



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



Vol 24 No5

October-December 2021

**President:** John K Curdie OAM.  
45-47 Rawson Street, Epping 2121

**Treasurer:** Les Rowe

**Secretary:** John Prestidge RFD ED  
Telephone 02 9868 3272

### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



#### COVID

For almost two years we have experienced the effects of the invisible COVID monster and its variants, the last of which is the Delta Strain. The enforced isolation with nil social contact has affected us all. The adaptations to our way of life caused by such control of its contagious pattern have had monumental affect upon us all and the way we approach daily routines.

This enforced social disconnection has awakened our appreciation of how we undertake our daily tasks and the issues that are important to us. In so many situations the social world we knew a few years ago has changed forever.

The ramifications of this virus have not only affected us personally even the interplay of rights and responsibilities and rights of the sovereign states of the Federation. This continuous control of cross contamination of this virus has caused a tension that far exceeds the old friendly rivalry that we used to witness between interstate sporting events. The closure of state borders has driven a wedge into the concept of a nation comprised of a federation of cooperating and compliant states.

This viral control has changed international relationships as each country has in place its own requirements and expectations to safeguard the health of their population. In this period, we have witnessed significant changes within nations of the world. The recent dramatic withdrawal of last of the American forces from Afghanistan has caused a concern for the balance of world power and the might of a peaceful response to the terrorist elements within the world.

China's changeable attitude to other nations, manifesting in attempts to restrict navigation along international sea lanes, of trading constraints imposed in response to a perceived diplomatic slight, or territorial claims of Taiwan, all have increased tensions to a serious level, a tinder box of unrest not unlike the event in the 1930's prior to WW2.

#### AUKUS

The recent announcement in September by our Prime Minister, Scott Morrison, of the newly formed alliance known as AUKUS Treaty, has resulted in a dramatic change in our nation's defence posture. This new strategy will replace the ANZAS Policy which has been a part of the Australian Defence structure for the past 7 decades. This treaty involves Great Britain and the United States of America alongside Australia in a defence profile that will influence the Indo-Pacific region.

Not only does this AUKUS involve a nuclear-powered submarine thus replacing the proposed diesel submarine which required a non-sustainable form of energy, but also embraces access to the latest military knowhow of USA and the UK. The long-term effect of this new alliance importantly places Australia as a focused player in the security of the Indo Pacific Area of the world. In addition, Australia is one of "The Spirit of the Quad," along with Japan, India, and USA.

Australia is no stranger to upholding the peace while having to respond in situations of routing odds. With a history of punching above our weight, nationally we have a reputation of taking the challenge that will be part of tomorrow.

Times are a changing. Post COVID will be a new and different world.

*John K Curdie* OAM sub-Branch President

## MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

**VALE**

**“WE WILL REMEMBER THEM”**

During the months of July-September 2021, advice has been received of the passing of the following members:

NAME	RANK	SERVICE	UNIT	SERVICE NUMBER	DATE JOINED	DATE DECEASED
<b>GRIFFIN</b> Robert					19/04/1971	12/08/2020
<b>ANDREWS</b> William Henry	PTE	ARMY	HQ 4 AUST BASE SUB AREA	NX155521 (N167673)	18/03/1963	22/12/2017
<b>FERNS</b> Robert Spencer	CPL	ARMY	30 AUST INF BN	NX147450 (N18155)	08/01/1980	28/06/2021
<b>MOIR</b> Colin	FLTLT	RAAF	24 SQUADRON	411459	01/01/1947	20/04/2021
<b>MILLER</b> Robert Bruce Croix de Guerre Légion d'Honneur	FLGOFF	RAAF	1651 CONVERSION UNIT	423155	01/03/1978	10/07/2021 (date published SMH)
<b>BROWN</b> Charles Henry OAM ED	MAJ	ARMY	HQ 9 TPT COLUMN	2132423 (VX116462)	09/01/1946	30/08/2021
<b>KIRSTEN</b> Steven	LCPL	UK ARMY	ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS	11130	29/04/2000	?/09/2020

### Why is Remembrance Day special to Australians?

At 11 am on 11 November 1918 the guns on the Western Front fell silent after more than four years of continuous warfare. The allied armies had driven the German invaders back, having inflicted heavy defeats upon them over the preceding four months. In November the Germans called for an armistice (suspension of fighting) in order to secure a peace settlement. They accepted allied terms that amounted to unconditional surrender.

In the four years of the war more than 330,000 Australians had served overseas, and more than 60,000 of them had died. The social effects of these losses cast a long shadow over the postwar decades.

The 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month attained a special significance in the post-war years. The moment when hostilities ceased on the Western Front became universally associated with the remembrance of those who had died in the war. This first modern world conflict had brought about the mobilisation of over 70 million people and left between 9 and 13 million dead, perhaps as many as one-third of them with no known grave. The allied nations chose this day and time for the commemoration of their war dead.

On the first anniversary of the armistice in 1919 two minutes' silence was instituted as part of the main commemorative ceremony at the new Cenotaph in London. King George V personally requested all the people of the British Empire to suspend normal activities for two minutes on the hour of the armistice "which stayed the worldwide carnage of the four preceding years and marked the victory of Right and Freedom". The two minutes' silence was popularly adopted and it became a central feature of commemorations on Armistice Day.

After the end of the Second World War, the Australian and British governments changed the name to Remembrance Day. Armistice Day was no longer an appropriate title for a day which would commemorate all war dead.

In 1997, Governor-General Sir William Deane issued a proclamation formally declaring 11 November to be Remembrance Day, urging all Australians to observe one minute's silence at 11 am on 11 November each year to remember those who died or suffered for Australia's cause in all wars and armed conflicts.

*Australian War Memorial*



## EPPING RSL SUB-BRANCH

### **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY: OCTOBER 2021 – JANUARY 2022**

*All meetings subject to COVID-19 rules and restrictions*

#### **OCTOBER 2021**

<b>Monday 04</b>	<b>Labour Day Public Holiday</b>	
Monday 11	Epping RSL sub-Branch Committee Meeting	0930
Monday 25	Epping RSL sub-Branch Monthly General Meeting	1930
Tuesday 26	RSL Senior Members Association Committee Meeting	1030

#### **NOVEMBER 2021**

<b>Monday 01</b>	RSL Senior Members Association Meeting	1400
<b>Tuesday 02</b>	<b>MELBOURNE CUP</b>	
Saturday 06	RSL <del>Old and Bold Association</del> Stand Easy	1100
Monday 08	Epping RSL sub-Branch Committee Meeting	0930
Thursday 11	REMEMBRANCE DAY Boronia Park Wreath Laying	Assemble 1030
Friday 12	The Epping Club Directors Elections	1200-2000
Saturday 13	The Epping Club Directors Elections	1200-2000
Tuesday 16	RSL Senior Members Association Christmas Luncheon	1200
Monday 29	Epping RSL sub-Branch Monthly General Meeting	1930
Tuesday 30	RSL Senior Members Association Committee Meeting	1030

#### **DECEMBER 2021**

Saturday 04	RSL Stand Easy	1100
Tuesday 07	RSL Senior Members Association Meeting	1400
Sunday 12	Epping RSL sub-Branch Christmas Luncheon	1200
Monday 13	Epping RSL sub-Branch Committee Meeting	0930

#### **JANUARY 2022**

Saturday 01	<b>NEW YEARS DAY</b>	
Monday 10	Epping RSL sub-Branch Committee Meeting	0930
Monday 31	Epping RSL sub-Branch Monthly General Meeting	1930

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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 31 January 2022 are required before Wednesday 19 January 2022. 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 HOSPITAL/AGED CARE VISITATIONS**

The members listed below perform a great service to the sub-Branch by maintaining close liaison with members when they are not well, and when they have to go to hospital. Mainly though they maintain regular contact with those with more extended problems who spend time in Care Facilities etc.

### ***SUSPENSION OF VISITING DUE TO CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC***

Sadly, in mid-March 2020 it became necessary to suspend our visiting programme due to the impact of the Covid-19 Coronavirus Pandemic on our country. Care facilities and hospitals went into lockdown. Also, importantly, we do not want to put our visiting team at any personal risk. Resulting from the recent significant growth in double vaccinations the situation is now looking more promising and although we do not know when we shall be able to resume visiting, we are continuing to publish our normal roster so that when clearance is finally given our team members will be aware of when they may be called upon.

### **Roster for the Period: November 2021 – January 2022**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Telephone Number</u>	<u>Week Commencing</u>
Ian Kirkham	9876 6075	7 November
Bob Kenyon	9869 2228	14 November
Jeanette Swan	0408 485 504	21 November
Allan Lotfizadeh	0414 411 565	28 November
Jennifer Sforcina	9801 1842	5 December
Henry Jones	9858 4857	12 December
Paul Kim	0412 462 446	19 December
Ian Kirkham	9876 6075	26 December
Bob Kenyon	9869 2228	2 January
Jeanette Swan	0408 485 504	9 January
Allan Lotfizadeh	0414 411 565	16 January
Jennifer Sforcina	9801 1842	23 January
Henry Jones	9858 4857	30 January

### **Home Contacts and Funerals – Robin Cummins, Welfare Officer - 9680 4865**

It would be appreciated if members when discharged would notify the Welfare Officer (9680 4865) to avoid the Visiting Team making unnecessary trips. Remember some places involve travelling considerable distances. Additions to the team are always welcome.

## SENIOR MEMBERS ASSOCIATION

President: Merrill Prestidge      Vice President: Margaret Cummins      Secretary: Margaret Cummins  
Treasurer: Deirdre Curdie      Tours coordinator: Don and Brenda Greentree  
Committee Members: Don Campton, Don Greentree, Brenda Greentree, Gavin Nell and Les Rowe.

Hi Everyone,

Hope this finds you all hale and hearty.

All being well we will be able to meet on November the 1st November (due to Melbourne Cup) and then again on the 16th of November for our Christmas Luncheon.

The criteria for attending the Club is to show proof of double vaccination and sign in (if you haven't got a QR code on your phone the Staff will assist).

All trips for this year have been cancelled.

Hoping to see all your smiling faces in November 2021.

Regards

Merrill Prestidge,  
President

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## ~~OLD & BOLD ASSOCIATION STAND EASY~~

Previously the sub-Branch supported an activity entitled *The Old and Bold* which had a format structured for a social structure of yesteryear. The *Stand Easy* has been restructured to meet the needs of the society of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

Stand Easy, sponsored by the Epping RSL sub-Branch, is part of this Branch's social networking programs. Stand Easy is an opportunity for all sub-Branch veterans and members to meet and whilst enjoying a social drink and partaking some nibbles recount their experiences or memories of other times and situations.

Stand Easy meets on the first Saturday of the month in the Sports Bar Area of The Epping Club commencing at 1100 hrs and concludes about 1300 hrs.

Stand Easy meeting on a Saturday provides an opportunity for those veterans and members who work during the week and who cannot make time for a daytime meeting during the week.

*John Curdie*, Epping RSL sub-Branch President

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## AUSTRALIAN WAR WIDOWS N.S.W. LTD

Co-ordinator: Heather Gillam 9876 3588  
Barbara Bell  
Treasurer: Heather Gillam  
Meetings: First Monday in month at 10.30 a.m.  
November 1  
December Christmas Luncheon

**These meetings are subject to COVID-19 public health orders.**



**VALE Charles Henry Brown OAM ED** Died 30th August 2021 aged 98 years.



Charles was born in Carlton Victoria on 30th July 1923. He served full time in the Citizen Military Forces from 1941 to 1942. As a nineteen-year-old young man, whilst serving in the CMF and at the Mordialloc enlistment centre on the 15th of

September 1942, he volunteered for service in Australian Army.

His first posting was to the 64th Australian Mobile Search light Battery, then in 1945 transferred to the 2/5 Australian Field Ambulance. His overseas deployments included battle sites in Morotai and Balikpapan.

Following his discharge in January 1946 he joined the RSL and served firstly part time and later fulltime in the CMF being involved in the 12th Company RASC, Headquarters 5 Task Force, 38 Air Dispatch Platoon and Headquarters 8 Supply Transport Column. Charles was awarded the Efficiency Decoration and in 1953 he was invited to be part of the Australian contingent at the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II.

In 1956 Charles joined the Epping RSL sub-Branch and was a member of the Epping RSL Club. Since that he has held various offices with RSL; at one time vice-President of the sub-Branch and the delegate to RSL NSW District meetings and the Annual General Meeting and Congress of the League. Charles was also a driving force in another of the sub-Branch activities, the RSL Travel Club. Charles arranged group travel to members of the sub-Branch to destinations across Australia as well as some venues overseas. Charles worked for the community outside of the sub-Branch being at one time a district commissioner of scouts.

Following the separation of the ownership and management of The Epping Club from the RSL sub-Branch Charles served on the Board of the Epping Club for 17 years and as its chairman for 14 years. It was during his terms of office that he was involved in the sale of the original club site in Oxford Street and the purchase of the site in Rawson Street as well as the construction of the new Club Building.

In 2000 Charles Brown was awarded the OAM in recognition of his service to the RSL; the citation reads in part for *service to veterans and their families, particularly through the Epping sub-Branch of the Returned and Services League of Australia, and to youth.*

Charles was appointed to be a trustee of the Epping RSL sub-Branch where he served with other trustees Phil Short and Ken Nicholls. Charles was involved in the team charged with restructuring the sub-Branch investments, comprising two real estate properties, transferring these assets into a diversified portfolio of corporate securities.

Charles was awarded Life Membership of the Epping RSL sub-Branch and later awarded the honour of Life Membership of the Returned and Services League of Australia.

In recognition of Charles Brown's lifetime of service, the RSL awarded him its highest honour The Meritorious Service Medal.



The history of the Epping RSL sub-Branch records the great efforts and sacrifices, the contribution to its heritage through the life of **Charles Henry Brown OAM ED**

*John Curdie*

## **SUB-BRANCH ACTIVITIES**

### **COMMEMORATION**

**Anzac Sunday Service**

**25 April Anzac Day Dawn Service**

**15 August VP Day**

**11 November Remembrance Day**

### **SUB-BRANCH MONTHLY MEETINGS**

Are held at 1930 on the last Monday of each month.

Contact: John Prestidge, Secretary, Ph 9868 3272 (sub-Branch Office), 9871 1617 (Home)

### **SENIOR MEMBERS ASSOCIATION**

Meetings are held at 1400 on the first Tuesday of each month.

Outings and functions are usually conducted on the second Tuesday of alternate months.

Membership is available to all financial members of the Epping RSL sub-Branch, their spouses, and the widows and widowers of ex-service personnel who were eligible to join the Epping RSL sub-Branch.

Contact: Margaret Cummins, Secretary, Ph 9680 4865

### **OLD & BOLD STAND EASY**

Meetings are held at 1100 on the first Saturday of each month commencing 6 March 2021..

Membership is available to all financial members of the Epping RSL sub-Branch.

Contact: Secretary Allan Lotfizadeh, phone 96520590

**VISITORS & THE WIVES & FRIENDS OF MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND ALL MEETINGS**

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### **IMPORTANT DISCLAIMER**

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## EPPING RSL SUB-BRANCH DIRECTORY 2021

<b>SUB-BRANCH COMMITTEE</b>	<b>Sub-Branch Office</b>	9868 3272
	<b>President</b>	John Curdie
	<b>Vice-Presidents</b>	Brian Swan
		David Taylor
	<b>Secretary</b>	John Prestidge
	<b>Treasurer</b>	Les Rowe
	<b>Welfare Officer</b>	Robin Cummins
	<b>Pensions Officer</b>	Barry Hoschke
	<b>Membership Co-Ord.</b>	Alan Sullivan
	<b>Ceremonial</b>	Brian Swan
	<b>Memorabilia</b>	Allan Lotfizadeh
	<b>Youth Club Liaison</b>	John Prestidge
	<b>Trustees</b>	John Goddard
		Max Falconer
Gordon Johnstone		
<b>Routine Orders Editor</b>	Barry Hoschke	
<b>SENIOR MEMBERS ASSN.</b>	<b>President</b>	Merril Prestidge
	<b>Vice President</b>	Margaret Cummins
	<b>Secretary</b>	Margaret Cummins
	<b>Treasurer</b>	Deirdre Curdie
	<b>Tours Coordinators</b>	Don and Brenda Greentree
		Don Campton
	<b>Committee</b>	Brenda Greentree
		Don Greentree
Gavin Nell		
Les Rowe		
<b>OLD &amp; BOLD STAND EASY</b>	<b>Patron</b>	John Curdie
	<b>Secretary</b>	Allan Lotfizadeh
<b>YOUTH CLUB</b>	<b>President</b>	John Coyne
	<b>Secretary</b>	Michael Hines
	<b>Treasurer</b>	Hugh McMullan