

RSL WODEN VALLEY SUB-BRANCH



Current Items of Interest

22 March 2024

REMINDER!

SUB-BRANCH ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING (OGM) 26 March 2024

Dear members,

A reminder that the next Sub-Branch OGM will be held at 1400 hours on Tuesday 26 March 2024 in the RSL Sub-Branch office in Holder.

Light refreshments will be provided following the OGM.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Kind regards,

Greg



Woden Valley Sub-Branch

Greg Kennett

Secretary



**WODEN VALLEY RSL
SUB-BRANCH ANZAC
EVE DINNER
24 APRIL 2024**

ANZAC DAY

The President and Board of the Woden Valley RSL Sub-Branch have pleasure in inviting you and your guests to the annual ANZAC Eve Dinner and Rededication Ceremony at the Canberra Southern Cross Club in Woden on **Wednesday 24 April at 6pm**



Our Guest Speaker is David Mason the Principal of Hawkwood Legal. Prior to establishing Hawkwood Legal, David worked as a government lawyer and for a decade, was Counsel, International Law in the Department of Defence. He advised senior officials and Ministers on international law issues, particularly around the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. David drafted the first and only Australian Manual on the Laws of War. He was also, from 2013 to 2016, Deputy Chief of Staff to the Hon David Johnston, Minister for Defence, and later, National Security Adviser to the Hon George Brandis QC, Attorney-General of Australia. David is the only person to have served on operations as a French Foreign Legionnaire, Private Contractor, Australian Defence Civilian and an Australian Defence Force Officer.

Please book and pay by cob Friday, 12 April.

Cost is \$47 per person

The Sub-Branch will subsidise the cost for all drinks except spirits.

Phone us on 6285 1931 with your credit card details; or call in person for cash or credit/debit card payment at the Sub-Branch Office, Level 2A, 27 Mulley Street HOLDER ACT 2611.

By direct credit (EFT) to: **BSB 062 908 Account number 1084 1897 A/C name: Woden Valley RSL**

Sub-Branch include your name and advise the office of your booking by e-mail to

admin@rslwoden.org.au to make sure we cater for you and your dietary requirements.

Menu

Mains: alternate serve

Black Angus sirloin, Parisian mash, braised eschalot and béarnaise sauce.

Grilled chicken breast, sour cream and chive mash, honey roasted carrot, creamy mushroom sauce.

Dessert: alternate serve

Passionfruit tart, fresh passionfruit, mint, crème chantilly (NF)

Warm sticky date pudding, salted caramel sauce and vanilla bean icecream

Complimentary Basket of sourdough rolls with cultured butter

Freshly brewed Lonsdale Street Roasters coffee and selection of teas.

Dress: Jacket and tie + medals/miniatures



Carers Friendship Group 2024

Held Every Second Wednesday of the Month

Corey Room

RSL Woden Valley Sub-Branch

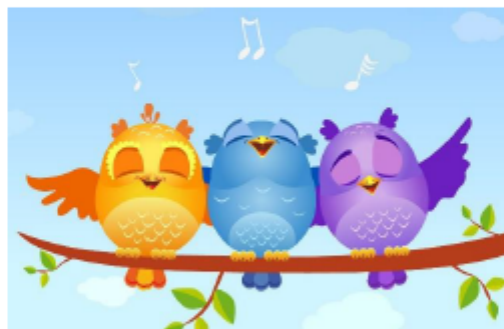
Second Floor, Grant Cameron Community Centre

27 Mulley Street, HOLDER ACT

First meeting for 2024: Wednesday 10th of April

10:00am to 11:30am

Contact us on 62 887 470 to book a place.



**Come and join us for a fun morning offering support,
friendship and a laugh.**

To all Members of the Woden Valley RSL Sub-Branch

I am heading to Thailand from 24th March to 9th April.

I will be visiting the Thailand end of the infamous "Death Railway" known as the Burma-Thailand Railway and Kanchanaburi CWG Cemetery, where two cousins on my Mother's side of the family are buried.

I was hoping to visit Thanbyuzayat CWG Cemetery in Burma, where two more cousins are buried, but have been advised that it is too dangerous.

If any Woden RSL Members know of any Australian or British families who have relatives who are buried at Kanchanaburi, let me know the name of the serviceman and I will place a Poppy and take a photo of the grave.

Winston Phillips - phone number 0487 430 000

Email: tick.phillips@icloud.com



RSL
Australia

^ MEDIA RELEASE

11 March 2024
For immediate release

RSL Australia Condemns Vandalisation of Vietnam War Memorial

The Returned & Services League of Australia (RSL) has strongly condemned the vandalism of the Vietnam War Memorial in Canberra.

Overnight, vandals painted graffiti on the Vietnam War Memorial on Anzac Parade in an apparent protest to highlight the situation in Gaza.

RSL National President Greg Melick said the vandalism would be deplored by all fair-minded Australians.

"People are entitled to protest, but the desecration of a memorial to those who served, suffered and died in the Vietnam conflict is to be deplored," Greg Melick said.

"The protesters should have chosen another way to get their message across.

"The brave Australian service personnel who served in Vietnam had nothing to do with the current conflict in Gaza and to use their memorial as a platform to protest is contemptible.

"On behalf of the RSL and all who have served and continue to serve our nation, we condemn the actions of the protesters."

Greg Melick said the desecration of the memorial did nothing to enhance the cause of those suffering in the Middle East.

ENDS

National Media contact: Tony Harrison – 0417 318 178; tony.harrison@rsl.org.au

ANZAC DAY 2024



On Thursday 25 April 2024, the [Australian War Memorial](#) will mark the Gallipoli landings in 1915, as well as commemorating all Australians who have served and died in military operations.

The 2024 Anzac Day commemorative program includes:

- Dawn Service at 5.30 am
- RSL ACT Branch Veterans' March at 9.30 am. Those wishing to participate must read the guidelines and register to march.
- Last Post Ceremony at 4.30 pm

LEARN MORE

<https://www.actrsl.org.au/commemorations>



The Families of Veterans Guild will continue the mission started 78 years ago in NSW; to improve the lives of the families of veterans in Australia.

Why change the name?

Because we know the families of our veterans need an organisation that focuses on all of them, that fills eligibility gaps and that spans full spectrum of Defence service, from recruitment, transition, and life after service.

Who does the Families of Veterans Guild support?

All defence and veteran families in Australia are welcome within our organisation. Regardless of whether their veteran is currently serving or has previously served, our priority is to support the emotional and social wellbeing of their family. We help them navigate the highs and lows of their journey in a safe and supportive environment and provide programs that address wellbeing needs.

What does the Guild offer to families?

A one-stop shop for information, referrals, service connections, community, and advice. They gain access to the provision of services and service navigation support to reduce the mental and emotional load they may carry. We provide a community of peers, offering understanding and support when needed most. We also provide veteran family members an opportunity to participate in advocacy efforts to have the community's needs met, and their contributions and sacrifices recognised.

What value does the Guild add to the veteran sector?

The organisation will provide assistance via referrals to programs, services, and other support organisations where it will help the family member. For example, we frequently refer members & families on claims advocacy and financial assistance for bereaved families to Legacy, emotional regulation workshops and employment services to RSL and RSL Lifecare, and national advocacy on War Widow entitlements through to Australian War Widows Inc.

How does the Guild work with the Australian Government?

We are a trusted, intelligent, and informed voice and advisor on matters relating to defence and veteran families. The Families of Veterans' Guild provides a referral point for these families, helping them to navigate the service system and supporting families through challenges. As an organisation with growing connections directly within the veteran family community, we can help government 'take the pulse' of our community on initiatives and ideas affecting veterans and their families and provide relevant and timely feedback to help shape those initiatives.

What can the Guild offer other advocates for veterans & families?

Our organisation now spans the full spectrum of Defence service, through all stages of the lifecycle of a veteran - from recruitment, transition, and life after service. The Families of Veterans' Guild can provide a broad perspective to assist with targeted advocacy campaigns and initiatives, and can help amplify issues, unite around critical causes, and be a strong and determined voice on behalf of defence and veteran families. We regularly provide advice to other organisations when required as part of our pursuit of a common goal - improving the lives of Australian veterans and their families.

What makes the Guild unique?

It is Australia's first organisation that unites all defence and veteran families under one banner with one simple eligibility criteria - members must be the family member of a veteran. All members of the Families of Veterans Guild will have no restrictions in accessing a growing platform of services that target the emotional and social wellbeing of families, specialist case management, and social work services for those in need of more targeted assistance.

OUR MISSION: provide the defence and veteran family community with a voice, facilitate access to services, entitlements; and support their social and emotional wellbeing.



Pre 1999
 The War Widows Guild of Australia NSW

Our name over the years

1999-2018
 War Widows Guild of NSW

2018-2024
 Australian War Widows NSW



2024 & beyond
 Families of Veterans' Guild

I feel honoured to be part of the original veteran families guild - war widows. nsw



Highgate RSL Sub-Branch ADF Sword Raffle (value c. \$1500) Choice of Navy, Army or Airforce pattern

Highgate RSL Sub-Branch in Western Australia is conducting a raffle with your chance to win this brilliant, brand new **ADF Officer's Sword** with scabbard. Your choice of Navy, Army or Airforce pattern made to military specification. Package includes tan leather sword bag and sword knot. Value c.\$1500 kindly donated by *Sword World*.



To enter, contact any Highgate committee member to buy a ticket **OR** simply click on the link [HERE](#) and fill out the details on the form provided. Tickets are \$20 each with only 300 on sale. The raffle will be drawn 20th May 2024 at 1215pm at Anzac House, Perth WA, with the results of the draw published on 3rd June at: <https://highgate-rsl.org.au/> Upon confirmation of pattern selected, the prize will be couriered FOC to the winning ticket holder.

Permit No. LS221191424



Australian Government
**Department of Health
and Aged Care**



Hearing Services Program Survey

The Department of Health and Aged Care administers the Australian Government Hearing Services Program. The program provides subsidised high-quality hearing services and devices to eligible Australians.

We want to hear from you



The program has been delivering hearing services for over 20 years. We are reviewing and exploring ways the program can be improved, to make it better for you and simpler for providers.

If you receive subsidised hearing services, we have created an online survey to get your feedback on possible changes to these services.

Timing

The survey will open on **19 February 2024** and close on **1 April 2024**.

It will take approximately 15 minutes to complete and your responses will help inform this review.



Have your say

Use the QR code to go to the survey or visit our website and click the survey link health.gov.au/hear



health.gov.au/hear



(not)parkrun Walking Group

Invictus Australia and Soldier On would like to invite all current and former serving military members and their families to join us for a Not Parkrun Walking Group in Maitland. This group is for all ages and abilities. Join us for a walk followed by a coffee at Lavenders cafe.

When:

Friday 19th Jan, 2nd & 16th Feb, 1st, 15th & 29th Mar, 12th & 26th Apr

Time:

9.30am – 11.00am

Where:

Maitland Riverside Carpark

Who:

All former and current serving military members and their families.

To find out more email jmartyn@invictusaustralia.org





**COFFEE CATCH UP
EVERY FRIDAY 10-12**

Members and guests are welcome to join us for a chat and enjoy freshly brewed coffee & cake with former service mates. Every Friday from 10 to 12 in The Corey Room, Level 2A, of the Grant Cameron Community Centre, 27 Mulley Street, Holder.

The Eddison Day Club will continue to meet for a lunch each Friday at noon until we can once again meet as a reinvigorated Day Club.

Come and join us for lunch at Canberra Irish Club 6 Parkinson St, Weston ACT 2611



Contact Us

Give us a call for more information
or access to our services

RSL Woden Valley
Sub-Branch
14/27 Mulley Street
HOLDER ACT 2611

62851931

admin@rslwoden.org.au
Visit us on the web at
www.rslwoden.org.au

Office hours are
9am-3pm Mon-Fri

PS.

Ever lost your copy of
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Interest or The Serviceman?*

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readily available to read on
our website

www.rslwoden.org.au