



Returned and Services League Yarra Glen Sub Branch

ANZAC and Bell Streets
Yarra Glen, VIC 3775
<http://www.YarraGlen.com/RSL/>

February 2007 News



Lest We Forget

Yarra Glen Sub Branch Elects New Officers

The Yarra Glen Sub Branch elected its officers for the year 2007 at its Annual General Meeting on 21st January 2007. The officers are Ted Bowling, President; Neil Eagle, Vice-President; Ed Bartosh, Secretary; and Peter Morley, Treasurer. Outgoing President, John Gosling, OAM, was thanked for his long service as President and member of the Sub-Branch.

National Carrier Recognizes Remembrance Day

John Gosling, the immediate past president of the Yarra Glen Sub Branch has been advocating that Qantas recognize Remembrance Day on its domestic and international flights. John was a passenger on a Qantas flight to Japan last Remembrance Day when the Captain advised the passengers over the PA system of the significance of November 11th and asked them to observe a one-minute silence followed by recitation of The Ode. John advised that it was quite an emotional event.

Yarra Glen Remembrance Day

The Yarra Glen RSL would like to thank local residents, the Yarra Glen IGA and Yarra Valley Racing for their support at the Remembrance Day service and this year's poppy offerings. At the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, local residents gathered at the Memorial Hall to pause to remember those citizen soldiers who gave their lives to maintain our freedoms. At the conclusion of the service, poppies were laid at the base



of the newly restored Memorial. This year, the Yarra Glen RSL received donations of over \$1500 from Remembrance Poppy donations prior to the day. These donations are placed in a Welfare account that may only be used to assist veterans in need. Locally, these monies have been used to help Yarra Glen veterans defray expenses when they enter a hospital for care. The RSL also uses these donations to assist in veteran's funerals or financial difficulties with accommodations or food as direct loans or grants. Yarra Glen and District veterans with circumstances who may be able to help - especially with the recent freeze and drought, should contact the Yarra Glen RSL Secretary, Ed Bartosh, at 9730 2858

2007 Memberships are due

Peter Morley, continuing Treasurer, would like to thank members for their support over the past year and remind them that their annual subscriptions are due. Please bring along your dues to any Friday or monthly meeting or mail them to him at: Yarra Glen RSL, C/ Yarra Glen Post Office, Yarra Glen VIC 3775.

Yarra Glen Sub-Branch Works to Preserve Honour Board

In August, member Eric Tetlow advised the membership that there was a WW1 honour board for sale in one of the local antique shops. Fran Bailey, MP was contacted to see if anything might be done to preserve the board which contains 90 names from the Associated Stock and Station Agents of Melbourne. Probably originally on display in their boardroom at the Flemington Sale Yards, it was purchased by a Yarra Glen antiques dealer.



On the advice of MP Bailey, the Sub-Branch applied for a grant from the Commonwealth Department of Veterans Affairs under the "Saluting Their Service Commemorations Grants Program" to purchase and preserve the blackwood honour board. *Lest We Forget...*

History of Yarra Glen ANZAC Avenue and Its Memorial Trees

Your Yarra Glen Sub-Branch is coordinating with the Shire of Yarra Ranges to help preserve the history of Yarra Glen's avenue of honour, ANZAC Avenue. The trees were planted on the avenue to commemorate the local soldiers who went to or gave their lives in "The Great War". Rather than proposing a plaque at the base of each tree, we are working to erect a sign at the entrance to the avenue at Bell Street. It would commemorate the service of our ancestors. Cr. Jeanette McRae has been very supportive of this effort and is working with the Shire staff to reach our goal.

Prepare for ANZAC Day Parade

On Wednesday, April 25, 2007, we are again commemorating the anniversary of Anzac Day. Our local events begin with a parade from the Yarra Glen Police Station, which continues to the Memorial at the corner of Anzac Avenue and Bell Street. Those who wish to join the parade at the top of the hill may do so at the alley beside Rosier Realty. There will be a remembrance ceremony at the Memorial, to be followed by a reception in the Memorial Hall. Members of the public who wish to place a wreath to commemorate the sacrifices of deceased veterans are welcome to participate. They should contact the Secretary, Ed Bartosh, in advance of the day to make arrangements. The parade will start at 10:15 a.m., and the service will commence at approximately 10:30 a.m.



For more information about any of these items or other concerns about local veterans or veterans affairs, please contact the Secretary, Ed Bartosh at 9730 2858.

Formed in 1919, the Yarra Glen Sub Branch of the RSL holds its regular meetings on the third Sunday of each month at 10 AM in the RSL rooms in the Memorial Hall. Members also normally meet on Friday afternoons for a social gathering. The Returned and Services League has some 1500 Sub-Branches through out Australia and with a membership of 240,000, is one of the largest service and ex-service associations in Australia. The RSL offers two main forms of membership: Ordinary, (for those who have served in the Armed Forces), and Affiliate, (for those related to people eligible for Ordinary membership). For membership information, stop by on a Friday or visit <http://www.rslvic.com.au/> on the web and see the membership pages.