

ANNUAL REPORT



FRANKSTON RSL

PRINTED
MARCH 2023

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22



OUR MISSION

Provide gracious hospitality
Communicate effectively at all levels
Deliver relevant welfare and well-being
Positively impact our Community

www.frankston.rsl.com.au

ANNUAL REPORT 2022

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT



KEVIN HILLIER OAM

It is an honour and privilege to present my 8th annual report as your President.

2022 saw us return to some form of normality, after two years of COVID restrictions and our building redevelopment works. It is wonderful to see our regulars returning to the club, along with many new faces.

MEMBERSHIP

The year started with a total membership base of 10,019, coming down from our pre-covid 13,216 members. I am pleased to advise that we are back on track in 2023 with an increased membership level, ending the year with 13,423 members. A proportion of this increase can be attributed to the closure of the Cranbourne RSL and we welcome these members to our fold. While Cranbourne was a joint club with Dandenong, it is easier to travel from Cranbourne to Frankston, than Cranbourne to Dandenong.



Combined Veterans Support Network, Phillip Island Tour

"I thank the committee for their diligence in maintaining our Corporate Governance, as well as our management team, and staff, for the professionalism in dealing with our members. It goes without saying that we are forever grateful to our members for their patronage and who continue to support the business which in turn enables us to financially assist veterans and families in need".

VETERANS WELLBEING

We spent a significant proportion of the year focusing on our Wellbeing department and devising strategies to stimulate resilience in our veterans, as opposed to reliance. In the past, unfortunately some advocates and Sub-Branches have found it easier to throw money at veterans without understanding the cause of their need for assistance.



Veterans and Families, Mystery Tour

In conjunction with financial assistance, we have also focussed on other aspects of veteran welfare, such as combatting social isolation. Several sponsored bus trips were enjoyed by many veterans and their families, with record numbers attending various excursions to destinations such as Queenscliff, Philip Island, and the Yarra Valley. Weekly morning teas are also provided by the Sub-Branch; one for veterans, widows, and families, and the other for all veterans of all genders, ages, and service types. Contact our Wellbeing Coordinator, Stellar, for more information on morning tea sessions. These events are greatly appreciated by both groups and attendance levels have been steadily growing, averaging 20-25 participants per session.



Remembrance Day Commemorations, Frankston RSL

REMEMBRANCE DAY 2022

Remembrance Day was also particularly memorable as we officially renamed the Veterans and Families Wellbeing Hub in honour of Dr. John Finch Akeroyd. The hub will now be officially called the "Dr. Akeroyd Veterans and Families Wellbeing Hub". We were fortunate to have members of Dr. Akeroyd's family in attendance on the day to witness the official unveiling ceremony and his legacy being honoured.

In addition to helping veterans, we spent \$42,500 installing two soundproof booths in the veterans' area to enable advocates to have interviews in private.



ANZAC DAY 2022

There was so much gratification to be able to finally hold our normal ANZAC Day services following COVID, with Captain Osborne CSM RAN, as our guest speaker at both services. Following the Anzac Day Service, 450 members enjoyed a sit-down lunch back at the club. Remembrance Day was equally gratifying, with a record number of 150 people attending, even though it was held indoors in our Function room due to the prognosis of bad weather.



*Wreath laying service
Remembrance Day 2022*



Airforce Cadets

ANZAC DAY APPEALS AND POPPY APPEALS

We were fortunate to have had two very successful appeals in 2022, where over \$100,000 was raised during ANZAC Day commemorations, and a further \$63K+ for Remembrance Day. These are record figures in the history of the club and we thank Peter Kerley, Appeals Coordinator and Committee Member, for the extraordinary effort he put into running two very successful Appeals.





Poppy Appeal Stall, Karingal Hub, Peter Kerley -Appeals Officer and Airforce Cadets

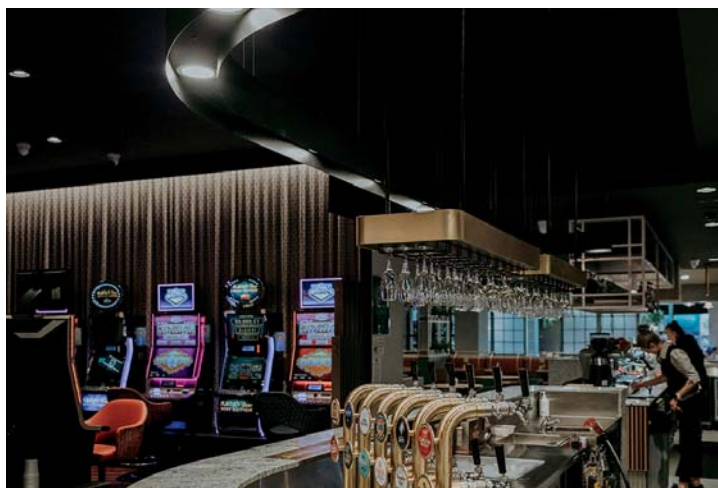


The year could have been in absolute turmoil with the resignation of our Operations Manager, Annemaree Kelly after 28 years, and the retirement of our General Manager Rob Morrison who was at the helm of the Frankston RSL for 16 years. This change in management, along with similar movement in the kitchen with chefs coming and going, could have put the club in a vulnerable position.

While we wished both well, as they moved on, we welcomed Colin Ross, Operations Manager, and Brett Rowlands as General Manager. Both have been working in successful clubs in Melbourne and have ingrained themselves well, within our business and membership. The changing over of staff also occurred within other areas of business including, bars, gaming room, front-of-house, and the kitchen. Like most hospitality organisations around the country, we have been struggling with staffing since COVID.



Another significant change we also had to contend with in 2022 was the outright purchasing of our gaming machines from TABCORP and having them serviced by a team at ANZAC House. This means that profits received from gaming machines goes into the coffers to assist veterans and the running of the business instead of a private owner's pocket, or another privately/publicly owned business. Due to the success of the business, we were able to pay off the remaining \$1.25 million of our variable loan, borrowed for the renovations.





\$10,000 Donation to Lismore RSL, Flood Relief



\$6,500 Donation in equipment to Frankston SES

DONATIONS

As a result of the wonderful success of the business and appeals, we were thrilled to be able to donate \$10,000 to the Lismore RSL (NSW), and to the Rochester RSL following the flooding that both RSL's endured. I also want to thank the Women's Auxiliary for their generous donations towards both organisations through their fundraising efforts. Additionally, we were pleased to be able to donate \$6,500 in equipment to the Frankston SES of which \$3,500 was donated by the Women's Auxiliary through their fundraising efforts in 2022.



Women's Auxiliary \$3,500 Donation to Lismore RSL, Flood Relief

THANK YOU

I thank the committee for their diligence in maintaining our Corporate Governance, as well as our management team, and staff, for the professionalism in dealing with our members. It goes without saying that we are forever grateful to our members for their patronage and who continue to support the business which in turn enables us to financially assist veterans and families in need. Finally, I thank all involved who were responsible for my induction into the RSL "Hall of Fame" in November, during the RSL Victoria Awards. The Frankston RSL also received a commendation award, in pursuit of "Club of the Year".

Kevin Hillier

KEVIN HILLIER OAM
President 2023



Hall of Fame Inductee - RSL VIC Awards 2022

RSL COMMITTEE

In 2022, the Frankston RSL committee comprised of eight members following the AGM.



KEVIN HILLIER OAM
PRESIDENT

Retired
Finance &
Development
Governance Veterans
Centre Events
Joined 2008



JOHN BARRY VICE
PRESIDENT

MFB Fire-Fighter
Governance
Community
Events Volunteers
Joined 2015



BRIAN HILL CSC
TREASURER

Retired
Finance & Development
Governance
Audit/Risk Management
Veterans Centre
Sub-Groups
Joined 2018



KELVIN PARK
SECRETARY

Retired
Vietnam Veterans
Hospital Visits Group
Veterans Centre
Joined 2019



KEVIN TESTER
COMMITTEE

Retired
Community
Events Appeals
Joined 2021



LYN LYNCH
COMMITTEE

Laboratory Assistant
Community
Events Appeals
Joined 2014



TONY GRICE
COMMITTEE

Retired
Wellbeing Officer
Mobility Team
Appeals
Joined 2021



PETER KERLEY
COMMITTEE

Retired
Appeals
Volunteers
Joined 2021



Brett Rowlands
GENERAL MANAGER
SINCE 2022



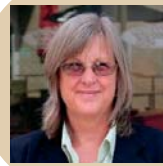
Colin Ross
OPERATIONS
MANAGER
SINCE 2022



Jodi Miller
PEOPLE & CULTURE
MANAGER
SINCE 2023



Wendy Broks
FRONT OF HOUSE
MANAGER
SINCE 2006



Lynda Leverington
FINANCE
MANAGER
SINCE 2007



Tracy Vrana
BAR & GAMING
MANAGER
SINCE 2022



Dean Edwards
EXECUTIVE CHEF
SINCE 2022



Patricia Russo
MARKETING &
PROMOTIONS
MANAGER
SINCE 2021

FINANCIAL SUMMARY



BRIAN HILL CSC

“Despite the issues over the past two years, the Frankston RSL was in a very strong financial position at the end of 2021, which places us in a good position going forward for 2022.”

TREASURER’S REPORT

It is my pleasure to present the Treasurer’s Report for 2022 - a year of consolidation following the COVID 19 Pandemic and trading restrictions the venue endured during 2020 and 2021.

I am pleased to report the Frankston Sub-Branch Incorporated (Inc) had the most successful year in it’s history, with a total income of \$19,019,424 and a record profit of \$811,632. It would not be reasonable to compare 2022 trading results with those of 2021, however, as an indication of the growth experienced in 2022, the figures for 2019 were \$16,725,049 revenue and \$121,853 profit. Except for the increased profit, there was a general growth across all areas of the venue, in 2022, of circa 8% and 9%, versus performance of 2019.

A key expenditure in 2022 was \$4,862,024 in wages, which was 9.1% increase against 2019 expenditure. The increase was due in part to the national wage rise but also to the retirement and or resignation of several senior management staff and chefs that necessitated the pay-outs of accumulated entitlements and long service leave.

A significant expenditure in 2022 was the outright purchase of our EGCs (Electronic Gaming Consoles) at a cost of \$1,277,425. The purchase was a planned acquisition since 2017, where the Sub-Branch had been accumulating a cash reserve to meet this purchase. Purchasing the EGCs will provide the Sub-Branch greater flexibility and control over gaming operating costs, in addition to providing long term savings with the removal of leasing costs.

At the start of 2022, the Sub-Branch had an overarching loan debt of \$5.882m in order to complete the major renovations work undertaken in 2020. This debt was split between a fixed loan of \$4.667m, and variable loan of \$1.215m. During the year, \$0.458m was paid against the fixed loan, and the variable loan was paid out in full. The Committee made the decision to pay out the variable loan in order to reduce interest payments, given the rising interest rate experienced throughout the year. The fixed loan is in place until 2024, at which time a new loan will be negotiated on the residual balance.

A key objective of the RSL is to provide support to veterans and their families. Throughout 2022, \$273 523.00 in total was spent supporting veterans requiring assistance and providing activities to veterans and their families to overcome social isolation. Additionally, the Sub-Branch purchased a second vehicle, at a cost of \$36,300, to be used by our dedicated Wellbeing Officer for home and hospital visits and to transport veterans to appointments. The Sub-Branch also returned \$34,490 of unused funds to the State Branch that were from the General Appeals Account - which will now be used by the State Branch to assist smaller RSLs provide State wide support to veterans.

In summary, the Frankston RSL Sub-Branch had a strong and profitable 2022 and was in a sound financial position at the end of the year, placing the Sub-Branch in an optimal position going forward in 2023.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Committee members, our Finance Manager Lynda, and Assistant Finance Manager Marion, for their assistance and on-going support for 2022.

BRIAN HILL CSC
Treasurer

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT



BRETT ROWLANDS

"The Frankston RSL takes its place as a pillar of the community very seriously. This commitment to the community is best explained through our Community Support Program. In 2022, the Club made donations of over \$200 000 to local sporting and not for profit groups."

I joined the Frankston RSL as General Manager in July of 2022. It was, and still is, an absolute honour to be given the responsibility of overseeing this magnificent Club.

In taking over from Rob Morrison, I had massive shoes to fill. His vision, dedication and hospitality mindset has steered this Club to be the envy of the RSL Network. I would like to thank him for his kindness, extensive hand over and support in coming into this role.

The second half of the year has been busy. As we get used to 'the new normal' post COVID, everyone associated with the Club has worked tirelessly to deliver excellence in hospitality. The RSL has finished the year with record sales, a great vindication of the hard work from everyone.

LEADERSHIP TEAM

The leadership team at the RSL has come together following a year of massive change, in which the General Manager, Operations Manager, Executive Chef and Gaming Manager all changed during the year. With this changing of the guard, the Club has continued to grow and develop. The Green Line team of Tracy, Dean, Anja, Wendy, Patricia, Lynda and Nicole provided the leadership and mentoring required to deliver the operations at the Frankston RSL. My sincere thanks go to Colin Ross, Operations Manager, for his tireless dedication to his role. Taking over from Anne Maree (AMK) was always going to be a difficult task. But Colin delivers every day with his experience, compassion and work ethic. The Club is destined for great things with this leadership team.

STAFF

Each day, when you visit your Club, it is my aim for a smiling face to deliver an excellent experience. Whether you are coming for a show, a coffee, watching a sports event or having a meal, I hope that you leave with a smile, having enjoyed your leisure time with us.

This experience comes from our amazing staff. Our crew comes in every day to help deliver to you a great time at the RSL. There are so many behind the scenes people who you as the member don't see, including chefs, kitchen staff and office staff. This is on top of those who you do see, working at reception, gaming, Huey's Sports Bar and the Bistro.

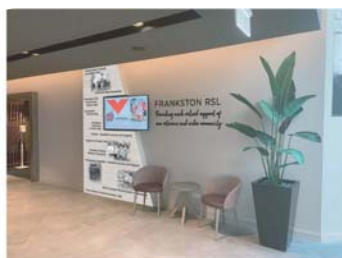
Our staff numbers hovered around 100 for most of the year, and one of the ways we acknowledge their hard work is through our 'Above and Beyond' program. Each month, we recognise one person from each department as a winner for having gone above and beyond and receive a \$50 gift card. Quarterly, we award one of the twelve monthly winners a \$150 gift voucher. My congratulations go to Sam Bryant on winning this award in quarter four.



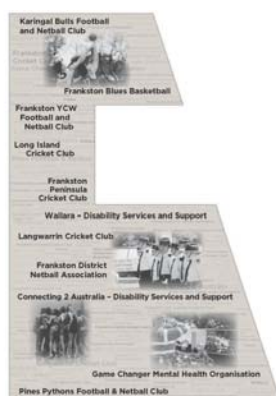
COMMUNITY SUPPORT FUND

The Frankston RSL takes its place as a pillar of the community very seriously. This commitment to the community is best explained through our Community Support Program. In 2022, the Club made donations of over \$200 000 to local sporting and not for profit groups.

Some of the sporting groups we supported included Karingal FNC, YCW FNC, Frankston Blues Basketball, Frankston District Netball Association, Pines FNC, Langwarrin CC, Long Island CC and Game Face Community Footy. Within the community, we also supported Wallara Sages Cottage, Frankston SES, Frankston Life Christmas Luncheon, C2A, Groomed to Go, Blue Ribbon, Beyond Blue, Airforce Cadets, Army Cadets and the Frankston Naval Memorial Club just to name a few.



FRANKSTON RSL
*Providing much valued support of
our veterans and wider community*



GAMING 2022 PROJECT

During the year, the purchase of gaming machines from Tabcorp and cessation of the leasing arrangement that had been in place since 2012 reached fruition. Taking control of this part of the business had been planned for well over 5 years, and a seamless transition took place on 16 August. This change required a significant capital outlay, which had been accumulated in previous years. This new arrangement gives the Club greater control over expenses within this segment. The financial results do show the large movement from cash holdings to assets from this.



STAFFING CHALLENGES

It has been widely reported of the staffing challenges facing hospitality and other sectors in a post COVID world. We have felt this as much as anyone. Thankfully, it does appear to be receding as we enter 2023. We appreciate your patience and understanding as at times, we have not been able to deliver the standard we expect due to this.

FINANCIAL RESULTS

The results of 2022 are very pleasing following the challenges and financial losses of 2020 and 2021. Seeing growth in all departments vs 2019 is a very proud achievement. The full financial report outlines the growth and profitability we have delivered for the membership. The delivery of services to veterans and community is there for all to see. Every day, we deliver a large hospitality operation with the goal of raising funds to assist veterans and the community in any way we can. Last year we spent over \$270 000 on the delivery of services to veterans across the entity - something we can all be proud of.

2023 AND BEYOND

2023 promises to be an exciting year for the RSL. We have fantastic shows booked in throughout the year, including Jeff Duff in May, Denise Drysdale for Christmas in July, Wendy Matthews & Grace Knight in Birthday week, and Frankie J & Wilbur in October. CP's will be reopening in March, our weekly raffles are getting bigger and better all the time, and the Club continues to expand its offer to members and the community.

Finally, my thanks go to the committee for the support and guidance they have provided to me in the first six months of my tenure. In particular, the tireless work of our President Kevin Hillier OAM, who has guided me through the initial stages of leading such a magnificent Club. It has been an initiation of mammoth proportions, and I look forward to the years ahead.

Thank you for allowing me to be the General Manager of your RSL.

BRETT ROWLANDS

General Manager

FAREWELL TO AN INDUSTRY GREAT



July 2022 saw the Changing of the Guards at the Frankston RSL. It was a challenging month with the foreboding departure of Rob Morrison as General Manager of The Frankston RSL. After 53 years of service to the Hospitality industry, of which the last 16 were at the helm of the Frankston RSL.

The RSL owes Rob a world of gratitude for his passion, drive, and commitment to the club and for leaving it in the best financial shape it has ever been, and the most successful and best run version of the business to date.

In 2016 he was awarded Honorary Life Membership of the Returned Services League of Australia for his outstanding support of not only the Sub-branch but the League within Victoria with his involvement in Committees within ANZAC House for the betterment of all sub-branches.

He took the club to the pinnacle within the RSL Network, and racked up a variety of accolades.

- RSL Victoria Licensed Branch of the Year 2012 & 2015
- RSL Victoria Certificate of Achievement of the year 2015
- Hall of Fame inductee 2015
- Highest increase in annual memberships by a Sub-Branch 2015
- General Manager of a Sub-Branch of the year 2012 & 2015
- Sub-Branch manager of the Year 2012
- Leader Media Award Frankston RSL best hotel, pub, cellars 2008

In his tenure, Rob saw out three Committee Presidents, four Secretaries, five Treasurers, and 27 Committee members. He was the driving force behind a plethora of programs and events at the Frankston RSL such as Wednesday and

Friday Night Raffles and Member's Draws, the much anticipated four week long Christmas Raffles, 2 for 1 Monday and Tuesday nights, Cracked Pepper themed Food Nights, and the much loved Cash for Splash, and Car Giveaway.

Some called him the numbers man, passionate and driven by his spreadsheets, by the time he retired, the Club was running optimally, smoothly, and was eight times more successful than when he began and provided members with great service, food, and beverage options and first class shows.

It's with this same drive and passion he supported local sporting clubs, community groups, and charities. We are indebted to Rob for his commitment to Veterans and Welfare groups, with initiatives such as the 'Hello Program', and the charities he supported such as Very Special Kids.

If there was an appeal Rob was behind it - raising valuable funds and giving back to victims of flood, fire, and other disasters. He was the instigator of many initiatives, such as free Family Fun days, Centenary Year Celebrations, and the magnificent and various renovations and works the venue underwent, and that he oversaw, that we can all enjoy. Rob undoubtedly leaves a legacy that will be hard to beat.

We will miss his infectious laugh, his outstanding microphone skills, his love of fancy dress, and his gift of the gab, and most of all we'll miss his passion, drive, and commitment to the Frankston RSL, its members, community, and Veterans. Thank you for keeping the true essence of the RSL above everything else and honouring Community, Long Service, Donations, Volunteers, Tradition, and Remembrance.



THE CHANGING OF THE GUARDS



BRETT ROWLANDS GENERAL MANAGER
Studies

Bachelor of Business (Management)
Monash University, 2000

Past Employment

General Manager – Rosebud RSL
Venue Manager – Seaford RSL
Venue Manager – The Bentleigh Club

Inspiration to join Frankston RSL

To join the biggest RSL in the network is a professional challenge that I am looking forward to and in particular the work we do with Veterans and the community. After all, being able to assist them is the reason we love and do what we do.

Who has inspired you professionally?

My General Manager at the Veneto Club, Joe Morello, has given me the blueprint on how to run a successful organisation. His dedication, hospitality knowledge, and hands on involvement on all aspects of the business is what I aim to achieve myself. I am also in awe of Jack White – a musician who is authentic to a fault, pushes boundaries, and is a verified rock God.

Family

My wife Cheree and I are blessed with two vivacious boys - Harvey 7 and Billy 5, - and our two gold fish!



COLIN ROSS OPERATIONS MANAGER
Studies

Completed industry specific courses and seminars to broaden hospitality knowledge and skills.

Past Employment

Club Kilsyth, and Club Ringwood
Stamford Hotels South Australia
Beverage Area Manager, Crown Casino

Inspiration to join Frankston RSL

The Frankston RSL is regarded as the best RSL in Victoria, RSL clubs lead the way through fantastic offers to members and patrons, great products, and service, while fomenting support for our Veterans.

Who has inspired you professionally?

My first Hospo boss in the UK was a great inspiration for me. He started with a Video Ezy and ended up owning Casinos, he is now retired in Marbella and his son who started as a dishy is the Director of the company. He was always looking for new ideas on how to improve service, better products, and was able to retain and attract great staff.

Family

My wife and I have a 6-year-old son (possibly a Carlton supporter but there is still time) so at this stage we still have a semi-normal life before the sporting commitments take over in a few years.



DEAN WEBSTER EXECUTIVE CHEF
Studies

Greystanes High School in Sydney,
Certificate III, Commercial Cookery, 2000
Certificate IV, Commercial Cookery, 2010

Past Employment

Ringwood RSL, Head Chef
Valentinis, Heathmont, Head Chef
Foresters Arms , Oakleigh, Chef-de-Partie

Inspiration to join Frankston RSL

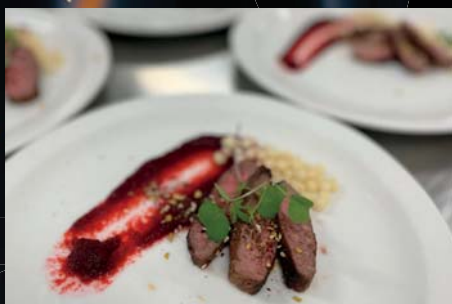
I knew the Frankston RSL was the biggest in Victoria and knew it would be a big challenge but one I felt ready for. I am looking forward to continuing to drive the RSL onto bigger and better things by producing quality food and putting my stamp on the business with new and exciting menus.

Who has inspired you professionally?

I am inspired by my former manager, Paul Hamilton, Executive Chef Revesby Workers Club. He taught me so many valuable lessons in my younger days and always believed in what I could achieve. While we haven't worked together in nearly 20 years we are still great mates and always catch up whenever we can. He is currently group executive chef of a company which owns multiple restaurants and cafes.

Family

I am married, just over 12 years, and have 2 kids. My son is 9 and my daughter is 5, and of course our fur-babies, Huskies Lola and Kona.



RSL HALL OF FAME AWARDS

NOVEMBER 28, 2022 | FRANKSTON RSL



RSL VICTORIA HALL OF FAME AWARDS

The Frankston RSL proudly hosted the RSL Victoria Annual Hall of Fame Awards Dinner in November 2022. It was a perfect opportunity to showcase the club we are all so proud of to 220 participants and representatives from metropolitan and regional RSL Sub-Branches in Victoria.

Our magnificent staff seamlessly hosted a perfectly orchestrated evening, where our function room was a breath-taking sea of lilac, spectacularly themed with fresh Spring flowers, and paired with a 5-star menu - delectably executed by our Executive Chef and his team.

The Hall of Fame Awards Night also provides a wonderful platform to showcase the exceptional work of the Victorian RSL network as well as recognise the outstanding efforts of many individuals who have made a significant contribution to the success of RSL Sub-Branches. We congratulate all winners (and non winners) of an award and commend their efforts and dedication to the RSL network.

The Frankston RSL received the Sub-Branch Commendation Award, one of the six awards of the night.



The highlight of the evening was when club President, Kevin Hillier OAM, was fittingly inducted in the 'RSL VIC Hall of Fame' - having been recognised for his 26 years of outstanding service to the RSL network and his praiseworthy dedication to the Community and Armed Forces. We are very proud and fortunate to have such a dedicated President at the Frankston RSL Sub-Branch.

NOVEMBER 28, 2022 | FRANKSTON RSL

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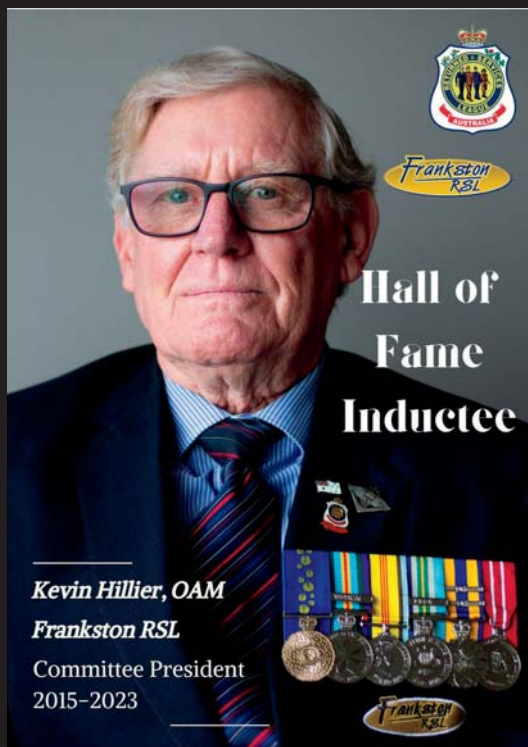
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LET'S CELEBRATE HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE AWARD



Kevin Hillier, OAM
Frankston RSL
Committee President
2015-2023



CONTRIBUTION TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE FRANKSTON RSL AND THE RSL NETWORK

Veterans & Families Wellbeing Hub Conception to Implementation

Kevin provided support to Anzac House with the transition of the Frankston Veteran Hub into the new Regional Anzac House Veteran Well-being Hub, including the appointment of a Wellbeing Officer, and a Regional Case Navigator. Kevin was a key player in ensuring the centre is more inclusive to all veterans and their families, than historically, welcoming all groups within the veteran community; sub-groups who regularly make use of the club for meetings, coffee mornings, and group lunches, as well as our RSL sporting groups who also utilise the facility for committee meetings, and liaising with local council.

As Veterans Central became established at ANZAC House, Kevin became more involved with the new processes involved in the provision of wellbeing and advocacy to our veterans. As a result, the RSL Advocate, Pension Officers, and several

Welfare and Wellbeing Officers all work at the Veterans Centre which is now regarded as a 'Hub' - permanently housing paid compensation advocates, a manager, and our own Frankston RSL Wellbeing Coordinator.

As a "Hub" this has grown over the last few years. Kevin has close communication with the team at ANZAC House, including the social worker at VETCEN into each of the Wellbeing meetings via ZOOM to receive expert advice in areas that our Wellbeing Advocates are not experienced in, for the benefit of our veterans.

Kevin spearheaded the naming of the Hub to 'Veterans and Families Wellbeing Hub', after the former President of the Frankston RSL Sub-Branch - Dr. John Finch Akeroyd, AM, MBE, ED, MB, BS, FRACP, FACRM. Additionally, he executed the idea of the 'Table for the missing' as part of the Anzac Day 2022 Commemorative Service. It was a focal point of the luncheon after the Commemorative Service.

SERVICE

Life Member

As a life member of the RSL, and President of the Frankston RSL Committee, Kevin has devoted over 26 years of outstanding service to the RSL network and has been extensively involved in its development.

Victoria State Branch – Senior Marshall (Bands)

He has served the Victorian State Branch of the RSL as the Senior Marshall (Bands) for the ANZAC DAY March in Melbourne 1996-2002. This position includes liaising, coordinating, planning, and positioning of many bands of various sizes that take part in the march each year.

President Frankston RSL Committee

Kevin is currently the president of Frankston RSL Sub-Branch and has been the Committee member since 2008. He has served as Secretary from 2008 to 2015 and has been President from 2015 to the present day, 2022.

Additional Service Committees

Kevin's commitment and passion to the RSL community, and its veterans is shown in the time and effort he dedicates to the Frankston RSL and with RSL VIC. In addition to his role as President of the Frankston RSL, the largest Sub-Branch in Victoria, he also serves on other sub-committees, such as Veteran Welfare, and on the Commemorative Committee where he is instrumental in organising and executing the Anzac Day Service, Remembrance Day Service, and helping with both the Anzac and Poppy Appeals, that have raised a record breaking amount, in the history of Frankston RSL Appeals, of \$103,065.38 and \$66,155.27 respectively.

Service Career

Kevin served 28 years in the Royal Australian Navy, raising to the impressive rank of Lieutenant.





Further to helping veterans in need, Kevin has focused on Veterans, and their widows and families, who are socially isolated, and to this end works with the Wellbeing Officer to design regular outings to places like the Yarra Valley, HMAS CERBERUS Museum, Melbourne Aquarium, and Queenscliff.

OFFICIATING EVENTS

As President of the Frankston RSL, Kevin officiates many events - giving speeches and handing out awards. One such award that he is particularly proud of is the Anzac Spirit Award; he was recently asked to present the award to Sara Howie, who was voted by the Victoria Netball League Playing Group to receive the prestigious award for demonstrating Comradery, Others Before Self, and Courage.

COMMEMORATIVE SERVICES

Kevin officiates over and above his requirement at community organisations and official RSL services, and he also passionately organises and conducts Commemorative Services at sporting clubs, schools, and aged care facilities.

- 2008-2022 Anzac Day and Remembrance Day Commemorations within the Frankston Sub-Branch
- 2016 – 2022 Initiated, planned, and conducted school and nursing home commemorations
- 2017-2022 Local sporting fields

VICTORIAN STATE BRANCH INVOLVEMENT

Since 2014 he has also taken on the volunteer role of the State Branch 'Ceremonial Music Co-Ordinator' where he also assisted the ANZAC House 'Commemorations Office' Team, by organising bands for those ceremonial events not covered by the ADF.

Kevin has served the Victorian State Branch of the RSL as the ANZAC Day 'Senior Bands Marshall' organising the bands for the ANZAC Day CBD March 1996-2022.

Building Development Frankston RSL

Kevin also contributed significantly to the current Frankston RSL Strategic Business planning that resulted in the recent development of the venue. Kevin's commitment to the future of the club has always been growth. This growth would come by conducting strategic business planning seminars, involving all committee and senior managers, to outline the future of the club and its strategies for the next 5, 10, and 25 years.

He was heavily involved with the input into the design and development of Phase 1, 2, and 3 of the \$9M Frankston RSL refurbishment, increasing the venue to 3000m² of space and cementing its position as the premiere destination club of Southeast Melbourne resulting in laying the foundations of exponential growth in all areas of club operations.



STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSIONS FRANKSTON RSL

He has also been strategically involved in the bi-yearly strategic planning sessions at the Frankston RSL. These sessions were driven and in part hosted by Kevin, due to his commitment of the ongoing development of the RSL. These sessions have provided the strategic and conceptual basis for the Frankston RSL to become the biggest RSL in the network.

According to Rob Morrison, previous GM at Frankston RSL for 16 years, "Kevin was always enabling the very workable arrangement between the Committee and Senior Management, resulting in the wonderful culture and customer service for the venue. He was instrumental in assisting with our growth in membership numbers and his unquestionable support for the Service Community".

FRANKSTON RSL COMMITTEE

Over the years Kevin has overseen a very stable Committee which has contributed to the success of the Sub-Branch. During his involvement with the Frankston RSL Committee, Kevin has seen three Presidents, four Committee Secretaries, five Treasurers and 27 Committee members.

Kevin served at the Frankston RSL Sub-Branch as

- Frankston RSL Committee Secretary 2008-2014
- President Frankston RSL 2015-2023 (present day)

REMEMBRANCE DAY 2022



On the 11th day of the 11th month, we honour and remember the sacrifices made by selfless Australians who fought for our freedom.

Remembrance Day 2022 was held at the Frankston RSL, and over 200 people attended the service. We thank everybody involved from the Frankston RSL team in putting the service together and making it a successful and memorable event.

We were honoured to have the Mayor of Frankston Council, Councillor Nathan Conroy giving the opening address, and we were particularly pleased to have the attendance of a representative for Peta Murphy, Federal Member for Dunkley, and Paul Edbrooke, State Member for Frankston. Mornington Legacy also attended with Barry Smith giving the Remembrance Day address, along with Adam Lawson, Chief of Veterans Services, RSL Victoria, members of Airforce Cadets who assisted with Catafalque Party and helped laying wreaths, and Reverend Glen Macrae from St. Lukes Church Frankston for his insightful and moving address.

The commemorative service was particularly special as we officially renamed the Veterans and Families Wellbeing Hub, in honour of Dr. John Finch Akeroyd AM., MBE., ED., MB., BS., FRACP., FACRM., 1909-1982 - former President of the Frankston RSL for 18 years, who dedicated much of his life to support veterans and the Returned Services League of Australia, as well as the Frankston community.

In addition, we received a donation of a WW1 medallion, from the family of WW1 Veteran, William Mark Hanton, who also was a past President of the Frankston RSL. We are grateful to the Hanton family for their precious and generous donation, and we will do the medallion justice by preserving it and displaying it with our Memorabilia at the club.

It was wonderful to have our veterans and so many community groups, associations, schools, volunteers, Anzac House, and local council representatives attend and share this very honourable day with us. Thank you to our Photographer Steve Brown for capturing the essence of the day, and his amazing images that are hosted on our website www.frankstonrsl.com/commemorativeservices. We are very appreciative of everybody who purchased Poppy Appeal pins, as the valuable contribution will go a long way to helping veterans and their families in need. The proceedings ended with a light lunch and refreshments that were enjoyed by all.

Lest we forget

s63.434.22

Total amount raised for the 2022 Remembrance Day Appeal.
Valuable funds are raised to aid our Veterans and their families who find themselves in necessitous circumstances.
Thank you!

WE WILL REMEMBER THEM





RENAMING THE FRANKSTON RSL VETERANS AND FAMILIES WELLBEING HUB

On Remembrance Day, The Frankston RSL Sub branch, in conjunction with Veteran Central and ANZAC House, nominated to name the Veterans and Families Wellbeing Hub, located at the Frankston RSL, after the former President of the Frankston RSL Sub Branch - Dr. John Finch Akeroyd, AM., MBE., ED., MB., BS., FRACP., FACRM., 1909-1982.

Dr Akeroyd was a former President of the Frankston RSL for 18 years, who dedicated much of his life to supporting veterans and the Returned Services League of Australia as well as the community.

Dr. John Finch Akeroyd AM., MBE., ED., MB., BS., FRACP., FACRM., 1909-1982, dedicated much of his life to support veterans and the Returned Services League of Australia. He held a myriad of positions at the Frankston Sub-branch and Victorian Branch throughout the years including President Frankston RSL 1950-1968, Vice President Victorian Branch 1964-1968, 1975-1979 and Senior Vice President 1975-1979. He was also the recipient of the Gold Badge – the RSL's highest award for rendering outstanding service to the League, ex-service personnel, or their dependants.

He was known to some as the man with 21 letters after his name and his association with community groups and organisations was seemingly endless.

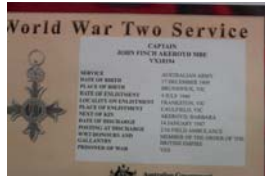
As a young doctor he had a practice in Frankston before going to war. He was a member of 46th Battalion (Brighton) and when the unit was formed, he became Regiment Medical Officer and was transferred to 22nd Battalion, with which he served until being captured in Rabaul at the fall of New Guinea. He could have escaped but he chose to stay with the wounded and set up a hospital in the jungle until he was captured by the Japanese. In 1942 he was shipped to Japan and remained a prisoner of war for 4.5 years.



Dedicated

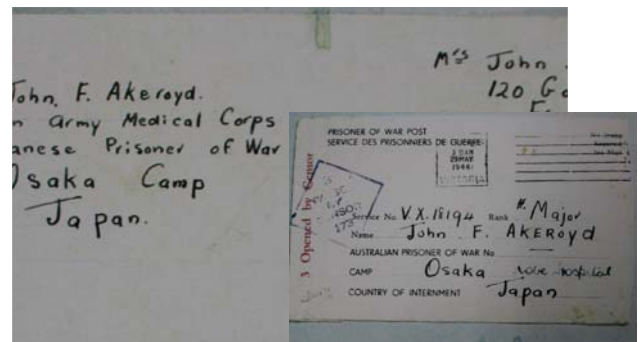
He was also a member of Legacy and was on Frankston High School Advisory Council and a life governor of Frankston Hospital. He was a member of the War Veterans' Homes Trust and was awarded the MBE for his devotion to the war troops, since he could have returned to Australia being a medical officer, but would not leave his men. He was also a member of the board of management at Mt Eliza Geriatric Centre and for many years he was Frankston municipality's medical officer of health.

Dr. Akeroyd's legacy speaks volumes and the decision to rename the Veterans and Families Hub in his honour was unanimous.

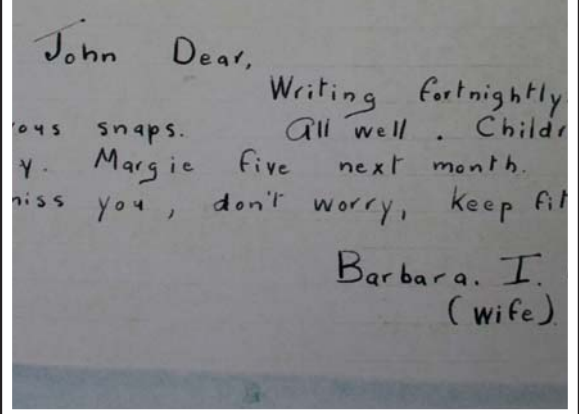


Selfless & Honourable

He returned home with tuberculosis and tropical ulcers, weighing only 7 stone from his former 18 stone. He worked at the Heidelberg Repatriation Hospital for two years, then returned to his practice in Frankston. He was a foundation member of Menzies Home for Children and was on the Committee of Management for 31 years.



Long lost medallion William Mark Hanton



On Remembrance Day, the Frankston RSL Sub-Branch was fortunate to receive a special donation from the family of a WW1 Veteran. The Hanton family donated a WW1 medallion for service that was awarded to William Mark Hanton by the citizens of Frankston on his return from the war. The medallion was stolen during the 1950's, only to have been spotted on eBay in 2019 by a family member - who is a memorabilia collector and purchased it back for the family. The precious and generous donation will be displayed with the Memorabilia collection at the Frankston RSL.

LEST WE FORGET

We are fortunate to now have the lettering of “Lest We Forget” mounted on the façade of the club.

The lettering was originally part of a memorial wall at the Frankston Council Chambers. Subsequently, when the new war memorial was built in 2016 at Beauty Park, Frankston, there was nowhere to place the letters and were therefore, put away in storage.

We are thrilled to have them on display at the venue, where they will remain for a very long time. Thank you to Graham from our Memorabilia Team and the Committee for making this happen.



BATTLE OF BEERSHEBA

On the 31st of October we remember, and honour, all involved in the battle of Beersheba - The Charge of the 4th Light Horse, 1917, in memory of the Australians who fought bravely to preserve our freedoms.

These eight mates have 153 years of service between them and are some of the former members of the Royal Australian Armoured Corps, 4th/19th Prince of Wales' Light Horse Regiment (RAAC) serving from 1960's-90's who meet and 'lunch' monthly at the Frankston RSL - following a tradition started by the 'old boys' of the original 4th Light Horse Regiment 1917, that met once a month at the Regiment's Sergeants Mess until there were no more.

2022 marked the 105th Anniversary of the battle. Beersheba was a heavily fortified town 43 kilometres from the Turkish bastion of Gaza, and it was the scene of an historic charge by the 4th Light Horse Brigade.

Read More: www.awmlondon.gov.au/battles/beersheba

ANZAC COVE, GALLIPOLI



John & Joy made the trip to Gallipoli & Malaya to place poppies at the graves of our fallen heroes who fought selflessly and dutifully for our freedoms

Malaya, Singapore



John and Joy M, long- time members of the Frankston RSL, took 400 poppies on their recent travels to Turkey and Singapore, and laid them at the graves of fallen heroes at both Anzac Cove, Gallipoli, and in Malaya, Singapore. This random acts of kindness and respect to honour the fallen Australian, Commonwealth and Allied veterans who served in defence of their nation, is commendable.

They will be heading out to the Memorial in Saba, Borneo in early 2023 to lay more poppies for the fallen Australian heroes who gave up so much and so selflessly for peace and freedom. Joy's father's ashes have also been scattered in Kuching in Sarawak, where he was part of the unit to liberate the Island of Borneo. Thank you, John and Joy, for this beautiful gesture of solidarity.

🔔 2022 LONG SERVICE AWARDS

WE WOULD LIKE TO RECOGNISE AND THANK THE FOLLOWING STAFF ON THEIR SIGNIFICANT COMMITMENT, DEDICATION, AND PASSION TO THE FRANKSTON RSL.

30 years

Administration
Helen Shanahan

Michelle Ollive
Bar & Gaming

15 years

Finance
Lynda Leverington

FOH.
Wendy Broks

Kitchen
Marlene Harawira

FOH
Mata Harawira-Tai

10 years

FOH & Kitchen
Marica Calic

Reception
Jarrod Broben.

Bar & Gaming
Tracy Vrana

Reception
Jodi Hill

Finance
Marion Alexander

5 years

Kitchen
Janet Kerry

Congratulations to our staff for clinching their Long Service Awards!

We are fortunate to have such a dedicated workforce. This is the best time to push forward through nationwide staffing challenges and I believe we can do it with the amazing 100 strong team we have in place at the Club."

145 years combined!

GM, Brett Rowlands



APPEALS 2022 - OVERVIEW

On behalf of the President, Committee, and club members, we
Thanks to all our amazing volunteers - members of the club,
committee members, and staff, who assisted in selling
Poppies and pins in 2022. Additionally, thank you to
everybody who purchased a Poppy or Appeals' Merchandise.
The valuable funds raised go a long way to helping Veterans in
need.

*In 2022. THE FRANKSTON RSL ANZAC AND POPPY
APPEALS. RAISED \$163,434.22.*

2022 POPPY APPEAL

Through the tireless work of the Frankston RSL members,
volunteers, local community organisations, businesses, and
schools, we were able to raise \$63,434.22 during the Poppy
Appeal in November.

This amount was a surprisingly
higher than anticipated amount
given we were up against
difficult fundraising
circumstances; the downturn
in the economy has meant that
our generous customer base
has less disposable income, in
addition to the effects of Covid
still present in our community -
our Army Cadets were
restricted to only selling one
weekend due to a Covid
outbreak amongst their ranks.

We were also challenged by
the fact that in some shopping
centres our volunteers were
placed in less readily visible
locations. In the end we are
happy to report that it was a
refreshingly successful
Poppy Appeal and we are
forever grateful to everybody
who purchased from our
volunteers.

**\$63,434.22
RAISED**

*A special mention about the volunteer assistance we
receive from community groups and a big shout out to
the Langwarrin Girl Guides, AirForce Cadets, and
Army Cadets, who have selflessly offered their time over
the years and without prompting.
Thank you!*

The previous Appeals were very successful, with our
volunteer efforts raising over \$100,000.00 for the ANZAC
Appeal (2022) and \$68,000.00 for the Poppy Appeal (2021).
This was a record high in the history of the Frankston RSL.
The success of these appeals can largely be attributed to the
fact that everybody was more community minded - post
covid, and relieved to be 'out' and about.

We are moving more and more towards a cashless society,
possibly thanks to Covid, with EFTPOS payment facilities
being the norm these days. 35% of our payments during the
2022 ANZAC Appeal were made using credit cards, phones,
and watches, and this percentage will keep increasing at the
next Appeal. Well done to our volunteers - who may
otherwise be technologically challenged, who learned a new
skill and mastered electronic payments.

All funds collected go directly in support of veterans and their
families who find themselves in necessitous circumstances
and at the Frankston RSL, funds are also used in the
prevention of social isolation with regular activities organised
through our "wellness" programs.

Contact: Peter Kerley, Appeals Coordinator
EMAIL: appeals@franktonrsl.com.au
PH: 0450 568 138



Clockwise: Mata, Jacinta, Terry FOH and Bar Staff. Eric from our
Wellbeing Mobility Team, and Peter Kerley, our illustrious Appeals
Coordinator and invaluable Committee member with airforce cadets.



Poppy Appeal Frankston RSL

ANZAC DAY 2022 – OVERVIEW



2022 saw once again the public commemorating ANZAC Day with around 5,000 at the Dawn Service, 2,000 at the Commemorative and Wreath Laying Service, and 550 service members and families returned to the RSL for lunch. Services were live streamed and projected on a 6m screen at the Frankston Memorial.



Where would we be without our amazing Appeals Volunteers? Thank you to our army of Volunteers that give up their time and contribute countless hours of selfless volunteering. This year our sub-branch volunteers raised a staggering \$103,065.38, at various retail centres. The valuable funds go to support our veterans and their families who find themselves in necessitous circumstances.

It was poppy mania at the Frankston RSL thanks to the 'artisans' of the Community Correctional Services Victoria who contributed to our Anzac Day commemorations, by making 100's of tissue paper poppies and wooden baskets that We thank Nick B, Field Officer Community Correctional Services Department of Justice and the poppy creators, for their countless hours of painstakingly fiddly but beautiful work.



Undoubtedly one of the great aspects of being part of a Community is to be tenderly welcomed by a bunch of three and four year olds, as Committee Member Lyn Lynch found out at Guardian Child Care and Kinder - as part of Anzac Community Services. It was a win-win barter moment, with Lyn walking away with a basket of Anzac Biscuits in exchange for story time!



Kevin Tester, Committee Member chatted to Baden Powell Park Scouts about the meaning of Poppies.



The transcending of stories helps bring facts to life and makes the abstract concrete, by giving it meaning and a place in our conscience. Storytelling is in essence, the fundamental means of meaning making!

CEREMONIAL TABLE FOR THE MISSING

Traditions and customs are so highly esteemed because of the emotion connected to them. They are often what connects a community, friends, or family, together, and are an essential component of any culture. One such custom that we hold highly at the Frankston RSL is the 'Ceremonial Table' for the Missing.

The white table cloth is symbolic of the purity of their intentions to respond to our country's call to arms. A single red rose in the vase signifies the blood that many have shed in sacrifice to ensure the freedom of our beloved Australia. This rose also reminds us of the family and friends of our missing comrades who keep the faith, while waiting their return. The inverted glass represents the fact that the missing and fallen cannot partake. The salt is symbolic of the countless tears shed by the families. The slice of lemon on the bread plate represents the bitter fate of those lost or missing. The lit candle is reminiscent of the light of hope which lives in our hearts to illuminate their way home, away from their captors, to the open arms of a grateful nation. Three settings for our Sailors, Soldiers, & Airmen. The fourth setting, an empty chair, represents the missing, and fallen, and those that worked in the background such as nurses, doctors, and administration.



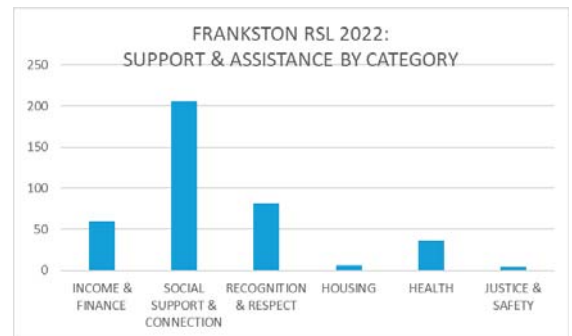
Kelvin Park, Frankston RSL Committee Secretary, officiated an Anzac Day Service at MiCare, Carrum Downs. The bubbly Franciska, who grew up in Belgium and played in the poppy fields as a child, is a Micare resident and was gifted a 'poppy scarf' and a framed photo of her herself to send to her son in Belgium.



WELBEING REPORT

SUPPORT & ASSISTANCE FOR VETERANS & DEPARTMENTS

We had 393 wellbeing requests for assistance and support to veterans and their dependents. Requests have ranged from assisting with free and confidential Wellbeing Advocacy, providing financial assistance to those in need, conducted home visits, and helped navigating My Aged Care and Veterans Home Care, for example. We have provided information to local social and community service organisations, and referrals to services as required. We also have free RSL Funeral Representatives that have attended the funeral of veterans and carried out the RSL Funeral Ritual, which is our last important way of honouring veterans. If you require assistance, please contact our Wellbeing Coordinator.



SUPPORT & ASSISTANCE BY CATEGORY-TOTAL 393

Social Support and Connection	208
Recognition and respect	85
Income and finance	60
Health	37
Justice and Safety	3

WELBEING SOCIAL CONNECTION ACTIVITIES

Our aim is to provide veterans of all eras, service types, genders, including National Service, Reservists, and those with or without overseas service, with friendly and sociable activities. In 2022 we had a big focus on expanding our options such as taking a 48 seater bus on outings to HMAS Cerberus Museum, Fort Queenscliff, and the SeaLife Melbourne Aquarium. These trips were significantly subsidised by the sub-branch.

In August we had a free information session and morning tea with a speaker from Seniors Rights Victoria on 'Planning Ahead'.

In November we held a Veterans and Families BBQ at the Naval Club, with children's entertainment and a visit by an ice cream van. We had representatives from Open Arms (1800 011 046) and Partners in Wellbeing (1300 375 330) attend.

Throughout the year we held our regular Wednesday morning Veterans & Partners Coffee group (10am, Table 221). This was joined by a Friday Coffee Group meeting in Huey's Bar (10am) which is open to all Veterans. Together the groups met for a Christmas lunch in December with a visit from Santa.

Our small Welfare Bus was also busy all year taking participants to a variety of places, such as the Dandenongs, Lara, Cranbourne, Seymour, and a tour of the Christmas Lights.

VETERANS HEALTH WEEK OCTOBER 2022

Veterans Health Week was in October, with a theme of 'Eat Well' and we held a free lunch for nearly 60 veterans and family members, with a talk from a Peninsula Health dietitian, and take-home information and healthy treat packs for all participants.

FRANKSTON RSL WELLBEING TEAM

If you are a veteran or dependent requiring support or assistance, or if you want to have a chat about upcoming social and wellbeing activities or volunteering your time, our Wellbeing Coordinator can be contacted for an appointment on 0492 820 743, 8792 4426, or email welfare@frankstonrsl.com.au Mon to Fri 9am to 4:30pm.

CONTACT: STELLAR

PH: 8792 4426 OR 0492 820 743

EMAIL: WELFARE@FRANKSTONRSL.COM.AU

HOURS: 9-4.30PM MONDAY TO FRIDAY

VOLUNTEERS

Our total volunteer hours for 2022 was 7,058. We couldn't do what we do without the extraordinary assistance of all our volunteers. In May we celebrated National Volunteer Week Theme 'Better Together' with a free lunch, live music, and presentations.

LAWNS

We continue to mow 450 lawns for aged veterans and their partners, and/or veterans who are physically unable to mow their own.

HELLO PROGRAM PHONE-CALLS TO SERVICE MEMBERS

In 2022 three Wellbeing Support Officers and the Coordinator were busy making phone-calls to our Service Members over the age of 80. The Hello Program is a good opportunity to check in on our veterans' and connect them with our Wellbeing Team if they need information, connections to services, a home visit, or other support and assistance.

AGE STRONG EXERCISE CLASSES

Our Age Strong Exercise classes aim to keep veterans and their families, as well as community members, fit and socially active. Run by PARC and held at the Frankston RSL Pavilion, the classes are held twice a week, on Tuesdays and Fridays, 8am-9am, at a subsidised and affordable cost of \$6 p/p.

COMBINED GROUPS NETWORK

Members of the Auxiliary, Mornington Peninsula Legacy, Partners of Veterans Association, Frankston Vietnam Veterans, and Veterans and Families Hub have regular meetings throughout the year to share updates and information and plan social activities. In 2022 we had bus-trips to Phillip Island Vietnam Veterans Museum, Yarra Valley Railway, and Melbourne Zoo, again heavily subsidised by the sub-branch.

HOME & HOSPITAL VISITATION TEAM

In 2022, our Home & Hospital Visitation Team spent 153.50 hours visiting veterans and their partners in 12 local residential aged care facilities. At Christmas, the Team prepared 350 Christmas Parcels for veterans and their partners, which were greatly appreciated by the veterans, widow/ers and families.

VETERANS AND ASSOCIATED GROUPS CHRISTMAS PARTY

On the 6th December, 99 people attended the Christmas Party in the Simpson Room at the club. Veterans, and members of the Auxiliary, Mornington-Peninsula Legacy, Partners of Veterans Association, Vietnam Veterans, FRSL Home & Hospital Visitation Team enjoyed a three course Christmas meal.

FURNITURE, WHITE GOODS AND MOBILITY AIDS

Tony, one of our Wellbeing Advocates, and a dedicated group of volunteers continued to assist veterans by collecting donations of an estimated \$27,957 worth of furniture, white-goods, and mobility aids. These have been redistributing to appreciative veterans in need. Thank you to all who so kindly donated items.

DR. AKEROYD VETERANS & FAMILIES WELLBEING HUB

The Hub is located within the Frankston RSL, and we work closely with Veteran Central in ANZAC House to ensure veterans and their partners needs are being met. The Hub has 4 Pensions/Compensations Advocates to assist with submitting DVA claims. Case Navigator of the Hub, Angela, can be contacted for an appointment Mon-Fri 9am to 4:30pm on 8792 4430 or 0450 442 644, or email anortheast@rslvic.com.au and she will carry out an intake before you are referred to Advocates.

Contact: Ange, Mon–Fri 9-4.30PM PH 0450 442 644

*Open Arms Veterans and Families Counselling Service
1800 011 046, available 24/7



WELFARE

Welfare MobiliTy Team

The Frankston RSL Welfare Mobility Team is nothing short of extraordinary! Championed by our 'crusader' and Committee Member, Tony Grice, we are forever thankful for this driven and generous team of volunteers who give up their weekends to collect items from generous donors - club members and residents of the Peninsula, and repurpose these times - dropping them off to veterans and war widows. Some of the 2022 'feel-good' moments include:

Our Welfare and Wellbeing team was able to help a veteran at RSL Vasey Care in Frankston South with a repurposed fridge, as his had broken down. Our awesome volunteers gave up their Sunday to collect and drop off the fridge for the veteran.

Volunteers were also able to help out another veteran at RSL Vasey with dining table and chairs. They have been put to great use, as the veteran had been eating his meals on a chair! He will now be able to have friends around for meals if he wants. And one act of kindness was rewarded with another, as the veteran himself donated a TV that was passed on to another veteran or family member.



FRANKSTON RSL WELFARE MOBILITY TEAM
REPURPOSING DONATIONS FOR VETERANS AND FAMILIES

IT'S THANKS TO DONATIONS
FROM OUR GENEROUS
COMMUNITY THAT WE ARE
ABLE TO HELP THOSE MOST
IN NEED.



A grandson of a Veteran kindly donated a perfectly working fridge and it was in turn repurposed and donated to a War widow. It's thanks to these donations from our generous community that we are able to help those most in need.

Donations welcomed:
mobility aids, white goods,
electrical goods, furniture

AWESOME WELFARE MOBILITY TEAM VOLUNTEERISM AT ITS BEST

Frankston RSL
REPURPOSING DONATIONS FOR
AN AMAZING CAUSE!
HELPING VETERANS IN NEED IS
THE FRANKSTON RSL
MOBILITY TEAM'S MANTRA.
WELL DONE TONY, ERIC, PETER
& OTHER VOLUNTEERS
ON YOUR COUNTLESS HOURS OF
VOLUNTEERING, CARING, AND
SUPPORT!

#FrankstonRSLWelfareTeam



The team delivered a repurposed washing machine, to a veteran at RSL Vasey Care in Frankston South as his had recently broken down.

The mobility team picked up two very useful donations that were put to great use - an electric lift chair which was kindly donated by a member of the Frankston RSL, as well as a mobility scooter which was kindly donated by a Veteran. Both items were repurposed to a veteran and a war widow.

What a busy day for our team of volunteers who picked up a couch - kindly donated from a Frankston RSL member and it was put to great use and taken to a veteran who was moving into RSL Vasey Park Residential Care. The team then helped the same veteran with a fridge, washing machine, microwave and assorted items to make his new unit a home, An electric lift chair was kindly donated by a member of the club and donated back to a war Widow.

In July, Fish Creek RSL drove down to Frankston to collect much needed mobility aids, white goods, and furniture for Veterans based in Gippsland who are still very much in need of help after the fires of 2019-2020. We were more than happy to help out. Many thanks to those who generously donated items to help Veterans. A special thanks to our volunteers Kevin, Peter, and Eric from the Mobility Team who make it happen and the extra help they receive from friends, family, and club members.



"Thank you for the donations. These items will go far and will be very much appreciated around the Greater Gippsland Veteran Community". Fish Creek RSL.



If you have anything you would like to donate, contact our Wellbeing Coordinator Mon-Fri 9-4PM on 8792 4426

NEW TRANSPORT FOR ASSISTING THOSE IN NEED



The Wellbeing Team and committee of the Frankston RSL have recently purchased a NISSAN X-Trail to enhance its availability to assist veterans on a needs basis.



It will be used by both the Veterans and Families Wellbeing Hub, Frankston RSL Wellbeing Team and our Committee for volunteer duties. Our Wellbeing Coordinator will now be able to visit those in need, and also transport veterans to doctors and specialists appointments if required.




















The car does not replace the mini bus, but supports its use for those who have mobility issues in getting into and out of vehicles.

The vehicle livery was applied by a local supplier and denotes the symbolic World War I Remembrance Day Poppies along with the Victorian RSL Badge and Frankston RSL logo.



2022 WELFARE at a GLANCE

WELLBEING CASES: number of cases		27
PASTORAL CARE: number of cases		281
DECEASED SERVICE MEMBERS FRSL: number		64
RSL FUNERAL REPRESENTATION Required for Service Members		8
HOME & HOSPITAL TEAM: Monthly Visitation Hours		153
HOME & HOSPITAL TEAM: number of people Visited		451
MONTHLY LUNCHESES - Residential Aged Care Facilities: number of facilities attended		57
MONTHLY LUNCHESES - Residential Aged Care Facilities: Cost		\$10,203.90
WELFARE BUS: number of people assisted		462
WELLBEING CAR: number of Client Visits and Transport:		33
WELLBEING CAR (BETSY): Errands, Client Visits and Transport Km's:		793
LAWNS: number of people assisted		450
LAWNS: Cost		\$26,281.00
PARC EXERCISE GROUP: Tuesday Sessions x 2: participants		104
PARC EXERCISE GROUP: Friday Sessions x 2: participants		103
HELLO PROGRAM PHONE-CALLS: Volunteer & Staff Hours		56.50
MOBILITY AIDS PROGRAM: value of goods re-distributed		\$27,957.00





MAKING CHANGES THAT COUNT

With the increase in cost-of-living expenses and with rental payments taking a large part of his pension, a veteran needed an alternative lifestyle to assist in maintaining his financial stability.

In partnership with the Frankston RSL Wellbeing Advocates, the veteran was relocated from his three bedroom rental property into an independent living studio unit at Vasey RSL Care Frankston South. This change lowered his rental payments and had the added benefit of providing a sense of community as he is able to socialise with other veterans in the shared community space.

To accommodate his dog Ricky, the veteran's best friend and constant companion, the sub-branch was able to assist with the building of a fence in the backyard of his unit.

Moving to a smaller property meant that extra storage was required for items that didn't fit within the unit. Frankston RSL was able to provide a shed, purchased from Bunnings, and with the help of his new neighbours, the veteran was able to erect it in his backyard and store his excess tools and furniture.

FRSL Compensation Advocates have also assisted the veteran with pension and health submissions to DVA. While his case is being assessed, the veteran's wellbeing continues to improve as does his positive outlook for the future.



Jim Saxe was a member of the Victorian Police Force in 1955 when he was called up for compulsory National Service. Choosing to join the RAAF, Jim completed his 176 days of compulsory service and remained on reserve for 5 years.

IMPROVING VETERAN'S LIFESTYLE

Jim enjoyed service life so much that when he retired from the police force he joined the Army, and trained with the Special Forces (Green Beret). On graduating he gained a commission as a Lieutenant and served with the Special Forces in Vietnam in 1971. On discharge, Jim joined the Fire Brigade until eventually joining private business enterprises until his retirement. Jim was a member of Frankston RSL from 1962 when it was located in Davey Street, until the early 1990's when he moved interstate for his work. He was a committee member of the Frankston RSL and a President (Chairman) of the Frankston RSL Golf Club. In this role he introduced the Golf Section Constitution and Rules, doubled the Section membership, and redesigned the 18 hole putting green and undercover BBQ area. Now, in his mid-80s, Jim suffers from severe hearing loss. Recently the Frankston RSL was able to assist him with the purchase of an iPad with speech to text capability.



Sadly, one of our newest 2022 service members passed away in December. It was an honour to have Keith Hearne in our midst. In September, Keith was made Honorary Life Member of the Brisbane 31st Infantry Battalion Association for his active service during WWII and for his post war devotion to the 2/31st Battalion's achievements and those who served. Keith held a myriad of honours and awards and served on copious committees.

50 years Service Award

Gold Badge Life Membership RSL – 26.06.2002

Certificate of Appreciation RSL - 26.06.2002

Life Membership – 7th Division Association

Life Membership – 31st Battalion Association

STATE BRANCH COMMITTEES ANZAC HOUSE

Veteran's Affairs Committee (Chairman)

Land Settlement/Rural – (Secretary)

Appeals, Future of League Membership,

V.J. Commemoration, Disaster Fund Coordinator

OTHER ACTIVITIES.

Gippsland Veterans Welfare Management,

Committee Sale, Veterans Affairs Coordination

Council at - Veterans Affairs, R.S.L. Disaster Fund

Coordinator East Gippsland Floods 1998, R.S.L.

Disaster Fund Coordinator East Gippsland Bush

Fires 2003

This has provided him with immeasurable assistance, as he can now communicate with family, friends, and health professionals, as well as providing him with social contact, and improved quality of conversations - things that he couldn't do previously.

Things we take for granted have now become easier for Jim; watching TV was impossible without captioning but now he can place the iPad near the TV and he is able to read the captions on his iPad regardless of whether the program has captioning or not.

Jim's contribution throughout the years to both defence and community is highly commendable. As a result of his service, we continue to openly support Jim in every endeavour to improve his lifestyle.



WELFARE

REGAINING INDEPENDENCE

John Boyer joined the RAN in 1945 and trained as a Marine Engineer (Stoker), obtaining a rank of Leading Hand. His first trip overseas was to serve with the Occupational Forces in Japan after World War 2.

Between 1950 and 1954 John served for periods on HMAS Bataan and HMAS Arunta - completing tours of duty in Korea during the Korean War.

For this service, he received his 'Australian War Service Medals', the 'United Nations Peace Medal', and more recently John was the recipient of both the 'Ambassador For Peace Medal' and the 'Deed of Appreciation Medal' from the Korean Government.

During his 15 years service John returned overseas on many occasions and on one trip aboard the HMAS Bataan he was involved in fighting with a fleet of pirate ships in the South China Sea.

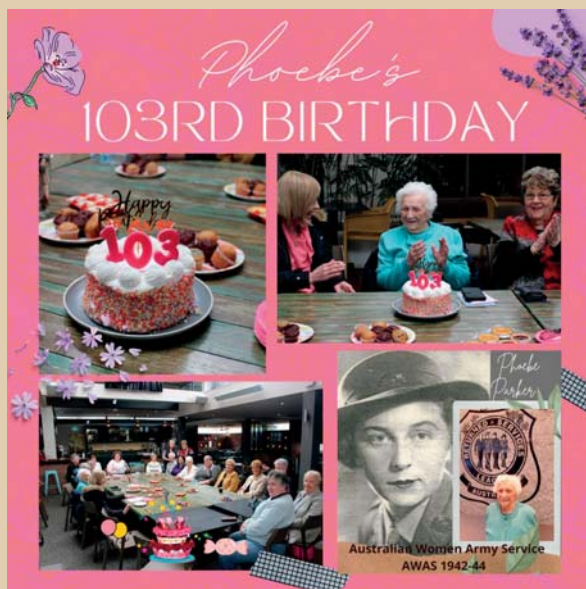
More recently due to failing health, John had his right leg amputated and as a result surrendered his Driver's Licence. Without his licence he was feeling isolated and unable to socialise and communicate. He therefore took the necessary steps to regain his licence, and after a false start he was successful in

obtaining a restricted Driver's Licence. John took delivery of a new car with modifications to suit his disability in mid-November. He is looking forward to being able to, once again, meet-up with family and friends without relying on other (sometimes unreliable) modes of transport.



"It was our pleasure to host John to a lunch at the Frankston RSL to acknowledge the receipt of the 'Deed of Appreciation Medal' from the Korean Government, and to show our appreciation for his service".

"At 94 years of age, John is blessed with a positive attitude and never complains. We are proud to have him as a member of our "family", said Tony Davis, Veterans Wellbeing Advocate, Frankston RSL.



PHOEBE TURNED 103!

Our dearest Phoebe celebrated her 103rd birthday with some of her most esteemed fans - the Frankston RSL Women's Auxiliary, who helped her celebrate at the club with a lovely morning tea and an enviable birthday cake at that.

Phoebe served in the AWAS - Australian Women Army Service, Signals Division, 1942-1944.

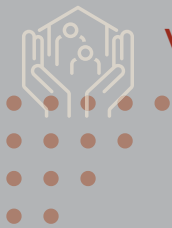


HAPPY 92nd BIRTHDAY KEN!

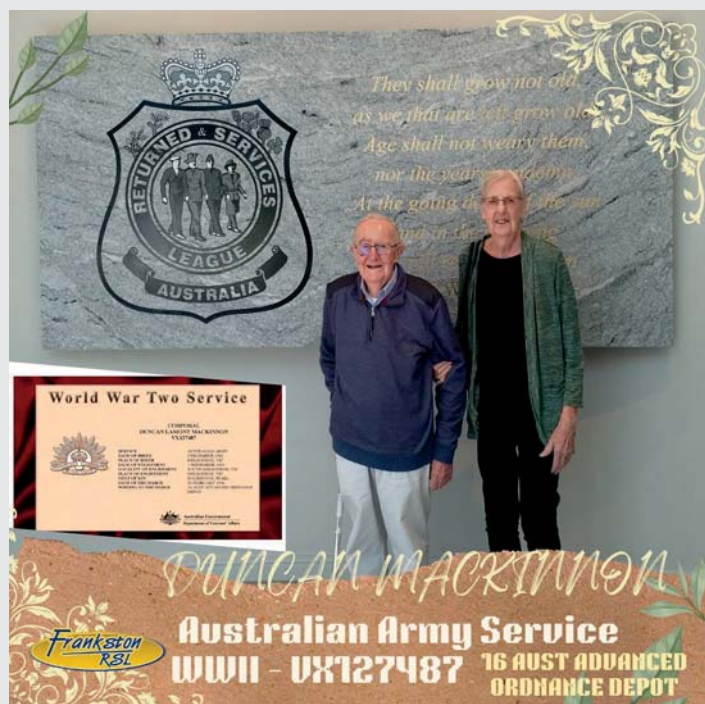
92 HIP HIP HOOORAYS for Kenneth William Moore.

Ken was an Able Seaman (36385) during the Korean War, aboard the HMAS Bataan and HMAS Murchison, serving 558 days between 27 June 1950 to 2 June 1954.

Thank you for your service Ken. We are all very proud and honoured for your commitment to the Royal Australian Navy.



HONOURING OUR HEROES

HAPPY 99TH
BIRTHDAY TO OUR
ESTEEMED DUNCAN!WWII VETERAN DUNCAN MACKINNON LAMONT
CELEBRATED HIS 99TH BIRTHDAY

Duncan Mackinnon Lamont is one of our esteemed World War II veterans, having enlisted in the Australian Army aged 19. He discharged as a Corporal in 1946, with his posting at discharge being the 16 AUST ADVANCED ORDNANCE DEPOT.

When our Wellbeing Coordinator heard that Duncan was celebrating his 99th birthday, she offered to drive him and his lovely wife Margot to the Club for a celebratory lunch.

Duncan was made to feel special on the day by staff, and was tickled pink when our Maintenance Officer, who also served, stopped by for a good long chat and the two exchanged service stories. Duncan looks forward to coming back in December for his 100th birthday.

Happy Birthday Duncan and thank you for all that you have done for the Australian Service.



Duncan enjoyed exchanging stories and experiences with our Maintenance Officer Alan, who was also in the service.

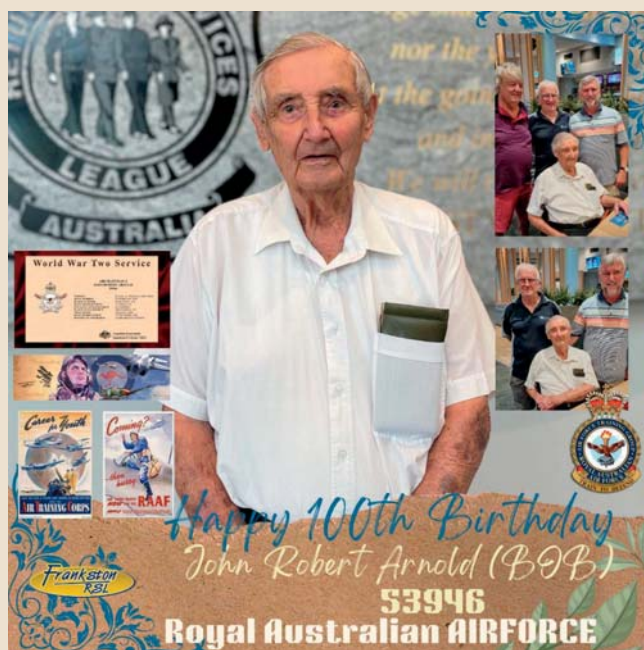


HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY TO BOB ARNOLD World War II Veteran!

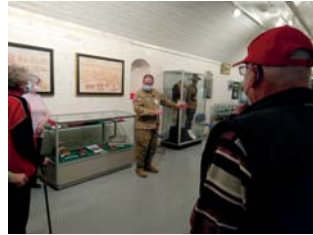
Bob (John) Arnold enjoyed a wonderful lunch at the Frankston RSL with his wife Viola, and family - including great grandkids.

Bob served in the Royal Australian Airforce 1942-1946, and lives in Mount Martha. His Son is also an Army Veteran, also name Bob Arnold, and is pictured in the photo.

Bob was thrilled that two Committee Members and veterans were also at the venue on the day. Brian Hill (Royal Australian Army) & Kevin Tester (Royal Australian Navy) eagerly congratulated Bob on his service - and 100th birthday of course! There are so many unassuming heroines and heroes in our midst - so humble, poised, and wise. When amazing people like Bob pay us a visit, we are thrilled to make a song and dance about them and thank them for their commitment and years of service.



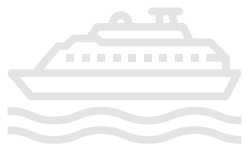
Fort Queenscliff Tour & Ferry Trip



So successful was the uptake on this Wellbeing excursion in early September to Queenscliff, for Veterans and their partners, that we had to hire a bigger bus to accommodate the whopping intake of 43 participants.

The outing included bus and ferry to Queenscliff for an action-packed day with morning tea onboard the ferry before visiting the historic Fort Queenscliff, then lunch at Princess Park and coffee and tea at the Pier.

It's always such a spectacular ferry trip back to Sorrento and a HUGE thank you to our excellent bus-driver, Simon.



Aquarium Excursion & Lunch

On the 25th October, 45 veterans and their families enjoyed a day out at Sea Life Aquarium in Melbourne. It was great to have younger family members attend with their grandparents and aunts and uncles on this excursion.

Our youngest participants were the happiest little baby Remi, and 3 year old Jed, who had a ball. Jed is still talking about the sharks and penguins! The group then enjoyed a long lazy lunch at the historic Caulfield RSL before heading home.



Veterans Health Week

There's no greater way to celebrate Veteran's Health Week 2022 for our Veterans than with a Lunch and an Eat Well Presentation at the Frankston RSL.

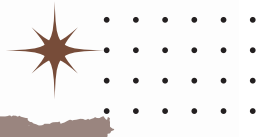
56 veterans and partners came for lunch and a presentation on Healthy Eating, by Frankston Community Health Dietician.

Our Executive Chef and his Team prepared a delectable menu for the event that everybody loved.

Special thanks to Lucie, Dietitian from Frankston Community Health, for her healthy eating tips.

If you are wanting some inspiration, head to www.eatforhealth.gov.au for healthy recipe ideas and resources.





Coffee Group Xmas Lunch

Look who popped in to say Hi, and Ho, Ho, Ho. Santa put in a special appearance at our Coffee Groups' Christmas Lunch. Needless to say 61 veterans, partners, and war widows, were tickled pink with his arrival. The Frankston RSL Wellbeing Team did a marvellous job putting the event together and regulars from three coffee groups were treated to a wonderful afternoon in great company.



Combined Xmas Group Lunch

We love hosting great Community lunches such as the Annual Veterans and Associated Groups Christmas Lunch. An incredible 99 people enjoyed a three-course lunch, including the Frankston RSL Women's Auxiliary, Home and Hospital Visitation Team, Vietnam Veterans Frankston, Partners of Veterans Association, and Legacy Mornington-Peninsula.

The lunch was extra special as The Gold Service Star Badge Award was presented to four very deserving Frankston RSL Women's Auxiliary members, in recognition of their 20 years' Faithful and Meritorious Service rendered to the Auxiliary and to the League: Margaret Davis, Mary McGinty, Marj Ramsay who is 99.5 years of age and still active in the Auxiliary, and Kaye Ruitenbeek - who sadly passed away earlier this year.



Frankston District Prostate Cancer Support Group

The Prostate Cancer Support Group meet monthly at the Frankston RSL for a sharing session of emotional and social support. Various veterans attend and the group enjoys guest speakers, and partners and friends are also invited. Anybody at any stage of the prostate cancer journey is invited to attend.

Meet-Up: Frankston RSL Akeroyd Veterans & Families Wellbeing-Hub

When: Last Wednesday of the month 10.30-Noon

Contact: Kevin 0419 133 826

Frankston & District Prostate Cancer Support Group
Proudly affiliated with



Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia





Phillip Island 'Pot-Pourri' Trip

The Frankston-Peninsula Veteran Support Network visited Phillip Island in May 2022, in a 48 seater bus provided by Frankston RSL.

With stops at Caldermeade Farm for morning tea of scones and hot drinks, a tour of the Vietnam Veterans Museum, and a final stop for lunch at the Phillip Island RSL. An extremely fun and full day was had by all—including 'Pepper' on this very versatile and jam-packed day!



Three cheers for the home & hospital support team

The Home & Hospital Support Team selflessly regularly visit 12 aged care facilities in Frankston and surrounding suburbs. Every month they visit Veterans and their partners, who live in the facilities, bringing chocolates, a friendly smile, and well needed company. The selfless dedication and kindness is very much appreciated by Veterans.

Nursing homes include: Forest Lodge, Benetas, Baptcare, Bayview, RSL Park, St John of God, Baxter Village, and Opal Somerville.

Some of the team include: Bev, Carol, Wendy, Joan, Joyce, Doris, Maureen. As well as Kelvin Park, Kay, and Win, who are absent from the photo. Sadly Doris and Joan passed away in 2022.

HMAS Cerberus Museum

At the beginning of June, Frankston RSL organised a tour of the in Hastings, returning to the venue for a hearty lunch. Over 30 Veterans and partners attended, and, despite the wet and cold weather, it proved to be a wonderful opportunity for a social outing.



Off to the Melbourne ZOO!

On Tuesday 15th November, 36 members of Frankston RSL, the Auxiliary, Partners of Veterans Association Frankston, Vietnam Veterans Frankston & Legacy Mornington-Peninsula joined together for a Combined Group bus-trip to Melbourne Zoo.

With a few minor showers to contend with but luckily there were many places to hide from the weather, and the sun came back out again. Some highlights included the Butterfly House, and visiting the Elephants and the Lemurs.

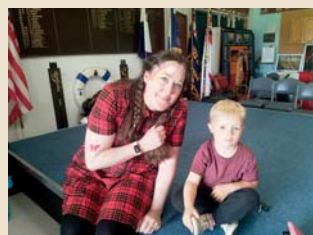


Mystery Tour!



The winter chill didn't stop these 36 Mystery seeking enthusiasts taking part in a mystery bus trip to the unknown! The Combined Welfare Groups: Partners of Veterans Association, Vietnam Veterans Frankston, Legacy Mornington-Peninsula and Frankston RSL Women's Auxiliary got together on a Mystery Bus Tour which kept everyone guessing all day. What is next?

They enjoyed a scrumptious morning tea of scones and refreshments at Grants on Sherbrooke Café, took the historic Yarra Valley Train, lunched at the lovely Healesville RSL, and fittingly ended the tour at the Yarra Valley Chocolaterie. It was a happy and fun group, with many laughs shared along the way. Even Pepper gave it her seal of approval!



Veteran Family Day - The Frankston Naval Memorial Club

In November, the Frankston RSL sponsored a veterans' family day at the Frankston Naval Memorial Club in Langwarrin. It was wonderful to see an array of extended families attend and enjoy this wonderful get together.

The objective of the day was to stimulate younger veterans and their families to attend and take part in RSL organised activities.

We were also fortunate enough to have representatives from Open Arms Veterans and Families Counselling Service (1800 011 046) and Neami National Partners in Wellbeing (1300 375 330) in attendance on the day.

While the weather was not on our side, we managed to put on a great BBQ and most certainly the highlights of the day included 'Max the Magician and Elissa the Elf', the face painter, and the ice-cream truck who was hailed over and kids were 'shouted' an ice-cream!



Frankston Community Support Christmas Appeal

Our Wellbeing Team busily packed and delivered hampers to the Frankston Uniting Church for the Community Support Frankston Christmas Appeal 2022.

As part of our Community Support Fund, every year Frankston RSL donates food items to Community Support Frankston (CSF). CSF and Operation Larder then pack hundreds of Christmas Hampers for families and individuals in need, from across the Frankston community.



FESTIVE TREATS ON THEIR WAY 32ND ANNUAL FRANKSTON COMMUNITY APPEAL

OVER 2,000 DISADVANTAGED
FAMILIES AND INDIVIDUALS
FROM THE FRANKSTON
COMMUNITY RECEIVE FESTIVE
FOODS AND GIFTS FROM THE
FRANKSTON COMMUNITY
APPEAL



32nd Annual Frankston
Community Appeal



#WelfareWednesday

Making a difference!

Once again, the Frankston RSL participated in the annual 'Frankston Life Community Christmas Lunch' and supplied the puddings and custard, which contributed to the incredibly successful 2022 Christmas Day Lunch.

Over 385 guests and community volunteers came together on Christmas Day at the Frankston Arts Centre to celebrate the true spirit of Christmas, which included all the festive trimmings, a great meal, lively entertainment and gifts for everyone.

The true reality is that had it not been for this wonderful initiative most of the guests would have been alone or deprived of experiencing Christmas Day in this way. Thank you to Frankston Life, the many donors, and the 135 enthusiastic volunteers who planned, organised, set-up/packed down, cooked, served, and entertained in the lead-up to the event, not to mention the fact that they gave up their Christmas Day!

2022 Frankston Life Community Christmas Lunch



Certificate of Thanks

Frankston RSL Club

for your generosity & encouraging support for the 2022 Frankston Life Community Christmas Day Lunch at Frankston Arts Centre

Mark Whitby
CEO - Frankston Life Community

frankston life
COMMUNITY

R. & C. Crosling
Ron Crosling
Christmas Event Coordinator

Home & Hospital Team



350 HAMPERS PACKED & DONATED

Busy Santa Helpers! In December our Home and Hospital Visitation Team packed a total of 350 parcels, including chocolates and festive treats, to distribute to residents at various nursing homes that are regularly visited by the team.

A special Christmas Hamper was also put together for the independent living residents in Vasey RSL Park and the 100 bags were filled with Ham, Crisps, Nuts, Mince Pies, Jelly, Chocolate, and Shortbread. Another 115 parcels were also distributed to Vasey Nursing Home for their Christmas party.

Well done to our Home and Hospital Visitation Team for their selfless dedication to combatting social isolation among veterans and their partners or widows. Each week they visit countless residents and bring a smile, and much needed social contact. Please consider joining the 'Home & Hospital Team'. Contact our Wellbeing coordinator on 8792 4400, or pick up a flyer from Reception.

CELEBRATING NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK 2022

The Frankston RSL Volunteers from the many sub-groups enjoyed a well-deserved luncheon at the Frankston RSL on May 18, to celebrate National Volunteer Week 2022. "Better Together" was the 2022 'Volunteer Week' theme, and as they say, many hands make light work.

MC for the day was Tony Grice - Wellbeing Advocate and Mobility Aid Team Leader, and with Tony Davies, Trainee Advocate, together officiated the event along. "Volunteers are the backbone of any RSL and without them, this RSL would find it hard to do the work that it does with Mobility Aids, Appeals, Wellbeing and Compensation cases, visiting Veterans and War Widows in care", said Tony Grice, adding, "In 2021 RSL Victoria had around 16, 000 Volunteers each of whom volunteered at a token value of \$41 an hour, that equates to \$10.8m in volunteer support to Veterans across a raft of roles."

"National Volunteer Week is a chance for the Frankston RSL to celebrate and recognise the vital work Volunteers do for the community."

THANK YOU!

A huge thank you to Stellar, Event organiser and Wellbeing Officer, the Frankston RSL Committee, and the Frankston RSL staff who helped organise the luncheon.

Let's ponder on these Facts!

Volunteers are not paid.
Not because they are worthless.
But because they are priceless.
Volunteers make the place
a better world.

True Kindness is helping someone
without expecting anything in return.

Volunteers do not necessarily have the
time—they have the heart.





Theodora's Cheerful Givers

\$1,000 was donated to Theodora's Cheerful Givers from The Women's Auxiliary who happily raise funds for those in need across a variety of causes. Founded by Gina Poulos the charity helps families and individuals experiencing financial hardship to put food on the table.

Theodora's Cheerful Givers serve around 400 food hampers each week of the year and provide over 1000 pre-cooked frozen meals. This is made possible by the generous donations of kind hearted individuals, organisations and local businesses. You can also help those who are enduring financial hardship by shopping at their Opportunity Shop.

Read More: www.theodorahouse.org.au



Backpacks 4 VIC Kids

\$1,000 was donated by the Women's Auxiliary to Backpacks 4 VIC Kids - an Australian charity providing essential material aid to displaced children.

45,000 Australian children are in an out of home care placement such as foster care and around 4000 are placed in homes each year in Victoria alone.

Read More: www.backpacks4vickids.org.au



Mums Supporting Families In Need

\$3,000 was donated to Mums Supporting Families In Need (MSFIN) by the Women's Auxiliary. The Women's Auxiliary tirelessly fundraise - giving back to the Community, local Charities, and Veterans and their families. They selflessly dedicate hours of work to help those less fortunate. They say the joy is in the giving and it's all the more worthwhile when it goes to such life changing organisations.

MSFIN is a locally based Seaford charity that supports our community's most vulnerable families. 'Mums Supporting Families In Need' was started with a big heart and a simple idea. With so many families doing it tough, now more than ever, no child or family should go without the essentials.

Read More: www.msfin.org.au



'Share the Dignity'

Recently the Frankston branch of the Partners of Veterans Association (PVA) put out the call for hand-bags and toiletries to donate to the "It's in the bag" campaign by Share the Dignity. As a result, PVA Frankston were able to donate a whopping 66 hand-bags to those in need. These were dropped off at a Bunnings collection point in November. Well done PVA and to all who donated!

Share the Dignity is a women's charity in Australia, that works to make a real difference in the lives of those experiencing homelessness, fleeing domestic violence, or struggling financially. For more details about Share the Dignity

Read More: www.sharethedignity.org.au

Supporting the Frankston Homeless

The Frankston RSL donated fruit, dips, and nibbles that went to making take home packs for morning tea for the Breakfast For The Homeless, in Frankston. Trudy Poole, former Citizen of the Year, assists with the breakfasts for the homeless and is also part of the Rotary team that organises and sets up the Frankston Anzac Day Gunfire Breakfast.

“Thanks so much for the fruit, dips and nibbles. We made packs up for morning tea for the clients to take home with them and they were very appreciative. Really appreciate your support”. Trudy Poole.



Reduce, Reuse, Recycle



We love this motto and aim to repurpose as much as we can at the Frankston RSL. We also love partnering up with Community Groups and Charities and doing what we can.

These ‘hand-crafted’ Santa Sacks have been painstakingly remodelled by hand from our calico banking bags into these stunning Santa Sacks. The 100 or so sacks were dropped off to Backpacks 4 VIC Kids - an Australian charity providing essential material aid to displaced children. 45,000 Australian children are in an out of home care placement such as foster care and around 4000 are placed in homes each year in Victoria alone.

Beryl Leek is part of the Frankston RSL Women’s Auxiliary and volunteers her free time to help with the project. She has been invaluable and instrumental with the design and sewing of these wonderful Santa sacks over the past years.

Our staff have been saving the bags throughout the year and they have been washed, dried, ironed, a cord fed through, and a hand-crafted cloth Christmas design has been cut out and individually sewn onto each sack.

Three cheers to Beryl, all the staff involved, and an even bigger round of applause to Back Packs For Victorian Kids (B4VK).

www.backpacks4vickids.org.au



The Frankston RSL is committed to supporting the local community and currently provides funding to a vast array of local sporting groups, charities, community organisations, and not-for-profits.



The Frankston RSL has proudly supported the Melbourne Special Children's Christmas Party for 16 years!

After two years of not being able to hold the event due to covid, the 2022 Special Children's Christmas Party roared back into life and delivered an incredible free day for thousands of special needs children and their families. The day was immensely successful - fun filled and packed with plenty of activities, from rides and free food, face painting, an amazing stage show, and of course a visit from Santa himself.

The highlight of the day was the magical toy room, where every child received 2-3 amazing presents to take home and call their own.

Despite everything else going on in the world, the reasons these children are chosen each year remains the same.



They work closely with hundreds of charities, schools, community groups and government organisations throughout Australia to select the children. The children invited are children, who may have or suffer from one or more of the following: serious illnesses, physical impairment, intellectual impairment, domestic violence, or living in underprivileged circumstances.



THEIR MISSION IS TO PUT SMILES ON THESE CHILDREN'S FACES FOR AT LEAST ONE DAY A YEAR. THIS WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE WITHOUT THE CONTRIBUTION OF FRANKSTON RSL MEMBERS AND GUESTS THAT FACILITATES THE SUB-BRANCH TO SUPPORT THIS EVENT.



This is an exciting year for our Netball community and so much is happening in the coming months. The Association is undergoing the most significant change in their history - in managing the brand new \$35m Jubilee Park Stadium.

It is a huge honour for us to have such a strong partnership with the Frankston RSL - spanning 10 years of support to Netball', said Rebecca Graham Marketing & Communications Manager, FDNA/Peninsula Waves." We can't wait to take our place at the helm of this Centre of Excellence for Women in Sport'.



Our new court sign recently installed, celebrates a decade long partnership.



SES Frankston

Where would we be without the amazing SES volunteers? A wonderful donation of \$6500 worth of rescue equipment was made to the Frankston SES.

Funds were jointly donated from the Women's Auxiliary 2022 fundraising efforts (\$3000) and from the Frankston RSL sub-branch (\$3,500).

The equipment was greatly appreciated by the volunteers and will be put to vital use for the SES to undertake storm damage, casualty handling and road rescue rescue techniques for the community. Equipment included:
Beluga Kit Windscreen removal tool for Road Accident Rescue (\$2,500.00)
Trauma Mannequin for Road Accident Rescue Training. (\$2000.00)
2 battery operated chainsaws (\$2000.00)

\$6,500 IN EQUIPMENT DONATED TO THE FRANKSTON SES



Proudly supported by the Women's Auxiliary & Frankston RSL

\$3,000
+
\$3,500

COMMUNITY SUPPORT FUND



GROOMED TO GO

Groomed to Go supports its clients at every step, as they work their way to stronger self-confidence and financial independence. They aim to provide people with the clothing and accessories they need to feel comfortable and confident in their current circumstances, job-seeking or starting over - having been recently released from prison.

Their ultimate aim is to reduce unemployment in our region by giving people the tools they need to thrive in work and life.

Established in 2008, the women's program is part of the international affiliation of Dress-for-Success organisations.

Since 2019 their services extend to people from all walks of life and circumstances.



All services provided by Groomed to Go Inc., are free of charge to clients.

- Emergency Clothing Packs
- For those fleeing domestic violence
- Or exiting the justice system

In-person programs include a one-on-one dressing appointment at their premises in Frankston, with personalised support before and after the appointment, and a referral to other programs and services as required.

Virtual programs include virtual dressings, plus career counselling and workshops offered by partners Chisholm Skills and Jobs Centre, Dandenong.

RAISED just over \$20,000



HELPING

People who've never had a job

People who've struggled to retain a job

People returning to work after an extended period

People who are going through a major life event

People who've experienced Domestic Violence

People who have spent time in prison

GAMECHANGER



Game Changer is a dedicated suicide prevention initiative in our local sporting clubs through awareness, education and support.

The Frankston RSL have come on board as a Major partner and will be providing our services to ALL Mornington Peninsula Cricket Association clubs in 2022/23! The RSL team is excited to be backing such an important initiative.

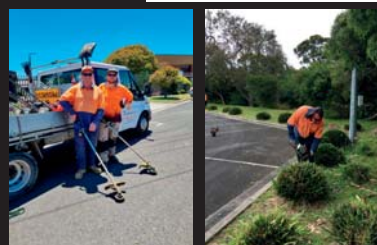


Game Changer's services and offerings directly impact local sporting clubs and leagues to make a positive change in regards to the mental health of its members.

C2A

Our gardening and grounds maintenance team do an incredible job, working hard mowing, weeding, brush cutting, and tidying the gardens and surrounds. What many may not know is that the team is employed through Connecting 2 Australia (C2A), a not-for-profit organisation helping adults who live with a disability engage in work and training.

For nearly 12 years the Frankston RSL have supported C2A in their work to connect those in our community that are not afforded the opportunity to work as easily as most, due to living with a physical or mental disability.



"It is a great opportunity for our team to be able to service the Frankston RSL and the team really enjoy coming out. We are grateful for the opportunity to place our clients through Supported Employment as well as skills training and to help with job seeking," said Taylor Heuser, Seaford Hub, Business Manager.

THE PERPETUAL PEOPLE CO



COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Spring is definitely in the air, and this Spring the Frankston RSL launched a new Community Garden project in conjunction with Frankston Council and The Perpetual People Co.

A section of the rear garden will soon be transformed by budding horticulturalists into a thriving botanical landscape, including a rock garden with succulents, planter boxes, a mini rainforest, a pergola shaded structure as well as a greenhouse poly-tunnel and pathway.

The Frankston RSL is proudly supporting the community garden and is thrilled to be creating employment and social pathways for NDIS participants.

Carlos Swinton-Lee, Managing Director said "We installed eight large fruit boxes and received a tonne of organic soil delivered from Daisys who very kindly donated half of the soil to help. Kennards Hire donated a Kanger digger to move the soil into the boxes and we went to work! We are very happy with the progress to date and will look to begin planting herbs and vegetables by mid-December".

PPC have a scheduled plan to have the garden completely ready by 1st February and then participants' from the NDIS will be on site to work and to learn how to become more sustainable by growing their own vegies. A small garden goes a long way and PPC are grateful for the opportunity to work with the Frankston RSL and Frankston City Council across the project.

WHAT IS A COMMUNITY GARDEN?

A community garden is more than just a lovely place to stop and stare. We believe that at it's core, the gardens are able to promote a sense of community whilst providing opportunities for physical activity & the sharing of fresh produce. It's healthy for the body and the mind, it's an opportunity to get involved, improve wellbeing and positively impact the environment. All the while, it's fun!



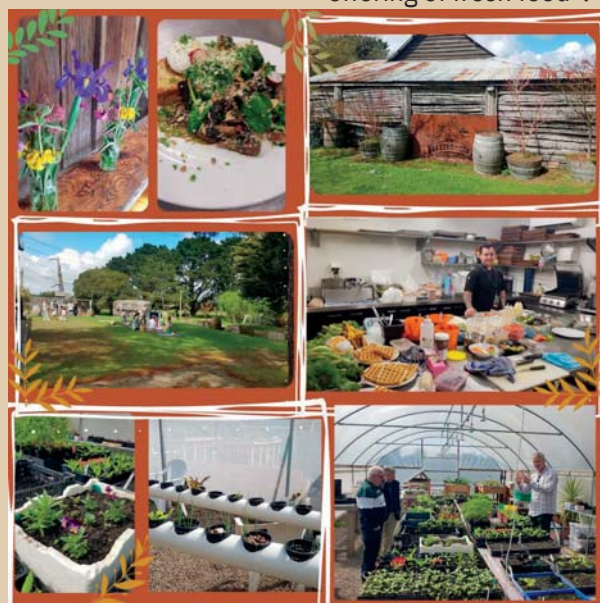
We recently caught up with our Community Support Partner WALLARA, at the stunning Sages Cottage Farm and chatted to CEO Phil Hayes-Brown

Set in a historical property, dating back to the 1850's and located in Baxter (just off the Moorooduc Highway), it is an absolute must see and do for a coffee and lunch catch-up or for little ones to get some wholesome outdoor time 'meeting' farm animals.

Most importantly the farm and café create meaningful and rewarding employment pathways for Wallara clients, and the Frankston RSL proudly supports this wonderful not-for-profit organisation and is in awe of everything they do in making a difference to the lives of community members. The property boasts a beautiful garden and pond, with the jewel of the crown being the stunning Harvest Café, set in a historical barn - decked with fairy lights and a quaint gift corner.

The kitchen serves sensational breakfast/brunch/lunch dishes that you would find in Main Street eateries - deliciously crafted by Head Chef Dave who utilises herbs and vegies propagated in the farm's horticulture poly tunnel.

We are greatly indebted to the generous support offered through the Frankston RSL Community Grants Program", said CEO Phil Hayes-Brown. "It is providing Wallara and Sage's Cottage Farm with a unique and rewarding opportunity to make a difference to the lives of community members - providing them with a sense of purpose, an opportunity to exercise their independence through meaningful employment as well as contribute to the café and farm's ability to be self sustainable with it's offering of fresh food".



Read More: www.sagescottage.com.au

Address: Sages Cottage, 5 Sages Rd, Baxter, 3911

Open: 8-4PM Mon-Fri **Contact:** 0437 421 074

PENINSULA WAVES - 30TH ANNIVERSARY AWARDS NIGHT



2022 Peninsula Waves Championship Team

A night of Champions! Proudly sponsoring Frankston District Netball Association, the Frankston RSL had the pleasure of hosting the recent Peninsula Waves Presentation and 30th Year Celebration. Frankston RSL President Kevin Hillier OAM, was honoured to have awarded the 'The ANZAC Spirit Award' to Sara Howie, who was voted by the VNL Playing Group and received the prestigious award for demonstrating Comradery, Others Before Self, and Courage. ('The Man in the Stands' photography).



ANZAC Spirit Award 2022 Winner, Sara Howie & Kevin Hillier OAM. Anzac Spirit Winner 2021 Stacie Gardiner.



Service Awards Winners: Mikayla Phillips, Ebony Dolan, Holly Moulday, Sara Howie, Keira Cenin, Kelly Haynes.

FRANKSTON DISTRICT NETBALL ASSOCIATION VOLUNTEERS NIGHT

Frankston & District Netball Association (Jubilee Park) celebrated their 'Thank You Evening 2022' at the Frankston RSL to recognise the efforts of all umpires and volunteers that have volunteered and supported local netball throughout 2022. Frankston City Council Mayor Cr Conroy, Paul Edbrooke MP, and Peta Murphy MP Federal Member for Dunkley were also there to support and honour all volunteers.

"We thank the Frankston RSL for their ongoing support. The contribution they make to our organisation is invaluable and goes toward building a strong and thriving netball community for everyone", Rebecca Graham, FDNA Marketing Manager.



RSL A FOUNDATION MEMBER OF THE COMMITTEE FOR GREATER FRANKSTON

Frankston RSL Sub-branch has been a member of the C4GF since February 2017. The C4GF is a politically independent organisation that works with all levels of government for a better deal for the greater Frankston region. Independently funded by its members, C4GF's aims to deliver greater investment, more jobs, improved transport, and better health and education outcomes for the people of the region. One of C4GF's main tasks this year is advocating for extension of the Frankston train line. It has already received an initial \$225 million but not enough has been budgeted to build it.

C4GF chief executive Ginevra Hosking said "Frankston RSL Sub-branch is a loyal and valued member of the Committee for Greater Frankston. It's important that our member organisations represent a wide cross-section of Greater Frankston's community and the RSL brings an important perspective to our work."



The Frankston RSL has been sponsoring the Frankston District Basketball Association for 15 years. It was great to see Frankston Blues commemorating Anzac Day 2022, with our club President, Kevin Hillier, being invited to speak at the Anzac Day Game.

The FDBA has been awarded Basketball Victoria Basketball Association of the Year for 2021. With over 900 teams registered, this is a fabulous award and recognition of the work done by all the Volunteers and Management. Frankston RSL is proud to be a sponsor of this great Community Association

VALE 2022

LEST WE FORGET

AINSWORTH, THOMAS
ANCELL, DAVID
ANDERSON, MAXWELL,
ANSON, MARGARET,
APPS, ALPHONSUS,
ARGIRIOU, JOHN,
ASHWORTH, DENIS,
BEECH, GEOFFREY,
BORRADALE, BRIAN,
CARROL, CHRIS,
CLEAVELEY, MAXWELL,
COLSTON, JOHN,
CONACHER, GEOFFREY,
DELPHINE, JOHN
FERRIE, BRIAN
FINLAYSON, LESLIE
FIZELLE, ANTHONY
GARDINER, ARTHUR
GARNHAM, GEOFF
FERRIE, BRIAN
FINLAYSON, LESLIE
FIZELLE, ANTHONY

FERRIE, BRIAN
FINLAYSON, LESLIE
FIZELLE, ANTHONY
GARDINER, ARTHUR
GARNHAM, GEOFF
HALKET, JACK
HALL, JOHN
HAYNES-SMITH, GRAEME
HEARNE, KEITH
HEMSLEY, JOHN
HILL, JOHN
HODKINSON, ALAN
HOWELLS, GEOFFREY
HUSSEY, THOMAS
JACKSON, SYDNEY
JARVIS, ROBIN
LADIGUS, KENNETH
LANCASTER, STANLEY
MARRINER, WALTER
MATTHEWS, EDNA
MCLEOD, BRYAN
MOSS, ERIC
NOBLE, ALAN

PRICE, GEOFFREY
PULLING, ROSS
REID, HARRY
RIGG, ERIC
SAMPSON, GORDON
SAUNDERS, ROBERT
SAWLEY, DENNIS
SCANLAN, HUGH
SHILLING, ARTHUR
SMITH, LAWRENCE
SMITH, BARRY
SPRINGALL, JOAN
SUCH, JUDITH
TABE, ALLAN
TAYLOR, JAMES
THRUPP, HEDLEY
TREW, GRAEME
WARNECKE, DENIS
WATSON, ALAN

RSL LIFE MEMBERS

J F AKEROYD AM*
F ANDERSON*
J W ARNEY*
E BARRETT*
K BETTLES*
P A BRISCOE*
R G BROWN*
H CAMERON*
F C CAREY*
F CLAYTON*
A COLE*
REV V COLLINS OAM*
B CLYNE
J P DEIGHTON AM MC*
T L DICKMAN*
DH FOWLER*
A C GARDINER*
H R GILHAM*

E J GOLDSMITH*
B HICKMAN
K HILLIER OAM
A F HOLMES*
A M HORSBURGH OAM*
E M HUGHES*
W G INDIAN*
B JOHNS*
A JOHNSON*
P R KENNEDY*
W LESLIE*
P M LOUREY*
S C LOVELL*
R W F MCCARTHY*
C A MCKENZIE*
R H MCLELLAND
R MORRISON

A C MURPHY*
D F NICOLL*
D A PATTERSON*
A PAXINO*
E C PEARCE*
J L PRATT*
S PRENDERGAST*
W R PULLING*
F A SEWELL*
A SHOUT*
J SLATTERY*
J SMITH*
L W STREETS OAM*
L V SWANSON*
C L THURKLE*
G M WALKER*
S U WALKER*
R W WHEELER OAM*
A WHITWORTH*

* DECEASED

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