

RSL PFH DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2022

The events, meetings, and services I have attended in the last month are as follows:

1. I participated in a Mates4Mates Board meeting on Thursday 3 February by TEAMS.
2. Together with the District Treasurer, Rob Clelland, I travelled to Mackay and worked in the District Office on Monday 7 and Tuesday 8 February with the District Secretary in preparing the 2022 District financial budget.
3. On Thursday 10 February I participated in a special RSLQ Board meeting via TEAMS.
4. On Friday 11 February I participated in an RSLQ Investment Committee meeting via TEAMS.
5. On Sunday 23 January, I attended an Emu Park RSL Sub Branch general meeting.
6. I travelled to Brisbane to attend RSLQ Audit & Risk Committee meeting on Tuesday 22 February, District Presidents' meeting on Wednesday 23 February, and RSLQ Board meeting on Thursday 24 February.
7. I travelled to Mackay to attend and chair a District Executive meeting on Saturday 26 February.
8. On Sunday 27 February, I attended the Emu Park Sub Branch AGM meeting.
9. On Monday 28 February, I attended the AGM of the Emu Park Sub Branch Women's Auxiliary and presented a Gold Badge of Life Membership to an Auxiliary member.

District President's Voluntary Hours and Kilometers Travelled Statistics

February 2022

Voluntary Hours	156.0
Kilometers Travelled	1864
Nights Away from Home	5

The Gold Badge of Life Membership - Gloria Dwyer

I had the pleasure and honour to present an RSL National Gold Badge of Life Membership to Gloria at the Emu Park RSL Sub Branch Women's Auxiliary AGM on Sunday 27 February in recognition of her outstanding service to the Women's Auxiliary at the Sub Branch.

Details of Gloria's voluntary service to the Women's Auxiliary at the Sub Branch follows:

- Gloria joined the Auxiliary in 2002.
- She had just stood down as the President of the Auxiliary at the AGM.
- Gloria served as President from 2007 to 2010, 2013 to 2016, and again in 2020 to 2022.
- She was also the Treasurer from 2004 to 2006 and a Committee member for 6 years while not an Executive member.
- Over these years, she has volunteered many hours:
 1. Looking after her Auxiliary members and has regularly visited elderly and infirmed members of the Sub Branch and Emu Park community.
 2. Providing support, with her members, to the Sub Branch with the running of ANZAC Day, Remembrance Day, and other Sub Branch functions.
 3. Fundraising for the Auxiliary and Sub Branch.



I am sure you will all join with me in congratulating Gloria on being awarded a Gold Badge of Life Membership by RSL National.

A thing to note is that Gloria's husband Darryl, who has been the Sub Branch President for the last 3 years, received his life membership award last year. This is the first time I have seen a husband and wife both being awarded life membership in the District.

Grant Fundraising

Deborah Scott-Ranson was appointed to the position of Fundraising Manager Network within the RSL Queensland Membership & Network Department at the beginning of 2021.

Since her appointment, Deb has worked tirelessly to network with the Sub Branches and in that time has:

- Provided details of the various grants available to the Sub Branches.
- Visited Sub Branches to discuss their funding needs and encouraged them to submit grant applications.
- Provided assistance to the Sub Branches with their applications and enhanced the submissions where necessary.

In July 2021, Deb was invited to the District Council meeting in Finch Hatton, at which she made a presentation to delegates on fundraising and she outlined how she could help the Sub Branches.

A number of the District Sub Branches engaged with Deb and as a result, a number of applications for funding have been submitted.

This effort is now starting to bear fruit with the following results:

Finch Hatton Sub Branch

The Sub Branch has been successful in receiving a grant for \$24,869.24 from the Gambling Community Benefit Fund to install a digital sign.

Marian Sub Branch

The Sub Branch has been successful in receiving a grant for \$32,255.00 from the Gambling Community Benefit Fund to air-condition the Community Memorial Hall in Marian.

With the help of Deb, a number of grant applications have also been made by other Sub Branches in the District and the outcome is awaited.

I commend the Sub Branches who have worked with Deb to obtain funding grants and I encourage Sub Branches who have not done so, to seek her counsel if they are considering to apply for a funding grant.

On behalf of the District, I thank Deb for all the work she has done in helping our Sub Branches with their fundraising.

PFH District Matters

Recent 2022 District Meetings

District Executive

A meeting was held on Saturday 26 February.

District Council

The first meeting for 2022 will be held in conjunction with the AGM on Saturday 26 March.

Meetings Dates for 2022

District Council

26 March - Mackay Harrup Park (to be held in conjunction with AGM)
21 May - Gracemere
16 July - Walkerston
17 September - Yeppoon
19 November - Clermont

The following positions:

District President
Vice President (1)

will be filled at the AGM on Saturday 26 March and nominations closed on 26 February 2022. A nomination for each position has been received.

District Executive

26 February
30 April
2 July
27 August
29 October

Winding up of Sarina Sub Branch

At the AGM of the Sarina Sub Branch held on Saturday 25 July 2020, regrettably members took the hard decision to wind up the Sub Branch due to insolvency matters and this is proceeding.

RSL members in the Sarina area wish to open a new Sub Branch entity once the winding up is approved by the court and at the December 2020 meeting, the RSL Queensland Board gave approval in principle for the establishment of a new Sub Branch in Sarina.

I attended a meeting of Sarina RSL members on Sunday 14 February 2021 at which a Steering Group was elected to prepare for the establishment of the new Sub Branch.

The decision of the court in relation to winding up of Sub Branch/Club has taken considerable time and I have requested McKays Solicitors to provide me with a briefing on where matter is at. McKays Solicitors have failed to meet my request and I have ask our legal people in RSL Queensland to contact them to establish where matter is at.

Amalgamation of the Two Rockhampton Sub Branches

At RSL Queensland Board meeting held on Thursday 22 April 2021, it was decided that:

1. Members of the Rockhampton Combined Services Sub Branch be given the option to transfer their membership to the Capricornia & Rockhampton Region Sub Branch or a Sub Branch of their choice.
2. The Rockhampton Combined Services Sub Branch is to be wound up and any surplus funds after the wind up, will be transferred to the Capricornia & Rockhampton Region Sub Branch.

The transfer of members of the Rockhampton Combined Services Sub Branch to the Capricornia & Rockhampton Region Sub Branch has taken place.

Steps are now being taken to wind up the Rockhampton Combined Services Sub Branch and I have asked our legal people in RSL Queensland to assist with this matter.

State Board Meeting and Related Matters

The last RSL Queensland Board meeting was held on Thursday 24 February.

Appointment of CEO

Our new State President, Major General Stephen Day DSM AO, announced on Friday 11 February that the Board had appointed Robert Skoda to the RSL Queensland CEO position.

Robert has been the Interim CEO since the resignation of Melanie Wilson in September last year.

I have worked with Rob since he commenced with RSL Queensland in 2016 and I welcome his appointment. He is a younger veteran, is highly skilled and motivated, and has a passionate commitment to the RSL and helping veterans.

I have congratulated Rob on behalf of the District.

Skilled Based Board

The message I have got from our new State President is that he sees the establishment of a skills based Board for RSL Queensland as a high priority and will work with the Board to try and convince the membership of the need to change our constitution in this regard

Member Value Proposition (MVP)

Given that the 2021 draft constitution failed to receive the approval of two-thirds of the AGM delegates votes at the 2021 AGM, the MVP proposal will not proceed.

PBI Tax Status

Given that the 2021 draft constitution failed to receive the approval of two-thirds of the AGM delegates votes at the 2021 AGM resulting in the rejection of amendment to the RSL objects, an application to the ACNC for PBI status will not proceed.

On Going Matters and Reminders

District Website/Facebook

Website address is www.rslpfdistrict.org.au

Sub-branches are encouraged to keep providing details of events, photographs, etc to Vice President, Phil Luzzi, or District Secretary, Lynette Phillips, for placing on the district website and facebook page.

Dental & Allied Health Program

The program will continue in 2022 and has been budgeted for accordingly.

For 2022 year to date, 10 applications have been approved at a cost of \$2,685.35: Dental \$879.35, Hearing \$1,000.00, and Optical \$806.00.

LiveLife Alarms Program

The program will continue in 2022 and has been budgeted for accordingly.

For 2021 year to date, 0 new alarms were issued, 7 recharged and 0 replaced, at a cost of \$315.00.

Sub-Branch Presidents are reminded to keep an eye out for members who would benefit from the program.

District PAWS Coordinator

The District PAWS Coordinator, Phil Luzzi, is in the process of organising training courses that will provide a First Aid & Defib certificates for Sub Branch members and has contacted a number of Sub Branches regarding member interest in doing the course.

Donations to Mates4Mates

The District made a donation of \$5,000 to Mates4Mates in 2021.

Given that Mates4Mates will now operate under RSL Queensland, it has been decided that no further donations will be made.

Gallipoli Medical Research Foundation (GMRF)

The District made a donation of \$5,000 to GMRF in 2021.

It is proposed that a further donation be made to GMRF in 2022 and will be budgeted for accordingly.

RSL Queensland has donated considerable funds to GMRF over recent years to enable the completion of the Vietnam Veterans PTSD study. Further, State is also funding a current study regarding the transition of servicemen and women from the Defence Force to civilian life.

Sub-Branches are encouraged to consider donating to GMRF if they are in a position to do so as it would be worthy welfare spending.

District Charitable Objects Fund

The fund will continue in 2022 with a further \$100,000 of funds being allocated by RSL Queensland to the District.

In 2022 year to date, 2 applications from the Sub Branches were approved at a cost of \$14,265.00. When we add in the spending in relation to the District's Dental and Allied Health Subsidy Program and the Live Life Alarms Program, \$17,265.35.00 of the fund has been spent in 2022.

Please note that applications are limited to a maximum amount of \$10,000 and applications cannot be retrospective.

All applications need to be on the application form and be in accordance with the guidelines. Sub-Branches need to ensure they familiarize themselves with this documentation before an application is made.

Sub-branches are encouraged to come up with worthy projects and apply for funding. You need to sell your proposal in the application.

Sub-Branch Support Program

Funding will be available in 2022 through this program for those Sub-Branches in financial need.

For 2022 year to date, no applications have been approved.

Please refer to program policy and guidelines. An application needs to be made on application form.

2022 Cadet Funding

State Branch will provide further funding of \$27,000 for 2022.

Applications through the Sub Branches will close in early June in time for the District Executive to review applications at their June meeting and make recommendations for the approval at the July District Council meeting.

Emergency Welfare

A budget allocation will be made in 2022 for emergency welfare spending.

In 2022 year to date, \$2,310.00 has been spent helping veterans in the District.

President's Message for the Month

Sub Branches will be in the process of conducting their 2022 AGMs. The District will strive to have a District Executive member at the AGMs. However, this may not be always possible, and I apologise for this. If you need any advice in regard the running of your AGM, then please contact me or the District Secretary, Lynette.

As you are aware, I have not renominated for the District President position and the District will have a new President after the District AGM on Saturday 26 March. I will always have an affinity with the District, and the Sub Branches I visited during my time as your President, and I will miss this connection immensely.

While I will automatically relinquish my position as a Director of RSL Queensland as I will not be a District President, I have advised the new State President, Major General Stephen Day DSO AM, that I am prepared to continue to serve RSL Queensland in my roles as:

- A Director of Mates4Mates
- The Chair of the Audit & Risk Committee
- A member of the Investment Committee

if the RSL Queensland Board approves.

I look forward to catching up with a number of you at the District AGM.

Remember, the District is the linchpin between RSL Queensland and the Sub Branches and we are here to help in any way we can.

Kindest regards

Barry Vains OAM

District President

The Last Post

Membership ID	First Name	Last Name	Date of Birth	Owner	Last Financial	Deceased Date	Membership Type
1020176	David	Busst	19/10/1937	Emerald Sub Branch Inc.	SMLIFE	10/02/2022	Service Member
1015483	Kenneth	Willan	8/03/1925	Sarina Sub Branch Inc.	SMLIFE	2/02/2022	Service Member