



## RSL NSW Coffs Harbour

Issue 228  
Jan 2025

### 2024 Executive

**President:**

John Lloyd  
0438 325 205

**Hon. Secretary:**  
Vacant

**Asst Secretary:**  
Joaly McBaron

**Hon. Treasurer:**  
Garry Heskett QBE  
0414 512 302

**Asst Treasurer:**  
Margaret Black

**Vice Presidents:**  
Garry Heskett QBE  
Ian Johnston

**Asst Secretary:**  
Joaly McBaron

**Visitation Team:**  
Rev. Dr. Graham  
Whelan OAM  
Ray Squires

**Indigenous  
Liaison Officer**  
Vacant

**Cenotaph  
Custodian:**  
Paul Bamford Jnr.

### Office Hours:

**Mondays:**  
10.00 am-12.05 pm.  
Other times by  
appointment.

**Thursdays:**  
Office meetings by  
appointment.

# The ChargeSheet

The Coffs Harbour RSL sub-Branch Inc. Newsletter



**Email:** [coffs-harbourSB@rslnsw.org.au](mailto:coffs-harbourSB@rslnsw.org.au) | **Ph:** 0423 418 651

**Website:** <https://cex.com.au/community/rsl-sub-branch/>



## sub-Branch Newsletter Highlights

### Table of Contents

<b>sub-Branch Newsletter Highlights</b>	<b>2</b>
Table of Contents	2
<b>Sub-Branch Administration</b>	<b>3</b>
Veteran & Veterans' Families Welfare & Well-being	
Coffs RSL Sub-branch Inc. Meetings	3
Member's Admin Support Levy	3
<b>Member Clothing</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Regular sub-Branch Activities</b>	<b>4</b>
Coffee@C.ex – Every Thursday at 10.00 AM.	4
Walking Group – Usually, 2nd Friday of the Month.	4
Motorcycle Riders Group – Usually, 3rd Friday of the Month	5
Lawn Bowls Group – Usually, Last Friday of the Month.	5
<b>Sub-Branch News &amp; Updates</b>	<b>6</b>
Vale:	9
<b>Padre's Post</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Corn Corner</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Sub-Branch Marketplace – Buy, Swap or Sell</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Supporting Businesses</b>	<b>13-14</b>

### Latest Happenings

<b>Fri 10<sup>th</sup> January.</b>	<b>Walk: Orara West State Forest. Vets, family &amp; friends</b>
<b>Thu 9, 16, 23, 30 Jan</b>	<b>Coffee@Cex 10.00AM for members, family &amp; friends</b>
<b>Sat 18th January</b>	<b>General Meeting 10.25AM</b>
<b>Sat 15<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>AGM at 10.25am followed by Feb GM</b>

**Quote:** “The true soldier fights not because he hates what is in front of him, but because he loves what is behind him.” **G. K. Chesterson**



## **Sub-Branch Administration.**

### **Coffs Coast Veteran and Family Wellbeing Centre**

Founding member of the Veterans Wellbeing Network MNC, the Centre's advocates and wellbeing support officers are authorised to lodge your claims for DVA entitlements, link you with wellbeing service providers and advocate on your behalf. Getting support is simple, secure, and online through:

<https://www.vcmnc.org.au/veteran-and-family-triage/>

**Location:** 4 Scarba St, Coffs Harbour (Inside Legacy Op Shop)

**Phone:** 02 6521 8108 | **Email:** [contact@vwmnc.org.au](mailto:contact@vwmnc.org.au)

---

## **Coffs RSL Sub-branch Inc. Meetings**

**Monthly General Meetings:** held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month at 10.25 am.

**Location:** C.ex Coffs Club Vista Lounge Function Room, followed by lunch in the Bistro. Partners always welcome.

**2025:** 18<sup>th</sup> Jan, 15<sup>th</sup> Feb, 15<sup>th</sup> Mar, 19<sup>th</sup> April (ANZAC Day Fri 25<sup>th</sup> April).

### **Member's Admin Support Levy**

In their Strategic Plan 2020-2026, RSL NSW waived Annual Membership Fees.

Our sub-Branch has introduced a Member's Voluntary Admin Support Levy for the coming years to assist with our operating costs.

***The Members Voluntary Admin Support Levy of \$15 falls due on the 31<sup>st</sup> of December each year.***

Members' Payments may be paid directly to our BCU Account as below:

**A/C name:** Coffs Harbour RSL sub-Branch Inc. | **BCU BSB:** 533 – 000

**A/C number:** 3285 6268 (Please include your name and description)

Payments can also be made using our 'Tap-n-go' electronic swipe card facility.

## **Veterans Assistance**

**Open Arms is available 24/7 on 1800 011 046 or visit [OpenArms.gov.au](http://OpenArms.gov.au).**

**Veteran care is the mission of RSL LifeCare.**

<https://rsllifecare.org.au/home-care/departments-of-veteran-affairs/>

**PH: tel:1300 853 146**

## Regular sub-Branch Activities

### Coffee@C.ex – Every Thursday at 10.00 AM.

Members gather for coffee and enjoy a chat, tell stories, embellished, exaggerated and educational. Join us for convivial, but rarely contentious, discussions and recollections.

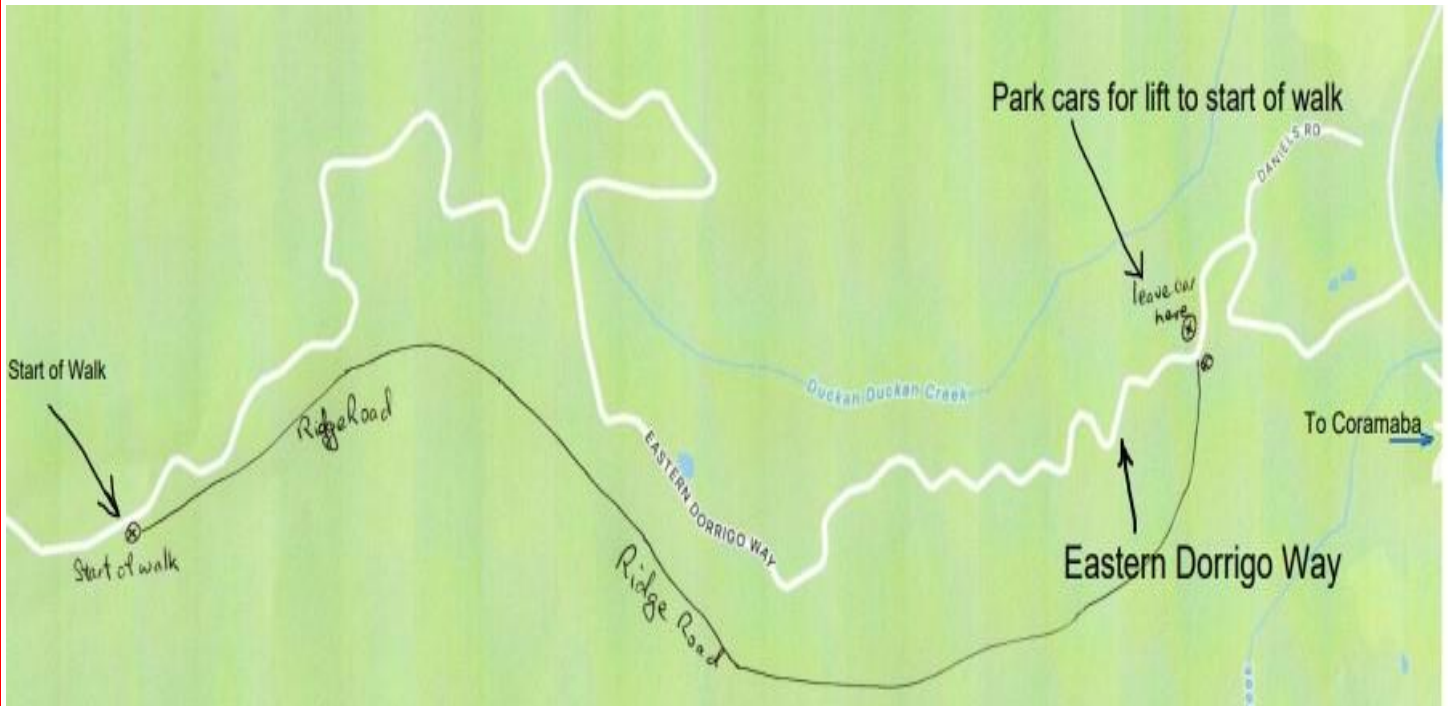
**Location:** Vista Lounge, C.ex Club. Partners, family & friends, visiting Veterans, all welcome.

### January Walk: Friday 10<sup>th</sup> January.

A family friendly walk through the Orara West State Forest (just west of Coramba).

We met up at the C.ex Car park at 8.15AM on the Friday and car pooled to Eastern Dorrigo Way, Coramba via Orara Way. Parked cars and proceeded – via car pool relay - to start point on Eastern Dorrigo Way and Ridge Rd.

Completed the walk through State Forest to at car park (approx 4.5km). Adjourned to Coramba Hotel for a top up. Top quality walk with great views.



Stu, 'Salty' Bill, Steve, JL, Toby, Merv, Samantha, Georgia.  
Toby & Georgia didn't say 'Are we there yet? Are we there yet?' once!



**“Born to be mild  
.....”  
Coffs Vets  
Motorcycle  
Riders Group**

**Last Ride:** Thursday  
24<sup>th</sup> October an  
overnighter to Ballina  
Museum with dinner at  
**Ballina RSL Club** and  
visit to Navy Museum.  
**Next Ride ?**  
Suggestions welcome,  
any ideas?

Interested riders are  
requested to advise Garry Heskett – M: 0414 512 302.

**Lawn Bowls Group –Last Friday of the Month.**

**Friday 31<sup>st</sup> Jan.** Join us at 10:00 AM for a few ends on the Cex Greens. Talent is admired; but not necessary. Complete the morning with some cool drinks or coffee in the Club. Cost \$5 per player. **Open to all Veterans and their family et.al. Too easy.**

**Membership**



**Garry presenting John Lambert and Ivor McMahon with their membership badges in December.**

## New Years 1919 Greetings from Belgium ©<sub>AWM</sub>

### Message from a Belgian town after the First World War.

This is a message to Australian soldiers from children in the Belgian village of Anthée dated 1 January 1919. The note is written in French and wishes Australian soldiers in the villages of Anthée and Miavoye a Happy New Year.



Les soldats australiens cantonnés dans les villages d'Anthée et de Miavoye présentent aux enfants de ces villages leurs meilleurs souhaits de bonne année et de bonne santé.

Ils espèrent que, bien qu'ils peuvent bientôt être à quatre mille lieues de vous, vous vous souviendrez toujours d'eux, comme ils se souviendront toujours de vous.

The note also reads that it hopes the soldiers will remember them as they will always be remembered by the village.

A printed image, later coloured, of a kangaroo standing under an arch of wattle with an Australian flag also features on the note.

### New Year's Message of Thanks to Australian Soldiers, 1919

Amongst the Memorial's souvenir collection of concert and theatre programs is a thank you message written to

Australian soldiers on behalf of the children of the towns of Anthée and Miavoye in Belgium. Written in French with a charming hand-coloured illustration of a kangaroo holding an Australian flag under an arch of wattle, the letter was gifted to the soldiers on New Years Day 1919 during a children's day fete.

Australian soldiers contributed to the event through the provision of food and drinks and the construction of a Christmas tree. The 50th Battalion Band and the 'Wombats' Concert Party of the 10th Infantry Brigade also contributed musical selections, with a gramophone operated by

Corporal Clive – an early 'DJ' of his day. The full programme can be viewed on the Memorial's website.

At this time the Armistice was in effect and troops were preparing for their long journeys home. The fondness and lasting impact of the Australian troops to the local Belgian people is evident in their message, the last line roughly translating to:

*"They hope that, although they may soon be four thousand leagues from you, you will always remember them, as they will always remember you".*

***A Very Worthy Cause..... once again foreign ownership tramples on  
Australian history!:***

**To all our RSL friends and supporters**

The Lithgow Small Arms Factory supplied our diggers through two world wars and other campaigns, and now we need your help to save our iconic volunteer-run museum. Right now, we need as many signatures as possible on two petitions to ensure action from politicians and Thales. *See below:*

*“The French multinational Thales Group, the museum's landlord, issued a draft contract, in 2022, to sell the museum its integral heritage site for a nominal price. This has now been downgraded to an offer of a long-term lease, retaining the obstructive approval process for all works, and disturbingly, the right to evict the museum and repurpose or demolish the buildings. The current expert volunteers want to rebuild the museum and secure its future by transitioning to salaried staff. The autonomy of site ownership, as (originally sic) promised by Thales, is critical to this aim.”*

- ✓ **Please access the NSW Parliamentary Petition (NSW residents only)**

*Asks politicians to facilitate site ownership for the Museum.*

**You can access this petition via: ‘Facilitate Site Ownership for the Lithgow Small Arms Factory Museum.’**

- ✓ **Global Petition (open to everyone of voting age).**

**Aimed at Thales to highlight how important the Museum is to Australian heritage and how much it’s valued worldwide.**

**You can access the petition:       ‘Secure the Future of Lithgow Small Arms Factory Museum’**

- ✓ **Please take a moment to sign and share the petitions. Together, we can save this vital piece of our defence heritage.**

- ✓ **Visit: <https://sites.google.com/view/savelithgowsafm/home> for more info.**

**‘Many thanks’ from Donna, Kerry, and the Museum Team; ‘This is a precious piece of Australian history; it must be saved ..... permanently!’**

**Kind regards,**

***Kerry Guerin***

**Lithgow Small Arms Factory Museum**

**www.lithgowsafmuseum.org.au**

**admin@lithgowsafmuseum.org.au**

## CORN CORNER

There was a tradesman, a painter named Jack, who was very interested in making a dollar where he could. So he often would thin down his paint to make it go a wee bit further.

As it happened, he got away with this for some time. Eventually, the local church decided to do a big restoration project. Jack put in a painting bid and, because his price was so competitive, he got the job. And so he started, erecting the trestles and putting up the planks, and buying the paint and thinning it down with turpentine.

Jack was up on the scaffolding, painting away, the job nearly done, when suddenly there was a horrendous clap of thunder. The sky opened and the rain poured down, washing the thin paint from all over the church and knocking Jack off the scaffold to land on the lawn.

Jack was no fool. He knew this was a judgment from the Almighty, so he fell on his knees and cried, "Oh, God! Forgive me! What should I do?" And from the thunder, a mighty Voice spoke:

*"Repaint! Repaint! And thin no more!"*

Dear paranoid people who check behind their shower curtains for murderers: If you do find one, what's your plan?

The older I get, the more I understand why roosters scream to start their day.

Being popular on Facebook is like sitting at the 'cool table' in the cafeteria of a mental hospital.

I too was once a male trapped in a female body..... but then my mother gave birth.

If only vegetables smelled as good as bacon.

When I lost the fingers on my right hand in a freak accident, I asked the doctor if I would still be able to write with it. He said, "Possibly, but I wouldn't count on it."

I woke up this morning determined to drink less, eat right, and exercise. But that was four hours ago when I was younger and full of hope.

Anyone who says their wedding was the best day of their life has clearly never had two chocolate bars fall down at once from a vending machine.

There's a fine line between a numerator and a denominator ..... Only a fraction of people will find this funny.

Last night the internet stopped working so I spent a few hours with my family. They seem like good people.



## sub-Branch News & Updates



**Vale:** Dennis Johnston, 6RAR. DOD: 6<sup>th</sup> Jan 2025  
**Funeral:** 10.00 AM Fri 24<sup>th</sup> Jan at Coffs Crematorium,  
Coramba Road, Karangi.  
Medals to be worn.  
**We will Remember them.**  
**Lest We Forget.**

---

## Next BBQ

Our next BBQ's are: *Fri 15<sup>th</sup> August at Bunnings.*  
*Fri 7<sup>th</sup> November at Bunnings.*

Volunteers required; please advise John Lloyd (0438 325 205) if you're available.

## Save The Date

**WWII 80th Anniversary Charity Concert**  
**by The Clarence Valley Orchestra Chorus.**

**Sat. 26<sup>th</sup> Apr 2025 at 2:00pm at Woolgoolga Sports Complex –  
Solitary Islands Way.**

**More Info as the date approaches.**

## Padre's Post



**PADRE'S**

**POST**

Joyous  
New Year

### LET US REMEMBER

#### REMEMBER



#### OLD TESTAMENT

#### Truths pointing to Jesus Coming:

Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel. (Isaiah 7:14) (c 700 BC).

"See, I will send my messenger, who will prepare the way before me. Then suddenly the Lord you are seeking will come to his temple; the messenger of the covenant, whom you desire, will come," says the Lord Almighty. "See, I will send you the prophet Elijah before that great and dreadful day of the Lord comes. (Malachi 3:1, 4:5) (c430BC).

The Messenger (Elijah) is John the Baptist to prepare the way for Jesus and His New Covenant.



## REMEMBER

### NEW TESTAMENT



#### Jesus is born:

Jesus' birth paved the way for the Father to bring to His world His Son's eternal authority. This authority He gave to His Son Jesus.

Jesus gives light to our darkness:

*"When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." (John 8:12).*

On our own we had no way to get back to Almighty God – no road to walk, no bridge to cross, no ladder to climb to Heaven. Almighty God made a way – the way:

*"Jesus answered, I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." (John 14:6).*

*My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand. I and the Father are one." (John 10:27-30).*



*"Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me." (Matthew 28:18).*

Jesus came to save, that we may be with Him now and for all eternity:

*Blessings – Padre Rev. Dr. Graham Whelan OAM*

## WE WILL REMEMBER

## Member Clothing

The sub-Branch Committee has organised several items as part of our sub-Branch 'identity' and as part of the RSL NSW Branch.

The Committee has arranged for a local supplier to maintain and enhance the sub-Branch's connection with the Coffs Coast community.

**Supplier: 'Wear It!' (*Speak to Tanya*)**

**Address: 1/21 Isles Drive, Coffs Harbour**

**Contact: Ph. 6652 8211**

If you would like to obtain any items:

⑩ to ensure correct sizing make your way to 'Wear It!' and try on some items.

⑩ order what you want with Tanya.

⑩ let the office know that you have made an order.

⑩ when it arrives, you can pay for it via the Secretary or Treasurer

We are now resourcing women's versions of these items.



**L/S Shirt – Est. \$55.00**



**S/S Shirt – Est. \$53.00**



**L/S Rugby – Est. \$44.00**



**s/s Polo - \$22.00**



**Jacket - \$133.00**

## Lawn Care & Maintenance Services

Contact Chris Dooley at  
Empire Lawn Care & Maintenance  
M: 0429 073 192



## Buying, Selling, Looking to Rent?

for Real Estate Needs, Contact

**Greg Renet**



Licensed Real Estate Agent

☎ 0411 121 579

✉ greg.renet@atrealty.com.au

[www.atrealty.com.au](http://www.atrealty.com.au)



## Health and Fitness

### HOYS ALLIED HEALTH + Wellness

Physiotherapy • Exercise Physiology •  
Dietetics & Nutrition • Remedial Massage •  
Occupational Therapy • Core & Exercise  
Classes • Hydrotherapy • Radial Shock Wave  
Therapy • Women's Health

Visit: Coffs Harbour Jetty

Shop 9, Jetty Village Shopping Centre  
Coffs Harbour NSW 2450

Call: 02 6652 7355

Online: [hoyshealth.com.au](http://hoyshealth.com.au)

## Vehicle Body Repairs

### MINOR DENTS AND SCRATCHES?

Give Lyle DENSTEN a ring on

**0411 506 514.**

Lyle is a Vietnam Veteran with a small motor vehicle repair hobby shop for his Veteran & Vintage car maintenance activity that keeps him sane & happy. Lyle is more than happy to assist with small scratches, dents & scrapes repairs for our members.

## Motor Vehicles

A locally owned and operated company,  
committed to the Coffs Coast Community



TPI/Korean War Veterans can receive a  
National Fleet Discount on all New Hyundai  
vehicles. Coffs Harbour Hyundai call us on:

02 6652 1933

192-196 Orlando Street, Coffs Harbour  
[Coffsharbourhyundai.com.au](http://Coffsharbourhyundai.com.au)



Coffs Park Beach Plaza



**ADVANCED MECHANICAL SERVICES  
COFFS HARBOUR**

Unit 6/163 Orlando Street, Coffs  
Harbour.  
NSW. 2450.  
(M) 0431 231 920

**COAST TO VALLEY EARTHWORKS  
NO NEED TO DEBATE, CALL ME TO  
EXCAVATE**

Contact: BRADEN 0432 597 626  
E: admin@c2vearthworks.com or  
braden@c2vearthworks.com

