



RSL NSW AUXILIARY NEWS

August, 2021

Welcome to our latest Newsletter, we had intended that this would be out in the first couple of weeks in July but unfortunately, it's a bit late.

So much has changed since I started this Newsletter, Greater Sydney went into lockdown followed sadly by the rest of the state. Here in Gorokan we have been reclassified as regional so I am trying to read something positive in that for the end of the lockdown.

This has been a difficult time for all of us, but it must be awful to be isolating alone, I am sure our members will be keeping in contact (by phone) and looking out for each other. Please keep up the good work.

No matter what happens in the next few months, it looks like masks are going to be with us for a long while. A huge shout out to Jenny Leach of Toukley RSL Auxiliary for the amazing work she has put into making masks, I couldn't hazard a guess at how many she has actually made overall, but for us, Jenny has been making Poppy masks from scarves that Pauline had, so far she has made approximately 700 with the proceeds going to RSL DefenceCare



We can't thank Jenny enough for all of her hard work, a number of sub Branches have already purchased the masks which we sell to them for \$10 but they can be onsold for \$15, a great fundraiser for when we get back. More details later.



From 23rd August, 2021

Anzac House will be located in
Suite 11.02, Level 11, 175 Pitt Street,
Sydney, NSW, 2000

Since our last Newsletter we are absolutely delighted to welcome 3 new Auxiliaries to the fold:

Aberdeen RSL sub Branch Auxiliary,
Old Bar RSL sub Branch Auxiliary and
Bulahdelah RSL Sub Branch Auxiliary.

This makes 5 in the past year which is wonderful for our veterans.

For those who are unaware of what Auxiliaries are, similar to our sub-Branches, the RSL Auxiliary is a non-political non-sectarian organisation. It raises funds for the well-being of current and ex-serving members of the Australian Defence Force and their families. The members of the Auxiliary also visit veterans in hospital, in aged care and those convalescing at home, assist with sub-Branch commemoration activities and often provide meals for sub-Branch functions and events.

The RSL Auxiliary raises funds to support the charitable objects of the sub-Branch by holding raffles, selling tokens during the ANZAC and Poppy Appeals, as well as other fundraising activities that arise throughout the year in their local community

RSL Auxiliaries were founded on fellowship and a desire to care for our veterans and this principle guides their existence to the present day. Members enjoy the friendship of like-minded people, visiting other auxiliaries when they hold functions, and being able to share ideas and ideals.

Should a sub Branch require any information on establishing an Auxiliary please contact Pauline or myself, contact details are on the last page.



For those of you who use Facebook, do you know that we have both a Facebook Page and a Facebook Group, why not pop over and join us?

Facebook Page,
(<https://www.facebook.com/groups/163434587113422>)

Facebook Group
<https://www.facebook.com/ccwawomensauxiliarynsw>

There is so much interesting reading, amazing information and photos from François Berthout regarding the Western Front Battlefields of WWI, Gareth McCray OAM has regular posts, poems from Bill Charlton, so much more.

We are aware some Auxiliaries have their own Facebook Pages/Groups, if you do, please let me know so that I can add the details to the next Newsletter and other members will be able to follow you.

Heicke Keefe has set up a Facebook group for all of us crafters, **Helping our Veterans Craft Group**, pop over and join, some great ideas to help raise funds.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/3455036824555520>





We can agree that the last several years have been difficult of all of us, firstly with the inquiry, the operational changes and now Covid. Both Pauline and I have received many questions which we feel would be of interest to other people, so we are addressing some of them here.

Before I start, I just want to say, please do not worry about asking us a question, we all need to be working off the same page and I am sure there are others wondering the same things as you. If we can't answer it directly, we will get an answer for you.

Contact details are on the last page, both phone numbers and email addresses so there shouldn't be any reason we are not contactable.

Website We have our section within the website of RSL NSW, the following link will take you directly to this <http://www.rslnsw.org.au/get-involved/rsl-auxiliaries/>

Membership is open to anyone over the age of 18, the Membership Form is on the website, The form has been simplified. All we need now is the person's name, contact details, date of birth and signature. No nominees/references etc. There is a provision for your sub-Branch to accept or reject the application. The completed form should be handed your sub Branch Secretary who will then advise RSL NSW full details of the new member (name, contact details, date of birth) and request a badge be issued, there is no charge for a badge for a new member. The new member is a full member of the Auxiliary once the membership form has been accepted and any fee paid. They do not have to wait until they receive their badge nor need to be sworn in. A copy of the form is at the end of the Newsletter.

Badges Our new badges are only available to new members, the only reason for a current member to obtain a new badge is if their own is either lost or damaged, a cost of \$6 will then be incurred.

Newsletter will be published twice a year, someone asked why we now have a Newsletter as there is no CCWA, though we are members through our sub Branches we actually all belong to one league so the purpose of the Newsletter is to keep everyone together and we would really love you to contribute.

ANZAC & Remembrance Day Tokens are no longer sourced from DefenceCare, it is up to each sub Branch to source tokens etc. more about this later. All monies raised are retained by the sub Branch.

What is the role of the State Coordinator & Deputy State Coordinator?

- To work with sub-Branches and Auxiliaries to encourage fundraising but also to encourage greater participation in sub-Branch activities (such as Welfare Visits to members)
- To assist in getting new Auxiliaries set up and running
- To Administer the Lady Woodward Cup
- To produce the Auxiliary Newsletter
- To administer Life Membership Applications
- Currently selling COVID masks (made from material salvaged from Poppy Scarves) to the War Memorial and sub-Branches
- To arrange for the making and distribution of 'Thank you for Service' quilts
- Arrangements for the RSL Auxiliary' Afternoon tea at Government House' whenever that event occurs •

What is the duration of appointment of the State Coordinator and Deputy State Coordinator?

The appointment is made by the State Secretary of RSL NSW. The term of office is not defined.

Does the State Coordinator/Deputy Coordinator correspond with sub-Branch auxiliaries directly and/or separately from their sub-Branch Executive? This depends on what is needed

Does the Auxiliary State Coordinator have a budget? No, both are volunteers the same as all members. All finances (any reimbursement) of the State Coordinator and Deputy Coordinator of RSL NSW Auxiliaries is administered by RSL NSW State Branch. The State Secretary and Chief Financial Officer of RSL NSW have control and oversight. Please direct your queries to the State Secretary for this information

How is the network of Auxiliaries administered now that there is no Central Council of Women's Auxiliaries? Combination of work by State Coordinator and Deputy State Coordinator in cooperation with the RSL NSW State Secretary. Each sub-Branch manages its own Auxiliary

What is the Lady Woodward Cup? It is an award (started in 1956) that recognises the fundraising efforts of Auxiliaries. The award is currently given to the Auxiliary that donates the most money to RSL DefenceCare on an annual basis. Due to our organisational changes, the criteria for the cup is currently under review but will most likely result in recognition of the combination of:

- The amount of money donated to RSL DefenceCare
- The number of tokens sold for Anzac Day
- The number of tokens sold for Remembrance Day

How is the Lady Woodward Cup competition administered? Administered by the State Secretary of RSL NSW in conjunction with the Auxiliaries State Coordinator and Deputy State Coordinator Jeff O'Brien (State Secretary), Pauline & I are currently working on a revision of the criteria for participation in the Lady Woodward Cup

How do sub-Branches Auxiliaries register to participate in the Cup? There is no registration as such. Recognition of an Auxiliary is based on the record of monies donated by an Auxiliary to RSL DefenceCare. The amount of money donated is identified via checks with RSL NSW Accounts Unit. **Now that the money is coming via a sub-Branch (rather than directly from an Auxiliary), it is crucial to ensure that recognition of the Auxiliary is included when the donation is made.**

The winners of the 2020 were the members of Burwood RSL Auxiliary, congratulations to you all



RSL Funeral Service We have been asked for a copy of the RSL Funeral Service for Auxiliary Members, one is attached at the back of this Newsletter and I will see if we can have this added to the website

How can we get a copy of the Newsletter RSL NSW will email a copy of the Newsletter to each sub Branch and a copy will be placed on our website. I will email a copy to each Auxiliary and any individual member that I have an address for, if any members would like to be added to my database please send their email address to me at sueallen123@bigpond.com and I will add them.

From time to time I do send out some information which may be of interest to your Auxiliary so it would be wonderful if I could have a contact email address for each Auxiliary, I thank those who have already advised their email address.

Contact details Would all Co-ordinators please send me contact details (phone number & email address) for themselves and their Deputy Co-ordinator.

What are the criteria for Life Membership of the RSL Auxiliary? An Auxiliary Life Membership form which is available on the website will need to be completed and signed by the RSL Auxiliary Coordinator detailing whether the Auxiliary Member has met the eligibility criteria before the application progresses to the sub-Branch. Life Membership is the highest honour which can be bestowed on an Ordinary Member of an Auxiliary and therefore submissions should not be taken lightly. All applications for Auxiliary Member honours and awards must be endorsed and submitted through the sub-Branch or the RSL Auxiliary Coordinator to RSL NSW for approval. The nominee must have had at least fifteen (15) years of continuous service as a member of an Auxiliary, ten (10) years of which are considered honorary service. Honorary service work must be associated with RSL work and Charities only. In country areas some recognised charities [not RSL exclusively] may be considered. Service rendered as Patron or paid Auditor is not considered as qualifying service for the award nor are services rendered to a Registered Club or to local Schools, Churches, Surf Clubs, Scouts etc. are considered. No member can nominate themselves. Once the nomination is received by RSL NSW it will be put to a Selection Committee. This Committee comprised of four (4) members and an approval of 3 out of 4 is needed to have the nomination proceed. Should any member of this committee have a personal connection to the nominee they will stand aside and have no further involvement in the process. There is no longer a charge for Life Membership Nominations. We are only able to award a certain number of Life Memberships in any one year. The number available is calculated on a ratio of the number of members to the number of Auxiliaries. Sadly, as Auxiliaries close, the number of Life Memberships also decrease. Currently we are only able to award nine in any one year, therefore it is imperative that the Nomination Form is completed correctly so that an appropriate.

We are currently reviewing some aspects of Life Membership to reflect the current organisation and will advise any changes if made, the Nomination Form can be found on our website, a copy is included at the end of this Newsletter.

We have recently received the new Life Members Badge which I thought you might like to see.



As with Ordinary Member Badges, these are for the new Recipients of Life Memberships the only reason for a current Life Member to obtain a new badge is if their own is either lost or damaged, a cost of \$10 will then be incurred and a Statutory Declaration regarding the loss/damage is required.

Sadly we were not able to commemorate either VP Day or Vietnam Veterans Day this year in the way we would have preferred. RSL NSW State President Ray James posted the following message on Vietnam Veterans Day which I think you will appreciate reading.

On this day Vietnam veterans, their fellow veterans, families, and friends would normally gather to pause and reflect on the bravery, teamwork, and endurance of all Australians who fought for their country from 1962 to 1975.

This year the COVID-19 pandemic will make it difficult for us to come together to remember the service and sacrifice of our mates, so we'll find other ways of connecting over the phone or by social media; the reality of the world we're living in.

We will honour the 521 Australians who lost their lives, and the 3000 who were wounded, ill or injured, and those who still carry the physical and emotional scars of their service over 50 years later.

Vietnam Veterans' Day was originally known as Long Tan Day and was chosen to commemorate the men of D Company 6RAR who fought in the Battle of Long Tan on 18 August 1966.

On that day 108 Australian and New Zealand soldiers fought a pitched battle against over 2,000 North Vietnamese and Viet Cong troops in a rubber plantation not far from the small village of Long Tan. Eighteen Australians were killed and 24 were wounded.

The bravery displayed by D Company was recognised with a United States Presidential Unit Citation; only the third time that an Australian Army unit has received such a significant honour.

I was 15 years old when I joined the Royal Australian Navy and joined HMAS Sydney for my first sea posting before travelling to Vietnam in 1966 onboard the Vung Tau Ferry as it became known. I would go from being a 17-year-old boy from Far North Queensland to being a man who was involved in one of the most polarizing conflicts of our nation's history.

As the war progressed, Australia stepped out from under the cloak of the British Empire and we fought alongside our new brothers-in-arms, the United States of America, and with our mates from New Zealand.

At home, the mood about the war was shifting and was losing political support. The level of support Australians showed our fathers and grandfathers who fought in the two World Wars and Korea started to wane for the troops who were facing a new type of war closer to home. We returned to demonstrations and conflict, felt alienated by our communities and the RSL, and it wasn't until 1987 that our service was publicly acknowledged with a 'welcome home march'.

I know that the unfolding situation in Afghanistan is impacting on veterans of this conflict, their families, and Vietnam veterans alike as we all process our emotions about our involvement and remember the mates we lost. It has served to highlight that the connection between all veterans is stronger than ever, regardless of where we served, and we do understand each other.

This time of reflection serves as an important reminder that there are now many generations that have fought to protect our country and the League must ensure that it looks after them. It pains me to think that any veteran of a conflict since Vietnam has not found the service and support, they need from the RSL.

I encourage my fellow veterans to also use this day to reflect on what it means to wear the RSL badge; a symbol of constant readiness to render service to Crown, country, and our comrades. Today, and every day, we must support our mates, regardless of what war, conflict, or peace-keeping mission they were involved in.

Sadly, many of our mates are no longer with us and I take this opportunity to say we will remember them. For those of us who are still here today I say, as members of the League, we must continue to honour the dead but fight like hell for the living as we support our fellow veterans and connect them with the mateship, camaraderie, and services they need.

I hope that next year we can gather in-person to commemorate Vietnam Veterans Day and share our experiences and stories. Lest we forget.



LIFE MEMBERSHIPS

We are delighted that several Life Memberships have been awarded so far this year, unfortunately due to lockdown non have sadly been presented with their badges.

Our congratulations to :

Patricia Perry	Ingleburn RSL Auxiliary
Linda Whiedon	Ingleburn RSL Auxiliary
Grace Franks	Manilla RSL Auxiliary
Sally-Ann Maslen	Bundeena RSL Auxiliary
Yvonne Bleach	Bundeena RSL Auxiliary
Patricia Buttenshaw	Sawtell RSL Auxiliary
Mair Fullerton	East Maitland RSL Auxiliary

At Sawtell, even though the badges weren't available they were still able to celebrate and their last meeting prior to lockdown.

Patricia Parker & Trish Buttenshaw of Sawtell RSL Auxiliary



Again, our congratulations to our
7 New Life Members, what a great
achievement



For anyone who has access to YouTube, check out this wonderful video that was put together by Mrs Linda Hurley, O J Rushton and the OZY Youth Choir to support our Vietnam Veterans and their families for an online service on Vietnam Veterans Day 2021 <https://youtu.be/IQNHxTyuB64>

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE QUILT

As you know we started the Thank You For Your Service Quilt program a few years ago, initially the criteria for receiving a quilt was that the recipient must be a returned service person, however there are many non-returned ex-service people, who are worthy of recognition for the work they do for veterans and the League, so our criteria has now been changed to reflect that.

We have a fabulous team of volunteers who make these beautiful quilts, so a huge thank you to Kaye Brown, Jan Hawken, Kerry Christopher and Ann-Marie Jacobs for all their hard work.

If any of you like to be involved, we would love to have you join us, that could be making a quilt, quilting a quilt, providing fabric, please contact Pauline for more information.

Over the last few months we have had several very worthy recipients and we certainly thank them for their service.



John Power - Vice President
Leeton sub Branch
(Vietnam Veteran Army)



Ross Filmer - President
Ungarie sub Branch
(Navy Veteran)



Kerry Chisholm - Bargo
Fire Brigade 672 days in
Vietnam (Army Veteran)



Tom Gray - Dubbo (Navy
Veteran) this beautiful quilt was
made by Elizabeth Allen (OAM)
)



Mrs Heather Whittaker,
Vice President Leeton
sub Branch &
Coordinator Leeton RSL
Auxiliary.

This gorgeous quilt was
made and donated by
former CCWA
Councillor Mrs Emily
Herden in 2019.

Sadly Emily has since
passed away



Garry Heskett Coffs Harbour sub Branch (Army) Ray presented Garry with his Thank You For Your Service Quilt, Garry was also instrumental in restarting Coffs Harbour RSL Auxiliary

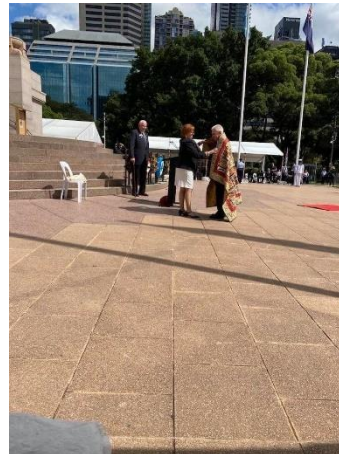


Bankstown Terry Corcoran John Woodley & Ian Morrison

We are very grateful to Bankstown sub Branch who made a very generous donations towards our Invictus Games project back in 2018



Eric Tweedale the oldest living Wallaby 336 Rugby Career 1937 -1958 Royal Australian Navy War Veteran



Ron Glew, was presented with his quilt at the Sydney War Memorial, Ron from Balmain/Rozelle sub Branch, he is President of RAAF Association and is the first Vietnam Veteran RAAF member to receive a Thank You For Your Service Quilt

If you would like to nominate someone to receive a Thank You For Your Service Quilt please contact Pauline at auxiliaries@rslnsw.org.au.

AROUND THE AUXILIARIES

BARADINE RSL AUXILIARY in the Central west of NSW

WE were able to hold a very successful raffle day just before ANZAC day to raise funds for ongoing local costs. I have attached a photo of the Baradine Ladies Auxiliary members Helen Harvey, Gizela Evans, Evelyn Hampton and Cathy Johnston.

Our ANZAC day parade and service was very well attended and a large number of ex residents and family attended the day . This was preceded by the Dawn service held at the small community of Gwabegar which also attracted a large crowd which then enjoyed breakfast provided by the local community. I have attached a photo of some of the attendees at the Gwabegar Dawn Service and a Quilt made in remembrance of ANZAC day.

Sadly, our Victory in the Pacific Day has had to be cancelled due to all the Covid lockdowns around our district.

Evelyn Hampton



PORT MACQUARIE RSL AUXILIARY

Jason Gill, the Acting President of the Port Macquarie Sub- Branch presenting Sandra Smith with a Thank You certificate for her support and hard work for the RSL over the years.

Sandra joined the Port Macquarie RSL Auxiliary in 2013. She became Treasurer and served in that position until she became the Coordinator.

Sandra and her husband are moving to Sydney to be close to family. Alf, Sandra's husband has been the welfare officer for the Sub -Branch for several years.

Both Sandra and Alf will be sadly missed, their devotion to the RSL over the years has been exceptional. The time, energy and effort they both put into supporting the RSL is to be commended.

Regards Lyn Elliott



Well done Port Macquarie RSL Sub Branch Auxiliary on your donation to the Port Macquarie RSL Sub Branch \$1000



DUBBO RSL AUXILIARY

Elizabeth and Vi selling for the Anzac Appeal 2021
Vi is 97 years old



CANTERBURY HURLSTONE PARK RSL AUXILIARY



Poppies knitted by Auxiliary members



CASTLE HILL RSL AUXILIARY

All the large poppies as well as the knitted ones were made Auxiliary members



LEETON RSL AUXILIARY



BASS HILL RSL AUXILIARY



PENHURST RSL AUXILIARY

Pre lockdown fundraising Walk-a-thon





FUNDRAISING

As I mentioned earlier, Anzac Day & Remembrance Day Tokens are no longer sourced from DefenceCare. It is up to each sub Branch/Auxiliary to source their own and now all proceeds are retained by the sub Branch.

A lot of sub Branches/Auxiliaries have tokens left over from previous years, these can still be sold however, to do this the any mention that the proceeds go to WBI or DefenceCare must be removed, it is very important that this be removed as it is breaking the law for it to falsely advertised this way.



For Anzac Day this year, we want to send out a big thank you to the Auxiliary members who came into ANZAC House today to help with getting the tokens ready for sale



Of course you can knit or crochet poppies, the options are now endless and not forgetting the face masks.

No matter when the current lockdowns are lifted, face masks are something we are going to be needing for a long time to come, I know some of you have been making them yourselves and anyone who wants to make them, there are hundreds of tutorials on YouTube. Jenny Leach has been sewing her fingers off recently making poppy masks with the proceeds going to DefenceCare.

If you would like to purchase these masks, they are available for \$10 each (minimum order of 20) plus postage. You can email your order through your sub Branch to auxiliaries@rslnsw.org.au, an invoice will be issued by RSL NSW to that sub Branch.

Jenny is also making Badge Holders, these are \$10 each plus postage to purchase please contact Jenny direct at jenniferlesley0456@gmail.com



A number of the masks made by Jenny are available for sale to the public for \$15.00 at the Sydney War Memorial.

A number of sub Branches have already purchased masks, thank you for the photo's:



Ron & Gary from Bass Hill RSL sub Branch &



Bronte Pollard from Kirribilli RSL sub Branch

We are very grateful to all the sub Branches, Auxiliaries etc who have purchased Poppy Face Masks and have made it possible to already donate approximately \$9,000 to DefenceCare.

There is a chance to win a mask and matching scarf coming up.

DefenceCare is an important part of our organisation, I thought you may be interested in knowing some of what they do.

RSL DefenceCare – Quarterly update – April-June 2021

Over the last three months a lot has happened for the veteran community, and Australia as a whole. In April, we were fortunate to be able to return to large scale, in-person commemorative services for ANZAC Day. Unfortunately, COVID-19 outbreaks have once again led to restrictions on how we can travel, gather and connect as a community.

During this time, we have continued to support Australian veterans and their families in need. We are focused on the lifetime wellbeing of veterans and provide free welfare support and services to veterans and their families. We offer help with Department of Veterans' Affairs claims, advocacy at Veterans' Review Board hearings, housing assistance, employment support and financial assistance.

Between April and June 2021, RSL DefenceCare was able to:

Provide \$80,590 in financial assistance including \$45,000 in disaster assistance.

Assist 35 veterans experiencing homelessness.

Help 166 veterans to lodge 693 DVA claims.

Make 88 virtual or socially distanced visits to veterans and family members at homes, hospitals or nursing homes.

Lodge 34 new VRB appeals, complete 57 Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) mediation discussions and represent 9 full VRB Board Hearings.

Wellbeing support

Over the last three months, we have continued to provide wellbeing support to veterans and their families across New South Wales. Two new Veteran Support Coordinators joined our Wellbeing Team and we are continuing to build networks to better support veterans in need.

One of our clients, Wayne, and our Housing Project Officer, Mamour, were also featured in an article for the June edition of Reveille magazine.

"The support meant that I am no longer struggling, not only financially, but mentally too. Since working with Mamour and the RSL DefenceCare team, I feel more positive and am continuing my studies to see what happens. Also, I know that if I require any help in the future, help is only a phone call away." – Mark, an Army veteran and housing assistance client

DVA claims and appeals

Our professionally trained and accredited claims advisors and advocates continued to support veterans and their families over the last three months, assisting with claims to DVA that help provide clients with financial security. Our team's compassionate approach provides our

clients with a better understanding of DVA's processes, while also reducing stress and anxiety.

These services, like all of those offered by RSL DefenceCare, are free of charge.

"I think RSL defence care advocates are an incredible resource." – A grateful client.

Always there

In light of tightening COVID-19 restrictions across NSW, we understand this can be a stressful and isolating time for many. It is important we all remain connected and supportive. On behalf of all the team at RSL DefenceCare, our thoughts are with you and your families.

Our efforts are proudly supported by funds from RSL NSW and RSL sub-Branches, and the services we provide would not be possible without the generous support of donors.

VETERANS' WELFARE SUPPORT AUGUST 2021



We made **38 virtual or socially distanced 'visits'** to veterans, family members and widows.



We assisted **18 veterans experiencing homelessness**



We helped **92 veterans** to lodge **298 DVA claims**.



Lockdown is causing more people to cook and bake which can't be a bad thing, even Pauline has hit the kitchen and we all know that's not one of her fortes, so on your behalf I will pass on our thoughts and prayers to Ray & Paul.

Do you have a favourite recipe?, how about sharing it with us, just pop me an email and it will go in the next Newsletter.

Anzac Biscuits are for every day not just Anzac Day, who makes their own?

How about trying this recipe?



1 cup Plain Flour

1 cup Rolled Oats

1 cup Desiccated Coconut

1 cup Brown Sugar

125g Butter

1 tbsp Golden Syrup

1 tbsp Hot Water

1 tsp Bicarb Soda

METHOD

Preheat the oven to 175 degrees Celsius.

Combine the flour, oats, coconut and sugar in a large bowl. In a saucepan, melt the butter and then add the golden syrup. Bring it to the boil before removing it from the stove.

Mix the hot water and bicarb soda and add it to the butter and syrup – it should froth up. Pour this into the dry ingredients and stir together. If the mixture is a little dry, add some water.

Taking spoonful's of the mixture, roll them into balls and put them on a greased baking tray, about 5cm apart.

Use a fork to flatten them and then put them in the oven for 15 minutes or until they're golden brown.

Let them cool on the baking tray for about a minute, and then move them to a

GARDEN OF REMEMBRANCE



BETTY HOBBS -SAWTELL

25th September, 1926-07th July, 2021

Betty was a Life Member of the Sawtell RSL Sub Branch Women's Auxiliary, who served with distinction and faithfully observed the pledge undertaken at that time from when she first joined in October, 1954. She was a foundation member with Badge number 194. Maintaining her membership, her support to the cause never wavered to this day.

She served as:

Secretary in 1962

Treasurer in 1963

President for 12 years starting in 1979-1990.

Publicity Officer 1983.

She was awarded:

RSL Sub Branch Women's Auxiliary Life Membership in 1980.

Awarded Appreciation of 50 yrs service 2017

Awarded Appreciation of 65 years Service 2021.

She was a wearer of many hats over the years.

She was the Secretary of the RSL Auxiliary Welfare Group, Treasurer of Sawtell United Hospital Auxiliary, involved with the R.S.L. Hospital visitations and on the Pensioner Committee. She attended and assisted with various fund raising and worthy events such as:

The Theatre and Reserve Hall were the venues for many fundraising concerts that Betty helped organise for the RSL Sub Branch and Club, Meals on Wheels, Raffles (Meat & Chook), Street Stalls, North Coast meetings, Car boot Sales, Mannequin Parades, serving Anzac Day lunches in the RSL club to Returned Service Men and Woman till 1992, Anzac and Poppy Day Sales.

All this and working 16 ½ years at Woolworths in Coffs Harbour as Service Manager and Section Manager there until retiring in 1977.

When Torchbearers for Legacy was formed in 1967 she was the first President and continued in office till 1973.

The very successful "Back to Sawtell Week" held in September 1981 was another event Betty instigated.

Secretary to Sawtell Women's Bowls club 1977-1980

Secretary of the Reserve Management Committee for 3 ½ years.

What amazing community spirit!

We will remember Betty with love and affection.

May you Rest in Peace, Betty. We are indeed honoured to have had you as a member and a friend.
Janet Dawson

Coordinator Sawtell



MAY DENNIS



Sad news, one of our Life Member Mrs May Dennis passed away peacefully with her beautiful daughter Colleen Halls by her side. May held the position of Secretary of Panania RSSL Women's Auxiliary (now closed) for over 40 years, she worked hard for Auxiliary even after entering a Nursing Home she continued making poppies etc. Rest in Peace May

JENNIFER HENDERSON – BATEMANS BAY

Jenny joined Batemans Bay Auxiliary February 2016 after transferring from Smithfield Women's Auxiliary. She lived with her husband and son, a Returned Serviceman at Long Beach. Sadly, she was involved in a car accident in a car park late last year and was never the same, health wise, Rest in Peace Jenny.

SHEILA MARGARET JOHNSON - INGLEBURN

Aged 79 years

Passed away 31 May 2021 following the result of a fall

Sheila joined the Ingleburn RSL Auxiliary in 2011.

Sheila had a disability and was constantly in a wheelchair. This did not hinder her efforts during her time as a member and resulted in her actively selling ANZAC and Poppy tokens every year over the past 10 years in the local supermarkets and the foyer of the Ingleburn RSL Club Limited. Sheila was active in social activities of the Auxiliary and supported the Auxiliary fundraising by making items for sale on the trading table and providing raffle prizes for our Christmas & special Day raffles.



Sheila was also the President of the Ingleburn CWA and had held that position for well over 15 years.

Sheila will be sorely missed as one of our active members.

We will remember you Sheila.

ELGWEN HERDEGEN – SAWTELL

Elgwen (known as Gwen) Herdegen OAM, Life member of

Sawtells RSL Auxiliary, sadly passed away September, 2021 at the wonderful age of 101 years.

Gwen joined the Auxiliary in 1951 when there was only 5 members. She has held various Executive positions thru this Time. While physically able to do so, she has not hesitated to come forward and assist whenever the need arises during the 70 years she had been a member.

Her achievements, service dedication and contributions have been recognized with many awards.

Her awards are as listed below:

- Woman's Auxiliary Life Membership Feb, 1976
- Special Award from the NSW Sub-Branch Merit Badge for 50 years Service as well as a certificate from the Sawtell RSL Sub-Branch in 2001
- Sawtellian of the Year Award 2011
- Awarded Central Council of Women's Auxiliary Appreciation of 50 years Service Certificate 2017
- Order of Australia Medal 2018

Rest in Peace Gwen.



Our condolences to the family and friends of Esther Kathleen Kitching OAM who was instrumental in the Youth Club program of the Returned and Services League of Australia, for which he received an OAM in 2006. Rest in Peace.



Hopefully by the time you receive this Newsletter we may have more positive news regarding Covid 19 and the lockdown, please stay safe, keep in touch with each other and if there is anything we can do to help, please contact either Pauline or myself

✉ auxiliaries@rslnsw.org.au

☎ Pauline James: 0411 877 396

☎ Sue Allen: 0409 608 901

Sueallen123@bigpond.com



Pauline James, Marie Gittard
French -Australian Chamber
of Commerce & Industry,
Mrs Ann -Claire Legendre,
French Consulate & O J
Ruston

Our beautiful Poppy Face Mask are actually made from extra large Poppy Scarves as you can see from our lovely models here they make a gorgeous set.

You can win a set (mask & matching scarf) by doing one of three things, Yes we have three prizes

1. Send us your email address to be added to the database for future Newsletters,
2. Send us your favourite recipe that can go into a Newsletter or
3. Let us know what you have been doing during lockdown.

We have beautiful Poppy Ties available should a male member be a winner.

Winners will be drawn on Remembrance Day 11th November, 2021 at 6.00pm winners will be notified.

Please ensure all your members are included in this competition.

Please enter, good luck to everyone



RSL FUNERAL SERVICE FOR AUXILIARY MEMBER



**THIS TRIBUTE SHALL ONLY BE USED WITH THE PRIOR
CONSENT OF THE RELATIVES OF THE DECEASED MEMBER.**

The Burial/Cremation Tribute for a deceased Member of the RSL Auxiliary may be varied and adapted to suit the local circumstances.

The RSL segment of the overall service should only be conducted by the RSL sub-Branch President or his representative or the Coordinator of the Auxiliary or their representative.

It is recommended that a White flower be used in the service, (NOTE: RED POPPIES ARE NOT TO BE USED) Not a red flower, any other colour can be used.

At the appropriate time in the service, as agreed with the Minister or Celebrant, the RSL sub-Branch or Auxiliary Coordinator or their representative says:



We are assembled here today to honour

.....

**A former member of our Auxiliary, who served the
Auxiliary with distinction and faithfully observed
the pledge undertaken at the time she joined as a
member.**

(INSERT THE DECEASED PERSONAL DETAILS)

**Would you all please stand and join with me
reverently in silence as a tribute to**

Speaker says:

“LEST WE FORGET”



Attachment 2.



RSL AUXILIARY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

RSL sub-Branch:

Full Name:

Address:
.....
.....
.....

Phone:

Email:

D.O.B:

Signature of Applicant:

.....

Date signed:

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Please circle as appropriate below:

Application: ACCEPTED DECLINED – Reason:
.....

Date recorded in register:

Date receipt issued:

Hon. Secretary Signature:

.....

THE RETURNED AND SERVICES LEAGUE OF AUSTRALIA (NEW SOUTH WALES BRANCH) AUXILIARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION AND PROCEDURES

Qualifications for Award

The Award is the highest honour which can be bestowed upon an Ordinary Member of an Auxiliary, and therefore, all recommendations should be thoroughly considered in that light, prior to submission.

All applications for Auxiliary Member honours and awards must be endorsed and submitted through the sub Branch or the RSL Auxiliary Coordinator to RSL NSW for approval.

The nominee must have had at least fifteen (15) years of continuous service as a member of an Auxiliary, ten (10) years of which are considered to be honorary service work to be considered has to be associated with RSL work and Charities only. In country areas, some recognised charities [not RSL exclusively] may be considered. Service rendered as Patron or paid Auditor is not considered as qualifying service for the award nor are services rendered to a Registered Club or to local Schools, Churches, Surf Clubs, Scouts etc. are considered.

No member can nominate themselves.

The Life Members form will not be accepted unless all Questions are answered

ALL PARTS OF THE FOLLOWING FORM MUST BE ANSWERED

Please ensure contents of forms are legible. The signatures on the Life Membership Form are at times indecipherable therefore the printing of the names next to the signature is requested.

No Life Membership application is to be accompanied by Statutory Declarations or letters of support. Once the nomination is received by RSL NSW it will be put to a Selection Committee.

This Committee comprised of four (4) members and an approval of 3 out of 4 is needed to have the nomination proceed. Should any member of this committee have a personal connection to the nominee they will stand aside and have no further involvement in the process.

RECOMMENDATION FOR THE AWARD OF AUXILIARIES LIFE MEMBERSHIP

The sub Branch recommends

Mr/Mrs / Miss..... (Surname)

..... (Christian Names)

for the Award of Life Membership.

Date of Birth/...../.....

Members full Postal Address

.....

.....

Post Code.....

Date of Joining Auxiliary / /

Has the member had a minimum of 15 years of Service?

Has the member rendered 10 years of Honorary Service?

Give Details of Service.

Day Month and Year in chronological sequence of office and position held.

Dates

From/...../.....to...../...../.....

.....

...../...../..... to...../...../.....

.....

...../...../..... to...../...../.....

.....

...../...../..... to...../...../.....

.....

AUXILIARY CITATION IN SUPPORT OF RECOMMENDATION

General summary in praise of the candidates, actions, character, accomplishment, and value to the

Auxiliary. Do not add documents, photocopies or Statuary Declarations. Use this form only

[illegible]

[Signature] Coordinator

Date.....

Please print names

GENERAL ACTIVITIES

Please answer all questions.

Fundraising General (Raffles, stalls, luncheons and other functions)

.....

.....

.....

ANZAC Badges and Poppies

.....

.....

.....

Community RSL (other selected charities [country areas only])

.....

.....

.....

Assist sub-Branch

.....

.....

.....

Sub Branch President (Print Name)

Signature

Auxiliary Coordinator (Print Name)

Signature Date.....