



DRYSDALE RSL SUB BRANCH

Meeting
8th April 2021

Open

The President Geoff Zanker opened the meeting at 1400 hours. He recited the Ode. He welcomed visitors Alan Bliss from the Drysdale Football Club, and Morris Kuter.

Attendance

Roger Atkinson, Lance Barley, John Brown, Ross Brown, George Browney, Doug Cameron, David Clark, Des Connor, Kevin Davis, Pam Davis, Maurie Dean, Geoff Fifer, John Hatty, Gary Holt, Denis Hyland, Trevor Joseph, Colleen Lincoln, Andrea Nisbet, Harry Paterson, Len Reed, Neil Remeus, Fran Rowell, Graham Sewart, Bruce Stockley, Geoffrey Strachan, Jan and Paul Taylor, Tony Toll, Geoff Wisbey, Peter Wood and Geoff Zanker.

Apologies

Tony Bright, Geoff Casey, Darren and Greg Davis, Peter Elton, Bernice Goodwin, John Milton, Bruce Richards, Keith Thompson, Maria Toll and Brett Wilson.

Approval of March Minutes

The Minutes of the March meeting were circulated. Harry Paterson moved, seconded Neil Remeus that the Minutes of the March meeting be accepted. **Carried unanimously**

Business Arising from Previous Minutes

Harry said he has submitted online to the Victorian government our COVID safe plans for Anzac Day. He also submitted online the event details to the Council of the City of Greater Geelong.

Harry also advised that name badges have been ordered for Geoff Fifer, Roger Atkinson, Peter Elton and Lance Barley.

Correspondence

Harry gave a verbal **Incoming Correspondence** report.

- Vasey House monthly newsletter, and advice that the War Widows Guild is to be wound up
- RSL Reform Victoria continues its criticism of State Branch financial management, noting large losses from Shepparton and Frankston RSL clubs
- Dept of Vet Affairs sent a package of posters and advertising pieces for Anzac Day and the 100th anniversary of the formation of the RAAF. Of note was a booklet of Air Force involvement in the SW Pacific during WWII
- Anzac House sent draft minutes from 2020 Annual Conference and advised that the 2021 Conference will be held on 31 July. All members with email address will have received information about Anzac Day activities in Melbourne

Incoming Correspondence 2021

21	Email	09 Mar 21	RSL Reform Vic	DCRL loss \$11 in 10 years
22	Email	9 Mar 21	Anzac House	State President's Report
23	Email	12 Mar 21	Gary Holt	RSL Honour Boards
24	Email	15 Mar 21	Gary Holt	Anzac Footy Jumper
25	Email	17 Mar 21	Vasey House	Monthly newsletter
26	Email	20 Mar 21	Ambulance Victoria	Defibrillator census
27	Email	23 Mar 21	Anzac House	Annual Conference 31 July
28	Email	23 Mar 21	Anzac House	Vet Suicide Royal Commission
29	Email	24 Mar 21	Vasey House	Closure of Widows Guild
30	Email	26 Mar 21	Anzac House	Draft Minutes of 2020 Ann Conf
31	Email	26 Mar 21	RSL Reform Vic	Frankston losses
32	Email	29 Mar 21	Anzac House	Appeals Update
33	Email	30 Mar 21	Anzac House	Information re Anzac Day
34	Email	1 Apr 21	Geelong Council	Wreath for Drysdale
35	Email	1 Apr 21	RSL Reform Vic	Shepparton losses

Outgoing correspondence

- on-line submission of details to Greater Geelong Council for Anzac Day activities in Drysdale
- on-line submission to Victorian Government COVID-safe events for approval

Moved Harry Paterson, seconded Len Reed that the correspondence be accepted.

Carried unanimously

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer George Browney tabled a Treasurer's report. The main items were the \$1,000 received from the Clifton Springs Bowls Club, and the \$1,800 deposit to the builder for the new building works. Moved George Browney, seconded Des Connor that the Treasurer's report be accepted.

Carried unanimously

Welfare and Appeals Report

Pam Davis reported the following:

- Limited numbers of visitors can now attend the nursing home being mindful of COVID restrictions. She thanked Heather Joseph for knitting 100 chicks as Easter gifts for those at Drysdale Grove. There will be an Anzac Day service on 19 April with our own service and music.
- The Drysdale Rotary Club held a dinner at our clubrooms on 15 March, where the new display cabinets were formally handed over. Geoff Zanker thanked the Rotary Club for the generous donation, and Harry Paterson made a short speech about our activities.
- She reminded members that the current clubroom building was purchased in 1952 for 450 pounds.



Golf News

Geoff Fifer said there was no golf news, but he still needs volunteers for the golf day in November.

General Business

1. **Anzac Day 2021 in Drysdale.** Geoff said the following arrangements are planned for Anzac Day in Drysdale:

- Kev Davis to lower the flag to half mast at dawn
- six volunteers to set up chairs, marquees and COVID posters under Kev's direction starting at 8am, and tape off an area of control around the cenotaph
- a march from the corner of Eversley and Princess St to the CFA forecourt starting at 10:30am with Geoff Zanker as the parade marshal, and Harry Paterson to take the salute.
- six COVID marshals in hi-vis jackets to hold paper attendance sheets for people entering the control area who cannot use the QR code
- short speech of introduction (Harry) and prayers led by Peter Hobbs (Geoff Z to arrange)
- "Last Post" and "Reveille" by a live bugler
- Kev Davis to raise the flag to full mast
- God Save the Queen and national anthems of Australia and New Zealand (Pam Davis to arrange music)
- laying of official wreaths (Drysdale RSL, Women's Auxiliary, Vietnam Veterans, City of Greater Geelong and Victoria Police)
- That concludes the official part of the activity. Individuals will then be invited to lay their own wreaths if they wish.
- sausage sizzle (courtesy of Uncle Bob's) and refreshments on the grassed area back of the RSL clubrooms
- footy match against Portarlington starting at 2pm on the Drysdale Oval

2. Geoff Zanker introduced Alan Bliss from the Drysdale Football Club. He addressed the members about the importance of Anzac Day especially to the next generation, and his and his father's personal Anzac journeys. He was instrumental in getting Victorian government approval to hold an Anzac Day football match - a tradition that has continued now for several years. The framed jersey he presented was an Anzac special. This year's match on the Drysdale oval starts at 2pm. Geoff

thanked Alan for his generous and attractive donation and the members responded with a round of acclamation. Alan later joined our RSL club as a new member.

3. Harry Paterson and Pam Davis attended a meeting of Geelong regional RSL clubs, held in the Geelong RSL clubrooms on 22 March. The main guest speaker was the Victorian branch CEO Jamie Twiddle. Jamie spoke about the arrangements for Anzac Day. While the COVID restrictions might seem a great handicap, clubs are encouraged to use their “best endeavours” to comply. Jamie also said there is a future emphasis throughout Victoria on helping our veterans, especially younger ones. There will a small number of regional Wellness Centres established to meet this need. The meeting also heard from an Open Arms organiser on the same subject.

Close

There being no further business, the President closed the meeting at 1440 hours. The next meeting is planned for Thursday 13 May 2021 at 14:00 hours.