



Official Publication of the RSL Sub-Branch Bunbury

# RSL Bunbury TIMES

## NOVEMBER 2017



> Left to right - Peter, Ross, Laurie, Father Kuzi John, Tim, Alan, Alf and Kevin at the ceremony for the new headstone at the Rose Clements grave - 1st Jul 2017

The Bunbury R.S.L Sub-Branch  
Remain Forever Grateful To  
ROSE VICTORIA CLEMENTS  
Whose Generosity In 1932  
Led To The Construction  
Of Our Building  
1.7.2017

> Rose Clements grave showing RSL headstone 100th Anniversary - 1st Jul 2017



> Alf Mainstone & John Gelmi at ANZAC Memorial Bunbury - Remembrance Day Service 2017



> Tim Thomson at ANZAC Memorial Bunbury - Remembrance Day Service 2017

### RSL Sub-Branch Bunbury



**Committee meetings** are held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 12.30pm.

19 Spencer Street,  
Bunbury, WA, 6230

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## RSL Sub-Branch Bunbury

<b>President:</b>	John Gelmi	
<b>Vice President:</b>	Tim Thomson & Chris Wark	
<b>Secretary:</b>	Alan Hall	<b>Asst Sec:</b> Andy Shaw
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Athena Sofilas	<b>Asst:</b> Lyn French
<b>Catering Manager:</b>	Lorrisse Heperi	
<b>Bar Manager:</b>	Vacant	<b>Asst Bar Manager:</b> Matt Rooke
<b>Membership Officer:</b>	Ron Lowe	
<b>Wardens:</b>	Alf Mainstone — Trevor Kenny	
<b>Military Collections:</b>	Gerry Tyrrell and Jeff Smith	
<b>Librarian:</b>	Laurie French	
<b>Welfare:</b>	Ken Parish, Ross Stewart, Frank Bailey-Ganner, Steve Thompson	
<b>Committee Members:</b>	Andy Shaw, Chris Wark, Peter Gangatharan, Bob Berends, Laurie French, Kevin Freeman, Audrey Needham, Reece Paul	
<b>Customer Liaison:</b>	Jeff O'Byrne, Dennis O'Brien, Lindsay Millen, Ivan D'Rosario, Ken Prichard, Li Ling Ang	
<b>Hospital Visitors:</b>	Kevin Freeman	
<b>Home Visitors:</b>	Laurie French & Trevor Kenny	
<b>Bar Hours:</b>	Fridays - 5.00pm to 9.00pm	





> Veterans on Parade, ANZAC Memorial Bunbury - Remembrance Day Service 2017

## From The Presidents' Pen

As 2017 draws to a close this year it has been both rewarding and busy for our Welfare Department who do a great job for our Veterans and Ex-Service members. Ken, Ross Frank and Steve are there to assist our members in their claims and help in any way they can.

Front Office Volunteer Staff are also kept busy. We now have EFTPOS facilities to take Member's fees and to pay for any of our merchandise you wish to buy.

Rose Victoria Clements, our Club benefactor's grave was cleaned up and a new additional headstone from RSL Sub-branch Bunbury in appreciation of her generosity back in 1932 was installed to mark our Centenary of this Branch.

The Club Annual Dinner was well attended and the State President and CEO attended. This year was a celebration of our 100th birthday (of the opening of the Branch) which was 1st July 1917.

Vietnam Veteran's Day this year was hosted by RSL Sub-Branch Harvey. 28 Members were bussed to Harvey with Ross Stewart driving. Veteran's Day 2018 will be hosted by RSL Sub-Branch Donnybrook.

Sandakan Day at Boyup Brook Sandakan Memorial was also well attended and some 21 members were bussed there with Ross Stewart again starring as the very safe driver.

The Korean Consulate Staff came down in June to present the Korean Peace Medal to our very few Korean Veterans. The ceremony was hosted by this Branch.

Poppy Day thanks are due to Athena, Lyn and Audrey who organised the distribution.

This is the final Newsletter for the year, as President I would like to wish you all a Merry Xmas and a Happy and Prosperous 2018 from us all.

**John Gelmi** (President)

## Topics

1. Consider your partner and family when you pass away-life plan;
2. Know anyone who needs assistance-disability claim needs re-assessment;
3. My account with DVA;
4. Part time helper needed, interested in welfare or attending new DVA training?
5. Interested in assisting at RSL funerals? and
6. Interested in helping as a volunteer?

## Personal “Life Plan”

Have you considered your family and arranged your will, power of enduring power of attorney, health directive and RSL information containing your service history? Where is your will kept and who knows? Some forms can be partially completed especially the spouses claim on your DFRDB etc.

## Old disability claim

Do you have or need considering your last claim with DVA, has your condition worsened? If your acceptable condition was actioned over approximately 8 to 10 years you may need to review for an increase or perhaps a different condition.

If you had a claim rejected some time ago, there may be grounds for re-considering, perhaps under a up-dated SOP.

## My Account- DVA

DVA has introduced” My account” to enable veterans to lodge their claims via on-line. This can provide an up- to- date or progress situation of your claim and also disseminate the benefits etc. and what other services are available.

This, however, places you in their care and control; anything you discuss with DVA is recorded. Veterans who deal directly with DVA can not lean on advocates for advice after the event.

## Part time help?

Are you interested in participating with welfare or disability or both in advocacy?

A person, who can use the computer, be committed and willing to learn the ropes and undertake new advocacy training would bring personal rewards in helping other people, as a volunteer.

## RSL Funeral Attendance

Any one interested in being involved in attending funerals where a RSL Member is requested to conduct a tribute to the deceased person's service history. This is often an opportunity for welfare / pension members to offer assistance if needed regarding the deceased member's DVA and DFRDB entitlements and the partner's entitlements.

## Volunteer?

Our Sub-branch needs part time volunteers; the pay is good no tax is involved as we are unpaid volunteers. However, we can always welcome people who can spare their free time to be part of a team- (enjoy a cup of tea, discuss / solve world events) and help with minor chores.

## Advertisement:

### LEGAL HELP – YOUR WILL?

IAN WATSON LAWYER (Admitted to practice 1983)

Ian is available to assist members and their immediate family at a reduced rate in the following areas:

Wills

Probate

Enduring Power of Attorney

Enduring Power of Guardianship

Family Inheritance Disputes

Personal Injury Matters/Worker's

Compensation

Debt Collection

Ian is prepared to make home and hospitals visits to the elderly and injured (within the Bunbury area) at no additional cost for travel time.

Ian has been receiving instructions from RSL members in the Bunbury area since 1993.

99 Beach Road, Bunbury WA 6230

Telephone: 9721 8377

Mobile: 0432 091 962

Email: [info@iwlawyer.com.au](mailto:info@iwlawyer.com.au)



# Secretary's Notes

The past year has seen the upgrade of our ladies' toilets, the removal of the Scott Memorial from ANZAC Park, the opening of our Facebook page, the installation of the EFTPOS machines in the office and bar, the continued use of our Club facilities by outside groups and the joining of the Nga Uri bike riders group to the Club.

Our Mother's Day Raffle was once again a huge success.

In July we held our centenary year of the Branch celebration dinner, all those who attended had an enjoyable evening.

We have received a \$20,000 grant from the Bunbury City Council to cover some of the costs of

our ANZAC Day Remembrance Services in 2018 and have also applied for a grant from Lottery West.

We currently have 468 Members as of 1st November 2017.

I would like to thank all Office Staff and Members who have volunteered and supported the Club over the past year, it is appreciated and without your support we cannot function as a Club.

I would also like to wish all Members and their Families a Merry Xmas and a safe and happy New Year

**Alan Hall - Secretary**

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## Last Post

Since the last newsletter we have farewelled the following Members:

Percival J. Bunn (2/44 BN)	9th August 2016
Veronica J. Grieve (RAAF)	3rd September 2016
Waysl BONDARCZUK (Army)	26th September 2016
Fred Mather (RAAF)	31st October 2016
Edward S. WASHING (RAN)	16th November 2016
Gerald P. O'Byrne (Army)	23rd January 2017
Douglas A. TRINDER (RAAF)	7th February 2017
Thomas S. THOMSON (Army)	14th March 2017
Maxwell HULSE (RAAF)	24th March 2017
Desmond DEVEREUX (Army)	3th May 2017



The President, Committee and all Members extend their sincere sympathy to all families.

**LEST WE FORGET**

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## Membership

Membership figures are as follows:

Service Members: 354

Affiliate Members: 44

Social Members: 70

Total Members: 468

Correct as at 1st November 2017.

All members, if you know of any current ex Servicemen/women who are residing in our community and have taken discharge/resignation from the ADF, please encourage them to join their local RSL Sub-Branch. They are very welcome to use our facilities and enjoy the Social Club amenities.

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## Calendar of Events 2016

**8th Dec 2018** - Last Friday Night Social Night for the Year

**15th Dec 2017** - RSL Sub-Branch Bunbury Close Down for Xmas Break

**15th Jan 2018** - RSL Sub-branch Bunbury re-opens for 2018

**19th Jan 2018** - Friday Night Social Night re-opens for 2018

**15th Feb 2018** - Mother's Day Raffle Commences

**24th Apr 2018** - Pre ANZAC Day Reception

**25th Apr 2018** - ANZAC Day

**20th Jul 2018** - Vietnam Vet's Day (Donnybrook)

**25th Aug 2018** - Annual General Meeting

**12th Sep 2018** - Sandakan Day (Boyup Brook)



# From the Curator, Sub-Branch Bunbury Military Collection

For those who have seen our military collection, it is housed and displayed in Bunbury's old army drill hall which is now at the Dardanup Heritage Park, Moore Road, Dardanup. It is open Wednesday and Sunday, 9.30am to 4.00pm.

Our military collection had a birthday on 23rd April 2017 and marks ten years since it was officially opened. We have had hundreds of people from all over the world who have seen our vast military collection and it is a great reflection on military history and the only large display of its type in the south west. We continue to add to the collection with new items being sourced on a regular basis.

It was also the sixth birthday of our leopard Tank which arrived on 14th April 2011 and has been decked out with a large amount of original accessories plus we have opened a hatch on the turret which allows you to look inside. Flood lights have been fitted to show all the internal working components and the cramped conditions tank crews have to deal with.

**Wanted:** We are looking to put a tool collection together and would like the members to look through their sheds for old military tools bearing the "broad arrow mark". If you can help please drop them off at the RSL Bunbury Office.

Email: gtyrrell1@bigpond.com  
Gerry Tyrrell- RSL Military Curator

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## Advertisements

**Bunbury Tyre and exhaust:** Bunbury RSL Members. Need Tyres, Exhaust, Tyres of vehicle Service. Just show your RSL membership cards and you will be given a better price, ask for Darren or Brad.

### **Buckingham Quality Butchers:**

Blair and Zane Parsons are based in the Bunbury Plaza Shopping Centre, have been in business together for almost 12 years. Along with their loyal staff, some of whom have been with them for nearly as long, the Boys pride themselves on supplying their customers with the best quality product.

Along with their massive range of gourmet meats, they also provide cooked meats for your catering and party needs.

The Butcher's Café next door is also owned by Blair and Zane and they supply their customers with Buckingham produce, cooked ready to go in their burgers and hot rolls, as well as ready to go meals and top quality coffees and locally made cakes.

Contact Buckingham Quality Butchers on 9721 3388 or the Butcher's Café on 9721 6440.

**South West Monumental** We opened our Bunbury showroom in 2011. We're proud to offer Families of the entire South West district an alternative destination when the time arrives to choose a very special memorial tribute to honour the memorial tribute to honour the memory of your loved ones. With local knowledge and experience, we provide sincere and understanding service to meet your particular headstone selection requirements.

To help, we've created an "Information Pack". This contains our product brochure as well as a host of other information. This is designed to be the first step in guiding you to make the right selection. We offer a wide range of natural granite, marble and man-made monuments, all with the flexibility to be tailored to suit your needs. The pack also contains a very special "Member Discount Voucher".

We're here to help, so if you require any further information, would like to receive an Information Pack, or for appointment, please don't hesitate to contact us on 08 9791 1000.

See Jenny Hanley – Manager

## Bunbury RSL Shop - Items for Sale:

Bunbury RSL Centenary Coffee Mugs	\$15.00
Bunbury RSL Centenary Port	\$15.00
Bunbury RSL Centenary Stubby Holders	\$6.00
Variety of Stubby Holders	\$6.00
Bunbury RSL Centenary Caps	\$25.00
Variety of RSL Caps	\$25.00
Assortment of Badges	\$5.00
Coasters – Army units	\$10.00
Coasters – Medals	\$6.00
Poppy Day Badges	\$5.00



Thanks to our Sponsors:



## Sandakan Memorial BOYUP BROOK

In 1991, Ted McLaughlin, an ex POW of the Japanese and a resident of Boyup Brook, WA, erected a memorial in Boyup Brook in memory of three of his friends who had died at Sandakan, and to all those who had perished in Borneo. To Ted's surprise, over 200 people turned up, many from hundreds of kilometres away for the dedication of the memorial.

Boyup Brook was the first place in Australia to erect a Sandakan Memorial. In September 1993, over 300 came to Boyup Brook for a Sandakan Memorial Service. This led to the erection and dedication of an even larger memorial on 14th September 1994. Its centrepiece is the original Memorial erected by Mr E. McLaughlin in 1991. This memorial now contains the names of all those WA soldiers who had died at Sandakan.

The inscription on the Memorial reads:

### 1942 to 1945

***This memorial commemorates the 2000 Australians who died as Prisoners of the Japanese at Sandakan Camp, and on the Death March to Ranau in North Borneo during 1944 to 1945. Of the 2500 Australian and British POW's in Sandakan only 6 survived***





# Sandakan Memorial Boyup Brook



> Norm Eaton, Ross Stewart, Alan Hall and Bob Berends at Sandakan Day Boyup Brook 2017



> Norm Eaton and Tim Thomson laying a wreath at Sandakan Memorial 12 Sep 2017



> Catafalque Party at Sandakan Memorial



> Sandakan Memorial - Boyup Brook 12 Sep 2017



^ Shows: Ted McLaughlin, one of the few survivors of Sandakan (At Sandakan Memorial) Boyup Brook 2017



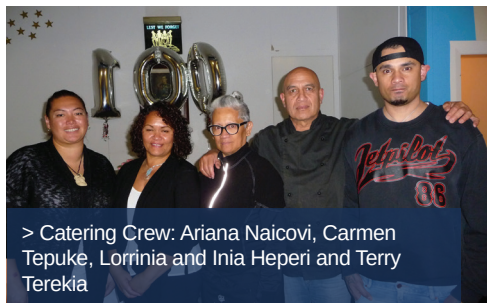
# Annual Dinner Bunbury RSL 100th Anniversary



Left to right: RSL President John Gelmis, RSL WA President Peter Aspinall, RSL Bunbury Vice President Tim Thomson, Bunbury City Band Laurie O'Connell, Li Leng Ang and Norm Eaton



> Annual Dinner - Bunbury RSL 100th and also 100th for Bunbury City Band



> Catering Crew: Ariana Naicovi, Carmen Tepuke, Lorrinia and Inia Heperi and Terry Tereka



> Bar Crew Shirley Campbell, Laurie Gelmis and Mitchell Smith



# 2017 Vietnam Veterans Day Commemoration



> 2017 Vietnam Veterans Day Commemoration - Sykes Memorial, Bunbury



> 2017 Vietnam Veterans Day Commemoration - Harvey Memorial



> 2017 Vietnam Veterans Day Commemoration - Tim Thomson Laying a wreath, Harvey Memorial



# Korean Veteran's Peace Medal Presentation



> Korean Consulate Member Speech - June 2017



> Korean Consulate Staff & Veterans with Bunbury RSL President - June 2017



> Pictured left to right: Stan Morffew, Colin Sullivan, Junkil Lee, Neil Young, Kevin Constantine

They shall grow not old,  
As we that are left grow old.

Age shall not weary them,  
Nor the years condemn.

At the going down of the sun  
And in the morning

**We Will Remember Them  
Lest We Forget**

