



DRYSDALE RSL SUB BRANCH

Monthly Meeting
12 May 2022

Open

The President opened the meeting at 1400 hours and recited the Ode. He asked members to remember Doug Cameron who passed away recently.

The President welcomed Robert Selby (ex-Army) to his first meeting.

Attendance

Roger Atkinson, Lance Barley, George Browney, Des Connor, Kevin Davis, Pam Davis, Maurice Dean, Margaret Everett, Gary Holt, Tony Holton, Denis Hyland, Trevor Joseph, Colleen Lincoln, Greg Moore, Andrea Nisbet, Robert Partridge, Harry Paterson, Len Reed, Fran Rowell, Dick Safstrom, Robert Selby, Janis and Paul Taylor, Tony and Maria Toll, Brett Wilson, Peter Wood, Geoff Zanker.

Apologies

John Brown, Ross Brown, Andrew Cook, Darren Davis, Gregory Davis, Bernice Goodwin, William Hatty, Ron Kingsbury, John Poole, Bruce Richards, Geoffrey Strachan.

April Meeting Minutes

The April minutes have been circulated on-line and handed out in hard copy.

Business Arising from April Meeting Minutes

- The leak in the Ladies toilet has been fixed

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

Carried unanimously

Correspondence

The Secretary presented the Incoming Correspondence report (Annex A). Items of interest were emailed to committee members.

Inwards: Information from the Dept of Vet Affairs relating to grants, health initiatives, services has been forwarded to all of our members who are on-line.

Outwards: Letters or emails of thanks have been sent to our Anzac Day guest speaker and the Air Force for the PC-21 flypast.

All items are available in hard copy for perusal.

Moved Harry Paterson, seconded Trevor Joseph that the correspondence be accepted.

Carried unanimously

Treasurer's Report

George Browney reported really good collections, donations and sales for the Anzac Appeal this year. The generosity of the local community is much appreciated.

Moved George Browney, seconded Des Connor the Treasurer's Report be accepted.

Carried unanimously

Welfare and Appeals Report

Pam Davis presented her report:

Firstly, I would like to thank all our wonderful volunteers who gave their time to assist with this year's Anzac Appeal, as you would have heard it was a huge success. Thank you letters have been sent to all the schools who contributed to the Appeal.

This year we did not attend Drysdale Grove to conduct the Anzac Day service - sadly they had a number of residents with Covid.

A huge thank you to all our members for all they did on and prior to Anzac Day. The weather was very kind to us. It was a great day, one of our best. The North Bellarine Rotary Club were pleased to help us out by doing the Sausage sizzle on Anzac Day. I believe they raised \$500, which they donated to Wombats Wish.

As a thank you to our volunteers we will be having a "Christmas in July" lunch at Clifton Springs Golf Club on Tuesday July 5th. I will get the names of those attending at our June meeting.

We gave the Clifton Springs Bowls club vouchers to use as prizes on their Bowls day they conduct in memory of Roy Jackson.

I hope you all manage to stay healthy over the winter months and to those who will be travelling stay well and safe travels.

General Business

Geoff Zanker mentioned the day out at the Clifton Springs Bowls Club, which raised \$525. He asked the Secretary to send a letter of thanks.

Geoff also reminded members of the Golf Day at the Clifton Springs Golf Club to be held on Monday 7 November. For sponsors, he will only approach those businesses less affected by Covid.

Honour Boards. There was some discussion about the Honour Boards in the clubrooms - they are close to being full and need to be added to or replaced. Gary Holt said that in the past the boards were updated by hand by Rod Taylor, and that Rod has been doing it for us for many years without payment. The President asked Gary for modern design samples and quotes from Rod by the end of July. Previous submissions indicated the cost would be below \$10,000, and the Treasurer confirmed that we have sufficient funds for this task. Could he also update the signage outside the clubrooms.

Anzac Day. Comments from Anzac Day 2022:

- The President thanked Harry Paterson for his work getting event approvals and organising the RAAF flypast.
- He also expressed his thanks to Andrea Nisbet and her daughters for the photographs and words, which will appear in the next issue of the Springdale Messenger.
- The wreath laying went much more smoothly than in previous years, thanks to Colleen Lincoln and her team for organising that aspect. Her numbering system and two groups at a time being called helped speed things up.

Meeting Times. One of the members asked if changing our monthly meeting times to outside business hours instead of 2pm would enable more of the younger and working members to attend. There was some discussion on this topic. Geoff asked for a show of hands of those present, who would not be able to attend if our meetings were held in the evening. No hands were raised. It is possible other kindred organisations could join as affiliates, such as the local police and emergency

services members. The committee will discuss this later, taking into account the afternoon teas the women have traditionally provided.

Support for North Bellarine Rotary Club. Pam Davis mentioned that the local Rotary Club has been providing camps for orphans and has assisted the local community in many ways. They are planning to buy a new BBQ trailer to help with their fund raising efforts. Pam moved, seconded Jan Taylor that our club donate \$500 to help with the trailer purchase. Following some discussion, Denis Hyland moved an amendment, seconded Maurice Dean that we donate \$1000 to this worth cause. Put to the vote, the **\$1000 amendment was carried**. Treasurer to arrange the finances.

The Future of Bellarine RSL Clubs. Harry advised that Ocean Grove/Barwon Heads RSL has invited the three other Bellarine RSL clubs to discuss the future, given our ageing memberships.

Our club has 68 members and 22% are over the age of 80, and in five years that could be 54%. The numbers are similar Australia-wide and the State Branch and the National RSL are also considering this important topic. OC/BH want to open a discussion and start thinking locally about our options, which might include merging or folding completely.

If we were to close, George Browney asked what would become of our fixed assets and cash reserves. That opened a new discussion on what we are planning to do with our funds - keep cash in the bank or provide funds for veterans' education needs.

There are some initiatives already providing assistance to younger ex-service members. Open Arms for instance aims to keep contact with ex-service personnel and help their transition to civilian life.

The President thanked the members for their views and reminded everyone that this initial meeting on 27 May was just opening a discussion, and no definite decisions will be reached. He looked forward to Harry's report on the meeting.

Close

There being no further business, the President closed the meeting at 1450 hours.

The next monthly meeting for all members is planned for 9 June 2022, starting at 2pm.

There is no meeting scheduled for July.

Incoming Correspondence 2022

45	Email	12 Apr 2022	Anzac House	Newsletter	
46	Email	20 Apr 2022	Anzac House	Anzac Day resources	
47	Email	26 Apr 2022	Anzac House	National Volunteer Week	Committee
48	Email	26 Apr 2022	City of Greater Geelong	Veterans' Morning Tea	Committee
49	Post	1 Apr 2022	News Corp	Notice - Wilma Bath	Treasurer
50	Post	10 Apr 2022	Origin Energy	Electricity bill	Treasurer
51	Email	5 May 2022	DVA Victoria	Health Wellbeing update	All members
52	Email	9 May 2022	Ocean Grove/BH RSL	Future of Bellarine RSLs	Committee
53	Email	11 May 2022	Anzac House	Advocates documents	

Outwards Correspondence 2022

10	Post	26 Apr 2022	Alex Danischewski	Letter of thanks to Anzac Day guest speaker
11	Email	26 Apr 2022	Air Force	Thanks for the Anzac Day flypast