



**DRYSDALE RSL SUB BRANCH**  
**Monthly Meeting**  
**15 August 2025**

**Open:** President Denis Hyland opened the regular monthly meeting at 2pm on 15 August 2025. All members stood and recited The Ode.

**Attendance:**

Roger Atkinson, Lance Barley, John Brown, David Clark, Kevin Davis, Pam Davis, Maurie Dean, Margaret Everett, Gary Holt, Shane Hurley, Denis Hyland, Greg Irwin, Colleen Lincoln, Andrea Nisbet, Harry Paterson, Mike Pitcher, Bruce Richards, Bill Ritchie, Fran Rowell, Richard Safstrom, Janis and Paul Taylor, Maria and Tony Tol, Kaye and Laurie Ward, Les Watts, Peter Wood, Geoff Zanker.

**Apologies:**

Jo and Robert Atkinson, George Browney, Des Connor, Darren Davis, Gregory Davis, Peter Elton, Pui Elton, Glen Ferguson-Thomas, Geoff Fifer, Joe Gati, Bernice Goodwin, Derek and Sally Haayema, Tony Holton, Diana and John Hopwood, Ron Kingsbury.

**Guest Speaker:**

Denis introduced Paul Garry, historian with the City of Greater Geelong, with responsibility for war memorials. Paul Gave an interesting talk covering local and international Australian memorials. He finished with information about our Drysdale cenotaph, and the challenge of adding 11 missing names. Our research needs to be verified by Heritage Victoria before commissioning a specialist who can do the work required. As alternative, we could place all the names in front of the RSL clubrooms unconditionally.

**Previous Meeting Minutes:**

The June minutes have been circulated on-line to members or posted out.  
Moved that those minutes be accepted by Harry Paterson, seconded John Brown.

Carried unanimously

**Business Arising from Previous Meeting Minutes:**

**Armament Regulations** - David Clark investigating the requirements for display of our weapons, and the implement thereof. Apart from purchasing two cabinets, as agreed at the last meeting, David needs to find a craftsman who can cut the hardened steel and insert a viewing pane of thick plate glass. After the meeting, our guest speaker Paul has contacts in the fabrication industry and he will work with David to progress this issue.

**DVA Heart Health Program** - Fran Rowell continues investigating setting up aHeart Health program in Drysdale.

**“Spirit of Anzac” award** - Harry Paterson said the schools he contacted warmly welcomed the idea of a Spirit of Anzac award to an individual selected by the schools, to be presented at the school’s speech night.

**Correspondence:**

Incoming correspondence is at Annex A. The list of correspondence received circulated, of particular interest were:

Item 87 Anzac Portal - Solomon Islands, Crete

Item 103 Anzac Portal - 80th anniversary of end of war in the Pacific

The Anzac Portal website has links to many general and personal stories, and usually lists forthcoming events. <https://anzacportal.dva.gov.au/>

Item 104 Update on the Veterans and Families Hub in Geelong. Seeking procurement of a project management company, and still working on what services will be provided and who will provide them. Hoping for a test pilot program February to May 2026.

Item 106 Nominations for National President of the RSL Australia. Each state is entitled to put forward one name. RSL Victoria did not nominate anyone, but is firmly behind Peter Tinley AM former soldier and MP in the Western Australian parliament.

Outwards correspondence dealt with Remembrance Day and schools.

Moved that the correspondence be accepted by Harry Paterson, seconded Geoff Zanker.

Carried unanimously

**Treasurer's Report:**

George Browney being absent, Harry reported the main expenses from the current account, and added that the North Bellarine Rotary Club has donated \$1,000.

At a meeting last Thursday (7 August) the committee agreed to move \$5,000 from each of the Drysdale RSL and Women's Auxiliary everyday working accounts to one of our Term Deposits. Sufficient funds remain in those two accounts for current purposes.

All other accounts remain unchanged since George's last report in June.

**Wellbeing Report:**

Fran Rowell delivered a welfare report. Pam Davis advised members of birthdays for the month of August. Also Joe Gati is in hospital and he has our good wishes.

Moved that the Wellbeing report be accepted by Fran Rowell, seconded Laurie Ward.

Carried unanimously

**General Business:**

**Remembrance Day:** Planning has started for Remembrance Day. The committee needs to nominate an MC for the event as Harry is not available. He will coordinate with City of Greater Geelong for a public event permit. He has asked the Bellarine Secondary College if they would like to nominate one of their students to be guest speaker, and they have agreed. Harry reminded members that Christian College Bellarine had three Year 9 girls as guest speakers for our Anzac Day service and they were terrific. He has requested a RAAF flypast, but that will not be known until a couple of days before the event. Laurie Ward and Andrea Nisbet are arranging some local publicity for Remembrance Day. More to follow.

**Golf Day:** Geoff Fifer being absent, Harry was able to inform the members that we have secured grant funding from RSL Active to help finance the event. More to follow.

**Meeting the President:** Denis attended a “Meet the President” at Colac on Wednesday 13 August. Dr Mark Schroffel talked about unity in the RSL and covered the new report on reorganising and governance in RSL Victoria. From the floor, Denis raised the issue of ageing membership and suggested that groups of like minded veterans who might not have considered being members of an existing sRSL sub-branch could instead charter their own new sub-branches within the RSL umbrella.

**RSL Vic Annual Report:** Harry tabled the Annual report of the Victorian Branch of the RSL. This glossy report is now available for perusal in the clubrooms.

**Upcoming Events:**

- Friday 15 August service for Tony Bright at Bellarine Peninsula Church of Christ. 17 Tareeda Way, Ocean Grove at 11am
- Sunday 17 August service for Vietnam Veterans at 11am at the Memorial in Nth Geelong. Denis will lay a Drysdale RSL wreath
- Thursday 21 August - Region 8A Hub meeting at 10am Geelong RSL
- Wednesday 3 September - 100th anniversary of Legacy at 4:30pm in Geelong City Hall - Denis and Fran to attend, others welcome, but let Denis know in advance
- Tuesday 26 August - online session with Volunteering Victoria dealing with difficult conversations “Tuff Stuff”

**Raffle:**

Kevin Davis’s raffle was won by Harry Paterson and Mike Pitcher.

**Meeting Closed:**

There being no further business, the President closed the meeting at 3:10 pm.  
The next meeting will be on 11 Sep 2025, starting at 2pm.

**Annex A to  
Meeting Minutes of  
14 August 2025**

**Incoming Correspondence 2025**

|     |       |      |                      |                                 |                |
|-----|-------|------|----------------------|---------------------------------|----------------|
| 82  | Email | 19/6 | Liquor Licencing Vic | Newsletter                      |                |
| 83  | Email | 19/6 | Dept of Vet Affairs  | Heart Health program            | Members        |
| 84  | Email | 19/6 | Barwon Water         | Bill                            | Treasurer      |
| 85  | Email | 26/6 | Bellarine Police     | Newsletter                      | Members        |
| 86  | Email | 26/6 | Libby Coker          | Grants newsletter               |                |
| 87  | Email | 2/7  | Dept of Vet Affairs  | Anzac Portal                    |                |
| 88  | Email | 2/7  | RSL HQ               | Invoice (Police Check)          | Treasurer      |
| 89  | Email | 4/7  | Springdale           | Business Directory entry        | Committee      |
| 90  | Email | 4/7  | Brendan Lloyd        | Veterans/Families hub update    |                |
| 92  | Email | 9/7  | Geelong Legacy       | 100th anniversary invitation    | Committee      |
| 92  | Post  | 9/7  | Origin Energy        | Electricity bill                | Treasurer      |
| 93  | Post  | 10/7 | CFA Drysdale         | Fire equipment maintenance      | Treasurer      |
| 94  | Email | 11/7 | Energy Australia     | Gas bill                        |                |
| 95  | Email | 15/7 | RSL Victoria         | Annual Conference report        | Treasurer      |
| 96  | Email | 16/7 | Brendan Lloyd        | Hub 8a meeting notice           |                |
| 97  | Email | 18/7 | RSL Victoria         | By-Law 8 amendment              | Committee      |
| 98  | Email | 21/7 | Alison Marchant      | Grants bulletin                 |                |
| 99  | Email | 29/7 | Libby Coker          | Grants bulletin                 |                |
| 100 | Email | 1/8  | Brendan Lloyd        | Consultants report - governance | Committee      |
| 101 | Email | 8/8  | Dept of Vet Affairs  | Health and Wellbeing            | Members        |
| 102 | Email | 2/8  | Bellarine Police     | Newsletter                      | Members        |
| 103 | Email | 6/8  | Dept of Vet Affairs  | Anzac portal                    | Members        |
| 104 | Email | 8/8  | Ben Webb             | Vets/Families Hub update        | Committee      |
| 105 | Email | 12/8 | Springdale N'hood    | Invoice - Business Directory    | Treasurer      |
| 106 | Email | 5/8  | RSL Victoria         | Newsletter                      |                |
| 107 | Email | 13/8 | RSL Victoria         | Appeals stock changes           | Geoff Z, Pam D |
| 108 | Email | 12/8 | RSL Victoria         | State Executive information     |                |