

Over The Top Summer Edition 2019



The Official Journal of the Ringwood RSL Sub Branch Inc.

ABN 28 586 074 047

"Your Local Club"

"Ringwood RSL"

Ringwood RSL Sub Branch Inc.

16 Station Street, Ringwood 3134.

www.ringwoodrsl.com.au

Office PH: 9870 6604

ABN: 28 586 074 047

SUMMER 2019 EDITION

PRESIDENT

David Jamison

VICE PRESIDENT

David Kelly

SECRETARY

Geoff Coghlan

TREASURER

Harry Agathagelidis

COMMITTEE

Ted Dugdale

WELFARE OFFICER

Nicole frost

FUNERAL OFFICERS

Fred Bottrell, Margaret Handte

- VALE -

SERVICE MEMBERS

Last Name	First Name	Service No.	Date of Passing
ADAMSON	WILLIAM	V504451	31-Aug-2018
ADDISON	JOHN	3179889	14-May-2018
ASHER	JOHN		12-Aug-2018
ATKINSON	WILFRED		21-Jun-2018
BAILEY	BRUCE	VX3712352	07-Oct-2018
BROWN	RONALD	VX14694	30-Nov-2018
DUFFIELD	KEITH	VX84659	01-Jun-2018
EVANS	CHARLES	22724214	09-Mar-2018
FERRIER	RAYE		21-Jun-2018
GADSBY	ALLAN	149644	08-Oct-2018
GARRITY	MICHAEL	2333133	01-Jan-2018
HACKER	WARREN	58391	04-Oct-2018
HENDERSON	NORM	34411695	09-Nov-2018
MARGETTS	PHILIP	PM 4534	15-Jan-2018
MCLEOD	MAXWELL	159624	06-Jul-2018
MYORS	LESLIE	317732747	05-Mar-2018
PITTOCK	FRANK		27-Sep-2018
TAGGART	KEVIN	VX109707	18-Apr-2018
WILSON	COLIN	22484575	07-Sep-2018

- VALE -

AFFILIATE

Last Name	First Name	Date of Passing
DORMAN	ELEANOR	08-Nov-2018
GLASSBOROW	MARY	20-Jun-2018
HELLER	HENRY	01-Jun-2018
HEYWARD	JUNE	05-Mar-2018
NEAL	MARLENE	05-Oct-2018
PAROISSIEN	ROBERT	09-Oct-2018
POLKINGHORNE	THELMA	23-Jun-2018
SPERLING	PEGGY	23-Dec-2018
WELLS	ELIZABETH	13-Jan-2018
WELLS	BETTY	29-Sep-2018

SOCIAL

Last Name	First Name	Date OF Passing
HURLESTON	DEREK	29-Jun-2018
MONTIGUE	JOHN	12-Apr-2018

ATTENTION MEMBERS

Election of Office Bearers and Committee Members

The positions of Sub Branch President, Vice President and one Committee position fall vacant in 2019.

Details of nominees will be placed on the notice board in reception by 6pm on 29th March 2019.

The Election for the positions above will be held in the Ringwood RSL VC room by the Returning Officer from 5 pm to 9 pm on Friday 12th April 2019 and from 10 am to 2 pm on Saturday 13th April 2019-

Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of Ringwood RSL Sub Branch Inc. will be held in the VC Room at 10 am on Sunday 28th April 2019 for all financial Service, Affiliate and Social members.

Minutes of the 2018 Annual General Meeting and Financials will be available from reception on presentation of your financial membership card week commencing Monday 22nd April, 2019.



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Giant Welfare Raffle



*Tickets Available at Reception
\$5 per ticket.*



- 1st Prize:** MG ZS SUV Essence Vehicle Value. \$25,990 includes on road costs
2nd Prize: Samsung 65" 4K UHD Smart LED TV. Value \$2,299
3rd Prize: Samsung Galaxy Tab S4 4G 64GB. Value \$1,179
4th Prize: Coles Myer Gift Card. Value \$100
5th Prize: Coles Myer Gift Card. Value \$100
6th Prize: Coles Myer Gift Card. Value \$100
7th Prize: Coles Myer Gift Card. Value \$100
8th Prize: Coles Myer Gift Card. Value \$100
9th Prize: Coles Myer Gift Card. Value \$100
10th Prize: Coles Myer Gift Card. Value \$100
11th Prize: Coles Myer Gift Card. Value \$100

Permit no: 10710/18 Authorized Ticket Numbers 11240

Raffle Prizes will be drawn on Friday 28th June 2019 at 8pm in the Victoria Cross Function Room at Ringwood RSL 16 Station Street, Ringwood 3134. Winners will be notified by phone/mobile/email and advertised in the Herald Sun on 1/7/2019 and on www.ringwoodrsl.com.au webpage.

RINGWOOD RSL 16 STATION STREET, RINGWOOD 3134.
Ph: 9870 6604 www.ringwoodrsl.com.au

FROM THE PRESIDENTS PEN

Where is Australia Headed?



There is a consistent trend in our society which should give us cause for concern. There is an increasingly intolerant tone of public debate on important national issues which is being fanned by the media. It seems media outlets and personalities adopt and then advocate policies that they feel comfortable with using their outlets to pursue these agendas as if these are societal norms when they are very often not. These are then passed off as “news” when in truth what is pushed into the public arena is a range of personal or specific interest group’s own opinions. In the process real news is most often ignored and the general public is subjected to a process of conditioning to accept these views as fact. There is also a concerted campaign to stifle the voices of those who wish to put an alternative view to those held by some of the more vocal media commentators and interest groups who support their ideas. The use of the tools of government in an attempt to shut down so called “dissenting voices” is a very worrying development. What has happened to our easy going tolerance of one another? Surely it is time to take stock of where we are headed with increasing political correctness. Without question we need to respect each other but this involves respecting the right of others to have different points of view and express themselves. We don’t all have to agree on issues but we must give space for others to disagree with us. If we continue to go down the pathway we are now on, we will end up with a virtual dictatorship where diverging viewpoints are not tolerated and those who express them hauled before courts and tribunals to be punished for expressing their ideas. Already it seems that everywhere you turn interest groups and their followers rail against any that do not agree with their point of view and in too many cases do so with violence. 2019 is an election year and we will be bombarded with paid political advertisements pushing the agendas of political parties. I think this election is more important than we realise as some of the policies already in the public domain herald changes that will have profound and lasting effects on our communities. We will be subjected to truths, half-truths and outright lies. We will have to be on our guard so we are not taken in by glib 30 second TV and radio clips promising a rosy future when in fact there is a cost to us all behind every one of these promises. The seemingly simple propositions put by some of our political leaders hide the real danger of fundamental changes to our government structure that will end up with more power in the hands of politicians and bureaucrats than we would be comfortable with. As well we are living in a region of the World where there are developing storms that could well threaten our national safety yet it seems our defence capability is held hostage to the political whims of a few politicians more worried about their chances for re-election than the country’s defence needs.

The RSL motto that ***“the price of liberty is eternal vigilance”*** is more relevant now than ever!

About our Sub Branch and its Club

RSL licenced and gaming Sub Branches are part of a network of community clubs that is integral to the fabric of the Victorian community. Our collective future depends in part on the community's understanding of the role and benefits community clubs (including the RSL network) bring to Victorians. It is important to understand that our trading operations are essential to generate the revenue from which these benefits are funded. Some of this revenue comes from gaming operations but gaming is always only an adjunct to what we offer our members.

Clubs including this Sub Branch have a community based "reason for being" - be it sporting, charitable, social or community based. Of course our primary objective as an RSL Sub Branch is to support serving and former ADF members and their families as well as our other members. We offer members activities and facilities to host "get togethers" to enjoy each other's company, to swap stories and particularly for veterans to share experiences and support and help each other in an empathetic environment.

Fast Facts & Figures

The welfare and community support work of the Sub Branch is a major focus.

- Over a year we help some hundreds of veterans in the Eastern Metropolitan Region of Melbourne. We provide assistance with their claims for support from the Department of Veterans' Affairs and our Welfare Coordinator and her team of volunteers provide much needed welfare and practical support to veterans in our region as well as to the older and less mobile members of the Sub Branch. These volunteer services include in-home and hospital support, welfare help, transport assistance, mobility aids as well as minor house and garden maintenance etc. for a number of our frailer members and also for others in our community who need our help. This volunteer support to the Maroondah community is worth in excess of \$366,137.
- We have been involved with a number of local football teams spread from Mitcham to East Ringwood to partner with them in providing suitable ANZAC commemorative services as a public service.
- We provide bursaries and assistance worth \$1,800 for children attending Ringwood, Heathmont and Norwood Secondary Colleges.
- We support the Maroondah Brass and the Ringwood Pipe Bands with sponsorship of \$3,000 each.
- We provide support to members of the Sub Branch with subsidised meals and refreshments, and other "in club" activities designed to combat social isolation and enhance camaraderie among veterans and their families. The cost for these was approximately \$337,000. In addition we have allocated Loyalty Points able to be spent in participating RSL establishments in Victoria at a cost to the Sub Branch of \$28,232.
- The Welfare/Courtesy Bus is provided for members benefit as part of our social inclusion program at a cost of \$49,317.

- We provide sponsorship of the Women's Auxiliary, War Widows, the Day Club and Sub Branch Sporting Sub Sections worth over \$28,050.
- We provide \$4950 sponsorship to the Ringwood Football Club, \$ 4,000 sponsorship for Eastern United Football (soccer) Club and \$2,000 for the Raptors Rugby Club.
- We provide facilities either free of charge or at nominal rates for local community group activities at a cost of \$28,600 during 2018.
- We contribute about \$2.9m to the local community in goods and services purchased and employment of 50 staff.

We are not for profit. We operate with the sole purpose of supporting veterans, our members and their families. That said, the revenue from gaming helps enables us to continue play an important role in the health and well-being of veterans and their families. Contrary to popular belief, problem gambling is in decline, having reduced from 2.5% to less than 1% (0.7%). This is because the Government and industry have been working hard to create a properly regulated and responsible industry.

Securing our Future

To ensure we are well positioned to continue to provide services to veterans, our other members and the local community the Committee has been evaluating our future needs and developing a strategy based around these. This strategy will of necessity involve developing facilities that will be fit for purpose for the next 15-20 years.

As a result we have been engaged in detailed discussions with two consortia concerning a future redevelopment of our current site. At the same time we continue to talk to the Maroondah Sports Club about the possibility of a shared future.

Whilst the committee is refining its approach I expect we will be in a position soon to put a definite proposal to members for agreement.

David Jamison
President



BANTER FROM THE MANAGER



To all the members, committee and staff I would like to wish you a happy, healthy and prosperous year in 2019. It will be our fourth-year trading in the new facilities of the RSL. Competition has been fierce within the Maroondah municipality over the past years. With redevelopments at Eastland including thirty-one odd restaurants and bars, the complete redevelopment at the Croydon Hotel and the change of ownership at the Coach & Horses (Collingwood Football Club) to Melbourne Racing Club which owns the Croydon Hotel that has undergone a repositioning and redevelopment. There has also been change of ownership in key restaurants in the area and extended operational hours at other venues in Maroondah. This all adds to extra variety and competition making it a very challenging market in the hospitality industry. Except for our food sales all other areas show growth on 2018, with an increase in our profitability of over 250%.

ENTERTAINMENT

We continued with Morning Melodies throughout 2018 with some mixed results, some shows we had under forty guests and others were over sixty, although all members and guests had an enjoyable time. This year I have moved it to Tuesday afternoons so as not to clash with other venues in the area and to coincide with our Two For One Seniors meal deal on a Tuesday lunch time.

The shows that were booked last year were very successful: - ELVIS attracted 215 numbers Hotel California had (115) guest, BABBA (138) and Fleetwood Mac (138). Both BABBA and Fleetwood Mac shows were both sold out. All these shows introduce new visitors to our club gaining us new trade and members. This year we have booked ELVIS, Fleetwood Mac, Gold Chisel and Aussie DC. We will also continue with our Friday night entertainers, looking to introduce new performers, while still booking the favourites.

PROMOTIONS

The AFL / Marvel Stadium footy season ticket give away will begin on the 11th March in time for the first game at the new Marvel Stadium on Saturday 23rd March. This is a full member only promotion where you receive a ticket in the draw for every \$25 accumulative spend each week, that's two tickets if you spend \$50 or three tickets if you spend \$75 during the week.

We will be kicking off our AFL footy tipping competition again this year with the same format. \$30 entry \$1,000 first prize, \$400 second prize \$20 third prize, your money back for second last and a FREE pot of beer, wine or soft drink every time you hand your card in.

If you haven't signed up for communications and promotions then you're going to miss out this year, we will be increasing the offers to members through our APP and emails. These offers will be exclusive to members that have moved towards engaging the modern forms of communication. With the increase cost of mail and the lack of reliability we need to move further to these means of communication, even my 87-year-old father in-law can use email and has a smart phone with our APP.

CHRISTMAS

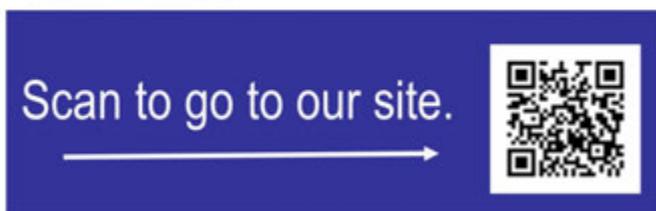
The Christmas Giant Raffle was another great night had by all, including SANTA and The ELF but it was sadly the best raffle night in 2018 with all other raffles running at a loss, draining needed funds away from welfare. This year we intend to run a midyear raffle in June with a prize pool over \$30,000 including that great looking MG SUV car in our foyer and another one in December, so see our staff in the bar or at reception for your ticket in the raffle. Don't miss out!

And that special day of the year when we catch up with family to celebrate another year "Christmas Day" we were sold out again. All who attended had a fantastic day & the compliments just didn't stop. So, thank-you to the members and guests who participated in the day of festivities and thank-you to the staff that worked so hard to make it a special day.

CONCLUSION

I'd like to thank the committee and staff for their continuing support and hard work over the year. Although we had a good year in 2018, the changing attitudes to poker machines and drinking and the increased competition will make it a challenging environment for the future. I will strive with our dedicated staff and committee to ensure our future so we may deliver the services and support needed to the ex-service members and the wider community.

Wayne Chisholm,
General Manager



DOWNLOAD OUR FREE APP!

Simply Scan the QR code here or search for Ringwood RSL on the App stores.

Our Ringwood RSL App will:

- notify you on all upcoming events and specials.
- keep you updated on whats NEW!
- allow you to contact us for bookings.
- Display our menus and much more!



Compatible with Android and Apple devices!

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SECRETARY

A quick update on three items of interest:

The first is about memorabilia and the Sub Branch's association with Victorian Collections – Museums Australia. Their grant of \$5,000 was spent on a new computer, camera and host of containers to store

our "items" in a professional manner. The memorabilia crew are – George Ward, Colin Vincent, Brian Roe, David Liggett, Peter Fogarty and Peter Hedgcock, and thanks to their efforts there are 432 items on computer and on the internet

[www.victoriancollectionsmuseumsaustralia\(victoria\)](http://www.victoriancollectionsmuseumsaustralia(victoria))

Australia for everyone to look at. We estimate that there are still another 3000 to process.

Secondly, the RSL in conjunction with the Ringwood Historical Society received a grant of \$27,000 from the Department of Veteran Affairs, Canberra, to develop and install what is termed a "Heritage Walk". There are 15 stations to be developed, two of the sites are the Clocktower and the mural under the bridge on Wantirna Road. This exercise will take several months as we are dealing with different authorities.

Thirdly, at the end of each year we present to Ringwood, Norwood and Heathmont Secondary Colleges a bursary of \$600 each. This amount to be given to students as each college nominates. Every now and then we receive a response from a student, please see below contents of a hand-written letter from a recipient of Norwood Secondary College.

"I cannot express the extreme amount of gratitude I have for receiving this award. Not only do I thank you for this, but also for the service you have provided for this Country. Without the bravery and sacrifices that you and others nobly gave, we would not have the freedom that nowadays we take for granted. Again, I thank you so much for presenting me this award."

Geoff Coghlan

Secretary



Australian Veterans' Recognition (Putting Veterans and their Families First) Bill 2019

The Federal Government has introduced a bill into the Commonwealth Parliament to recognise the role played by serving and former members of the ADF in defending this Nation. In it the Parliament also recognises the role played by members' families. It acknowledges the unique nature of military service and the sacrifice demanded of those who commit to defend our nation as well as the demands placed on, and the sacrifices made by the families of veterans.

The Commonwealth also acknowledges that veterans may require support mechanisms to enjoy good health,

- to access employment and training opportunities,
- to access appropriate housing,
- to have access to justice,
- to enjoy social wellbeing or to participate in community engagement after the end of their military service.

The Commonwealth commits to supporting veterans and providing the care and support they require acknowledging that veterans should be supported to achieve greater economic wellbeing and sustainability and greater participation in civic affairs and should have opportunities to participate in employment and education.

The Government in its bill also introduces an Australian Defence Veterans' Covenant as a public expression of support for and commitment to support our serving and former ADF members. In this Bill the Parliament, on behalf of the people of Australia, endorses the Australian Defence Veterans' Covenant

This is a very welcome and significant initiative that will form the basis of relations between the Government and veteran communities into the future..

The wording of the Covenant is:

Australian Defence Veterans' Covenant

We the people of Australia respect and give thanks to all who served in our defence force and their families

We acknowledge the unique nature of military service and sacrifice demanded of all who commit to defend our Nation.

We undertake to preserve the memory and deeds of all who have served and promise to welcome, embrace and support all military veterans as respected and valued members of our community.

For what they have done, this we will do.

FROM THE TREASURERS CALCULATOR



The statement of P&L reflects a profit for the 2018 financial year of \$46,919, prior to the completion of the audit, this represents a turnaround of \$53,560 against the 2017 financial year loss.

Things of note that I'd like to expand on include:

All trading areas with the exception of the bistro showed signs of improvement. Overall total trading profit was up \$36,304.

RSL trading was up by \$32,827. This resulted in net trading profit increase of 4.8%.

Operating expenses of the club were marginally up by \$25,807 or 2.2% on last year.

The report highlights a positive turnaround in the performance of the club and, in my opinion, is a result of the focus of management in the provision of improved member facilities and entertainment.

Having said this, the committee, management and members of the Ringwood RSL need to understand the competitive environment that we trade in and focus on the challenges that need to be addressed to ensure the success of our great club.

I would personally like to thank the management, staff, committee and members of the club for the work that they do to make this a great club and for making my job as treasurer enjoyable.

Harry Agathagelidis

Treasurer



Ringwood RSL Sub Branch Inc - AUDITED 2018

STATEMENT OF PROFIT AND LOSS	2018	2017	Difference	% +/-
ANZAC BAR:				
Sports Bar Turnover	\$678,440	\$599,695	\$78,745	13.1%
TAB	\$10,210	-\$10,719	\$20,928	195.3%
Net Anzac Bar Trading	\$688,650	\$588,977	\$99,673	16.9%
GAMING ROOM:				
Gaming Gross Profit	\$1,957,197	\$1,964,514	-\$7,317	-0.4%
Bar Turnover	\$386,864	\$355,511	\$31,353	8.8%
Keno Net	\$8,980	\$6,990	\$1,991	28.5%
Net Gaming Turnover	\$2,353,042	\$2,327,015	\$26,027	1.1%
BISTRO:				
Food Turnover	\$1,189,986	\$1,301,243	-\$111,258	-8.6%
Bar Turnover	\$319,461	\$314,469	\$4,992	1.6%
Bistro Turnover	\$1,509,446	\$1,615,712	-\$106,266	-6.6%
GROSS OTHER INCOME:				
	\$65,252	\$50,670	\$14,582	28.8%
COST OF SALES				
	-\$987,340	-\$995,013	\$7,674	-0.8%
LABOUR				
	-\$1,392,783	-\$1,387,398	-\$5,385	0.4%
TOTAL TRADING PROFIT				
	\$2,236,267	\$2,199,963	\$36,304	1.7%
RSL:				
RSL Revenue	\$183,203	\$174,514	\$8,689	5.0%
RSL Expenses	-\$535,087	-\$576,603	\$41,516	-7.2%
Trading Profit	-\$351,884	-\$402,089	-\$32,827	-12.5%
NET TRADING PROFIT				
	\$1,884,383	\$1,797,874	\$86,509	4.8%
OPERATING EXPENSES:				
POWER / LIGHTING	-\$134,545	-\$165,094	\$30,549	-18.5%
INSURANCE	-\$49,371	-\$36,659	-\$12,712	34.7%
OTHER OCCUPANCY COST	-\$125,167	-\$119,473	-\$5,694	4.8%
FOXTEL	-\$38,768	-\$31,291	-\$7,477	23.9%
ADVERTISING & PROMOTIONS	-\$41,420	-\$36,865	-\$4,555	12.4%
FINANCE & ACCOUNTING COST	-\$24,097	-\$14,707	-\$9,390	63.9%
CLEANING	-\$134,297	-\$135,147	\$850	-0.6%
COMMUNICATIONS	-\$35,460	-\$30,547	-\$4,913	16.1%
ADMINISTRATION	-\$605,514	-\$593,061	-\$12,453	2.1%
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES				
	-\$1,188,640	-\$1,162,843	-\$25,796	2.2%
EBITDAR				
	\$695,743	\$635,031	\$60,713	9.6%
RENT				
	-\$487,142	-\$480,000	-\$7,142	1.5%
GAMING MACHINE ENTITLEMENTS				
	-\$161,671	-\$161,671	\$0	0.0%
NET PROFIT				
	\$46,930	-\$6,641	\$53,571	-806.7%

Desk of Knowledge—Welfare & Pension

The Welfare & Pension Offices continue to provide support, guidance & overall commitment to our Veterans, community members & family/ friends. During 2018 (& the beginning of 2019) the Welfare & Pension teams continued to engage with local organisations to be able to provide support for many different requirements. The support also incorporates social inclusion & overall wellbeing for not only the Veteran, but their surrounding community of family & friends.

During 2018 the Welfare Office received an increase in the demand for case management & overall support requirements for our Veterans & their families. Due to the increase, the Welfare & Pension teams continued training through multiple methods including:

- * Short courses including Suicide Prevention Training
- * Advocacy Training & Development Programs for Military Advocacy
- * Community training programs including Dementia Awareness

Ongoing training & development continues in 2019 for both the Welfare & Pension Officers, to ensure we are able to provide the most appropriate support & service referrals.

Our Volunteer Services

The Welfare Office continues supporting our network of Veterans, members & community members via visits to homes, hospitals (Maroondah, Knox Private & Ringwood Private), assorted facilities & specific appointments. Demand for these services continues to grow & due to these requests, the Visitation program is expanding in 2019.

Our regular volunteers Mark, Shirley & Judy continue to engage & support our disadvantaged, aged & lonely veterans. They also support the Veterans family & friends as part of their volunteer roles, consistently adapting to the needs of the Veteran.

Fred & Margaret continue to support our Veterans families in times of loss, supporting the family of the Veterans during the Funeral & memorial process representing the RSL.

Our Pension Officers Kevan & Ian work on Wednesday's providing support to our Veterans for Pension related matters. Peter also supports the office, completing administration tasks. The Pension Office is increasing in appointment requests, due to referrals from surrounding Sub Branches. Kevan & Ian work with the DVA to support the requests of each Veteran & their family.

Our volunteers undertake multiple roles without hesitation & deserve the positive recognition received as follows:

- *"I never knew that the RSL visited people in Hospital, we are grateful that Mark visited our Dad"*
- *"Please accept my appreciation for the work that Kevin Andrews provided to my wife & I, I would also like to mention the support that Nicole also provided to my wife"*
- *"Mark was very helpful listening to our dad, he was able to talk about his memories"*
- *"I thought the RSL was only for Veterans, I never thought these types of support services existed for family"*
- *"Thank you to Fred who did an amazing job recognising our father"*
- *"Margaret was so supportive of our family & really understood what we needed"*
- *"Shirley happily sees all of our residents each week, she is part of our family now"*
- *"Judy visits me each week & always has a smile that makes me happy"*

Additional Volunteers are expected to begin in late March, providing additional support services to our Veterans & community (including Chaplaincy). Volunteer interviews continue to be scheduled in 2019.

Our Programs

Our Social inclusion programs also continue to evolve & provide our Veterans & their community a safe & consistent weekly program. Our Strength & Mobility classes maintain (& in some cases improve) our attendees social & emotional wellbeing, as well as their physical state. By attending these classes weekly, our Members are able to reduce social isolation & be supported by additional members in a supportive environment.

Our trained Physiologist also reviews & adapts the program for each member where necessary.

- “The trainer actually knows what he is doing & pushes us”
- “Who would think a class for 45 minutes would improve my health so much”

Our Friday Friendly Group continues to expand their weekly activities & in 2019 the group will undertake training for Dementia Awareness & Advanced Care Planning. The group continues to improve the social inclusion of many members attending each week. Tina (the group’s leader) & her supportive group enjoy socialising & undertaking different activities each week, she also volunteers her time for the group.

- *“I didn’t think the group would be so much fun, I’m definitely coming back next week”*
- *“Tina was so warm & inviting, I really enjoy coming each week to the group”*
- *“We come back because it is so much fun”*

Support from neighbouring Aged Care Facilities, Local Councils & community welfare groups, are also providing access to additional service providers & consultation services for our Veterans & their wider community, as well as support for:

- NDIS
- Aged Care
- Courses for further education & development
- Support & social inclusion services/ programs
- Counselling
- Transportation
- Legal Aid
- Financial Aid
- Rehabilitation

Our neighbouring Aged Care facilities are also supportive of our Morning & Afternoon Melody programs, improving their client’s social inclusion & overall wellbeing.

The Welfare Office is open every Tuesday, Thursday & Friday from 9am- 5pm, the Pension Office is available on Wednesday’s from 10.30am- 3pm. If you or someone you know needs support or would like to apply for a volunteer role, please contact the Welfare Office for assistance on 9870 6604.

Nicole Frost—Welfare Coordinator

Funeral Officers

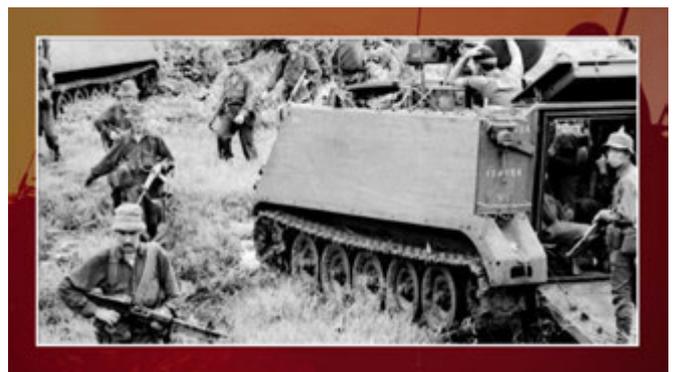
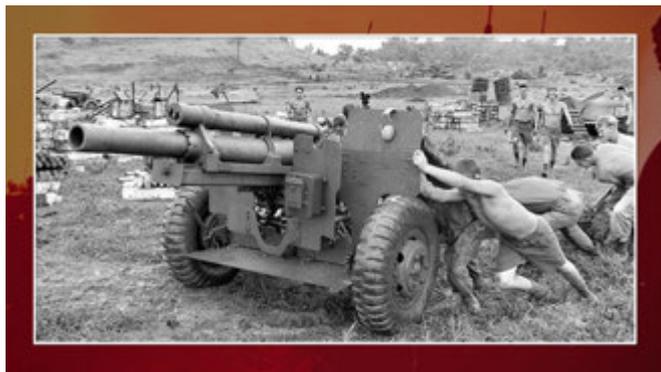
This is a time to reflect on the service provided to our deceased Veterans by Ringwood RSL over many years. Funeral Officers I recall from way back were Derek Snowball ex Secretary. Ever popular Alan Findlay (The Arab) who had the ability to always conduct a service with an element of humour without loss of dignity.

Well known Len Polkinghorne was a tireless worker for the RSL he was renowned as a very popular funeral Officer. Len was instrumental in introducing me into becoming a funeral Officer 15 years ago a decision that I have never regretted. The RSL Ritual is all about honouring the deceased & giving thanks for service rendered to their country. Comforting the bereaved is a very necessary part of the service. This year we recruited & trained our first female Funeral Officer Margaret Handte. Margaret does an excellent job while adding the feminine touch. Anyone interested in becoming a Funeral Officer please contact the Welfare Officer or myself. When the time comes to say Good Bye to a loved one I encourage all members to include the RSL Ritual as a small part of the funeral service.

LEST WE FORGET. Fred Bottrell



50TH ANNIVERSARY
CORAL
BALMORAL
VIETNAM
12 MAY - 6 JUNE 1968



WOMEN'S AUXILIARY

At our AGM on 7th March, 2018, I was elected President following Sylvia Watterson's decision to step down. The Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer remained the same i.e.

Carol Wilson – Hon. Vice President

Kas McCormack Smith – Hon. Secretary

Rae Rodkin – Hon. Treasurer

Kas has recently resigned from her position and Yvonne Putz is acting secretary until our AGM in March 2019.

We were saddened by the deaths of three of our members during the year. Liz Wells passed away in January, Grace Mulvaney in April and Thelma Polkinghorne in June.

We have been joined by four new members, Yvonne Putz, Lyn Dawson, Sue Egan and Shirley Devery.

At the Sub Branches AGM in March 2018 I presented a cheque for \$18,000 to the President, David Jamison. This amount was raised from the many raffles held during the year and other fund raising ventures. Thank you to everyone who bought raffle tickets and to those who donated items for prizes. A big thankyou to Fletchers Real Estate Ringwood for sponsoring our meat raffles.

At our meeting on 3rd October, 2018 we were joined by State President, Yvonne Dent and State Secretary Lynese Goldie. Yvonne presented a Life Certificate and Life Badge to Terry Brown and Lynese read the citation. Congratulations Terry, this was well deserved. You have served as our delegate to Women's Council, worked tirelessly for the Auxiliary and also the Sub Branch over many years.

Thank you to all members of the Auxiliary for the hard work you put in in 2018.

Meetings are held once a month, first Wednesday at 10.30 a.m.

New members are always welcome. If you would like more information, I can be contacted on 9725 3109.

Regards,

Lyn Coad

(Hon. President)

WOMEN'S AUXILIARY BINGO

Bingo is held every Thursday except for a short break over Christmas and New Year.

“Eyes Down” at 1 pm finishing about 3 pm. The bingo sessions are run by the Women’s Auxiliary and a “Big Thank You” to all who helped organise these during the year.

Edna Johnson, Crystal Forrest, Rae Rodkin and Sylvia Watterson set up the tables with glasses and water jugs etc and also the trade table where we have a range of items for people to purchase.

Jan Blair and Carole Powell start selling books at 12.30 pm. The books are \$3.00 and 15 games are played in each of the two sessions. The prize money is dependent upon the number of books sold, but there is a \$100 jackpot on the last game of each session.

Kas McCormack Smith, Sylvia Watterson, Maree Walters, Lyn Dawson and Jean Clark were our callers in 2018 and Kas has done all the paperwork.

Jan Dunstan and Lyn Coad are the book checkers each session.

We do have a raffle each Thursday and the proceeds from this and the trade table go towards the cheque presented to Ringwood RSL welfare at the Sub Branches AGM.

Thank you also to everyone who attends bingo throughout the year, we hope you continue to do so.

New players are welcome, so come along, meet fellow players, have a cuppa and maybe you might also be a lucky winner.

Jan Blair is the club bus driver and if you would like the bus to collect you for bingo, please telephone reception on 9870 6604.

Bar snacks are available from the café bar or lunch from the bistro.

Don't forget “Eyes Down” at 1 pm each Thursday.

Regards,

Lyn Coad

(Hon. President)



A Remembrance Day Tribute to Veterans

By Dee Ryall

On this day, we mark the Centenary of the Armistice – the 11th day of the 11th month. The agreement to the end of hostilities between the allied nations and Germany.

The 'Great War' began with conflict in Europe, and spread out to become the first World War. As isolated as the young nation of Australia was, we too were drawn into this vast, all-encompassing conflict as a nation of the British Empire. With a population of under five million people, almost 418,000 men enlisted to fight in the Great War; 62,000 were killed, and 156,000 were wounded or taken prisoner.

On this day, we pause to reflect upon the incredible courage and sacrifices of those who served in the Great War, and to comprehend how important the contribution of our service men and women make is.

The end of the First World War brought to the world a new set of struggles. Defeated, humiliated, and placed under massive financial burdens, the seeds were sown in Germany for the rise of Hitler. Our service men and women answered the call.

Our armed forces have fought and died to protect our way of life, our democracy. They have given so much to protect our rights and our freedoms – the right to life and liberty; freedom of speech, thought and action; and the freedom to make the best life for ourselves and our loved ones. These are the ideals for which our inspirational servicemen and women have strived and sacrificed their lives.

Time and time again, brave Australians have put their lives in danger to protect our country – and indeed the world – from threats to our freedom. In conflicts and peacekeeping operations.

The remarkable courage and selflessness shown by our armed forces throughout Australia was born in the trenches of the First World War, and solidified over the years. The example set by our servicemen and women presents a challenge to us all – what will our response be when times are tough and our way of life is challenged? What will we sacrifice to protect our neighbours and our loved ones? What will we give to make sure that future generations of Australians will enjoy the same freedoms and rights that we do? How will we honour the great sacrifice made by generations of Australian servicemen and women?

On this day, 100 years since the guns fell silent on the Western Front, we mark the Centenary of Armistice. We honour those who served, those who were wounded, and those who fell. We honour their spirit.

May we never forget their courage, their sacrifice, or their example to us all.

Deanne (Dee) Sharon Ryall was a member of the Victorian Legislative Assembly representing the electorate of firstly Mitcham and then Ringwood for the Liberal Party from 2010 to 2018. Dee Ryall grew up in Blackburn North, Victoria, where she attended and gained her Higher School Certificate from Blackburn High School. Ryall completed her Certificate of Nursing at The Alfred Hospital in 1988 and in 1991 completed a Bachelor of Nursing from La Trobe University.

She has 15 years involvement in business as a specialist in management systems.

RINGWOOD RSL WAR WIDOWS

"The War Widows enjoyed a year of meetings with speakers and luncheons. Although our numbers are now small we still enjoy the company of fellow Widows and we all help each other as best we can. We are always looking for new members and any widows of servicemen will always be most welcome. Our meetings are held on the 3rd Monday of the month at 1pm in the Function Room at the Ringwood RSL."

Ringwood Anglers

The Salt Water group started the season with a weather cancellation on our first charter however all charters since were able to take place with one nice 5kg Snapper taken in Westernport Bay.



There are six more salt water charters booked for early 2019 to complete the 2018/9 Season.

The Fresh Water group conducted a successful annual trip to Eucumbene in October 2018 with some 13 members attending for the week, Bill Price on his first trip there bagged the heaviest trout of the trip.

If you are interested in joining the anglers, please leave your details and contact number at reception and a club member will contact you. We organise one major freshwater trip in October each year and between ten and twelve saltwater charters per season fishing for Snapper, Whiting, Gummy Shark and Flathead.

Rob Swenser

Secretary.



RINGWOOD PIPE BAND REVIEW FOR 2018

Another eventful year has passed with the Band going from strength to strength. Membership numbers are up to over 50 people with many of our younger members involving their parents as well. We have enjoyed several occasions like BBQs whilst the Christmas dinner at the RSL was one of the highlights of the year. Similarly our Committee members dinner in August at the RSL was equally enjoyable. Congratulations to Wayne and all his staff for making these such wonderful occasions.

ENGAGEMENTS

Our playout calendar seems to be busier each year. For community events, like Australia Day marches, Anzac Day services and Remembrance Day memorials. It was a very special event on 11/11/18 when at 5pm there was an international commemoration of the centenary of the signing of the Armistice. This timing co-ordinated with 6am British time and the signing and the GUNS FELL SILENT! Pipe Bands all over the world played the poignant tune, "The Battle's O'er". Thus commemorating the sacrifices all allied service men and women during the first World War.

We also took an active part in the Ringwood Highland Games with musical performances all over Ringwood beforehand, as well as being the host band for the games and marching on the Clans, culminating in the massed band performance - should not be missed by anyone!

Other community events were staged at the Warrandyte Festival, various school fetes, retirement homes and Relay for Life events etc. In November we exhibited and performed at the Maroondah Festival - the same day as Remembrance Day - so a very busy one for us!

SPONSERSHIP

We remain most appreciative of the assistance given by the Ringwood RSL and our proud to represent them at any function. Thanks to the support given to us by David and Wayne we feel like "family" and enjoy association with the Club. We of course must augment our income so 2 Bunnings sausage sizzles were held last year as well as other fund raising events. We need about \$20,000 per annum to remain solvent.

FUTURE

This has been a trying year for us when in April we had to quit our band hall with all our storage of uniforms and equipment, whilst the Shire Council totally refurbished the hall. This is very nearly complete and we shall return sometime in February. Meanwhile we have at temporary accommodation at various schools but remain especially indebted to Croydon Primary. So the future is exciting with a new band hall, new members and fresh enthusiasm for a great year ahead. Please note that we will be holding our biennial Scottish Gala - dinner and concert at

the Dorset Gardens Hotel on August 17th. We hope to have over 200 guests and look forward to seeing many of our Ringwood RSL friends there. See me for tickets!!!

John Wicks - President 97239728



Ringwood Pipe Band



MEMBERSHIP AT YOUR RSL 2018

Membership has been steady this year.

Below are some tables showing membership class, age and gender.

As you can see we still have a significant number of service members, but the stand-out concern for the committee is the small percentage of 18 to 50 year old members only 20% and only 307 of them are female. We ask all members to continue to promote your RSL and encourage your younger family members and friends to join your RSL club.

Members by Class & Gender

Class	F	M	Total
Affiliate	593	552	1,145
Associate		3	3
Community	323	165	488
Life Member	3	10	13
Service	99	666	765
Social	971	1,530	2,501
Total	1,989	2,926	4,915

Members by Class & Age

Class	18-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70-79	80+	Total
Affiliate	33	38	62	145	408	342	91	1,119
Associate				1	2			3
Community	27	30	48	51	109	157	93	515
Life Member					1	5	3	9
Service	9	17	38	55	164	253	168	704
Social	107	186	409	557	622	457	1515	2,489
Total	160	276	566	804	1,303	1,205	490	4,804

Members by Gender & Age

Class	18-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70-79	80+	Total
Female	26	76	223	323	543	518	234	1,943
Male	134	200	343	481	760	687	256	2,861
Total	160	276	566	804	1,303	1,205	490	4,804

Wayne Chisholm

Membership

GOLF SECTION

Firstly, the Committee hopes that all Ringwood RSL members had a terrific 2018 and are going to have an even better 2019.



Our presentation night (our 61st anniversary) was held on 1st December with 76 people attending. While the primary reason was to present trophies to players who won during the year it is also a perfect opportunity for “the other halves” to meet again and have a good chin wag. Nice food was presented and entertainment provided...no dirty dancing was permitted!!

Congratulations to Lindsay Black for becoming a Life Member and congratulations to all the trophy winners.

Major winners were;-

Club Champion – Julian Hermans

B Grade – Dennis Hermans

C Grade – Denis Waugh

D Grade – Sirio Santucci



On average, we had 28 players turn up to play each month.

A special thank you to our past president Peter Harvey. Peter was president for the past 19 years and with his continued (most lighthearted) input, it was a pleasure for all members to front up every month on the bus.

To the Committee of 2018, your tireless efforts have, I believe, made the Golf Section the best in the Sub Branch. Thank you!

The Committee for 2019 is;-

President David Liggett

Vice President and Secretary Stephen Steward

Treasurer Paul Mitchell

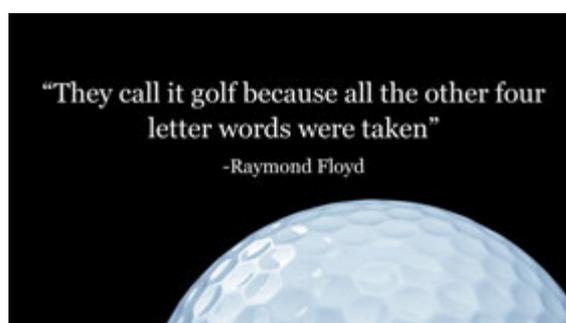
Captain Bob Dunstan

Handicapper Gunter Loidl

Assistant Handicapper Geoff Beer

Social Secretary Brian Roe

A huge thank you to our sponsors. Without them we could not keep our fees to a manageable level. Our sponsors for 2018 were;-Aussie Home Loans, Maroondah Heating and Air Conditioning, Ventura Bus Lines, House of Golf, Brian Roe, Jason Cocks and Mick Soden.



GOLF SECTION —Continued

Through the hard work of Brian Roe and Carol Smith, we have a meat raffle in the sub branch on the first Friday of the month. This raffle raises funds that also go towards keeping our fees down. Thank you Brian and Carol.

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome new members to join and have a heap of fun every month....usually on the bus. We get you there and back and feed you at lunchtime. And there is also cold "lemonade" to purchase and consume if you so desire.

This is a great club and Sub Section and we encourage as many people as possible to participate in all that it has to offer.

That is enough of my ramblings...cheers!

David Liggett

President Golf Section



SUMMER OVER THE TOP 8 Ball

During the 2018 Winter Season the Ringwood RSL Pool Club had teams in 1st and 2nd Division. Both teams consistently played high quality games and remained strongly competitive throughout the Winter 2018 season. Both teams made the Finals – the 1st Division team played the Manhattan for the second year in a row and the 2nd Division team played the Bayswater. Our 1st division were narrowly defeated by the Manhattan 21-19. Our 2nd division played great pool but were defeated by the Bayswater 21-16.

The 2018 Summer season commenced on the 16th October 2018 and we have 1 team in 1st Division. Competition was very strong this year and our team did not make the finals.

On an individual note, congratulations to Kevin Lawson and Warwick Jackson on being inducted into the EDPL Hall of Fame inductees on 13/10/18. This is a huge honour for both Kevin and Warwick and for the club.

The Ringwood RSL Pool Club would also like to congratulate:

1. Warwick Jackson 1000 game milestone in April 2018 after joining the EDPL in 1980.
2. Terry Lacey reaching his 700 game milestone in August 2018.
3. Derek Greening reaching his 500 game milestone also in August 2018.
4. Marc Forde for winning the Best Player in 1st Division for Winter Season and Greg Cates for winning the Runner Up
5. Craig Mangan, Terry Lacey, Terry Duckworth, Paul Rezzara making the EDPL Interleague team
6. Caroline Ruscitti winning back to back snooker titles.

The Winter 2018 Season will be commencing in February/March and we plan to enter 2 teams.

We are a strong, solid and competitive club. We are always seeking to recruit new players. If you are interested in playing 8-Ball please contact reception for more information.

A big thank you to Carol Smith for her ongoing contributions to the Committee and the Club.

The Ringwood R.S.L. 8-Ball Section hopes you and your family enjoyed a wonderful Christmas and wish you all the very best for 2019.



ANZAC Sunday 2018



Remembrance Day 2018



CARPET BOWLS SECTION

Two Ringwood R.S.L. teams were again entered in the 2018 Tuesday Night Competition of the Eastern Suburban Indoor Biased Bowls Association's Winter Pennant Season. Both of the teams struggled in the early weeks of the Home & Away games leaving both teams very low on the ladder. The transfer of a couple of our most experienced bowlers to other Clubs and a serious health issue with Peter Robinson, our most experienced bowler and Skip of the No 2 Team, left us desperately short of players. We did manage to recruit three new bowlers and with the

gradual recovery of Peter Robinson our teams became a little more competitive, but still narrowly lost too many games. The No 1 Team skipped by Jim Corcoran only won 3 of its 13 games and missed the finals. However, the No 2 Team skipped by Margaret Poile did finish in fifth place with 5 Wins, 1 Tie & 7 Losses. Margaret's team qualified to play in the finals for the Division 2 Pennant, and progressed to play in the Grand Final against Glen Waverley 1 at Balwyn North on August 14.

In the Grand Final match, Glen Waverley gained the early break with a lead of 14 shots to 2 after only 7 ends. However, a fight-back by Ringwood reduced to Glen Waverley's lead to only 2 shots by the 16th end (17 shots to 15). In the next 3 ends Ringwood lost a 2, 3 and 2 to be nine shots down (15 shots to 24). Ringwood scored a 1 and a 2 in the last 2 ends and finished the Runners-Up in the Division 2 Grand-final match with the score of 18 to 24 after the scheduled 21 ends.



Ringwood RSL No 2 Team - 2018 Division 2 Runners-Up

*L to R – Paul Storey (Second), Margaret Poile (Skip), Gail Loidl (Lead)
and Fiona McNamara (Third).*

This year Margaret Poile, Our Pennant Side 2 Skip, was selected as an emergency in the Victorian Team to play in the 49th Australian Indoor Bias Bowls Council National Championships which were held in August at Caloundra in Queensland. Congratulations Margaret, on your selection for the Team that won the



National Championship.
*The 2018 Winning Victorian Team at the
49th Australian Indoor Biased Bowls Council's
National Championships.*

Margaret Poile

The Carpet Bowls Section hopes to again enter teams for the Association's 2019 Winter Pennant Competitions. Separate competitions are conducted on Tuesday Nights and Wednesday afternoons in the months April to August. Any RSL Members interested in being part of either one or both of the Winter competitions can register their interest with reception.

Gunter Loidl

(Carpet Bowls Secretary / Treasurer)





DAMIAN MULLIN
A TRIBUTE TO

ELVIS

Sunday 17th March 2 pm \$25
Saturday 20th July 8pm \$30
Sunday 17th November 2 pm \$25

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL - 9870 6604

16 STATION STREET RINGWOOD

AUSSIE/DC

The Australian AC/DC Show
Formerly known as "DIRTY DEEDS" Established 1990 Melbourne Victoria



Aussie DC the band formerly known as Dirty Deeds from Melbourne Australia, is the longest established AC/DC Tribute Band in the World! Performing the best of **Bon Scott and Brian Johnson**

SATURDAY—25th May

Show \$20
8 pm

BABBA

A TRIBUTE TO ABBA



SATURDAY— 31st August

Show \$30
8.30pm

Dinner & Show \$50
6.30pm

Australia's No. 1 National Touring "Cold Chisel" Tribute Show!

GOLD CHISEL

Keeping The Legend Alive!



SATURDAY—26th October

Dinner & Show \$50
6.30pm

Show \$30
8.30pm

Victoria Cross Function Room

Ringwood RSL prides itself on our professionalism and friendliness to ensure your function is a great success.

Ringwood RSL caters for Birthdays, Engagements, Weddings, Baby Showers, Farewells, Conferences etc

Our car park provides ample car parking and we are conveniently located opposite the Ringwood Railway Station .

Our function room is set up to your individual needs as part of our service and we endeavour to fulfil all of your requirements whether it be 30 people or 180 people we will look after you.



**Please do not hesitate to contact us for an appointment
on 9870 6604 to discuss your function**