

SEPTEMBER/ OCTOBER 2023 ISSUE: #260

26 Nelson Rd, Box Hill 3128 | T: 03 9897 6700 | W: boxhillrsl.com.au



**BOXHILLRSL**

# BOX HILL NEWS



Contributions can be emailed to the Editor Faye Clark at: [welfmgr@boxhillrsl.com.au](mailto:welfmgr@boxhillrsl.com.au)



Kim and Rod Burgess, and Charles Kook in the background.



Chaplain Anastasia Slater (above and inset right) and WO2 Tim Steere.



Charles Kook and the 305 Army Cadets.

## VIETNAM VETERANS DAY 2023 AT BOX HILL

The 18th of August 2022 was the last Vietnam Veterans Day commemorated at the Melbourne Shrine of Remembrance. Consequently, it was decided by the Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia (Box Hill Sub-Branch) that Vietnam Veterans Day on the 18th of August 2023 would be commemorated locally, at the War Memorial in Box Hill Gardens.

The organising committee could not predict how many could be expected to attend the event, so it was very pleasing to see that well over 100 veterans, partners, family members and friends turned up to take part in this memorable service, despite the rain.

Charles Kook was the excellent MC of the service, with the Catafalque Party being provided by the 305 Army Cadet Unit (appropriately dressed in jungle greens). Wreaths were laid by veterans of the Vietnam War, as well as by dignitaries from government and elsewhere. The RSL President, John

Haward, laid a wreath on behalf of Box Hill RSL.

After the service, the veterans, their partners, families and friends, were invited back to the Upton Room of the Box Hill RSL for refreshments, where a great deal of camaraderie was enjoyed by all.

Seeing that the service went so well, the committee of the Box Hill Sub-Branch of the VVAA has decided to conduct the service every year on Vietnam Veterans Day, the 18th of August, for as long as it can do so, youth not being on the side of the veterans.

The Box Hill RSL Sub-Branch Committee would like to congratulate the Box Hill Sub-Branch of the VVAA, for a job very well done.

**Andrew Guest,**  
Secretary

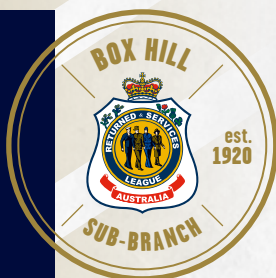
# Welfare Report.

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.

**Helen Harrington**

## VALE

*lest we forget*



**Brian MATTHEWS**  
6705832 NS

**Lindsay HORNER**  
A33294/337717 RAAF/  
RAEME

**Thelma DELACY**  
AFFILIATE

**Elsa HATFIELD**  
WASB/BCOF

**Kevin JONES**  
3/747856 NS

## Members in Aged Care

**GEORGE AGIUS**, Blue Cross, Livingstone Gardens, 39 Livingstone Road., Vermont South

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

**JOHN BROWNBILL**, Faversham House, 27 Shierlaw Ave, Canterbury

**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

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

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

**ROY McDONALD**, Victoria Grange, 502/514 Burwood Hwy, Vermont South

**DON McKIRDY**, Alawarra, Inala, 220 Middleborough Rd, 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

**ARTHUR AND LORRAINE OWEN**, Blue Cross, Livingstone Gardens, 39 Livingstone Road, Vermont

**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

**GEORGE TULLOCH**, Rowville Manor, 18 Le John Street, Rowville

**MARJ TURRIFF**, Faversham House, 27 Shierlaw Ave, Canterbury

**LANCE WARD**, Arcare, 75 King Street, Templestowe

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

## FAREWELL FROM DENIS FERNANDO

Dear Members,

With a heavy heart and much anticipation, I have tendered my resignation, its time to hand the "baton" over. In the last 14 years I have grown personally and professionally, I have come to understand our wonderful Veteran Community thanks to all of you. I'm very proud of what we have accomplished at Box Hill RSL but most proud of my management team and staff, we have endured many challenges over many years but kept focused and moved ahead at every obstacle including COVID 19.

I would like to thank all of you for the continuous encouragement and positiveness from my first day of work back in 2009 to now, there are so many amazing individuals that I will remember for the rest of my life, wonderful



stories and memories. Thank you to Box Hill RSL Committee and past Committees for giving me the opportunity to develop the commercial operations of Box Hill RSL to what it is today, we have a fantastic Committee led by John Haward our President.

Box Hill RSL will always have a place in my heart, I cannot even articulate my feelings into words as there are so many but the word "love" resonates through my thoughts.

My last day will be Friday 1/12/2023 which is approaching quickly. The Committee has appointed Ben Myers to take over in December and he will commence late November. Ben is a terrific fellow and we will introduce him formally in the December edition of Box Hill News.

**Denis Fernando**  
General Manager



# Women's Auxiliary

A lot has gone on with Women's Auxiliary since our last newsletter. Firstly, on Monday 24th July, guest speaker Graham Duncan from Fire Rescue Victoria gave an interesting and informative talk on 'Home Fire Safety'. Recommendations for preventing fires in the home included: having smoke detectors properly installed and checked yearly, gas fires checked every two years for carbon monoxide leaks, care when heating wheat packs in the microwave, the extra care needed when burning candles, the dangers of charging lithium batteries on bedside tables, and cooking being left unattended on the stove. A handy home fire safety booklet was given to everyone to take home.

Our Auxiliary was invited to a Christmas in July lunch by Ringwood Women's Auxiliary where 14 members attended. A lovely lunch and sweets were enjoyed by all. Raffles were run, prizes won, and friendships rekindled. It's not too far from our December Christmas lunch celebrations!

In August, Kay's Fashions again provided great clothing for members to purchase. Our models on the day were Joan, Maxine, Judy and I. The final garment sales, \$165.00, went to our Auxiliary. Thank you to those who attended and those who purchased.



Helen Harrington

Also in August, Judy delivered bags containing basic toiletries to the Box Hill Emergency Department for patients who arrive without these.



Judy Coates with E.D. Nurses and Mikaela Figgis of Eastern Health Foundation.

Our Father's Day Raffle was drawn Friday 1st September in the Upton Room. It raised \$1,344.00. Our thanks to Bunnings, Terry White Chemist, Officeworks, Mitre 10 and Dan Murphy's for their donations and to members, sellers and buyers of raffle tickets. Congratulations to all four prize winners: Jeremy Rossister, Robert Murphy, Phil Kinnear and G.J. Cross.

Donna Campisi from Cottage by the Sea gave us a visit, and was grateful for the food parcels, and knitted items donated by members of our Auxiliary for this non-profit, non-government funded organisation. Cottage by the Sea was established in 1890, and has been a long-standing organisation for those less privileged. It provides children from years 7 to 12 with a holiday, teaching integrity, inspiration and a belonging in the community. Groups of trained volunteers provide mentoring and motivation, learning trust programs as well as basic survival skills. Our Auxiliary plans to include a day trip amongst next year's outings.

Music Man Frank Lee Darling entertained members on Wednesday 13th September with songs from yesteryear which we all knew the words to and sang along. He included a soft shoe shuffle and an invitation to get up and dance. Frank put on a very entertaining, enjoyable afternoon for the 20 who attended.



Frank-Lee Darling.

We are getting closer to the year ending, but still have guest speakers and outings to look forward to in the next couple of months. Cranbourne Gardens on Wednesday 11th October, the Shrine on Wednesday 8th November, and our Christmas Luncheon on Friday 1st December.

Welcome to our new member Rhonda Brown. Everyone is welcome to join our Women's Auxiliary.

Keep safe, stay well. Happy birthday to the birthday people. Take care!

**Helen Harrington**

Vice President

**RESCHEDULED - FREE MEMBERS MOVIE**

**THURS 30th NOV, 2023 at 10.30am**



**As the September movie 'Knives Out' was cancelled, it will now be held on November 30th.**

American Comedy released in 2019  
Rated M and runs for 130 minutes.

**Presented by Ray Wall**

## BILLIARDS AND SNOOKER SECTION

The over 55s tournament started in February this year with teams from Greensborough, Hampton, Cheltenham, Frankston and others in-between. Our team of Alex Kotros, Roger Buckmaster, Anthony Mulholland, Benny Phang, Peter Reid, George Shi, Gary Fong and I performed consistently over the past months to finish on top of the ladder.

It came to a zenith of performance from Box Hill when our two teams finished on top. However, on Grand Final day in September at Frankston RSL, the Box Hill 2 team defeated the Box Hill 147 team hands down 5/1 (best of 8). A stellar performance from Peter, Anthony and myself. The day finished early with a timely lunch.

More good news! We will have new table green baize for both the tables coming in mid-January. As the Box Hill Committee approved 70% funding, we thank them for their continued support.

Lastly, many thanks to players who have volunteered for the upcoming Remembrance Day appeal. Please remind yourselves, the RSL is losing a lot of older volunteers for obvious reasons and I ask you all to continue to give your time while you are 'able and fit'.

**Suresh Alphonse**

President



**BOX HILL RSL**  
BOX HILL R.S.L. SUB-BRANCH INC.

## REMEMBRANCE DAY 2023

The traditional Remembrance Day Wreath Laying Ceremony and One Minute Silence will be held at the First World War Memorial, Box Hill Gardens, Shipley Street, Box Hill at 10.30am on Saturday 11th November 2023. All members are urged to attend this important Service.

### THE POPPY LEGEND

The Poppy legend originated in China. A white flower from which a potent drug was distilled was called the flower of forgetfulness. Genghis Khan brought some of the seed westward, but after a battle, the flower became red, in the centre was a cross.

### WE NEED VOLUNTEERS FOR POPPY APPEAL

We need just a few hours of your time – between **Monday 30th October and Friday 10th November**

If you can help please leave your name and a contact number at reception or phone **Faye Clark on 9897 6780** – thank you.

**The success of the Box Hill RSL Poppy Appeal depends on you - the members of the Sub-Branch**

It was found that on many battlefields, when everything else had been laid to waste, the landscape was soon ablaze with blood-red blooms. On the Somme battlefield in 1917 after thousands of Allied casualties, the land again burst forth in a blaze of scarlet with patches of yellow charlock and white camomile.

Lord Macauley drew attention to the strange link to the Poppy with battle and put forward the suggestion it should be regarded as the flower of sacrifice and memorial.

The artificial red poppies worn on Armistice Day are more familiar to Australian and New Zealanders than the real flower.



## POPPY APPEAL

**PLEASE RETURN THIS SECTION  
WITH YOUR DONATION**

Enclosed is a \$10.00 poppy and we would appreciate if you would forward the donation to:

**The Secretary  
Box Hill RSL  
26 Nelson Road  
Box Hill VIC 3128**



Please find enclosed \$ ..... being my/our donation towards the 2023 Poppy Appeal.

Cheques/Money Orders should be made payable to: 'Box Hill RSL'

Name on Card: .....

Membership No: .....

Card Type:

☐

Mastercard

☐

Visa

Card Number:

Expiry Date:

Signature: .....

**Donations can also  
be made online at  
[www.boxhillrsl.com.au](http://www.boxhillrsl.com.au)  
until 11th November 2023**



## DAY SECTION

At our last meeting in July, Paul Viney entertained us. It was a very lively performance of music mainly from the '50s and '60s, songs most of us could remember and sing along to. Isn't it great when you know the lyrics? There certainly was a buzz in the Upton Room and probably in other areas of the club as the sound travelled round the place. I was asked by several members, on departure, to rebook him, so that's always a positive sign. Maybe next time, I'll get him to turn the volume down a bit, though some did like it as it was.

On 8th August, Elida Brereton gave an illustrated talk about a cruise to the Antarctic in March 2020, just before COVID hit. One couple was not allowed to board their ship, L'Australis, because they had visited Rome and Italy was the second country to have COVID. It took two days from South America to reach the Antarctic. They visited places by going in Zodiacs (dinghies) as the ship was too large to sail into some ports. South Georgia was one place visited. It was reconquered by the British in 1982 during the Falklands War. Ernest Shackleton died in South Georgia in 1922, having returned to thank the population who had rescued him. His ship, the Endurance, had sunk after being crushed by frozen sea ice. For me, the most interesting thing Elida mentioned was Iceberg 868. It is 175 km long, 35km wide.

Marcia Rae was August's entertainer. Her repertoire is usually based around Patsy Cline and Doris Day songs and music of that ilk. Her outfit matched the era that much of her music came from viz. 1950s and 1960s. Again, fingers and feet were tapping away. There was

a delay in the start to our day's proceedings, but I'm pleased to say that Joan is now fully recovered, much to everyone's relief.

On 12th September, I spoke about how "what goes around, comes around" in education. There seemed to be a 15-year cycle in Scotland where I taught for over 30 years as an Early Years teacher. One particular aspect -- Phonics -- was an important element in the early 1970s but soon was "out of favour." By the late 1990s, it was really back in vogue and teaching this was standardised in N.E. Scotland. Interestingly, in mid-August, I read in the media that here in Melbourne, there was to be an emphasis on teaching phonics.

Raymond Reaburn gave some tips on hiding valuables in the home and Wayne Bastow showed us a book he has just had printed about his life and experiences. What a wonderful way to pass on family stories and recollections and what a lovely gift to his children and grandchildren. Well done, Wayne!

**Future dates:** October 10 and 24, November 14 and 28, December 12

**New members welcome. We meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday each month.**

**For further details, contact:**

|                             |           |
|-----------------------------|-----------|
| Mary Simpson (Co-ordinator) | 9077 9784 |
| Allana Kirk (Secretary)     | 9819 3527 |

**Mary Simpson**

**Co-ordinator**

## Bowling Section

Hi Bowlers

The winter is nearly over, and Pennant is on its way!

We have started to organise teams for the forthcoming season, starting with a practise match against Fairfield.

Everyone who participated thoroughly enjoyed the competition, the friendship, and the yummy afternoon tea... party pies, sausage rolls, chocolate brownie, (which I can personally vouch for), and fruit cake. A great afternoon. We will also play another practise match against our friends from Blackburn North in the next weeks.

During the cold months our club enjoyed playing social games with Blackburn North and Mitcham. The matches were rotated around the 3 clubs. At one stage Mitcham

were unable to use their greens, as the club rooms were being renovated. Ours was out of action for a short time due to the fire, which I'm sure everyone knows about, so the 3 clubs shared the hosting. It was a great way of getting to know our neighbours, and having a challenge playing with different people.

We have had numerous "Sickies" during the off season months. We wish you all a speedy recovery and look forward to seeing you back on the green.

To those who were lucky enough to escape the cold, welcome back.

**Cheryl Frail**

**Vice Chairperson**



**BOX HILL RSL**  
BOX HILL R.S.L. SUB-BRANCH INC.

# Childrens Christmas Party

## Sunday December 3rd 2023

**Once again the Children's Christmas Party will be held in the Upton Room from 10am to 1pm.**

**Santa will visit at noon and give out lollies and your gifts to children up to age 11 (eleven). Older children may attend and enjoy the festivities.**

The food, mainly for the children will also include fairy floss and ice creams. Soft drinks will be made available free of charge to all. Other drinks may be purchased at the bar at bar prices.

In order to manage the number of adults and children who wish to attend we require you to do the following:

- Call or email reception and let them know the number and names of adults and children attending with your group.  
**Tel: 9897 6700 Email: [reception@boxhillrsl.com.au](mailto:reception@boxhillrsl.com.au)**
- Drop your wrapped present/s to reception clearly labelled with child's first and last name in block letters by no later than Sunday November 26th. Smaller gifts preferred.
- On the day, please park on B2 carpark level and enter the RSL through the Upton Room entry. Please do not try and enter the RSL at reception as the Club does not open until 11am.
- Children must be supervised at all times, including when heading to the bathrooms.

### Important times:

**Upton doors open – 10am**

**Santa – 12 NOON**

**Event closed – 1pm**



**BOX HILL RSL**

**Box Hill R.S.L. Sub-Branch Inc. trading as Box Hill RSL**  
26 Nelson Rd, Box Hill 3128 Victoria.

**T 9897 6700 E [secretary@boxhillrsl.com.au](mailto:secretary@boxhillrsl.com.au)**

**General Manager: Denis Fernando**  
**Sub-Branch Secretary: Andrew Guest**  
**Association Registered No: A0057903U**