces firstclass, user-friendly accounts which are always readily available for the Section members perusal. He works away unobtrusively, willing to help with a variety of tasks.

Richard is an invaluable team member and his contribution is greatly appreciated by the Day Section and is a worthy recipient!

Faye Clark Welfare Coordinator

# President's **AFTERNOON**

The President's Afternoon was held in October and as usual was an enormous success. Our Volunteers do a wonderful job for their respective sections and for our Welfare Department. This is a terrific way to thank them for all the work they do during the year. Of special note were the Volunteers of the Year, Dot Conway, Richard Tregear and Mal Hams, (see Page 8). A big thank you to Cheryl Ryan and Judy Coates who worked behind the scenes writing and mailing the invitations, and to Wei Wei and her staff who worked hard on the day to make sure everyone enjoyed themselves.

Faye Clark Welfare Coordinator

























# **Angling Section**

On Thursday 29th September nine members of the Box Hill RSL Angling Section set off on the inaugural Vic Allen fishing Charter.

Vic Allen was a member of Box Hill RSL and the Angling Section, a keen fisherman with a very distinguished military record, who passed away in July 2022.

The nine members were, Bert Librio, Charles Kook, Graeme Fernandes, Heather Sutterby, Ian Mitchell Keith Moulder, Neil McAllister, and me.

At 6:45am on a fair sunny morning, with a chilly breeze, we met at Hastings Marina for a 7:00am departure, all with high hopes of catching a good feed of fish and winning one of the prizes.

These prizes consisted of rods and reels, rods, BBQ set and other fishing paraphernalia.

After travelling for about 25 minutes, on calm seas, we stopped at the first fishing spot, and it wasn't long before lan had a fish in the boat (small flathead), then as the morning progressed and we moved to different spots, other members started catching fish.

As usual, about 10:30am, the boat captain cooked up a heap of sausages and we all had a snag in bread as a mid-morning snack.

At 11:30am it was lines in and back to the marina, which was just as well as the weather had started to deteriorate, as can be seen in the group photo, (cloudy and cooler).

### On the way in, the prizes were presented as follows:

FIRST FISH:	Ian Mitchell	
LARGEST FISH:	(36cm whiting)	Keith Moulder
2ND LARGEST FISH:	(35cm Whiting)	Bert Librio
3RD LARGEST FISH:	(24cm Whiting)	Graeme Fernandes

All in all, not a lot of fish were caught, but everybody enjoyed the day out

We would like to thank Box Hill RSL for their support, also Compleat Angler in Ringwood and Regal Marine in Vermont for their generous donations of the rods, reels, BBQ set and other paraphernalia.

### **Graeme Furmston**

**Event Coordinator** 



Front Row (L to R): John Higginson, Ian Mitchell, Bert Librio, Keith Moulder, Neil McAllister Rear Row (L to R): Graeme Furmston, Heather Sutterby, Charles Kook, Graeme Fernandes





Ian Mitchell & Heather Sutterby

Graeme Fernandes



Graeme Fernandes, the deck hand, and Keith Moulder in the background



Bert Librio, and Charles Kook, with the charter operator and deck hand in the fluoro tops

# NAVAL ASSOCIATION

On Friday 12th August some members of the Box Hill Sub-Branch of the Naval Association Australia (NAA), placed a wreath at the Box Hill Cenotaph in remembrance of the sinking of HMAS Canberra on 9th August 1942.

The Australian heavy cruiser, HMAS Canberra (I) was sunk in the Battle of Savo Island. Canberra had formed part of the screening force for the Allied landings at Guadalcanal on 7 August. She was on night patrol near Savo Island north of

Guadalcanal when, in the early hours of 9 August, she encountered a Japanese fleet consisting of five heavy cruisers, two light cruisers and a destroyer. The Japanese opened fire on Canberra and she was hit by at least 24 shells within the

SINKING U.M.A.S CANBLARA 9" AUGUST 1942 SOLOMON ISLANDS

space of two minutes, and put out of action. Of her crew of 819, 84 were killed or died later of their injuries, including the ship's Commanding Officer Captain F.E Getting. Canberra was not the only Allied ship to come under attack that morning. Three American cruisers were sunk, and many other vessels damaged. In addition to those lost in Canberra, 939 American sailors were lost, and another 654 wounded.

The Box Hill Sub-Branch of the NAA meets quarterly on a Friday morning at the Box Hill RSL Sub-Branch Library. Our next meeting is Friday 10th February, 2023 at 11am, with lunch following. Anyone who has served in the Navy, Naval reserves or Merchant Navy or is interested to learn more about the Navy is invited to join the Naval Association.

For further information please contact Joy: Phone: 0406 349 712, Email: etri1008@hotmail.com or Web: https://navalassoc.org.au/

Joy Emmett Secretary



Wayne Bastow and Andrew McKinnon



**Greg Emmett** 

# **FREE MOVIES FOR MEMBERS** Presented by Ray Wall

### Wednesday 25th January, 2023 at 10.30am

The January 25, 2023 Movie will be "Real Men". This is an American Comedy released in 1987 Rated PG13 and runs for

85 minutes. Note: The movie will be shown on the last Wednesday in January 2023 due to the Australia Day holiday scheduled for the last Thursday (January 26, 2023) of the month.



#### Synopsis:

A womanising CIA agent (James Belushi)

and an insecure insurance agent (John Ritter) are paired together to make sure a deal goes through with aliens for the future of mankind.

### Thursday 23rd February, 2023 at 10.30am

The February 23, 2023 Movie will be **"The First Grader"**. This is a biographical true story released in 2010 Rated M and runs for 103 minutes.

**Synopsis:** The story of an 84-year-old Kenyan villager and ex-Mau Mau veteran who fights for his right to go to school for the first time to get the education he could never afford.



# **SNOOKER SECTION**

The season for all teams has come to an end. Neither of our two Monday teams nor the two Tuesday over 55's entered the semi-finals for probably the first time in many moons! I cannot put my finger on the performances and no excuses either, but we look forward to this coming year.

Please, we need more players to enter as it is a perennial problem to get the 4th player every week. As time flies, more and more of our elder players cannot drive at night or have other commitments like looking after their partners or grandchildren.

Looking forward to our AGM coming up soon. I request all members to participate and impart their wisdom as we will be having elections too. Also coming in the next few months will be our Box Hill RSL Billiards & Snooker championships and maximum entries are encouraged. Reminding again, kindly tag your names of your personal cues lying in the cupboard. Yes, we have a CCTV system, but do carry some responsibility.

Our players sadly remember the passing of our regular member Lou Pecsovszky in November, and we convey our condolences to family. Lou also was a regular at the Bistro having lunch.

### Suresh Alphonse President

# Day Section

Despite celebrating our Footy Day after the Grand Final because of the way in which the dates fell, it did not detract from the atmosphere in the room. There was plenty of friendly banter and rivalry amongst those present. Brendan Scott provided the entertainment, singing and playing some old favourites. There were some new additions to his repertoire, proving yet again he is a very versatile performer. The Footy Fare also went down really well!

On 11th October, Lindsay Burke told us about his involvement with the 305 Army Cadet Unit. Some of our members were unaware of the connection between Lindsay, the cadets, and Box Hill RSL. We had booked Lindsay previously, but Covid restrictions got in the way. It was disappointing to hear of the limitations of financial support from Government and Defence bodies to this worthwhile area because more youths might participate if more funds were available. The cadets are self-funded for certain events e.g., camps. A very high standard of training is given, going by the results attained. Equal opportunities are offered to both sexes as became obvious at our recent Remembrance Service where I noted some female presence in the Catafalque Party. Thanks go to Lindsay for sacrificing so much of his own time, not only for RSL work, but also for working with these youngsters and instilling great standards. They are our citizens of the future.

Don MacQueen, the Bush Balladeer, entertained us on 25th October and proved that even though material is "recycled" we still enjoy it. It's good to be able to recite poems/rhymes and sing along. Some stories came from way back during school days, but members could still recall them. There was plenty of laughter once again in the Upton Room.

Carolyn Harris and 2 colleagues came on 8th November. She is Endocrinology Clinical Study Coordinator from Monash University and is based at Box Hill Hospital. We learned about different on-going research in certain fields of medicine e.g., Diabetes, Cardiovascular and Osteoporosis. Opportunities are offered to participate in these trials locally. It is worth remembering that many conditions are hereditary so one volunteer might benefit a whole family. Sometimes underlying conditions are discovered during pre-trial tests so there are sometimes additional benefits.

Our Section members enjoyed the recent trip organised by Therese from the Women's Auxiliary. Even though we had previously visited Buda Historic House & Garden at Castlemaine on a trip of our own, we still enjoyed the day out and there was plenty to see.

As we approach the end of the year, I wish to thank all those who have contributed to the smooth running of our Section meetings and to those who have attended. Let's hope 2023 brings all we wish for, especially good health in these uncertain times. Merry Christmas to you all.

Mary Simpson Co-ordinator



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