



## SOUTH ARM RSL SUB-BRANCH INC.

ABN: 599 759 198 26

Patron: Terry Roe

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### President's Newsletter, September 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 19<sup>th</sup> of September.** 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 and handed back to the Club. If you would like a copy, I'll send one to you.
- **Website.** The Sub Branch is in the process of having it's very own website and the committee's aim is to have it launched 'live' prior to this year's Remembrance Day Service. Tom Humphries has been engaged to build the website for us, and Secretary Anne and I have been working closely with Tom. Technically it is still a work in progress so there are some elements missing and some navigational parts that aren't quite up to scratch and there is still lots of information, photos and links yet to be uploaded, Tom is making great progress and at this early stage, the site looks professional and easy to navigate. You can check it out by clicking this link; <https://southarmrslsubbranch.org.au>. The **QR "jump to section" feature** on the History page – please give the QR code below a try; it should take you directly to *History Section 2*, representing the approach that we'll use for the QR Code Posters!



Any suggestions you have on what information should be included and easily accessible by users, is welcome and again, please let Secretary Anne or I know.

- **South Arm Memorial Park.** Over the last few weeks, 68 plants have been planted in the Memorial Park. A "Rosemary Garden" has been established in front of the Memorial Walls with 18 "Blue Lagoon" Rosemary plants. In time, these plants will form a small hedge, and the plants flower all year round. These plants were donated by Harmony Nursery at Lauderdale.



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- 20 x Callistemon Viminalis “Dawson River” native plants have been planted, and these grow to approximately 4-6 metres in height. These have been planted around the back of the Memorial Park and have beautiful red flowing bottle brushes that attract parrots and native birds.
- 28 x Callistemon Viminalis “Little Cook” native plants have also been planted, and they grow to approximately 1 metre in height. They also have red flowing bottle brushes and attract native birds and parrots.
- The Callistemon plants were generously donated to the Memorial Park by Westland’s Nurseries at 7 Mile Beach.
- A further 24 x Callistemon Viminalis “Little Cook” native plants will also be planted soon in the Memorial Park. Once all these plants establish themselves, they will create a beautiful, colourful addition to the Memorial Park.
- **New Memorials.** The committee hopes to have installed by Christmas, a new memorial honouring all nurses who served in the ADF, with an emphasis on 4 Tasmanian born nurses.
  - The committee is also investigating 4 new memorials to go on the 4 smaller Sand Stone blocks. Under consideration are.
    - 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.
- **Affiliate Wall.** Now that the Affiliate’s Wall has been built, a plaque will soon be fixed to the wall acknowledging the women who have supported and contributed so much to the South Arm RSL Sub Branch over many years.

**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.

**Annual Lunch.** Plans are well underway for this year’s annual lunch to be held on **Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> 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.

**Soldiers Memorial Avenue, Queen’s Domain.** On hearing the news of the wanton act of vandalism to the important and historic Soldiers Memorial Avenue, the Sub Branch has made a financial contribution to the Friends of the Soldiers Memorial (FOSMA) to help with restoring



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damaged plaques. We were pleased that the President of FOSMA, John Wadsley visited the Sub Branch on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> September, where our donation of \$500 was presented to John on behalf of Sub Branch members.

**Bayview Secondary College, Head Prefects.** The Sub Branch was delighted to offer financial support of \$500 to two Bayview Secondary College Head Prefects; Charli Fitzgerald and Drew Harvey. They both were successful in winning a scholarship to attend the *"We Are More Education Conference"* in Alice Springs. 2 of only 4 students in the state! You may remember Charlie from this year's Anzac Day Service where she delivered her fantastic speech. Both Charlie and Drew attended this year's Vietnam Veterans Day Service (held within the Memorial Park) and delivered a well-researched and thoughtful address. If you would like a copy of their address, I'll send you a copy.

The opportunity to attend the conference was an incredible experience for both Charli & Drew's leadership and development.

**Extraordinary General Meeting.** On Friday 19<sup>th</sup> September at 5pm, the Sub Branch, in accordance with the RSL State Constitution, convened an EGM to accept the new proposed Sub Branch constitution. RSL State President and Sub Branch member, Mr. Mike Gallagher attended the meeting and provided members with a brief overview of the changes that required the Sub Branch and its members to accept the new constitution. The constitution was unanimously accepted by members.

During the meeting, Membership Officer Ken Weir presented the Sub Branch's newest member, Kerry Scambler with her membership induction package. Kerry's membership classification is "Affiliate" member. As mentioned above, a presentation was also made to FOSMA President, John Wadsley.

**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