



RSL
Murgon Sub Branch

FROM THE TRENCHES

Issue 5, May 2021

FROM THE PRESIDENT

To date this year has been one of the busiest for the Sub Branch. With the easing of Covid restrictions we have been able to look at scheduling events such as the Luncheons which are extremely popular.

We took possession of the keys for the Drop-In Centre on Friday 21st May. There are still some minor projects to finalise which have been mentioned by Trevor Williamson OAM at recent meetings. As soon as we have satisfied all the licencing requirements we will be able to commence operations from the centre.

As a reminder, if you require items such as the personal LiveLife Alarms, hearing aids or other specialised equipment, or even an enquiry regarding eligibility, please do not hesitate to contact our Welfare Advocate, David Piggott, or any member of the Executive of the Sub Branch Board.

Kevin Gill

MEMBERSHIP

The past five months have seen a strong increase in membership with 23 new members joining the Sub Branch across all membership categories including Service Members, Auxiliary and Goomeri Chapter. Most of these have been members of our local community for many years and never been invited to join the Sub Branch!



If you notice new faces at our functions and meetings, please make yourself known.

To all of our new members **Welcome!**

COMMUNITY LUNCH

Christmas in July

The next community lunch is planned for Thursday 29th July in the Diggers Room.



Bookings essential due to Covid-19 restrictions
Bookings Open 1 July 2021 - Close 16 July 2021.

OFFICIAL OPENING

WELFARE DROP-IN CENTRE

Sunday: 4th July 2021 Time: 11.00am

The long awaited opening of our new home is finally here. We have a big day lined up.

Invitations will be sent out shortly to the Official Guests. All members are invited to attend this special occasion. We will have the details finalised in the next few weeks. At this stage we are anticipating having an official march from the old building to the new! This day will be supported once again by our friends from Murrumba Pipes and Drums.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

As you can appreciate, there is a great deal of work required to get our new building up and running as well as the day-to-day operation once the doors are open. If you have an interest in, or are able to assist with any of the following, please contact the Sub Branch President or Secretary as soon as possible:-

- Gardening - we need to lay turf and establish our gardens
- Memorabilia – Our new showcases will need to be filled with suitable items once they are cleaned, sorted and catalogued.
- History / Research project.
- Administration – we are always looking for assistance with general admin duties. We will also need people who are willing to assist to keep the doors open.
- Facebook – upkeep of Murgon Sub Branch page

MISSING RAFFLE WINNER

Unfortunately the winner of the First Prize in the Anzac Day raffle (Ann Steen) has not come forward. The telephone number on the ticket was incorrect. We have advertised in the Murgon Moments in the hope that someone may know the lady who won the Bear. If you do know this person, please ask her to contact the Secretary to arrange collection.

CITIZEN'S AUXILIARY

The Auxiliary have been busy out in the community working hard in their usual style. Anzac Day stalls took up the majority of April but the Auxiliary has still managed to conduct Friday night raffles at the Club. We also have a cake stall on 27th May and will be attending the Goomeri Pumpkin Festival on Sunday 30th May.



Our social outings have proved popular with Auxiliary and Sub Branch members attending functions at Dusty Hill and the Diary Museum. We invite all members to join us on these occasions for a cuppa and chat.

NATIONAL VOLUNTEERS WEEK

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our many volunteers for the effort you put in for the benefit of our members! We appreciate the fantastic effort you put in every day with raffles, cooking, working on our stalls, driving, making poppies and the countless other small tasks required and for just being willing to jump in and help each other when our energy begins to fall. Without your help, our Sub Branch would not be as successful as it is today!



In particular we would like to thank our wonderful Welfare Drivers for the many hours they spend transporting people to appointments in Brisbane, Toowoomba, Kingaroy and Gympie.

On 7th May, Murgon hosted a Wellbeing Training Day with attendees from Gympie, Nanango and Wondai. We are really grateful for those 12 attendees from Murgon who attended this important training event. Your enthusiasm and professionalism is very much appreciated!



GOOMERI CHAPTER

Statue Unveiling

The new World War II Digger Statue has finally arrived and was unveiled by Llew O'Brien MP on Friday 23rd April in time for Anzac Day. It was pleasing to see a great turnout of people to mark this important addition to the Goomeri Memorial.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY - MICK PURSER

We are delighted to be able to acknowledge Mick's birthday. We had been approached by the media to conduct interviews with a veteran in the lead up to Anzac Day and this just happened to coincide with Mick's 98th Birthday.



A student from Murgon State School was able to interview Mick and capture some of his wonderful stories on video. Burnett Today also printed a story in the local news.

We were also contacted by **Quilts of Valour** in relation to a presentation to Eric Law and we were able to secure an additional quilt for Mick to acknowledge his service.



COMMEMORATIVE EVENTS

Anzac Day saw a fantastic turnout. The day was supported once again by the troops from 26th Transport Squadron and the Murrumba Pipes and Drums.

