

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

|                             |    |
|-----------------------------|----|
| Anzac Day Committee/dates   | 1  |
| Not the minutes/calendar    | 2  |
| Editorial                   | 3  |
| Widows & Veterans lunch     | 4  |
| Wednesday                   | 5  |
| Arvo                        |    |
| Footy club dinner           | 6  |
| Welcome Friday/BBQ          | 7  |
| FYI                         | 8  |
| Devanha                     | 9  |
| @ Dave's desk               | 10 |
| White feather               | 11 |
| Funeral notice              | 12 |
| Ray Walters                 |    |
| Anzac Day Sheffield Tas     | 13 |
| Letter from Special ?School | 14 |
| President & Veterans Ball   | 16 |
| Spicy Spag                  | 17 |
| A bit of nonsense           | 18 |

# Dispatches

SUNBURY RSL SUB-BRANCH  
STAWELL ST PH: 9740 4401

EDITION 305 JUNE

## 2023 Committee



President: Graeme Williams

Ph: 0417 556 687

Vice President: Dieter Jankovic

Ph: 0408 343 051

Vice President: Phil Morgan

Ph: 0408 994 549

Treasurer: Jacki Brailsford

Ph: 0419 003 649

Secretary: Harry Beckwith

Ph: 0419 003 649

Membership/Appeals:

Gary Fisher 0411 111 630

Phil Morgan 0408 994 594

Pension/Welfare:

Harry Beckwith 0419 003 649

Historian:

Harry Beckwith 0419 003 649

Deiter Jankovic 0408 343 051

Liaison: Peter McLellan

Refreshments: Bruce Mills 0401 702 008

Social: Nola Williams 0417 296 411

Editor: Deb Williams 0404 020 525

Email: deb@fordbar.com

Tim Healy: 0402 819 836

John Burgess: 0408 372 768

Ethan Brailsford: 0431 103 118

### Region 7 Meetings 2023

|           |          |
|-----------|----------|
| July 26th | Maldon   |
| Sep 27th  | Charlton |
| Nov 22nd  | Woodend  |

### General Meetings

|   |
|---|
| Jun- 12   |
| Jul- 10   |
| Aug- 14   |
| Sep- 11   |
| Oct- 09   |
| Nov- 13   |
| Dec-  |
| Committee of Management meetings will be 6:30pm even months |

### dinner Dates

Jun-20

Jul-18

Aug-15

Sep-19

Oct-17

Nov-21



**Not the Minutes 08/05/2023**

EDITION 305 JUNE

**Present:** Jackie, Graeme, Harry, Tim, Sylvia, Noela, Nola, Gary, Dave, Geoffrey, Barry, John, Graham & Deb

A number of apologies

Meeting opened 7:30pm Ode was said

Minutes from previous meeting was read by the secretary

**Communication:** 2 cards were received—a number of letters were received from the Macedon Special School—the will be published in Dispatches. Deb suggested we invite the pupils and teachers to come to the RSL on a Wednesday to have a look at the memorabilia and meet some of the members.

**Treasurer:** has acquired more interest for account

**Membership:** 191 members

**Region 7:** next meeting 24th May

**Welfare:** all under control

**Appeals:** Thanks everyone

**Bowls report:** social bowls (bare foot) can be arranged each quarter

This years wreath was from The Hidden Florist very pleased with it

An anonymous donation of \$1,000 was received on Anzac Day to cover the Larry Shepherd Award for next 4 years

Graeme thanked members for coming out on such a cold evening meeting closed at 8:30pm

|          |               |                |                 |                |     |       |
|----------|---------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|-----|-------|
| Wed Arvo | Monthly lunch | Welcome Friday | General Meeting | Monthly Dinner | COM | Reg 7 |
|----------|---------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|-----|-------|



Presidents &  
Veterans Ball  
Melton

# June 2023

Lunch will be Ballcourt Hotel mid-day see you there

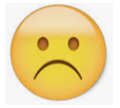
| Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat | Sun |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
|     |     |     | 1   | 2   | 3   | 4   |
| 5   | 6   | 7   | 8   | 9   | 10  | 11  |
| 12  | 13  | 14  | 15  | 16  | 17  | 18  |
| 19  | 20  | 21  | 22  | 23  | 24  | 25  |
| 26  | 27  | 28  | 29  | 30  |     |     |

EDITION 305 JUNE

EDITORIAL

*The temperature has certainly cooled, but we can still afford to turn our heaters on—so far.*

*Graham and I had a miserable few days at Philip Island, cold, wet and windy, I only got to happy hour 3 times*



*Enough of my complaints.*

*Sunbury RSL sub-branch is so busy, it is wonderful to see, just look at the full calendar. Many choices of things to do, place to go. Wednesday arvos are thriving. It is hard to get a seat some times.*

*Carols initiative of a monthly lunch has given us another reason to get out and socialise. Welcome Friday, probably isn't doing what it was originally supposed to do, but everyone who comes along seems to enjoy themselves, having a meal albeit a light meal is an age old tradition between friends and family. Such a great way to come together.*

*We have returned to the Footy club for our monthly dinner, and the new room is really nice.*

*A great day was had at Bunnings, BBQ made some money to go back into our coffers. Terrific to see members out and about raising money for their own purpose.*

*I have mentioned all the good things that are happening. Also our RSL is in the enviable position of already having multiple members interested in the position of secretary from February 2024. I have been member of quite a few clubs, this is a rare situation. Every member of Sunbury RSL should be proud that people want to participate at this level.*

*Until next month keep warm and be kind to each other.*



On our way home from the island we called on Dave, he is looking might fine, and his sense of humour had not diminished one bit.

EDITION 305 JUNE



**The Sunbury Sub – Branch is hosting a  
Service Widows and Veterans Lunch**

**Monday 19<sup>th</sup> June**

**Sunbury Football / Social Club**

**12noon - 2.30pm**

**Two courses- Two choices**

**All Military Service men and women and their  
partners / carers are invited.**

**Bookings close Monday 12<sup>th</sup> June**



# Wednesday Arvo



*New member Judith Sheehan  
Judith also donated the frame Ode pictured with her  
Welcome Judith & thank you*





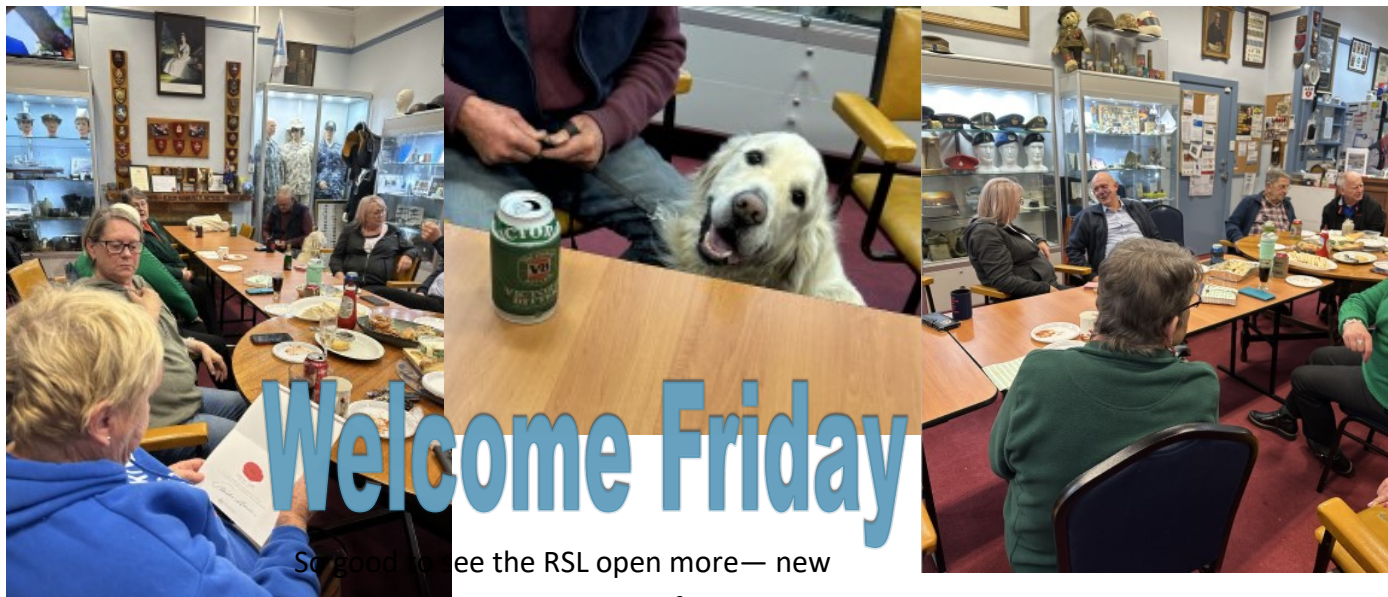


*20 members enjoyed a fun evening in the newly renovated bistro at the Footy club.*

*It may have been a little noisy but there was much fun and laughter.*

*The room is very nice, warm and friendly*



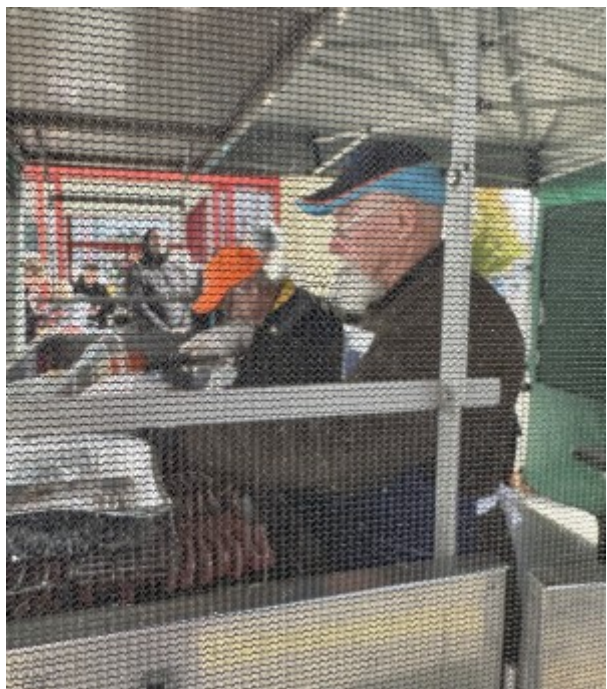


So good to see the RSL open more— new faces

Wherever this idea came from—it's great.

BYO food & fun

Old member/new member/maybe want to be a member



**Bunnings BBQ** The man behind the mesh Thank you to everyone who helped, purchasing, setting up, cooking, breading, money taker and of course pack up. *Great effort.*

*Also well done to bloke who can own the idea.*



1919 to 1926

RED represents the blood ties of war that exist between comrades.



1941 to 1966

WHITE stands for the purity of the motives in joining the League – to render service without thought of personal gain or ambition.

BLUE indicates a willingness to render that service to a comrade anywhere under the blue sky – wherever he or she may be.



Introduced 1990

The WATTLE is symbolic of Australia. The leek, rose, thistle and shamrock represent the link with Wales, England, Scotland and Ireland respectively.

Depicted in the centre of the badge, and encircled by the name of the organisation, are a sailor, soldier, airman and servicewoman marching together with their arms linked in friendship. This is to show that within the circle of the League, all Services and all ranks march together in unity and comradeship.

## THE 2023-24 VICTORIAN STATE BUDGET'S \$42 MILLION VICTORIAN VETERANS CARD PLEDGE

Written by RSL Victoria

25 May 2023

In the first Budget handed down since the State election, service men and women are set to receive \$42 million as part of the 2023-24 State Budget.

A new Victorian Veterans Card will allow veterans a discount on the registration of one vehicle, free public transport on AN-ZAC and Remembrance Days, free trailer and caravan registration, as well as free fishing and boating licences.

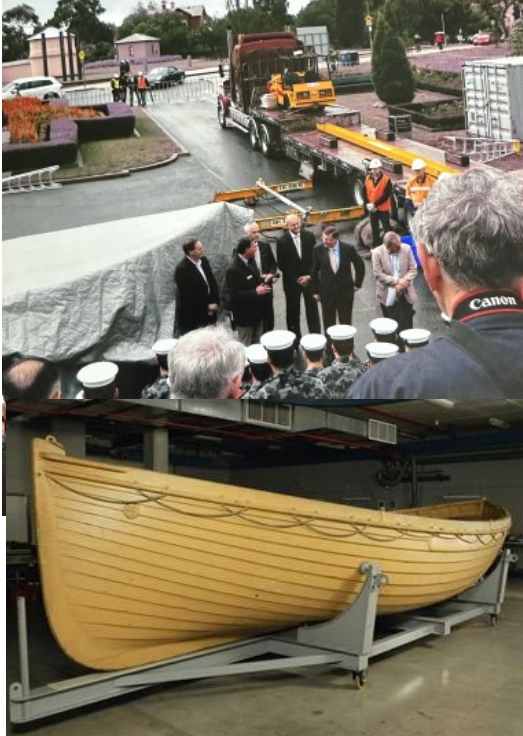
RSL Victoria President Dr Robert Webster OAM, welcomed the State Government's recognition of Victorian veterans.

"The Victorian Veterans Card will hopefully ease some portion of the rising cost of living burden and enable veterans to enjoy some added recreational and lifestyle benefits.





**Dawn of the Legend: Preserving the Devanha lifeboat**  
 At war's end the Devanha returned to peacetime duties, carrying passengers and freight for the P & O shipping line. In 1919 it sailed to Australia ; during the trip one of the passengers learned that a lifeboat used at Gallipoli was still aboard. The passenger, whose name has not been recorded, immediately made a written appeal that the lifeboat should be preserved "as a war relic of our brave Anzacs who gave their all".



The donation of "Lifeboat No. 5" was quickly arranged, and it joined the Memorial's growing collection. It remained on display for many years, but by the 1990s was clearly in need of repairs and conservation work. Careful research helped to establish details of its original appearance, equipment, and history. In early 2004 Memorial staff began the complex task of conserving the lifeboat and preparing it for display. Damaged areas were examined, stabilised, and repaired. Missing parts, such as the internal timber floor, lining panels, and lockers, were replaced. The surviving paint layers provided detailed evidence of the boat's 1915 colour scheme.



The completed work has returned Lifeboat No. 5 to how it looked 90 years ago.

The cost of preserving the Devanha lifeboat has been generously sponsored by Emu Bottom Homestead, Victoria.

## ABOUT THE RIBBON

The ribbon was red white and blue, nothing to do with the USA however.

Almost like a ribbon you might win at the Royal Show for your animals.

The story behind this ribbon hit a nerve with me and I just had to add it to my other WW1 tattoos.

Many will have heard the stories about the White feathers, a terrible blight on women during these War years. If a woman saw a man not in uniform but of fighting age she might secretly or publicly leave a white feather on his desk or even pin it on him.

This was such a devastating thing for many men who were unable to serve for a variety of reasons. Some are reported to have committed suicide due to being labeled as a coward. I cannot recall if it was the Government or another body with the ribbon idea, regardless it was seen as a way to identify a man who was on leave, home from the Front and out of uniform. It's hard to believe that it was even necessary at all.

In some ways perhaps it made it even harder for those chaps who couldn't join up.

Dave.



*Thanks Dave*

What does the white feather mean in Downton Abbey? ^

Men who wore no uniform, including soldiers on leave, were targeted to receive white feathers. Home Secretary Reginald McKenna authorized a badge that bore the words "King and Country," which told onlookers that the man wearing it was excluded from the pressure to enlist. – 3 Jan 2012





## As a symbol of cowardice

The use of the phrase "white feather" to symbolise cowardice is attested from the late 18th century, according to the Oxford English Dictionary. The OED cites A Classical Dictionary of the Vulgar Tongue (1785), in which lexicographer Francis Grose wrote "White feather, he has a white feather, he is a coward, an allusion to a game cock, where having a white feather, is a proof he is not of the true game breed". This was in the context of cockfighting, a common entertainment in Georgian England

## World War I

At the start of World War I, Admiral Charles Fitzgerald, who was a strong advocate of conscription, wanted to increase the number of those enlisting in the armed forces. Therefore he organized on 30 August 1914 a group of thirty women in his home town of Folkestone to hand out white feathers to any men that were not in uniform. Fitzgerald believed using women to shame the men into enlisting would be the most effective method of encouraging enlistment. The group that he founded (with prominent members being Emma Orczy and the prominent author Mary Augusta Ward) was known as the White Feather Brigade or the Order of the White Feather.

Although the draft would conscript both sexes, only males would be on the front lines. While the true effectiveness of the campaign is impossible to judge, it spread throughout several other nations in the empire. In Britain, it started to cause problems for the government when public servants and men in essential occupations came under pressure to enlist. That prompted Home Secretary Reginald McKenna to issue employees in state industries with lapel badges reading "King and Country" to indicate that they were serving the war effort. Likewise, the Silver War Badge, which was given to service personnel who had been honourably discharged by wounds or sickness, was first issued in September 1916 to prevent veterans from being challenged for not wearing uniform. Anecdotes from the time indicate that the campaign was unpopular among soldiers, not least because soldiers who were home on leave could find themselves presented with feathers.

One example was Private Ernest Atkins, who was on leave from the Western Front. He was riding a tram when he was presented with a white feather by a girl sitting behind him. He smacked her across the face with his pay book and said, "Certainly I'll take your feather back to the boys at Passchendaele. I'm in civvies because people think my uniform might be lousy, but if I had it on I wouldn't be half as lousy as you".

Private Norman Demuth, who had been discharged from the British Army after he had been wounded in 1916, received numerous white feathers after he returned from the Western Front. In *Forgotten Voices of the Great War*, Demuth is quoted as saying:

"Almost the last feather I received was on a bus. I was sitting near the door when I became aware of two women on the other side talking at me, and I thought to myself, 'Oh Lord, here we go again'. One lent forward and produced a feather and said, 'Here's a gift for a brave soldier. I took it and said, 'Thank you very much- I wanted one of those.' Then I took my pipe out of my pocket and put this feather down the stem and worked it in a way I've never worked a pipe cleaner before. When it was filthy I pulled it out and said, 'You know, we didn't get these in the trenches', and handed it back to her. She instinctively put out her hand and took it, so there she was sitting with this filthy pipe cleaner in her hand and all the other people on the bus began to get indignant. Then she dropped it and got up to get out, but we were nowhere near a stopping place and the bus went on quite a long way while she got well and truly barracked by the rest of the people on the bus. I sat back and laughed like mad." [12]



Supporters of the campaign were not easily put off. A woman who confronted a young man in a London park demanded to know why he was not in the army. "Because I am a German", he replied. He received a white feather anyway.

Occasionally injured veterans were mistakenly targeted, such as Reuben W. Farrow who after being aggressively asked by a woman on a tram why he would not do his duty, turned around and showed his missing hand causing her to apologize.

Perhaps the most misplaced use of a white feather was when one was presented to Seaman George Samson, who was on his way in civilian clothes to a public reception being held in his honour for having been awarded the Victoria Cross for gallantry in the Gallipoli campaign.

Roland Gwynne, later the mayor of Eastbourne (1929–1931), received a feather from a relative. That prompted him to enlist, and he would receive the Distinguished Service Order for bravery.

The writer Compton Mackenzie, then a serving soldier, complained about the activities of the Order of the White Feather. He argued that "idiotic young women were using white feathers to get rid of boyfriends of whom they were tired". The pacifist Fenner Brockway said he received so many white feathers that he had enough to make a fan.

Dave White prodded my thinking process with the following ,

so I went searching and the above is what I found on Wiki,

so I hope it is correct





## A Visit to Sheffield Tasmania Anzac Day 2023

John & Veronica Burgess thank you



EDITION 305 JUNE

The Sheffield RSL is located in the centre of the main street of Sheffield, which is known as the "Town of Murals". The RSL is the principal tenant of the establishment, and the bar and restaurant are managed by a commercial entity. Veronica and I were made very welcome by the Committee and Members of the RSL.



Three old goats posing in the main street.



The Town Hall

When this photo was taken the people were just arriving. It was completely full, both up and downstairs, for the service.



The Sheffield RSL President presided at the Town Hall. Behind the official table a green wall was decorated with hundreds of red poppies. Three invited notable ex-servicemen from WW2 made short speeches of thanks.

## Parade Assembly and Parade



The members of the RSL that chose to march gathered at the RSL Club for a beer and a chat, then walked about 200 metres to the Sheffield Town Hall for the official welcoming ceremony. At the conclusion of the ceremony the parade was assembled and the march to the Cenotaph began.

The parade was led by an Army band followed by the Girl Guides and Scouts, followed by the returned servicemen and women. I was honoured to be placed near the head of the parade.

## The Cenotaph

A large crowd lined the parade route. (Est 1500 -2000 plus people). The Cenotaph memorial service was also extremely well attended, and various Sheffield district organisations paid their respects.

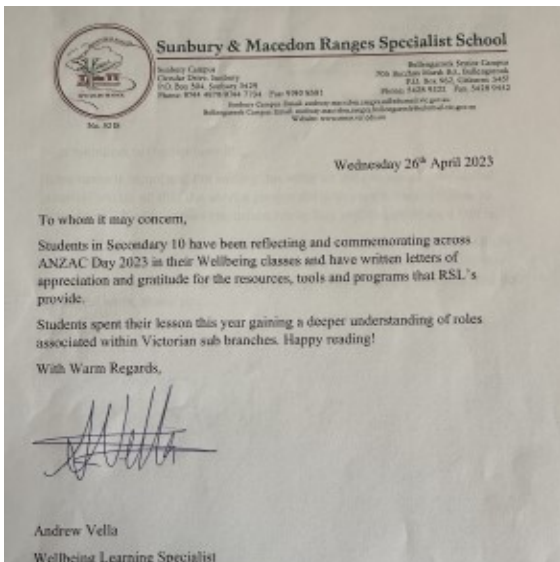


## Lunch at the RSL

A very convivial lunch was had at the RSL along with several cold frothies then we departed for Smithton.





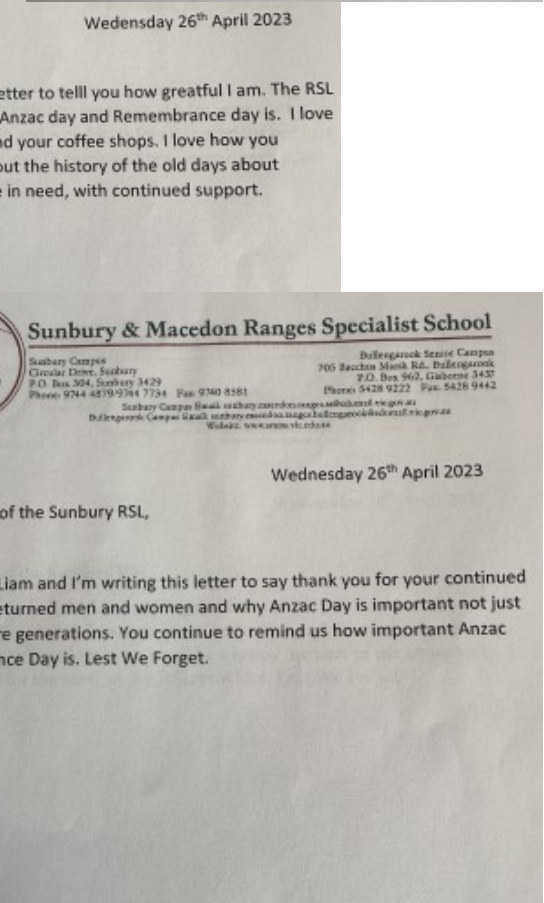
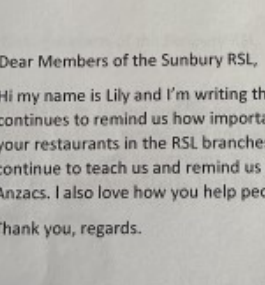
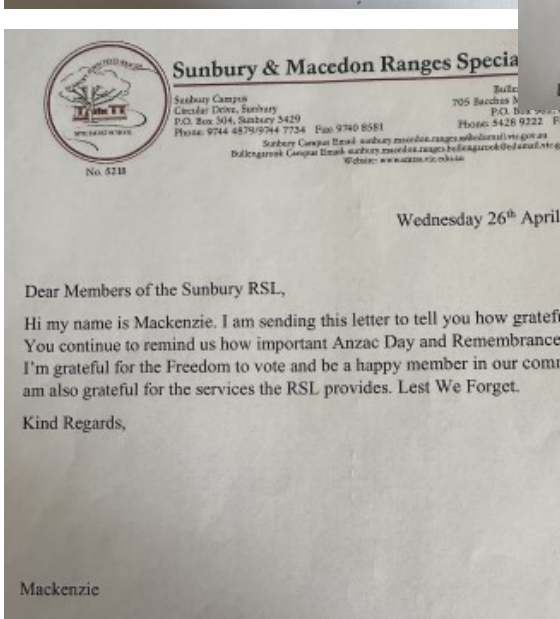
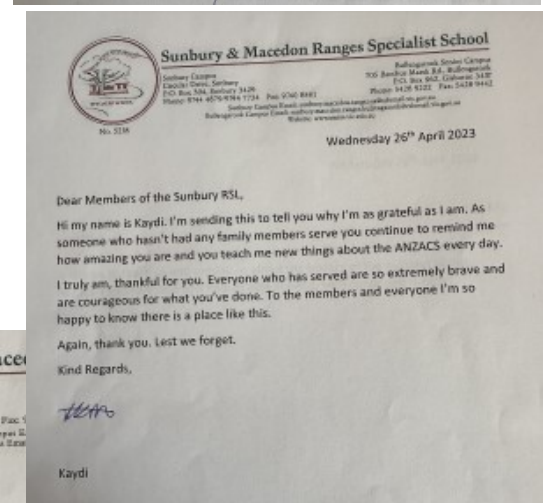
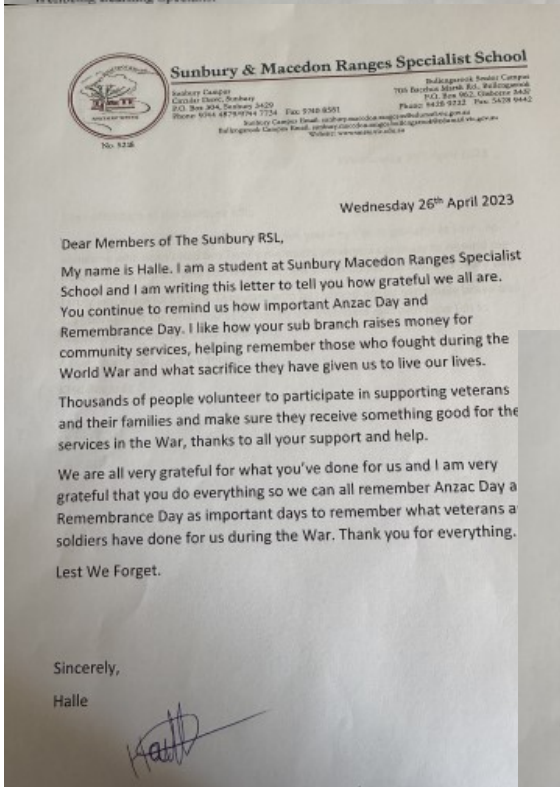
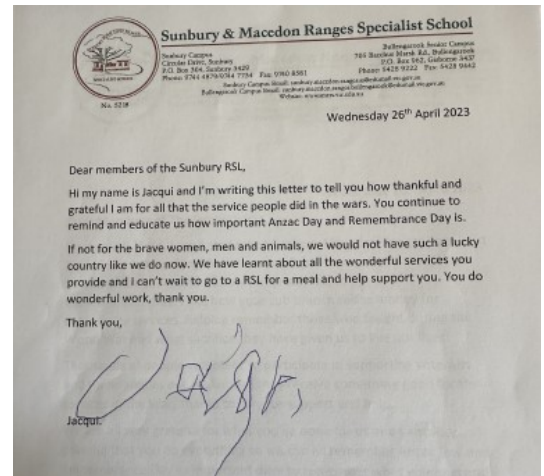


These letters were sent to the RSL..

The students thought about Anzac Day

Soldiers

The RSL



# Life lessons




## SIX LITTLE STORIES WITH LOTS OF MEANINGS

- (1). Once all villagers decided to pray for rain. On the day of prayer, all the people gathered, but only one boy came with an umbrella. That is faith.
- (2). When you throw babies in the air, they laugh because they know you will catch them. That is trust.
- (3). Every night we go to bed without any assurance of being alive the next morning, but still we set the alarms to wake up. That is hope.
- (4). We plan big things for tomorrow in spite of zero knowledge of the future. That is confidence.
- (5). We see the world suffering, but still, we get married and have children. That is love.
- (6). On an old man's shirt was written a sentence 'I am not 80 years old; I am sweet 16 with 64 years of experience.' That is attitude.

Have a happy day and live your life like these six stories. Remember - Good friends are the rare jewels of life, difficult to find and impossible to replace!!

**"Never fight until you have to. But when it's time to fight, you fight like you're the third monkey on the ramp to Noah's Ark... and brother, it's startin' to rain."**



MELTON RSL SUB-BRANCH  
INVITES YOU TO

## THE PRESIDENTS & VETERANS

*Ball*

### 3 COURSE DINNER DANCE

Saturday, 17th of  
June 2023  
at 6.30pm

Melton Country Club  
Clements Room  
Drinks at Bar Prices

**TICKETS ON SALE NOW**  
**\$50PP**

Attire:  
Formal/Black Tie - Veterans encouraged to wear their Medals



EDITION 305 JUNE

**Ingredients****Mega Meatballs:**

1/2 cup grated Parmesan  
 1/2 cup plain bread crumbs  
 1/2 teaspoon onion powder  
 1 teaspoon dry rubbed sage  
 2 teaspoons kosher salt  
 Freshly ground black pepper  
 1/4 cup chopped parsley leaves  
 1 pound ground beef round  
 1 pound ground pork  
 2 eggs, beaten  
 2 cloves garlic, minced  
 1/4 cup vegetable oil

**Spicy Spaghetti:**

2 tablespoons olive oil  
 1/2 cup chopped onion  
 1/2 cup chopped green bell pepper  
 2 cloves garlic, minced  
 Salt and freshly ground black pepper  
 1 teaspoon dried oregano  
 1/2 teaspoon cayenne pepper  
 1 (28-ounce) can crushed tomatoes  
 1 teaspoon hot sauce  
 1 teaspoon sugar, optional  
 1 pound spaghetti, cooked al dente  
 Grated Parmesan, for garnish

# Spicy Spaghetti with Mega Meatballs



Preheat the oven to 375 degrees F.

To make the meatballs: In a large bowl, combine the Parmesan, bread crumbs, onion powder, sage, salt, a few grinds of black pepper, to taste, and parsley. Add the ground round, pork, eggs, and garlic and gently combine. Form into 8 equal-sized meatballs.

In a 10-inch saute pan over medium-high heat, add the vegetable oil. When the oil begins to swirl, add the meatballs and sear until light golden on all sides, about 10 minutes. Transfer the pan to the oven and roast until cooked through, 15 minutes

Meanwhile, make the sauce: In a large saucepan over medium heat, add the oil, onion, bell pepper, garlic, a pinch of salt, and a few grinds of black pepper, to taste. Saute until tender, then add the oregano, cayenne pepper, crushed tomatoes, and hot sauce. Taste and add sugar, if needed. Season, to taste, with salt and pepper. Bring the sauce to a simmer, and cook for about 20 minutes more.

Taste the sauce and adjust seasoning, if necessary. Serve the cooked pasta with sauce and meatballs, divided among serving plates with 2 meatballs per serving. Garnish with Parmesan cheese.

# ENGLISH LESSON

EDITION 305 JUNE

Tsunami — T is silent  
 Honest — H is silent  
 Psychology — P is silent  
 Knife — K is silent  
 Wife — Husband is silent

Class dismissed ... 



# A selection of fun stuff from face book

Relationship tip for men:  
 Tighten the lids on  
 all jars in the house.  
 She'll have to speak to  
 you eventually.

Instead of a sign that  
 says, "Do not disturb"  
 I need one that says,  
 "Already disturbed,  
 Proceed with caution"

My uncle just texts me  
 asking what does IDK  
 mean? I said: I don't  
 know... He said: Damn,  
 nobody does

You know you're  
 getting old when  
 everything hurts,  
 and what  
 doesn't hurt  
 doesn't  
 work.



Sometimes I look  
 at my husband  
 and think...

'Damn! You're  
 one lucky man!'



JUST FOR JOKES AND FUN  
[www.facebook.com/jokes014](http://www.facebook.com/jokes014)

