



BOXHILLRSL

# BOX HILL NEWS



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

## NEW GENERAL MANAGER



Hello Members,

It is with great pleasure that I introduce myself as the new General Manager of your wonderful club. Box Hill RSL has established an enviable standard in terms of its offerings and service to the veteran community and I am privileged to be your new General Manager.

For the last 7 and a half years I have worked with RSL Victoria in various senior operational roles supporting all RSL Sub-Branches within the state of Victoria. This enabled me to develop a clear understanding and appreciation of the great work that is undertaken to support the objects of the league.

Prior to my time with RSL Victoria I worked for the Coopers Family Brewery as a Business Development Manager. Having been born and raised in South Australia, there was indeed a deal of patriotism attached to my time in this role and I thoroughly enjoyed it. However, the appeal to work for the RSL was too great.

My career journey in hospitality management began with the Australian Leisure and Hospitality Group (A.L.H) where I spent 13 years in multiple roles and in multiple venues. This led me to becoming the Managing Director of my own small pub in the Melbourne CBD The Duke of Kent Hotel, for a further 9 years before joining Coopers Premium Beverages.

My continued focus will be on the delivery of consistency in all aspects of hospitality in an environment that is warm, friendly and welcoming. I look forward to meeting you all in the coming months and would like to particularly thank Denis Fernando for his support and wish him every success in his future endeavours.

Warm regards,

**Ben Myers**

New General Manager

## Remembrance Day at the Box Hill War Memorial



**Above:** Lindsay Burke (Centre) and the 305 Army Cadets

This year Remembrance Day fell on a Saturday. We did not know how many to expect to attend the service and how many might come back into the RSL.

I tried to innovate the service and added a band, The Box Hill Academy of Brass, who played a hymn during the service and some incidental music prior to and during the service. All remarked on how good they were and we hope to get them back again for other commemorative services. Well done to Lauren Innes our bugler who is also their conductor and tutor.

Weeks prior to the service, the cadets from 305 Army Cadet Unit, who provide our Cenotaph Guard, started practising their drill, giving up several nights of their personal time during the weeks leading up to Remembrance Day. Everyone tells me how great they are conducting the Cenotaph Guards and what a credit they are. I have to say I am also very proud of these young men and women.

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# Welfare Report.

For all welfare matters telephone: Faye Clark on 9897 6780



## BOX HILL NEWS

Stories by Members for Members



## VALE

*lest we forget*



### Members in Hospital

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

#### Lorraine Owen

If you do go to hospital, we do like to visit or ring to check on how you are going. So, if you would like your name on this list, please advise Faye on 9897 6780.

**William Jackson**  
3113883 RAF

**George Selkrig**  
3974 NS

**Susie Hall**  
Affiliate

**Betty Morton**  
Affiliate

**Alan Alcock**  
A317035 RAAF

**Francis Donnelly**  
PM8965 RAN

**Don Haggarty**  
PM8245 RAN

**John Fulton**  
2356 NS

**Alan Bentley**  
VX95503 ACCS

**Faye Henderson**  
Affiliate

## 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

**DON HALL**, Olivet Care,  
7-9 Rupert Street,  
Ringwood

**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  
Road, Blackburn South

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

**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

**GORDON PRESS**, Boronia  
ACF, 7 Cogee Street,  
Boronia

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

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

**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

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

**Faye Clark** Welfare Coordinator

# A big thank you to our Volunteers



Keith Wolahan MP and Judy Smith



Judy Coates and Blair Barker Cr



Stephen Eno and Paul Hamer MP

We had our President's Afternoon on Sunday 15th of October; it was a great day and I believe everyone enjoyed themselves. John Haward, our President, honoured and presented three special volunteers with a 'Volunteer of the Year Award'.

They were: -

**Judy Smith** who has been an active member of the bowls section for some 15 years. In each of those years she has held various positions within the club. These include being on the mid-week selection sub-committee for over a decade, and on the catering sub-committee. Judy has also been an active member of the Bowls Section Management Committee as a general committee member and most recently as Vice-Chair. In the role of Vice-Chair Judy was the club liaison with Bowls Victoria and our Bowls-link manager. She instituted our effective email communications with members and was responsible for those communications within the club keeping our members well informed. Judy was also responsible for our bowls reports in the RSL Scuttlebutt Newsletter, as well as providing articles for local news organisations where there were stories of interest about our veteran bowlers. Judy is a regular badge seller at Belmore Road for both Anzac Day and Remembrance Day. She regularly follows up with our bowls members regarding welfare issues when they are ill, hospitalised or require assistance.

And

**Judy Coates** who joined the Box Hill RSL Bowls section where she served as Treasurer for a time, President from 2007 to 2010 and Chairperson from 2015 to 2017 and was made a Life Member of that section in 2017.

Judy joined the Women's Auxiliary in June 2012. She took on the role of Delegate representative in 2016 to 2020 and put up her hand to take on the role of President in May 2021 when the then President passed away suddenly. She is a valued president and has the full support of the Women's Auxiliary Committee, liaising with the Box Hill RSL Sub-Branch and negotiating on behalf of Women's Auxiliary. She also tirelessly liaises with various representatives of Austin Health, Eastern Health, Upton House, Cottage by the Sea, St Kilda Mums, Wantirna Palliative Care, just to name a few, finding new ways we can help and support them. She does this on behalf of the Women's Auxiliary and the Knitting Group.

After being elected to the Sub-Branch Committee, Judy joined our Welfare Section in 2014 and has devoted many hours to our members. She has the ability to get things done, has good communication skills and a willingness to work hard with loyalty, respect, and passion for our members. Judy organizes the Remembrance and Anzac Day Services, and meanwhile, most weeks of the year, she presents herself to the Welfare Office, ready to do any administration job needing to be done. Through her service she has made a real and tangible difference to the wellbeing of our members and the communities we support.



The team celebrate Judy's Award (L to R) Faye Clark, Brian Tateson, Judy, Andrew Guest, John Haward and Arthur Merryweather

And

**Stephen Eno** who has been an outstanding volunteer since 2009. Stephen is a quiet achiever who has been an enthusiastic member of our Visiting Team. He dedicates his precious time to visit our members in aged care facilities and hospitals on a regular basis, even keeping in touch during the COVID period. He delivers gifts on significant occasions, such as Christmas and Easter. He has always been an eager volunteer, responding to any request for help, and would generously give his time and make himself available for our Social Support Program, where members of the community and aged care facilities who are isolated are invited to enjoy a social lunch.

**All are worthy recipients of the 'Volunteer of the Year' Award.**

**Faye Clark**

**Welfare Coordinator**

## Remembrance Day

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

Our President John Haward opened the service of commemoration, the cenotaph guard mounted vigil. The band played the Hymn "Abide with Me". It is a haunting melody and was played "pitch perfect." The Salvation Army Chaplain, Captain Karyn Wishart, recited the Lord's Prayer. Brian Tateson recited 'In Flanders Fields' and Ray Wall delivered a Remembrance Day Anthology which was very impressive. Ray had researched the Royal Commission into Veteran Suicide and added some remarks on the findings, and was able to connect the Anthology to our younger veterans. Well done, Ray.

Wreaths laid as the piper from 5th/6th Battalion Royal Victoria Regiment, Piper Stuart Coghill, 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. The cenotaph looked magnificent clothed in all of the colours of spring. A complete contrast to the devastation on the Western Front in WW1.

John Haward recited the Ode and our bugler, Lauren Innes, sounded the haunting tones of the Last Post as the Catafalque party presented Arms. A minute's silence was observed then John Haward said "Lest We Forget"; Rouse was sounded, the Australian National Flag was raised to the top of the flagpole as Rouse ended. The National Anthems of New Zealand and Australia were played. A few final words from our president along with an invitation to come back into the RSL for refreshments. The Remembrance service was over for another year.

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 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 the Cadets who packed them up and took them back to the RSL. A thankless but very important task.

Justin Kozikas who organised the chairs, tables and the reception in the Upton Room,

Lindsay Burke who organised the Cadets of 305 ACU who did a superb job as the cenotaph guard, the bugler, piper, invitations and the order of service.

The bugler, Lauren Innes, who also conducted the Band, the Box Hill Academy of Brass and the piper Stuart Coghill 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. Without you these events would not happen.

### Lindsay Burke

Treasurer



Jim's Grandson, Jim Burrowes and Bill Gilmore



John Haward



Russell Keast, Wayne Bastow and Neil Brown



Steven Bennett, Rod Burgess, Bill Waterman and Charles Kook



Glenys Lewis and NSAA Reps



Judy Coates - Working as always



The Box Hill Academy of Brass Band



Isabel Harkensee, John Woodford and Helen Harrington



## HMAS CERBERUS — OPEN DAY —

The Box Hill Sub-section of the Naval Association is keen to organise a bus to travel from Box Hill RSL to HMAS Cerberus Museum early next year.

Details such as departure & return time are to be confirmed.

We are inviting all Box Hill RSL members to attend.

**Please send your expressions of interest to [etri1008@hotmail.com](mailto:etri1008@hotmail.com) or call Joy on 0406349712 before 15th Dec 2023**

**Joy Emmett**  
Secretary

## APPEALS 2023



The hard working Appeals Officer Bep Dawes and volunteer Phil Peterson

Thank you to Bep for another successful year for the Remembrance Appeal.

Volunteers and members raised:

**\$53,266.00!**

Thank you all!

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## DAY SECTION

Due to there being no lift access to the Upton Room because of work being carried out on level B2, we had to cancel our much-loved Footy Day in September. Roll on next year!

John MacDonald, one of our Section members, was guest speaker in October, assisted by his long-standing colleague, Alf. Both had served in the Victorian Police Air Wing and remain in close contact with it today.

By the 1970s, a police call-out to an outlying district e.g. Mildura took in excess of 8 hours to complete and so the "Victorian Police Air Wing" service was established. Those who were already flyers when they joined the Police Force, took the opportunity to apply. Most pilots today are civilian sourced. They are then required to attend Police Academy to complete several Police Recruit courses to become sworn officers.

John spoke about the types of aircraft used over the years. Helicopters in the 1980s were added due to their versatility. Nowadays, the Wing also has a large number of drones, both single and multiple-engine, all of which have remote-control cameras to transmit messages back to receiving stations on the ground or other aircraft as required.

This interesting presentation was supplemented by slides, graphs, video clips and infra-red recordings of actual police operations. Both day and night, in and around Melbourne; search-and-rescue training at sea; air-to-ground directions to police; aerial fire-buckets to assist CFA and MFB, as well as the regular crime protection and prevention patrols.

The Victorian Police Air Wing is based at Essendon Fields Airport where escorted tours can be arranged. Many thanks to John and Alf for their interesting talk.

Claire Dubery entertained us in October. Her melodic voice is always a pleasure to listen to and she is always willing to include some of our old favourites in her repertoire. There's nothing better than a good singalong to brighten up our day as was obvious by the smiles on faces in the room.

November's speaker was Phoebe Storey, the Community Engagement Co-ordinator at DonatLife Victoria. She explained to us all about organ donation here in Victoria. During her talk, essential questions and issues were covered, giving many of us a better understanding and appreciation of the subject, despite some members being somewhat apprehensive, initially, about the topic.

The first successful transplants in Melbourne were carried out as long ago as 1954 and there has been a steady development of successful outcomes since. Long may it continue.

As we near the end of another year, may I take this opportunity to thank our Section volunteers, RSL staff and RSL Committee for their support in 2023. Here's hoping 2024 will be as successful.

A very Merry Christmas to one and all. Good health and happiness in the coming year.

**Mary Simpson**  
Coordinator

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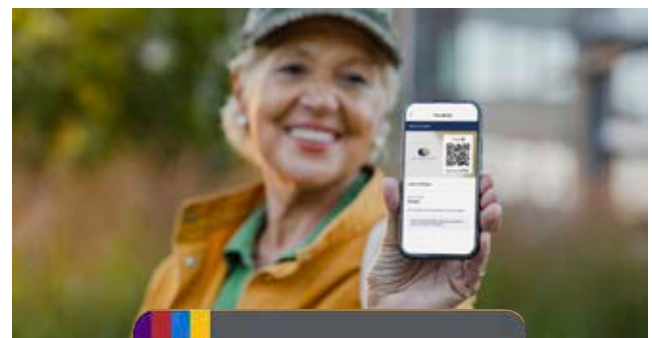
## Victoria Veterans Card

Good news for all Veterans within Box Hill RSL Sub Branch. Victoria thanks Australian Defence Force (ADF) members and Veterans for their service and have introduced a digital Victoria Veterans Card. The card will provide ADF Members and Veterans living in Victoria with access to discounts and benefits across a number of State Government services.



**Note: it is a digital card not a plastic card and the application process is via the Services Victoria app on your phone or you can apply online, via the link below or google Veterans Card – Victoria.**

<https://service.vic.gov.au/services/veterans-card-victoria>



# Women's Auxiliary

The Women's Auxiliary has been busy the past couple of months. Tickets are selling well for our Christmas raffle (display in the RSL main foyer).

There are great prizes to be won, so get in quick and buy your tickets, \$2 each, drawn on Friday December 15 in the Upton Room at 7pm after the regular Friday night raffle. Winners will be rung on the night for arrangements to pick up prizes. Good luck!

On October 11, our members were joined by a few Day Section members on a bus trip to the Royal Botanic Gardens in Cranbourne. On arrival we settled on a shuttle for a guided tour of the 363-hectare site, which offers visitors the chance to explore heathlands, wetlands and woodlands, as well as the award-winning Australian Garden, consisting of Australian native trees and plants. When in full bloom, the colour is magnificent. All sorts of native animals live in these gardens: wallabies, short-beaked echidnas and endangered southern brown bandicoots are frequently seen.



After visiting the coffee shop for a quick drink, followed by a wander through the gift shop, we headed off to Dandenong RSL for a pleasant lunch.

October 15, Volunteers' day at Box Hill RSL saw our Women's Auxiliary President Judy Coates receive the Volunteer of the Year Award in recognition of the volunteering and hard work she puts into the smooth practices necessary for success of Box Hill RSL's Women's Auxiliary, not to mention her time spent in Welfare. Congratulations Judy, well done.



On October 23, Chris Gray and Lee-Anne Suryrn from Vasey RSL Care, gave a meaningful talk to members on the services available to our ex-service members, and support to residential aged care and war widows. Vasey has just developed 16 apartment buildings for homeless service members at the Veterans Centre, Ivanhoe, which the Women's Auxiliary has donated manchester gift packs

consisting of: bed linen, pillows, doonas, bath towels, kitchen items (toaster, kettle, dinner set) for each of the apartments.

Everyone on arrival gets Welcome Packs consisting of non-perishable food, long-life milk, tea, coffee, sugar, and a bag of toiletries. The Women's Auxiliary is proud to donate goods to veterans in need. This will be an ongoing project for the Women's Auxiliary.

The Women's Auxiliary has also donated knee rugs to Pam from Wantirna Health, which were gratefully received. Baby blankets and knitted toys for St Kilda Mums Foundation, hamper packs for their pantry, and knitted beanies and scarves for Cottage by the Sea.

November 8, we had a trip to the Shrine prior to Remembrance Day. If you haven't been to the Shrine for some time, you could spend hours walking around exploring the old and new war exhibitions, and to relive the extreme hardships of the time. A light sandwich lunch and cake at the centre before the bus trip back to the RSL made an enjoyable outing.



Our final meeting was a lovely get-together. After our meeting, special guests joined us for Christmas lunch in the Upton Room. Christmas hampers were raffled, prizes and presents given out, along with hugs and best wishes for Christmas and the New Year. Let's hope it will be a better and brighter one for all.

I would like to thank and wish my fellow committee, friends, RSL Sub-Branch and members a very happy, healthy Christmas and peaceful New Year. Thank you and best wishes to General Manager Denis Fernando who is leaving the RSL. Thank you for your support over the years, Denis.

Take care and hope to see you fit, healthy and happy in 2024.

**Helen Harrington**

**Vice President Women's Auxiliary**

# Bowling Section

The Bowls Section pre-season preparation included practice matches against Fairfield Bowling Club and Blackburn North Bowling Club.

Our new sponsor, Kieser Mont Albert, a local physiotherapy clinic, provided prize money for a challenge match on October 14 against our friends, Blackburn North Bowls Club.

Kieser will be a great help for all our aching bones, hips, legs etc, so, hopefully we will all support them.

The prize money for the winners was very generously supplied by Alex Bussell the manager who also donated several prizes to our very special Saturday raffle.

Box Hill won the challenge, and we anticipate it will be an annual event from now on.

The rink of the day, i.e. best score, was won by Ron Hutson, Brian MacDonald, Denise Kirwan and Harold Lepp. We then enjoyed a brief talk by Alex, followed by a delicious BBQ and salads provided by our lovely catering team: Kat, Lynne and Russell.

Our pennant has now started with success, with both Saturday and Tuesday teams having wins, and in the top 4 on the ladder. It is early days, but, hopefully, we will continue with the competitive, but friendly, spirit Box Hill RSL Bowls Section is known for.

Our Bowls section was very proud to have Judy Smith as a Volunteer of the Year, presented to her at the Volunteers afternoon tea. Congratulations Judy, you deserve it

We have had quite a few sickies lately, who at the moment are unable to play, but it has been great to see some of them on the balcony watching. Get well you lot, we miss you.



John Woodford President and Judy



Alex Bussell tossing the coin for the start of play



Rink of the day, Brian MacDonald, Denise Kirwan, Harold Lepp, (Ron Hutson absent)

**Cheryl Frail**  
Vice Chairperson

## RSL HALL OF FAME AWARDS NIGHT FRANKSTON RSL

**25 NOVEMBER 2023**

Our General Manager, Denis Fernando received from State Branch the recognition of "2023 LICENSED SUB-BRANCH MANAGER OF THE YEAR AWARD GROUP 2".

It is a fitting tribute to Denis who resigned after nearly 15 years as our General Manager. Unfortunately, I could not attend the night as I tested positive to COVID on the day.

**Arthur Merryweather**  
Vice President





# Path of the horse



**Above:** Bep Dawes and Andrew Guest

On Wednesday 22nd of November four BHRSL Committee members, Arthur Merryweather, Lindsay Burke, Bep Dawes, and Andrew Guest, paid a visit to the "PATH OF THE HORSE" charity in Trentham Vic.

This charity assists Veterans with their issues such as PTSD.

We met up with Dean Mighell who showed us around the property and introduced us to the ten horses that are used as companion animals. Dean is a registered Psychotherapist (Gestalt) and Equine Assisted Learning and Psychotherapy Practitioner (EAP). Dean is also a director of Path of the Horse and along with Donna Broadbent - Equine Assisted Learning Specialist (EAL), they provide the required care for their clients.

The property consists of a large expanse of land of several acres with two large dams, three horse yards consisting of two sand and one grass yard for the horses, roofed structures to provide shelter for the horses and two self-contained units and a larger unit where families could stay for clients. Dean spoke about putting in additional infrastructure in the future, however this will depend on further funding.

Over the past seven years they have helped a number of Veterans, Emergency Services Personnel and NDIS recipients to overcome their life issues. On average they would help 50 – 60 veterans a year.

Veterans are not charged for any services offered by Path of the Horse. However, to keep the place viable, they do charge the NDIS recipients and Emergency Services Personnel. These clients are charged the normal rate for the treatment they receive. The charity relies on this income, as well as donations from other veteran organisations, like RSLs.

They have a WEB site and members are encouraged to look at it for further details - [www.pathofthehorse.com.au](http://www.pathofthehorse.com.au)

**Lindsay Burke**  
Treasurer



(L-R) Brian, John, David, Ray, Denis, Arthur, Don, Peter, Andrew and Neil

## Life Members Luncheon September 2023

A Bistro lunch was arranged for all life members of the Box Hill RSL. Maj Gen David McLachlan AO AO(Mil) Retd was the invited guest speaker.

Life members that attended were, John Haward, Peter Leonard, Don McKirdy, Arthur Merryweather, Neil Brown, Brian Tateson and Ray Wall. The Luncheon was enjoyed by all and David, our guest speaker was very informative about his many years as our Past Victorian State President.

Above is a photo of all present, including our Secretary, Andrew Guest and General Manager Denis Fernando who after more than fourteen years retired on 1 December 2023.

**Arthur Merryweather**  
Vice President

## NOTICE OF FORTHCOMING ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

Box Hill RSL Sub-Branch members are advised that in accordance with Rule 13.9B (Vol. 3.9) of the Victorian State Branch of the RSL, notice is hereby given of an Ordinary General Meeting to be held in the Upton Room at 6:00pm on Friday the 2nd of February 2024, for the sole purpose of having the Box Hill RSL Sub-Branch approve amendments to the Rules of the Victorian State Branch of the RSL that were approved on 15 July 2023 at the State Conference of the Victorian State Branch of the RSL.

**Andrew Guest**  
Secretary

# Inaugural Cadet Dining In Night 12 Oct 2023

On the evening of Thursday 12th October 2023 Box Hill RSL hosted an inaugural Cadet Dining In Night involving the senior cadets from 305 Army Cadet Unit, Training Ship Melbourne - Australian Navy Cadets and 401 Squadron - Australian Air Force Cadets.

The dinner enabled the Cadets to experience the customs and traditions of a Military Dining In night along with a short pre-dinner silence remembering the fallen, speeches and toasts. The dinner proved to be a valuable and most enjoyable experience hopefully to be made into an annual event at Box Hill RSL. Hosting the Cadets were four members from the Box Hill RSL Committee. Looking at the photograph from the left: Arthur Merryweather Vice President, Andrew Guest Secretary and Committee Members Bep Dawes and Major Steve Bennett (still serving Royal Australian Engineers).

**Steven Bennett**  
Committee Member



## WW2 LUNCH

On the 17th of October, we were delighted to host a special lunch for our WW2, BCOF, and Korean Veterans. They shared past experiences, and remembered those that they left behind with pride. It was also a timely moment to remember that "those that are left grow old" as John Haward, our President, welcomed them and expressed sadness that their numbers were in decline.

**Faye Clark** | Welfare Coordinator



**Table 1 (L-R):** John Haward, Jim Burrowes, Bart Morris, George Leondas and Mandi



**Table 2 (L-R):** George Agius and Spiro, Phyllis Knop, Judy Coates, Leslie and Harold Renton



**Table 3 (L-R):** June Cave, Bep Dawes, Bill St Aubyn, Andrew Guest, Herbert Cave, and son Stuart



**Table 4 (L-R):** Ian Gillies and Valerie, John Brownbill, Arthur Merryweather, Gordon Press and Rongping



**Table 5 (L-R):** Josue and Donald Haggarty (Dec), Brian Tateson, Donald Hall and son Spiro

# A GREAT BUNCH OF SCOUTS/CUBS

On November 1, Box Hill RSL entertained a group of 15 scouts/cubs, from 6th Box Hill Scout Group. This was an easy number to handle, and they were a great, well-behaved group. We talked about Remembrance Day and the meaning of it. To my surprise they all knew about the day. We also talked about our memorabilia and the displays we had for the group to view. Before the evening commenced, one of the scouts was invested into the Scouts Victoria. This was a very moving ceremony held in the foyer before we headed down to the Upton Room.



During our talk, a member of the group (See photo on right), talked about Bomber Command and told me she belonged to the Aircraft Museum at Moorabbin, where they are currently restoring a Lancaster Bomber. With that, I went into the Memorabilia room and got out the photo of 460 Squadron Bomber Command. She was ecstatic and wanted a copy of the photo to hang in their museum, which I obliged on behalf of Box Hill RSL. We completed our night together with sandwiches and pies, and we toured our current displays.



After the small group of scouts at our last meeting, I was in for a big surprise for the next group which numbered 30. They were from 1st Heatherdale Scouts. We talked about WW1 and the hardships our troops went through as well as their families back home in Australia. Many of the scouts knew a great deal about the First World War. The group was keen to see our WW1 display and that of Sir John Monash. Many of the group enjoyed dressing up in our uniforms and, of course, the Polish uniform always drew a lot of attention because of the size: they were very small compared with today's standards. Our photo shows one of the Scout groups dressed in that uniform. (Right)



If I thought 30 was a large number, the scout/cub group I entertained on Monday November 13, was larger numbering 46. How I was going to handle this large group from Box Hill North Scouts/ Cubs had me baffled for a while, until one of the scout leaders said he worked at Victoria Barracks. We agreed to split the group in half between us, which worked extremely well. As with all the groups I have had this year, the main attraction was the party pies and sausage rolls, everyone enjoys this part of the evening. As for me, I have to say I have enjoyed the cubs/scouts for a long time and these three different groups were no exception. They were all well-behaved in our RSL, and I know they all took away something they could remember from Box Hill RSL.

**Brian Tateson**

**Memorabilia**

## Staff having fun for Halloween



# BOX HILL RSL 2024 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

IF YOU HAVE RECENTLY RENEWED OR HAVE A TRIENNIAL MEMBERSHIP STILL VALID, PLEASE DISREGARD THE RENEWAL REQUEST BELOW AND BIRTHDAY VOUCHERS ONLY ISSUED TO FINANCIAL MEMBERS.

**PLEASE TICK MEMBER TYPE:**

**Service \$40**  
  **Affiliate \$40**  
  **Social \$40**  
 **Community \$2**  
  **3 years (\$40 membership) \$105**

Membership Number: .....

Name: .....



**PAY BY CREDIT CARD:**

Name on Card: .....

Card Type:  Mastercard  Visa

Card No:

Expiry Date:          Signature: .....

**PAY BY CHEQUE:** Cheque Enclosed:

**ONLINE: Pay online at: [www.boxhillrsl.com.au](http://www.boxhillrsl.com.au)**



## Snooker Section

The Box Hill RSL Billiards and Snooker Section completed another successful year in 2023 with Box Hill 2 Premiers and Box Hill 147 runners up in the over-55 competition.

The Thursday night Box Hill RSL team were Premiers in the Bayside Snooker competition defeating the Hampton Crocs. Congratulations to all members involved.

Thank you to all our members who gave their time by volunteering to sell poppies for Remembrance Day, and to all those whom have freely given their time throughout the year. We look forward to doing it all again in 2024.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

**Billiards and Snooker Committee**



(L-R) Roger Buckmaster, Peter Reid, Alex Kotros (Capt), Anthony Mulholland, Suresh Alphonse



(L-R) Frank Thornton, Andrew Brown, Marg Conomy, Doug Stewart, Rick Conomy (Capt), Marie Brown, John Sweeney, Boz Student

## FREE MOVIES FOR MEMBERS

Presented by Ray Wall

**Thurs 25th January, 2024 at 10.30am**

The Thursday, January 25, 2024 Movie will be **"The Ron Clark Story"**. This is a 2006 American biographical television film starring Matthew Perry. Rated PG and runs for 87 minutes.

**Synopsis:** Based on a true story, it follows the tale of an idealistic teacher who leaves his small hometown to teach in a New York City public school, where he faces trouble with the students. Clark must go beyond the classroom just to keep his students from falling by the wayside. When the year is over, both he and the children are deservedly proud.



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