

RSL WODEN VALLEY SUB-BRANCH



Current Items of Interest

26 August 22

REMINDER !

SUB-BRANCH ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING (OGM) 30 AUGUST 2022

Dear members,

A reminder that the next Sub-Branch OGM will be held at 1400 hours on Tuesday 30 August 2022 in the RSL Sub-Branch office in Holder.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Regards,

Greg



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SAVE THE DATE !

The Annual Christmas Lunch will be held on Wednesday 7 December 2022 at Canberra Southern Cross Club.

More details will be provided on the late date.

VIETNAM VETERAN'S DAY 18 AUGUST 2022

Following a fly past of an aircraft from the Vietnam war era, His Excellency Governor General David Hurley AC DSC FTSE delivered the annual Call to Remembrance at the memorial on ANZAC Parade to honour Australian and New Zealand Vietnam Veterans. Several hundred people gathered around Navy, Army and Air Force service personnel who served in Vietnam during 1962 to 1975. The ceremony was attended by politicians, diplomatic staff, and NZ and US service representatives, and included reading an Honour Roll, Laying of Tributes, and a reading from Scripture. Army Chaplain Martin Johnson joined RSL Chaplain Mick O'Donnell in prayers for invocation and for Peace whilst a contingent of Army musicians played the national anthems and provided a Catafalque party.



Photo above: Governor General David Hurley and Rev. Mick O'Donnell.



...one of the Presidents men



Australian War Memorial

Get your copy of the 99th edition of Wartime magazine from the Memorial shop: <http://ow.ly/3ZmE50JVtZN>

Winter 2022, '1942: Year of Crisis', explores the year the war came to Australia. Featured articles include:

- 'Remembering Australia's Second World War' by Karl James
- 'Boys on the Kokoda Trail?' by James Morrison
- 'The Stolen Artworks of HMAS Ladava' by Rebecca Holborn
- 'Life in Fortress Darwin' by Bessie Mikelsons

Wartime magazine is available at newsstands nationwide



BOYS ON THE KOKODA TRAIL?

Legend says many who fought were teenagers - but were they really?

LIFE IN FORTRESS DARWIN

Enduring the Japanese raids of 1942-43 was part fear, part tedium

THE WANNSEE CONFERENCE

Extermination of the Jews was policy long before this infamous meeting

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\$9.95 (INC. GST)



Open Arms - Veterans & Families Counselling

Using art as an outlet can often be beneficial to health and wellbeing, as well as rebuilding resilience and confidence.

If you like getting creative, consider applying for the Arts for Recovery, Resilience, Teamwork and Skills (ARRTS) Program in November 2022.

This 4-week program is open to Canberra-based current-serving, transitioning, or former ADF personnel and reservists.

Applications close on 26 September - www.defence.gov.au/jcg/arrts

For more on the program 📌

<https://youtu.be/yj0P5xTNYp8>



The Flowers of Peace Latest News

August 2022

Successful 'Changi Songbook' Recording

And, now to the publishing so that we can all share in the stories.

Well, what a month it has been. With thanks to The Street Theatre, Neil Pigot, Bill Risby, Tobias Cole, Andrew Goodwin, Miroslav Bukovsky, John Mackey, Colin Hoorweg, James Luke, Craig Greening and Tom Fisher we were able to record all 24 of the songs from the original 'Changi Songbook'. This cultural recovery and preservation project was performed over three days, with a small audience able to witness the recordings in the final session. Thank you also to Alex Sloan AM as MC and David Whitney as the Flowers of Peace host on the night. These songs have the capability now of being more widely known and we are hopeful they can become part of commemorative ceremonies. There is no doubt that songs like 'They've Taken my Old Pal Away' by Slim de Grey become embedded in your memory to such an extent that you cannot rid it. I find myself singing it now as I am typing this!

Thanks also to the many donors who have given generously to have enabled the recordings and we ask if anyone is still willing to support this project, that we need to still raise the funds to now master the recordings and publish the works. We need an additional \$3,000 to realise this. You can donate now via the: [Australian Cultural Fund](#) and obtain a tax deduction receipt.

To get a sense of these songs, I want to share this story with you. Slim de Grey composed this work after he tried in vain to join his pal, who had just been informed that he would be taken to Sandakan, along with approximately 6,000 others. Slim was not allowed, because his work on the AIF Concert Party was deemed to be essential in keeping up morale. As we now know, as only six survived the Sandakan Death March, one wonders what the outcome for Slim would have been if he was permitted to go with his pal. Please enjoy this two minutes of rehearsal time of [They've Taken my Old Pal Away](#) by Neil and Bill.

Donate now to the 'Changi Songbook' next steps

[Artist Project: Record and fully notate the 'Changi Songbook' \(australianculturalfund.org.au\)](#)



'POW Requiem' tickets on sale now

Tickets are now live for this once in a lifetime performance on Saturday, 29 October 2022, Llewellyn Hall, ANU School of Music, Canberra. Join us to witness a truly memorable concert featuring Greta Bradman, Andrew Goodwin, Riley Lee (shakahachi), Canberra Symphony Orchestra and guests, musicians from the Australian Defence Force, ANU Chamber Orchestra and Choirs when we will remember WWII Prisoners of War, primarily those captured in Asia, and their fight for freedom.

Chris Latham OAM, Director of the Flowers of Peace talks about his vision for this concert in the link below...

Book your seats now

[POW Requiem tickets | Llewellyn Hall | Ticketek Australia](#)

Director's vision

[POW Requiem - Flowers of Peace Director's vision - YouTube](#)

Re-live the 'Vietnam Requiem'

With Vietnam Veterans' Day 2022 upon us, at last we can offer you the opportunity to re-live the concert. The options are DVD or USB. Direct download will be coming soon. Both Act 1 and Act 2 are included, along the speeches from the Sunday performance. This concert recording has been made at cost and we have included trackable postage to ensure the contents do not get wet nor lost. After ordering, you can expect delivery approximately 10 days thereafter. We will keep you informed via email of progress with the despatch date.

What a treat this concert was. May you enjoy it over and over again.

Please keep your Program Guides handy when watching the video as it gives the facts and stories behind each of the movements in the Requiem. If you do not have a Guide you can download a copy [here](#).

Buy your copy now

[Music and art to help heal trauma \(flowersofpeace.com.au\)](#)



You are not alone, support is just a phone call away.

Our number one priority is supporting the health and wellbeing of veterans and their families.

There are a range of support numbers available for veterans.

[Open Arms - Veterans & Families Counselling](#) is available 24-hours a day, 7-days a week on 1800 011 046.

Safe Zone is free, anonymous and confidential and is available 24/7 for current and former serving Australian defence personnel on 1800 142 072.

The Defence All-hours Support Line is a confidential phone and online service for current serving ADF members and their families, available on 1800 628 036.

Families of serving personnel can also contact the Defence Family Helpline on 1800 624 608.

These organisations are staffed by people who understand the military experience and are there to support ADF personnel, veterans and their families.

OPEN
Veterans & Families
Counselling

ARMS

1800 011 046



**SAFE ZONE
SUPPORT**

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COUNSELLING LINE
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Family
Helpline**



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**Defence
All-hours
Support Line**



1800 628 036

1800 VETERAN (1800 838 372)
Advice, claims and support services

THE EDDISON DAY CLUB

“ Although only very few volunteers and members of the Eddison Day Club have over the past few months, at times only two, been coming to the Canberra Irish Club on a Friday for lunch, we had been hoping that more would venture out and attend. The latest wave of COVID-19 infections from the new variants are increasing the cases in the ACT and the states. The Canberra Irish Club has informed us that they have not reported any cases in the last few weeks. We had, a few weeks ago, four of the lunch attendees test positive. Although it is not readily definitive that these cases were infective at the Canberra Irish Club, it has made them and others hesitant to return. As mentioned before, we can't expect to have guest speakers or entertainers come with so few being there in the audience.

Following consultation with several of the now inactive management committee, it is clear that there is not a great prospect of many people returning in the immediate future due to the rapid increase in cases of COVID-19 everywhere. The only solution is at present to keep up the 'phone calls by those members and volunteers, to the small group that they were assigned in March 2020 after the first closure. If we can maintain regular contact with these people, they feel less isolated. There is regular contact by other groups, within the Club, outside of those groups. We also think that it is also important that those who do attend on Friday for lunch do not feel that they have been neglected if there is nobody there to greet them.

The Eddison Day Club is an integral and long-term section of the welfare area of the Woden Valley RSL Sub-Branch and it would be a shame for it to disappear.

Regards

Peter Sutton

Vice President Welfare



Woden Valley Sub Branch





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.

Please note that the Eddison Day Club is currently meeting on only a very casual basis for lunch at midday Fridays.



Contact Us

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

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Visit us on the web at
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Office hours are
9am-3pm Mon-Fri

PS.

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