



Wangaratta Sub-Branch Inc

Charitable Activity Report

Month of: **July 2022**
 Committee Meeting: **25 August 2022**

	Veteran Support	Commemorative & Patriotic	Sub-Branch & Other	Total
Volunteer Hours	158	10	866	1034

Welfare Activity Type	RSL Object	Number
Home Visits/Hospital/Nursing Home Visits	A	6
Funerals: Poppy Service/Assisting with Wakes etc.	A	1
Pension Applications, Claims & Advocacy	A	3
Communication with Members	A	170
Other Veteran Support (including Home Maintenance, Transport Assistance etc) Courtesy Bus.	A	52
Total		232

Donation Recipient	RSL Object	Donated Amount
Total		

Details of Activities

- **Hospital visits** – No visitations due to Covid-19.
- **Funerals** – Wake for Past President Norm Fearn held on Sunday 31st July.
- **Community Assistance** – None.



Commemorations-

VIETNAM VETERANS DAY

Approximately 60 people attended the Vietnam Veterans' Commemorative Service held at the Wangaratta RSL at 2.30PM on Thursday, 18th August 2022. This Service took exactly 45 minutes. Due to the anticipated lack of Committee members, I asked Arthur Bretherton to recite the Ode and to lay the wreath on behalf of the RSL. He was happy to do so.

Mr Terry Bennett volunteered to be the guest speaker, when I mentioned that the person, I had asked was unable to assist.

Father Michael Pullar agreed to bless the Long Tan Cross and say the prayers.

The Victorian Parliament was sitting on that day so M/S Maxwell sent a representative, but Mr Mc Curdy was unable to attend. Dr Helen Haines attended as did the Mayor, Dean Rees.

A big thank you to the staff for setting up the Function Room before I arrived and doing more work after I had arrived. Next year I will write the Instructions well in advance.

Thanks also to Greg Larkins for being the MC, to Colleen Davis for being the Wreath Steward and to Chris Simsen for co-ordinating the music and the projector.

The Women's Auxiliary supplied a delicious afternoon tea, which was gratefully received, Thank You Ladies.

I would like a letter to be forwarded to Mr Terry Bennett, thanking him for his donation of the Long Tan Cross. He went to a lot of trouble to get this done and it is a lovely way to remember our Vietnam Veterans. The names of the local men who made the ultimate sacrifice will be inscribed before the next Vietnam Veterans' Day Service.

The Wangaratta Chronicle is writing a follow up story about Terry Bennett's service.

Liz Rouse Salmon – Ceremonial Officer

APPEAL REPORT

Poppy Appeal

Phone/text x 7, Emails x 6, KLM x 30

Phone call from Tai (Anzac Hse Warehouse) re stock alterations. New badges for 2022 appeal arriving hopefully early October.

Colleen Davis - Acting Appeals Officer

VETERAN SUPPORT

Phone/text x 150, Email x 20, Pension x 3, Home Visit/s x 4, KLM x 210

Legacy using meeting room Wednesday 21/9, ring around team to access other area within Admin office. This arrangement has been agreed to as Legacy Melbourne needed a private area to hold the meeting.

Veteran's lawns/edging to be delivered for 3 months then reviewed.

Open Arms invited to attend future veteran coffee mornings and 3 new couples attended this month's social gathering.

Contact from Aged Mental Health services re Legacy member. This has been a slow process working with Ovens Medical Clinic, RCOW, Legacy/Legatee, police, Salvation Army, ACAS & Guardianship Board (no POA or NOK). Request came from the widower to do home visits.

Anzac Hse (Marie-Claire) has invited the Sub Branch to discuss their voluntary roles on 7/10/22. Email sent to Ash. Meeting with Marie-Claire Wednesday (17/8) afternoon.



Met with young veteran (Andrew Blyth) who is interested in advocacy, he hopes to do some voluntary work with veteran support team. Past his name to Rowan as he wanted to make contact with the veteran community.

Assisted daughter of Veteran to locate day services in Benalla for parents who are suffering from severe isolation. Also contacted Benalla RSL re possible home visits.

Application for white card sent to DVA.

Two day Mental Health workshop at the Gateway Hotel attended by 3 personnel from Veteran Support volunteers.

Additional Veteran's lawn to be mowed for 3 months short term agreement.

Request to have wife's name added to WW1 head stone (war graves).

Attended Region 9 meeting with Liz Rouse.

Incident report completed by volunteer, RSL G.M. notified and Volunteer Coordinator handed report and sent photos.

Have spoken with Mansfield Well-being officer (not ATDP trained) and explained my role whilst working with Chris Roberts (Mansfield Mentee). Original meeting cancelled due to family issue. Have regular communication with Chris, waiting on Glen to enroll.

Speaking with Mr. Robert Winther (Veteran Liason) from Austin Health. He is available to speak about Mental Health within the Austin hospital to interested persons.

Joyce Barry sent a thank you to the veteran support team.

Notified of the passing of Mr. Alan (Yogi) Bear.

A difficult time is being felt by a number of our veterans due to mental health issues, have been requested to check on 4 of their partners/family during this period.

White card rejection being readdressed.

Completed the ATDP course in mentoring, have registered Mr. Chris Roberts and Mr. Glen Ingram. Only one has applied for their U.I.N.

Enquiry re lawyer for family dispute issue.

Three requests to DoD for documents.

Goorambat Veteran Retreat appointment postponed, waiting on Phil to reschedule.

RCOW holding a high tea at the Gateway Hotel for people aged between 95 and 105 years, we have offered to notify relevant veterans within our membership and who live in the rural city of Wangaratta.

RECOMMENDATION 1.

Fuel reimbursement \$35.00 for fuel

RECOMMENDATION 2.

Fuel reimbursement to veteran \$60.01

Recommendation 3.

Payment for Fruit Fly Circus \$219.00

RECOMMENDATION 4

Gutters cleaned for serviceman \$124.20

RECOMMENDATION 5

Veteran's gutters cleaned \$90.00

Colleen Davis – Veteran Support Coordinator