



**RETURNED and SERVICES LEAGUE OF AUSTRALIA**  
**EPPING RSL SUB-BRANCH**  
**ROUTINE ORDERS**



**Vol 28 No 4**

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**August-September 2025**  
**Secretary:** John Prestidge RFD ED  
Telephone 02 9868 3272

**MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT**



Eighty years ago, on the morning of Wednesday 15 August 1945 church bells rang around the nation and people burst on to the streets in the cities and country to celebrate Victory in the Pacific Day to mark the end of World War 2.

After nearly six years of war, which started in Europe and was brought to an end in the Pacific, there was peace. Those who experienced the day remember relief and joy as well as sadness at lives lost or changed forever.

There were many notable battles in the Pacific campaign. Perhaps some of the more notable were the Battle at Midway, the fighting in New Guinea and the Battle of the Bismarck Sea, and General MacArthur's island hopping campaign. Remember, too, that our mainland was attacked and many centres were either bombed or shelled from Japanese submarines. The submarine attack on Sydney harbour sank the ferry HMAS Kuttabul.

The price of peace was high, with more the 40,000 Australian men and women lost forever. On the last day of the war thousands of servicemen and women were still in war zones - often on alert in case of last-minute attacks. At home families and friends mourned the dead and for word of the missing.

To celebrate and remember this victory we will have a remembrance and wreath laying service at Boronia Park cenotaph on Friday 15th August at 1030hrs. Please attend.

Brian Swan AM

President, Epping RSL sub-Branch

**VP DAY COMMEMORATION**

**Friday 15 August 2025**

**Boronia Park Cenotaph**

**Assemble at 1030**

**for service to commence at 1045**

Victory in the Pacific Day, also known as VP Day, is commemorated on August 15th in Australia, to mark the end of World War II in the Pacific. This day signifies Japan's surrender to the Allied forces, which occurred on August 15, 1945. It's a day to remember and honour the service and sacrifice of Australians during World War II, particularly in the Pacific theatre.

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**GOLDEN KANGAROOS HORNSBY  
CONCERT BAND**

**WINTER CONCERT**

**SUNDAY 3 AUGUST 2025**

**1330 - 1600**

**THE EPPING CLUB**

See the Concert, Explorer and Discovery Bands perform with special guests Brass Bazaar.

The Concert and Explorer Band performances will feature repertoire for the upcoming NSW State Band Championships.

The Epping RSL sub-Branch and The Epping Club sponsor the Golden Kangaroos Concert Band and the Epping RSL Marching Band.

## MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

### VALE

### “WE WILL REMEMBER THEM”

During the months of May - July 2025, no advice has been received of the passing of Service members.

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### WELLBEING SUPPORT OFFICER

Andrew (Andy) Brayshaw

Mobile: 0435 879 258

Email: brayshaw\_andy@hotmail.comGo co

Visit Andy in the sub-Branch office on Monday mornings between 9 a.m. and noon.

WSOs can offer:

referrals for training and employment pathways, housing providers, counselling and health services, and claims and compensation advocacy

support to claims Advocates,

visits to veterans at home, and in hospital and aged-care facilities

support services, such as driving and shopping trips

support at funerals

assistance organising domestic assistance or home maintenance services

assistance with administrative duties in a volunteer capacity

support organising and conducting social, family and Sport & Recreation Program activities

non-clinical and non-advocacy support to a veteran's family during time of grief, loss, and bereavement

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### FAMILIES OF VETERANS GUILD - WAR WIDOWS

Coordinator: Heather Gillam 9876 3588

Treasurer: Heather Gillam

Meetings: First Monday in month at 10.30 a.m.

Monday 4 August 2025

Monday 1 September 2025

Monday October 13 (Note Monday 6 October is Labour Day Public Holiday)

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**ROUTINE ORDERS** is issued 5 times per year, in January, April, June, August and October.

Contributions for inclusion in ROUTINE ORDERS, such as forward activities, interesting personal notes etc. are always welcome. Items for the next issue on Monday 29 September 2025 are required before Wednesday 17 September 2025.

Earlier would be appreciated. Electronic copy preferred if possible. *Routine Orders* editor Barry Hoschke [bhoschke@tpg.com.au](mailto:bhoschke@tpg.com.au).

## **EPPING RSL SUB-BRANCH**

### **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY AUGUST 2025 – OCTOBER 2025**

#### **AUGUST 2025**

<b>Sunday 3</b>	<b>Golden Kangaroos Winter Concert at Epping Club</b>	<b>1330</b>
Monday 4	Families of Veterans Guild of NSW -War Widows	1030
Monday 11	Epping RSL sub-Branch Committee Meeting	1800
Friday 15	VP Day Commemoration, Boronia Park Cenotaph	1030
	Assemble at 1030, service commencing 1045	
Wednesday 20	Stand Easy	1300
Monday 25	Epping RSL sub-Branch Monthly General Meeting	1930

#### **SEPTEMBER 2025**

Monday 1	Families of Veterans Guild of NSW -War Widows	1030
Monday 8	Epping RSL sub-Branch Committee Meeting	1800
<b>Friday 12</b>	<b>Formal Dinner Night - National Peacekeepers Day</b>	<b>1900</b>
Wednesday 17	Stand Easy	1300
Monday 29	Epping RSL sub-Branch Monthly General Meeting	1930

#### **OCTOBER 2025**

<b>Sunday 5</b>	<b>Daylight Saving Time begins</b>	
<b>Monday 6</b>	<b>Labour Day Public Holiday</b>	
Monday 13	Families of Veterans Guild of NSW -War Widows	1030
Monday 13	Epping RSL sub-Branch Committee Meeting	1800
Wednesday 15	Stand Easy	1300
<b>Friday 24 – Sunday 26</b>	<b>RSL NSW Congress at Tamworth</b>	
Monday 27	Epping RSL sub-Branch Monthly General Meeting	1930



## Epping RSL Sub Branch

# Anzac Day 2025

I acknowledge the Epping RSL Sub Branch for their dedication to ANZAC Day, our nation, and the broader veteran community.

On April 25th, 2025, I attended the ANZAC Day Dawn Service hosted by the Epping RSL Sub Branch at Forest Park in Epping. This annual gathering remains a meaningful occasion for the community to come together in reflection and pay tribute to the men and women of the Australian Defence Force, both active and reserve, who have served our country and made the ultimate sacrifice in defence of our freedoms.

It is a day not to glorify war, but to solemnly honour those sacrifices.

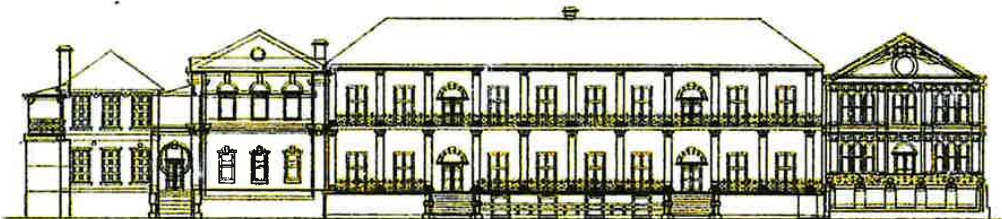
Held in the quiet hours of the morning, the ceremony provided a respectful and contemplative atmosphere, drawing strong support from the local community. The Epping RSL Sub Branch continues to uphold this tradition with dignity and purpose, offering residents a poignant way to observe ANZAC Day close to home.

I commend their continued leadership in preserving the spirit and legacy of the ANZACs.

*Monica Tudehope*

**Monica Tudehope, MP**

Member for Epping





## Epping RSL Sub Branch

# *Andrew Brayshaw*

I acknowledge Andrew Brayshaw for his service to our veteran community. After a distinguished military career in both the British and Australian Armies, where he rose to the rank of Major, Andrew has continued to live a life of selfless service.

His experiences on the frontlines, where he cared for the wounded and endured personal injuries, not only shaped his sense of compassion and commitment to others but also demonstrated his bravery and valour.

Since his retirement, Andrew has been a vital member of the Epping RSL Sub Branch, serving as both a trustee and a wellbeing officer. Andrew provides dedicated support to sick and infirm veterans, visiting them in their homes or hospitals, and offering comfort in their final moments through special RSL tributes. He also engages with local schools, sharing the ANZAC legacy with young Australians.

Andrew's actions embody the enduring values of the ANZAC spirit - courage, sacrifice, and mateship. It is with great honour that we acknowledge Andrew Brayshaw and his ongoing contribution to Epping through the Epping RSL Sub Branch.

*Monica Tudehope*

**Monica Tudehope, MP**

Member for Epping



## BACKGROUND TO THE TWO CERTIFICATES

On 8<sup>th</sup> May 2025, as part of the commemoration of the 110<sup>th</sup> anniversary of ANZAC Day the State Government Member for Epping, Monica Tudehope MP, addressed the house. In this address the member identified significant aspects of this momentous event in the history of early years of the Federated States of Australia, touching on the sacrifices of those young soldiers.

In the visitors' gallery were two representatives of the Epping RSL sub-Branch, Andrew Brayshaw and John Curdie OAM. Andy commenced his army career in the British Army and following his move permanently to Australia in 2001 he transferred to the Australian Defence Force. After his retirement from the ADF Andy became involved in the Epping sub Branch where he is currently serving on the management of the sub-Branch as a Trustee and its Wellbeing Support Officer.

John Curdie OAM, the immediate past president of the Epping RSL sub-Branch, following his discharge from the RAAF joined the Epping RSL and in 1998 was elected to the presidency of the Epping RSL sub-Branch, serving until his retirement in 2023 to become the senior vice president.

To commemorate the event these two certificates were presented by Monica Tudehope to Major Andrew Brayshaw and to the veterans of the Epping RSL sub-Branch.

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## STAND EASY

Stand Easy is an informal daytime gathering on the third Wednesday of the month between 1300 and 1500 hours. It is held in 45 on Rawson at The Epping Club.

This provides an opportunity for all members of the sub-Branch to relax with a drink and nibbles and solve the problems of the world. Those who are unable to attend the evening monthly meetings catch up on sub-Branch activities and enjoy companionship.

Upcoming Stand Easy meetings will be held on:  
20 August  
17 September  
15 October

## Epping RSL sub-Branch Formal Dinner Night 2025

At the end of World War II, conflict occurred in the Netherlands East Indies between the Netherlands colonial government and its military forces, and the Indonesian republicans. On 20 July 1947, the Netherlands initiated Operatie Product, a strong offensive designed to remove Republican forces from parts of Sumatra and East and West Java.

Many countries, including Australia, responded negatively to the Netherlands government's invasion of Republican territory. On 1 August, the United Nations (UN) called for a cease-fire between Netherlands and Republican forces to facilitate mediation.

On 4 August, a consular commission recommended its governments send personnel to monitor the cease-fire order. This has been described as the beginning of UN peacekeeping. In response, Australia sent 4 observers from each branch of its defence, who arrived in Java on 13 September.

On 14 September, the Australians became the world's first peacekeepers to be deployed into the field. Other nations participating in the mission included Belgium, Britain, China, France, and the United States. The mission contributed to Indonesia gaining independence from the Netherlands and marked the start of UN peacekeeping.

Each year on 14 September, National Peacekeepers' Day is observed. It commemorates the day Australia became the first nation to deploy peacekeepers into the field in the Netherlands East Indies (now Indonesia) in 1947.

Since 1947, tens of thousands of Australians have served as members of peacekeeping forces, and 16 have lost their lives. This day serves as an opportunity to acknowledge and remember their service and sacrifice.

As part of the 2025 National Peacekeepers commemorations, Epping RSL sub-Branch will hold a Formal Dinner Night at the Epping Club on Friday 12th September 2025. The dinner will be a formal event open to all Epping RSL sub-Branch members and invited guests. It will also facilitate interaction between Epping RSL sub-Branch members and both Regular and Army Reserve serving members based at Timor Barracks.

## **RAAF Base Richmond to celebrate 100 years with airshow**

Defence Media Release 20 June 2025

The Albanese Government is proud to announce that the RAAF Base Richmond will celebrate its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary with the RAAF Richmond Airshow at the base this September.

The local community and attendees will have the chance to experience the Air Force flying shows and ground exhibits showcasing Australian Defence Force capabilities and defence industry.

The Airshow will take place over the weekend of 27 and 28 September 2025.

Gates will open at 9.00am, with flying displays to be conducted from 11.00am to 4.30pm.

Tickets will go on sale by mid-August, with ticketing details to be announced shortly.

Further information is available at [www.airforce.gov.au/news-events/events/raaf-richmond-airshow-2025](http://www.airforce.gov.au/news-events/events/raaf-richmond-airshow-2025).

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incorrectly is the only word which, when spelled correctly, is spelled incorrectly.

Money isn't everything, but it certainly keeps you in touch with your children.

At any given moment the urge to sing "The Lion Sleeps Tonight" is just a whim away, a whim away, a whim away.

Never lie to an X-ray technician. They can see right through you.

Don't hate yourself in the morning - sleep till noon.

Never underestimate the power of stupid people in large groups.

Did you hear about the guy who had a personalised number plate BAA BAA? He had a black Jeep.

Can someone please tell me what the lowest rank in the Army is? Every time I ask someone, they say it's private.

## **Investiture of the Victoria Cross for Private Richard Norden**

Defence Media Release 15 July 2025

The Victoria Cross for Australia has been formally presented to the family of the late Private Richard Norden, in recognition for his bravery and dedication to service during the Vietnam War.

Private Norden's gallantry during the Battle of Fire Support Base Coral in Vietnam in 1968 has never been forgotten.

In November last year, Governor-General, the Honourable Ms Sam Mostyn AC announced that His Majesty The King had approved the awarding of the Victoria Cross for Australia for Private Norden.

Today at a special investiture ceremony in Rockhampton, Australia's highest military honour was presented to Private Norden's widow, Mrs Robynn Freeman.

The awarding of the Victoria Cross reflects Private Norden's courage and selflessness in the heat of battle.

On 14 May 1968, Private Norden's platoon came under heavy fire during the Battle of Fire Support Base Coral.

Using his initiative and demonstrating a depth of care for his fellow soldiers, Private Norden rescued a wounded soldier and recovered the body of another, with very little cover and under intense enemy fire.

Private Norden displayed a complete disregard for his own personal safety. His courage and selfless acts resulted in the enemy position being secured and likely saved the lives of many others on that day in 1968.

Private Norden died in the line of duty while serving as a member of the Australian Capital Territory Police in 1972.

Today marks an historic occasion for Australia and the Australian Defence Force and a particularly significant day for Private Norden's family.





Pictures Irene Rowe

Arr. John Curdie

## HEROES AMONGST US

### *Sacrificing all for the benefit of others*

Many Australians from our defence forces undertake their respective tasks for which they have been trained, completing their duties with little concern for self and with a firm focus for the welfare safety and comfort of others, these are unsung heroes who dwell among us. They are there in plain sight, their contribution to our nation not always recognised with big 'headlines' but quietly remembered by those that remain. They are also identified in those many names embossed on a Cenotaph, a RSL sub-Branch monument or on view on a polished wooden board mounted at the local village community centre. In our daily pursuits we so often pass by such a list of names, oblivious of their involvement in a cause which is part of our peace we enjoy.

In the Epping RSL sub-Branch Remembrance Room, in a far corner is a small display in the WW1 section, there recorded the life is one of our own, a heroine that made a momentous contribution to the care of frontline veterans, and in peacetime to her local community and the welfare of veterans of our sub-Branch. This young Australian nurse who responded to the call for frontline nursing in World War 1, undertook her responsibly in time of war and continued in peace, exerting her skills and empathy with a dedication and enthusiasm to the benefit of others.

This is an account of a women, while experiencing a personal sorrow that few of us may comprehend, served all to the end.

Evelyn Maud Reid, the daughter of Donald and Mary Agnes Smith, was born on 10th April 1879 in Fitzroy Melbourne. Photos of Evelyn are few We do not know a lot about her, but from her military records she was five feet six inches (167 cm) tall, with grey eyes, brown hair, and a medium complexion. After qualifying as a nurse in her early twenties, served for about 12 years in various hospitals in Victoria. She had two younger brothers, Lindsay and Mordaunt and a sister Eileen.



Sister Evelyn Maude REID

Following the outbreak of World War I in 1914 in December 1914, her younger brothers volunteered to serve in the First AIF. Having completed their basic training, Lindsay and Mordaunt were to become part of the thousands of Australian troops to be sent to the war in Europe, As history records those battalions of soldiers were offloaded at Egypt where they waited 'in limbo' awaiting a decision that was to be change in military tactics. , who eventually became part of thousands of young Aussies ,part of the invasion force that ANZAC Force , who landed on the Gallipoli Peninsula on 25th April 1915, at what is now known as Anzac. Cove

Sister Reid Attestation

At the outbreak of war, Evelyn, now a very experienced sister, and devoted to her 2 younger brothers, and wanting to contribute to the Australian Defence Force applied to serve. It was on 26th April 1915, at the age of 38, one day after that fateful landing, signed her Attestation Paper to serve in the Australian Imperial Force, to become a 'staff nurse' and inwardly hoping that she might meet with her two sibling brothers somewhere during the war. Evelyn was one of the 3000 nurses who volunteered to serve in the Australian Army Nursing Service

Evelyn now proudly a member of the Australian Army, did not learn until sometime later, that her brothers private Lindsay Reid of 7th Battalion and Lieutenant Mordaunt Reid of the 11th Battalion were both killed within 2 hours of the initial landing at Gallipoli on the 25th of April 1915, the day before she signed to

serve

Later in the year, 1915, Evelyn was posted to Egypt to the 1 Australian General Hospital which was the Heliopolis Palace Hotel on the outskirts of Cairo which had been converted to accommodate 2500 patients and then to the adjoining Hospital at Luna Park which had been converted to accommodate 1500 patients. These two hospitals treated the casualties from the campaign at Gallipoli.

By November 1915 she was located to England to serve at various military hospitals, thence re deployed to Rouen in France to serve at No 1 AGH which comprised huts and canvas tents constructed on the racecourse. Because of such minimum of protection from the weather the very severe Northern Winters inflicted hardship that the nursing staff and patients which only added to their suffering from war injuries.

After the cessation of the war Evelyn continued to serve the casualties of the war at various convalescent hospitals and was discharged from her Army service in January 1920 with the rank of Lieutenant.



Hotel at Heliopolis converted to AGH 1

She travelled back to Australia and there Evelyn, together with her sister-in-law, her late brother Mordant widow Pauline, another red cross nurse from her Egypt days and Evelyn's sister Eileen also an ex Australian Army Nursing Service established a post war private hospital in Sydney. There to treat the ex-service men arriving back home and in need of rehabilitation.

In 1919 the returning veterans of Epping form a 'club' which would become a sub-Branch of the RSL and in 1920 upon her return to Australia Evelyn joined that group and participated in all their many activities and commemorations. The activities of

the group would soon be involved with the young families of those WW1 diggers who had now established their homes and family in the district. Evelyn's nursing skills and empathy would be a comfort to those in need and she soon became a welfare organiser and confidant to those returning home with physical and mental injuries, a result of their service.

Evelyn never married and settled down in the Epping District when she purchased her home in Epping, at 221 Vimiera Road. Evelyn continued her involvement with the sub-Branch for the next 40 years until her passing in 1960.

At that time, Dr John Knight, a well-known philanthropist who was establishing the Vimiera Retirement Village, purchased her property as part of that development., a village that later was to provide accommodation for ex-service persons from the district,

Evelyn left clear instructions in her will that the proceeds of that sale was to become her bequest to the Epping RSL sub-Branch. That bequest was to be adapted to provide a welfare fund which from which to establish a nursing scholarship at Concord hospital which in those days was AGH 113, and at which, as an army nursing sister she was often involved.

In addition, that endowment was to provide a welfare fund, the interest from which was to assist sub-Branch veterans and their relatives in matters of welfare and assistance to their needs, help with pensions, or assistance in funerals. This fund was to come identified as Sister Reid Welfare Fund.



Sister Reid Rear row on right hand side at Trent Bridge Military Hospital Circa 1917

Up until 2022, the Epping RSL sub-Branch administered the income from that bequest to help our older veterans that were not travelling well and in need of a handout which to them became a hand up.

Evelyn Reid was an Australian woman, driven by a compassion for our Veterans and for fellow Australians. Evelyn respected her nation, was willing to serve and give of her compassion, talents, and time. Evelyn, like so many other Australian families because of that war,

suffered with the personal loss of loved ones. Evelyn, through all her personal sadness and provocation because of a war, was able to help others less fortunate than herself.

Evelyn is certainly one of the unsung Heroes, which to some may be seen just as a name on a plaque, but we identify her as a protagonist who has worked a lifetime in the service to others, a true example of serve above self ;our special Heroine Evelyn Reid

Lest we forget

John Curdie OAM

## ENGLISH AS SHE IS SPOKE

Having grown up with the English language I have no great difficulty in the use of words or particularly in their pronunciation. A newcomer to our language as they learn of the sounding of two vowels in a single syllable may have a confusion when confronted with some of the words in common usage especially involving a similar diphthong, but usage would have different sound and when coming across such words may be tempted to give up

I find many words in spelling and pronunciation would cause a confusion such as daughter and laughter, rounded and wounded, friend and fiend, tour and four, then there are such words as, though, through, plough, dough or cough followed by mint and pint, senate and sedate and again ear, wear and tear are confusing. With similar spelling but sounding different is police, lice and chalice.

But the diphthong in heart, beard and heard make for a difference of confusion in the spoken word while vicious and viscount sound so different with dull and bull so diverse a sound. While tomb, bomb and comb add to the confusion of a learner of the language. Mover, clover and cover could cause a confusion in the spoken word.

Whilst I have grown not understand such subtiles of our language, I become aware of the Irish appreciation of many medical terms such as medical staff refers to a doctor's walking stick, while nitrate is cheaper than day rate and tablet means a small table. Morbid is a higher offer, post operative is a letter carrier, and pelvis is a cousin of Elvis, tumor is more than one and prostate could mean to lie flat on the ground .and Urine is the opposite to you're out with a terminal illness is getting sick at the airport.

But some timely advice to authors of material to this noteworthy magazine remember subject and verb always has to agree and when dangling, watch your participles. It behooves the writer to avoid archaic expressions and avoid mixed metaphors are a pain in the neck and ought to be thrown out the window. please never split the infinitive avoid tautology, repetitive or redundant statements but the passive voice shoulnd't be used and don't use no double negatives.

Such are the tribulations of the moment perhaps the new world of 'AI' will make it all clear .

John Curdie OAM

## **A part of the history of the Epping RSL sub-Branch**

On Thursday July 31, 1919, a meeting of returned sailors and soldiers of Epping and district, was called to endeavour by means of an entertainment, to convey to members of patriotic organisations, the Diggers' appreciation of their work during the war years. This Meeting was held in the School of Arts.

After having dealt with matters concerning the Social Evening, the question of forming a Returned Soldiers Club was brought up. The Club was formed and held its first meetings in the basement of Cambria Hall. This was the Picture Show at that time but is now Woolworth's Chain Store. The basement had a dirt floor and was christened the "Dugout". As the Club became firmly established, they needed a piano for smoke concerts. An advertisement for a piano brought a response from Mr. Mortimore of Hillside Crescent, Eastwood who offered the Club a piano as a memorial to his son who had been killed in France. Members deeply appreciated this gift and placed a silver plate on the piano, commemorating the gift and the memory of Mr. Mortimore's son. The piano is still in use at the Branch.

As the Club grew in membership, their quarters in the basement of the Cambria Theatre were too small and a piece of land was looked for on which to build a hall. When the original subdivision of the Field of Mars was made, the Government reserved various blocks of land for public utilities, and the site selected was part of the land set aside for the Fire Brigade. This was on the corner of Oxford and Essex Streets and the Hall is on the western edge in Oxford Street. The price paid was 700 pounds. Later a Scouts Hall was built on Essex Street, and the corner was sold for four private houses. There is still a vacant

block next the R.S.L. Hall.

The Club held its first meeting in the New Hall on August 29, 1921, and on September 3, the Hall was officially opened by Major General Sir Granville Ryrie K.C.M.G.

A billiard table was installed on September 10. A concert party was formed and this used to give concerts to the different Soldiers' Hospitals and Homes. Some years later, the old hall was demolished and the present building in its place.

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This is an Extract from Walter G Hazlewood "History of Epping "

From this press statement it is noted that the veterans identified themselves as a club. While this "club" of veterans was later to become a sub-Branch of the NSW Branch of the Returned & Services League of Australia, the term club is often used when referring to the sub-Branch.

Following the time of the separation into separate activities, the charity (the sub-Branch) and the Epping Club (community owned) and whilst being 2 different and separate entities many still used the title 'club' incorrectly when referring to the sub- Branch

Further it should be noted that the fledgling "club" of veterans at their formation were aligned with the *Returned Sailors, Soldiers & Airmen's Imperial League of Australia*. In the early days of the formation of "clubs" of veterans there were several groupings of 'clubs' evolving. A few years later the Epping veterans left the *Returned Sailors, Soldiers & Airmen's Imperial League of Australia* and joined the emerging Australia wide organisation which was then known as the *Returned Services League Australia* to become a sub- Branch of its NSW Branch.

John Curdie

## **New resources for veterans living in aged care**

**DVA News 21 July 2025**

The veteran's guide to living in an aged care home is designed to assist and support veterans and families living in an aged care home.

The guide and related resources describe the support available for clients and their families through DVA, ex-service organisations and other advocacy services to enable them to live well when living in an aged care home.

The focus is on recognition, the importance of lifestyle, accessing clinically needed supports and remaining connected to friends, family and community when living in an aged care facility.

The guide and related resources include:

- information on developing care plans with your aged care provider
- accessing DVA supports and services that meet the client's needs
- resources to help aged care staff gain a better understanding of the veteran's or war widow(er)'s life experience
- a set of recognition products with a poppy motif that DVA clients can choose to display in their residential aged care home.

Designed in collaboration with aged care providers, peak bodies and those with lived experience, the guide is easy to read, informative and tailored specifically for the use of veterans, families and their carers.

In addition to the veteran's guide, DVA has also published resources to help residential aged care providers, and their teams better understand the unique needs of DVA clients, and the additional support that may be available to them.

The veterans guide will be mailed out to DVA Veteran Gold Card and Veteran White Card Holders living in residential aged care, along with a letter from the Repatriation Commissioner.

## **Victory in the Pacific Day Commemoration – 80th Anniversary**

On the morning of 15th August 1945, the Emperor of Japan announced that Japan would accept the Allies ultimatum to surrender.

For Australians, this meant the end of the Second World War. A war that had seen nearly 1 million Australians serve in the armed forces. Of those, over 30,000 Australians were taken prisoner and 39,000 did not return to their loved ones. Over 17,000 of them lost their lives while fighting in the war against Japan, some 8000 of whom died in Japanese captivity. A legacy which is still felt today.

80 years later, on 15 August 2025 join RSL NSW as we remember and respect all those Australians that served during the Second World War; those who gave the ultimate sacrifice; those who returned and were forever scarred; and those who cared for our veterans.

On VP Day, we remember Australia's war efforts from 1942 to 1945 in the Pacific region, including in Singapore, Borneo, Malaya, Papua, New Guinea and New Britain. It was a time when people worked hard and cooperated to defend the nation.

We commemorate those who served in the war.

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### **Exceptionally Bad Dad Jokes**

An invisible man marries an invisible woman,  
The kids were nothing to look at, either.

Why did the invisible man turn down the job offer?

He couldn't see himself doing it.

How many tickles does it take to make an octopus laugh?

Ten-tickles.

If your nose runs and your feet smell, you are built upside down!

## A RABBIT JOKE

A rabbit hops into a pub and asks the bartender, “Could I get a pint of beer and a Ham and Cheese Toastie?”

The bartender is taken aback but serves the rabbit his order. The rabbit enjoys his beer, devours the toastie, and then leaves.

The next night, the rabbit returns and once again requests a pint of beer and a Ham and Cheese Toastie. Word has spread, and the pub is buzzing with curious patrons. The bartender serves the rabbit, who eats and drinks before heading out.

By the third night, the pub is packed to the brim. As the rabbit walks in and orders his usual, the crowd falls silent in anticipation. The bartender hands over the pint and toastie, and the room erupts in applause as the rabbit finishes his meal and exits.

On the fourth night, there’s standing room only. People have travelled from far and wide just to witness this unusual guest. The bartender is making more money in a week than he did all of last year.

But when the rabbit walks in and asks for his usual, the bartender’s face falls. “I’m sorry, my friend,” he says, “but we’re all out of Ham and Cheese Toasties.”

The rabbit looks shocked, and the pub goes so quiet you could hear a pin drop. The bartender nervously offers, “But we do have a very nice Cheese and Onion Toastie. I promise you’ll love it.”

The rabbit eyes him carefully. “Are you sure?” he asks.

With a grin, the bartender replies, “I wouldn’t steer you wrong. Trust me, you’ll love it.”

“Alright,” says the rabbit, “I’ll have a pint of beer and a Cheese and Onion Toastie.”

The pub bursts into cheers as the rabbit enjoys his meal, waves to the crowd, and leaves... never to return.

A year later, the pub is in decline. The bartender, who has only served a handful of drinks that night—most of them to himself—calls last orders.

As he’s cleaning up, he notices a small white figure hovering above the bar.

“Who are you?” he asks.

“I’m the ghost of the rabbit who used to visit your pub,” comes the reply.

The bartender’s eyes widen. “I remember you! You made this place famous. Every night, you’d come in for a pint of beer and a Ham and Cheese oastie. People came from miles around just to see you.”

“Yes,” the rabbit says. “But I also remember that last night when you ran out of Ham and Cheese Toasties. You gave me a Cheese and Onion Toastie instead.”

“That’s right,” the bartender recalls. “But then you never came back. What happened?”

“I died,” says the rabbit.

The bartender gasps. “No! How?”

The rabbit pauses before replying, “Mixin’ me toasties.”

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Myxomatosis is a highly contagious and often fatal disease in rabbits caused by the myxoma virus. It’s characterized by swelling around the eyes, nose, and genitals, and can lead to blindness and breathing difficulties. It was introduced to Australia in the 1950s to control wild rabbit populations, but domestic rabbits are highly susceptible, with a very high mortality rate.

## Golden Kangaroos FREE Winter Concert

1:30 pm Sun. 3rd August 2025

The Epping Club, Rawson St Epping

### From the Music Director

Imagine yourself at base camp, preparing your final ascent to the summit. You've prepared well. You're ready.

That's the feeling in our Concert and Explorer Bands, just weeks out from the State Band Championships.

You are invited to join us at base camp at our free **Bold and Brassy** concert, 1:30pm on Sunday 3rd August at The Epping Club.

You'll be the first to hear **Concert Band** and **Explorer Band** perform their championship pieces, plus the premiere performance of our **2025 Discovery Band**, and our specialist small ensemble **Brass Bazaar**.

You'll Love This Program

### Concert Band highlights

- **An Australian Rhapsody** (Ralph Hultgren). The melancholy folk song Moreton Bay and almost frivolous Queensland Drover are the basis of this award-winning symphonic work.
- **Nimrod** (Elgar, arr. Alfred Reed). Glorious, moving, and resonant. A reflective moment of pure stillness.
- **Overture to Candide** (Bernstein, arr. Clare Grundman). A firecracker of a piece full of wit and daring. Contrasting rhythms and melodic conversations between sections, all at lightning speed!
- **Bach's Fantasia in C** (arr. Jordan Sterk). Originally for church organ, the band reaches across centuries to breathe life into this masterful work, with interweaving motifs and rich, satisfying cadences.

### Explorer Band Highlights

- **Tales of the Sea** (Tim Ferrier) A rollicking maritime journey that sways and like the open ocean. It makes us feel a bit piratey.
- **Portraits of the Northern Beaches** (Tim Rowland) Atmospheric musical sketches of our own backyard. It even includes a ride on a ferry.
- **Fires of Mazama** (Calvin Custer) depicts the eruption of a volcano in Oregon 7,000 years ago.

### More highlights

- Our 2025 Discovery Band makes its debut at this concert, and they'd love your support as they start their own musical journey.
- And featuring specialist small ensemble Brass Bazaar. Known for their clever arrangements, this group of brass-wielding showstoppers always brings flair, fun, and just the right amount of tongue-in-cheek. Not to be missed.

### Bring the Family

This concert is free and totally family-friendly. There's a raffle and craft to buy and a musical adventure to be had. I can't wait to share it with you.

Stephen O'Doherty OAM, Music Director