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Dispatches

EDITION 309 OCTOBER SUNBURY RSL SUB-BRANCH
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October 2023

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Region 7 Meetings 2023

Nov 22nd Woodend



General Meetings

Oct-09
Nov-13
Dec-
Committee of Management meetings will be 6:30pm even months

dinner Dates



Oct-17
Nov-21



NOT THE MINUTES 11/10/23

President opened meeting 7:30 pm—12 members present

Ode was recited and the previous minutes were read and accepted

Treasurer gave her financial report accepted

Membership is at 204 members

Nola gave update on Footy Club dinner

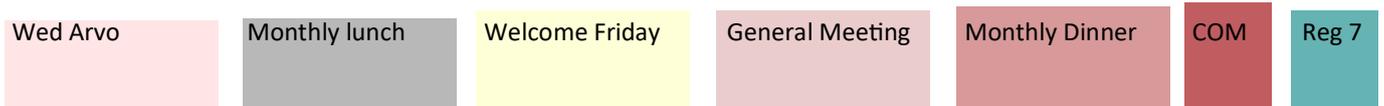
The Bunnings BBQ was able to donate \$1,498 to the RSL Sunbury Sub-branch Another on 01/11/23

Deb & Graham have sent a EOI for a grant to reimburse members.

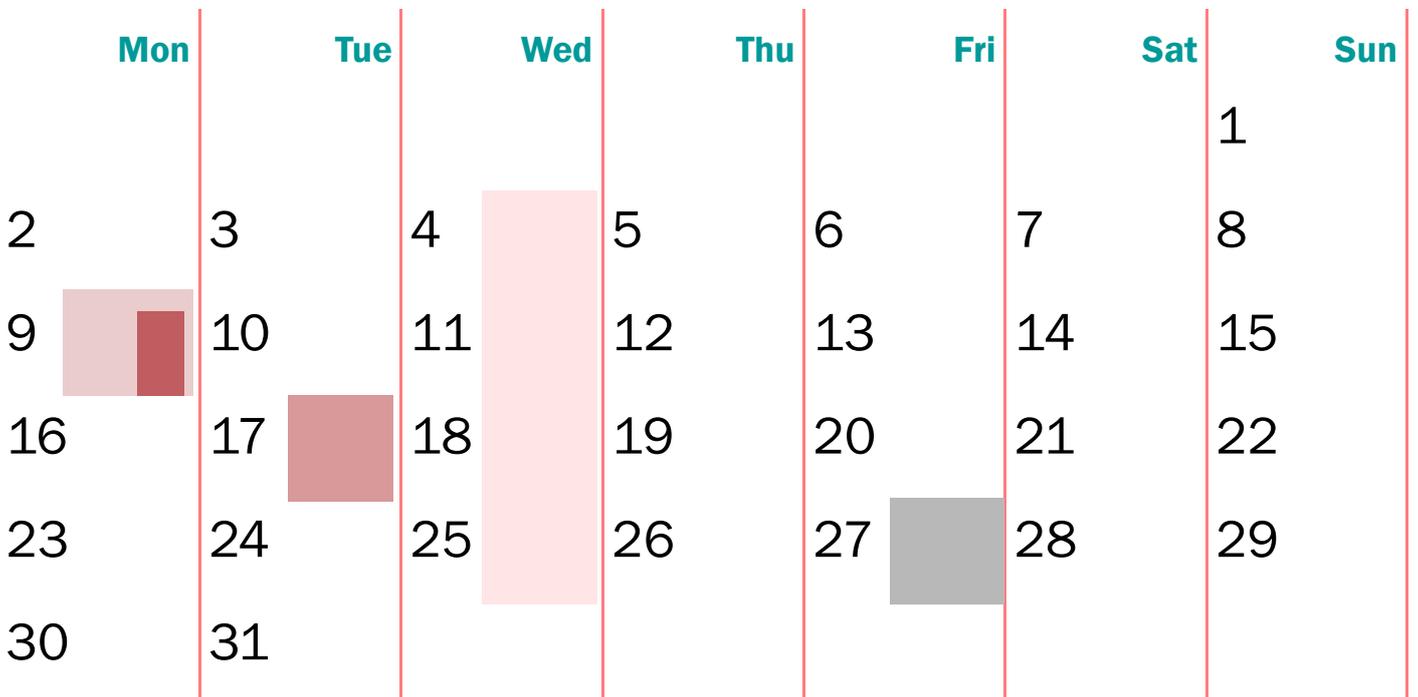
\$250 donation to Legacy plus what is in the hat.

Tim aske about the flags and whether we have to fly them all - members don't always agree with decisions made—but hard to please everyone

Meeting closed at 8:45



October 2023



Wednesday Arvo



Reading, chatting or just observing — it all happens Wednesday afternoons at your RSL

EFTPOS Machines

10 EFTPOS machines have been requested, which includes two spares for back-up, additional sites, use at the hall, etc. Intro/ Training on EFTPOS machines can be conducted as required when they arrive. RSL HQ admitted that the software on the EFT-POS machines had changed last time and the instructions may not have been correct. RSL HQ hire the machines from the bank and have no control over what they get. We wait with anticipation for more surprises.

After the 2023 Anzac Appeal, RSL HQ requested feedback on the performance of the EFTPOS machines due to reports from users that the batteries were failing. As a result of this feedback, they have sourced a suitable Power Pack (example shown below) to assist with the battery issues. The Battery Pack will provide an extra full charge to the fitted EFTPOS battery (as well as most phones if required) and will require recharge after each use (eg daily). The Battery Pack will be RSL branded for easy ID and we will be purchasing 10 (1 for each EFTPOS). The battery Packs will be retained for future use.

Device Specs: 2600 mAh

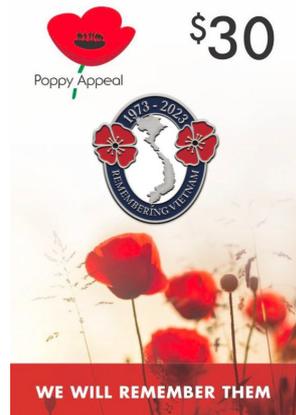
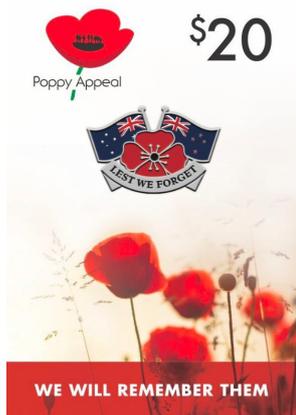
Universal Leads – iPhone, USB-C, Android Micro-USB



EFTPOS Power Pack (example)

2023 Poppy Badges

For the collectors, there are four new badges for 2023 Poppy Appeal; \$10 Poppy Bunch, \$20 Aus/NZ Flags with Poppy, \$30 Anniversary (Vietnam) and \$50 Poppy Tri-Service.



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Sylvia raised the point of no \$1 badges on the catalogue as they are popular with the schools. It was identified that the warehouse did have some in stock and we have requested a quantity with our order.

The full range of badges for 2023 is shown below.



Appeal Roster

I am sure Phil and Gary will be pleased to hear from all and any who wish to help

Their phone numbers are on front page

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NW RSL Friday Pennant

Begins 6th October 2023, finishes end of March 2024

Fridays at Clifton Park (Aberfeldie CBC), 7B Batman St Aberfeldie. 10-team competition; same teams as last year; draw to be out soon.

Uniform: same as last year: previous Sunbury uniform with RSL badge.

Meet at Club Sunbury bowlers' room 7.50am, leave Sunbury about 8.10am, Ode at 9.15, commence play 9.30, finish about 12.30.

Remember to bring (i) \$10 cash for green fees, payable to manager at Sunbury before we leave, (ii) \$5 cash for raffle at ACBC and (iii) three bowls in case we are short of players and you are in a rink of three.

Teams selection: TBA, let me or Neil know if you are not available, for 6th and 13th October.

Transport: unfortunately no agreement was reached with Club Sunbury re use of the bus; so we'll be taking cars. (Thanks to those members who attended our pre-season meeting to discuss this issue). Green fees will be waived for car drivers with 3 or more in the car, from Sunbury to Clifton Park.

Edinburgh Shield 2024

Dates: 12-14th April 2024.

Venue: City of Echuca BC. Section 7, versus: Waverley 2, Glenroy, Portsea/Sorrento, Noble Park and Taralgon White.

Accommodation: NRMA Echuca Holiday Park, 8 Crofton St, Echuca Victoria 3564

Phone: 03 5482 2157, Email: echuca@nrmaparksandresorts.com.au.

Provisional group booking has been made for: 4 Standard cabins (1 bedroom) and 4 Acacia cabins (2 bedrooms). Powered drive-through caravan sites are available. See details on the Park's website. (Only 4 standards were available for the group). Provisional booking is for 3 nights (Friday - Sunday), but this can be varied if you like. We get 10% discount with the group booking, so quote "booking number 298953 for Sunbury RSL Bowlers". Bookings will be confirmed when we make our own individual reservations. So phone the Park

ASAP. Tarriffs quoted, including the 10% discount, for 3 nights, are: Standard: \$405, Acacia: \$548.10. Please let me know when you have made a booking.

RSL Subscriptions

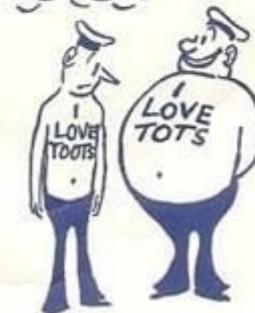
Members must be financial for NW RSL bowls and the Edinburgh Shield. Head office usually sends a reminder if you need to renew your subscription. One year is \$30 or \$75 for three years. However, Sunbury RSL Sub-Branch prefers that we don't renew on-line, but that we make the payments to Sunbury RSL. If you get a reminder letter from the Sub-Branch, it will include BSB and account numbers for direct bank-bank transfer. Alternatively, I can facilitate payments by either (i) paying me cash or (ii) by direct bank transfer, and I will transfer the payments to the Sub-Branch. Phone or text me for Account details. If you use the bank-bank transfer please let me know when you have made the payment.

John Welsh

Secretary Sunbury RSL Bowlers

Ph: 04 0770 3869, email: j7welsh@bigpond.com





A MATELOT'S FAREWELL TO HIS TOT

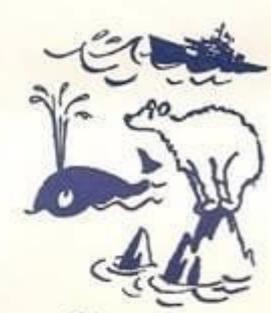
You soothed my nerves and warmed my limbs
 And cheered my dismal heart,
 Procured my wants, obliged my whims—
 And now it's time to part.
 'Mid endless perils of the deep
 And miseries untold
 You summoned sweet forgetful sleep,
 Cocooned me from the cold.

Ten years ago, the "pound o' leaf",
 That cast its fragrant spell
 About the ship, expired in grief
 And sadness of farewell,
 Though guests might find the pantry bare,
 Whene'er they chose to come
 Your hospitality was there:
 A tot of Pusser's rum.

Two hundred years and more you filled
 The storm-tossed sailor's need.
 Now you've been killed by spite distilled
 From jealousy and greed,
 And petty clerks with scrawny necks
 Who never saw a wave,
 Nor felt the spray nor heaving decks,
 Consign you to your grave.

Alas! However I protest
 To save myself from hurt,
 They tell me that it's for the best—
 To keep us all alert.
 And so the time has come, old friend,
 To take the final sup.
 Our tears are shed. This is the end.
 Goodbye, and bottoms up!

P.W.



Thanks for sharing Noel



THE STOKERS' LAMENT

Now each of us from time to time, has gazed upon the sea,
And watched the war ships pulling out, to keep his
country free.

And most of us have read a book, or heard a lusty tale,
About the men who sail these ships, through lightning,
wind and hail.

But there's a place within each ship, that legend fails to
teach.

It's hot below the waterline, it takes a living toll . . .

A hot metal living hell, that sailors call the Hole.

It houses engines run by steam, that makes the shafts go
round,

A place of fire and noise and heat, that beats your spirits
down.

Where boilers like a hellish heart with blood of angry
steam,

Are moulded gods without remorse, are nightmares in a
dream.

Whose threat that from the fires roar, is like living doubt,
That any minute would with scorn, escape and crush you
out.

Where turbines scream like tortured souls, alone and lost
in hell,

As ordered from above somewhere, they answer every
bell.

The men who keep the fires lit, and make the engines run,
Are strangers to the world of light, and rarely see the sun.

They have no time for man or God, no tolerance for fear,
Their aspect pays no living thing, the tribute of a tear.

For there's not much that men can do, that these men
haven't done.

Beneath the decks, deep in the Hole to make the engines
run.

For every hour of every day, they keep the watch in hell,
For if the fires ever fail, their ship's a useless shell.

When ships converge to have a war, upon an angry sea,
The men below just grimly smile at what their fate might
be.

They're locked below like men fore-doomed, who hear no
battle cry,

It's well assured that if they're hit, the men below will die.
For every day's a war down there, when the gauges all
read red,

Twelve hundred pounds of superheated steam, can kill
you mighty dead.

So if you ever write their sons, or try to tell their tale,
The very words would make you hear, a fired furnace wail.

And people as a general rule, don't hear of men of steel,
So little's heard about the place, that sailors call the hole.

But I can sing about this place, and try to make you see,
The hardened life of men down there, cause one of them
is me.

I've seen those sweat soaked heroes fight, in superheated
air,

To keep their ship alive and right, though no one knows
they're there,

And thus they'll fight for ages on till warships sail no more,
Amid the boilers mighty heat and the turbines hellish roar,

So when you see a ship pull out, to meet a warlike foe,
remember faintly if you can, 'The men who sail below'.

THE UNKNOWN STOKER

I very much appreciate Noel sharing some of his Navy history with us, allowing me to publish in the newsletter articles and other interesting/funny bits.

I would be pleased to include anything other members have of their service in Australia or overseas.

It is always good for other members who served to see how others remember and that they are not alone in their memories.

And it is especially good for members like myself, who did not serve in the defence force, but have a great respect and appreciation for those who did.

I like to think that many of the affiliate members are serving now by what they do within the RSLs—all be it in a very different way.

THE STORY OF HARRY.

One day in 1967 my father in law Ken Billing (Chemist) was in a car park and bumped into an Englishman named Harry Teale. They chatted about various topics, Ken explained Aussie rules footy as he was Collingwood Treasurer, Ken advised Harry to come to Yarrawonga and see the relaxed lifestyle there.

Harry took his advice and not only did they become great mates, he remained in Yarrawonga until the day of his death.

Of course this is just the beginning of my little story, the story of a very humble man who I was proud to call a mate.

I got to know Harry very well from our regular visits up to Yarrawonga and always staying at the Burke motel. I had no interest in the tourist activities that the town is famous for, my wife and I went to see Harry and his wife Jean and of course he and I would often chat about his time in WW2.

You sometimes see on social media posts showing an old man and a comment such as 'this Old Man was once much cooler than you will ever be'. (due to action he had seen) Harry certainly fitted into that category.

Almost all of the men who fought in WW2 are now gone and I always had that in the back of my mind, time is not on their side and we should listen to their experiences.



Harry enlisted at 16 and at 17 was part of the landings on the beach at Normandy (D Day), no need to explain this battle as we all know about it but for anyone who may not be up on history here is a short summary.

The Normandy Landings began on 6th June 1944.

It was the Allied invasion of Normandy known as 'Operation Overlord'. It was and is still the largest seaborne invasion in history. The landed beaches were known as Utah, Omaha, Gold, Juno & Sword. Harry was with XXX Corps at Gold beach.

The Germans are said to have had 4-9,000 casualties and the Allies 10,000 with 4,414 confirmed killed.

According to Wiki there were 5,000 landing & assault craft, 289 escort vessels, and 277 mine sweepers participating. Nearly 160,000 troops crossed the English channel on D-Day.

How amazing must it have been to see all the ships and planes and men during that time.

As if this action on the beaches was not enough, Harry went on to another adventure in September 1944 whilst still only 17. Again with XXX Corps he found himself involved in the infamous battle 'Operation Market Garden'. (Market = The Airborne forces which were the largest number in history & Garden = Land forces spearheaded by XXX Corps) For anyone who may not know, this was Field Marshal Montgomery's grand plan (to take control of 9 bridges across the Rhine river and create a 103 km salient into German territory.) unfortunately he failed to achieve this goal. It was not a complete failure however as one of the bridges which the Allies secured against German resistance was at Nijmegen (over the Waal river). The Germans had placed explosives on the bridge & word had come through that the enemy was going to blow the bridge. Underneath this Bridge at Nijmegen was young Harry upside down deactivating explosives. I once asked what was going through his mind at that time. His reply was that had they managed to blow the bridge he would never have known, so he was just getting on with the job.

According to Wiki I found the following: 'Initially, 4 tanks crossed the bridge with a high probability some of the German ex-



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plosive charges for demolition would activate. British Engineers had cut some charges on the south of the bridge.....180 German bodies were recovered from the girders with some unaccounted falling into the river below.'

(The movie 'A Bridge Too Far' is a good one on this battle. The bridge at Arnhem was just unreachable in time)

It is hard for me to imagine being in this position, just one of many he would face in the War. My biggest battle in the Army was getting through the line at the mess!

He also served in Palestine and the Middle East.

1944-1947 Army 1948-1962 RAF.

Time moved on, Harry created a business repairing One armed bandits in NSW and was very successful at it and was still playing them whenever we visited, always winning and me losing ;)

As we all tend to do he joined the relevant Associations, The RSL (Club) Mulwalla where he was a Life Member (40 years) (could be found there for breakfast every day) filling various positions such as Secretary, Treasurer and Director.

The Normandy Veterans Association.

The Market Garden Veterans Association.

I was bequeathed both jackets and all badges which I display with pride in my collection.

Harry and his wife attended the 50th & 60th anniversaries of D-Day.

He met with PM John Howard and the Queen.

He wanted to go to the 70th but was told that there would not be a gathering as the men were too frail. Harry was in great shape but what could be done? Then as we were watching the news we saw to our amazement a chap (Bernard Jordan aged 89) who had 'escaped' from his care home and caught a bus to the Anniversary event that they said would not happen! Naturally Harry was pretty upset as he knew that was his last chance. As it turned out the event was being held, Obama and Putin were there but unfortunately not our mate and this was defiantly the last according to the association.

I thought Harry would live on forever, well he does with me. Just before his funeral in 2016 I had his name and service number added to my Military tattoos.

So next time you see an old bloke walking by, just think of what he may have seen in his long time on this Earth.

Dave White.



Thank you Dave

My bad—was having a great time at the dinner—forgot to take pics.

Great job Nola—room was set up perfect for us.

I am guessing one table was a bit noisy
Bugga



Pics next month I promise

And again a great lunch was had at the Gatehouse.

Food was excellent, room was noisy but that may have had something to do with the folk in the room not mentioning names.

Thanks Carol a really good initiative—we can all cope with a meal out and with non-judgmental friends.

The Luncheon this month will be at the Kyedon

Opposite the Aquatic centre EVERYONE IS WELCOME



Kyedon - 25 Ligar St, Sunbury VIC



Via Pete Mac we/our RSL have been invited to the monthly dinner at East Keilor RSL. They have offered to send a bus to transport veterans.

13th November is the date atm check your diary please.



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The Goodwill Gardener



Garden Maintenance
Lawn-care
Garden Restoration

0483 235 732

WHO ARE WE?
We make a difference in people's lives

HOW?
We employ people with diverse abilities and give them valuable life experience

Want to be part of our journey?
Let us cut your grass and maintain your gardens

Follow us  Follow us 

a diverse ability enterprise by
DistinctiveOptions



BBQ @ Bunnings



Unfortunately far too windy and Bunnings cancelled—I'm sure we will be offered another day in the future. Thanks to everyone who sorted the food stuffs needed and then for unsorting them and all those who had put their name on the roster, we will re-visit after Christmas



Graham I will be waving goodbye for 11 nights— Heading to New Guinea 5/6 stops—I don't really care where or if it stops My holiday is on the ship warm weather, a pool, a cocktail and a good book.

Might be quiet this week at the RSL, please make some noise just for me





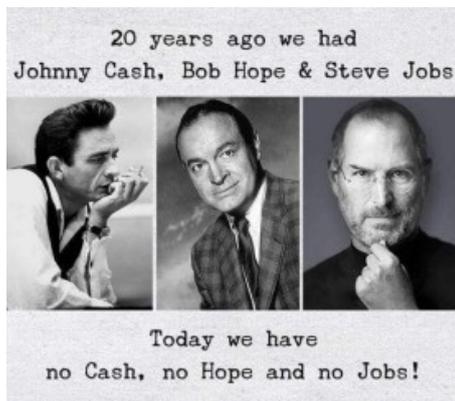
It's another hot day, so I've taken all my clothes off and opened every window...

I feel so much better, although the other people on the bus don't seem so pleased!

Some of y'all come from the "if you quit crying 🙄 I'll buy you something 💰 generation"

We came from the, "If you don't quit crying 😭 I will give you something 🧑🏿 to cry about generation"

Men don't have babies because God saw the way they handle a cold and knew the species would never survive.



We always get each other ironic gifts, but my brother killed it this year.



A married man's honest confession :



"I always read my wife's horoscope to see what kind of day I am going to have..."

To get rid of unwanted junk during the holidays ...

Put it in an Amazon box and leave it on the porch.



I'M BORED. I THINK I'LL GO TO THE MALL, FIND A GREAT PARKING SPOT AND SIT IN MY CAR WITH THE REVERSE LIGHTS ON.

@REBEL CIRCUS

When you ask me what I am doing today, and I say "nothing" It does not mean I am free. It means I am doing nothing.

If you're sitting in public and a stranger takes the seat next to you, just stare straight ahead and say, "Did you bring the money?"

Remember, if you lose a sock in the dryer, it comes back as a Tupperware lid that doesn't fit any of your containers.

INTERVIEWER : SO, TELL ME ABOUT YOURSELF.

ME : I'D RATHER NOT..I KINDA WANT THIS JOB.

@REBEL CIRCUS

THANKS DIETER,

Sixty might be the new forty but 9:00 is the new midnight.

When one door closes and another door opens, you are probably in prison.

I REALLY BELIEVE "LAUGHTER IS THE BEST MEDICINE".

OMG You must try this



Ingredients

1 cup part-skim ricotta cheese

1/2 cup fat-free milk

4 teaspoons olive oil

1 garlic clove, minced

1/2 teaspoon crushed red pepper flakes

1 medium green pepper, julienned

1 medium sweet red pepper, julienned

1 medium sweet yellow pepper, julienned

1 medium zucchini, sliced

1 cup frozen peas, thawed

1/4 teaspoon dried oregano

1/4 teaspoon dried basil

6 ounces fettuccine, cooked and drained

Directions

1. Whisk together ricotta cheese and milk; set aside. In a large skillet, heat oil over medium heat. Add garlic and pepper flakes; saute 1 minute. Add next 7 ingredients. Cook and stir over medium heat until vegetables are crisp-tender, about 5 minutes.
2. Add cheese mixture to fettuccine; top with vegetables. Toss to coat. Serve immediately.