

# The Returned and Services League of Australia

Tweed Heads & Coolangatta Sub Branch  
NEWSLETTER

## "LOOKING AFTER OUR OWN"

April/May, 2011 Edition



Returned & Services  
League of Australia



Tweed Heads & Coolangatta  
Sub-Branch

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**Secretary: Dr. John Griffin - 07 55361164**

**Treasurer: Norman Henstridge - 07 55344644**

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# Tweed Heads & Coolangatta Sub Branch Newsletter

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## TWEED HEADS & COOLANGATTA SUB-BRANCH RETURNED AND SERVICES LEAGUE OF AUSTRALIA



### ANZAC DAY NEWSLETTER

Following are the arrangements for ANZAC DAY, MONDAY 25<sup>th</sup> April 2011.

#### DAWN SERVICE

Assemble on the grassed area in the front corner of **Chris Cunningham Park**, nearest to Twin Towns Services Club at 5.45am. **March off is at 5.55am.** Those Veterans who wish to be seated for the service are asked to form up at the front of the March.

#### TWIN TOWNS BREAKFAST

Directly after the Dawn Service a breakfast will be available from Twin Towns Services Club for \$5. There will be no charge to any Service Personnel in uniform.

#### TWEED HEADS & SOUTH TWEED CEMETERY

Following the Dawn Breakfast a short service will be held at the Tweed Heads South Cemetery at 9.15am then to the Tweed Heads Cemetery at 9.35am. A bus will be provided from the TTSC Main Entrance, departing at 8.55am, for those who wish to attend.

#### MAIN SERVICE \*\*\*\*\*Parade Marshals will be in attendance to direct all personnel.

*Note: A bus will be provided to Goodwin Park, departing from the TTSC Main Entrance at 9.50am sharp. A second run will occur if numbers dictate. "Bus for Us" is kindly donating their bus this year.*

Assemble in Goodwin Park, Coolangatta from 10.00 am.

Jeep – Driver Jim Wilding with Wally Cameron (Ex Middle East and New Guinea) & Gerald Rosenburge (ex Prisoner of War) will be riding in the jeep this year.

Children's Parade – will march off at 10.20am from Chalk Street.

Vintage Cars/Minibuses – carrying incapacitated veterans will move off at 10.25am from Jarvis Lane on the northern side of Goodwin Park.

Main Parade – will **march off at 10.30am** from Goodwin Park into Warner Street, right into Griffith Street, Coolangatta then right into Wharf Street, Tweed Heads to the Memorial in Chris Cunningham Park where the ANZAC Day Service will be held (starting at approx. 11.00am)

#### ORDERS OF DRESS FOR ANZAC DAY

Members are requested to wear shirt with collar, slacks, shoes and medals - coat optional.

#### ANZAC LUNCHEON

A Luncheon will be held in the VISIONS Room for **TWEED HEADS & COOLANGATTA RSL SUB BRANCH MEMBERS, CARERS AND INVITED GUESTS ONLY** Between 12.00pm and 3.30pm and the usual liquid refreshments will be available. **Identification is required** - please show your 2011 Qld RSL Membership Card.

*Cost for the luncheon will be \$5.00 a head. Due to catering purposes tickets can be purchased from the Sub Branch Office from the 4<sup>TH</sup> April 2011.*

**JJ RUSSELL**  
President



Proudly supported by Twin Towns Services Club Ltd



## **ANZAC Day Care Packages for ADF Members Serving Overseas.**

Following requests from a number of community based organisations and private citizens, the Australian Defence Force (ADF) has established special mailing addresses for members of the public to send ANZAC Day care packages to service men and women serving on operations overseas.

Members of the public are able to send parcels through Australia Post, so long as they do not exceed a 2kg cubic weight. Items weighing up to 2kg and posted in a "BM" size Australia Post carton can be posted without cost to the sender. Parcels exceeding this limit will incur full postal charges which must be paid by the sender.

The postal addresses are active from 14 March until 15 April and packages will be distributed throughout the appropriate operational areas. For postage security reasons, parcels must be posted in person with presentation of photograph identification and can be lodged at any Australia Post outlet. Address parcels to:

An Australian Soldier/Sailor/Airman/Airwoman,  
ANZAC Day Mail, using the following addresses:

### **Middle East:**

Middle East Operations, AFPO 60, Australian Defence Force, NSW, 2890.

### **East Timor:**

East Timor Operations, AFPO 61, Australian Defence Force, NSW, 2890

### **Solomon Islands:**

Solomon Islands Operations, AFPO 62, Australian Defence Force, NSW, 2890.

The ADF Joint Operations Command Director of General Support, Brigadier Dianne Gallasch, said deployed service personnel usually have access to essential personal items and those care package items most often appreciated include uniquely Australian treats such as lollies, as well as magazines, books and DVDs.

"Defence subsidises care packages to deployed personnel for ANZAC Day and Christmas each year and, on behalf of those members of the ADF who will receive care packages this ANZAC Day, I would like to thank the public and community groups, particularly the RSL, for their thoughtfulness and kindness;" Brigadier Gallasch said.

Information on sending ANZAC Day messages and care packages is available on the Defence website at <http://www.defence.gov.au/anzacday/mail/index.htm>. An alternate option to individual members of the public sending care packages is to donate to the RSL Australian Forces Overseas Fund (AFOF). Twice a year the AFOF provides packages to ADF, Australian Federal Police and AusAID personnel serving overseas.

Further information regarding the AFOF is available on the RSL website (<http://www.rsl.org.au/>).

## **To the members of the Gold Coast District RSL (and those who helped to complete the care packages).**

We are very grateful that you all have taken the time to prepare and send the Australian Soldier packages to us. The sheer amount of packages you send over must take a huge amount of people and resources, and to do so every 3 months is amazing.

Favourites among the troops are the Vegemite tubes and of course Tim Tams. Some have also been lucky enough to receive excellent quality coffee bags which are a welcome change to Nescafe Bend 43!

The weather is beginning to get warmer over here, with current temperatures ranging from 15-23 degrees. This is a relief from the extremely cold days and nights that we have experienced over the past few months.

We are now over five months into our tour, but despite this, motivation to achieve our mission has not waned.

This is of course helped by knowing that so many Australians are supporting us.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you on behalf of the Mentoring Task Force 2 Command Post staff, for the many packages and the much needed morale boost they have provided to all of us.

Kind regards,

Private Emmet Taylor, Private Matt Mitchell, Gunner Josh McCabe, Lieutenant Alex Knox

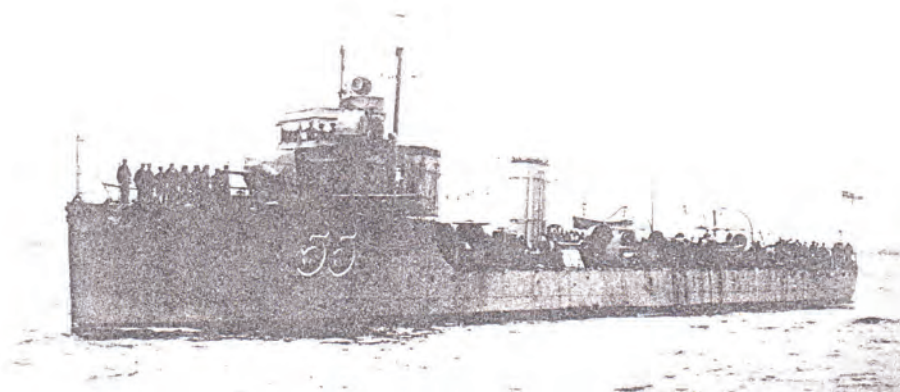
Members of Mentoring Task Force 2.

## **Calendar of Events for Tweed Heads & Coolangatta RSL Sub-Branch in 2011.**

<b>Day/Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Time (Qld)</b>	<b>Venue</b>
Fri. 21 January	Committee Meeting.	09.00	Conference Room
Mon. 31 January	Members' General Meeting	12.00 noon	Signature's Resort
Fri. 18 February	Committee Meeting.	09.00	Conference Room
Mon. 28 February	Members' General Meeting	12.00 noon	ANZAC Room
Sat 12 March	Host GCD Council	09..30	Renaissance Room
Fri. 18 March	Committee Meeting	09.00	Conference Room
Mon. 28 March	Annual General Meeting	12.00 noon	ANZAC Room
Fri. 15 April	Committee Meeting	09.00	Conference Room
Mon. 18 April	Members' General Meeting	12.00 noon	ANZAC Room
Mon. 25 April	ANZAC DAY	All day	
Fri. 20 May	Committee Meeting	09.00	Conference Room
Mon. 30 May	Members' General Meeting	12.00 noon	ANZAC Room
Fri. 17 June	Committee Meeting	09.00	Conference Room
Mon. 27 June	Members' General Meeting	12.00 noon	ANZAC Room
Fri. 15 July	Committee Meeting	09.00	Conference Room
Mon. 25 July	Members' General Meeting	12.00 noon	ANZAC Room
Fri. 19 August	Committee Meeting	09.00	Conference Room
Mon. 29 August	Members' General Meeting	12.00 noon	ANZAC Room
Fri. 16 September	Committee Meeting	09.00	Conference Room
Mon. 26 September	Members' General Meeting	12.00 noon	ANZAC Room
Fri. 21 October	Committee Meeting	09.00	Conference Room
Mon. 31 October	Members' General Meeting	12.00 noon	ANZAC Room
Fri. 11 November	REMEMBRANCE DAY	10.00	Chris. Cunningham Park
Fri. 18 November	Committee Meeting	09.00	Conference Room
Mon. 28 November	Members' General Meeting	12.00	ANZAC Room
Fri. 16 December	Committee Meeting	09.00	Conference Room

### **Ex-Services Organisations, Composite Programme of Events**

<b>Day</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Lead E.S.O.</b>	<b>Event</b>
Monday	18 April,'11	Twin Towns S.Sect. NAA.	Coach departs TTSC at 08.30 a.m. Morning tea at Brunswick Hds. Visit Navy Museum, Ballina. BYO Lunch at RSL Club, Ballina. Visit Thursday (Ti Tree) Plantation., then Macadamia Castle for BYO refreshments. Fare: \$25 Members. \$30 Visitors. Bookings: Keith Fendley, 07 55364362
Thursday	09 June,'11	TH&CRSLSB	Coach to RAAF Base, Amberley. Depart TTSC 0715. M.T on Base. B.Y.O. lunch at Goodna RSL Club. Visit G.C. War Museum. Members only. Fare \$10. Tickets on sale from Monday, 28 March,'11 at TH&C Sub-Branch office.



HMAS Parramatta, first ship of the Commonwealth of Australia Navy.

### Gold Coast Navy Week, 2011

The Gold Coast Navy Week Committee is holding its annual Memorial Church Service and Luncheon on Sunday, 23 October, 2011.

This year, we will be celebrating the Centenary of the Royal Australian Navy.

We, as an organization, feel that this is an opportunity for all ex ship-mates to get together to celebrate such an historic event.

Dignitaries from the Gold Coast City Council, the Royal Australian Navy, the Naval Cadet Units, the Naval Association of Australia, together with representatives from the RSL and other ex service and community organisations have been invited to attend the service and luncheon.

The Committee is producing a Commonwealth Tawny Port to celebrate the occasion.

Invitations to attend the functions will be forwarded in July, together with Port order forms.

Yours sincerely,

Jim Dee, Chairman, G.C.Navy Week Committee.

P.O.Box 869, Mudgeeraba, Qld., 4213. Ph: 0407 175 044. Email: jamesdee8@bigpond.com



### Information for Australians attending Overseas ANZAC Day services.



Australians planning to travel to Gallipoli, Turkey, or Villers-Bretonneux, France, for ANZAC Day commemorations in 2011 should register online to receive important updates.

The Gallipoli registration service provides tips on what to bring and what to expect. The France registration service provides updates to arrangements including changes to commemorations or in the event of an emergency.

Registration is optional and entry to commemorations is still available to those who have not registered. This is not a ticketing system, but a way to better plan for future events in the lead up to commemorations for the centenary of the landing at Gallipoli.

To register for Gallipoli, visit [www.gallipoliregistration.com](http://www.gallipoliregistration.com) or, for France, visit [www.franceregistration.com](http://www.franceregistration.com).

For more information on ANZAC Day services in Gallipoli or France visit [www.dva.gov.au/anzac](http://www.dva.gov.au/anzac).

## Be Moneysmart and Take Control of Your Finances

A new website to help consumers navigate their finances is the first part of the National Financial Literacy Strategy and an important plank in the first stage of the Gillard Government's new banking competition public awareness campaign.

[MoneySmart.gov.au](http://MoneySmart.gov.au), developed by the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC), was launched in Melbourne on World Consumer Rights Day by Assistant Treasurer Bill Shorten and Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer, David Bradbury

The website is the first part of the National Financial Literacy Strategy and will form part of the Government's public awareness and education campaign announced last year to help consumers work out the best banking deals for them.

"This website is a fantastic way for people to see how different life events will impact on their finances."

There are 26 calculators and tools, including specially-designed mobile phone apps, to help people find the answers to their questions about money.

Whether you are signing up for your first mobile phone contract, starting a family or saving for retirement, the MoneySmart website offers independent, unbiased guidance. Mr. Shorten said.

Mr. Bradbury, who has responsibility for consumer policy and financial literacy, said that a better understanding of personal finances can empower people to make better choices.

"The Gillard Government wants people to be better informed about the choices they make so that they can take control of their own finances. We think it's important that people take into account all of the risks and benefits before making decisions on their finances. Understanding more about your financial health can help you set goals and grow your wealth. Often the first steps are the hardest to take, but something as simple as working out a household budget with the help of MoneySmart can make a big difference." Mr. Bradbury said.

Mr. Shorten said the MoneySmart website would also be an important part of the Government's public awareness campaign to help consumers get the best possible deal out of their financial institutions.

"The Gillard Government wants to make sure that all Australians have access to high-quality, independent information to help them find a better banking deal and switch banks." he said.

*Media Release No. 008 of 15 March, 2011.*

## Brandnet versus RSL (Queensland Branch) Badges.

A letter, dated 15 March, 2011, from Chris. McHugh CSC, Chief Executive Officer, RSL (Queensland Branch)

Dear Members,

You may be aware Brandnet is advertising a catalogue in competition to the RSL Nationwide featuring a number of the same badges as RSL (Queensland Branch) are selling for ANZAC Day. The price Brandnet have quoted of \$1.75 is less than the quoted price of RSL (Queensland Branch) stock.

We are aware of this price difference and, in the spirit of competition, are prepared to price match Brandnet on the same products they are offering in order to make the sale and ensure the profits are returned to the ex-service community, not lost to a commercial entity with no social obligations.

Please be aware that the proceeds from the sale of our badges go to the the RSL across the country to assist Sub-Branches and members through the services and programmes that we provide. **I remind you that Brandnet is a commercial entity and all proceeds from their sales go back to their two directors.**

**I seek your support in the purchase of Merchandising that will return funds to our members.**

**Chris. McHugh CSC.**



### QRSLBA-Gold Coast Zone

President	Gorden McLaren	55961210
Secretary	Les Taylor	55234746
Treasurer	Norman Bradbrook	55246565
Games Director	Garry Pickett	55904411



The **QRSLBA-GCZ** AGM on Sunday, 20 February returned all office bearers for another term of office. There were no responses to the Chairman's call for nominations from the floor for the positions of Minute Secretary and Tours Director but, after the meeting, Peter Dennerly volunteered his services as Minute Secretary. Thankyou Peter.

**The State Management Committee** arising from the AGM on Sunday, 6 March, is as follows:

President: G. McLaren. SVP: G Franklin. Secretary: L. Taylor. Treasurer: E. Richardson.

Chairman of State Selectors: R. O'Brien. Chairman of Match Committee: B. Triffett.

G. McLaren & L. Taylor are President & Secretary respectively of the **National Council**.

### QRSLBA State Championships, 2011.

Pairs: Sectional play, Sunday, 13 March:

Section 1: N. Bradbrook & G. Pickett, 4+14

Section 2: A. Marychurch & E. Richardson, 4+5.

Section 3: J. Bosisto & A. Kalnins, 4+21.

Section 4: E. Lymbery & R. O'Brien, 4+17.

Semi-final: J. Bosisto & A. Kalnins, 22 def. N. Bradbrook & G. Pickett, 19.

E. Lymbery & R. O'Brien, 25 def. A. Marychurch & E. Richardson, 13.

Final: E. Lymbery & R. O'Brien, 24 def. J. Bosisto & A. Kalnins, 16.

Fours: Sectional play, Sunday, 20 March.

Section 1: Round 1: B. Brown team, 24 def. G. Franklin team, 15.

Round 2: I. Wildman team, 12 def. B. Brown team, 10.

Round 3: G. Franklin team, 33 def. I. Wildman team, 8.

Result: G. Franklin team, 2+16. b. brown team, 2+7. I. Wildman team, 2-23.

Section 2: Round 1: D. Gibson team, 19 def. W. mcdougall team, 12.

A. Kalnins team won on forfeit.

Round 2: W. McDougall team, 18 def. A. Kalnins team, 15.

Round 3: A. Kalnins team, 19 def. D. Gibson team, 18.

Result: D. Gibson team, 4+9. A. Kalnins team, 4+5. W. McDougall team, 4+3.

Final to be conducted at Kallangur B. C. on Tuesday, 12 April, '11. Start at 09.30.

G. Franklin team Vs. D. Gibson team

### QRSLBA-GCZ Championship Fours, 2011.

Round One was played at McKenzie Park on Friday, 11 March, '11.

V. McCallum, B. Sydenham, J. Pearce & V. Melrose, 19 def. A. Rustichelli, J. Seibel, G. Pickett & M. Pearce, 17.

Round 2 to be played at Burleigh Heads on Sunday, 27 March, '11.

## The ANZAC Day Tradition

- What is ANZAC Day?
- Why is this day special to Australians?
- Early commemorations.
- What does it mean today?
- Dawn Service.
- The ANZAC Day ceremony.
- Features of a commemorative ceremony.

### What is ANZAC Day?

ANZAC Day— 25 April— is probably Australia’s most important national occasion. It marks the anniversary of the first major military action fought by Australian and New Zealand forces during the First World War. ANZAC stands for Australian and New Zealand Army Corps. The soldiers in those forces quickly became known as ANZACs, and the pride they soon took in that name endures to this day.

### Why is this day special to Australians?

When war broke out in 1914, Australia had been a federal commonwealth for only 14 years. The new national government was eager to establish its reputation among the nations of the world. In 1915, Australian and New Zealand Soldiers formed part of the allied expedition that set out to capture the Gallipoli peninsula to open the way to the Black Sea for the allied navies. The plan was to capture Constantinople (now Istanbul), the capital of the Ottoman Empire and an ally of Germany. They landed at Gallipoli on 25 April, meeting fierce resistance from the Turkish defenders. What had been planned as a bold stroke to knock Turkey out of the war quickly became a stalemate, and the campaign dragged on for eight months. At the end of 1915, the allied forces were evacuated after both sides had suffered heavy casualties and endured great hardships. Over 8,000 Australian soldiers were killed. News of the landing at Gallipoli made a profound impact on Australians at home and 25 April quickly became the day on which Australians remembered the sacrifice of those who had died in war.

Although the Gallipoli campaign failed in its military objectives of capturing Constantinople and knocking Turkey out of the war, the Australian and New Zealand actions during the campaign bequeathed an intangible but powerful legacy. The creation of what became known as the “ANZAC legend” became an important part of the national identity of both nations. This shaped the way they viewed both their past and future.

### Early commemorations.

The date, 25 April, was officially named ANZAC Day in 1916 and was marked by a wide variety of ceremonies and services in Australia. A march through London, and a sports day in the Australian camp in Egypt. In London, over 2,000 Australian and New Zealand troops marched through the streets. A London newspaper headline dubbed them “The knights of Gallipoli”. Marches were held all over Australia in 1916. Wounded soldiers from Gallipoli attended the Sydney march in convoys of cars, attended by nurses. For the remaining years of the war, ANZAC Day was used as an occasion for patriotic rallies and recruiting campaigns, and parades of serving members of the AIF were held in most cities.

During the 1920s, ANZAC Day became established as a national day of commemoration for the 60,000 Australians who died during the war. The first year in which all states observed some form of public holiday together on ANZAC Day was 1927. By the mid-1930s, all the rituals we today associate with the day—dawn vigils, marches, memorial services, reunions, two-up games—were firmly established as part of the ANZAC Day culture.

With the coming of the Second World War, ANZAC Day was used to also commemorate the lives of Australians lost in that war. In subsequent years, the meaning of the day has been further broadened to include Australians

### The ANZAC Day Tradition...continued from page 8.

killed in all the military operations in which Australia has been involved.

ANZAC Day was first commemorated at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra in 1942 but, due to government orders preventing large public gatherings in case of Japanese air attack, it was a small affair and was neither a march nor a memorial service. ANZAC Day has been annually commemorated at the AWM ever since.

### What does it mean today!

Australians recognise 25 April as an occasion of national commemoration. Commemorative services are held at dawn—the time of the original landing—across the nation. Later in the day, ex-servicemen and women meet and join in marches through the major cities and many smaller centres. Commemorative ceremonies are held at war memorials around the country. It is a day when Australians reflect on the many different meanings of war.

### Dawn Service.

The Dawn Service observed on ANZAC Day has its origins in an operational routine which is still observed by the Australian Army today. During battle, the half-light of dawn was one of the most favoured times for an attack. Soldiers in defensive positions were, therefore, woken up in the dark, before dawn, so by the time first light crept across the battlefield, they were awake, alert, and manning their weapons. This was, and still is, known as “stand-to”. It was also repeated at sunset.

After the First World War, returned soldiers sought the comradeship they felt in those quiet, peaceful moments before dawn. With symbolic links to the dawn landing at Gallipoli, a dawn stand-to or ceremony became a common form of ANZAC Day remembrance during the 1920s; the first official dawn service was held at the Sydney Cenotaph in 1927. Dawn services were originally very simple and followed the operational ritual. In many cases they were restricted to veterans only and the daytime ceremony was for families and other well-wishers. Before dawn, the gathered veterans would be ordered to “stand-to” and two minutes silence would follow. At the end of this time, a lone bugler would play the Last Post and then concluded the service with Reveille. In more recent times, the families and young people have been encouraged to take part in dawn services, and services in Australian capital cities have seen some of the largest turnouts ever. Reflecting this change, the ceremonies have become more elaborate, incorporating hymns, readings, pipers, and rifle volleys. Others, though, have retained the simple format of the dawn stand-to, familiar to so many soldiers.

### The ANZAC Day ceremony.

Each year the commemorations follow a pattern that is familiar to each generation of Australians. A typical ANZAC Day service contains the following features: introduction, hymn, prayer, an address, laying of wreaths, recitation, Last Post, a period of silence, Rouse or Reveille, and the National Anthem. At the Memorial, families often place red poppies beside the names of relatives on the Memorial's Roll of Honour after events such as the ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day services.

## ROSEMARY

Rosemary, an ancient symbol of remembrance, has particular significance for Australians as it can be found growing on the wild slopes of Gallipoli. Sprigs of Rosemary are worn on ANZAC Day, and often on Remembrance Day, by veterans and others attending services and parades.

The ancients believed it strengthened the memory, and on this account it became an emblem of fidelity and a symbol of remembrance. It can thus be associated with the ANZAC tradition of being loyal to one's mates and active in honouring the memory of fallen and departed comrades. With thanks to the AWM.



## VETERAN COMMUNITY NOTICES

- The **Tweed Heads & Coolangatta RSL Sub-Branch** general meeting of members is normally held in the ANZAC Room, TTSC on the last Monday of each month except December. The meeting starts at 12 noon Eastern Standard Time. A light lunch is provided after the meeting. Contact the Secretary, Dr. John Griffin, 07 55361164.
- The **Coolangatta/Tweed Heads Legacy Laurel Club** meets at 1.00 p.m., NSW time, in the Horizons Room, South Tweed Sports Club, on the second Wednesday of each month, except December and January. President: Dee Patchett, 07 55246600. Contact the Secretary, Ray Coles, 07 55365057.
  - The **Tweed/Coolangatta & District Ex-Service Women's Association Inc.** meets at 9.30 a.m., Qld time, in the ANZAC Room, TTSC, on the fourth Monday of each month, except January. President: Hilary Schmidt, 07 55368054. Contact the Secretary, Denise Arnold, 13 1559.
  - The **Gold Coast/Tweed Heads EDA War Veterans Association** meets at 10.00 a.m. (Qld.), at the TTSC (check the noticeboard at main reception for venue), on the second Monday of every month. Contact the Secretary, Heather White, 07 55934412.
  - The **Association of Queensland Korea Veterans Inc.** normally meets in the Integrity Funerals building, Tonga Place, Parkwood at 10.00 a.m., on the third Wednesday of February, May, July (AGM), September and November (BBQ). President: Jim Blake, 07 55935750.
  - The **Gold Coast and District RAAF Association** meets at 09.30 for 10.00 a.m., at the Surfers Paradise RSL Club on the second Saturday of each month, except January. President: Jim Leita. Secretary: Ray Donovan, 07 55323262. Publicity: Errol Grimmond, 07 55314346.
  - The **Legacy Club of Coolangatta/Tweed Heads** meets at 11.00 a.m., NSW time, on the fourth Tuesday of each month at Legacy House, 32 Enid St., Tweed Heads. New members welcome. Contact Legatee John Fry, 07 55346089.
  - The **National Servicemen's Association of Australia (Queensland) Inc., Gold Coast South—Twin Towns Branch**, normally meet in the ANZAC Room of the Twin Towns Services Club at 10.00 a.m. on the third Sunday, of January, March, May, July, September, & November. Contact the Secretary, Ian Manwaring, 07 55362700.
  - The **Point Danger Day Club** meets each Tuesday from 10.00 a.m. to 2.00 p.m., NSW time, in the St. Cuthbert's Church Hall, Florence St., Tweed Heads. Contact the Co-Ordinator, Lyn., 07 55239715. Asst. Co-ordinator: Pat Britton, 07 55244039.
  - The **Royal Air Forces Association** meets at 10.00 a.m. on the 4th. Wednesday of each month at the Surfers Paradise RSL. Contact Geoffrey Hutton by email: geoffhutton@bigpond.com.
  - The **Tweed Heads War Widows Guild Social Club** meets, on the first Monday of each month except December & January, at 12.00 noon NSW time, in the Flame Restaurant, TTSC, for lunch followed by a meeting. Contact Pat Illsley, tel. 02 6674 2113.
  - The **Tweed River War Widows Association** meets at 1.00 p.m., NSW time, in the Auditorium, South Tweed Sports Club, on the first Monday of each month, except December and January. New members welcome. Must hold Gold Card. President: Noela Nunan, 07 55249423. Hon. Secretary: Dee Patchett, 07 55246600.
  - The **Twin Towns Naval Association** meets at 1.30 for 2.00 p.m., (Qld) normally in the Renaissance Room, TTSC, on the second Monday of each month, except January. President: Don. Johnstone. Contact the Secretary, Alma Acton, 07 55760424.

**A Soldier Died Today ...continued from page 16.**

If we cannot do him honour, while he's here to hear the praise,

Then at least let's give him homage, at the ending of his days.

Perhaps just a simple headline in the paper, that might say;

**"Our country is in mourning, a Soldier died today."** (Author unknown).

**TWEED HEADS & COOLANGATTA RSL SUB-BRANCH**

**OFFICE BEARERS**

President: Joe Russell  
 Vice President: John Clarke  
 Secretary: John Griffin  
 Treasurer: Norman Henstridge  
 Committee: Graham Cruickshank,  
 Dave Jones  
 Bob. Lominga  
 Kevin Rosen  
 Dallas Ryan  
 Les Taylor

**MEMBERSHIP**



25 October, 2010

Service: 792  
 Life members: 10  
 Life subscribers: 868  
 Associates: 45  
 Combined total: 1705

**WELFARE PRACTITIONERS**

Advocate Level 3 & Psychologist: Joan Jane  
 Welfare Officer, Pensions: Kevin Rosen  
 Joe Russell  
 Welfare /Pension Co-Ordinator: Jenny Sheehan  
 Welfare Officers:  
 John Clarke Bob Lominga  
 John Connolly Howard Maher  
 Alan Croft Jack Maloney  
 Graham Cruickshank Patricia Nilson  
 Kevin Dickson Joe Russell  
 Milan Govedic Les Taylor  
 Jim Wilding

The Practitioners' office is located in the Twin Towns Services Club building, opposite the Sub-Branch office upon entry from Wharf St. To make an appointment, phone (07) 55361164.

The Practitioners' office hours are 9.00 a.m. to 12 noon, Monday to Friday.

**FUNERAL REPRESENTATIVES**

Representative: Bob Lominga  
 Joe Russell

**DAY CLUB**

A Day Club is a group of people who meet regularly in their local community to participate in a varied programme of stimulating activities such as trivia games, quizzes and gentle exercises. Presentations on health awareness and other topical issues are also regularly featured.

Most Day Clubs are sponsored by an ex-service organization (ESO) and operate with some assistance from the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA).

Day Clubs are open to all members of the community—you don't need to be a veteran or ESO member to join.

The Point Danger Day Club, sponsored by the Tweed Heads & Coolangatta RSL Sub-Branch and the DVA, meet each Tuesday, 10.00 am to 2.00pm, in the St. Cuthbert's Church Hall, Florence St., Tweed Heads.

Cost is \$7 which includes bus pick up.

**If you would like to volunteer your services to this worthy cause or to seek further information on the Point Danger Day Club, please 'phone Lyn., the coordinator, on 07 55239715.**

**Welfare Practitioners' Activities**

**25 January—22 March, 2011**

Welfare contacts: 1094

Pension assistance:

Home visits: 346

Pension contacts: 38

**Veterans' Affairs Network Offices.**

For any queries or concerns regarding DVA services and support or to connect with local support networks in your area, call 1300 55 1918.

**Coordinated Veterans' Care Programme**

The Australian Government has allocated \$152.7 million over four years for the new Coordinated Veterans' Care (CVC) Programme.

The innovative health programme for Gold Card holders will start from 1st. May, 2011, and was previously known as the Preventable Admissions and Improved Community Care Programme.

The programme aims to improve community-based health care for eligible Gold Card holders living in the community who have chronic and complex illnesses.

For more information, send an email to: [cvcprogram@dva.gov.au](mailto:cvcprogram@dva.gov.au)

## Veteran Pension Rates Increased

More than 330,000 veterans, partners and war widows/widowers will receive increased pensions and income support payments from 20 March, 2011, Minister for Veterans' Affairs, Warren Snowdon announced on Friday, 11 March, '11.

"This Government is committed to the support for our veterans and their families, and I welcome this increase and the assistance it will provide to those who need it most. The increase sees single service pensioners receive an extra \$13.20 a fortnight since the last indexation in September, 2010. Couples on the service pension now receive an extra \$19.80 a fortnight, bringing the combined pension to \$1,099.40," Mr. Snowdon said.

Veterans will begin to benefit from the increased pension rates from 20 March, 2011, and veterans should be aware that their payments will change in coming weeks. The payment on the pension payday on 24 March, 2011, was a combination of the old rates and the new rates. Therefore, the first full payment at the new rates will be on pension payday 7 April, 2011.

The table below highlights the changes to some of the key rates per fortnight::

Pension	Old Rate	New Rate 20 March	Increase
Service Pension—single	\$716.10	<b>\$729.30</b>	\$13.20
Service Pension—couples	\$1,079.60 couple \$539.80 each	<b>\$1,099.40 couple</b> <b>\$549.70 each</b>	\$19.80 \$9.90
War Widow Pension	\$725.10	<b>\$738.70</b>	\$13.60
Income Support Supplement	\$216.60	<b>\$220.80</b>	\$4.20
Special Rate (TPI) Pension	\$1,092.90	<b>\$1,113.70</b>	\$20.80
Intermediate Rate Disability Pension	\$741.60	<b>\$755.80</b>	\$14.20
Extreme Disablement Adjustment	\$603.30	<b>\$614.80</b>	\$11.50
100% General Rate of Disability.	\$388.30	<b>\$395.70</b>	\$7.40

Pensions are indexed twice a year in March and September to the highest of three measures: the Consumer Price Index (CPI), Male Total Average Weekly Earnings (MTAWE) and the Pensioner and Beneficiary Living Cost Index (PBLCI). The March pension indexation increase is driven by wages growth in the six months to November, 2010. Pension indexation rates can be accessed from [www.dva.gov.au](http://www.dva.gov.au) and for more information, call 133 254.

**Natural disaster assistance:** Has your home or workplace been damaged? Are you having trouble complying with requirements in any recent correspondence from DVA? Do you need assistance or someone to talk to? If your circumstances have recently changed, please don't hesitate to contact DVA to discuss your personal situation or seek help.

**Property insurance:** Veterans who have their property insured with Defence Service Homes Insurance and have property affected by natural disasters are encouraged to contact their local customer service officer on **1300 552 662**.



**VALE DECEASED MEMBERS (Notified 26 January, to 22 March, 2011)**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Service</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Service</u>	<u>Date</u>
<b>Chandler, Donald</b>	Army	12.09.'10	<b>Moore, Alan</b>	Army	14.02.'11
<b>Gleeson, Brian</b>	Army	?02.'11	<b>Moss, Bill</b>	Army	26.02.'11
<b>Hall, John</b>	Army	11.02.'11	<b>Mutter, Patrick</b>	Army	26.02.'11
<b>Holmes, Neil</b>	Army	08.03.'11	<b>Payne, John</b>	R.A.N.	24.02.'11
<b>Kerr, Joseph</b>	Army	18.02.'11	<b>Pownceby, Kenneth Ray</b>	R.A.F.	06.03.'11
<b>Mc Whinnie, Leslie</b>		26.08.'08	<b>Warner, Frank</b>		14.08.'08
			<b>Wilson, Leslie</b>	Army	26.02.'11

Total members deceased for period= 13. Members funerals attended= 4. Non mbrs.=3. Total funerals attended by invitation during period= 7

**Queensland Disaster Heroes**

In 2011, Queensland Week will be held from 4 to 13 June and will be dedicated to recognizing the community heroes of the extreme and devastating events of the 2010-11 Queensland floods and Tropical Cyclone Yasi.

The scars are going to take a long time to heal for many of us and the road to recovery will be a long one. From the devastation, stories of amazing Queensland spirit have emerged. We have seen a "mud army" of volunteers taking to the streets and countless stories of bravery and self-sacrifice. Queenslanders are ready to pull together, help their neighbor and sometimes risk their lives to save others.

If you know someone who has shown outstanding community initiative, bravery, courage, resilience and strength during the greatest natural disaster of our history, nominate them as a local hero as part of the Queensland Disaster Heroes programme. Each nominee will receive a commemorative medal and will be publicly recognized at local events in each of the affected regions during Queensland Week.

**How to nominate:** Heroes are those people who have shown outstanding community initiative, courage, resilience and strength during the 2010-11 floods and/or Tropical Cyclone Yasi.

You must read and agree to the conditions of nomination before you can submit your nomination.

**Read the conditions for nomination, then download and submit a nomination form** (PDF, 1Mb).

**Nominations close Friday, 1 April, 2011.** The heroes will be announced during Queensland Week, 4 to 13 June, 2011.

**More information:** Email: [heroes@premiers.qld.gov.au](mailto:heroes@premiers.qld.gov.au). Post: Queensland Disaster Heroes, Department of the Premier and Cabinet, P.O.Box 15185, City East, Qld., 4002.

## Parking Entitlements for Red Disability Parking Permit Holders.

When a new nationally recognized Australian Disability Parking Permit was introduced in Queensland in September, 2010, Red Permit holders were advised that they would not automatically transition to the Australian Disability Parking Permit.

Now, the recently appointed Queensland Minister for Transport and Multicultural Affairs, The Honourable Anastacia Palaszczuk MP has advised that, in recognition of the genuine need for Red Permit holders to have ongoing access to disability parking entitlements, the Queensland Government worked hard to ensure Red Permits continue to be recognized interstate and that all states and territories have agreed to continue to recognize Red Permits when travelling interstate from 31 March, 2011.

Importantly, Red Permit holders will continue to have access to parking in any off-street designated disability parking bays, regardless of the colour of the signage. These parking bays are found in locations such as hospitals, shopping centres, entertainment venues and the like.

New eligibility criteria will be introduced in Queensland from 31 March, 2011, for the Australian Disability Parking Permit. To be eligible to apply for an Australian Disability Parking Permit from this date, the applicant must be a Queensland resident and:

- must be unable to walk and always require the use of a wheelchair,
- their ability to walk must be severely restricted by a permanent medical condition or disability affecting the functioning of their legs,
- their ability to walk must be severely restricted by a temporary medical condition or disability affecting the functioning of their legs for at least six months duration, as certified by a doctor or occupational therapist.

New application forms will be available from late March, 2011, from either the Department of Transport and Main Roads website at [www.tmr.qld.gov.au](http://www.tmr.qld.gov.au) or from your nearest customer service centre or by calling 132 380.

## ANZACs and War Widows/Widowers offered a free ride with Greyhound.

In response to an enquiry from this Newsletter's Editor, Greyhound Australia has advised that the Company will again honour the sacrifice of Australia's war veterans and war widows/widowers by offering them FREE transport to ANZAC commemorations, 2011, similar to those provided by the Company in 2010. A media release by the Company is imminent. Enquiries may be directed to:

**Greyhound Australia Pty Ltd.**, P. O. Box 1475, Eagle Farm, Qld., 4009.

Ph: 07 38680926. Fax: 07 38680930. Email: [greyhound.com.au](mailto:greyhound.com.au)

New Online Health...continued from page 15.

on lifestyle issues such as employment and finances, and is a one-stop shop for useful links on topics ranging from compensation and finances to health, housing and parenting support. The *touchbase* website also provides users with the opportunity to keep in touch or reconnect with other former serving personnel, family and friends using online community **Find Your Mates**.

"These websites are being piloted and I would encourage any current transitioning or recently discharged service personnel using the sites to provide feedback on how we can continue to improve the information and support provided during such a crucial time in a serving member's life." Mr. Snowdon said.

Access the *Wellbeing* Toolbox at [www.wellbeingtoolbox.net.au](http://www.wellbeingtoolbox.net.au) and *touchbase* at [www.touchbase.gov.au](http://www.touchbase.gov.au)

## Progress on new Health Programme for Veterans

Significant progress is being made towards introducing a new programme to improve the health of chronically ill veterans and war widows who have complex care needs and are at risk of hospitalisation.

The Minister for Veterans' Affairs, Warren Snowdon, said service partners had been selected for the innovative Coordinated Veterans' Care (CVC) programme, which starts on 1st May, '11.

BUPA Health Dialog has been selected as the Primary Service Provider. This Australian arm of Health Dialog, is a wellness, prevention and chronic disease management company with expertise in analytics. It will analyse client data to identify and contact the veterans and war widows who are DVA Gold Card holders and are most likely to benefit from taking part in the CVC programme.

The Australian General Practice Network, the nation's peak body for general practice networks, will provide training in chronic disease management to General Practitioners (GPs) and nurses, and produce programme resources such as templates and guidelines, Grosvenor Management Consulting will monitor the programme and provide an independent evaluation of its effectiveness.

"The signing of contracts with these organizations means we're on track to introduce a new health care programme for our most vulnerable veterans and war widows," Mr. Snowdon said.

"The key element of the CVC Programme is its coordinated approach. GPs and nurses will work even more closely with DVA Gold Card holder veterans and war widows to improve their quality of care, and ultimately reduce unplanned hospital admissions.

In recognition of the increased time GPs and nurses will spend on planning and coordinating veterans' care, new payments will be introduced to cover this extra work.

The Australian Government sees this as a positive step towards improving the wellbeing and quality of life of those who proudly served our nation and their dependants.

This initiative aligns with key Gillard Labor Government health reform priorities such as increasing the focus on primary health care and investing in prevention. In the future, the Personally Controlled Electronic Health Record System will also support the CVC Programme by helping to streamline communication between the various health professionals involved in a veteran's care." Mr. Snowdon said.

The Coordinated Veterans' Care Programme was formerly called the 'Preventable Admissions and Improved Community Care Programme' and was renamed after consultation with GPs, nurses and veterans.

More information about the programme is available from [www.dva.gov.au/cvc.htm](http://www.dva.gov.au/cvc.htm).

## New Online Health Assistance Piloted for Ex-Service Personnel.

Two new websites are being piloted to provide the ex-service community with access to vital health resources, the Minister for Veterans' Affairs and Minister for Defence Science and Personnel, Warren Snowdon, announced on Monday, 14 March, '11.

Mr. Snowdon said the sites, the *Wellbeing Toolbox* and *touchbase*, have been developed specifically for ex-service and transitioning personnel, their families and friends to help them face challenges that moving from military to civilian life may present.

"It is important that our service personnel and their families have access to helpful and informative resources to assist them in their day-to-day life. These websites provide information links and, where necessary, facilitate early intervention options for those who may be experiencing mental health issues." Mr. Snowdon said.

The *Wellbeing Toolbox* provides interactive educational material in key areas such as problem solving, building support, helpful thinking, getting active, keeping calm and sleeping better, and has been developed in conjunction with leading experts at the Australian Centre for Post Traumatic Mental Health.

"The site provides practical step-by-step tips and tools for improving mental and physical wellbeing and relieving stress." Mr. Snowdon said.

The *touchbase* website, developed jointly by Defence and the Department of Veterans' Affairs, provides information

## A SOLDIER DIED TODAY

He was getting old and paunchy , and his hair was falling fast,  
He sat around the Club, telling stories of the past.  
Of a war that he once fought in, and the deeds that he had done,  
In his exploits with his mates, they were heroes, every one.

And 'tho sometimes to his neighbours, his tales became a joke,  
All his mates listened quietly, for they knew of what he spoke.  
But we'll hear his tales no longer, for ol' Bob has passed away,  
And the world's a little poorer, for a soldier died today.

He won't be mourned by many, just his children and his wife,  
For he lived an ordinary, very quiet sort of life.  
He held a job and raised a family, going quietly on his way;  
And the world won't note his passing, 'tho a Soldier died today.

When politicians leave this earth, their bodies lie in state,  
While thousands note their passing, and proclaim that they were great.  
Papers tell of their life stories, from the time that they were young,  
But the passing of a Soldier goes unnoticed, and unsung.

Is the greatest contribution to the welfare of our land,  
Some jerk who breaks his promise and cons his fellow man?  
Or the ordinary fellow, who in times of war and strife,  
Goes off to serve his country, and offers up his life?

The politician's stipend, and the style in which he lives,  
Are often disproportionate, to the service that he gives.  
While the ordinary Soldier, who offered up his all,  
Is paid off with a medal and perhaps a pension, small.

It's so easy to forget them, for it is so many times,  
That our Bobs and Jims and Johnnys, went to battle, but we know,  
It is not the politicians, with their compromise and ploys,  
Who won for us the freedom, that our country now enjoys.

Should you find yourself in danger, with your enemies at hand,  
Would you really want some cop-out, with his ever waffling stand?  
Or would you want a Soldier—his home, his country, his kin,  
Just a common Soldier, who would fight until the very end.

He was just a common Soldier , and his ranks are growing thin,  
But his presence should remind us, we may need his like again.  
For when countries are in conflict, we find the Soldier's part,  
Is to clean up all the trouble, that the politicians start.