



# STATE COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

No: 2 -12 Date: May 2012

MEMBERS

## PRESENTATION

South Lake Macquarie RSL sub-Branch - presented \$5,000 donation to RSL NSW State President Don Rowe OAM contributing to the NSW RSL Support and Assistance Fund.



## RECORDING OF VOLUNTEER HOURS

A decision was made to delay the possible procedure of recording volunteer working hours as outlined in the DVA fact sheet in all areas of RSL until more information is received from Price Waterhouse Coopers on the final report into new reforms for volunteer organisations. A presentation on the TAX status of the RSL will be presented at this years NSW Congress, detailing requirements in annual budgeting and other legal obligations by sub-Branch committees.



## FUNERAL POPPY PROTOCOL

Sub-Branch members need to make them selves aware of the present RSL protocol for funerals as laid down in the latest version of RSL NSW Constitution Regulations, Chapter 12 and should be flexible and understanding at funeral services regarding persons laying Poppies.

## COMPLIANCE ISSUE

It is a concern of State Council that many sub-Branches have no public liability insurance. State Branch will endeavor to identify and assist sub-Branches that need to address commitments with insurance and other compliance issues in the near future.



## Sub-BRANCH INSURANCE

A new SBA-3 form in 2013 will require a declaration that sub-Branches have in place 'Public Liability Insurance and Trustee Liability Insurance' as the two policies are mandatory to every RSL NSW sub-Branch.

Sub-Branches who are not insured with 'Scott and Broad' must supply a policy number and the insurance company they are insured with as part of the new compliance requirement in 2013.



## CENTENARY UPDATE

Sub-Branch history documents are continuing to arrive at State Branch and should continue to be submitted to the Communications Manager. It was also noted General Peter Cosgrove has been appointed the Chairman of NSW Centenary Committee. Many districts have commenced working with local politicians and Councils, planning projects of opportunity during the 2015 - 2018 Centenary Commemoration period.

## NATIONAL NOMINATIONS ENDORSED

RSL NSW State Council endorse the following nominations for RSL National Officers;



National President - **Rear Admiral Ken Doolan AO RAN (RTD)**  
Deputy National President - **Don Rowe OAM**  
National Treasurer - **David Sinclair**  
National Solicitor - **Brian Loftus RFD**  
Honorary Trustee - **Don Porter**

## RSL NSW WEBSITE

Presently a 'work in progress' with new hardware and software due at State Branch in 2012. Future possibilities of generic emails for sub-Branch Secretaries and District Councils are a possibility.



## RAAF WAGGA WAGGA

RSL State Council approved sponsorship covering a three year period towards RAAF Wagga Wagga AFL Charity Shield match for the service group competition that the RAAF competes annually.

## RETURNING OFFICER DUTIES

Members must be aware that the only person who can open a 'ballot box' during any election process is the nominated Returning Officer, who must also have a person to witness and record the results of the procedure.

## AUSTRALIA MY COUNTRY - ART COMPETITION

The format of the past competition has been reviewed and revised with a new competition known as the 'RSL ANZAC Art Awards' to be launched early July 2012 with the competition extended until the end of January 2013. The Art Awards will be of modern electronic format for all students and schools in NSW. A new group of categories and prizes, complete with an exhibition of prominent winning artworks forming the ANZAC Collection. Full details to be released at the official launch of competition in late June and exhibition of 2011 category winners of Australia My Country. State Council endorsed the new competition.



## Sub-BRANCH - CHANGE OF NAMES

The Bargo RSL sub-Branch has amalgamated with Wollondilly RSL sub-Branch and with a name change will now become known as the Picton - Thirlmere - Bargo RSL sub-Branch.

State Council agrees to the name change of the Lemon Tree Passage & District RSL sub-Branch. They will now be known as the Tilligerry RSL sub-Branch.

## **CHAPTER APPROVED**

The Yerong Creek RSL sub-Branch has become a Chapter of the Henty RSL sub-Branch.



## **PIPE BAND DONATION**

The City of Newcastle RSL sub-Branch has made a substantial donation towards the upkeep of the Newcastle RSL Pipe Band. The band has supported and continues to play a major role towards the commemoration of RSL activities.

## **NEW WEBSITE**

It was noted that the Western Metropolitan District Council will have a new website in the near future.

## **NATIONAL BOWEL COUNCIL SCREENING**

RSL NSW is now an official partner of the 'National Bowel Cancer Screening program. For over a decade, the Federal Government has ignored our calls to provide a fully implemented bowel cancer screening program. It is 13 years since the Government's own expert medical body recommended all Australians aged 50 and over be screened for bowel cancer every two years.



The Federal Government is currently only funding a one off test for 50, 55 and 65 year olds, but with more than 14,000 men and women diagnosed (*and more than 4,000 people dying*) in Australia every year from bowel cancer, more needs to be done. Around 90% of bowel cancers are curable if caught early.

Help us convince the Federal Government to fund a National Bowel Cancer Screening Program for all Australians 50 and over. RSL members are encouraged to write to their Federal Member in support to seek funding for this program.

[www.getbehindbowelscreening.com.au](http://www.getbehindbowelscreening.com.au)

## **UNSOLICITED CORRESPONDENCE**

The Circular regarding 'Unsolicited Correspondence' will be reissued to reminded sub-Branches of the conditions for request to have material circulated with the monthly bulk mail from ANZAC House.