

## District Matters

The district has organised new stationary & upgrading existing policies & procedures.

The Allied Health Program has been recently amended and the District Secretary can provide a copy of the procedures and application form or it can be found on the district website.

The executive shirts have also arrived and in the process of be distributed.

The honour board for the district office has also been upgraded to reflect the name change.

The district office rebranding will continue & I will continue to upgrade our web site.

## District AGM >23 March 2024

On the 23 March the RSL CQ AGM was held at Gracemere Sub Branch and the dinner was held at Rocky Sports Club.

The Mayor of Rockhampton Regional Council Councillor Tony Williams formally opened the AGM.

Invited guests who attended the functions were Mrs Wendy Taylor (Deputy President, State Branch)

Mr John Stock (General Manager of League Services, State Branch)

Mr Iain Carty (State Secretary, State Branch)

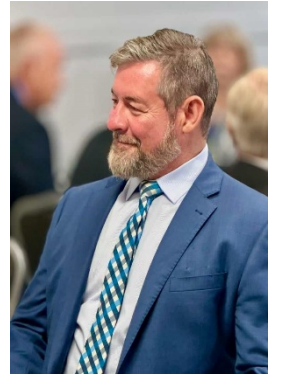
Mr Neville Tarry (District President, Wide Bay Burnett District)

Mr Mark Orreal (District President, Brisbane North)

Mr Merv Brown OAM (Brisbane North)

Mr John Felton (President of young veterans, Wide Bay Burnett District and Guest Speaker for the evening.





## **Mr Noel Mallyon (President of RSL Emerald Sub Branch)**

It was an absolute honour to present Noel with the Meritorious Medal Award and read out his Citation.

I have added Noel's Citation for all members to read as this gentleman has dedicated forty years of service to assist veterans and families in his district.

### **Citation for Meritorious Medal Award**

**NAME:** Noel Marcus MALLYON

**SERVICE DETAILS:**

1. Royal Australian Navy
2. Able Seaman Quarter master gunner;1966-71.
3. Served Vietnam 1967 with Vietnam Logistic Support as well as FESR (Far East Strategic Reserve)
4. 1969 again served with FESR;
5. Sept 1969-Sept 1970 served at remote Naval base at Manus Island.

**AWARDS:**

- RAS badge (Returned from Active Service)
- Australian Active Service Medal with clasp Vietnam
- Vietnam Logistic medal
- Australian Service Medal 1945-75 with clasps FESR & PNG
- Australian Defense Medal
- Post RAN awarded Queens Centenary Medal for community service including RSL.

**LEAGUE BADGE NUMBER:** QL4732

**NOMINATING SUB BRANCH:** Emerald

**DISTRICT:** Central QLD District

**MEMBERSHIP DETAILS:** Joined 1980

**RSL SERVICE:**

**SUB BRANCH:** **Emerald Sub Branch**

President 1994 - CURRENT

Vice President – 1981-1994

Delegate 2015- CURREN

Board Member 1979-1981

Acting Secretary and Treasurer at various times over the past 40 years

**WELFARE AND PENSION WORK**

Over the years, Noel with the support of his wife Margaret has visited members and families when in ill health and provided support when required. He has also referred members requiring welfare and/or pensions assistance to the District Pensions

& Welfare Officers (VSO's) and accompanied them when they visit members in Emerald. He and his wife Margaret have sent food parcels to serving members they know in Afghanistan for some years. Over the years as President, Noel has conducted poppy services for deceased members when requested by their families. The Sub Branch has participated with teams in the Central Highlands Relay for Life which raises funds for cancer research and Noel has participated with the teams. Noel has actively encouraged providing support to local war widows with a view to providing on the ground support, with a successful morning tea being provided in 2021. More morning teas are planned. Noel has recently arranged for additional welfare services to a member who had suffered a stroke some years ago and these extra benefits will make a difference.

Through Noel's persistence, the Sub Branch has had the VSOs to Emerald in the past two years to provide support to members.

### **FUNDRAISING**

Noel's wife Margaret has been the main fundraiser for the Sub Branch over many years with Noel's support. Now that he has retired from the workforce, Noel also assists Margaret on the stalls that sell merchandise & poppies. These stalls are conducted before Anzac Day and Remembrance Day each year and as well as raising funds, provides a face for the Sub Branch and community engagement.

### **COMMUNITY SERVICE**

Noel was selected by the former Emerald Shire Council as a baton bearer for the Emerald area for the 2000 Olympics and was chosen as the last carrier after which celebrations were held in Emerald. He & wife Margaret were very involved for many years with the Little Athletics in Emerald. Noel was an active member of the Emerald Lions Club for some years but retired from the club when work commitments made it hard for him to provide support & attend meetings. In 2006, Noel was invited by the former Emerald Shire Council to be a community member on the Egerton Street Revitalisation project steering committee which included an upgrade to the Cenotaph area. Noel's input was highly regarded by the Council and the outcomes from the whole project were supported by the community.

### **OTHER RELEVANT COMMENTS**

- **Commemorative & Patriotic** – Noel has conducted the Emerald Anzac Day, Vietnam Veteran's Day & Remembrance Day services since taking over as President in 1994 and always provides a professional & appropriate approach. Each year he is a guest speaker at one or more of the local schools' Anzac services. He was heavily involved with the recent re-display of the Sub Branch memorabilia in the new display cabinets at the Emerald Bowls Club. Noel has held the weapons license on behalf of the Sub Branch for over ten years.
- **Committee Meetings** – Noel conducts the committee and other meetings in a professional manner and is conscious that good governance is of paramount importance.
- **Face of the Sub Branch** – Noel has been the face of the Emerald Sub Branch for some 24 years and is held in very high regard by the community.
- **He was awarded the Centenary medal** for his dedicated service to the RSL and the community.
- Noel was presented with **Life Membership of RSL Australia in 2019**.
- Noel was presented with the **RSL Australia Day silver medallion award** in 2022 for PFH District.
- **Lost personal property**- in 2016 the local Police contacted Noel and advised that jewelry and other important personal items such as an RSL affiliate badge from Victoria were found in Emerald and asked if Noel could assist in finding the owner. The Sub Branch wrote to RSL Victoria with no luck so Noel took on the project and eventually found the owner. The jewelry included her engagement ring and an OAM badge.
- The owner was so appreciative, she wrote a big thank you in the CQ News and with her husband (a Rat of Tobruk) visited Emerald recently and met with Noel for lunch to show their appreciation. That is the type of thing Noel does.
- **Noel has been an advocate to ensure former National Servicemen & women** apply for their medal entitlements and assists with the application process if requested.



## RSL Queensland faces considerable criticism over ANZAC Day acknowledgment of country.

RSL Queensland faces considerable criticism following a notable alteration to its acknowledgment of country for Anzac Day ceremonies, sparking concern over the potential politicization of this revered national commemoration.

In a recent development, RSL Queensland has introduced a revised acknowledgment of country to be recited during Anzac Day ceremonies. This alteration has drawn sharp attention, with Nationals MP Barnaby Joyce expressing dismay and questioning the limits of such changes. The new acknowledgment reads:

*“We, today’s warriors, acknowledge the very first warriors who stood as the guardians of this ancient country on which we meet today. We salute their commitment to an unbroken line of duty that began tens of thousands of years ago and continues to this very day.”*

Emphasizing the solemnity of Anzac Day as a moment to honour those who made profound sacrifices in defence of Australia, Mr. Joyce emphasized his discomfort with what he perceives as politicization.

He articulated his concern, stating, "I just don't like the idea of politicising Anzac Day, of saying, 'Oh we've got to have these ameliorating issues, we've got to make addendums to what it is.'" He underscored the essence of Anzac Day, rooted in the valour and dedication of Australian servicemen and women.

The pamphlet revealed that the revised acknowledgment was crafted by RSL Queensland State President Stephen Day DSC AM, with the involvement of Australian Army's Indigenous Elder Aunty Lorraine Hatton OAM. RSL Queensland defended the new acknowledgment, asserting that it provides an opportunity to pay respects to Traditional Owners and recognize the enduring connection of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples with the veteran community.

A spokesperson for RSL Queensland reiterated the importance of delivering an acknowledgment of country while acknowledging differing views within the organization. They clarified that the introduction of a new version was prompted by some members seeking a more veteran-centric option, emphasizing that the fundamental essence of the acknowledgment remains unchanged.

In summary, the recent adjustments to the acknowledgment of country for Anzac Day ceremonies by RSL Queensland have ignited a debate regarding the appropriate scope of commemorative practices, underscoring the need for sensitivity and inclusivity while honouring Australia's military legacy.

*Jain Carty (State Secretary QLD Branch)*

**Subject:** RSL QLD State Secretary - Response to enquiry re Sky News report and acknowledgement options and ANZAC Day

On Friday 08<sup>th</sup> March a Sky News article was released regarding the RSL Queensland Acknowledgement of Country. The article includes what looks to be a copy of the Ceremonial guide that it has been taken from.

We are unsure of its genesis; our Ceremonial Protocol document resides on SKIP.

### **COPY AND PASTE THIS LINK IN YOUR SEARCH BAR**

<https://t.notifications.meltwater.com/v2/ad953ea4c615450de01af971cc68d0af?m=email&u=https%253A%252F%252Fwww.skynews.com.au%252Faustralia-news%252Fwhere-do-these-things-stop-rsl-qlds-new-acknowledgement-of-country-for-anzac-day-commemorations-slammed%252Fnews-story%252F4804c378fbef8f7f64d97f61813b5ebc>

Please note Sky News did update the article with an RSL QLD response, however I doubt many people bothered to check the updated version. Since that date we have had several enquiries via our e-mail, phones and social media, some of which have been quite informative, but in the main mostly derogatory and threatening boycott of ANZAC Day and cancellation of membership etc. In response the reply below in red font will be used to respond to all enquiries received by e-mail.

Further I encourage you all to take a moment to read the reply below and the response in the article and be prepared to cover off the key messages should this matter be raised in the coming days, weeks and before ANZAC Day. As members of the SCDP you listened to and supported another acknowledgement option from BND at the last SCDP meeting. It is concerning that one of our League members has released this information for it to be misquoted and sensationalised by the media.

We must remain 'one team' on this issue and ensure our members understand that there is only one acknowledgement that is mandated – 'The Ode'. There was no direction that this would be a required outcome for ANZAC Day commemorations. Our commemorative events remain apolitical and the option

to use an alternate acknowledgement for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people is at the discretion (not compulsory) of the organising District and or Sub-Branch, and it should be sincere, appropriate and connected to our purpose if part of the event.

Dear member/citizen,

Thank you for your recent enquiry to RSL QLD.

RSL Queensland core mission is to provide support and services to veterans and their families through our model of Care, Commemoration and Camaraderie. All our volunteers, employees, contractors, partners and importantly members are committed to enabling and delivering on that mission.

Every generation of veteran has lived through conflict, peace keeping operations, humanitarian and disaster relief operations and the contingencies of service life and the impact that may have on them as individuals and their families. Every generation have also lived through changing social, cultural and community standards and how that impacts what is expected in terms of culture and behaviour across our organisation and how that better enables veterans and their families and our community.

RSL QLD conducts and supports our affiliated Districts and Sub-Branches to conduct, a multitude of commemorative, community, and ceremonial events throughout the calendar year, the most notable of those being ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day. At no stage and at any time, are any members of the RSL Queensland organisation required and or mandated to provide any acknowledgement other than The Ode of Remembrance – 'The Ode'.

On occasion and where appropriate an acknowledgement to our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander heritage may be considered and as such RSL QLD have provided some options that are 'veteran centric' for our members to consider if they choose to make an acknowledgement that is sincere, appropriate, and connected to our purpose.

I trust this covers your concerns.

Kind regards,

Iain Carty, CSM

State Secretary

RSL Queensland

#### **Other Matters**

##### Welfare Support Officer

At our recent State Council Meeting (ANZAC House), I raised the issue of re introducing the Basic Welfare Course. I also pointed out that there were sufficient numbers that are willing to attend a course if the QLD Branch could organise training for the participants in the CQ District. After much discussion it was generally accepted that a e-learning package should be developed as there was an extreme shortage of qualified advocates and mentors to run a formal face to face training. It was also agreed that John Stock (General Manager of League Services) review what options were available and report back to State Council with his findings.

Barry Vains (Associate Director) has been working on RSL National Awards and the Building Facilities Assistance Program.

The Building Facilities Assistance Program was included in the budget in February and has now been implemented. \$50,00.00 has been set aside in the budget and will be reviewed annually. Two applications have been approved.

RSL State Branch will no longer cover the ongoing expenses associated with the Dental Allied Health Program.

##### District Council meetings for 2024

18/05/24 – RSL Farleigh/Northern Beaches

20/07/24 – RSL Emu Park Sub Branch

21/09/24 – RSL Mackay Sub Branch

23/11/24 – RSL Clermont Sub Branch

District Executive meetings for 2024

27/04/24, 29/06/24, 31/08/24, 26/10/24

RSL Capricornia Rockhampton Combined Services Sub Branch

Documentation has now been submitted to the Department of Fair Trading by RSL Rockhampton Sub Branch. RSL Rockhampton Sub Branch are waiting on the approval of the funds held by the building society to be transferred to their account which will require approval by RSL State.

**On Going Matters**

District Website/Facebook Website address is [www.rslcqdistrict.com.au](http://www.rslcqdistrict.com.au) .

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

**Dental and Allied Health Support Program**

Dental = \$ 3259.20

Hearing = \$1250.00

Optical = \$697.00

TOTAL = \$5,206.20

**Emergency Welfare Spending = 2**

TOTAL SPENDING YTD = \$1650.00

**Sub-Branch Support Program**

Funding is available for 2024 through this program for those Sub-Branches in financial need.

Please refer to program policy and guidelines. A formal application is required.

TOTAL YTD = \$ Nil

**LiveLife Alarms Program**

The forms are available on the district web site.

There has been a significant increase in the annual fee for the alarms.

The annual cost is now \$75.00 per annum paid by the consumer unless other arrangements have been made by your sub branch for reimbursement.

Recharges = Nil

New = Nil

Upgrade = \$457.00

Total expenditure = \$457.00

**District Charitable Objects Fund**



The fund will continue in 2024 with a further \$100,000 of funds being allocated by RSL Queensland to the District. Please note that applications are limited to a maximum amount of \$10,000.00

All applications need to be on the application form and be in accordance with the guidelines.

Sub Branch financials **MUST BE PROVIDED** as well as **QUOTES** for the functions, trips away and any other event, before any application can be considered.

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.

**NOTE: COF applications will NOT be paid retrospectively. Quotes have to be provided on the application otherwise the sub branch will have to meet the out-of-pocket expenses.**

*The COF process has been reviewed by the State Council of District Presidents and a number of changes to the existing policy have changed. The new application forms are available from Lynette Phillips (District Secretary) or on the district website under resources.*

Phillip Luzzi

District President

### THE LAST POST

Membership ID	First Name	Last Name	Owner	Deceased Date
2351394	Donald	Mackenzie-Forbes	Blackwater/Bluff Sub Branch Inc.	25/02/2024
1525735	Ivan	Bettridge	Clermont Sub Branch Inc.	9/03/2024
2436973	Donald	Bramble	Gracemere & District Sub Branch Inc.	6/02/2024
2350003	Thomas	Barry	Mackay Sub Branch Inc.	2/03/2024
1517927	James	Williams	Rockhampton Sub Branch Inc.	19/09/2023

# WESTS VS SOUTHS

Commemorative Anzac Game

SATURDAY 27<sup>th</sup> APRIL  
At Tiger Park

2:30pm - Under 20's

4:30pm - Reserve Grade

6:30pm - A Grade

JOIN US AS

## WE HONOUR OUR FALLEN

- Pipers
- Bugle
- Cadets
- Veterans
- Drummers
- Anzac Jersey's
- Wreath Laying
- Moment of Silence



Cheer on the mighty  
Tigers as we play our  
first home game for 2024



# JUST KEEP MARCHING

Our defence veterans have marched long & hard, it's time for us to continue their march!

Join me in marching the equivalent distance between Komiatum & Lavarack to show our veterans how supportive we are.

**Bluewater Trail MACKAY**  
**!!!! SAVE THE DATES !!!!**  
**Sunday 23 JUNE 2024 to**  
**Monday 1 JULY 2024**

click here [Event details & Donations](#)

Phone :  
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