

COOROY POMONA RSL SUB BRANCH NEWSLETTER



Presidents Message

Welcome to all of our members in 2009. It was pleasing to see a good roll up to our AGM but there was still room for more members. Your committee for 2009 is shown below and many thanks to those members who stood for office once again. Special thanks to volunteers Vern Johnston who took over as Property Officer and also Eric Cull who has now taken on a new role as Commemorations Officer, dealing specifically with plaques for the Memorial Garden, Columbarium, Niche Wall, Graves and liaison with the Office of Australian War Graves. As your president again, this will be my 4th year and I will be stepping down at the next AGM in Feb 2010. Lyn and I will hopefully be visiting Gallipoli, France and Belgium for ANZAC Day

2010. If you think that you might be interested in the position please give me a call, (sounds like a job ad, doesn't it). Again please note the dates in your dairies and calendars for our memorial and special days for 2009 and it would be good to see you at many of these. Of course our big day is always ANZAC Day and preparations have already commenced to ensure that it will again be successful. Our guest speaker and Reviewing Officer is a local lady who served in the army for 12 years with service in East Timor and two tours in Iraq and I look forward to hearing of Robin's experiences on the day. The details for ANZAC Day are provided below.

In closing, thanks again to John Simmons for

producing this newsletter and a volunteer to take over this quarterly task would be very much appreciated, as John is extremely busy with his pensions/welfare work and duties as President of the Club. This function could be performed by a Sub Branch member or their partner, if you would like to help out please give John or myself a call. Hoping that all members enjoy a happy and healthy 2009 and I look forward to catching up with you through the year.

Ken Morgan



Sub Branch Committee

President
Deputy President/Pensions Officer
Vice President/Membership Officer
Secretary
Treasurer
Welfare Officer
Hospital Visitor/Asst. Treasurer
Property Officer
Commemorations Officer

Ken Morgan
John Simmons
Malcolm Muir
Phil Hutchinson
Barry Castledine
Margaret Castledine
John Diprose
Vern Johnston
Eric Cull

COOROY POMONA RSL

March 2009

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"I am one of the few men honest enough to admit that they do not understand women"

*Robert Menzies
Prime Minister
1894-1978*

**Visit us at
www.cooroyrsl.com.au**

From the Women's Auxiliary



TRASH AND TREASURE WHITE ELEPHANT SALE

**SAT MARCH 21
MEMORIAL
HALL
8AM – 4PM**

BOOKS

PLANTS

CRAFT

**WHITE
ELEPHANTS,
and
A SAUSAGE
SIZZLE**

PS Don't forget...we meet on the second Monday of each month in the Board Room of the RSL Club at 1.00pm.

Calendar for the Year

Monthly Meetings	Second Monday month 5pm
Women's Auxiliary Monthly Meetings	Second Monday month 1pm
Women's Auxiliary Trash & Treasure	Saturday 21 March
ANZAC DAY	Saturday 25 April
Lunch for Veterans' Widows	Saturday 13 June
Vietnam Veterans' / Long Tan Day	Tuesday 18 August
Merchant Navy Day	Wednesday 03 September
Women's Auxiliary Dinner Dance	Saturday 29 August
Lunch for WW2 and Korean Veterans	Saturday 05 September
Sub-Branch Annual Dinner	Saturday 10 October
Remembrance Day	Wednesday 11 November
Annual General Meeting	Sunday 14 February 2009

Anzac Day 2009

Saturday 25 April

- Dawn Service at the RSL Memorial Park 5.00am;
- Gunfire Breakfast immediately after at the Club - \$2 donation;
- Form up for Street Parade at 1000 and stepping off at 10.30am;
- Memorial Service in the Memorial Hall immediately after the parade, and
- Lunch in the Club following the Service, cost \$30 and bookings are essential, entertainment with lots of fun and laughter will be provided.



Treasurer's Trivia

It's easier to get up at 6am to play golf than at 10am to mow the lawn.
It's amazing how a golfer who never helps out around the house will replace his divots, repair his ball marks and rake his sand traps.



From the Membership Officer

Thanks to all members who have renewed their membership for 2009. For members who have not paid their 2009 subs, fees must be paid by the end of February to maintain continuity of membership. If you are aware of any ex-service or serving personnel who are interested in joining the Sub Branch, application forms are always available at the Cooroy RSL reception, or contact any member of the Sub Branch Committee.

Malcolm Muir

From the Pensions Officer

Bereavement Pin for Navy Families

The minister for Defence Science and Personnel the Hon. Warren Snowdon MP, recently announced the commissioning of a bereavement pin for family members of Navy personnel who lost their lives while in the service of the Royal Australian Navy and the nation. "The Navy Bereavement Pin represents their relative's commitment to the Navy and the family's sacrifice and loss", he said. "it is hoped that the families, to whom we owe a huge debt of gratitude, will find some comfort in the recognition of their loss through the Navy Bereavement Pin."

The distinctive 20mm gold-plated lapel pin is emblazoned with the RAN crest and encompassed by a wreath to symbolise families' support of their relative in life and death.

HMAS Sydney II family members who attended memorial services in Canberra, Geraldton and at sea in HMAS Manoora on November 19 were the first to receive a Navy Bereavement Pin.

Family members of Navy personnel who died while serving in the RAN since federation, during war or peace time, on active service or off duty, are invited to apply for a pin by calling Navy on 02 6266 2285 or emailing NAVY.BereavementPin@defence.gov.au

Driver Licence and Renewals – Medical Conditions and Medications

A law, commonly known as 'Jet's Law', which came into effect in 2006 introduced a mandatory requirement for driver license holders to report any long term or permanent medical conditions to Queensland Transport that may affect their ability to drive safely.

You can no longer wait until it is time to renew your licence to report a long term or permanent medical condition that adversely affects your ability to drive safely. As soon as there is an adverse change to an existing condition, you need to take steps to inform Queensland Transport.

Queensland Transport recommends that you talk to your health professional about your medical condition and any potential impact this may have on your ability to drive safely. Health professionals are qualified to check if you are medically fit to drive. They may provide a medical certificate or official letter stating your fitness to drive.

Drivers who fail to report their medical condition may receive a maximum \$4,500 penalty or be disqualified from driving for a certain period.

John Simmons



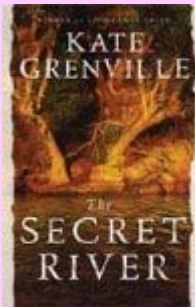
Book Corner



The Secret River by

Kate Grenville

The Secret River is the Winner of the 2005 Orange Prize for Fiction and was nominated for the 2006 Miles Franklin Award. It's a story about William Thornhill. After a childhood of poverty and petty crime in the slums of London, he is sentenced in 1806 to be transported to New South Wales for the term of his natural life. With his wife Sal and children in tow, he arrives in a harsh land that feels at first like a death sentence.



Inspired by research into her own family history, Kate Grenville vividly creates the reality of settler life, its longings, dangers and dilemmas. The Secret River is a brilliantly written book, a groundbreaking story about identity, belonging and ownership.

From the Hospital Visitor

The strong demand for hospital visits continues with around 15 veterans or their dependants being confined in Eden at any one time. The folks I visit are appreciative of the visits and seem to look forward to the visit each week. For those of you who could not attend the recent AGM I reported that during last calendar year I visited 475 patients in Eden Hospital and a number hospitalized elsewhere.

John Diprose



**PHIL & LYN HUTCHINSON
PAINTING THE INTERIOR
OF THE CLUB - AND WE
KNOW WHO CUTS IN
BETTER!**



From the Welfare Officer

I have had a regular flow of phone calls from our members over the past quarter with a range of welfare concerns, I hope that I have been able to answer their concerns. Sadly we have lost some of our members recently and they will be missed particularly David Smith whom I had gotten to know well.

Margaret Castledine



NEW YEARS EVE REVELLERS



“Perhaps it is good to have a beautiful mind, but an even greater gift is to discover a beautiful heart”

Russell Crowe



RSL AGED CARE UPDATE

Cooroy to benefit from proposed new Retirement Community

As part of a planned \$100 million investment into aged care services on the Sunshine Coast, RSL Care is awaiting a decision from Sunshine Coast Regional Council for Development Approval to build a new Retirement Community on the corner of Pearson's Road and Old Bruce Highway, Elm Street, Cooroy. The master plan submitted to Council is a multi-stage development comprising 159 free standing and duplex independent living villas, 20 apartments and a 120 bed residential aged care facility. The proposed master plan also encompasses an environmentally friendly design with water tanks and solar heating, waterways, landscaped gardens, abundant communal green areas and resort style facilities.

RSL Care's proposed retirement community is approximately one kilometre from the centre of Cooroy with easy access to local facilities and transport.

When completed, the Retirement Community will also create permanent ongoing employment for more than 100 families.

For more information or to register your interest, please phone 1300 558 648.

RSL Care currently offers **HomeCare** services throughout the Sunshine Coast region. Services include community nursing, personal care, domestic assistance, home-based respite, transport, home visits and social support, home safety advice and transitional care. For further information please call our Sunshine Coast **HomeCare** office on 1300 796 111.

RSL Care is one of Australia's most respected not-for-profit providers of **HomeCare**, retirement living and residential care to the ex-service and general community. From simple beginnings in 1936, RSL Care now provides a range of **HomeCare** services to more than 22,000 people and accommodates over 4,500 people in 27 retirement communities in Queensland and New South Wales.

VISIT BY VETERANS' AFFAIRS OFFICER

Veterans' Affairs staff will visit the RSL to present information and answer questions about the range of benefits and services DVA offers.

Details of the visit are as follows:

Staff will present information forums titled "Get to know your local RSL Pension & Welfare officers" and "How can Veterans' Affairs Help Me"

They will then conduct personal consultations from 12 noon onwards. Bookings which are essential can be made by calling the RSL on 5447 6171.

Venue - Cooroy RSL Memorial Hall - 23 Maple Street Cooroy

Date - Thursday 26th March 2009

Time - Information Session will commence at 10am

Free light morning tea refreshments will be provided by the Women's Auxiliary



VETERANS AND COMMUNITY BUS SERVICE - QUESTIONNAIRE

The RSL Sub Branch, in conjunction with the RSL Club is interested in investigating the feasibility of establishing a Veterans and Community bus service based in Cooroy but serving the communities of Cooran, Pomona, Cooroy and Eumundi. It is envisaged that the bus would be fitted with a vehicle access lift, for wheel chairs, and be available, at a nominal cost, to take older veterans and community members shopping, both locally and to the larger shopping complexes further a field, to attend medical appointments and outings. Further, it could be utilized after 5.00pm each day as a courtesy bus for the RSL Club.

In order to gain an appreciation of the viability of providing a bus to service the needs of the community a questionnaire has been prepared and you are invited to provide your views on the next page and then **post or return back to the Club.**

