



RSL

Mount Barker
Sub Branch



Newsletter

October 2026

Inside this issue

Presidential Ponderings	2
Secretaries Scribbles	3
Treasurer's Tidbits.....	3
Christmas Raffle	4
Afghanistan—25 Years	5
Battle Beersheba	6/7
Why the RSL?	8/9
Train Trip.....	10
Bingo	11
Friday Meals.....	12
Sudoku	13
Supporters	14/15
Significant Dates.....	16
Membership Forms.....	17/18

Don't Forget

BBQ's
10th Oct—Monaro Day
Showground
18th Oct — Showground

They shall grow not old,
As we that are left grow old,
Age shall not weary them,
Nor the years condemn,
At the going down of the sun,
And in the morning,
We will remember them.

General Information

- 23 Hutchinson Street
MOUNT BARKER SA 5251
- ABN: 19 270 627 978
- **President— Ralph Strecker**
president@mountbarkerrsl.com.au
- **Secretary—Jenny Love**
secretary@mountbarkerrsl.com.au
- **Treasurer—Rod Cooper**
treasurer@mountbarkerrsl.com.au
- Web: mountbarkerrsl.com.au
- Phone: **0436 934 286**

LEST WE FORGET



As I sit down to write this month's message, I find myself reflecting on just how much is happening around our Sub-Branch. There is a real sense of momentum at the moment, and it is very pleasing to see our members, volunteers and the wider community continuing to get behind the sub-branch.

One of the big events on our horizon is the **Christmas Raffle**, and I think we can be very proud of what has been put together this year. Thanks to the generosity of our donors and supporters, we have accumulated **around \$9,000 worth of prizes**, with **at least 70 individual prizes, each valued at a minimum of \$50**. That is an outstanding prize pool and around 1 in 14 chance of winning a prize. Tickets will be going on sale very soon at **\$10 each**, with only **1,000 tickets available**. With those sorts of prizes on offer, I expect they will move quickly, so make sure you get yours. And, of course, don't forget to encourage your family, friends and colleagues to support the raffle as well. Every ticket sold helps our Sub-Branch continue the work we do for our members and the veteran community.

Tuesday Bingo continues to go from strength to strength. Our numbers have been steadily increasing, which is fantastic to see. A sincere thank you to all our regular players for continuing to support us and for bringing friends and others along. I would also like to acknowledge the volunteers who give their time each week to make Bingo possible. These events don't simply happen — they rely on people willing to turn up, lend a hand and help make the afternoon enjoyable for everyone.

Our **Friday night dinners** are also continuing to be popular and successful. They are becoming an important part of our social calendar and provide a great opportunity for members and guests to sit down together, enjoy a meal and have a chat. That camaraderie is an important part of what a Sub-Branch should be about. At the same time, these dinners provide us with a valuable income stream, helping us maintain our facilities and continue to support our members and our activities. Thank you to everyone who continues to support them.

The **Monaro Show and Shine** is another event that I am looking forward to. It promises to be a good opportunity for the Sub-Branch, both financially and in terms of getting our name and what we do out into the wider community. It will be a long day, however, and we will need plenty of helping hands to make it a success. To those members who have already offered their assistance — thank you. Once again, it is our volunteers who make these things possible.

Our **members' outing to Strathalbyn by train** is also fast approaching. We have capped numbers at **30 members and/or guests**, so if you are planning to come along, please get your confirmed name to our Secretary sooner rather than later. It should be a great day out with a welcome break from the stressors of life!

Looking Ahead

One of the things I have really come to appreciate since taking on the role of President is that a Sub-Branch is much more than its building, its activities or its bank balance. It is its people. Every time someone volunteers at Bingo, helps with a dinner, sells a raffle ticket, attends an event, welcomes a new member or simply sits down and has a cuppa and a conversation with someone who needs company, they are contributing to the strength of this Sub-Branch. That is what I would like us to continue building — a Sub-Branch where our veterans and their families feel welcome, where our members have a reason to come through the doors, and where our wider community knows that the RSL is here and ready to help.

We have plenty happening, plenty to look forward to and, I believe, plenty of reasons to be optimistic about the future. Thank you to every member, volunteer, supporter and friend of the Mount Barker RSL Sub-Branch. Your continued support is genuinely appreciated.

Let's keep moving forward together.



October is here, and things certainly aren't slowing down around the Sub-Branch! Firstly, a huge **thank you to everyone who responded to our call for donations for the Christmas Raffle**. The support we have received from local businesses, organisations and individuals has been absolutely fantastic.

What started as a request for a little community support has grown into an amazing collection of prizes. It has taken quite a bit of organising behind the scenes, but seeing it all come together has certainly made the effort worthwhile. Of course, collecting the prizes is only half the job — now we have to sell the tickets! So, when tickets become available, please help us spread the word amongst family, friends and the wider community. The more people who know about the raffle, the more successful it will be for the Sub-Branch.

A gentle reminder to members that our **Strathalbyn train outing is getting closer**. Numbers are limited, so if you are planning to join us and haven't yet confirmed your attendance, please get your name to me as soon as possible. I'd much rather have your name on the list than have to tell you later that we've run out of seats!

With Christmas rapidly approaching, I have a feeling the next couple of months are going to disappear very quickly!

Until next month — stay well, stay involved, and I'll see you around the Sub-Branch.

"You don't have to see the whole staircase. Just take the first step"

~ Martin Luther King Jr.



It is pleasing to report that the Sub-Branch continues to maintain a **sound financial position**. While there are always bills to be paid and expenses to be managed, our careful approach to spending, together with the continued support of our members and the wider community, is putting us in a good position as we move towards the end of the year.

The **Christmas Raffle** is shaping up to be a particularly exciting fundraiser this year. We have an excellent opportunity to generate some additional funds while also giving our supporters the chance to take home some fantastic prizes. With only 1,000 tickets available at \$10 each, I encourage everyone to get behind the raffle when tickets go on sale.

The upcoming **Monaro Show and Shine** will also provide an opportunity to raise funds and promote the Sub-Branch within the local community. Events such as this take considerable volunteer effort, but they can provide both financial and promotional benefits for our organisation.

While we are in a sound position, we should never take that for granted. Maintaining our building, meeting our ongoing operating costs and continuing to provide activities and support for our members all require careful financial management. Every dollar raised through Bingo, dinners, raffles and other activities contributes towards keeping our Sub-Branch operating and financially sustainable.

As always, a sincere **thank you to our members, volunteers, supporters and local businesses** who contribute in so many different ways. Good financial results don't happen by accident — they are the result of many people giving their time, support and generosity.

Remember—Every time you buy a raffle ticket, have dinner or play Bingo, you're helping me sleep better at night.

Christmas Raffle



A Very Special Thank You to Our Christmas Raffle Supporters

The Mount Barker RSL Sub-Branch would like to extend our sincere thanks and appreciation to all the local businesses and individuals who have generously supported our 2026 Christmas Raffle.

The incredible prize pool of **more than \$9,000** would simply not have been possible without your generosity. Your support not only helps make the raffle a success, but also directly assists the ongoing work of our Sub-Branch and our commitment to supporting our veterans and the wider community. Below is the current list supporting businesses, but we have also had significant contributions for some of our members.

Significant Supporters

Banh Mi Vietnamese • Discount City Carpets • Harvey Norman (furniture) • Sushi Ito • BCF • Terry White Chemist • Battery World • Specsavers • Police Credit Union • Mitre 10 Mount Barker • Hillbilly's Country Living • Clark Rubber

Other Contributors

Beacon Lighting • Burns for Blinds • Woolworths (Mt Barker South) • RAA • Craft Coffee Cafe • The Coffee Tin • Bubbas Pizza • Cindy Kayes • Gawler Street Cafe • Hills Schoolwear • Littlehampton Hair Care • Lowes Meats • Nairn Pharmacy • Neds • Eden Lane Florist • Mt Barker Newsagency • Wohlers • Stirling Meats • Bunnings • Wok The Duck • Mount Barker Pet Care • Fairley's Shoex • Go Vita • Zambrero • OH'K Chicken • BWS • Kmart • Simply Style • Rosalyn & Rae • NQR • Amcal Chemist • Grounds for Coffee • Dan Murphy's • Marketplace Cafe Littlehampton • Gauci Hair and Beauty

To every supporter and contributor — thank you. Your generosity and support of the Mount Barker RSL Sub-Branch is genuinely appreciated.

25th Anniversary of Australian Service in Afghanistan

Background

From 2001, more than 35,000 Australians served in Afghanistan and the Middle East Area of Operations (MEAO) in relation to Afghanistan. In response to the 11 September 2001 terrorist attacks in the United States, Australian forces contributed to a multinational attempt to bring security to Afghanistan, stabilise the wider region, and defeat terrorist activity. For more than two decades, Australians contributed reconstruction efforts focused on creating safe conditions for democratic governance, mentoring and training, and humanitarian aid.

Australians served our country with courage, professionalism, commitment and integrity. We remember the Australians who lost their lives during, or as a result of, their service and acknowledge the physical and mental impacts that service has had on many of our veterans and their families.

National Commemorative Service

To mark the 25th anniversary of Australian service in Afghanistan 2001-2021, the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) will be holding a national commemorative service in Canberra on 11 October 2026 at the Australian War Memorial (AWM), marking the 25th anniversary of the official start of Operation Slipper.

The service will be live broadcast nationally by the ABC.

Registering Your Attendance

Attendees should register to attend via the online registration system. A ticket/attendance pass will not be required to enter. However, the registration process will ensure that adequate arrangements can be put in place for seating and transport. Attendees with an accessibility requirement will be able to provide details through the registration system. This will allow DVA to plan appropriately and send you relevant details about the service.

Commemorative Coin

To mark 25 years since Australian service in Afghanistan (2001-2021) began, DVA is releasing a commemorative coin that recognises everyone who served and acknowledges the lasting impact of that service on veterans and families.

The coin recognises all Australians who served in the Afghanistan War (2001–2014) and conflicts in Afghanistan (2015 to present). It honours Australians who lost their lives during or as a result of their service and acknowledge the physical and mental impacts that service has had on many of our veterans and their families.

The commemorative coin will be available to all attendees at the national commemorative service on Sunday 11 October 2026. The coin will can be collected in person at Adelaide Open Arms, Level 1 Elizabeth House, Oxenham Drive, Elizabeth SA from 5 November. Alternatively, you can register to receive a commemorative coin by post by way of online registration on the DVA website.



Battle of Beersheba—The Charge that Made History

31 October 1917—Beersheba, Palestine

Few moments in Australian military history are as instantly recognisable as the charge of the Australian Light Horse at Beersheba. On the afternoon of 31 October 1917, thousands of Australian mounted troops rode across open ground towards heavily defended Turkish positions. With bayonets fixed to their rifles and many carrying swords, the horsemen charged towards the town of Beersheba in what became one of the most remarkable actions of the First World War.

The victory at Beersheba was not simply a spectacular cavalry charge. It was a carefully planned military operation that formed part of a much larger Allied offensive in Palestine. Its success helped open the way for the capture of Jerusalem and contributed to the eventual defeat of the Ottoman forces in the region.

A town of vital importance

By 1917, the Allied forces were attempting to break through the Ottoman defensive line running from Gaza to Beersheba. Beersheba was particularly important because it controlled access to the water supplies of the area. Thousands of troops and thousands of horses depended upon reliable water, making the town strategically vital. The British-led Egyptian Expeditionary Force had already suffered setbacks against the Ottoman defenders. Two major attempts to capture Gaza earlier in 1917 had failed.

A new plan was developed to break through the Ottoman line by attacking Beersheba from the east and south. The operation required speed, surprise and, above all, the capture of the town's wells.

The Australian Light Horse

The Australian Light Horsemen were not cavalry in the traditional sense. They generally fought as mounted infantry. Their horses provided rapid transportation across the vast distances of the Middle East, but when they reached the battlefield the men would normally dismount and fight on foot. At Beersheba, however, circumstances were different.

As the battle progressed throughout 31 October, Allied infantry and mounted troops attacked Ottoman defensive positions around the town. The fighting was fierce, and by late afternoon the Allied commanders needed a breakthrough before darkness fell. The Australian 4th and 12th Light Horse Regiments were ordered to make the final assault.

The famous charge

At approximately 4:30 in the afternoon, around 800 men of the 4th and 12th Light Horse Regiments began their advance. Instead of dismounting and attacking on foot, they remained mounted. The sight must have been extraordinary.

The horsemen moved across several kilometres of open ground towards Ottoman trenches, machine guns and artillery. The defenders were expecting the Australians to dismount before reaching the trenches, as mounted infantry normally would. But the Australians continued forward.

As they approached the Ottoman positions, the horsemen drew their bayonets. The rifles carried by the Light Horsemen could not easily be used while mounted, so the bayonets were held in a manner that made them function much like swords.

The horses accelerated. The trenches came closer. The Ottoman defenders opened fire. Yet the Light Horsemen continued their charge. Many of the trenches were too shallow or were positioned so that the defenders could not effectively fire at the charging horsemen without exposing themselves. The Australians swept over the first defensive positions and dismounted behind the trenches, quickly turning the captured positions against their former occupants. The speed and determination of the assault caught the defenders by surprise.

Battle of Beersheba (Continued)

The capture of Beersheba

The Light Horsemen succeeded where previous attacks had failed. Beersheba fell to the Allies that evening. The capture of the town secured the desperately needed water supplies and opened a gap in the Ottoman defensive line. The wider Allied offensive could now continue.

The victory was costly. Australian casualties during the Battle of Beersheba included more than 30 men killed and many others wounded. The Ottoman defenders also suffered significant losses, with thousands captured during the battle and the subsequent fighting. The capture of Beersheba became the turning point of the Third Battle of Gaza.

From Beersheba to Jerusalem

The victory did not end the campaign. The Allied forces continued advancing through Palestine. Gaza was captured several days later, and the Ottoman forces were pushed northwards. On 9 December 1917, Jerusalem was surrendered to the Allies. The campaign continued into 1918, eventually resulting in the defeat of Ottoman forces in Palestine and Syria. For Australia, however, Beersheba became one of the defining actions of the Light Horse.

More than a famous charge

Over the years, the Beersheba charge has sometimes been portrayed simply as a dramatic cavalry attack. The reality was much more complex. The victory was the result of careful planning, intelligence, coordination between infantry, artillery and mounted units, endurance and extraordinary courage. The men and horses had travelled enormous distances in difficult conditions. They endured heat, dust, exhaustion and shortages of water. The Light Horsemen were highly experienced soldiers who understood their horses and knew how to operate over the demanding terrain of the Middle East. The charge was therefore not simply a moment of reckless bravery. It was a calculated military decision made at a critical point in the battle.

Remembering the Light Horse

More than a century later, the charge at Beersheba remains deeply embedded in Australia's military history. It represents courage, determination and mateship, but it also reminds us of the human cost of war. Behind every famous battle are individual men, families and communities whose lives were changed forever. The Light Horsemen who rode towards Beersheba could not have known how their actions would be remembered generations later. They were simply doing their duty. Today, when we remember Beersheba, we remember not only the spectacular charge, but also the thousands of Australian servicemen who served throughout the Palestine campaign and those who did not return home.

A battle won in a single afternoon. A charge remembered for generations. And a remarkable chapter in Australia's military history.

Lest We Forget.



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

ART02811

Why the RSL?

For many Australians, the letters **RSL** are familiar. We see them on signs, hear them mentioned around ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day, and recognise the familiar red poppy associated with remembrance.

But behind those three letters is something much more important than a building or a club. The Returned and Services League was built around a simple idea: **those who have served should not have to face life after service alone.**

That principle continues today at **Mount Barker RSL Sub-Branch**, where veterans, families, members and members of the local community come together throughout the year.

From Service to Civilian Life

When servicemen and women return from military service, the uniform comes off, but the experiences of service remain. For many generations of veterans, returning home meant adjusting to a very different way of life. Friends and comrades might be scattered across the country. Some carried physical injuries, while others carried memories and experiences that were difficult to explain to people who had never served. The RSL provided somewhere veterans could meet people who understood. It became a place where a returned serviceman or woman could walk through the door and meet someone who understood military life and the unique bond created by service. That role remains important today.

At **Mount Barker RSL**, our Sub-Branch provides a place where veterans can meet, socialise, share experiences and simply enjoy the company of others who understand the military way of life. The RSL is sometimes thought of simply as a social club. While social activities are certainly an important part of many Sub-Branches, the RSL's role is much broader. At its heart, the RSL is about **service, remembrance, support and community**. A cup of coffee and a conversation can be just as important as a formal welfare appointment. A regular activity can provide someone with a reason to get out of the house. A friendly face at the RSL can make a real difference to someone who may otherwise feel isolated. At Mount Barker RSL, activities such as our **Coffee and Chat, weekly Bingo, Friday night dinners and other social gatherings** help create those opportunities for people to come together. Sometimes the most important thing an RSL can provide is simply a place where someone knows they are welcome.

The Tradition of Looking After Our Own

One of the strongest traditions of military service is looking after your mates. During service, personnel depend upon one another. They work as a team, support each other and share experiences that can create lifelong friendships. Leaving the ADF does not necessarily mean that the importance of those relationships disappears. Modern veterans leave the services at very different stages of life. Some transition smoothly into civilian employment and family life, while others may find the adjustment more difficult. An RSL can provide an opportunity to maintain those connections and establish new ones. At **Mount Barker**, that can happen around a table over coffee, during a meal, at a social activity, while volunteering, or simply through a conversation with another member.

Remembering Those Who Came Before Us

Remembrance is another important part of the RSL's role. Every ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day, RSL members stand alongside veterans, serving personnel, families, schools and members of the wider community to remember those who served before us. At **Mount Barker**, our commemorative services provide an opportunity for the whole community to pause and remember. But remembrance is not simply about looking backwards. It is also about ensuring that future generations understand the sacrifices made by those who served. When a school student lays a wreath, listens to the Ode or speaks with a veteran, a connection is created between generations. The stories of service are passed on. **And that matters.**

Why the RSL? (Continued)

Supporting Today's Veterans

The nature of military service has changed considerably over the years. Today's veterans may have served in Afghanistan, Iraq, East Timor, the Solomon Islands, the Middle East, humanitarian operations or a wide range of other deployments. Others may have served for many years without ever deploying overseas. Every veteran has their own story. The RSL has an important role in ensuring that today's veterans are not forgotten simply because their service belongs to a more recent generation.

Veterans and their families may need assistance navigating services, finding information, maintaining social connections or simply having someone to talk to. Sometimes the first step is as simple as knowing **where to go and who to ask**. Our Sub-Branch continues to support the principle that no veteran should feel that they have to navigate life after service completely on their own.

Mount Barker RSL Sub-Branch is also part of the wider Mount Barker community.

Our role extends beyond our membership. Through ANZAC Day, Remembrance Day, fundraising activities, community events and our regular social program, we have the opportunity to bring veterans together with local residents, schools, businesses, community organisations and families. Our building is an important part of that story. It provides a physical place where people can meet, remember, celebrate and support one another. As Mount Barker continues to grow, maintaining a strong connection between the RSL and the wider community becomes increasingly important.

Why Membership Matters

Membership is more than having a name on a register. Every member contributes to keeping the RSL community alive. Some members attend regularly. Others may only come along occasionally. Some volunteer their time, while others support the Sub-Branch through fundraising, donations or participation in commemorative events. Every contribution matters. A strong membership enables Mount Barker RSL Sub-Branch to continue its work, maintain our facilities, support veterans and their families, and ensure that remembrance remains an important part of our community. Membership also helps ensure that the Sub-Branch has a future.

Looking to the Next Generation

Perhaps one of the greatest challenges facing the RSL is ensuring that its work continues into the future. The veterans of the Second World Wars are becoming fewer every year. The Korean and Vietnam generations are also getting older and the ranks are thinning. At the same time, a new generation of veterans is emerging. The RSL must remain a place where they feel welcome. That means listening to younger veterans, recognising that their experiences may be different, embracing families and supporters, and finding new ways to bring people together. The traditions of the RSL are important. But traditions survive because they continue to have meaning.

From Battlefield to Community

The RSL began because veterans needed somewhere to turn after service. More than a century later, that need has not disappeared. The uniforms may have changed. The conflicts may have changed. The technology may have changed. But the fundamental importance of service, remembrance, community and looking after one another remains.

At **Mount Barker RSL Sub-Branch**, we are proud to be part of that continuing tradition. Our Sub-Branch is more than a building. It is a place of remembrance. It is a place where stories are shared. It is a place where veterans can find friendship and support. It is a place where the wider community can learn about Australia's military history and honour those who served. And it is a place where the values of service can continue to be passed from one generation to the next.



Mount Barker RSL Sub-Branch

TRAIN TRIP

MOUNT BARKER TO STRATHALBYN

A great day out with mates!



**SUNDAY
8 NOVEMBER**



**DEPARTING
MOUNT BARKER
TRAIN STATION
09:00am**



**LUNCH IN
STRATHALBYN**
Time to enjoy lunch
and explore the town.



**RETURN TO
MOUNT BARKER
around
5:00pm**



RSL MEMBERS

- Train ticket fully subsidised
- **\$20** subsidy towards lunch



NON-MEMBERS

- Train ticket and lunch at own cost.



**PLEASE CONFIRM
YOUR ATTENDANCE**
by Thursday 16 October
to the Secretary.

The last adventure for members was a bus trip down to the south coast last year! Which included a winery stop and lunch.

Has it been that long?

So, with the weather now improving, we have decided to host another adventure for members and guests! We called for expressions of interest over the last few weeks and many of you did indicate your willingness to ride the rails, have some lunch and beverages and then ride the rails home.

To that end, we will now book this event and as indicated above we need confirmed numbers by **16 October! Numbers will be limited to 30 people—first in, first served!**

If you confirm and don't show, you will be charged for your train ticket—as this will be pre-paid. Obviously, if you have a genuine reason for not making it, then that cost may be waived.

We look forward to having a great day out with mates, friends and family. You will have time to explore Strathalbyn shops on the day—but lunch will be a group booking at one of the local pubs—with time and place still to be confirmed.

BINGO at the RSL



- ✓ Every **Tuesday** at the RSL, in the downstairs dining area.
- ✓ Doors open at **12 midday**
- ✓ Eyes down at **1:00pm**
- ✓ 10 games plus a flyer game (side games if numbers permit)
- ✓ Cash Prizes - Lucky Door Prize.
- ✓ We will always endeavour to have a snack available on the day at a very reasonable cost.
- ✓ Come along and bring your friends and neighbours for a fun afternoon.
- ✓ Scheduled to finish around **2:45pm**

WINNERS

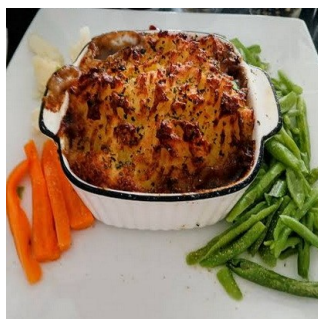


Dinner Menu — October



Friday 2nd of October

- ✓ Roast Chicken with Vegies, Gravy and Apple Sauce
- ✓ Trifle



Friday 9th of October

- ✓ Individual Cottage Pie with Vegie Medley
- ✓ Warm Apple and Cinnamon Cake with Vanilla Sauce and Cream



Friday 16th of October

- ✓ Jacket Baked Potato topped with Cheese, Bacon and Sour Cream with Coleslaw on the side.
- ✓ Banana Fritters with Ice-cream and Syrup Drizzle



Friday 23rd of October

- ✓ Panko Crumbed Prawns with Salad and Chips
- ✓ Mum's After Dinner Mint Cheesecake with Cream

Members are eligible for a FREE meal during the month of their Birthday!

Cost is: \$27.00 for members
\$27.00 for under 18yrs

\$30.00 for non-members
\$22.00 for children under 12yrs

Bookings are essential. Either in person or call/text **0436 934 286**.
Bookings must be made by 12 noon on the Wednesday prior.

Sudoku

Easy

8				4			7	
	3		6			8		2
		7		8	2			
2		4				7		8
	7		2	5	8		1	
6		8				2		5
			8	2		1		
4		2			6		5	
	8			1				6

Medium

8	6	3						4
5					9	8	7	1
9	1	7					3	6
	8	2			4		1	
	7			2			9	
	5	9			6	4	2	8
2				7	3		8	9
6		1	9	8	5			2
7								5

Hard

		5	3					
8							2	
	7			1		5		
4					5	3		
	1			7			6	
		3	2					8
	6		5					9
		4				7		
					9			

Our Supporters for 2026/27



Beacon
LIGHTING

Burns
for
Blinds

Woolworths
Mount Barker South

RAA



THE
Coffee Tin

BUBBA PIZZA

CINDY KAYE'S
HAIRDRESSING



Lowe's
MEAT CO.
mt. barker



ned's

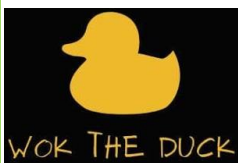


nexta™
Mount Barker Central

WOHLERS
HOMEWARES FURNITURE CAFE

STIRLING
VARIETY MEATS

BUNNINGS
warehouse



Fairley's Shoex
Est 1927



Your Health Shop

GAUCI
CARE / HAIR / BEAUTY



Kmart

Simply Style
Mount Barker



NQR
big brands. cheap

Amcal+

Grounds
For Coffee
Cafe



Enjoy the little things.
LITTLEHAMPTON
MARKETPLACE
CAFE

About the RSL

We are Australia's largest ex-service organisation, founded in 1916 to support veterans and their families. Initially focused on repatriation and medical services for WW1 veterans, the RSL's mission has evolved to address the changing needs of each generation of servicemen and women.

Core Functions:

- Veteran Welfare
- Advocacy
- Commemoration
- Support for Families
- Camaraderie
- Public Education

Membership

We are always looking to bring new members into our group! If you know anyone that may be interested in joining us, please pass them our contact details, or even just give them this newsletter.

No doubt, there are many Veterans out there in the community that have not thought about joining their local RSL. There are many more community members that we would like to invite into our ranks as well. They just need to be aware that we are here!

We are here to provide a place for the Veteran community and members of the community in general to mix, relax and enjoy some like-minded company.

Change of Contact Details

We don't want to lose contact with members. So please let the Secretary know if you change your address, phone or email details.

Significant Dates

General Meetings	Committee Meetings	Morning Tea and Chat
Monday—5 Oct 2026 Monday— 2 Nov 2026 Monday—7 Dec 2026	Committee Meetings will be called as deemed necessary. AGM on 7 December	Don't forget that the Sub-Branch hosts a Morning Tea every Wednesday morning at 10:00am. Light refreshments available for a small donation. This is open to everyone, so bring along a friend or neighbour!

On This Day	Event	Remarks
1 Oct 1918	Light Horse take Damascus	Ending the First World War in the Middle East
3-8 October 1951	Battle of Maryang-San, Korea	3rd Battalion RAR, successful assault on Hil 317.
5 Oct 1918	Capture Montbrehain, France	Final action of AIF in France during WWI
11 Oct 1944	Landing at Jacquinot Bay, New Britain	New Britain campaign in which a small militia force contained the large Japanese garrison holding Rabaul.
16 Oct 1967	RAN Helicopters to Vietnam	Supports US Army's 135th Aviation Company at Vung Tau.
23 Oct 1942	Battle of El Alamein begins	Turning point in WW2.
27 Oct 1950	China enters Korean War	Secretly move 180,000 troops into North Korea.
28 Oct 1916	First Conscription Referendum	PM Hughes proposed that conscription be introduced for overseas service because of heavy losses. Proposal was defeated.
30 Oct 1918	Armistice with Turkey	Ending the Turkish involvement in WW1.
31 Oct 1917	Beersheba, Palestine	4th Light Horse bold charge against Turkish at Beersheba.



RSL-SA Application for Service Membership

I hereby apply to be admitted as a Service Member of the Returned & Services League of Australia and a member of the: _____ Sub-Branch.

Personal Details

Title: _____ Given Names: _____
Surname: _____
Honours / Awards / Decorations (Post Nominals): _____
Sex: _____ D.O.B: _____ Country of Birth: _____
Postal Address: _____
Suburb: _____ Post Code: _____ State / Country: _____
Phone(W): _____ (H): _____ (M): _____
Email: _____

Service Details (Please attach proof of service)

Service Number: _____ PM Keys Number: _____ Rank: _____
Service: ☐ Air Force ☐ Army ☐ Navy Type: ☐ Regular ☐ Reserve ☐ National Service ☐ Other
If Other: (Provide Details) _____
Date of Enlistment: _____ Discharge Certificate No (if applicable): _____
Date of Discharge: _____ Length of Service: _____ Years: _____ Months: _____
Campaign & Service Medals: _____

Theatres of Operations or Conflicts (Check all applicable)

☐ World War 2 ☐ Vietnam ☐ Peacekeeping ☐ Regular Forces ☐ East Timor
☐ Korea ☐ BCOF (Japan) ☐ Somalia ☐ Reserves / CMF ☐ Afghanistan
☐ Malayan Emergency ☐ Borneo Confrontation ☐ Gulf War / Kuwait ☐ National Service ☐ Iraq
Other: _____

Previous Membership Details (if applicable)

Previous Membership: ☐ Yes ☐ No Date first joined the League: _____
Badge number of previous membership: (if applicable) _____
State & Sub-Branch of previous membership: (if applicable) _____

Declaration and Agreement

☐ I declare that the above information is true and correct.
☐ I agree to uphold the Constitution of the League and its By-Laws

Signature of Applicant: _____ Date: _____
Proposed By: _____ Seconded By: _____
Accepted by Sub-Branch: Sub-Branch Member _____ Sub-Branch Member _____
(Honorary Secretary) Date: _____

Privacy Statement

We will not use any of the information on this membership form without your specific permission in writing, other than to record you as a member of the League and will not pass that information to anyone outside the League.
ABN 19 219 796 904

October 2017



RSL-SA Application for Affiliate Membership

I hereby apply to be admitted as a Affiliate Member of the Returned & Services League of Australia and a member of the: _____ Sub-Branch.

Personal Details

Title: _____ Given Names: _____
Surname: _____
Sex: _____ D.O.B: _____ Country of Birth: _____
Postal Address: _____
Suburb: _____ Post Code: _____ State / Country: _____
Phone(W): _____ (H): _____ (M): _____
Email: _____

Are you related to a Service person ☐ Yes ☐ No

If "yes" please specify: Service Number: _____ Name: _____

Unit Served With: _____ Conflict: _____

Previous Membership Details (if applicable)

Previous Membership: ☐ Yes ☐ No Date first joined the League: _____

Badge number of previous membership: (if applicable) _____

State & Sub-Branch of previous membership: (if applicable) _____

Declaration and Agreement

☐ I declare that the above information is true and correct.

☐ I agree to uphold the Constitution of the League and its By-Laws

Signature of Applicant: _____ Date: _____

Proposed By: _____ Seconded By: _____

Accepted by Sub-Branch: _____ Sub-Branch Member _____ Sub-Branch Member
(Honorary Secretary) Date: _____

Privacy Statement

We will not use any of the information on this membership form without your specific permission in writing, other than to record you as a member of the League and will not pass that information to anyone outside the League.
ABN 19 219 796 904

October 2017