

Mt Evelyn RSL News



Volume 8, Issue 1, Autumn Edition A Sub-Branch of the Returned and Services League of Australia



SHIRE AWARDS FOR IAIN & GEOFF



2018 Meeting Dates

Fri Mar 17th
Fri April 20th
Fri May 18th
Fri June 15th
Fri July 20th
Fri Aug 17th
Fri Sept 21st
Fri Oct 19th
Fri Nov 16th
Fri Dec 21st

*The Mt Evelyn RSL
Meetings are held on
the third Friday of
each month at
7.30pm at the:*

Mt Evelyn RSL

Clubrooms
Behind: Hardy House
49 Birmingham Rd
Mt Evelyn Vic 3796

Ph: 9737 0767
Email:
mtevrs1@gmail.com

Postal Address:
PO Box 182
Mt Evelyn Vic 3796

Above: Cr Len Cox (left), Mayor of the Shire of Yarra Ranges, with Geoff Brown (back) and Iain Townsley (right).

Congratulations to two Mt Evelyn RSL members, Geoff Brown and Iain Townsley, who were presented with Certificates of Recognition from the Shire of Yarra Ranges at a special ceremony on Australia Day.

Geoff has spent decades volunteering for the Mt Evelyn CFA and other community groups. Iain has long been our piper for our special events and has helped various local veterans and veteran groups. Each year he does a wonderful performance for the school children who visit the club. Well done gentlemen!

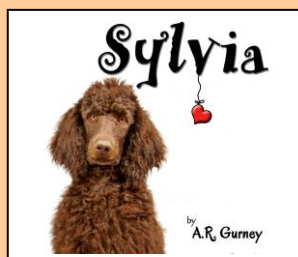
Important Dates Coming Up:

Athenaeum Theatre, Lilydale

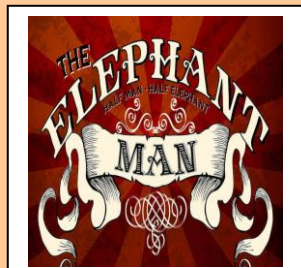
Members of the club
enjoy our quarterly
excursions to the ATC.

We will be doing the same
in 2018 so come along and
see:

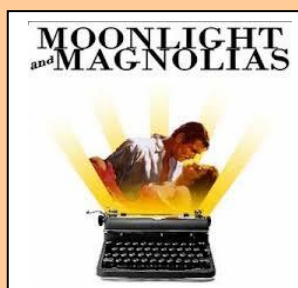
SYLVIA
March 4th 2018



**THE
ELEPHANT
MAN**
May-June 2018



**MOONLIGHT &
MAGNOLIAS**
August 2018



Tickets only \$10
for members
Contact Roger on
9737 0830

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Well what a year 2017 was! It began on 5th January with a memorable centenary service for local veteran Ernest Pearson that was attended by his granddaughters from interstate and their cousin. These centenary services continued throughout the year and will continue right through to 2019.

The RSL relationships with all of our community groups, local schools, traders, community and our support for community events continued to foster. Our Anzac and Remembrance Day services continue to be well attended by the local community with a large crowd braving heavy rain on Anzac Day. During April, the launch of the Seville War Memorial design took place at Seville. Several thousand dollars still needs to be raised to complete this important community project. The proceeds from this year's Benvenuti Festival on March 11th will be for the benefit of this project. RSL members and friends are encouraged to attend. Iain Townsley proposed that the RSL assist Birmingham Primary School to purchase football jumpers for the school's football team. The football jumpers were bought and proudly carry the RSL logo along with the school's logo.

I would like to sincerely thank our hard working committee and friends for all their volunteer hours in ensuring all of our RSL activities were completed during 2017 and all of our welfare responsibilities undertaken throughout the year. Thankyou one and all for completing another successful year for Mt Evelyn RSL.

Lest We Forget

Roger Boness – President, Mt Evelyn RSL

APPEAL OFFICER'S REPORT

Last year we managed record sales for both our Anzac Token and Poppy sales and this year I'm hoping we can do even better.

Few will question the merit and value of the RSL's Welfare work and many of you will acknowledge that the need for this work is increasing. Our community is generous in their support of worthy causes, but our fund raising capacity is severely hampered only by the number of volunteers to help sell Anzac Tokens.

This year we are also hoping to continue to sell tokens at Mooroolbark Coles as well as Mt Evelyn IGA. If you are able to assist at all in this important work, especially to sell at one of our selling tables, then please contact me on:

9736 1551

Regards,

John Allwood – Appeals Officer

Membership Subs for 2018 – *Now Due!*

Full Members – open to ex-service personnel who were in the uniformed services for a period of six months or more. **\$25 a year**

Affiliated Members – open to those who have served with the emergency services or whose relatives were service personnel. **\$25 a year**

Now available – 3 year membership – only \$60.00

Tell us if you are over 80 years old

– you no longer have to pay your subs!

Send a cheque or money order to –

Mt Evelyn RSL, PO Box 182, Mt Evelyn

This year you can pay your subs online through

Internet banking – *just make sure to key in your name!*

Bendigo Bank

Title – RSL Mt Evelyn – General Account

BSB – 633-000 A/C NUMBER – 117020883



BETTY'S JOKE PAGE



Murgatroyd, remember that word?

Would you believe the email spell checker did not recognize the word Murgatroyd? **'Heavens to Murgatroyd'!**

Lost Words from our childhood: Words gone as fast as the buggy whip! Sad really!

The other day a not so elderly lady said something to her son about driving a **Jalopy** and he looked at her quizzically and said "What the heck is a Jalopy?"

He had never heard of the word jalopy!! She knew she was old....but not that old.

Well, I hope you are **Hunky Dory** after you read this and chuckle. About a month ago, I illuminated some old expressions that have become obsolete because of the inexorable march of technology. These phrases included **"Don't touch that dial," "Carbon copy," "You sound like a broken record"** and **"Hung out to dry."**

Back in the olden days we'd put on our best **'bib and tucker'** to **'straighten up and fly right'**.

Heavens to Betsy! Gee whillikers! Jumping Jehoshaphat! Holy moley!

We were **'in like Flynn'** and **'living the life of Riley'**.

Even a regular guy couldn't accuse us of being a **knucklehead**, a **nincompoop** or a **pill**. Not for all the **tea in China!** Back in the olden days, life used to be **swell**, but when is the last time anything was **swell**? **Swell** has gone the way of **beehives**, **pageboys** and **spats**, **knickers**, **fedoras**, **poodle skirts**, **saddle shoes**, **penny loafers**, and **pedal pushers**...AND DON'T FORGET... **Saddle Stitched Pants.**

Oh, my aching back! Kilroy was here, but he isn't anymore. We wake up from what surely has been just a short nap, and before we can say, Well, I'll be **'a monkey's uncle!'** or, This is a **'fine kettle of fish!'** We discover that the words we grew up with, have vanished with scarcely a notice from our tongues and our pens and our keyboards.

Poof, go the words of our youth, the words we've left behind. We blink, and they're gone. Where have all those great phrases gone? Long gone: **The milkman did it. Hey!** Don't forget to **pull the chain. Knee high to a grasshopper.** Well, **Fiddlesticks! Going like sixty.** I'll see you **in the funny papers. Don't take any wooden pennys. Wake up and smell the roses.**

All of these are heard no more, except in our collective memory.

Its one of the greatest advantages of aging.

Leaves us to wonder where Superman will find a **phone booth**...

See ya later, alligator! Okidoki

A State Trooper was patrolling late at night off the main highway. At nearly midnight, he sees a couple in a car, in lovers' lane, with the interior light brightly glowing. He carefully approaches the car to get a closer look.

He sees a young man behind the wheel, reading a computer magazine. He immediately notices a young woman in the rear seat, filing her fingernails. Puzzled by this surprising situation, the trooper walks to the car and gently taps on the driver's window. The young man lowers his window.

"Uh, yes, Officer?"

The trooper asks: "What are you doing?"

The young man says: "Well, Officer, I'm reading a magazine."

Pointing towards the young woman in the back seat, the trooper asks: "And what is she doing?"

The young man shrugs: "Sir, I believe she's filing her fingernails."

Now, the trooper is totally confused: A young couple, alone, in a car, at night in a lover's lane and nothing inappropriate is happening!

The trooper asks: "What's your age, young man?"

The young man says: "I'm 22, sir."

The trooper asks: "And how old is she?"

The young man looks at his watch and replies: "She'll be 18 in 11 minutes."

A child asked his mother, "How were people born?" So his mother said, "Adam and Eve made babies, then their babies became adults and made babies, and so on."

The child then went to his father, asked him the same question and he told him, "We were monkeys then we evolved to become like we are now."

The child ran back to his mother and said, "You lied to me!" His mother replied, "No, your dad was talking about his side of the family."

Q: Can a kangaroo jump higher than the Eureka Towers?

A: Of course. The Eureka Towers can't jump.

Q: Why couldn't the leopard play hide and seek?

A: Because he was always spotted.

Follow us on facebook

www.facebook.com/MtEvelynRsl/

AWARDS



At the community awards organised recently by local Federal Member, the Hon Tony Smith MP, a number of members received awards.

The Stalls Team for the Mt Evelyn Street Party received an award and this included members:

Back (from left): Tim Herlihy & Geoff Brown with Anna Griffith (who is an organiser at our monthly markets).

Sitting (centre): Paula Herlihy & **(right):** Dee Webb

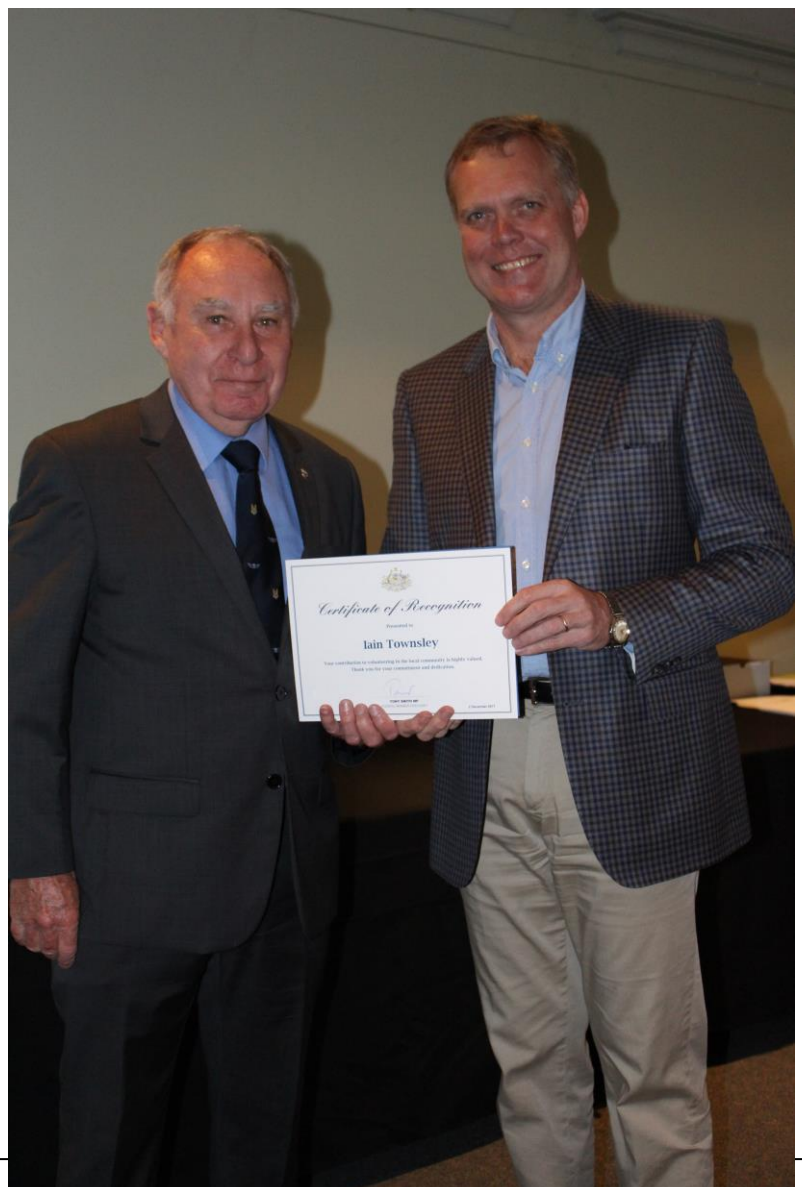
Also to receive an award at the same event was our Piper Iain Townsley (**pictured right with the Hon Tony Smith MP, federal Member for Casey**). Iain was presented with the community award for all the time he has volunteered in piping at community events, in helping ex-service organisations and for undertaking presentations on piping for local schools.

CHAMBER AWARDS

At the annual Mt Evelyn Chamber of Commerce Xmas Dinner held at the Eastwood Golf Club at Chirnside Park two members, **Dot Ervine & Betty Crittenden**, were awarded certificates of appreciation.

As they couldn't be at the special event, chamber president, **Kathie Freeman**, attended the Mt Evelyn RSL's December general meeting and officially presented both of them with their certificates there.

Congrats to all our recent award winners!!



NEW MT EVELYN RSL STUBBY HOLDERS

50 1968 - 2018
years

Since the club's
foundation meeting



MT EVELYN RSL

The Mt Evelyn RSL has had some new stubby holders made promoting the club.

Above: Is a brand new one commemorating the 50th anniversary of the foundation meeting in 1968 that created the club.

Below: Is an image of Mt Evelyn's War Memorial at the Dawn Service on Anzac Day.

You can collect your stubby holders next time you are at the club for only five dollars each.

ONLY

\$5



MT EVELYN RSL

The Mt Evelyn RSL will again be running a stall at the **Benvenuti Festival** (see above). Always a great day out in wonderful surroundings so put it in your diaries and make sure you come and see us. This year the festival will be raising funds for the Seville War Memorial.

SUNDAY MARCH 11 2018

The Yarra Valley Italian Cultural Group invites everybody to

THE BENVENUTI FESTIVAL

at the KILLARA ESTATE AND WINERY

Sunnyside Rd Seville East

To celebrate Australia's diversity of music culture
and food

STARTING 10.30AM



AND LOTS MORE

**A GREAT FAMILY
DAY OUT
\$5 ADULTS
CHILDREN FREE
FREE PARKING**

**Local Singing
sensation Anthony
Gerace
Donations to support
the Seville War
Memorial**



For More
Information
0473 595 694
www.benvenuti.org.au

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Veterans Wellness Programs

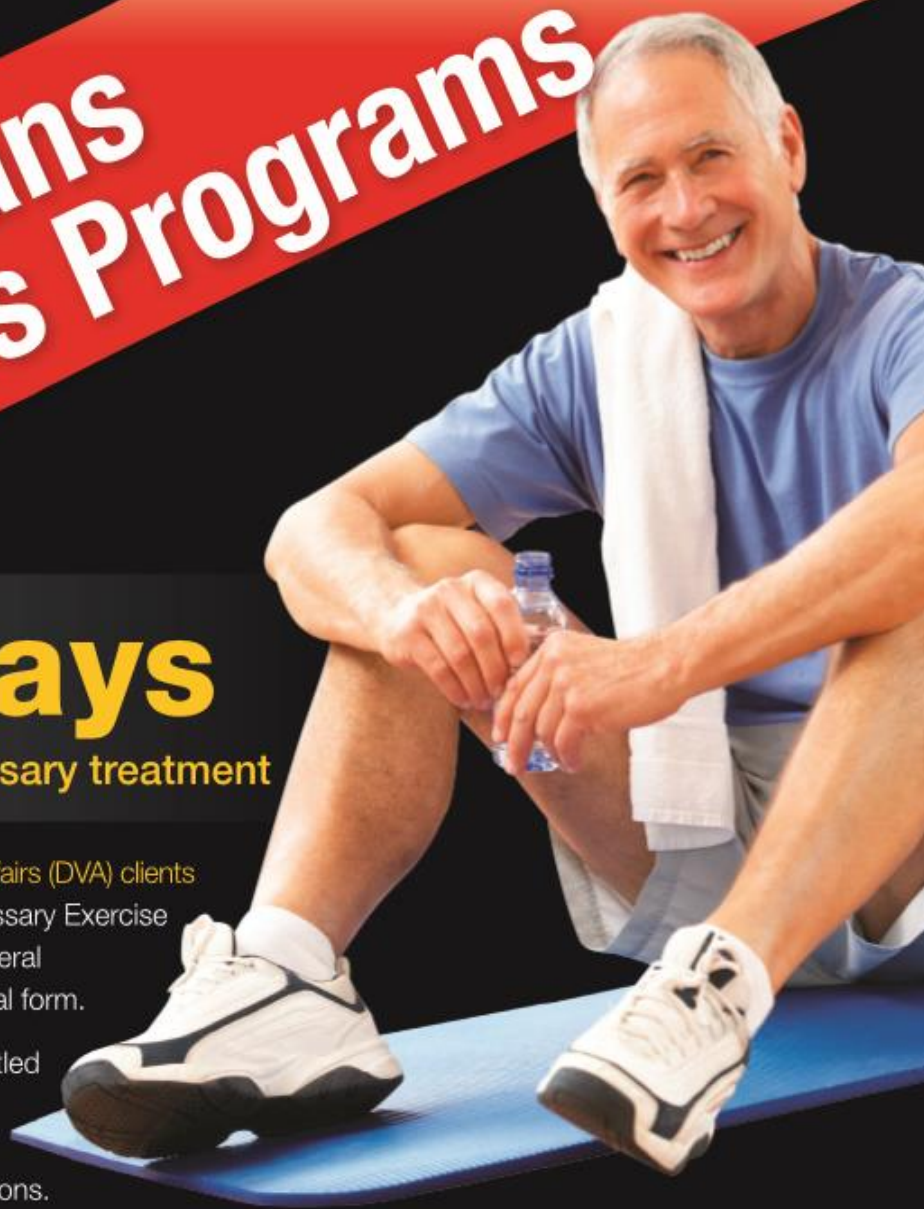
DVA Pays

for the clinically necessary treatment

Entitled Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) clients may be referred for clinically necessary Exercise Physiology treatment by their General Practitioner on a valid D904 referral form.

Gold Card Holders are entitled to clinically necessary treatment covered by DVA's health care arrangements for all health conditions.

White Card Holders are entitled to clinically necessary treatment for an accepted disability ie: an injury or disease accepted by DVA as service related.



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AUSTRALIA WIDE

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Now open in Lilydale
For further information, contact
Lauren O'Dwyer on 0411 121 177

njfwellness.com.au

MONASH'S MILITIA CAMP

LILYDALE - FEBRUARY 1914

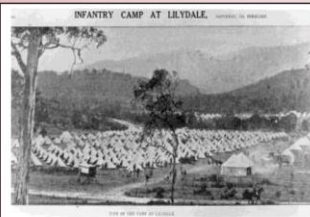
100 years ago John Monash and 3000 citizen soldiers descended on Lilydale and camped for week where the Lilydale Lake is today.

While they were there they were visited by General Sir Ian Hamilton & Richard Williams of RAAF fame and held a huge 'mock battle' near Melba's home in Coldstream.



Why were they there, what did they do, why was the event the most important in Monash's pre-war military career?

To mark the centenary of this remarkable event the Mt Evelyn RSL has published a book that details in words and images the fascinating story of 'Monash's Militia Camp'.



ORDER NOW:

Mt Evelyn RSL
PO BOX 182,
Mt Evelyn, Vic, 3796



Name: _____
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Telephone: _____ Email: _____
Copies required _____ Payment for \$ _____ is enclosed.
Please make cheques or money orders payable to: Mt Evelyn RSL.

Price: \$20 per copy plus \$2.00 postage

A STRETCHER BEARER'S WAR

The Story of Ralph Goode MBE



In 1914 Ralph Goode became the first of many men from Lilydale to enlist in World War One when he joined the 2nd Field Ambulance as a stretcher-bearer. Before he left for service overseas his fiancée gave him two small diaries in which to write down his experiences.

Over the next four years he painstakingly recorded what he went through in Egypt, on Gallipoli and throughout the Western Front. What he created on the pages of those little diaries is an extraordinary day to day account of the horrors and heroism of serving as a stretcher bearer in what they called 'The Great War'.

But his life back home in those decades after the war was to be just as heroic. What he did to cope with the trauma of his war experience would benefit his community greatly and leave a lasting legacy for generations to come.

With a foreword by Dr Michael Cathcart.

ORDER NOW:

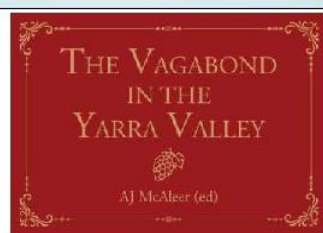
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Price: \$30 per copy plus \$2.00 postage

THE VAGABOND IN THE YARRA VALLEY



Observation of the Yarra Valley by one of the 19th Century's greatest writers and journalists
The Vagabond.

His complete collection of articles written on the Yarra Valley from 1877 to 1894. Includes details of the early wine industry, a description of travelling here by coach and then by train, reports on the development of the townships and its residents as well as the Steels Creek gold rush.

With a Foreword by:
Christine Fyffe MLA

Introduction by:
Jim Brown

Fully illustrated with images and photos of the Yarra Valley in the 19th Century - many never seen before!

Right: Deschamps Hill, Lilydale from 'The Towers'



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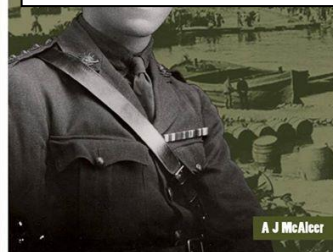
SCURRY

*THE MAN WHO GOT THEM
SAFELY OFF GALLIPOLI*

SCURRY

On December 8th, 1915 there were 38,500 Australian troops occupying trenches on Gallipoli, facing a larger Turkish force of some 80,000. Twelve days later they had all been evacuated from the Peninsula without the loss of a man and without the enemy

SOLD OUT!



Anzacs were still in their trenches shooting at them when in fact they had long gone. It would earn for him the Distinguished Conduct Medal and the gratitude of those who had got off Gallipoli safely.

But this was only a small part of the Bill Scurry story. From Egypt to Gallipoli and on to the Western Front, where he lost an eye and gained the Military Cross. Then to his post-war days as a soldier settler in Silvan before he was to serve once more in the Second World War.

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Mt Evelyn, Vic, 3796



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Copies required _____ Payment for \$ _____ is enclosed.
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Price: \$35 per copy plus \$5.00 postage

Mt Evelyn & Districts
Community Bank® Branch Bendigo Bank
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MT EVELYN CHESS CLUB

Weekly – Monday Evenings
 7pm – 9pm
 RSL Hall
 All ages – all abilities
Contact Tim on 9736 2935



Dr Binay Kumar MRCP MRCGP FRACGP
General Practitioner & Cosmetic Physician

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Rosemont T.O.W.N Club is now
 meeting on Tuesday at the
 Mt Evelyn RSL Hall, between 10:45am & 12:30pm.
 You can just drop by during one of our meetings, or you can
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Leader: Wilma 0488776294
rosemont.townclub@gmail.com

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Kids & Adults

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Mt Evelyn History Group

The Mt Evelyn RSL has a community
 partnership with MEHG which means
 RSL members can attend guest speaker
 talks for free.

Event Days (guest speakers, tours etc):
 Third Saturdays on odd months
 1.30pm
 'Hardy House' –
 Mt Evelyn RSL Hall

The Mt Evelyn History Group
Annual membership - \$15

General Meetings:
 every third Monday of even months
 7.30pm
 'Hardy House' –
 Mt Evelyn RSL Hall



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maxbrown.com.au

CROYDON KILSYTH MONTROSE MT EVELYN LILYDALE DISPLAY SEVILLE



LILYDALE WEIGHT CLUB

We meet at the Mt Evelyn
RSL Hall every Tuesday
5.45pm-6.45pm

Everyone welcome!



FITNESS CLASSES

At the RSL Hall
49 Birmingham Rd, Mt Evelyn



STRONG WOMEN.

Vicki provides a social One Hour Stretch & Strength Class to suit a wide range of fitness levels. Personal attention provided & program modified as required to suit individual needs.

Beginners most welcome!! Bring a drink bottle & a smile! Bring a friend! Call in & try it – first class is free!! Weights provided.

Contact: Vicki Walburg

Ph: 9736 2980 Mob: 0408 998 045

vickiwalburg-fitness@yahoo.com.au

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Mt Evelyn

www.jjsphotography.com.au

St John Ambulance

St John always needs enthusiastic, willing and capable people - *just like you* - to assist us in helping our community save lives through First Aid.

The Mt Evelyn Branch meets every
Tuesday night in the RSL Hall.

Call – Diane Dickson on 9736 2490



**Caring
for Life**

The Mt Evelyn RSL always use:

BELL'S
Mt Evelyn's
Quality
Butchers



27 Wray Cres
Ph: 9736 2206

The Mt Evelyn RSL is a proud member of...
The Mt Evelyn Chamber of Commerce

Les Kennedy
is the RSL's representative on the
Chamber of Commerce
– any ideas or issues for the Chamber
ring Les on: 0418 149 558

RALPH PROCTOR DISPLAY

Make sure you check out the Ralph Proctor RAAF display at the 'Mont de Lancey Museum' at Wandin. Ralph was a long time member at the Mt Evelyn RSL & served with the RAAF in Europe during World War Two. He donated his wartime memorabilia to the museum and it is a fascinating collection. Includes items to do with his experiences at D-Day & Arnhem.



Mont de Lancey Museum & Homestead

71 Wellington Rd, Wandin

Open: Wed-Sun 10.30-4.30pm

The Mt Evelyn RSL always uses:

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SIGNS

**Computer Cut Vinyl*

**Digital Prints*

**Banners *Signs*

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tigersigns@gmail.com

0419 897 134 or 9737 0888



Mt Evelyn Community Market

4th Saturday of each month (Feb - Nov)

9am - 1pm

RSL/Hardy House, 49 Birmingham Rd

Everyone is welcome to join us at the monthly

Mt Evelyn Community Market.

Featuring various stall holders and local businesses.

Fresh produce and an RSL sausage sizzle and devonshire tea.

www.facebook.com/mtevelyncommunitymarket



CLAUDE ALBERT ATKINSON

In commemoration of the centenary of World War One, the Mt Evelyn & Lilydale RSLs have divided the local war memorials between them and will be holding a service on the centenary date of those listed on these memorials who died while on active service. In connection with this will be publishing their biographies in each of our newsletters.....

Claude Albert Atkinson was born in 1897 at Coburg, Victoria, the son of Albert Robert Atkinson and Amy Eva Atkinson. When he was young his family moved to Picnic Hill on the Warburton Hwy at Wandin North and Claude grew up here, attending the Lilydale State School.

After he finished his schooling he went to work for the Victorian Railways and was working here when, on March 6th, 1916, he decided to walk into the recruiting centre at the Melbourne Town Hall and enlist in the AIF. He was 18 years old at the time and as a result he had to have a letter with his parent's permission before he could be accepted. His medical records show that he was five feet, five inches tall, had brown hair and blue eyes.

He undertook his initial training at the AIF training camp at Broadmeadows where he was allotted to 'C' Company of the original 24th Battalion and he was given the regimental number 591. He embarked with his unit from Port Melbourne on the HMAT Euripides on May 8th, 1915.

The following month he was in camp at Egypt and then in August was sent with the 24th Battalion to Gallipoli, arriving at Anzac Cove in September. For the next sixteen weeks he served in the front lines at Lone Pine before being evacuated with the rest of the Anzac force off the Peninsula in December 1915.

He was eventually sent back to Egypt where a few months later the AIF were reorganised in preparation for being sent to the Western Front. In March 1916 the 24th Battalion was sent to France arriving in the Somme Valley area in May.

On July 23rd, 1916 the Battle of Pozieres began and a few days later the 24th Battalion took part in its first offensive operations in this campaign. On August 5th Claude was in the front line when he was wounded severely in the left thigh. Stretcher bearers carried him to the nearest casualty clearing station and from here he was admitted to the base hospital at Camiers. He died of his wounds here the next day, he was nineteen years old.

He was buried at the Etaples Military Cemetery in France.

However the Atkinson family's tragedy wouldn't end there. When the telegram announcing that Claude had died of wounds arrived at their home, the shock and grief of the news was too much for his grandfather who had a heart attack and died just after receiving the notification.

A special service was later held in Claude's memory by the community at the Picnic Hill Church at Wandin North.

His father, Albert Robert Atkinson, enlisted soon after Claude's death and served with the Australian Army Medical Corps, returning to Australia in 1919.

His younger brother, William Reginald Atkinson, also enlisted and served on the Western Front during 1917 as a gunner with the 120 Howitzer Brigade.

In a letter to his mother in April 1917 he wrote the following: "On my way up here I passed through, and one night camped on, the famous battlefield of last year, the one where ten thousand of our best lads laid down their lives in the defence of right (Claude amongst them), namely Pozieres, where Claude was killed. The awful sight is indescribable.

All that remained of trenches was a gutter, and there wasn't a square yard that hadn't been shell torn, and I gazed on the steep heights, and thought of the price it cost to take it. But it doesn't do to brood too much on this sort of thing. Here and there I could see a little cross in the paddocks that

MT EVELYN FURPHYS

- Welcome to new members **Joel Martin & Timothy Breen**. Joel has a military vehicle and will be joining our Dawn Service parade this year.

- Best wishes to **Arch Carswell, John Allwood, Ernie Johnston and Bruce Watkinson** who have spent time in hospital recently.

- Also to **Betty Crittenden, Roger Boness and Barry McCormack** who have been nursing injuries.

- Congratulations to our president **Roger Boness** who has become a grandfather for the first time with the arrival of baby Riley Cooper Hunter. His daughter Alice and son-in-law Ashley are doing very well.

- This year marks the centenary of the WWI Armistice – stand by for an announcement on some big plans for some special events to take place.

- Should you require any assistance or advice - **Deanne Webb** (the Sub-branch's Welfare Officer).
Ph: **0402 783 849**

indicated the last resting place of some mother's boy. All that remained of the village itself was a sign board with the name Pozieres on it. And then I thought, here, nine months ago, Claude passed through a veritable hell, for that's what it was, and on the dawn of victory, passed away. Truly he played the game, gave his best, and I firmly believe now has his reward. That to me is a very comforting thought".

If undeliverable return to:

The Mt Evelyn RSL Sub-Branch
PO Box 182
Mt Evelyn Vic 3796

The Digger's Café

The social club operates the club rooms
every

***Thursday afternoon
from 1.00pm to 4.30pm.***

If you're looking for something to do of a
Thursday afternoon in Mt Evelyn
why not call in for a chat or
a game of pool or indoor bowls.

Club Opening Hours

***Every Friday Night
7.00pm – 10.30pm***

Celebrate the end of the week with a visit to
the clubrooms.

We always have a well stocked fridge and
there is always someone on hand to make a
brew if you so desire.

Friday night football/cricket will be playing
on our big screen TV and don't forget we
also have a pool table.

Editor: Anthony McAleer

Ph: 9736 4384

Email: mtevrsl@gmail.com

*Send me an email me if you want to receive the
newsletter faster via email – it also saves the club
on postage costs!*

RSL Hall Hire

As you would have seen from recent publicity, the
membership of the Mt Evelyn RSL have voted to no
longer hire out our hall to one-off users for functions,
mainly because of the issues we've had with them
have made them more trouble than it's worth.

However we will still hire the hall out to members
for functions and at a discounted rate.

Contact the Secretary at:
mtevrsl@gmail.com

Mt Evelyn RSL Committee

President –

Roger Boness

Ph: 9737 0830

Vice Presidents–

Jim Hurley

Ph: 9876 3750

Iain Townsley

Ph: 9777 1276

Secretary –

Anthony McAleer

Ph: 9736 4384

Treasurer –

John Allwood

Ph: 9736 1551

Welfare Officer –

Deanne Webb

Ph: 0402783849

Padre –

Appeals Officer –

John Allwood

Ph: 9736 1551

Chamber representative –

Les Kennedy

Ph: 0418 149 558

Justice of the Peace –

Kim Parry

Ph: 0418334416

Committee:

Betty Crittenden, Bill Smart, Ron Jones