

**MARCH / APRIL 2024** ISSUE: #263

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**BOXHILLRSL**

# BOX HILL NEWS



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

## NEW BOX HILL RSL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

### EMI LUPPINO

Emi has a broad range of experience spanning 40 years across the corporate and finance sector in various leadership and managerial positions. Her enthusiastic and energetic contribution to many organisations across the City of Whitehorse resulted in her being awarded 2023 Citizen of the Year.



Emi is currently Secretary/Treasurer of Box Hill RSL Women's Auxiliary, Vice President of Greenlink (Box Hill Indigenous Plant Nursery), Secretary of Doncaster Community Gardeners, NAB Retirees Committee, and she volunteers at six other organisations, including those which support victims of domestic violence and sexual assault, as well as participants of disability services, receiving a number of awards in these areas.

Whilst enjoying her many community activities she sees her family as her greatest asset.

### CHRIS GRAY

Chris Gray is a member of the Executive Management Team at Vasey RSL Care, where he leads the Veteran Services Department that was formed in 2021. Chris oversees a new initiative, The V Centre, which opened its doors in 2024 to help address veteran homelessness and its causes at an individual level.



He spent 17 years with the ADF, managing construction projects and providing humanitarian aid in Australia and on six overseas tours of duty. His deployments gave him an expanded world view and a better appreciation of the lifestyle and standard of living most Australians experience. Chris was awarded the Soldier's Medallion in 1999 and the Chief of Defence Force Commendation for Outstanding Service in 2005. Chris remained in the Army Reserves for a further ten years before leaving in 2018.

Chris has been a member of the Box Hill RSL since 2010 and served on the committee from 2020 - 2021. As a young member of the committee, he provides a unique perspective on supporting and understanding the specific needs of younger veterans.

## Anzac Day Dawn Service

**THURSDAY 25TH APRIL 2024**



**To be held at the World War One Memorial in Box Hill Gardens, commencing at 5.30am.**

We look forward to seeing members and guests at the service and at the Gunfire Breakfast afterwards.

# Welfare Report.

For all welfare matters telephone: Faye Clark on 9897 6780



## BOX HILL NEWS

Stories by Members for Members



## VALE

*lest we forget*



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

**Lorraine Owen**

**Maureen LEONARD**  
Affiliate

**Willi GABRIEL**  
37551472 Swiss Army

**George TULLOCH**  
431799 RAAF

**Dennis ARNEL**  
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

**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

**FLORENCE KELSALL**, Faversham House, 27 Shierlaw Avenue, Canterbury

**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

**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

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

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

## A CHANGE TO BIRTHDAY VOUCHERS

*We are going digital!*

From the 1st of July this year you will now receive your Birthday card via email.

Next time you are in the club, please check in with our friendly reception staff to make sure your details are up to date.



## Naval Association Australia

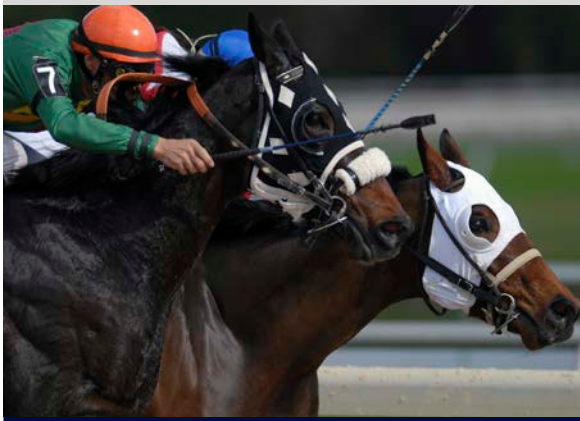
A reminder of our meeting dates are:

May 10th, August 9th  
At 10.30am with lunch following at 12 noon.

RSVP to: [etri1008@hotmail.com](mailto:etri1008@hotmail.com)  
or 0406349712

**Joy Emmett**  
Secretary

# PAKENHAM RACECOURSE "MEMBERS RACE DAY"



**TUESDAY 25th JUNE**  
LEAVING BOX HILL RSL 11AM

**\$40**  
PER PERSON

**Includes:** Coach Fare, Entry to Racecourse, Race Book, Choice of Main Meal (Roast or Fish)

**Bus leaves Box Hill RSL at 11am sharp, and returns to Box Hill RSL, Departing 15mins after last race.**

**BOOK EARLY TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT - PAYMENT AT RECEPTION**

**Contact:** Les: 9897 6700    Les@boxhillrsl.com.au

## Anzac Day Appeal Box Hill RSL

### We need volunteers!

Please give us a few hours of your time, between Monday 15th April and Wednesday 24th April 2024.

Simply leave your name & contact number at Reception or phone our Welfare Section on 9897 6780.

The success of this Appeal depends on you, the Members of the Box Hill RSL.

Thank you for your support



Donations from the Appeal go towards the welfare of our ex-servicemen and women who still suffer as a consequence of their military service and to their dependants who may be in need. **Please Help**



**ANZAC Day** is a day on which we think of those veterans who have made the ultimate sacrifice that we may enjoy our democratic way of life. It is a day where, by the sale of ANZAC Day tokens, we can help support the welfare of the many Veterans, their Wives and Families who still suffer and who are in need.

**Your donation to this worthy cause is appreciated!**

(Please return below section with your donation)



### 2024 ANZAC DAY APPEAL

**Enclosed is a \$10.00 ANZAC Badge. Please forward your donation to:**

The Secretary, Andrew Guest, Box Hill RSL - PO Box 1318, Box Hill 3128

Please find enclosed \$ ..... Being my donation towards the 2024 ANZAC Day Appeal.

Name: ..... Membership No: .....

Money Orders and Cheques to be made payable to "Box Hill RSL".

Alternatively you can go to our website [www.boxhillrsl.com.au](http://www.boxhillrsl.com.au) and follow the link to donate.

# Bowling Section

Our summer pennant season came to a conclusion on Sunday 25th February when our Div 7 Section 4 side played Templestowe at Doncaster in the Grand Final. Despite the great fighting effort from the team, we were unsuccessful and went down by 8 shots.

As grand finalists, the Div 7 side will move up to Div 5 next season (according to the Conditions of Play) and that will present a new challenge for us all. Our Division 4 side ended on top of the ladder but, unfortunately, couldn't quite bring home the flag. Out of our two Tuesday teams, Side 1, ended the season 5th missing the 4 only by 1 shot. The number 2 side finished 3rd but missed out on progressing further in the finals by 6 shots. Whilst disappointing that even though we had 3 out of our 4 sides in the finals we couldn't manage to have one of them achieve the ultimate, we know that all players have given their best for the club over the pennant season.

Our club singles champions, Kat Jones and Russell Keast, played in the Eastern Ranges event on Saturday 16th March at Boronia Bowling Club. This is an event in which all Singles Club Champions in the region play against each other to decide the region champion. Kat and Russell performed very well but came up against some stiff opposition.

We have our Club Triples Championship Day on Saturday 23rd March. We have had a great response from our bowlers with approximately 39 entered. It should be a fun day, with one of our sponsors Kieser Physio in attendance.

Our Social Bowls still continues on Thursdays at 10 30am and we would love to see anyone interested in playing bowls come along. Please contact via email [bowls@boxhillrsl.com.au](mailto:bowls@boxhillrsl.com.au) to make any enquiries.



**Above:** a photo of our Grand Finalists, plus Cheryl Ryan who must have been chatting to someone so missed being in the shot.

We have had numerous sickies over the last few months so hopefully we'll see them back in the club rooms soon as we all miss their company.



**Above:** Our band of Merry Gardeners, who meet every Friday. They clean the bowling green and surrounds, then solve the world's problems over a cuppa. Missing from the photo is the very reliable Peter Leonard.

## Cheryl Frail

Vice Chairperson

# BILLIARDS AND SNOOKER SECTION

The Box Hill RSL Snooker Section members have welcomed the start of the 2024 competition season. Again, we have four teams representing our Box Hill RSL playing in three Associations.

On Monday nights it's the Box Hill Colts in the Diamond Valley Snooker Association lead by captain Alex Kotros. This association has two seasons with the current one ending in July. The second season will then follow.

Tuesday mornings is the ex-servicemen's 55's and Over Billiards and Snooker Association. The requirement for this competition is you must be aged 55 years or over. Two teams represent Box Hill RSL with one playing at home and one away unless we are both fixtured against each other. This is called the local Derby - Box Hill 2 v Box Hill 147 and happens three times a year in the 27-week season plus

finals. Out of the 10 teams competing last year we were the only two left to fight out the grand final with Box Hill 2, led by captain everywhere Alex Kotros, winning.

Our 4th team at Box Hill RSL is named Box Hill and plays in the RSL Victoria Billiards and Snooker Association for the Bayside Zone with the current season being Snooker played on a Thursday night until late June following which the next season of Billiards will start.

All our members are excited moving forward this year and we are always looking for new members to pick up a cue and give it a go.

**BHRSRL Snooker Section Committee**



# BOX HILL RSL ONGOING COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR 2024



**JOHN HAWARD**  
President



**BEN MYERS**  
General Manger



**ARTHUR MERRYWEATHER**  
Vice President



**ANDREW GUEST**  
Secretary



**LINDSAY BURKE**  
Treasurer



**STEVE BENNETT**  
Committee Member



**JUDY COATES**  
Committee Member



**BEP DAWES**  
Appeals Officer



**RUSSELL KEAST**  
Committee Member



**BRIAN TATESON**  
Memorabilia Curator

## DAY SECTION

Our first meeting of the year had a very informal format in the form of a chew'n'chat following a short AGM. We gave our members an update on the Sections' position and asked if anyone wished to take an active part in the Committee. Since no offers were forthcoming, our Committee remains the same, including "deputies." This has proved beneficial as several members have had other plans/responsibilities of late. Fortunately, we always have willing helpers ready to lend assistance when necessary. Thanks to all those involved in the running of our group.

Unfortunately, I had to deliver the news that we could not have any meetings during February as the Upton Room was being refurbished. We had to decline the offer of the Sports Bar or Deck as these were unsuitable for our needs.

Rod Moore gave us information about Travellers' Aid when he came to deliver a talk on March 12th. This is a service available at 4 venues, viz. Southern Cross, Flinders Street, Seymour and Ballarat Stations.

Southern Cross Station offers the most comprehensive service, including equipment such as buggies and mobility aids. Help with transfer from coach to train and vice-versa can be booked as can a "companion service" to help individuals attend appointments after arriving at the station. A lounge/rest area with baby-changing facilities and showers is on site and you can even recharge

phones and buggies. The other stations offer some of the aforementioned services but the hours vary. Most services are free of charge and many are carried out by volunteers. There is no limit on how often you can access these services and there is no age limit. Luggage storage is available and at Southern Cross "crisis travel" can help e.g. when you lose a wallet – they will supply a Myki . A new service is available where they will give guidance and tuition to anyone contemplating getting a mobility scooter.

Further details are available on their website as they do not distribute flyers with information. Everyone seemed interested in the talk – you never know when you might need to use it.

We meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday each month and new members are always welcome.

For further details, contact:

**Mary Simpson (Co-ordinator): 9077 9784**

**Allana Kirk (Secretary): 9819 3527**

### **Future Dates:**

**March 26; April 9 and 23; May 14 and 28**

**Mary Simpson**  
Co-ordinator

# Women's Auxiliary

The Women's Auxiliary AGM was held on February 26. There are no changes to the existing committee from the previous year. Members remain the same in support of each other in working together to achieve good deeds on behalf of the Box Hill RSL Women's Auxiliary.

Committee Member Isabel Harkensee has been awarded the Order of Australia for her volunteering work and support over many years to many organisations. Isabel will receive her award at Government House in April (more in the next issue). Congratulations Isabel, a very worthy, honourable lady.



At our last meeting President Judy Coates presented member Judy Rosevear with a Gold Star for 20 years of service. Congratulations Judy and thank you for your contribution.

January 24: Committee members Judy, Helen and Emi visited Vasey RSL Veteran Care Centre, Ivanhoe, to which the Sub Branch has donated \$24,000.

The Women's Auxiliary donated further bedroom, kitchen and bathroom items for the 17 Units.



The centre and its carers provide support and services to Veterans, homeless, and those with health and mental issues, offering aged care services for living independently with a motto of 'Empowering Veterans to live a life they Value'.

Chris Gray, who works for Vasey Care,

presented the Box Hill RSL Women's Auxiliary with a certificate of appreciation for our continuing contributions.

Many of our various knitting groups have contributed some wonderful toys for grateful charities we donate to such as Eastern Health. A lot of time and effort goes into these imaginative toys with the latest knitted by Marselle Foster, elder sister of Women's Auxiliary member Jocelyn Kinnear. Thank you so much Marselle. The items were quickly delivered to Box Hill Emergency Department.



A knee rug made up of squares knitted by committee member Therese Streets was put together by Joy McKelvey to be given to one of our causes.

Our trip to Ballarat Begonia Festival March 13 was a very enjoyable day for 39 Day Section, Committee members and friends. A tour of the old town with its wide streets and a talk by our bus driver Angie on the Eureka Stockade history and of the Gold Rush days, with all its hardships, was interesting (not knowing at the time, of the tragedy happening underground with the mine collapsing).

Most agreed that the begonia display was more spectacular than last year. The flower heads seemed to be much larger and more colourful. I liked the flowering, trailing hanging baskets. The pond and water fountain looked spectacular with the flowering water lilies. Some members bought plants to take home.

We had a nice meal at the Golf Club and the cake with coffee was especially enjoyable.

We are looking forward to guest speakers from the Ambulance, Eastern Health, Australia Post and more in the near future, along with further outings later in the year.

We welcome new member Debbie Palmer to our group.

Anyone interested in joining the Women's Auxiliary please enquire at RSL reception or contact Helen on 0400 723 072

## “LEST WE FORGET”

It was a beautiful day, 36 degrees, 20 years ago way back in 2004 when I attended the opening of the POW memorial at Ballarat by the Governor General of Australia General Sir Peter Cosgrove, AK, CVO, MC. In fact, history repeated itself on Sunday the 11th February when the weather was the same and the present Governor General of Australia, General David Hurley, AC, DSC, FTSE (Ret'd) re-dedicated this beautiful memorial on its 20th anniversary to a crowd of around 3000 people.

What a magnificent memorial the City of Ballarat has given everyone to view and pay tribute to all the Ex-prisoners of war. The Governor General opened the proceedings with a speech that left no dry eyes in the house. He spoke of his uncle who was a prisoner of war at Changi in Singapore. He spoke of the times he spent with him as a young boy, and he remembers the pain and suffering these brave men went through. They were such an energetic bunch of people making things out of every item they could lay their hands on. The Governor General went on to speak of Weary Dunlop and the work he did for his fellow prisoners.

The Prime Minister of Australia, the Hon. Anthony Albanese MP, spoke next and with all politics put aside also spoke of his uncle, a prisoner of war in Changi. He talked about the respect that we all gave to these prisoners and how we should never forget their sacrifice. His speech was very moving and the audience thanked him with loud applause.

Next, dressed in mayoral robes and chains, was Councillor Des Hudson OAM, Mayor of the City of Ballarat. Councillor Hudson spoke of how the residents raised the money to pay for this memorial over many years and how the architect designed this memorial which is now listed on the Victorian Heritage Register and on the Victorian War Heritage Trail '100 places for 100 years'.

The memorial to Australian Prisoners of War has 36,000 Australian men and women who were held captive as prisoners by the enemy during the Boer War, World War 1, World War 11 and the Korean War. The memorial honours them. There were no Australian POW's during the Vietnam War. The journey along the 136-metre memorial gives the visual impression that emphasises the great distance Australians travelled to war.

The paving stones forming the pathway are shaped like railway sleepers in recognition of the iconic place of railway journeys in the history of Australian prisoners of war.

The names of all known Australian prisoners of war are etched into the black granite wall lying parallel to the pathway. They give no rank, number or enlistment detail in recognition that the sacrifice, suffering and depression acknowledged no person's status. These men and women are equals.

The photo shows my wife Janice pointing to her uncle. It was great that we found him, but sad in other ways. Some years ago I was given a flag by one of our members, Ern Treloar, who was a prisoner of war in Changi. The flag was signed by all his mates there at the same time. I am currently having this flag framed and it will go on display in our new building as a tribute to these men. I promised I would keep the flag and cherish it as all our members and guests will soon be able to see. Sunday, at the 20th Anniversary of the memorial to our Ex-prisoners of war, was a great day and one that I will remember for a long time, in particular representing Box Hill RSL at this significant event.

“LEST WE FORGET”

**Brian Tateson**  
Memorabilia Curator



A speedy recovery to those unwell, happy birthday to those in March and April, hope you have more birthdays to come. All the best, take care everyone.

Kind Regards,

**Helen Harrington**  
Vice President



# Darts Section Report

The Darts Section AGM was delayed due to works on the new bar area in the Upton Room and was held on 26th February in the Sports Lounge.

Paul Tinsley was elected un-opposed for the position of President and Ray Jones was re-elected as Treasurer. Unfortunately, a nomination for Secretary was not forthcoming.

Bernie Tinsley was re-elected as the Competition Director.

Ray Jones volunteered to be acting Secretary.

The 2024 darts season commenced with a great turnout of eager darters with all three dartboards put to use. The first competition night will be the Drawn Doubles on 25th March (partners are picked blind). Trophies will be presented at our Awards Night in December.

**Anyone interested in having a throw can come down any Monday evening around 7:45. No experience necessary.**

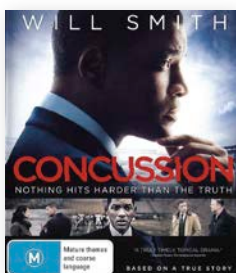


Above: Opening Night

**Ray Jones**  
Darts Section Treasurer

## FREE MOVIES FOR MEMBERS

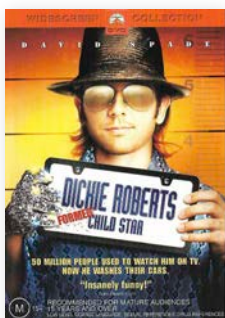
Presented by Ray Wall



Thursday 18th April, 2024 at 10.30am

The April 18, 2024 Movie will be "**Concussion**". This is an American Dramatic Thriller, based on a true story, released in 2015 Rated PG 13 and runs for 123 minutes. **Please note the April movie will be shown on Thursday April 18, 2024. Due to the last Thursday in the month falling on ANZAC Day.**

**Synopsis:** In Pittsburgh, accomplished pathologist Dr. Bennet Omalu uncovers the truth about brain damage in football players who suffer repeated concussions in the course of normal play.



Thursday 30th May, 2024 at 10.30am

The May 30, 2024 Movie will be "**Dickie Roberts: Former Child Star**". This is an American Comedy released in 2003 Rated PG13+ and runs for 98 minutes.

**Synopsis:** A thirty-something former child star hires a foster family to re-create the childhood he never had.



**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)

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