

Caloundra RSL Sub Branch

<https://www.caloundrarsl.org.au/index.html>



Newsletter 14 April, 2021



RSL stalwart passes away

The Caloundra RSL Sub Branch and Services Club offer their sincere condolences to the family and friends of Caloundra RSL stalwart Kay Weller, who passed away at the weekend,

RAAF veteran Kay, 68, was recovering from heart surgery at the Princess Alexandra Hospital in Brisbane when her condition deteriorated and she died on Saturday night. Kay joined the Sub Branch in March 2011 as a life subscriber.

With her husband, Peter, she was extremely active in veteran welfare and served on the boards of both the Sub Branch and the Services Club.

She was elected to the Sub Branch committee in 2015 and served also in 2016.

In 2017 she was elected as Junior Vice-President and appointed as District alternative representative.

In 2018 she was elected as Senior Vice-President and appointed as District alternative representative & hospital/aged care facilities team member.

In 2019 she was once again elected as Junior Vice-President and appointed as alternative District representative & Welfare Support Officer.

Kay was elected to the Board of the Services Club in 2016 and served as a Director until 2018. She was very proactive and made a valuable contribution during her three years as a Director.

**Kay's funeral will be held at Gregson & Weight,
5 Gregson Place, Caloundra, at 1500hrs on 22 April.**

LEST WE FORGET

Please volunteer for Anzac Day

With Anzac Day fast approaching and with the regulations from Qld Health re Covid we need a **HUGE** number of volunteers. Here are the details – plus a rundown of other arrangements

On Saturday 24 April @ 1500hrs in the Amphitheatre we will be setting up seating for 1500 including the band and the choir, roping off an area for the horses, organising Covid stations, possibly helping with the track mats for the two trucks entering the park – plus other jobs as needed.

On Sunday 25 April we need volunteers at the Amphitheatre no later than 0430hrs – ushers, contact tracing recorders, collection of wreaths from club cellar, etc.

After the service we need volunteers to help stack chairs & pack everything up.

After the GunFire breakfast and before the march we need volunteers to set up chairs in the Memorial

Garden and Resolve carpark. If setting up in the Resolve carpark be aware that the prime mover transferring the LED screen from the Dawn Service needs to get in there first.

At 0830hrs Parade Marshall Ian Harrison will need volunteers at the march form-up area in the Stockland carpark to help with organising the formation.

WREATHS

There are still a number of empty spots on the list for laying of wreaths at the Dawn Service and after the March. Wreaths will be ordered this Friday at close of business.

WHO TO CONTACT

Dawn Service volunteers (24 & 25 April): please register with Terry O'Connor via email.

March volunteers: please register with Ian Harrison via email

Wreaths: please email the President or put your name directly on the list in the Sub Branch

SUB BRANCH LOUNGE

The lounge will open when the President and VIP guest arrive (approx. 1045).

Due to Covid requirements there will only be seats placed around the walls of the lounge and these must NOT be moved into groups.

Dry bars or high tables will be placed around the lounge for those standing to put their drinks on.

Because of the social distancing requirements and numbers permitted in the lounge we are encouraging family groups to use the Services Club tables and chairs just outside the lounge. Sub Branch prices are available at all bars all day so there is no need to stack into the Sub Branch bar.

GUNFIRE BREAKFAST

Tickets must be bought from our club reception @ \$15 each. After the breakfast those not able to participate in the march or the wreath laying will be able to stay in the Services Club but the bars will be closed. This is to allow staff to clear away and clean ready for the opening of the club to the public at 1100.

Sub Branch members who attended the march but not the wreath laying, will be able to gain entry to the club at 0930 .

Finally, please, let's all band together and help make our Anzac Day a special one for our veterans and families.

– Heather Christie, President

Draft minutes, 27 March 2021 general meeting (to be confirmed at the 17 April general meeting)

OPENING: The meeting opened at 1000hrs.

WELCOME: The President welcomed members to the meeting and informed all of the fire exits and fire evacuation procedure.

SILENCE: In memory of fallen and departed Comrades. The President asked members to remember those who had passed away since the last meeting.

Tony Richardson	Army	WWII
Alan Lyall	Army	Vietnam
Mervyn Turner	RAAF	Vietnam
Neville Davey	RAAF	WWII
Joyce Farr	WRAAF	WWII
Allan McLean	Army	Vietnam

ATTENDANCE: Members as per attendance sheet: 32 members, President, Senior Vice-President, Treasurer, Committee members, Secretary.

APOLOGIES: Noelene Lucjan, Jan Thorne, Geoff Gardiner, Richard Evans, Andrew Boyle, Clive King, David Leck.

“That the apologies be accepted”.

MOVED: Kenneth Priest **SECONDED:** Ian Collinson **CARRIED**

MINUTES:

"That the minutes of the 16 January 2021 meeting, which have been circulated, be received as a true record".

MOVED: Warren Duff **SECONDED:** Kenneth Priest **CARRIED**

Business Arising from the Minutes: Nil

CORRESPONDENCE:

Heather Christie: All correspondence has been actioned by the committee.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Heather Christie:

Club and Sub Branch signed a rental agreement in February, special thanks to past President Geoff, Treasurer Ian and JVP Terry, for the hours and effort to be able to present a rental agreement to provide a clear way forward for both the Club and the Sub Branch for the next two years. A huge thank you for the invaluable help from the NAB, Korda Menta and Gadens.

Executives from both the Services Club and the Sub Branch will meet every six weeks to discuss.....

Thanks to all those who attended the Services AGM. Cathy Stamp was re-elected President, unopposed with one addition to the Board, Nicholas Phantomhive. Congratulations to Cathy and the Board.

The Services Club motion regarding the election of a secretary was defeated.

Plans have been submitted for "cosmetic" changes to the Services Club and plans will be on the notice board next week.

The Sub Branch lounge is being utilised well with several functions being held recently.

The State RSL fundraising team, which can help with grants and planning fundraising events, have visited and also, the Tech team who have asked us to trial the "Square" which we already have and advised of new laptops for the executive and the advocates. However, we already have a grant approved for purchase for all our officers.

I attended my first District meeting as President this month and was pleased to see younger members attend as well as another female president.

Numbers of members attending the Friday night social are rising, with approximately 55 attending weekly.

Thank you to Ian for organising the "Pink" function held last night for Breast Cancer Awareness, where \$346 was raised.

"That the President's Report of March 2021 meeting be received as a true record".

MOVED: Heather Christie **SECONDED:** Helen Smith **CARRIED**

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Ian Harrison: Tabled the financial report.

"That in the directors' opinion the Caloundra RSL Sub Branch is solvent and have reasonable grounds to believe the Caloundra RSL Sub Branch will be able to pay its debts when they become due."

"That the Treasurer's report be received and accounts passed for payment".

MOVED: Ian Harrison **SECONDED:** Bernard Coyle **CARRIED**

Trevor Smith: The Profit and Loss Statement shows Interest Income \$4834.66?

Ian Harrison: That's the monthly interest on the IEP Loan and locked in at 4%.

ACTIVITIES REPORTS**Wellness and Activities Report**

Ian Harrison:

Wellness and compensation advocates will meet with District Compensation Officer on Wednesday

We have resumed visits to aged care facilities and intend to expand to home and hospital visits

Volunteer hours for February are in excess of 400hrs

Poppy Services

Heather Christie:

Eight Poppy Services in 2021 so far, one CMF, three Vietnam Veterans and four WW2

Lorraine Houlihan and Jan Thorne are now fully trained and undertaking Poppy Services

District Report

Heather Christie:

District AGM was held 16 March, 2021 at Kawana Surf Club and hosted by Kawana RSL Sub Branch.

District has received a grant from the Community Benefit Fund for \$30,000 to purchase a new vehicle.

We are able submit claim for Anzac Day 2020 and 2021 merchandise.

The State team are coming in for training for SKIP and TOBI.

District are looking at forming a Veteran's Hub on the Coast.

Uniting Care will be updating their admissions forms to include Veterans.

ATDP fund raising is available. Ron Schoder is the contact.

Open Arms is available on the Coast for CPR and First Aid Training and expressions of interest have been called.

The State Fundraising Manager, Deb Scott, is available to visit sub branches to help with fundraising and grants. Deb was here last week.

BEST Grants are available again with the current grant cut-off as 15 April.

District Welfare Coordinators, Trudi and Robyn will be coming here to meet with our advocates and wellness support officers.

"That the reports be accepted".

MOVED: Lorraine Houlihan **SECONDED:** William Roberts **CARRIED**

MEMBERSHIP:

Jeff Faulkner: One new member has been approved and one associate member

GENERAL BUSINESS

RAAF 100 Year Anniversary

Warren Duff: The Air Force is 100 years old and will be holding a celebration on 31 March at Caloundra QAM and RSL. There are approximately 140 attending.

75th Anniversary

Lorraine Houlihan: Preparations are going well for the 75th Anniversary. We are ahead of schedule. We are waiting on quotes so as to apply for grants. The venue and music are booked. Businesses in the area have been very generous with regard to prizes etc.

Volunteer Bus Drivers

Heather Christie: We are very short of volunteer bus drivers. If you feel you can assist please contact Janine and let her know.

Memorial Garden

Heather Christie: Andrew Wallace is now going to support the road changes. I will be speaking with both him and Jason Hunt shortly.

Anzac Day

Heather Christie:

Anzac Day is going ahead, 0500hrs at the Kings Beach amphitheatre in the same format as 2019.

Seating for 1500 veterans and their immediate family only. We will need volunteers on 24 April from 1530hrs to help set up.

Volunteers on the day will need to be at the amphitheatre at 0430hrs.

Our Covid plan has been resubmitted to Qld Health and been approved. All others must provide their own plan.

Sub Branch buses will be available from the Club to the Dawn Service and returning to the Club.

Gun Fire breakfast will be capped at 300 people.

Stockland march at 0830hrs for step off at 0900hrs under strict Covid planning. We will be keeping our veterans far away from the schools.

Please put your name down if you wish to be in the march but need vehicle transport. There is a list outside the office.

1000hrs wreath laying in the Memorial Garden.

1100hrs the Club will open.

General Business

Bill Roberts: commented he was unhappy that the Sub Branch lounge was not available all the time due to functions being held and why can't we use the Sub Branch bar when function are on?

Heather Christie: They are private functions and we can only reopen the bar when we have enough members coming in.

Helen Smith: Queried what controls would be in the Sub Branch lounge on Anzac Day.

Heather Christie: Confirmed seating would only be at the edge of the Lounge and that there would be no clusters of seating or seats at the bar.

Heather Christie: Introduced the newest members of the Committee; Shane Pieschel, Russell Bourne, Helen Smith and Ian Collinson to those who may not have been at the AGM.

NEXT MEETING: 17 April, 2021

CLOSURE: There was no further business and the meeting closed at 1047hrs.

Certified as a true and accurate record.

Confirmed..... President //

..... Secretary //



The untold love story of Australia's only Indigenous WWII fighter pilot

By Daisy Siddal

Leonard Waters met Gladys Saunders, a driver for the United States Army in Townsville, in 1946.

Their untold love story offers a glimpse into wartime in Far North Queensland and will be displayed by the Queensland Museum in the lead up to Anzac Day.

Len Waters is celebrated as Australia's only recognised Indigenous fighter pilot during World War II. During his service he made history flying a total of 95 sorties from bases in New Guinea and the former Dutch East Indies.

Gladys Saunders was a driver for the United States Army in Townsville, altering her age in order to join the ranks of the Women's National Emergency Legion (WNEL) at the age of 14.

Saunders and Waters met in 1946 at the end of the war, bonding over shared experiences of overcoming exclusion to serve their country, and beginning a relationship which resulted in 46 years of marriage.

For the full report, visit [InQueensland](#), a free, high quality, independent daily newsletter focusing on news relevant to Queensland. The Caloundra RSL Sub Branch Newsletter thanks **InQueensland** and author Daisy Siddal for permission to reproduce a section of the report.



We will remember them

With deep sorrow we acknowledge the recent deaths of Allan Lyall (Army, Vietnam), Colin Brain (Army), Joyce Farr (WWII), Kay Weller (WRAAF), Mervyn Turner (RAAF, Vietnam), Neville Davey (RAAF, WWII), Robert Eden (CMF) and Tony Richardson (Army, WWII).

LEST WE FORGET.

Committee contacts

President: Heather Christie 0403 625 006

Senior Vice-President: Terry O'Connor 0401 147 107

Treasurer: Ian Harrison 0481 373 885

Secretary: Janine Evans 07 5438 5825

Committee member: Helen Smith 0402 348 742

Committee member: Jeff Faulkner 0414 675 509

Committee member: Russell Bourne 0450 714 997

Committee member: Shane Pieschel 0409 030 189

Committee member: Ian Collinson 07 5437 2272

Please feel free to contact any of your committee members.

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