



SOUTH ARM RSL SUB-BRANCH INC.

<https://southarmrslsubbranch.org.au>.

ABN: 599 759 198 26

Patron: Terry Roe

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President's Newsletter, October 2025

I hope you have been well. This newsletter is to update you on various issues your committee is working on. Any feedback, positive or negative, is always welcome, and can be forwarded to either Anne or myself using the email addresses above.

Committee meeting Friday 17th October. The following decisions, (in dot point form) were enacted upon by the committee.

- **MoU.** The Memorandum of Understanding between the Sub Branch and South Arm RSL & Community Club has been signed by both parties and a copy is held with the Secretary.
- **Website.** <https://southarmrslsubbranch.org.au>. The South Arm RSL Sub Branch's website is coming along in leaps and bounds. Our website manager, Tom is doing a great job at building the site and everything is on track for a 'hard launch' in 19 days' time. Please click on the link provided and check it out and tell us what you think.
- **South Arm Memorial Park.** I can advise that 90 plants have been planted in the Memorial Park and some of the bottle brushes are starting to flower. The Rosemary plants seem to have taken with all plants having new growth and all are flowing.
- **New Nurses Memorials.** The Sub Branch's Saluting their Service grant application was unsuccessful in obtaining funds to fund the 4 nurses memorials. However, we have managed to successfully obtain a commitment from the South Arm RSL & Community Club to fund the **\$35,242.00** needed for the nurses memorial. This is an extremely generous commitment from the committee of the Community Club, and one that allows this important and significant memorial to proceed. Working with Dobson's Monumental Works, Marble and Granite Pty Ltd at Moonah, we are aiming for an official unveiling of the Memorial around 14th/15th of February 2026, coinciding with the 84th Anniversary of the sinking of "*SS Vyner Brooke*" by the Japanese, and the "*Banka Island Massacre*". **Please put these dates in your diary.** The Sub Branch will be flying down from QLD, Wing Commander (Ret'd) Sharon Bown AM to attend and speak at the unveiling. Sharon is one of the nurses being honoured.
- **4 New Bronze Plaque Memorials -**
 - a) Indigenous Service men & women who served in the ADF across all conflicts.
 - b) Peacemakers & Peacekeepers.
 - c) Women's Land Army, and
 - d) Service Animals. In honour and recognition of the all the animals who served alongside our ADF personnel in all conflicts.



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The Sub Branch has submitted a 2025-26 Teddy Sheean VC Memorial Grant Application Form for \$10,000.00 to go towards purchasing 2 of the 4 Bronze Plaques (580mmx410mm). Successful grant applicants will be notified in January 2026.

- **Anzac Day 2027.** The Sub Branch has agreed to enter formal discussions with the Principal of Bayview Secondary College for students to organise and deliver the main 11am Anzac Day Service for 2027. We believe this initiative would be of great benefit to students, giving them practicable 'hands on' experience in organising all aspects of an important commemorative event, and strengthen our relationship with the College. The Sub Branch would of course have oversight and mentor students where needed, but they will host and deliver all aspects of the Service.

Remembrance Day. This year, Remembrance Day falls on a Tuesday. The committee is well advanced in putting together another great service for the community and for our veteran family. We do hope you will be able to attend and, **if you would like to lay a wreath, please let me know.**

Ken Weir has laid the ground work and I have spoken with FLTLT 3 Joshua Wright pilot of a C-17 Air Force plane for a possible fly-over during the Service.

Annual Lunch. Just a reminder that this year's annual lunch to be held on **Sunday 16th November** at the South Arm RSL & Community Club, 2972 South Arm Road, South Arm. Please put the date in your diary, come along and catch up with friends over fine dining and fellowship. Plenty of great prizes to be won.

Certificates of Appreciation. You may be aware, Certificates of Appreciation (CoA) are available under the Australian Government's Saluting their Service Commemorative Program.

The CoA are a way of expressing our nations gratitude to those who served overseas in Australian Defence Forces (ADF) from the Second World War on, and/or on the home front during the Second World War.

CoA are issued for service with ADF in overseas wars, conflicts or peace operations. Service on the Home Front during the Second World War, or with Australia's logistics support in Vietnam, during the specified dates, also qualify for a CoA.



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To apply for the CoA, applicants should complete the application form and submit it to their local federal MP. Eligibility is then decided by the MP in accordance with these guidelines. You can find your local MP at the link [here](#).

Further information about the certificate can be found [here](#). I have also attached the guidelines as well as an application form for your convenience.

Finally. Please stay safe, and if you need assistance, no matter how trivial, big or small it may seem, I urge you to reach out. All our wellbeing and assistance support the committee provides to members is carried out in the strictest terms of confidentiality.

The committee looks forward to catching up with you on Remembrance Day or at our Annual Lunch.

Terry