



WARRAGUL RSL
Sub Branch

PRESIDENT'S NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2025

From the President and the Warragul RSL Committee of Management – Email: admin@warragulrsl.com.au

Hi everyone,

Well, the year just seems to be flying by so fast. I can't believe that we are now just 3 months out from the end of the year, with mince pies now appearing in the supermarket!!

We decided to not hold a monthly dinner in September to give our volunteers a bit of a break but instead it seems a lot of work has been going on at the RSL including a working bee, Veteran Centre works, and internal wall works all by our hard-working volunteers. So not sure that many got much of a break – more a reassignment of effort!

Our monthly Committee of Management meeting was held on the 8th September. Key outcomes from the meeting included:

- Term Deposit account has now been moved to the Bendigo Bank.
- CCTV and photo consent signage to ensure anyone entering the premises are aware that they may be on CCTV and that their photo may be taken.
- Background check requirements for Committee Members
- Marist Sion to conduct Remembrance Day services at the aged care facilities on the day prior to Remembrance Day.
- Membership now 416 financial members with 195 service, 215 affiliate and 6 social members.

On the 14th September we held our fourth Peacekeepers Commemorative event with about 40 attendees. Our Warragul RSL Pipes and Drums band kicked off the event and did us proud as usual.

Our Friday Ales on Albert continues to get a good regular crowd and as the weather warms up and with daylight savings on the horizon hopefully, we will see a few more faces.

Sadly, Kylie Sage advised of her resignation as Vice President Welfare. Kylie has been in the Welfare Officer/VP role for six years and has been amazing in her support of our veterans and their families.

Kylie will continue with doing Appeals and the bar so will still be involved with the RSL. I'd like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank Kylie for her dedication, commitment and all the volunteer hours she has put into welfare operations over the last six years. I am pleased that Kylie will still be involved with the Warragul RSL but that now is taking time to do what she wants to do – which I fully support. So, a huge heartfelt **THANK YOU KYLIE!!**

Over the next few weeks, I'll be working with Ben Vahland as to how we structure our welfare and wellbeing services moving forward given that we will have the Baw Baw Veterans and Families Centre operating in the very near future. This will include what roles we will need in addition to the pension advocacy roles. So, there will be more information about this. Be assured though that we are still able to provide any welfare support that is required.

A reminder that the next Ordinary General Meeting is scheduled for Sunday 5th October at 5.00 pm. I encourage you to attend so that you can not only get an update but also ask questions of the Executive team. We are here to not only support you as our members but also listen if you have any feedback on the RSL as to how it is being run and with what we provide as programs and activities.



VALE

It is with sadness that we mention the recent loss of member:

Robert (Bob) Luscombe
(Service Member) on the 6th September 2025 aged 88 years.

May he rest in peace.

Best Regards, Lynn

EVENTS UPDATE



National Peacekeepers Day

14th September 2025
Warragul RSL

Below: Guest Speaker John Dunk with fellow Blue Beret veteran John Bailey.

For the fourth year, Warragul RSL held a Peacekeeper Commemoration service. This year we changed the date from the United Nations Peacekeepers Day, which is in May, to the National Peacekeepers Day in September which commemorates the anniversary of Australia's first involvement in peace operations on the 14 September 1947. National Peacekeepers' Day honours all Australian peacekeepers, peacemakers, peacebuilders and peace enforcers

Guest speaker was John Dunk who served in peacekeeping duties in Cyprus from 1973 to 1974 as part of the Victorian Police contingent. John gave the 40 attendees an overview of that peacekeeping mission and his personal experiences.

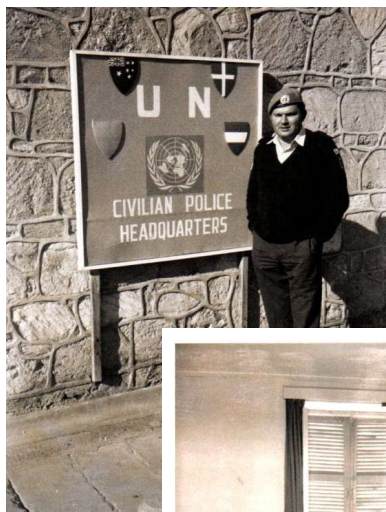


Above: Guest Speaker John Dunk in Cyprus with a colleague and one of the UN Civilian Police vehicles.

Left: Guest Speaker John Dunk with President Lynn Mizen



Below: Members James O'Beirne and partner Jess who attended the event.



Left:
Guest Speaker John Dunk in Cyprus at the UN Civilian Police Headquarters.

Below:
The spartan UN Civil Police accommodation in Cyprus



WORKING BEE



Above: Steve Dougal and Nick Rainbow clearing up outside.

We held a working bee on Saturday 13th September and a big **THANK YOU** to all those who came along and assisted. The storeroom got emptied out and sorted, the kitchen also got organised, works to tidy up outside completed, the back shed also got cleaned up and more external fence painting were just some of the activities.

The new cupboards in the board room were allocated and items relocated. Whilst we still have quite a few boxes of items to sort through including memorabilia, it was a great start.



Above: Blue doing a stocktake in the Ales on Albert Bar



Left: President Lynn Mizen, Kylie Sage and Peter Cattermole working through the items removed from the storeroom.

ALES ON ALBERT

Our Friday Ales on Albert continues to see the regular crowd enjoying a quite beverage and catch up. The fire pit in the Quarter Deck continues to provide some welcome warmth whilst we await warmer and lighter evenings. As usual Marlene and Jackie continue to provide the very welcome bar snacks.



Bill Canobie enjoying a catch up with Jason



Regulars Geoff Coote & Meri Gardiner



Annette & Steve Dougall with Gary Grace



Right: Josh Rainbow with Mary Cornwall in the Quarter Deck

PROJECTS UPDATE



Baw Baw Veterans & Families Centre Update

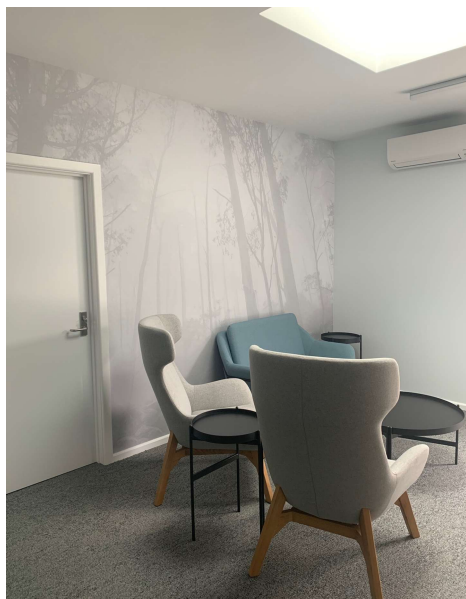
Veteran & Families Centre Manager Ben Vahland continues to be very busy in working on completing the Veterans Centre.

The garden works were completed by the horticulture students from Community College Gippsland. The students, accompanied by their teacher Tony, helped design and create a tranquil garden space. The beautiful garden will provide a peaceful, welcoming environment for veterans and their families for many years to come. It will be a place of reflection, healing, and connection.

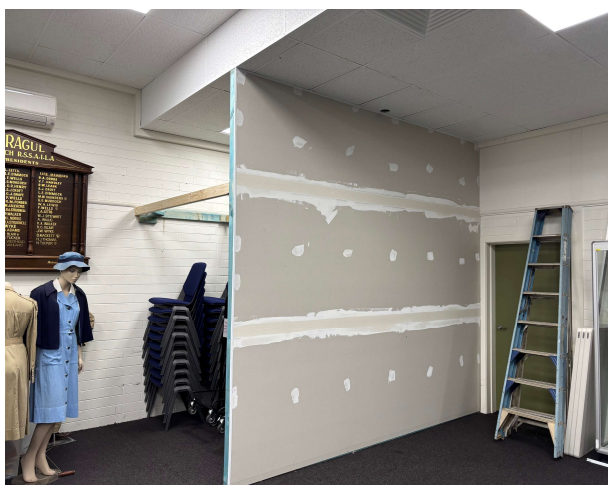
The new furniture was ordered and has arrived. The internal decorating has now also been completed.

We are looking to formally open the Veterans Centre on Friday 21st November. More information will be provided on this as we confirm the date.

We have had a great response to the call for advocates with a number now enrolled to commence their training. We are now looking for Welfare and Wellbeing Officers, to assist with doing welfare checks, doing specific home, hospital or aged care visits, assisting with those that require some assistance in attending social activities etc. It can be as little or as much in terms of the hours based on what you can commit. If you want to know more, please contact us at admin@warragulrsl.com.au



Pictures of the new Baw Baw Veterans and Families Centre and part of the new garden.



Works have also been going on at the RSL during September. A new partition wall in the main hall is being installed to store the tables and chairs behind to make it look tidier. The servery doors have been replaced with a wall that provides additional shelving in the kitchen.

The Long Tan Cross also now has a permanent home when not being used at the front of the building.



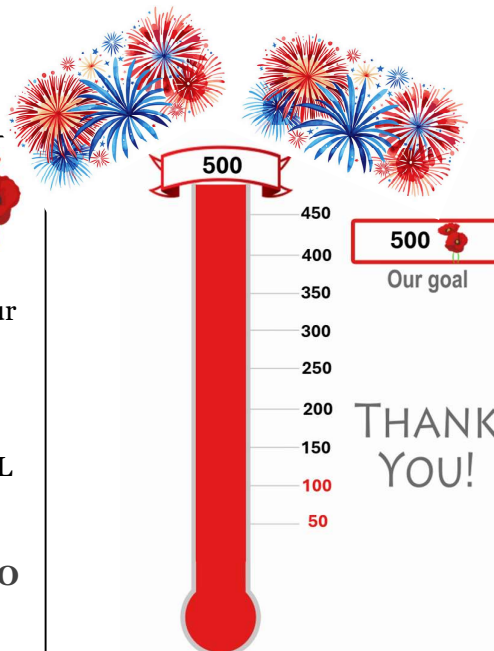
Warragul 500 Poppies Project

The Warragul 500 Poppies is proving to be an enormous success. We have now had **950 poppies** already handed in which has smashed our target of 500 and is almost double our target with another month to go!

It will mean that we will have a fabulous 'field of poppies' at the Warragul Cenotaph on Remembrance Day.

Don't forget you can drop off your knitted poppies to the RSL on Friday mornings, or to the Advantage Pharmacy in Warragul and the Willow Branch in Drouin.

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO DATE AND THOSE STILL BUSY KNITTING!



GETTING TO KNOW THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

In getting to know the Executive Committee, this month, we posed our 10 questions to our Secretary Dave Harrison.

10 Questions to the Secretary Dave Harrison

1. What's your idea of a great weekend?

Camping & exploring new towns & scenery.

2. Are you a morning person or a night owl?

Definitely a morning person.

3. Do you have any pets?

I have a dog named Peppa which is a Cavachon.

4. What's your favourite type of cuisine?

Seafood and steak.

5. What kind of music do you enjoy?

I like all genres of music from disco to classical.

6. Do you enjoy travelling? If so, what's been your favourite place so far?

I love to travel and experience different cultures. The Maldives and Fiji were both amazing.

7. Do you have a favourite TV show or movie?

Favourite TV show is House. Favourite movie is Tombstone.

8. What do you wish you had more time to do?

If I had more time, it would be to do work around the house and gym.

9. What activities do you enjoy during your free time?

Spending time with my daughters, watching movies, eating and drinking.

10. What's a piece of advice you've received that has stuck with you?

Don't worry – Be Happy!



EVENTS OCT/NOV 2025

Month	Date	Day	Event
OCTOBER	5 th	Sunday	Ordinary General Meeting
	11 th	Saturday	Oktoberfest
	18 th	Saturday	Po75 Veterans Commemorative Event
	23 rd	Thursday	Warragul Genealogy Society/RSL Event – Lambis Englezos
	31 st	Friday	Monthly Dinner
NOVEMBER	8 th	Saturday	Working Bee
	11 th	Tuesday	Remembrance Day
	28 th	Friday	Monthly Dinner

PROGRAMMED ACTIVITIES

Day	Activity	Time	Frequency	Location
MONDAY	Veterans and First Responders Catch up	10.00 am	Weekly	Warragul RSL
	Guitars 4 Vets (G4V)	7.00 pm	Weekly	Warragul RSL
	“Can Do” Art Group	1 pm & 7 pm	2 nd and 4 th Monday of the month	Warragul RSL
	Morning Tea	10.30 am	1 st Monday of the month	Warragul RSL
TUESDAY	Hydrotherapy	9.00 am	Weekly	Warragul Leisure Centre
	Pipes and Drums	6.30 pm	Weekly	Warragul RSL
THURSDAY	Scale Model Group	10.00 am	1 st and 3 rd Thursday of the month	Warragul RSL
	Meditation	7.00 pm	2 nd Thursday of the month	Warragul RSL
	Wellbeing Group	7.00 pm	3 rd Thursday of the month	Warragul RSL
FRIDAY	Carpet Bowls	10.00 am	Weekly	Warragul RSL
	Social Group	10.00 am	Weekly	Warragul RSL
SATURDAY	Singing Group	11.30 am	Weekly	Warragul RSL
	Blue Grass Jam Session	1.00 – 5.00 pm	1 st and 3 rd Saturday of the month	Warragul RSL

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

FRIDAYS



Ales on Albert
5pm – 8.00pm
@ Warragul RSL



SATURDAYS

Fitness & Mateship Group
10.00 am
@ Voyage Fitness Warragul



WARRAGUL RSL
Sub Branch

We look forward to keeping you up-to-date each month with news and activities.

Thank you everyone for your continued support of the Warragul RSL.

Lynn Mizen, President, and the Warragul RSL Committee of Management - September 2025

For further information go to our website: <http://warragulrsl.com.au>