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Dispatches

EDITION 311

December 2023

SUNBURY RSL SUB-BRANCH
STAWELL ST PH: 9740
4401

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

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



General Meetings

Dec-
Committee of Management meetings will be 6:30pm even months

dinner Dates



*The end of another year
let us be grateful for what
we have received in 2023*



Wed Arvo

Monthly lunch

Welcome Friday

General Meeting



Monthly Dinner

COM

Reg 7



December 2023

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	31

Debs Bit

Looking back, it is hard to believe I have been doing this newsletter since 2015.

The second edition was for Anzac Day 2015.

I don't usually stick to anything for that long, but, there you go.

The RSL has become a hub of activity:- Wednesday arvos , dinners, lunches, Friday welcome evenings, and even weekends away.

Wednesdays are so social, quite a few female members seem to enjoy the afternoons, it provides a great service for our veterans and other members.

As is the case, that as our years of age grow we find ourselves losing members. They will all be missed each time we gather, each offered something special and unique to our RSL.

I have include some pic from throughout this year.

If we don't see you at any events the Sunbury RSL sub-branch wishes each and everyone a happy and safe Christmas and New Year.

Dispatches will be back in 2024, but not until February 14th, because by then I will know of any changes to the committee. Remember the AGM is the 12th February, and it is your RSL. You are welcome at the meeting—don't worry, you won't have put your hand up.



Sunbury Sub Branch

Dispatches
April 2015 – Edition 2



December 2023



NOT THE MINUTES 13/11/2023

Due to the fact the president was unavailable and the vice president was late those in attendance agreed Harry would chair the meeting until the vice arrived.

Harry opened the meeting at 7:30pm

The ode was recited

12 members attended—many apologies

Minutes of previous meeting was voted true and correct and passed

The treasurer: the bills are paid

A defibrillator is on its way members will be informed when it is here and St.Johns will come to give instructions on the use.

The council will also organise one to be outside of the hall, in a safe box should there be a need.

The alarm system is to be upgraded.

Dieter arrived and took over chair

The RSL received a card of thanks from Ted Hudson daughter, thanking the RSL for everything done for her dads funeral by the RSL.

Social: Christmas lunch at the Football club will be 10/12/2023

Nola also mentioned the over night to Philip Island, and thanked Veronica for all her work to organise.

Deb thanked Harry for a great job with the Remembrance Day service at short notice.

Also she informed everyone that the 'expression of interest' they sent off was accepted and have now been invited to apply for the grant.

She also wanted to discuss the "Friday night opening" Is it going to continue? The opening and closing of the RSL should not fall to the same person every time. What will the hours be.

Will continue for the summer at least, more discussion to follow.

Meeting closed at 8:15pm

Next meeting will be 12/02/2024



And again this year our poppy collection was a great success thanks to our member
We raise money anywhere to support veterans everywhere





2023 Poppy Appeal Wrap-up



Greetings everyone and welcome to the 2023 Poppy Appeal wrap-up.

The 2023 Poppy Appeal has concluded and despite the usual (it appears) cold and cloudy start we did not see much rain and finished with some great spring sun. Once again everyone made it safely to the end, although there was a great deal of roster massaging required to get everyone to their doctors appointments.

Many thanks again to those that answered my late night/early morning calls and texts; closing and opening tables and redirecting them to new locations.

Poppy Appeal STATS

When allocating available sellers, safety and support was always the first priority.

We had eight tables for the planned 12 days of sales; plus 2 extra Sundays at Bunnings: **98 table days**

We had five instances when tables did not sell due to lack of sellers (last time it was 9): **-5 table days**

We had one instance of sellers working on a Sun: **+1 table day**

We had 24 instances where we had only one seller at a location (last time it was 15): **24**

We had zero days when all eight tables had 2 sellers - **xxxxxx**

EFTPOS Machines

We requested two spare EFTPOS machines this time for additional sites (eg factories) and if we needed to swap any out. This proved to be a smart move as one EFTPOS "may" have developed a drinking problem on day 6 and went on strike for the remainder of the appeal. It also allowed for changing sellers and charging options. We will continue with this policy next time.

As a result of battery problems at previous appeals, we purchased 10 Power Packs for this appeal. This proved to be beneficial as a back-up and were used on several occasions; although battery performance overall was better throughout.

We did lose access to the EFTPOS system on 5 Nov due to the OPTUS outage so this may have impacted on our final outcome.

EFTPOS machines accounted for **36% of sales**, and for those with a good memory, this is the same as Anzac appeal.

Result

Sellers thought sales were slow throughout the appeal and were not confident of a good result. This is a great result (2nd best all time for Poppy Appeal) and just goes to show how slow and steady wins the race. Combined with the Anzac Appeal, 2023 is the best year on record.

Once again, an example of how generous the people of Sunbury and local area are in supporting the RSL, our veterans and their families. Much of the total raised was because of straight **donations (6%)** from the public.

Thank you to everyone who assisted with sales, both sellers and their support teams; it cannot happen without you. Be proud of your efforts in ensuring Sunbury RSL can continue to provide support to our local veterans and their families.

For now, put your feet up and take a well-earned rest. *(Planning has already started for 2024 as Tony has already requested the dates)*

See you all again soon.

Regards

Phil and Gary

Remembrance Day at BEAUFORT

At the invitation of the Beaufort RSL Neville Seagrove and I attended the Remembrance Day service at the Beaufort Cenotaph, just off the Western Hwy in the middle of town.

The weather was kind to us, giving the 250 attending townsfolk a clear sunny day of about 22 degrees.

As usual everywhere the President, Don Carnes, led the service and was unconcerned by the sounds of the nearby passing traffic.

The service's speech was given by the Member for Wannon, the Opposition's Defence Minister, Dan Tehan who spoke eloquently at length of history's relevance of today's service.

After the laying of the Official Commemorative Wreaths the public was invited to lay their wreaths and also to lay a proffered Poppy at the Cenotaph.

Needless to say that the response was typical of a country town!!



Everyone then moved a short distance to where the newly restored WW1 German KRUPP 77mm Field Gun was presented to the township

This Gun was one of three captured by Australians during the first Battle of Bullecourt, and as a War Prize was given to Beaufort townsfolk upon the end of WW1.

What really stands out in relation to the Gun's \$70,000 restoration costs was that \$50,000 was donated towards the restoration by the Ladies of the local RSL Op-Shop!! WOW!!! Now isn't that just typical of Country people!!



Following the service everyone was invited back to the nearby RSL for refreshments.

No "Vultures" swooped on the provided tucker, and good manners were in abundance while all enjoyed the refreshments and chatted amicably.

Neville and I then went to the Cemetery to visit the unmarked grave of Beaufort local William Thomas Buchanan, service number 101 of the First Victorian Contingent sent in 1899 to the Boer War, and whose Boer War Campaign Medal was returned to his hometown by our Sunbury RSL in June this year.

At the gravesite we gratefully acknowledged his service and recited the Ode, then decorated the grave with some Poppies to show that he hadn't been forgotten by a grateful nation.

Neville and I will continue our efforts to have the Australian War graves Commission recognise his service and provide a fitting Headstone for his gravesite, and if that fails, we will do the job ourselves.

On Flanders Field were battles rain
 Our sons have gone
 The young and brave
 And best of mates
 Their side by side
 Together fought together died
 We'll not forget the promise made
 You'll live forever eternal flame
 And so we all remember them
 Lest we forget
 Lest we forget
 It's silent now the guns have seized
 The crosses mark brave souls at piece
 The bugle plays a sad reframe
 We rise as one on this proud day
 We'll not forget the promise made
 You'll live forever eternal flame
 And so we all remember them
 Lest we forget
 Lest we forget
 (The ode of remembrance)
 And so all remember them
 Lest we forget
 Lest we forget
 We'll not forget the promise made
 You'll live forever eternal flame
 And so we all remember them
 Lest we forget
 Lest forget
 Lest we forget
 Lest we forget



Goonawarra Primary School with Kelly Brogan conducting made a terrific job of the National anthems of Australia and New Zealand and we thank them. They also sang Lest we forget which brought many of us to tears.

Song writers:

Colin Buchanan, Lee Kernaghan, Garth Porter

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Wednesday Arvo 2023



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Friday Lunch



We have enjoyed some great lunches this year passed, thanks predominantly to Carol whose great imitative it was, with some help from Terry, who seems to know the best places for vanilla slice. How could you go wrong?

Let us hope it continues in the new year, and maybe even gathers a few more members.

Thanks Carol





A night at Phillip Island Veterans, war widows and carers. A good time was had by all I'm sure. Isn't it funny how much time we spend eating when on a break.



ROUND : 9		DATE : 1st DECEMBER 2023					
TEAM	POINTS		RESULT	TEAM	POINTS	SHOTS	SHOTS UP
PASCOE VALE 1	14	71	DEFEATED	GLENROY	2	48	23
A.C.B.C.	2	58	LOST TO	PASCOE VALE 2	14	68	10
KEILOR EAST BLUE	14	58	DEFEATED	ESSENDON RED	2	54	4
ESSENDON BLACK	16	70	DEFEATED	KEILOR EAST RED	0	44	26
SUNBURY	16	72	DEFEATED	KEILOR EAST GREEN	0	50	22

NW RSL BOWLS ASSOC. INC., LADDER - ROUND 9, 1st DEC., 2023.							
TEAM	SHOTS				POINTS		
	FOR	AGST	UP	DOWN	RINK	GAME	TOTAL
PASCOE VALE 1	642	444	198	0	44	80	124
KEILOR EAST BLUE	570	447	123	0	39	70	109
ACBC	594	476	118	0	32	70	102
PASCOE VALE 2	548	490	58	0	34	60	94
GLENROY	521	521	0	0	28	50	78
ESSENDON RED	565	470	95	0	27	50	77
ESSENDON BLACK	488	554	0	66	26	20	46
SUNBURY	443	574	0	131	14	20	34
KEILOR EAST GREEN	441	649	0	208	10	20	30
KEILOR EAST RED	431	618	0	187	16	10	26
TOTALS	5,243	5,243	592	592	270	450	720

Thanks John it is always good to get information for the news-
letter



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END OF YEAR/PRE FESTIVE SEASON LUNCH

We don't care if you have been naughty
Or nice or what you identify as.
As long as you identify as a member
Of our ex service community,
You are welcome!

Sunday 10th December

12 Noon

Sunbury Lions Football Club

Two Courses

There will be no charge to Members

RSVP to Nola Williams by 4th December

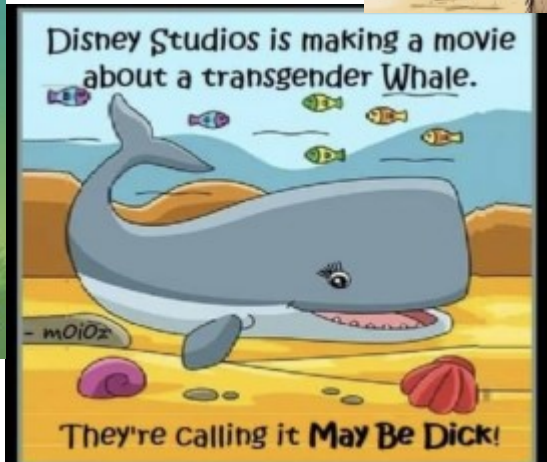
On 0417 296 411

Or

gjwill@bigpond.com



In life, it's very important to know when to stop arguing with foolish people and just let them be **WRONG!**

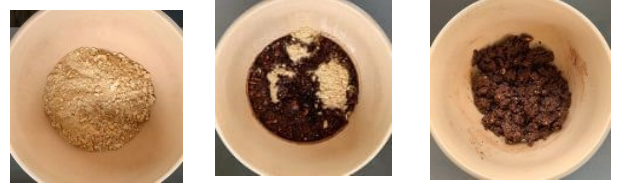


OMG You must try this



HOW TO MAKE NO-BAKE CHRISTMAS SLICE:

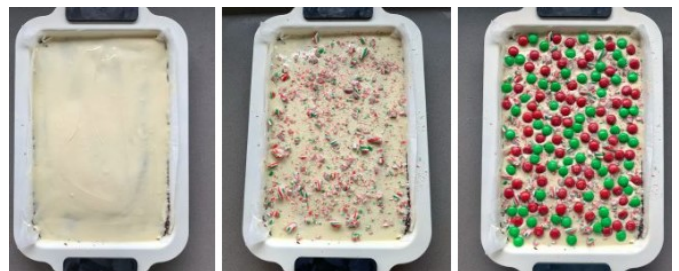
First of all crush 2 packets of biscuits in a food processor, don't crush them too finely as you still want to see some of the biscuit pieces.



Melt the butter, cocoa and brown sugar together in a saucepan. Keep stirring to dissolve the sugar. Remove from the heat, add the vanilla and milk then stir until combined. In a large mixing bowl combine the crushed biscuits with the chocolate mixture.

Add the mixture to a lined slice tin. Press down with a spatular and push it out to the edges. Smooth out the top with the back of a metal spoon. Chill in the fridge while you make the topping.

Place the white chocolate, oil and peppermint essence in a glass bowl. Microwave in 30 second bursts until the chocolate has almost melted. Remove and stir until completely melted together - the residual heat will melt any last pieces of chocolate. Pour it over the base and smooth to the edges. Put candy canes into a bag and break up with a rolling pin. Sprinkle them over the white chocolate. Scatter over red and green M&Ms.



Chill in the fridge for at least 4 hours until set. Take out of the fridge 20 minutes before cutting into slices (this makes it easier to cut).