



Pittwater RSL sub-Branch Newsletter



January 2024 - Number 41

Pittwater RSL sub-Branch

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Current Membership: 111

The next Newsletter will be
published in April 2024.

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Thank you, Deborah!

Our sub-Branch is very fortunate
to have you as our President.
Your dedication and outstanding
service is greatly appreciated.

**Sandra, Darren and
sub-Branch Members**

President's Report

My RSL National Life Membership Australia was approved on 17 October 2023. My thanks to all the sub-Branch for supporting me in regard to this important award.

NSW State Congress. This was held on 22–24 October 2023 at the Newcastle Exhibition Centre.

State Congress was a great success and a fabulous opportunity to network with RSL NSW Support and other sub-Branch offices in NSW. At this Congress, President Ray James retired, and the new RSL State President, Mick Bainbridge, was welcomed. CEO Jon Black resigned and was replaced by Giles Hurst.

The Hon. Margaret Beazley AC KC was the guest of the League and presented some prestigious awards to worthwhile recipients.

1. The Meritorious Service Medal was awarded to Narrabeen President, Chaplain Bob Durbin.
2. Affiliate Member, Pamela Hansen, Harbord sub-Branch, was awarded the Civilian Award.
3. Forestville sub-Branch Auxiliary was second place in the Lady Woodward Cup.
4. Deborah Carter was awarded Life Membership. There were only 10 recognised in NSW for 2023.

New Trustees. I am proud to announce our new Trustees:

1. Scott Johnston MBA - a retired Financial Planner.
2. Bernie O'Neill, Vietnam Veteran (American Navy) and retired CPA.
3. Oliver Ford MBA - ex-British Army Lt. Col. (still working full time).

NBDC hosted a Cyber Security lecture at Pittwater RSL Club on 28 November. A big thank you to Troy Vanderplas, President of Narrabeen sub-Branch and CEO of InfoTrust for a very interesting and insightful presentation.

If you think you have been scammed, contact the local police or report cyber crime to 1800 595 160. Or call Snr Constable Matt Cain at Dee Why Police Station, 02 9971 3399.

Our final meeting for the year was held on Sunday 03 December followed by a Christmas Lunch in the Club.

Purple Poppy Day. We're happy to confirm that we have two Service Dogs and Handlers attending our Commemorative Service on Saturday 24 February 2024, commencing at 11:00am at the Lower Cenotaph.

Thank you to the following Members: My Executive - Terry Jones, Vice President; Bob Wood, Treasurer; Sandra May, Secretary; Inese Carrodus, Office Assistant. Their support throughout 2023 has been invaluable.

Thanks to Graeme Lee, Roberta Conroy and Michael Mannington OAM for their support in updating the memorabilia in the club foyer. And to Sandra, who produces our Newsletters; Darren Crabb and I are co-contributors.

I would like to acknowledge Pittwater RSL Club - Leigh Arnold, President, and the Directors for their support throughout 2023.

A special thank you to Jason Manning CEO, and his staff for their continued assistance in our shared commemorative events during 2023.

I hope everyone had a healthy and safe Christmas, and Happy New Year to everyone for 2024.



Lest We Forget
Regards,

Deborah

Deborah Carter
President

REMEMBRANCE DAY - SATURDAY 11 NOVEMBER



Deborah Carter and Terry Jones conducted the Remembrance Day Commemorative Service



Odette and Livia Burns,
representing children of current serving Veterans
The Hon. Bronwyn Bishop AO
Rory Amon MP, Member for Pittwater
Leigh Arnold, President, Pittwater RSL Club
Jason Manning, CEO, Pittwater RSL Club
Meredith Robinson representing Dr Sophie Scamps MP
Chief Inspector David Richards, Northern Beaches Area Command
Cr Bianca Crvelin and Cr Michael Gencher, Northern Beaches Council
representing Mayor Sue Heins
Ralph Stonell, President, Mona Vale Surf Life Saving Club
Geoff Vallender, Secretary, Pittwater Memorial Men's Bowling Club
Sue Lion, Vice President, Pittwater Memorial Women's Bowling Club

104 students attended from six of our local schools:
Mona Vale Public School
Sacred Heart Primary School
St Luke's Grammar Junior School (Bayview Campus)
Adam Hughes, Principal, Narrabeen North Public School
Mater Maria College
Pittwater High School



Piper Aaron Erdstein led the parade. Veterans
marched into position to "Waltzing Matilda".
Our Vocalist was SQD LDR Dr Anna Williams.
Our Bugler was Dr Harriett Channon.

Mona Vale Public School Choir, led by Choirmaster, Annie Woods,
sang "Always Remember" by Ian Jefferson



Photographs courtesy of two of our sub-Branch members,
Michael Mannington OAM, Community Photography and
Dale Cohen, Northern Beaches Advocate

Christmas Lunch - Sunday 03 December

Immediately following our final General Meeting for the year, 33 people enjoyed Christmas lunch in the Glasshouse.



Deborah, Roberta, Rowley + Lavinia, John + Gaye, Sandra



Mandy, Edouardo, Deborah



Roberta



Julie



Pam, Inese, Jeff, Marta + David, Michael, Michael



Beryl, Ted, Aldo and Dorothy



Bob + Joan, Livia, Odette, Zamri + Kate, Alexander + Ollie



John + Annette, Julie, Terry, Peter, Cliff + Marcia

January 01, 1975

Office of Australian War Graves established. The Office is responsible for the maintenance of the graves of Australia's war dead in 78 countries around the world and in 76 war cemeteries within Australia.

12, 1943

Beginning of allied attack on Sanananda. The Japanese withdrawal from the Kokoda Trail enabled the allies to plan the encirclement of important Japanese positions in the Buna, Sanananda and Gona beachhead. Sanananda was last of the three to fall to the allies after weeks of heavy fighting.

18-22, 1942

Lieutenant Colonel C.G.W. Anderson, VC. Lieutenant Colonel Charles Anderson, 2/19 Battalion, 8th Division, originally of Cape Town, South Africa, won the Victoria Cross during operations against the Japanese at the Muar River, Malaya.

February 10, 1944

End of Japanese resistance on the Houn Peninsula. Fighting in the Huon Peninsula lasted from August 1943 until mid-February 1944 and involved heavy fighting at such places as Lae, Finschhafen, Sattelberg, Shaggy Ridge and the Ramu Valley.

17, 1900

Paardeburg, Orange Free State, South Africa. A major action of the Boer War, in which men of the New South Wales Mounted Rifles were involved; this resulted in the surrender of 4,000 Boers under General Piet Cronje.

22, 1942

General Douglas MacArthur ordered to leave the Philippines. MacArthur made his way to Australia from where he directed much of the war against Japan. His famous promise that 'I shall return' was kept when United States forces returned to the Philippines in 1944.

March 10, 1942

Japanese land at Finschhafen. The Japanese needed to capture towns such as Finschhafen and Salamaua to protect their forward air base at Lae.

14, 1942

Horn Island bombed. Japanese bomb Horn Island, Torres Strait, which was the main tactical base for Allied air operations in the area. The island was subject to nine Japanese air raids during the Second World War.

16, 1943

Flight Lieutenant W.E. Newton, VC. Originally from St. Kilda, Victoria, he was posthumously awarded the Victoria Cross for his actions at Salamaua Isthmus, New Guinea.



Northern Beaches District Council (NBDC) held their Life Members Luncheon at Dee Why RSL Club on Wednesday 22 November 2023.

David Moss, President Dee Why RSL sub-Branch, was our host, and Bob Lunnion, President of NBDC and President Forestville RSL sub-Branch, was our guest speaker.

Fourteen (14) Life Members enjoyed their lunch, in particular 97 year old Don Kennedy OAM (Merchant Navy).



General



Dale Cohen
New Affiliate Member.

During October 2023, we welcomed Dale to our sub-Branch.

Dale is Editor of the Northern Beaches Advocate, attends our Services, and always ensures we receive very good publicity.

Congratulations, Deborah!

The Life Membership awarded to Deborah Carter is a great honour and extremely well deserved.

Welcome back to previous Service Member, Vietnam Veteran, **Richard Ling.**



John Bolland, our new Service Member

“Thank You” to our President, Executive Committee, Support Team and to some Affiliate Members who assisted during 2023.

As mentioned in previous Newsletters, the sub-Branch Activity Time Records for administration, are required submissions for RSL NSW Head Office. The combined total for January to December 2023, was **2,007**. If everyone charged an hourly rate of just \$70, the cost of doing business to the sub-Branch would be **\$140,490!**

Thank you to everyone who volunteered their time in support of the Pittwater RSL sub-Branch.

The History of The Ode

Being intrigued as to the origins of The Ode, my online search has revealed the following. I know this is published in our diaries, but I thought you may like to know more about this wonderful poem.

The Ode is the fourth stanza from “For the Fallen”, a poem by the English poet and writer Laurence Binyon (1869-1943).

He composed his best known poem mid September 1914 while sitting on the cliff-top looking out to sea from the dramatic scenery of the north Cornish coastline. A plaque marks the location at Pentire Point, north of Polzeath. However, there is also a small plaque on the East Cliff north of Portreath, further south on the same north Cornwall coast, which also claims to be the place where the poem was written.

The poem was published in London in the ‘Winnowing Fan; Poems of the Great War’ in 1914. It was published in The Times newspaper on 21 September 1914.

The verse, which became the League Ode, was already used in association with commemoration services in Australia in 1921.

*“They shall grow not old as we that are left grow old,
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn,
At the going down of the sun, and in the morning,
We will remember them. Lest We Forget”.*

If you don't use the Sub-Branch diary, you can read the full poem online at:

<http://www.greatwar.co.uk/poems/laurence-binyon-for-the-fallen.htm>.



*Robert Laurence Binyon
Artist: William Strang*

VALE

With great sadness, we report the passing of our former sub-Branch Member

Paul Anthony Batson
01 November 1943 - 05 October 2023
Service No. 3171492 Army

LEST WE FORGET

As we commence the new year, let us pause to remember our RSL sub-Branch comrades who passed in 2023.

Joe Crumlin OAM, Bill Hardman, Barry McFarland, Chris Christensen, John Ward OAM, Ted Curtis, Jonathan Conrad, Paul Batson and David Fairweather.



General

Mission

Providing for the well-being, care, compensation and commemoration of all Service personnel, especially those who paid the supreme sacrifice.

We engage with the general community promoting the patriotic spirit of ANZAC, providing information on our activities, and encouraging membership of, and interaction with, the sub-Branch and their families.

Some helpful website links:

If you are feeling stressed and need someone to talk to, we highly recommend:

<https://www.openarms.gov.au/get-support/suicide-intervention>

<https://www.beyondblue.org.au/>

<https://www.ruok.org.au/>

<https://www.womensresiliencecentre.com.au>

50 Year Certificate

If you have been a sub-Branch Member, continuously of any Branch, for longer than 50 years, please contact Deborah Carter as soon as possible. Thank you.

Welfare

Our Welfare and Membership Officer can assist you with enquiries regarding war pensions, obtaining service records, membership eligibility and any other queries you may have.

Please contact Deborah Carter on 8401 0785, or email pittwaterrslsubbranch@gmail.com

Other links:

RSL NSW: <https://www.rslnsw.org.au>

Australian War Memorial: <https://www.awm.gov.au>

Vet Affairs News: <https://www.dva.gov.au/newsroom>

Scamwatch: <https://www.scamwatch.gov.au/report-a-scam>

Cyber Crime: Report to 1800 595 160. Or call Snr Constable Matt Cain at Dee Why Police Station, 02 9971 3399.

RSL Tribute

If you know of any Commonwealth service member, regardless of RSL affiliation, the sub-Branch can arrange an RSL Tribute.

January February March		
Sandra May		
		
January	February	March
Julie Emerson OAM 09	Frank Best 03	John Parnell 02
Tom Wear 12	John Boland 03	Rodger Williams 05
Harry Crampton 13	Marcia Gravenor 06	Brian Leary 06
Rainer Noble 13	John Sturzaker 08	Anna Williams 07
Inese Carrodus 14	Konrad Gebels 10	Philip Jamieson 08
Jack Snowden 14	Rowland Waller 10	Ross Wagland 09
Rob Stokes 17	Richard Ling 11	Theo Chere 11
Gerry Faramus 20	Kosta Coric 19	Coral Cicolini 20
Ron Douglas 21	Barry Taylor 21	Alan Craw 25
Wayne Broun 23	Zane Wilcox 22	Margarete Douglas 25
David Onslow 25	Gary Everitt 23	
	Michael Carrodus 27	

ON THE HORIZON January - March 2024 (Subject to change) **No meeting in January**
All monthly General Meetings are held in The Meeting Place, Pittwater RSL Club

Sun 04 Feb	10:30am	General Meeting	The Meeting Place
Sat 24 Feb	11:00am	Purple Poppy Day	Lower Cenotaph, Pittwater RSL Club
Sun 03 Mar	10:30am	General Meeting	The Meeting Place
Sun 03 Mar	11:30am	Sub-Branch AGM	The Meeting Place



Executive Committee and sub-Branch Office

Deborah Carter	President, Welfare Officer	0414 470 913
Terry Jones	Vice President	0466 892 771
Sandra May	Secretary, Newsletter Editor	0417 944 244
Bob Wood	Treasurer	0409 712 349

Support Team

Inese Carrodus	Office Assistant	0449 525 316
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Office: Monday (10:30 - 16:30) 02 8401 0785

Email: pittwaterrslsubbranch@gmail.com

Website: <https://www.pittwaterrsl.com.au/sub-branch>

If urgent, please call any member of the Executive.

