



BOXHILLRSL

BOX HILL NEWS



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

Childrens Christmas Party

SUNDAY 3 DECEMBER 2024

Forty-plus children and around 80 adults attended the Christmas function in the Upton room on the abovementioned date.

We had plenty of sunshine instead of heavy rain that had been around for days. The wind at times was a problem and did shut the jumping castle down an hour earlier than planned.

All present enjoyed the ice cream and fairy floss facility that was located near the jumping castle in the northern car park. The younger children enjoyed playing with Mary, the Bubbles lady. You had to be there to appreciate the enjoyment that was had by the children. The Chrissy Holly music show was the major success of the day. Candice had the children and some adults dancing to Taylor Swift songs. We also had two professional face painters who were kept very busy. Then there was the balloon twister who amazed the children with what animals you can make with balloons. Then we had Felix's magic show which entertained all present. Then came Father Christmas ringing his bell and waving to the children as he entered the Upton room. He handed out the presents supplied by the parents together with a generous bag of lollies from the RSL.

The staff, supervised by Bree, did an excellent job of catering for the needs of all who attended. The light refreshments and soft drinks were sufficient to make the day truly memorable for all who attended.

Next year the children's Christmas party will be on the first Sunday in December. Please make a note in your 2025 diary and try to encourage your children, grandchildren or even your great grandchildren to take part if they are younger than eleven on the day of the Christmas party.

Arthur Merryweather
Vice President



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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.

Kevin Moffatt, John Howe

Elva GRACE
AFFILIATE

Marjorie HUGHES
AFFILIATE

David LAUGHLIN
AFFILIATE

Gary PICKERING
AFFILIATE

Muriel PICKERING
AFFILIATE

Rodney FRANK
AFFILIATE

Bert SCARBOROUGH
3/746901 N.S.

Ralston WOOD
3717733 N.S.

Don MATTHEWS
3759569 N.S.

FREE MOVIES FOR MEMBERS Presented by Ray Wall

Thursday 27th March 2025 at 10.30am

The Thursday, March 27, 2025 Movie will be **"Office Space"**. Office Space is a 1999 American Comedy, rated R and runs for 89 minutes.

Synopsis: "This movie is original, perfectly captures frustrations and it does not take itself too seriously. It well deserves the cult following it gets. Perhaps not innovative in its cinematography but it has brilliant storytelling and wit. A classic."



Thursday 17th April, 2025 at 10.30am

The Thursday, April 17, 2025 Movie will be **"Miracles From Heaven"**. Miracles From Heaven is an American Drama, based on a true story, released in 2016 Rated PG and runs for 149 minutes.

Synopsis: "The film is based on a memoir by Christy Beam, a Texas mother whose daughter, Annabel, suffered from a rare, incurable digestive disorder. After she fell into the hollow trunk of a tree on their property, something unbelievable happened. Tests revealed Annabel's rare and incurable disease was gone."



BOX HILL RSL SUB-BRANCH INC. 2025 ELECTIONS & AGM

COMMITTEE ELECTIONS 2025

Nominations are requested for the positions of Vice President, Treasurer and three Service/Affiliate members for two years. Nominations for the above positions will open on Thursday February 6, 2025, and close on Thursday 20th February 2025 at 5.00pm. Application forms are held by the Secretary. Please note to nominate for the position of Vice President or Treasurer, the applicant must have served on the committee for a minimum of 12 months.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2025

The Annual General Meeting of the Box Hill RSL Sub-Branch Inc will be held on **SUNDAY, 30th MARCH 2025 (UPTON ROOM) 11.00am**. Agenda items must be received by the Secretary, Andrew Guest, by close of business on Thursday, March 20th, 2025. Please note only current paid-up Service/Affiliate and Life Members of the Box Hill Sub-Branch are entitled to vote.

Childrens Christmas Party // CONTINUED



DAY SECTION

"Mr Music Man," aka Frank Lee Darling, provided a selection of banter, comedy and music on 26th November. Little encouragement was needed for us to join in with the medley of songs from yesteryear. It proves yet again that music is excellent therapy as the buzz in the room was almost tangible.

Our final catch-up of the year was the Christmas lunch which was well attended. A very traditional, and scrumptious meal was provided and enjoyed by members and invited guests. Santa Kevin took time out of his busy schedule making pressies for excited children (big and small) to distribute a parting gift to us, ably assisted by his elves. Thanks, Santa and helpers.

Once again, I wish to thank all our members involved in the smooth running of our Section, often stepping in at short notice to lend a hand. The success of our group is most certainly thanks to the staff and committee of our RSL

without whose help and generosity we would not continue to flourish.

Congratulations to the RSL on the completion of the latest redevelopments in the club. Visitors are really impressed too as you hear a collective "Wow" when you pass by or through the Lancaster Lounge.

Happy New Year. May 2025 bring happiness, prosperity and, most importantly, good health to you all.

New Members welcome. For further details, contact:

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

Future Dates:

Feb. 11 and 25, Mar. 11 and 25

Mary Simpson
Co-ordinator

Knitting Group

The Knitting Group is pleased to have resumed for 2025, sharing ideas hatched and productions attempted and/or completed, over the Christmas/New Year break.

At the end of last year, Christmas gifts of knee rugs were given to our members in aged care and thanks must go to the volunteers who assisted in this distribution process. Our devoted knitters spent months crafting 30 vibrant and beautiful rugs, delivering a heartfelt gift to our members in care. For some, our volunteers are their only source of connection and care. The recipients were deeply touched and grateful, knowing that someone was thinking of them.

Our end-of-year lunch was a wonderful celebration of a busy and successful year. We also took the opportunity to honour three of our members who were celebrating birthdays during the festive season.

As a token of appreciation for their support throughout the year, we presented Faye Clark, Judy Coates and Lee-A'rne Watson with Christmas hampers. Pam from Wantirna Health visited on the same day to collect two large bags of knitted items. She also delivered a beautiful thank you card that read: "Each item knitted is an amazing gift from you to the recipient. Thank you so much for the time and love you put into everything you donate to the Palliative Care patients at Wantirna Health."

This moment truly highlighted the spirit of giving and community that defines our group.

Sadly though, we must also report that June Goode, one of our new members, passed away quite unexpectedly over this holiday period. June was a few months shy of her 90th birthday. We convey our sympathies to her cousin, Carmel Smith, who is also a new member of our group, as well as to the rest of June's family as they navigate this difficult time. Her sense of fun and positivity will be greatly missed by all.

Just a reminder that we meet every Thursday from noon until 2pm and would welcome anyone who shares the same interest to join us.

Joy McKelvey & Emi Luppino
Knitting Group Co-ordinators



Birthday Members - Yvonne, Kit and Lydia.



Above: Pam from Wantirna Health.

DARTS SECTION

The Darts Section rounded off the year with our final competition and end-of-year break up where trophies were presented. All members received prizes which included a number of Box Hill RSL gift vouchers. A great night was had by all.

The winners of our in-house competitions were as follows:

DRAWN DOUBLES TROPHY

(partners picked randomly)

Winners: Sandii Rosu and Fred Tinsley

Runners-up: Bernie Tinsley and Peter Page

HUGH DOYLE TROPHY

(Start and finish on a double number)

Winner: Edith Baker

Runners-up: John Jones and Ross Fraser

SELECTED DOUBLES TROPHY

(Select your partner)

Winners: Sandi Ruso and Wendy Hindhough

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP TROPHY

Winner: Bernie Tinsley

Runner-up: Ross Fraser

If anyone is interested in joining our group for a fun night of darts, drop in any Monday night. All are welcome whether experienced dart players or throwing darts for the first time.

For further information contact:
Paul on 0414 756 478 or Ray on 0419 114 126.

Ray Jones

Secretary/Treasurer



(L to R) John Jones, Ross Fraser, Bernie Tinsley, Edith Baker, Sandi Rosu, Peter Page

Women's Auxiliary

Happy New Year to everyone and welcome to 2025.

2024 was a very successful year for the Women's Auxiliary, especially our Christmas raffle which was supported so well by everyone and was our most successful ever.

1st Prize Charmaine Goodman – 55" TV

2nd Prize Di Evans - Officeworks Pack & \$100 Bunnings Voucher.

3rd Prize Anne Soutas - Suitcase and accessories.

4th Prize Bronwen Laughlin - Saucepan and Knife Set.

5th Prize Colleen McLaren - Food Hamper.

Winners pictured below. Sadly Bronwen was unable to attend.

Our thanks to everyone who supported us, and we hope that the winners enjoy their prizes.

Our November speaker was Marie Walters from the Ringwood RSL, who entertained us with stories of her life and how she took to writing poetry. We all enjoyed her renditions and there were a couple of times when we had a few wet eyes. One of Marie's poems called "Hope" is on the website for the McGrath Foundation.

COTTAGE BY THE SEA BUS TRIP

45 attendees enjoyed this event. We were joined by Members of the Day Section, Bowlers, Nashos and the Knitters Group. The attendees made it a wonderful day out and a great gathering of friends.

Roslyn and Tony and other dedicated volunteers from Cottage by the Sea hosted a delightful morning tea and shared an inspiring presentation. They spoke about the organisation's rich history, the life-changing programs they provide and how children are selected to participate in their camps and activities. They also highlighted the roles of their Patron Rebecca Maddern and Ambassadors like Curtis Stone OAM, Patrick Dangerfield, Rod Laver MBE and Joel Selwood among others.

Our group donated seven boxes of goods, along with a generous monetary contribution from members, which was gratefully received.

The visit was followed by a delicious two-course lunch at the Geelong RSL. The day ended with a fun raffle, with Mary Pinjo on hand to entertain us.



Above: Christmas Raffle Winners.

WOMEN'S AUXILIARY CHRISTMAS LUNCH

The Women's Auxiliary Christmas Lunch was well attended by members, and we were all pleased to see our President Judy Coates well again and presiding over the lunch and meeting. We enjoyed a lovely lunch, and all received a small gift. Our thanks to the staff who helped to make this a great day.

What helped to make the day special was when Judy Coates presented member Helen Jones with a Women's Auxiliary of Australia Life Membership badge and certificate. As this was kept a secret right up until Judy did the presentation, Helen had no idea she would be receiving it.



BLUE CROSS DORKING ROAD

A very big thank you to the Knitters Group who made the most beautiful blankets for the residents that we visit. They were exquisite and so beautifully wrapped. Once again we had a few tears and thanks to the RSL who don't forget them.

OUR UPCOMING EVENT: MARCH BUS TRIP

Our next bus trip will take place on Wednesday 12th March 2025, it will be to Bruno's Sculpture & Art Garden in Marysville, followed by lunch at the Keppel Café. Members from other groups are warmly invited to join us on the day, as this helps make up the numbers. Don't miss out on what promises to be another memorable day.

Thanks to all members and the committee who put in all the work that makes the Women's Auxiliary such a great and successful organisation.

We look forward to another successful year in 2025.

Take care,

Susan Sims

Committee Member

“THE THREE OF US”

To celebrate this Christmas, I had lunch with two of my Memorabilia helpers Geoff O'Reilly and Glenn Bartlett who set up the many displays in the Box Hill RSL Sub-Branch that we have had over many years for our members.

I first worked with Geoff O'Reilly, who put my ideas together in the displays over 10 years. Geoff is in the centre of this photo. He is a returned national serviceman who served in Malaya. He injured his ankle when jumping out of a helicopter, which brought a premature end to his work of 12 years with me. At times over the various exhibitions we did together he must have thought I was out of my mind about what we could do, but we did it. Do you remember when we had a horse next to the memorabilia cabinet, with saddle, bridle and rug for the 'Light Horse display'? Then there was the Jeep right in the middle of the Bistro area for the 'Women at War' display complete with 30 calibre machine gun. Another was the one we had with the German BMW motor bike complete with sidecar, for the WW2 display. And so, the list went on.

My other partner, Glenn Bartlett is at the right of the photo, who carried on with me after Geoff had left. Glenn had worked with Geoff over the years before coming to our RSL. He quickly learnt how I did things to put displays together. After 10 years working together he could read my mind to create the displays for all of us to enjoy. Sometimes, after we do a display, we surprise ourselves how good it comes up, and the comments I have from our members.

Again, there are many displays that Glenn and I have done together. The ones that spring to mind are the 'Fromelles Anniversary display', and you may remember when the

RSL was broken into by thieves who stole all the weapons in it. Fortunately, they were all recovered, but that spelled the end of having weapons in future displays. Another display was the one on the anniversary of the Kokoda Track in which I had many original artefacts including a uniform from one of our soldiers. These displays and others, when I research them, show what our troops went through.

Glenn assisted me with the biggest Memorabilia project I have done at our RSL which is the new Memorabilia Walk through our new building. We have had many positive comments and congratulations from our members and other RSLs on all of the Memorabilia in it.

Our day and our lunch was one to remember. We laughed and cried at the great times we have had together. The one thing for sure is that we will stay friends for years to come. These are some of the things that make our RSL one of the best in Victoria if not Australia.



Brian Tateson
Curator of Memorabilia

TAI CHI 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

We have completed another successful year of tai chi under the guidance of our instructor, tai chi master Rani Hughes. Tai chi is a mind/body exercise which can also help with balance, breathing, mindfulness and decreased pain. Our participants report feeling more relaxed after a session. Our class averages around 10 people per session, so there's room for any newcomers wanting to join us in 2025. We meet on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month. Special thanks to Faye for her ongoing support of our tai chi program and to Rani Hughes. We look forward to seeing you in 2025.



Box Hill R.S.L. Sub-Branch Inc. trading as Box Hill RSL
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