

RSL NSW Coffs Harbour

Issue 230 March 2025 2025 Executive

President:

John Lloyd 0438 325 205

Hon. Secretary: vacant

Hon. Treasurer:

Garry Heskett QBE 0414 512 302

Asst Treasurer:

Margaret Black

Vice Presidents:

Garry Heskett QBE lan Johnston

Asst Secretary:

Joaly McBaron

Events Officer:

John Bojarski 0411 624 566

Visitation Team:

Rev. Dr. Graham Whelan OAM

Ray Squires

Indigenous Liaison Officer

Peter French 0423 770 578

Cenotaph Custodian:

Paul Bamford Jnr.

Office Hours:

Mondays:

10.00 am-12.05 pm. Other times by appointment.

Thursdays:

by appointment.

The ChargeSheet

The Coffs Harbour RSL sub-Branch Inc. Newsletter



Email: coffs-harbourSB@rslnsw.org.au | Ph: 0423 418 651

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







sub-Branch Newsletter Highlights

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Regular sub-Branch Activities	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Coffee@C.ex – Every Thursday at 10.00 AM.	4
Walking Group – Usually, 2nd Friday of the Month.	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Motorcycle Riders Group – Usually, 3rd Friday of the M	Ionth 5
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Highlights

Sat 15 th Mar	10.25am March General Meeting in Bistro		
Sat 15 th Mar	1.00pm Coffs Bikers Group ride to Evans Head		
Mon 17 th Mar	10.30am ANZAC Planning Meeting in Vista annex		
Fri 21st Mar	9am Emerald to Sandy Beach Walk. 9am Carpool from Cex.		
Sat 22nd Mar	Sgt, Mathew Locke MG Charity RL match Bellingen – 3pm		
Sun 23 rd Mar	Newcastle Army Band Concert -CEX for Mattthew Locke		
Thu 20,27, Mar	Coffee@Cex 10.00AM All invited		
Sat 19 th April	General Meeting 10.25AM followed by lunch		
Fri 25 th April	ANZAC Dawn Service 5.30am followed by Breakfast		
	8.15 amANZAC March & 9.30am Main Service		
	12.00 noon ANZAC Luncheon		

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@vwnmnc.org.au

Coffs RSL Sub-branch Inc. Meetings

Monthly General Meetings:

Monthly General Meetings: held on the 3rd 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.

2024: 21st **Dec.** (followed by Christmas Luncheon in the Blue Room at 12 Noon.)

2025: 15th Mar, 19th April (ANZAC Day Fri 25th 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 31st 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 Veterans and Families Counselling Service.

Open Arms is available 24/7 on 1800 011 046 or visit OpenArms.gov.au.

Veteran care is the mission of RSL LifeCare.

https://rsllifecare.org.au/home-care/department-of-veter an-affairs.

PH: tel:1300 853 146

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, visitors, visiting Veterans, all welcome.

Walking Group (aka The Bourke & Wills Wanderers) 2nd Friday of the Month A choice of 2 walks in March depending upon conditions:



March Walk: Friday 21st March

Look At Me Now Headland, walk to Sandy Beach.

Meet up at C.ex car park 9:00 am. Bring Water, sun-screen, hat, swimmers & towel, family, friends.

Carpool to Dammerel Crescent, Emerald Beach. Car park at end of Crescent.

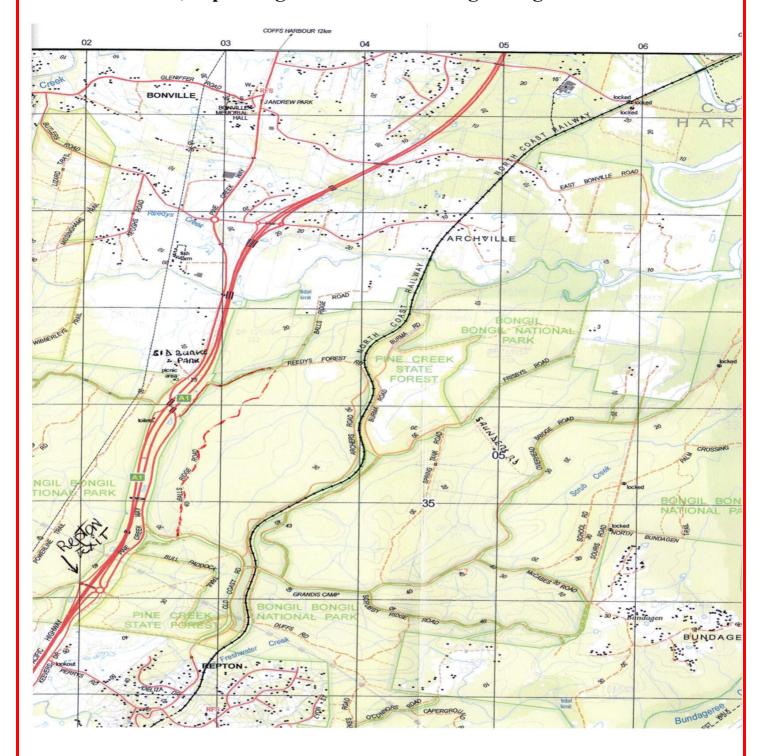
Walk via 'Look At Me Now'
Headland to Emerald Beach then on
to Fiddaman's beach finishing at
Sandy Beach car park.
Walk approx. 4km with wonderful

walk approx. 4km with wonderful views of the Solitary Islands and Pacific Ocean.

Finish with coffee at the Sandy Beach Café.

Contact: John Bojarski 0411 624 566

Alternative Walk, depending on Conditions: Bongil Bongil National Park.



- Travel south on the M1 and take the Repton Exit.
- Travel along Pine Creek Rd to our parking area on Old Coast Road at the intersection with Old Bulls Road.
- Bush walk along Old Bulls Road through Reedys Forest to the picnic area at Sid Bourke Park.
- BBQ lunch.

2025 - ANZAC Day Run Sheet – Summary for notification.

Date/ Day	Time	Action	Personnel
24/4 Thu - Pre	paration		,
Preparation	During the day. Vernon Street location:	 Prepare Cenotaph Area for Dawn Service: Erect Marquees (8) including RSL Marquee for First Aid Point Erect public tiered Seating from Showground. Extra seating on Eastern side of Cenotaph for Veterans as required. Wreaths to be delivered to the C.ex Coffs Club for Cool Room. Collect March signs, Flags and Banners, etc. and move to 'Kids' Room, Ground Floor for transport to March Form-up Point at Park Ave East 25/4 am. Erect First Aid Tent and allocate Vehicle space for St. Johns west of the Cenotaph Hedge. 	Coffs Council: open public toilets, clean Cenotaph area, security as necessary CHCC Police sub-Branch Volunteers
		25/4 Thu ANZAC Day - Dawn Service	
Dawn Service	04:30 am	Road Closures for Dawn Service as per: • TGS Guidelines - 156375 • TCP/TGS Assessment Checklist - WRS - TGS - 156375	Coffs Clarence Area Command Police to monitor M1, road closures, etc. Workforce –
	05:00 am	Install Sound System and video display	JLE – Steve Douglass
	05:10 am	Remove Cenotaph chains	Cenotaph Officer
	05:00 am- 05:15 am	Flags to be fixed to Cenotaph Flag Poles and lowered to half-mast. Position Wreath Layers table.	Cenotaph Officer C Coy 41 Bn RNSWR Soldiers Attendants tbc
	05:15 am	Position Jeeps on Vernon Street adjacent to C.ex Coffs Club - tbc	John Small
	05:20 am	Radio Station 106.3 FM Dawn Service Broadcast	Steve Douglas
		Veterans assemble in front of Vernon street entrance to C.ex Coffs Club.	Veterans Parade Marshall
	05:25 am	Veterans march to position in front of Cenotaph	VeteransParade MarshallSgt Cody Anderson
		C Coy 41 Bn RNSWR Catafalque Party Guard to 'mount'.	C Coy 41 Bn RNSWR
	05:30 am	Dawn Service at Vernon Street Cenotaph	Police presence.Parade Marshall:

2025 - ANZAC Day Run Sheet – Summary for notification.

Date/ Day	Time	Action	Personnel
		 Dawn Service Ceremony as per Annex G – Dawn Service Master of Ceremonies Run Sheet M.C. Glenn Hall 	 Sgt Cody Anderson, Michael Black, JJ Williams, et al. First Aid: St Johns in place
	6:15 am	 'Gunfire Breakfast' at C.ex Coffs Club All attendees may join the Veterans for breakfast in the C.ex Coffs Club Auditorium; Service Personnel & Veterans to enter first A large crowd is anticipated and catering is aimed at 800 meals Reserved tables will be available for 725 Sqn and others. 	C.ex Coffs Club staff plus sub-Branch Volunteers/Auxiliary to assist with serving.
Friday 25/	4 ANZAC Day –	March	
March	08:00 am Or earlier	 Set-up road closures as per: TGS Guidelines - 156375 TCP/TGS Assessment Checklist - WRS - TGS - 156375 	Workforce – Patrick Carroll
		ANZAC Appeal Memorabilia Sales Table At the Cenotaph site adjacent to the Hedge nearest the C.ex Coffs Club.	Volunteers
		JLE to commence Video/PP/Music presentation large screen – continue till start of ceremony.	Steve Douglas, JLE.
	8:15 am	 Jeeps to position for mobility limited veterans at: 2-3 jeeps positioned at Park Avenue FUP 2 jeeps positioned at Vernon Street entrance to C.ex Coffs Club to collect Veterans & transport to FUP Water Stations to be set-up on Vernon Street 	John SmallMobility Limited VeteransC.ex Coffs Club Staff +Volunteers
	8:15 am	ANZAC Day March	Parade Marshall:
		 Form-up at the round-about corner Park Ave & Gordon St and east. Conduct ANZAC Day Parade as per - Annex J - ANZAC Day Parade Marshall Run Sheet 	 Dave Sutherland, M: 0409 470 223 Kurt Sheridan, JJ Williams, Michael Black, et al.
	8:45 am	Step Off with the Coffs Pipe Band. Depending upon size of March, the 'step- off' may be earlier. • Parade steps off as per Annex J-1 - ANZAC Day Parade – Order of March	Parade MarshallSt. Johns AmbulanceTraffic Control
	9:15 am	 March arrives at the Cenotaph. Jeeps proceed to end of Vernon Street. 	Parade Marshalls to monitor crowd, school children, Veterans, cadets,

2025 - ANZAC Day Run Sheet - Summary for notification.

Date/ Day	Time	Action	Personnel		
		 Horses to weal to the right past the western hedge to carpark area. Parade to Line up on Vernon St. Banners to be lowered. 	etc for heat stress. • Distribute water		
	-	25/4 ANZAC Day – Main Service			
	09:20 am	Cenotaph Flag attendants are to ensure flags are at half-mast. before the start of the main service.	Cadets Ivor Mc Mahon		
Main Ceremony	09:30 am	Main Ceremony and Address • ANZAC Day Ceremony as per Annex H – Main Service Master of Ceremonies Run Sheet	Guest Speaker: Commander Ray McErlean CSM, RAN, CO: 725 Sqd.		
Children's Function	10:30 am	Children's Function in Vista Lounge Function Room after Ceremony.	C.ex Coffs Staff		
Flypast	10:30 am approx.	Flypast by RAAF A RAAF 'flying thingo' will do the flyover 'run' from Ballina, passing over Coffs Harbour at about 1030 hrs. TBA			
ANZAC Day Lunch	12:00 noon	Adjourn to C.ex Coffs Club for Lunch. Tickets \$35 meal and entertainment. Veterans wearing medals are free. Order from Cex and online.	Monitor crowd movements from Vernon Street and entr to Cex Club.		
	2025 Annex F - ANZAC Day Run Sheet				



Vale: Maxwell Gant. DOD 4th March.
Funeral 2.00 pm Monday 31st March
at Karangi Crematorium.
Medal to be worn.
We will Remember them.
Lest We Forget.

Lawn Bowls Group -Last Friday of the Month.

Friday 28th March. 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.

Coffs Vets Motorcycle Riders Group

"Brrrmm .. Brrrmm ..
Headin' down tha highway
Tryin' ta 'void dementia
Born to be mild
Coffs Vets Motorcycle Riders Group

Evans Head RAAF Museum. An overnighter. Depart Saturday PM 15th March folling the general meeting. Travelling via back roads through Nana Glen, Grafton, Ulmara, Woodburn to Evans Head

Next Ride? good question, any ideas? Interested riders are requested to contact Garry Heskett M: 0410 512 302



Garry Ross Steve Garry Patty

Good Grief ... they're enough to frighten women and small children!

Mind you, they're quite friendly when you get to know 'em.

Sgt. Mathew Locke annual football clash at Bellingen 3.00 pm Sat 22nd March

The match honours the memory and sacrifice of Bellingen's Matthew Locke, who joined the Army at the age of 17 and deployed to Timor, Iraq and Afghanistan. Locke was awarded the Medal for Gallantry in displaying courage of the highest order during action in hazardous circumstances. He was fatally wounded by Taliban insurgents in 2007 while serving with the Special Air Service Regiment in Uruzgan Province, southern Afghanistan.

Money raised through the annual charity football event is used to advocate for veterans on the Mid North Coast as well as providing schools and education to disadvantaged children in remote Timor Leste.

This year's match-ups see the Australian Army Thunder take on the Sawtell Panthers at Bellingen Park, while the Bellingen Magpies face off against the Brisbane Jackals.

2pm Bellingen Magpies vs Jackal Vets 3.15 Official Ceremony 4pm Sawtell Panthers vs Army Thunder

Followed on Sunday by: NEWCASTLE ARMY BAND CONCERT

11.00 am Sunday 23rd March at Coffs Cex Club

Doors open 10.30 AM

Next BBQ: 15th August prelude to Long Tan date 18th August

Volunteers required; Please advise John Lloyd (0438 325 205)

Save The Date

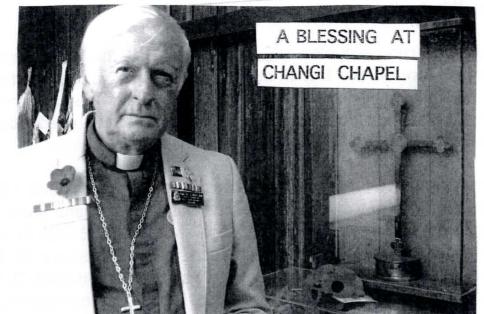
WWII 80th Anniversary Charity Concert by The Clarence Valley Orchestra Chorus.

Sat. 26th Apr 2025 at 2:00pm at Woolgoolga Sports Complex – Solitary Islands Way. More Info as the date approaches.

Did You Know

When the Dentist married the Manicurist They fought tooth and nail!

PADRE'S POST





REMEMBER:-Surrender of Singapore – 17th February 1942 Bombing of Darwin – 19th February 1942

I purchased an inspiring book "Surviving the Sword" by Brian MacArthur.

When Japan walked out of the League of Nations in 1932 as a result of being accused of aggression in China, it gave up humanity for brutality. I was amazed when I was told that only two lines currently, in school history books in Japan for the school children, mention Japanese barbarism. Clearly Japan has never asked for forgiveness. They simply

refer to the advance of the Japanese Empire. Brian MacArthur describes it this way:

"The implementation of the task of the Showa Restoration – the reign of Hirohito, which is to realise his Imperial Majesty's desire for peace in the Far East, and to set Asia free, rest squarely on our shoulders."

MacArthur goes on to explain that the Japanese troops were issued with an anti-West Manual which stated:

"When you encounter the enemy after landing regard yourself as an avenger come at last face to face with his father's murderer. Here before you is a man whose death will lighten your heart of it s burden of brooding anger. If you fail to destroy him utterly you can never rest at peace. And the first blow is the vital blow...... Westerners – being very superior people, very effeminate, and very cowardly – have an intense dislike of fighting in the rain or mist or at nightby jungle is meant dense forest in which a large variety of trees and grasses and thorny plants are all closely entangled together......this type of terrain is regarded by the weak-spirited westerners as impenetrable, and for this reason – in order to outmanoeuvre them – we must from time to time force our way through it...."

So much for Hirohito's desire for peace in the Far East and to set Asia free. What a lie!

However, using bicycles and forging through the impenetrable bush did put pressure on the British and Australian troops. Yamashita did manage to get through British lines by passing through the swamps which was considered impassable terrain. Small boats were used down the west coast to move behind British lines.

According to the Tokyo War Crimes Tribunal, Japan took 132,142 allied prisoners. More than 50,000 British and Australians were captured in Singapore alone - and 42,000 Dutch and 10,000 British in Java. Twenty five thousand Americans were captured in the Philippines. Of the 107,000 that passed through Changi on their way to prison details, 27% died from brutal treatment. Indeed of the 132,142 we can confidently say almost 36,000 were murdered. Twelve thousand of those deaths occurred on the building of the Burma/Thailand Railway. It is also estimated 100,000 natives - "coolies" also died on that project. MacArthur also notes:

"The Japanese Government made its position known in 1942 through its legislation in Bern. Japan was not bound by the Geneva Convention, it said, but would apply the convention as was possible – *mutatis mutandis* (with necessary changes) – to its prisoners, taking into consideration the customs of each nation and each race in respect of feeding and clothing. The result of that small phrase.....was that Japan flouted almost all the significant rules of the Geneva convention, which was why so many FEPOWs died. By Japanese standards, the men who were captured had shamed themselves; they were contemptible and expendable. Another crucial factor in Japan's treatment of prisoners was race. Japan was leading a war of the 'yellow' races against the hated imperialist 'white' races. The soldiers relished their triumph. Japanese soldiers had been indoctrinated to consider the white nations as oppressors and themselves as descendants of the sons of heaven."

I have to say Japan was an evil enemy, their reasoning a total lie and they brought dishonour and death not peace and freedom to the whole of Asia.

Praise be to the LORD who has not let us be torn apart.
We had escaped like a bird out of the fowler's snare – the snare has been broken......
Our help is in the name of the LORD.
The Maker of Heaven and earth."
From Psalm 124.

Blessings - Padre Rev. Dr. Graham Whelan OAM

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:

- to ensure correct sizing make your way to 'Wear It!' and try on some items.
- order what you want with Tanya.
- let the office know that you have made an order.
- 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



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Coffs Harbour NSW 2450

Call: 02 6652 7355

Online: 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



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







