

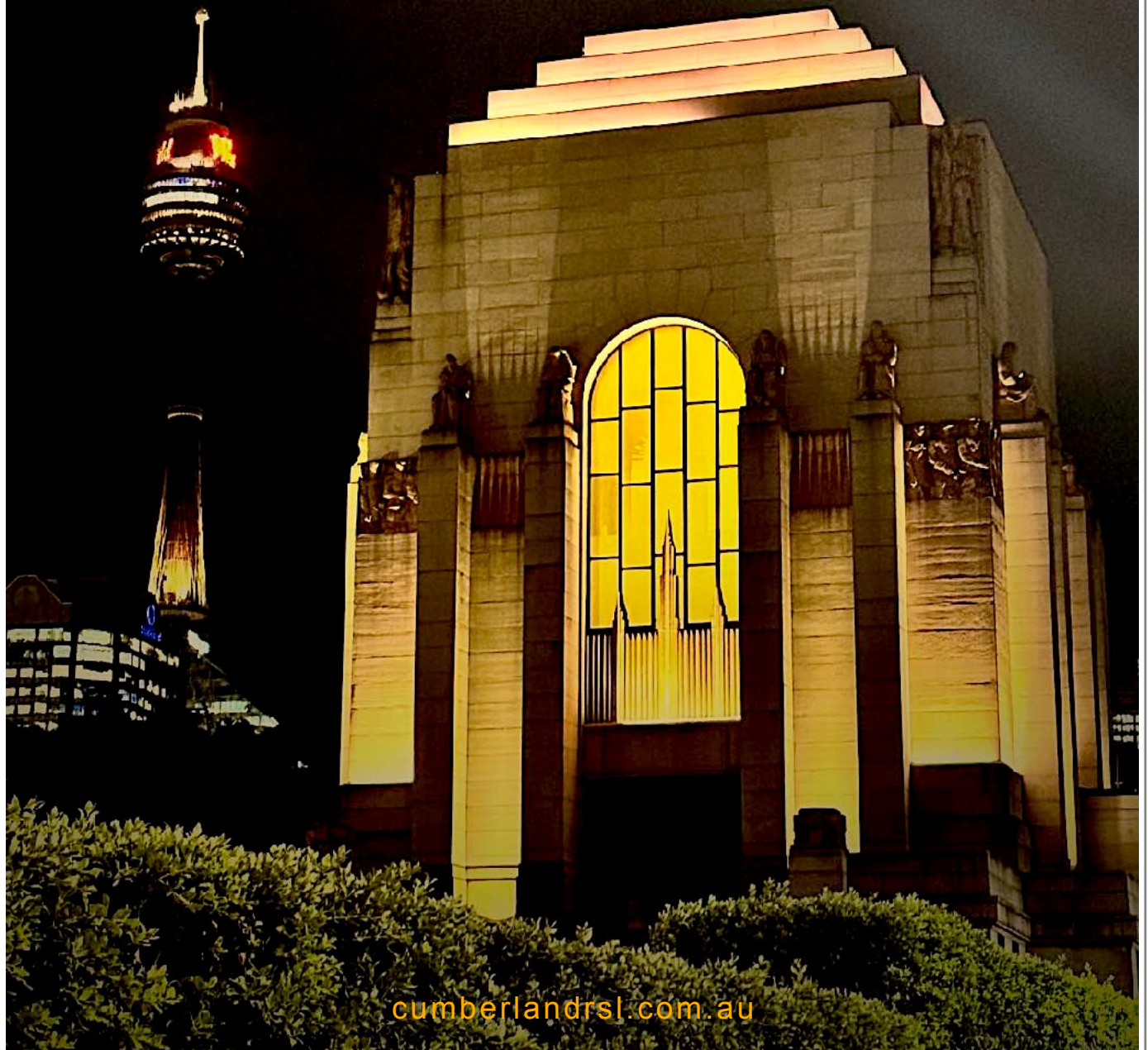
COMPASS

Quarterly Newsletter - RSL NSW CUMBERLAND - Spring 2023

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MEMORIALS

DEDICATED TO OUR FALLEN WARRIORS



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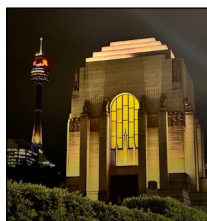
Editor - Mark Lee, Secretary

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Anzac Memorial stands tall in Hyde Park South, and makes a wonderful sight at when viewed against the iconic Sydney Tower on the night skyline.

Photograph
MARK LEE



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Mr James Batkin,
President
RSL NSW Cumberland

Mr James Batkin,
President
RSL NSW Cumberland

July 2023

Dear James.

I wish to put on record my appreciation to you and Secretary Mark Lee for giving me assistance with recent transport.

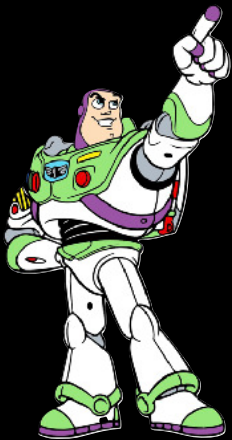
I required transport to a medical appointment at Burwood on Monday 24 July 2023 for my surgeon to remove a skin cancer on my nose that required a local anaesthetic.

He also requested I have someone to accompany me.

I'm so grateful that you were able to arrange that for me with Maureen Threlfo.

Yours Sincerely

Doreen Ballard.
Auburn NSW 2144.



CUMBERLAND

ONWARDS AND UPWARDS
TO INFINITY AND BEYOND

“**T**he Secretary has set me a challenging headline for today's page, 'to infinity and beyond', what? I say welcome to some warm spring weather!

However, he makes a point for me. If you recall the 'Toy Story' movie, the company PIXAR, and how they changed the face and voice of animation within their industry back in the 90's with this movie. They set themselves a finish line of 'infinity and beyond' as those famous words from character 'Buss Lightyear, when they went from a workshop group to become part of the APPLE empire with their vision, voice, brand characters and illustrations.

'So what's that go to do with an RSL sub-Branch in outer Sydney? I

t's the challenge that lays ahead of us at RSL. Where is our finish line? Can we dream of what the RSL sub-branch of the future will become next year, next decade even a century onwards from today. It's big crystal ball on someones desk!

It all starts at grass roots, the drawing board as they would say in cartoon world, and it's no different out here in Western Sydney for the RSL.

And that's just where I have been in the past month. Lots of handshakes and meetings with new people. With the RSL NSW Congress upon us in late spring, a new CEO about to be appointed before Christmas and then a new group of Directors around the board room able in 2024. Like many around me in my circle I too feel a little nervous; we are on the "Buzz Lightyear Star Ship" entering into new uncharted airspace!

Why? Because we as the RSL cannot continues to do what we have done for the past 100 plus years. Times have changed, we have to invent, and become more creative and active. That's the challenge and the exciting part about what is to be 2024 and beyond.

*

On the home front in Cumberland district, members have recovered from a great night out at the President's dinner in town recently. The show and the event was a credit to the team in the RSL backroom that bought it all together, well done.

And then it's back to the desk, open the mail and deal with the next situation and or opportunity.

And then there is this envelope....

The letter (*opposite page*) from Doreen Ballard.

That's what make the heart of a volunteer like me tick. When plans go to plan, and happy faces show their appreciation, going beyond just saying thank you, with a simple letter, it's just so nice, and thank you Doreen.

Also on my desk sits another lovely card and letter for our Vice President, Mr Ron Inglis from Denise Mackie. Ron did what he always does best, a great RSL 'tribute service' at her husband's funeral recently. That's what RSL life is about today, helping people around us when they are in need and on hard times.

It might seem an infinity away, however for a simple 'smile and hullo' phone call, SMS or even the old fashioned stroke of a pen, lick of a stamp, it can take someone to their **infinity** and well **beyond** a normal day".

James Bathin

President
RSL NSW
CUMBERLAND



SPEECH - PRESIDENT JAMES BATKIN

Saturday 22 July 2023 - Presidents' Hand-over Dinner

OUR NEW BEGINNING

“ From a glorious past to our adventurous future, tonight is a new beginning.

Greg Read I think you are right on the money tonight, our future days at RSL NSW will be a new beginning for many, present and future members especially.

I look forward to this challenge with excitement and commitment. Greg has left me some big shoes to fill. Job well done mate, I will do my best!

Tonight is the perfect example of what the RSL can be.

With occasion, ceremony, harmony, entertainment and most of all a wonderful sense of camaraderie within the four walls of the wonderful hotel room here at the Castlereagh Boutique Hotel.

My congratulations to RSL NSW President Ray James on your Tingira Stonehaven medal awards tonight. Many of us in this room tonight know how hard you work across this state with our membership.

May I take this opportunity to wish you and your wife Pauline happy days after you leave your role as President at Congress later this year.

Tomorrow is a new day, probably a slow Sunday for many of us, but it's a new highway for me and the team at Cumberland

We go forward into very uncertain waters with a new team at the helm at RSL NSW HQ in January of 2024.

Our aging membership and our ability to grow and foster new members is very different from days past and remains the biggest challenge for all of the 300 sub-Branches across NSW.

However I remain very optimistic and look forward to every opportunity that runs across our desk at Harrow Road.

It is good to see so many of our community supporters here this evening and I know that our community will only grow as the arms of Cumberland will reach further to help and support other sub-branches who face much the same issues as we do each day.

I am very happy to report over the past thirty days that I have had some very beneficial meetings with the General Manager of RSL LifeCare, Mr. David Anderson, and RSL NSW, CEO Mr. Jon Black.

Next week I'm heading south of the city region to catch up with the General Manager of RSL LifeCare Spur Ranch, Mr. Max Streeter. I have also been invited to sit in on a sub-Branch meeting at Thirlmere-Bargo-Picton to take in what further assistance we may be able to offer our country cousins.

Big thank you to Greg, Mark and the members of the organising team for tonight's event. A great effort, Cumberland at our very best!

Country Cousins, perhaps that's where we are going in the future?

As Mark said in his well researched welcome speech this evening, the County of Cumberland once spread from Broken Bay to Wollongong and Bondi to the Blue Mountains.

Perhaps that's the new Cumberland Country? Will the sub-Branch of the future take in all the Sydney suburbs again?

There is one thing that is fairly accurate on this earth besides death and taxes and that is that **HISTORY OFTEN REPEATS ITSELF.**



1.



2.



3.



4.



5.

*MEET & GREET - 1. Bondi Junction welfare officer, David Jeffery
2. The handover, outgoing Cumberland president, Greg Read 3. RSL NSW CEO Jon Black
4. Auburn Police Area Commander, Simon Glasser. 5. Naval author, John Jeremy.*

SYDNEY MEMORIALS

THE RSL HELPED BUILD THE CENOTAPH AND THE ANZAC MEMORIAL

The story of the Anzac Memorial in Hyde Park goes right back to the first 'Anzac Day', 25 April 1916. Australia was full of patriotic fervour. Casualties up to that point had been relatively few. 'Our boys' had courageously landed at Gallipoli and, in our eyes at least, Australia had proved itself to the rest of the world.

Hugh D McIntosh, a colourful newspaper proprietor and imperial patriot, launched an appeal for 'the Anzac Memorial and Hall of Fame'. By the end of the war the considerable sum of 60,000 pounds had been raised but it would be more than 10 years before various committees could agree on what actually should be done with the money.

Rather than wait for years for a grand memorial to be built, the RSL suggested the State government should step in and build a simple, cenotaph in Martin Place, opposite the steps of the GPO where many great

recruiting and patriotic rallies had been held during the war. They appealed to the Premier, Auburn's working-class hero, Jack Lang.

Lang was a Catholic, had opposed conscription and had pointedly not been invited to the unveiling of the Auburn War Memorial in 1922. At the time the general consensus was that war memorials were not the responsibility of government but once he became Premier in 1925, Lang was persuaded that there were votes in being a 'soldiers' friend'. A government grant was forthcoming and the Cenotaph, complete with the simple statements TO OUR GLORIOUS DEAD and LEST WE FORGET, was unveiled on 8 August 1927.

The Governor of NSW presided over the elaborate unveiling ceremony. The RSL was commended for its initiative. The crowd sang the traditional Anzac hymns of *Oh God our help in ages past* and *The Recessional* as well as the hugely popular war-time song, *Australia will be there*. The two bronze statues for the ends had not arrived from London. They were added and unveiled by none other than General Monash in 1929.



ANZAC MEMORIAL
Hyde Park, Sydney

The small, RSL inspired, cenotaph in Martin Place was no grand 'Hall of Fame' that many people in New South Wales wanted. The matter became urgent when it became known that officials in Melbourne were planning a dramatic Shrine of Remembrance for their city. Surely Sydney could not be outdone by the city south of the border!

It was announced that Hyde Park South would be the site for a grand memorial building and a design competition was organised. In July 1930 it was announced that the winner was young Sydney architect, C Bruce Dellit who designed the part classical, part Art Deco Anzac Memorial we see today. It was to be mainly a commemorative building with, LET SILENT CONTEMPLATION BE YOUR OFFERING being the only public exhortation. However, parts of the building would be set aside for offices for ex-service organisations such as war-widows and limbless soldiers.

To help raise funds, the RSL sponsored the sale of 150,000 Anzac Memorial Stars at two shillings each. The idea came from architect Bruce Dellit who planned to embellish the ceiling of the dome with stars, each one representing a volunteer from New South Wales.

Only a few months after Melbourne unveiled their Shrine of Remembrance, Sydney unveiled its Anzac Memorial with a solemn, Catholic-free ceremony on 24 November 1934. The unveiling was carried out by Prince Henry, Duke of Gloucester, a son of King George V but no names were inscribed on any of the foundation or unveiling stones. The idea was that no honour should be deflected from those who had made such great sacrifices.

For decades the RSL acted as custodian of the memorial but in recent years the NSW government has invested responsibility for the memorial in a board of trustees.

MEMORIALS

STATE MEMORIALS DEDICATED
TO OUR FALLEN WARRIORS

Notes from

AUBURN REMEMBERS

*Remembering the men of Auburn
who gave their lives in the First World War*

Recently published by RSL NSW Cumberland

No other nation involved in the Great War erected such grand and elaborate Shrines of Remembrance as did Australia and no other nation ascribed to them such spiritual significance for the nation. The grand statement inscribed on the side of Melbourne's Shrine of Remembrance facing St Kilda Road reads:

*LET ALL MEN KNOW THAT THIS IS
HOLY GROUND. THIS SHRINE
ESTABLISHED IN THE HEARTS OF
MEN AS ON THE SOLID EARTH
COMMEMORATES A PEOPLES
FORTITUDE AND SACRIFICE. YE THAT
COME AFTER GIVE REVERENCE.*

Great Britain, our motherland, that lost nearly one million men in the Great War, has only a simple cenotaph in Whitehall and a tomb of the unknown soldier in Westminster Abbey as places of national remembrance for those slain in the First World War.

France lost over one million men in the First World War yet it has only the tomb of the unknown soldier and an eternal flame beneath the Arc de Triomphe in Paris as its national site of remembrance for its fallen warriors.

Australia, with 60,000 dead in the Great War, went completely over-the-top and built not one, but three massive shrines; The Anzac Memorial in Hyde Park Sydney (unveiled in 1934), the Shrine of Remembrance in Melbourne (1934), and the Hall of Remembrance in the Australian War Memorial in Canberra (1942). These were in



THE SHRINE
St Kilda Road, Melbourne



ANZAC MEMORIAL
Hyde Park South, Sydney

addition to the thousands of local war memorials unveiled across the country during the 1920s and 1930s.

Today we see our three capital city shrines as among the finest heritage buildings in Australia but at the time of their erection, right in the middle of the Great Depression, not all Australians agreed that such excessive commemoration was reasonable. Many ex-servicemen were unemployed, disabled and wounded diggers were still a common sight, there were war-widows still dressed in black. The plight of disturbed returned men was brought into sharp focus with the suicide in 1931 of Senator Major General 'Pompey' Elliot, one of the most popular of the Australian First World War commanders.

One Melbourne newspaper described the city's shrine proposal as a Tomb of Gloom and, along with the RSL and Melbourne City Council, called for the money to be spent on a hospital for ex-servicemen and cottages for war-widows.

As if shrines at home were not enough, millions of pounds were spent on an Australian National Memorial to the Missing at Villers-Bretonneux in France, unveiled in 1938 by King George V1.

To this day Australia continues to spend excessively on Anzac commemoration. In 2003 nine million dollars was spent on building a war memorial on Constitution Hill in the city of London. in 2018 the Australian Prime Minister unveiled a visitors' centre at our Villers-Bretonneux memorial. The Sir John Monash Centre, and associated roadworks cost over \$100 million.



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
Canberra, ACT



Supplier & Supporter
RSL NSW CUMBERLAND



Sir John Monash Centre
Villers - Bretonneux, France



ANZAC MEMORIAL
Southern Face



Jim & Denise Mackie

LAST POST

JIM MACKIE

DISTINGUISHED CITIZEN RSL NAVY MAN

Many members of the RSL NSW Cumberland recently attended the funeral of one of their comrades, Jim Mackie.

Jim Mackie (1938 to 2023) was an active citizen of Auburn-Granville as well as being a committed member of the RSL.

Growing up in Auburn, Jim attended St John's Primary School then Marist Bros. Auburn (now Trinity Catholic College). He entered the trade of glazier and lead-lighter, completing his apprenticeship with the Tanner Middleton company in Auburn.

Jim's first employment was with Glass Suppliers in the city where he became a road rep. then moving into management roles. This included 12 months as manager of the company's operations in Lae, Papua New Guinea.

Over his working life Jim worked for several glass companies including Architectural Glass Projects Pty Ltd where he worked for the ten years to retirement.

Jim was also a teacher in the trade, teaching various courses at Bankstown TAFE.

Jim's parents would not give him permission to join the Navy so, at 17 years of age, Jim joined the Navy Reserve. He served for three years including service on the HMAS Cootamundra and the HMAS Warramunga. Jim was an active member of Granville RSL sub-Branch for many years before his mates Russell Knight and Kell Campbell persuaded him to transfer to Auburn (now Cumberland) sub-Branch.

Throughout his life Jim was a devout member of Holy Family Catholic Church, East Granville. He sent his children to the parish school and for some years Jim was president of the Parents and Friends Association. It was at church that Jim met Denise leading to 64 years of happy marriage. Throughout this time Jim had various positions of responsibility in parish activities.

Right from his days in the Catholic Youth Club (CYC) Jim Mackie was a keen sportsman, excelling in both Rugby League and Tennis and participating in many local competitions.

The RSL tribute given at the funeral of Jim Mackie was a richly deserved acknowledgement of the life of a fine citizen. Jim was stalwart member of the RSL, and a fine member of the local community and also spent many years with many ex navy mates on his voyage of life.



Allan Chapple, Alice O'Connor, Chris Hurley and Ron Inglis were among many Cumberland members who attended the funeral of Jim Mackie.

MEMBERSHIP

*“It’s about the numbers, not just the politics.
A fact of life, numbers are today’s measurement,
a reality check of where you are, in most cases.*

MARK LEE - Secretary
RSL NSW Cumberland

Recently the Cumberland Executive Committee met with RSL NSW CEO Jon Black, and went into a deep discussion on the status of membership at Cumberland.

It was obvious from those discussions that we needed to do some deeper research on the broad status of the membership.

Digging deep into the facts of the membership portal on the excel spreadsheet, we studied who are our members, where do they reside, what is the membership breakup and what is the activity status was soon revealed.

This was a good administrative exercise, as the membership data base now gets a very through monthly update.

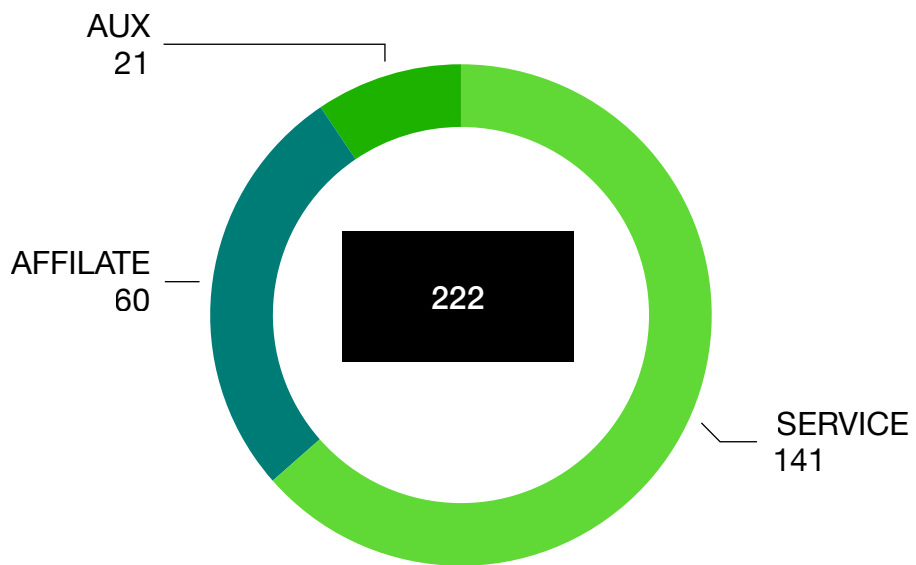
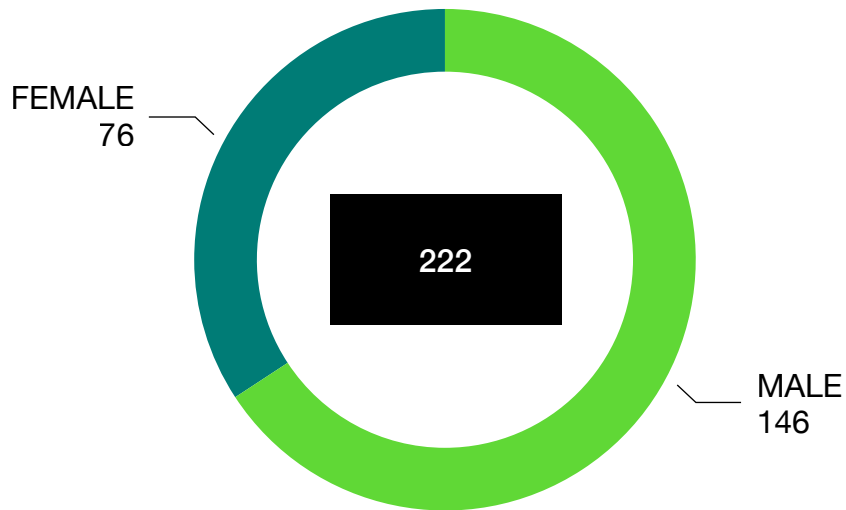
When the results are collated and presented in graphs and percentages (*as per the following pages*), the membership takes on a different perspective on where we are within the NSW RSL family.

With **222** active members we are approximately 1% of the membership of NRSL NSW.

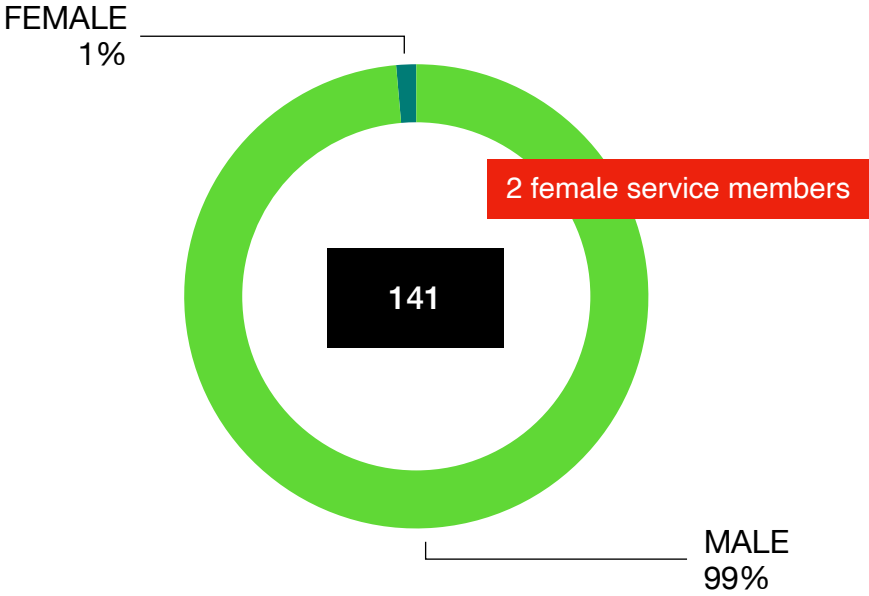
We have recorded that new members have joined and transferred into Cumberland over the past quarter, however, sadly we have also recorded the passing of members in the past two months.



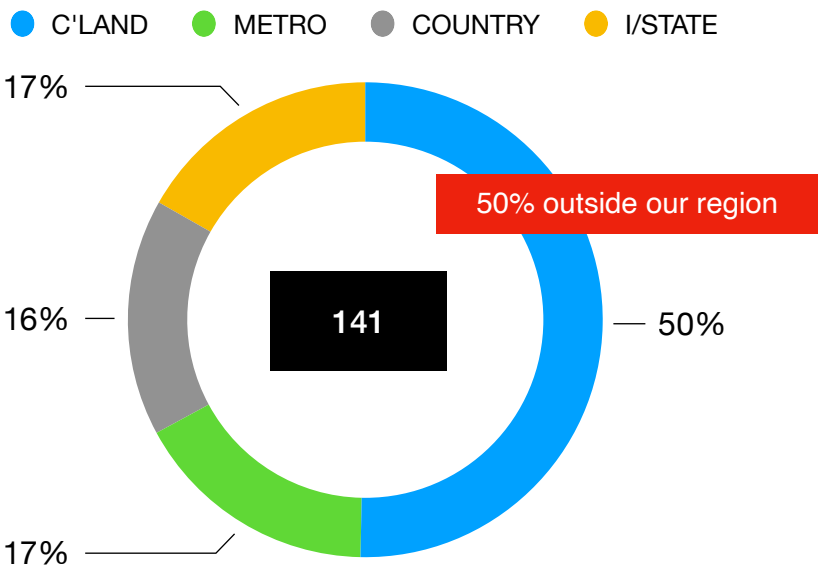
CUMBERLAND STATISTICS - SEP 2023



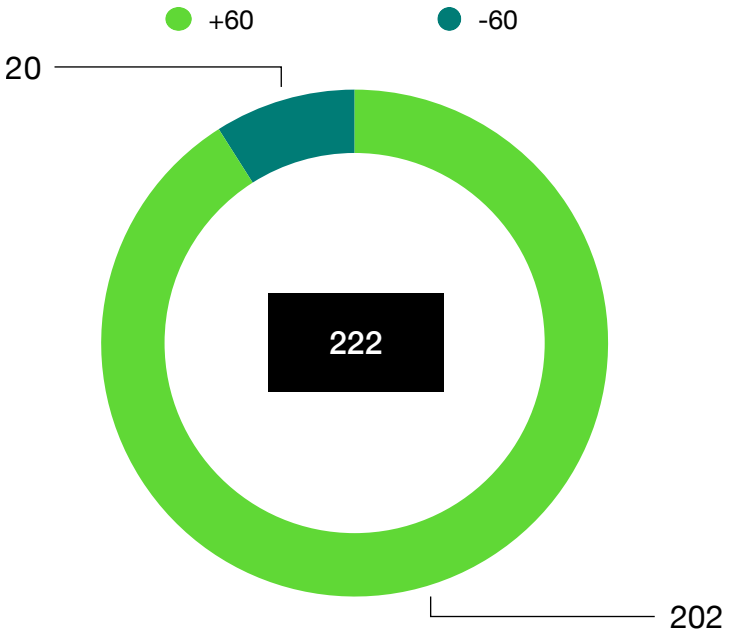
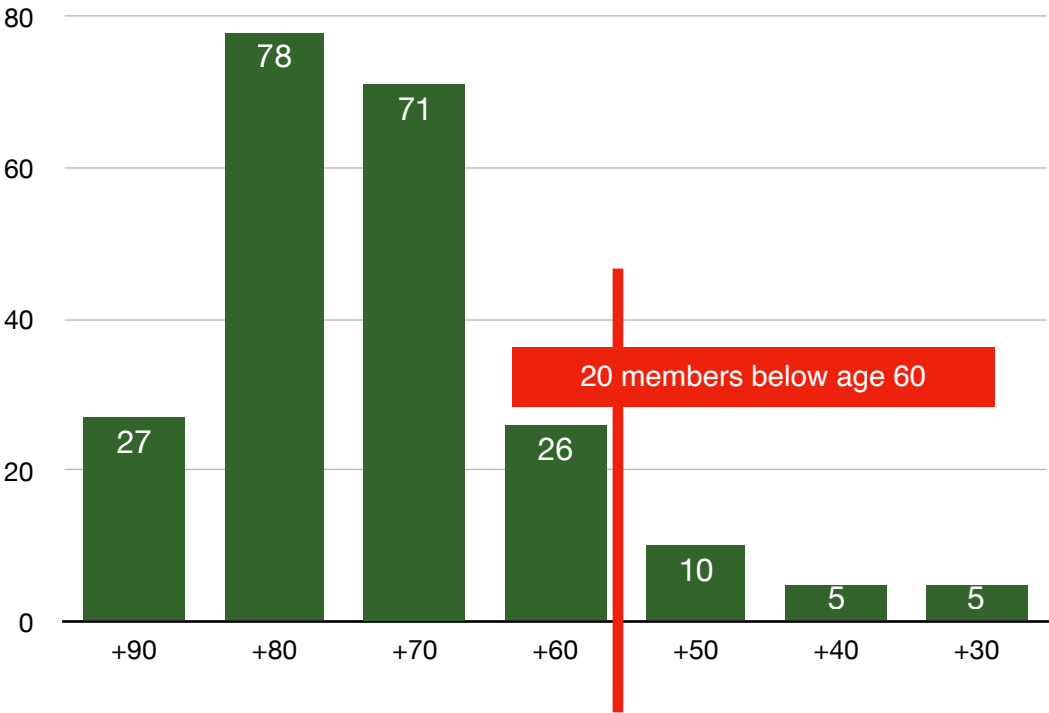
SERVICE MEMBERS



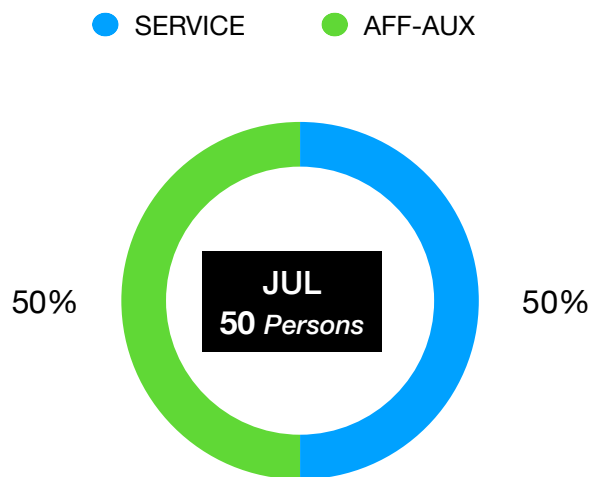
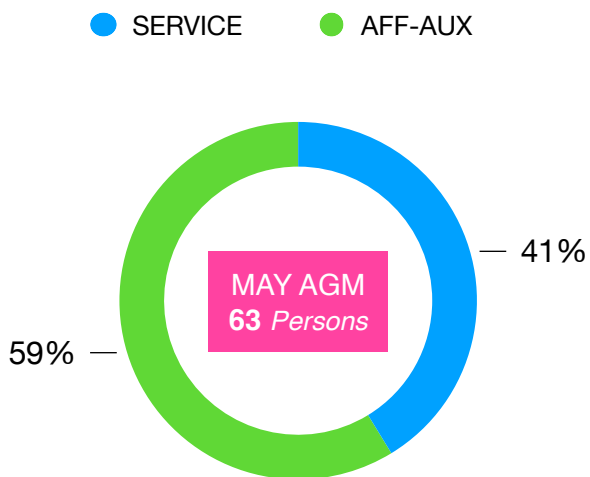
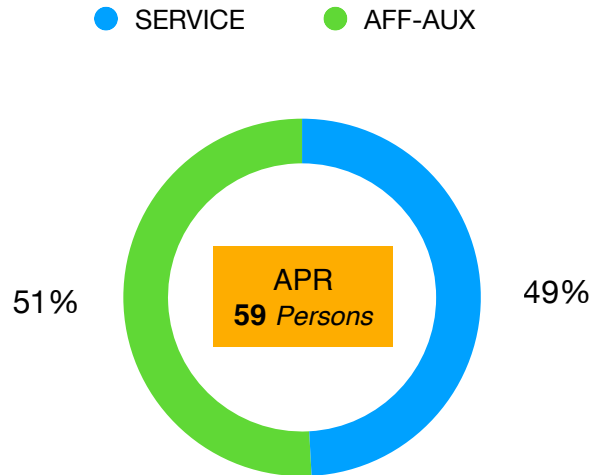
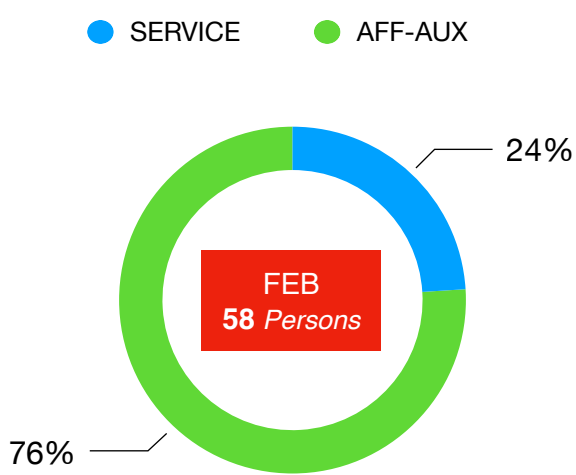
SERVICE MEMBER RESIDENCE



AGE GROUPS

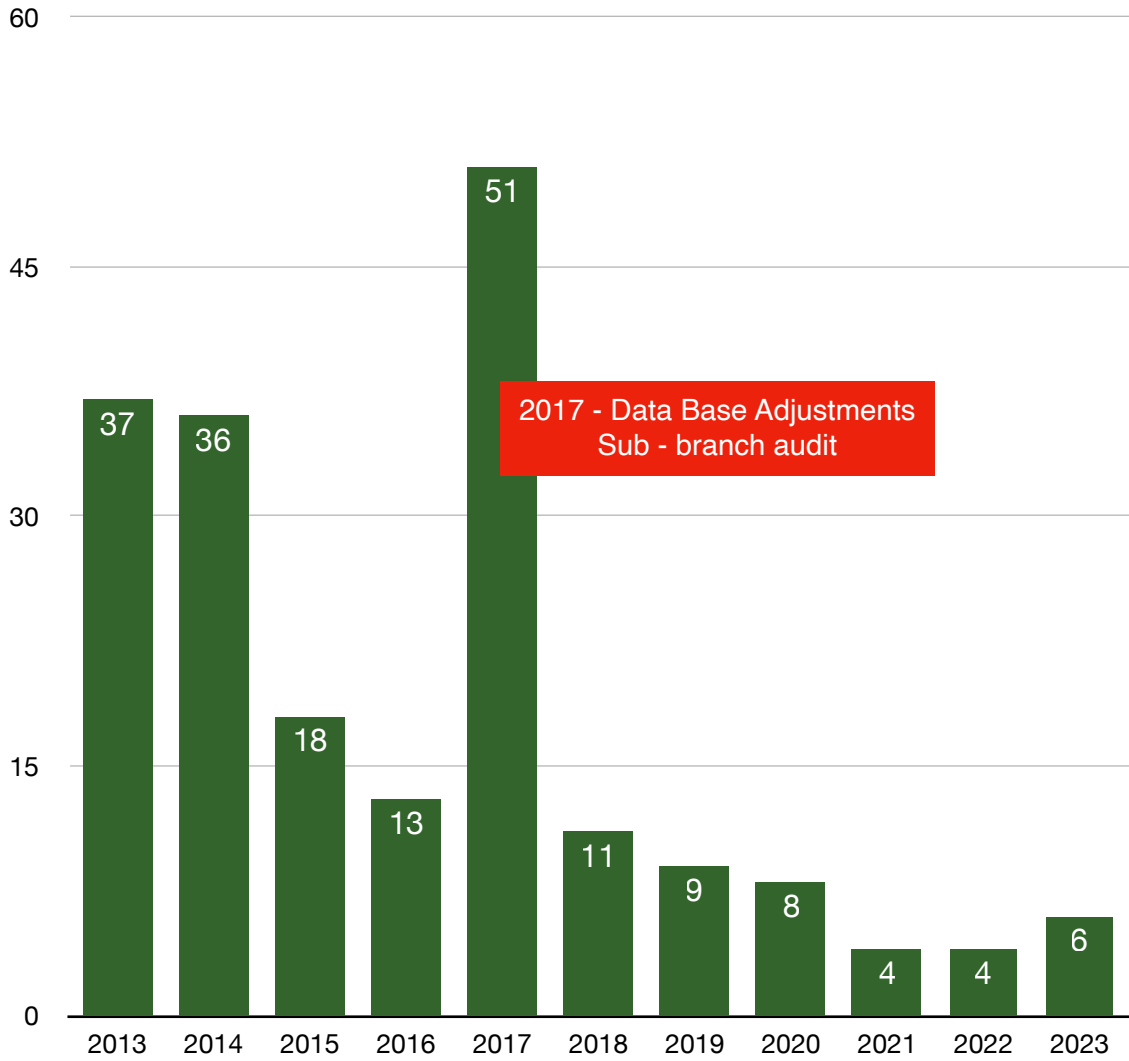


2023 MEETING ATTENDANCE



July - First meeting
50% service members

DECEASED LAST DECADE





Greg Read performed his last official duty to present a long time friend former Auburn police command Sergeant Jim Dickson, a Cumberland Certificate of Appreciation for his service to the Veteran community

COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED

Hi Mark

I wanted to send you a quick note to say thank you for a really lovely evening on Saturday at the Cumberland President's Handover Dinner.

The venue, meal and entertainment was great, as was the MC'ing of course :)

Regards

Julie Henderson
Corporate Sponsorship Manager



john Moore
President's Handover Dinner
To: Secretary

23 July 2023 at 07:49

Mr. James Batkin
President
Cumberland sub-Branch
RSL NSW

Dear James,

On behalf of my partner Janice White and myself, may I offer appreciation for your hospitality at last night's Change-Over Dinner – a lovely evening and so well-organised and presented.

Thank you very much.

May I also offer my congratulations on your election as Sub-Branch President – I trust the way ahead is both rewarding for yourself and prosperous for the sub-Branch.

My kind regards

John Moore
President
Masonic sub-Branch RSL NSW



Max Streater
Thank You
To: Secretary

Archi...change 24 July 2023 at 19:04

Dear Cumberland Country,

I would like to thank you for the invitation to your Presidents Dinner this past Saturday. It is always a pleasure to be amongst your esteemed company and I look forward to our continuing friendship.

What an occasion it was and it further strengthened in my mind the character and gentlemanly conduct of Cumberland RSL. I was very moved by the speech and award for Tingira Boys. I knew so little about it until then. The Company B singers were amazing.

On behalf of Spur Ranch and our veterans, Thank you.

Regards

Max
Max Streater
Spur Program Manager - Veteran Services
M: 0408 851 613 | E: max.streater@rslifecare.org.au

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VIETNAM

FIFTY YEARS ON

By Ron Inglis

It is 50 years since Australia officially ended its involvement in the war in Vietnam.

For its Anzac assembly this year, the Granville South Creative and Performing Arts High School asked Cumberland Vice-President, Ron Inglis, to address the assembly on the topic of the war in Vietnam, a war in which Australia was involved from 1962 to 1973.

It was a war in which some 60,000 Australian servicemen participated. 521 Australian soldiers did not return.

This is a transcript of the address given by the RSL Cumberland vice-president.

“ Principal, staff and students

Thank you for your welcome. I was pleased when I was informed that the theme for today's Anzac assembly was to be the War in Vietnam, a war which officially ended 50 years ago as far as Australia was concerned.

The war needs to be remembered, not just because it was a war that we lost, but it was a war that had a profound effect on my generation and on my own life.

Australia has a long history of rushing off overseas to fight in other peoples' wars, without counting the cost and without considering whether we had a right to interfere in the affairs of other countries. This was certainly true of the First World War that I have been studying. The Cumberland RSL sub-Branch has just published *Auburn Anzacs*, the story of the

150 men of Auburn who died in the 1914-1918 war. Australia foolishly and recklessly overcommitted itself to the First World War.

War was exciting, a grand opera on the world stage, a time for adventure, overseas travel, freedom from the constraints of home, an opportunity to gamble, get drunk and behave badly.

In the end, we may have been on the winning side but at what cost? 60,000 Australians dead, thousands more maimed, blinded, gassed and traumatised. A damaged economy, a massive war debt and a bitterly divided and broken nation.

But we Australians never seem to learn. We are always keen to get involved in the big boys' wars.

I was in high school and university in the 1960s. The Australian government told us that the



RSL NSW Cumberland vice-president Ron Inglis, placed a tribute at the Long Tan Cross, the memorial in the rubber plantation where the battle of Long Tan was fought in South Vietnam in 1966.



Feature Navy Exhibition

ANZAC MEMORIAL

HYDE PARK SOUTH, SYDNEY

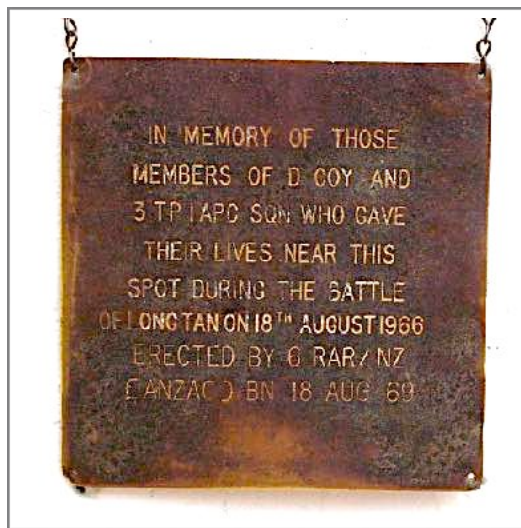
1913 the Royal Australian Navy's brand-new fleet sailed through the Heads and into Sydney Harbour. Since then the RAN has served on all the world's oceans in times of peace and war.

During the Second World War, the RAN reached its maximum strength. Approximately 37,000 men and women wore a RAN uniform. The war inflicted a heavy toll on ships and personnel. Thirty-eight cruisers, destroyers, sloops and smaller vessels were sunk and almost 2,200 sailors died on active service.

The RAN has sent ships and service personnel to war in Korea, Vietnam and the Persian Gulf. The service has participated in peacekeeping and humanitarian operations all over the globe, at sea, on remote islands and in tri-service deployments. It has played a vital role in protecting our borders and interrupting the international drug trade.

Today the RAN is a highly technical force of state-of-the-art equipment staffed by skilled and dedicated people serving the white ensign in the best traditions of Francis Drake and Horatio Nelson.

To recognise the generations of Australians who have gone to war on great waters the Anzac Memorial will open a year-long exhibition on the Royal Australian Navy.



The original plaque on the Long Tan Cross

communists were on the march down through South-East Asia and we were in Vietnam to kill them before they came to get us. At least that is what I was told on several military parades that I was on.

Now I was a very naive, innocent young man. I thought that if the government said there was a threat to Australia then it must be true. Governments would not tell lies would they? Nor did I question the idea that we had some right to go and kill people in Vietnam to protect Australia.

As the war got worse and worse, there were not enough soldiers in the Australian Army so the government introduced conscription of 20-year-old men. My birthdate was drawn out of the National Service lottery so instead of beginning my career as a high school teacher, I had to spend two years in the Australian Army.

Fortunately I was not sent to Vietnam. I ended up in the Pacific Islands Regiment in Papua New Guinea. On the home front more Australians realised that the war in Vietnam was a dirty conflict going nowhere. After all, the war featured on Australia's black-and-white TVs every night. You couldn't avoid it. Some 50,000 Americans died in the war and around 500 Australian soldiers perished.

I never got to Vietnam until 2012. I went there on a family holiday including several of my grandchildren. What a wonderful, family-friendly

place is Vietnam - so many fascinating places to see, so much fine food and culture. We explored Hanoi and Ha Long Bay then we caught the train, all the way down to Ho Chi Minh city, the old Saigon, in the south. The Reunification Express is one of the world's great train journeys.

In Saigon we went to the War Remnants Museum that shows, in graphic detail, the death and destruction rained on Vietnam by the Americans and her allies, including us. More bombs were dropped on Vietnam than were dropped in Europe during the entire Second World War. Thousands of Vietnamese died and many more were rendered homeless. Napalm and Agent Orange laid waste many areas and thousands of land mines were distributed, mines that continue to kill and maim people to this very day.

I and my family were horrified. Did we really do all this? Yes we did, and in the end it was all for nothing.

The RSL is a charity dedicated to the welfare of ex-service men and women and their families. One of the best things we can do for those who serve in our defence forces is not send them to pointless, unwinnable wars in the first place.

This is the lesson you should take from your history studies into the War in Vietnam.

Lest we forget."



RSL
NSW



CUMBERLAND

CUMBERLAND

DONATES THEIR FIRST BIG CHEQUE

\$1,000,000

It is not everyday that you see the handing over a cheque for 'one million dollars'.

Such a generous gift was made recently when RSL NSW Cumberland handed over that amount to RSL NSW to implement the RSL Strategic Plan. And that was only the first instalment.

Cumberland is giving in total two million dollars, to reform and revitalise the statewide charity that has cared for veterans and their families for over a century. Times have changed.

The RSL faces the challenge of ageing membership, out-of-date programs and a mountain of red tape.

The RSL NSW Strategic Plan is the road-map to turn the organisation around and directly

address the needs of younger ex-servicemen and women.

The cheque for one million dollars was presented to RSL NSW President Ray James during Cumberland's hand-over dinner held in the Castlereagh Boutique Hotel in the city.

"This helps in many ways. Veterans and administration come at a cost and we are very grateful for such donations when a big project" said Ray.

Outgoing President Greg Read and incoming President James Batkin joined to roll out the presentation cheque and to express RSL NSW Cumberland continued support for RSL NSW headquarters and the Strategic Plan that they are presently implementing.



RSL LifeCare Veteran Services

rslifecare.org.au/veteran-services

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Cumberland President James Batkin, and past President Greg Read, rolled out the big cheque to make the \$1million presentation to NSW RSL President, Ray James.

**RSL AND SCHOOLS
REMEMBER ANZAC
ART COMPETITION 2024**

"WHY LEST WE FORGET"



RSL
NSW

RSL AND SCHOOLS REMEMBER ANZAC ART COMPETITION 2024

*"WHY
LEST WE
FORGET"*



Your artwork could be featured on the cover of the 2024 RSL and Schools Remember ANZAC Service Program.

All finalists will be invited to an exhibition of artwork at the Anzac Memorial Hyde Park, Sydney.

KEY DATES

- **1 February 2023** - Competition opens
- **22 September 2023** - Submissions close
- **3 November 2023** - Finalists notified
- **30 November 2023** - Winners announced

For full details on the competition including important submission criteria please visit rslnsw.org.au/artcompetition



THE GREAT BATTLE

THAT AUSTRALIA HAS FORGOTTEN

8 AUGUST 1918
DER SCHWARZE TAG

On August 7 1918 the following message was read to all members of the Australian Imperial Force stationed on the front line in France in the valley of the Somme.

Australian soldier will worthily rise to so great an occasion ... and be animated by no other resolve than a grim determination to see through, to a clean finish, whatever his task may be ... for the sake of AUSTRALIA, the Empire, and our cause.

For the first time in the history of this corps all five Australian Divisions will tomorrow engage in the largest and most important battle operation ever undertaken by the Corps. They will be supported by an exceptionally powerful artillery, and by tanks and aeroplanes on a scale never previously attempted. The full resources of our sister Dominion, the Canadian Corps, will also operate on our right, while two British Divisions will guard our left flank ...

I earnestly wish every soldier of the Corps, the best of good fortune and a glorious and decisive victory, the story of which will re-echo throughout the world, and will live forever in the history of our home land.

John Monash

Because of the completeness of our plans and dispositions, of the magnitude of the operations, of the number of troops employed, and the depth to which we intend to overrun the enemy's positions, this battle will be one of the most memorable of the whole war: and there can be no doubt that, by capturing our objectives, we shall inflict blows on the enemy that will make him stagger, and bring the end appreciably nearer. I entertain no sort of doubt that every

The battle launched on August 8 1918 was indeed a glorious and decisive victory. All objectives were reached, thousands of Germans were taken prisoner, thousands of weapons and supplies were captured. So much so that the date was declared by General Ludendorff to be *Der Schwarze Tag*, the black day when he realised that the war was lost.

However, Monash's stirring words were only partly prophetic. The British offensive up the Somme valley on 8 August 1918 was indeed recognised as the beginning of the end but Monash's words that the story *will live forever in the history of our homeland* did not come to pass. By any measure of victory and triumph, August 8 should be our Anzac Day but in one of



The striking French war memorial in the village of Proyart, a Somme village right on the front line of the attack of August 8 1918.



RSL NSW CUMBERLAND

2022 ANNUAL REPORT - NOW AVAILABLE
MEMBERSHIP MAIL AND NEW WEBSITE

cumberlandrsl.com.au





Entry in the honour roll at the Suzanne Military Cemetery No. III, Somme valley, France.

REYNOLDS

Private, WILLIAM ERNEST, 6134, 17th Bn., Australian Infantry, A.I.F., Died of wounds 31 August 1918. Age 27. Son of William and Elizabeth Reynolds; husband of Ethel May Reynolds, of 10 Union Road., Auburn, NSW

those strange twists in the evolution of the Anzac legend, the great victory of 8 August 1918 did not dislodge the disaster of Gallipoli and the 25th of April from the firm place they had already established in the hearts and minds of Australians. Australia is the only country in the world that remembers veterans on a date marking the beginning of a military defeat.

Four Auburn Memorial men were killed in action in the first 24 hours of the British offensive of 8 August 1918: Lieutenant George Haig 27, Auburn Public School ex-pupil Private Harry Sales 26, Gallipoli veteran Private Leslie Power 24 and Corporal James Stewart 24. All four men had been in the AIF for more than two years, Haig and Power more than three years.

In the remaining days of August 1918, a further six Auburn Memorial men were killed in action: Signaller Alwyn Dawes 21, Lance Corporal Lionel Landon 25, Lance Corporal James Kay 39, Private Harold Stevens 21, the twice-enlisted Gallipoli veteran Private Horace Thoroughgood 30 and Private William Reynolds 27. All except Stevens had long periods of service both in the AIF and on the front line. Stevens had been in the AIF for only nine months and on the Front for only 45 days.

Former student of Auburn Public School and blacksmith's striker William Reynolds has the sad distinction of being the last Auburn Memorial man to die in battle in the First World War. He was killed in action on 31 August 1918. Appropriately, Reynolds lies in the Suzanne Military Cemetery No 3, the furthest east of the cemeteries of the Somme containing Auburn Memorial men. The Suzanne Military Cemetery No 3 contains 139 burials including 26 Australians.

William Reynolds also has the distinction of having his name on no fewer than eight First World War memorials, six of them in Auburn.

- [Auburn War Memorial](#)
- [Municipality of Auburn Honour Roll 1914-1919](#)
- [1914-1918 Honour Roll in St Philip's Anglican Church Auburn](#)
- [Auburn North Public School Honour Roll](#)
- [Auburn Public School First World War Honour Roll](#)
- [Auburn Boys Public School Great War Photographic Honour Roll](#)
- [NSW Government Railways & Tramways First World War Honour Roll, Central Station](#)
- [Honour Roll Australian War Memorial Canberra](#)



KEN DOBBIE
TAS
2017

PHILLIP LANCASTER
WA
2018



DAVE CASSIDY
QLD
2018

DARRYL WALTON
WA
2019



BRAD MURPHY
QLD
2020

JOHN PERRYMAN
ACT
2021

JACK & ANITA STRONG
WA
2022



RAY JAMES
NSW
2023

STONEHAVEN

TINGIRA BOYS DELIVER SHIPMATE RAY JAMES THE ULTIMATE STONEHAVEN SURPRISE

Tingira Australia President Dr. Brad Murphy took the microphone and proceeded with his address to Cumberland members on the history of the Tingira Stonehaven Medal before announcing the winner.

Tingira Boy, Greg Read, put on his navy beret and wondered onto the stage area front in what seemed like he was about to receive the honour. However, Greg too was in on the surprise delivery and the winner was left in total shock.

Tingira President, Brad Murphy OAM, announced former Royal Australian Navy Junior Recruit, Ray James, as the winner of the 2023 Tingira Stonehaven Medal.

“Again for the seventh year of the award, we had several very worthy nominations, all high quality with glowing achievements. All met the Tingira requirements to be named the Tingira Stonehaven Medal winner” said Brad Murphy.

“Looking for the member that goes above and beyond his expected call of duty in navy or community duties is the qualification for nomination”.

This year’s presentation was slightly different as it was delivered in very different circumstances to the past award presentations.

Ray was a special guest at an official RSL NSW Cumberland sub-Branch annual dinner to receive a donation cheque for the RSL NSW Headquarters. Ray wasn't sure what was happening when the program presented a single line of 'Navy Award Presentation'.

When Tingira President Brad Murphy took the microphone and made the introduction, it was looking like anyone of three Tingira Boys in the room might be up for this award. Then the 'surprise' announcement was made, Ray James is the Stonehaven winner for 2023.



"Nothing like a good surprise for my boy Ray, it's usually the other way around" said a very excited and jubilant wife Pauline James.

Ray was visibly stunned and very honoured to be named the Stonehaven recipient. Surrounded by a few Tingira navy mates in the room, Ray said "this wonderful trophy will take a high place of pride and joy on my office wall on Monday morning, I'm stunned, I just cant believe it".

Over the past decade Ray has been the 'face of the RSL' in NSW. After some turbulent times in the League, the challenging task is to grow the membership and promote the brand to the new generation of veterans coming into the RSL ranks. Success to date in growing numbers and visibly improving the brand is in progress. Ray has certainly been credited to many the new his ideas and contributions within the RSL NSW.

The years between leaving the navy and RSL duties also bring great merit to Ray's career. A successful period in the NSW Police Force, and continuing his contact with past and present navy mates via the Tingira network, has kept Ray in focus with his defence family and our ever changing navy today.

BZ shipmate Ray James, 2023 Tingira Stonehaven Medal winner.

RAY JAMES - NSW
FOUNDATION LIFE MEMBER - 2011
HMAS LEEUWIN JR - 10th INTAKE 1965

Nominated by

Bill Stokes
Life Member
Tingira Australia Association
Canberra, ACT

Ray (Jesse) James, joined HMAS Leeuwin as a Junior Recruit in January 1965, served in the RAN for 20 years rising to the Rank of CPO Marine Technical Population.

I served with Jesse at HMAS Nirimba in 1979, he was an Outstanding Divisional Chief, highly and well respected by the Apprentices, Ship's Staff and the Command.

During this time Jesse coached the App's First XV to an Outstanding Win in the 1979 App's I/S at Nirimba. He also played with Nirimba First and 2nd XV, where he was an excellent Team Member. In his time at Nirimba Jesse by his excellent example of a Senior Sailor, Counselling and Trained many App's s in preparation for their long Service on their RAN Career Path.

On leaving the RAN in 1985, Jesse i joined the NSW Transit Police.

This was eventually incorporated into the NSW Police Service. Jesse took on many roles in the NSW Police where he frequently bought a Squad down to Albatross for TSG Training and it was again a pleasure to catch up with him again and learn of the same outstanding commitment he had to the NSW Police as he had in the RAN.

During his time and many roles in the NSW Police rising to the rank of SGT after over 30 yrs Service in the Campbelltown Command. During this time Jesse was also President of the Ingleburn RSL Sub Branch, a Director of the RSL Club and a NSW RSL State Counsellor (Board member).

During the recent upheaval of the RSL NSW, Jesse stepped up to the mark and took the reins as the NSW RSL as Acting State President.

Facing many Challenges in front of him as the NSW RSL was near bough to its knees by the fault past of Management with serious allegations of corruption. Jesse tackled this NSW RSL with his normal zealous approach to get the RSL back on track to its original proud core function.

Jesse through his demonstrated hardworking efforts well supported by his board of Directors and the membership. Jesse has strived to get the NSW RSL back to a high profile position.

Improving fallen membership and encouraging younger veteran's to take on the role as office bearers. In lifting the profile of the RSL NSW, Jesse has had many meeting with high profile people as in all levels of government in regraded to promoting the RSL ANZAC Day and other commemorative veteran events, which has restrictions over the past two years..

Jesse was recently elected to the permanent role RSL NSW President, he now travels extensively to the many NSW State RSL Sub Branches across the state promoting and acting in an official capacity in presenting various awards and meeting local government representatives for the RSL NSW. To which this in itself has been so well received by RSL Sub Branch Members and a main stay in bringing and improving the executive office levels of the RSL NSW lines of communications to a consistent high level with the RSL Sub Branches.

Not only had Jesse strived to improve the RSL overall performance levels. He has been instrumental in the involving the NSW Schools and students in RSL Commemorative Activities.

This endeavour has demonstrated Jesse excellent commitment to follow on from his RAN and NSW Police Service with the same tenacity and outstanding service to his now elected civilian roles and functions in getting the RSL NSW back to its once high functioning role of veteran's matters.

Jesse has not forgotten his many years of RAN Service where he is also involved in participating in the RAN 'Old Salts Rugby' which has again reinvigorated his past service mate ship and made many new friends, along with age has not stopped him from taking to the Rugby paddock in purple rugby attire for over 70's

I am proud that I have the honour, privilege and opportunity to know and serve with Jesse James.

He has always demonstrated a high order of professionalism for all work he has undertaken, by setting a high bench mark of example for others to aspire to. This is why by Jesse long service to the RAN, NSW Police Service and RSL NSW at all Levels.

I have no hesitation in nominating and believe he is a most worthy recipient for the award of the prestigious 'Tingara Stonehaven Medal' for the 2023 nomination.



Tingira Australia Association President, Brad Murphy, presenting the 2023 Tingira Stonehaven Medal to former RAN Junior Recruit, Tingira Boy, Ray James and his wife Pauline.



Celebrating the 2023 Tingira Stonehaven Medal - L:R Tingira President Brad Murphy, Tingira Stonehaven Medal winner Ray James, former Tingira President Greg Read, and National Tingira Secretary, Mark Lee.

PRESIDENT'S

HANDOVER DINNER

Members and guests gathered at the Castlereagh Boutique Hotel, Saturday 22 July 2023 to welcome new President James Batkin with the official handover of the 'President's hammer and block' from Greg Read. The musical entertainment provided with the delightful sounds of 'Company B'.



1.



2.



3 - 5.



*1. Councillor Glen Elmore, Kim and John Munce 2. 'Company B' singers in the Heritage dining room.
3. Greg Read and Grace Cornish. 4. Chloe Villiers and Ann Selfridge 5. Jennifer and Max Streeter, Margaret Lee.*



1.



2 - 4.



5.

1. John Moore, Karen and Paul Garrard 2. David Anderson and Julie Henderson
3. Greg Read presented an appreciation award to Chris Hurley 4. Ann Batkin and Joy Inglis
5. The ladies on table six - singing and dancing on their chairs



Newest Cumberland Member

CAPT BEN HISSINK

CSC, RAN

JOINS THE CUMBERLAND RANKS

Ben Hissink recently joined the RSL NSW Cumberland sub-Branch and he like many others thought the RSL was the club at the end of the street.

Ben was given the full story of the RSL from our Secretary Mark Lee and was only to happy to become a member. We welcome Ben to our ranks and look forward to his company when time and seagoing duty permits, this is his story so far.

*

Ben joined the Royal Australian Navy in 1996, trained as a Seaman Officer, and then subsequently completed the Principle Warfare Officers' course.

A Navigation Warfare Specialist, he has served in Survey Motor Launches, Patrol Boats, Frigates, and Amphibious Ships.

Between 2010 and 2014 the then Lieutenant Commander Hissink completed a two-year appointment as Executive Officer of the Landing Platform Amphibious Ship HMAS Kanimbla, followed by a one-year appointment as Executive Officer of the Landing Ship Dock HMAS Choules.

Upon promotion to Commander, he was briefly posted as Chief of Staff to Commodore Warfare in 2015

before being selected as Admiral's Secretary to Commander Australian Fleet in 2016. Upon departure as Admiral's Secretary, he undertook a posting to Navy People's Career Management Agency as the Commanders Career Manager in 2018.

Awards include a Commander Joint Operations Gold Commendation for his service as the Executive Officer in Choules and a Fleet Commander's Bronze Commendation as the Officer in Charge of the Navigation Faculty at HMAS Watson. Captain Hissink has completed operational service in East Timor, the Middle East, and border protection duties from Northern Australia.

Captain Hissink is a graduate of the Australian Defence Force Academy and Australian Command and Staff Course, and a member of the Nautical Institute and Company of Master Mariners. Captain Hissink holds a Masters degree in Defence Strategic Studies from the Australian National University.

Captain Hissink assumed 'Command' of HMAS Supply, in December 2019, and was relieved of 'Command' by Commander Cindy Jenkins, on 8 June 2022. Ben presently is on senior administration duties in Canberra and will transfer back to Sydney in 2024

2023 - Kings Birthday Honours - Conspicuous Service Cross (CSC) awarded Captain Ben Hissink, RAN – For outstanding achievement as the Commanding Officer of HMAS Supply.



Supplier & Supporter

RSL NSW CUMBERLAND



New recruit to the Cumberland ranks - Captain Ben Hissink



CUMBERLAND

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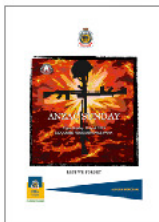
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MEDIA 2023



PRESIDENTS PEN



WEBSITE

CUMBERLAND LAUNCH NEW VERSION



Copeland Creative Sydney Agency launched the new RSL NSW Cumberland website last month for members and general public information.

“It’s a big step for us to have control over our own documents and communications to members and the world wide web audience” said the newly elected President James Batkin, from his bunker in Harrow Road Auburn.

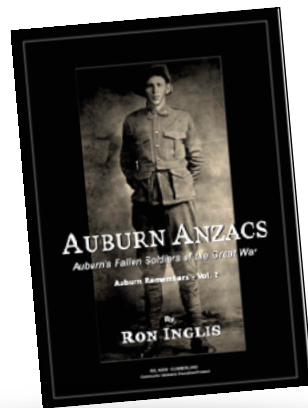
Cumberland Secretary Mark Lee, and Webmaster Matt Copeland, have created and produced the website to be as simple as possible for mature age first time users in mind, with the new a added feature to purchase Cumberland special merchandise products.

The first merchandise product to be launched today is the new Vol two of Ron Inglis’s book AUBURN ANZACS.

The 'members only' section in future will contain 'Agenda & Minutes' for all future Cumberland general meetings.



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RSL NSW CUMBERLAND



2639 Corporal **WALTER DOUGLAS PAINE**

Walter Douglas Paine 28, a mercer had many connections with Auburn. He attended Auburn North Public School and, like five other Auburn Anzacs from Auburn North, went on to do post primary courses at Auburn Public School. Walter Paine was a member of the St Philip's Anglican Church, Auburn and a member of Auburn Lodge, Manchester Unity Independent Order of Odd fellows. An obituary for Walter Paine records that Paine 'took part in one or two dramatic pieces presented at the Auburn Town Hall by Norman Kennerdale's Dramatic Company. See 'Corporal Walter D. Paine', *Cumberland Argus & Fruitgrowers Advocate*, Saturday, 26 August 1916, p10.

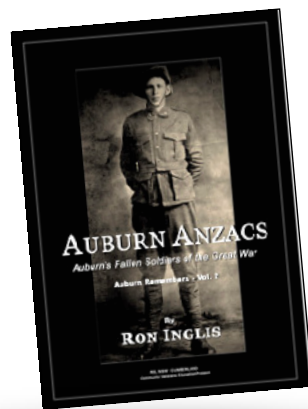
When Walter Paine enlisted on 22 June 1916, he nominated his widowed mother at 78 Station Road Auburn as his next-of-kin. Private Paine embarked on the *Runic* on 9 August 1915 and he joined the Anzac forces on Gallipoli on 6 November 1915, just a month before the evacuation. Back in Egypt the Anzac forces were reorganised and Paine was allocated to the 1st Battalion First Australian Division.

Arriving in Marseilles, France on 28 March 1916, the troops were taken by train to the Nursery Sector in the far north of France. After several months there the 1st, 2nd, and 4th Australian Divisions were brought down to the Somme in readiness to join in the First Battle of the Somme. Private Paine was killed in action on 25 July 1916, the early days of the Australian attack at Pozieres. His body was never found and his name is inscribed on The Australian National Memorial at Villers-Bretonneux.

Helen Paine received her son's medals and she was awarded a pension of £1 p.f. for she was dependent on Walter. Her other son had left home and was a teacher at Rozelle Superior Public School.

Walter Paine is honoured on the following memorials in Australia

Auburn War Memorial
Municipality of Auburn 1914-1919 Honour Roll
St Philip's Anglican Church Auburn First World War Honour Roll
Auburn North Public School Honour Roll
Auburn Public School First World War Honour Roll
Auburn Boys Public School Great War Photographic Honour Roll
Roll of Honour Australian War Memorial Canberra



863 Lance Corporal ERNEST CECIL SIDNEY

The service record of Bank Clerk Lance Corporal Ernest Cecil Sidney, 25, is a good example of inadequate record keeping that was common in the very early stages of the First AIF. Sidney enlisted in September 1914 and embarked on the *Ceramic* from Melbourne on 22 Dec 1914. It is recorded that he left Egypt on 12 April 1915 so Sidney may have been among those landing on the first day, 25 April but there is no record of this. He was reported missing around 9 May but the situation was chaotic and no one could give any indication of his fate.

Throughout the war and for some years thereafter, the Base Records Office wrote to the next-of-kin of missing, asking if they had received any information. Lance Corporal Sidney's widowed mother, Emma Sidney who lived in Susan Street, Auburn, replied that she had received a postcard from her son dated 9 May 1915 saying *I am well*. One soldier said that he had heard another soldier say that he recognized Sidney in a photograph of Australian Prisoners of War published in a Turkish newspaper but Sidney's name never turned up in lists supplied by the Turks through the Red Cross.

Eventually a Court of Inquiry was held in Egypt in April 1916 and Sidney was declared killed in action on 9 May 1915. Ernest Sidney was the third of twelve Auburn Anzacs to die on the Gallipoli peninsular. His name is inscribed on the Lone Pine Memorial at Gallipoli.

Sidney enlisted in Grafton, NSW and in his service record there is a letter from an 'Area Officer, Grafton' saying that Cecil Sidney was an excellent horseman and wanted to enlist in the Light Horse. There were too many enlistees wanting to join the Light Horse at that stage so Sidney enlisted in the infantry.

Cecil Sidney was ecumenical. On enlistment he declared his religion to be Church of England. His name is found on the honour roll in Auburn Methodist Church and the AIF Project records that he attended the Catholic Christian Brothers High School in Lewisham.

Cecil Sidney is honoured on the following memorials in Australia

Auburn War Memorial
Municipality of Auburn 1914-1919 Honour Roll
Roll of Honour Australian War Memorial Canberra
Auburn Methodist Church First World War Honour Roll
Grafton Cenotaph



LIZ COSSON

JOINS RSL LIFECARE BOARD

Our partner charity, RSL LifeCare, has announced today that RSL NSW has approved the appointment of Elizabeth (Liz) Cosson AM CSC as a Director of the RSL LifeCare Board as of Monday 18 September.

Liz had a distinguished 30-year career in the Australian Army, followed by various prestigious roles within public administration.

Liz was awarded the Member in the Military Division of the Order of Australia – AM, for leading profound change and service to the Australian Army. In addition to this honour, Liz was awarded the Conspicuous Service Cross – CSC for achievements as the Chief of Staff (Peace Monitoring Group – Bougainville) and logistics planning (East Timor). At the pinnacle of her military career, Liz was promoted to the rank of Major General and Head Defence Support Operations.

Her transition to public administration in 2010 continued her expertise in leadership, strategic thinking and organisational reform. Liz has had various roles including the Department of Immigration & Citizenship (Deputy Secretary),

Commonwealth Department of Health (Deputy Secretary/CEO), Department of Veterans' Affairs (Deputy Secretary/CEO), and currently Commonwealth Department of Veterans' Affairs (Secretary (CEO)).

Upon her appointment, Liz said "I am honoured to be appointed to the Board of RSL LifeCare and am thankful for this opportunity to contribute to the important work the organisation does for the veteran community and for seniors in general. It is a great privilege to join the Board at this important time of RSL LifeCare's evolution."

Liz's breadth of experience within the military and knowledge of the Veteran Affairs space will be invaluable as RSL LifeCare, supported by RSL NSW, continues to increase its footprint with Veterans' and Families' Hubs across NSW. Her outstanding experience in organisational reform, governance and policy development, as illustrated in her public administration roles, will be a great asset to the Board.

Chair of the RSL LifeCare Board, Ewen Crouch, AM said he is truly delighted that Liz has chosen to join the Board at such an important stage of RSL LifeCare's evolution with the launch of its new business strategy, and reaffirmation of our purpose to enrich veterans' and seniors' lives.





New RSL LifeCare Director, Liz Cosson.



ELECTION

2023

RSL NSW ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

Nominations for the election of the RSL NSW President and Directors will open to all eligible and active RSL NSW Service Members, as per the RSL NSW Constitution, at 12pm 25 July 2023.

The RSL NSW Board has appointed Link Market Services (Link) as the independent Returning Officer to officiate and conduct the 2023 Election of Directors.

Link is one of Australia's leading voting and meeting service providers, conducting over 700 meetings and ballots annually to many of Australia's largest organisations, associations, and business councils.

All RSL NSW Service Members are encouraged to consider nominating for a role as a Director or the RSL NSW President.

All the information you will need for nominating in the 2023 RSL NSW Election of Directors will be available on this page and accessible by all members from 12:00pm (noon) on Tuesday 25 July 2023.

Any enquiries should be addressed to the Link Returning Officer either via

Phone
02 - 9105 1239



RSL LifeCare Veteran Services

rsllifecare.org.au/veteran-services

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Nomination Criteria

- Be a Service Member* of at least 18 years of age; **All RSL NSW Service members who are marked as 'Active' (formerly Financial) in the sub BranchPortal are eligible to nominate for President and/or an Elected Director position and to vote.*
-
- Within 6 months of being elected, successfully complete a governance training course or a governance training refresher course as the Board considers appropriate and as prescribed by the Board
- Possess and demonstrate a level of appropriate training, study, skills, or experience relevant to the position of Elected Director
- Be a Fit and Proper Person (*as defined in the RSL NSW Constitution*).

Experience Sought in Directors

Collective knowledge, skills and experience sought in directors:

- Directors must be financially literate and business literate
- Comfortable using technology to access Board papers, attend meetings
- Directors must understand their legal roles and duties as set out in ACNC and Corporations legislation
- In agreeing to be a Director of RSL NSW, Directors must understand that they may be held personally liable for any failure to meet their legal obligations
- Knowledge of the RSL structure
- Understanding of the issues affecting veterans

About the Election



Every active RSL NSW Service Member is eligible to cast a vote.

RSL NSW has appointed Link Market Services (Link) as the independent third party to conduct the 2023 Election. In conducting the election, Link will also be the Returning Officer. The purpose of appointing a third-party Returning Officer is to ensure probity and integrity of the election process.

Eligibility and background checks will be conducted for all candidates standing for election. As a requirement of nomination, each candidate is required to apply for a National Police Check (NPC) and obtain a National Police Certificate that is to be submitted with their nomination documents.



How many board positions are being filled?

The 2023 Election is seeking nominations for 7 member Elected Directors and a President. The elected President also serves as a Director, bringing the total member elected positions on the Board to 8.

RSL NSW also has 2 independent Directors on the Board (as defined in the RSL NSW Act 2018). These positions are Board appointed positions and will not be filled in this election.

Voting



When does voting for Members open?

Voting opens at 12:00pm (noon) on Tuesday 12 September 2023 (6 weeks before the AGM). Online and postal voting closes at 12:00pm (noon) on 9 October 2023 (28 days after voting has opened).



How do I vote?

Members eligible to vote can do so online via a secure voting portal or cast their vote using a ballot paper requested from the Returning Officer.



How many ballots are being run?

Two ballots are being run – one for President and one for Elected Director. Candidates nominating for both roles will appear on both ballots.



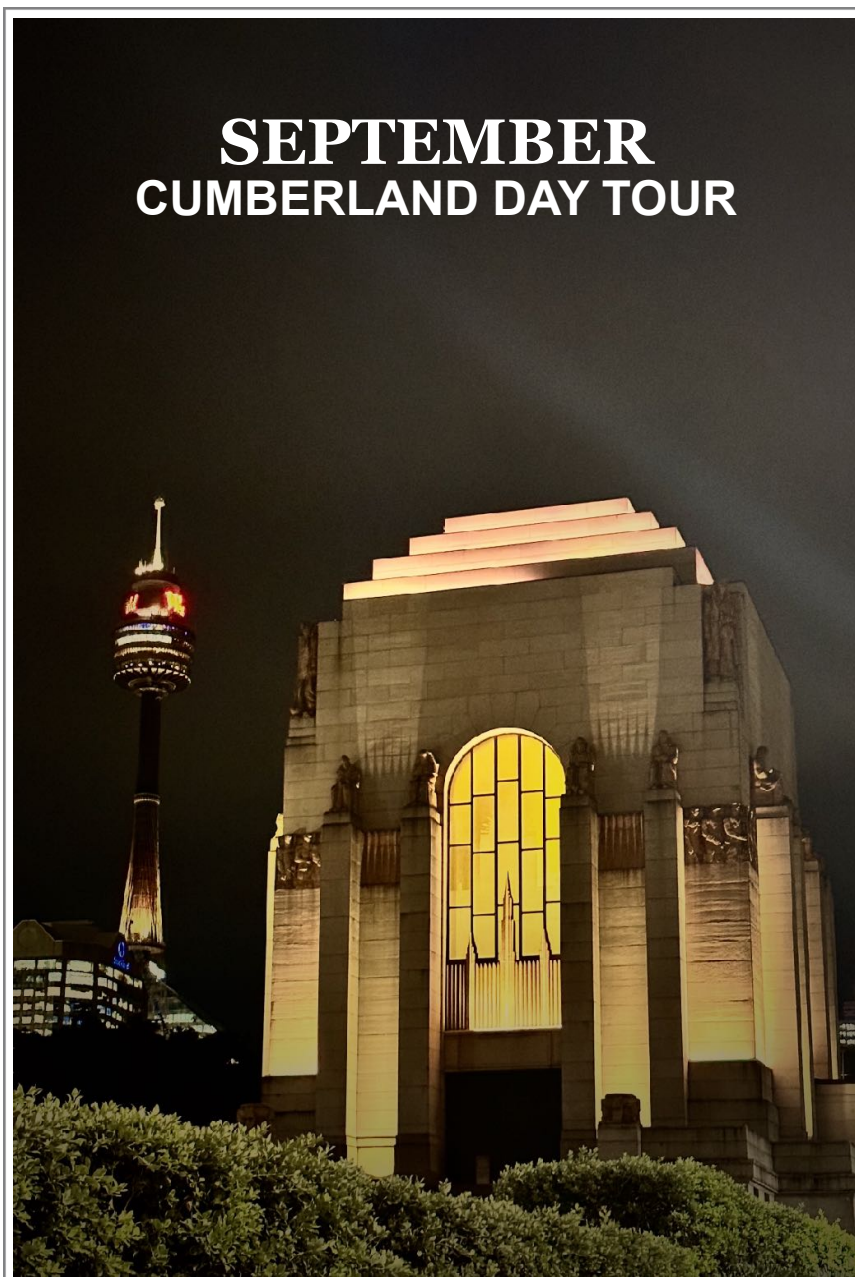
How will positions on the ballot paper be determined?

Positions on the ballot paper will be determined by a drawing of lots. Once all the relevant checks have been completed the Returning Officer will draw lots for each ballot.

Event	Date
Member Register closes:	Tuesday 18 July 2023
Candidate Nominations Open:	Tuesday 25 July 2023
Candidate Nominations Close:	Monday 21 August 2023
Candidate Confirmation and ballot lots draw:	Thursday 24 August 2023
Member Voting Opens:	Tuesday 12 September 2023
Member Voting Closes:	Monday 9 October 2023
Election Results Declared:	Tuesday 24 October 2023
RSL NSW Congress & AGM:	Tuesday 24 October 2023

Next Steps for Candidates

- Candidates must complete a nomination form and provide all relevant information.
- Nomination packs can be obtained from the Returning Officer by either emailing or phoning the Returning Officer on rslnsw.returningofficer@linkmarketservices.com.au or phone 02 - 9105 1239.
- The Returning Officer will email you the Election Information Pack (which will include the Nomination Form). Election Information Packs will not be posted, they are only available via email. The Nomination form can be completed online by clicking on the link below.
- The Returning Officer must receive all your paperwork, correctly completed, either via email, post or hand delivered as set out in the Candidate Nomination form, by 12pm (noon) on Monday 21 August 2023.
- A prospective candidate may withdraw their nomination by notice in writing to the Returning Officer up to, but not later than, the Close of Nominations on Monday 21 August 2023.
- The prospective candidate must submit the following documentation together with the nomination form should a person be nominating as an Elected Director and for RSL NSW President:
 - ★ *Candidate Statement that does not exceed 250 words.*
 - ★ *National Police Certificate or copy of your application confirmation (signed by a representative of the NSW Police Service confirming your identity). A minimum of 10 eligible Nominators supporting your nomination.*
 - ★ *Completed statutory declaration and signed by an authorised witness.*



TUESDAY 5 SEPTEMBER 2023

0900	Depart Auburn Tennis Club
1000	Anzac Memorial - Sydney View - RAN exhibition - Navy 100 years
1100	Anzac Memorial Commemoration Service
1230	Tingira Memorial - Rose Bay Commemoration Service
1300	Rose Bay Aviation Collection - Sydney Seaplanes
1600	Arrive Auburn Tennis Club

RSVP - Cumberland Secretary - 5pm Friday 1 September

Cost - \$25 per person include bus and refreshments
Payment to RSL NSW Westpac Account - add name!
BSB - 032 070 Acct - 649 434



MEMBERS NEXT EVENT

ANZAC MEMORIAL TOUR

SYDNEY

9am Tuesday 5 September 2023

Booking required, Seats limited - Book Secretary

NEXT MEETING

COMMITTEE

Tuesday 17 October 6 pm

Dooleys,

NEXT MEETING

MEMBERS

Tuesday 19 September 4.30 pm

Dooleys, Lidcombe

NEXT MEETING

AUXILIARY

Luncheon

Wednesday 27 September 12 pm

Dooleys, Regents Park





If not claimed within seven days please return to:

**PO Box 434
AUBURN. NSW 1835**

**PRINT
POST**
PP 100029483

**POSTAGE
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