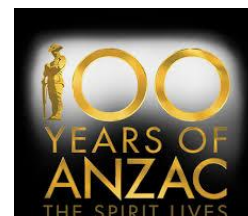


Mt Evelyn RSL News



Volume 8, Issue 5, Summer Edition A Sub-Branch of the Returned and Services League of Australia



2018 Meeting Dates

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:
mtevrsl@gmail.com

Website:
www.mountevelynrsl.com

Postal Address:
PO Box 182
Mt Evelyn Vic 3796



Follow us on facebook

LAUNCH OF YARRA VALLEY VIETNAM VETERANS BOOK



Above: Ken Mackenzie OAM, John 'Fingers' Sumner, Bill Dobson, Bill Smart, Tony Smith MP, Doug Hill, Hugh Robertson, Ted Beard, Aff Binnoore BEM, Bob Richardson, Steve Shortis, Roger Boness, Colin Dennison, John Surridge, Anthony McAleer (photo Croydon RSL).

A good crowd braved bad weather and a terrible car accident in Birmingham Rd to attend the launch of the Mt Evelyn RSL's latest publication – 'Yarra Valley Vietnam Veterans'. The book was launched by Hugh Robertson, president of Melbourne Legacy, and the Hon Tony Smith MP, federal member for Casey and Speaker of the House. The event also included some wonderful musical performances by Alex Borg and Georgia McAleer.

This book consists of interviews with sixteen Vietnam veterans who live in the Yarra Valley, two from the Navy and fourteen from the army. They represent various Corps and ships as well as different periods during the war. They all tell of their experiences during that decade long conflict, before, during and after, and some are telling their stories for the first time.

The book is actually an attempt to give people a better understanding of what Australian servicemen experienced during their time in Vietnam. In some ways their experiences were similar, in many ways they were unique.

The day finished with the interviewees working hard signing copies of the book for those present and everyone enjoying a wonderful afternoon tea put on by the hard working ladies of the club. Guests included representatives of many local RSL clubs & the Outer Eastern Vietnam Veterans Assoc. *More photos and order form inside.*

Important Dates

Coming Up:

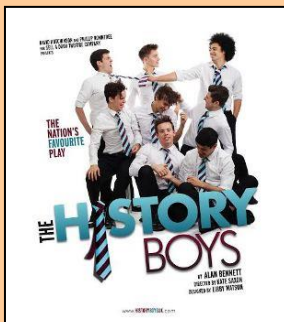
Athenaeum Theatre, Lilydale

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

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

HISTORY BOYS

November 2018



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

**WWI individual
services @
11.00am**

**Aug 31st
Wandin War
Memorial
John Payne**

**Oct 1st
Montrose War
Memorial
Gordon Ewart**

**June 20th, 2019
Mt Evelyn War
Memorial
Frank Larkins**

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

In this edition, you will read about the launch of the RSL's latest publication 'Yarra Valley Vietnam Veterans'. Vietnam became a political war and the Australian public protested against the Australian involvement and sadly against those who served in it. After fifty or so years Anthony McAleer managed to coax sixteen Yarra Valley veterans to tell their story before these stories became unavailable and lost forever. I commend this publication to you and thank Anthony for his hindsight.

2018 marks the centenary anniversary of the armistice (cessation from hostilities) on the 11th November 1918.

The Mount Evelyn RSL Sub-Branch are considering how we may assist the local schools and community to remember this significant military world historical event can respectively be remembered. We have some plans and are currently waiting to hear whether grant funding will be approved for us to achieve this. I can assure you we are planning to make this occasion memorable and it will involve our young people. More about this when we hopefully get the grant. There will be available a lovingly individual hand knitted poppy for purchase at the RSL Remembrance Day stalls.

Lest We Forget

Roger Boness – President, Mt Evelyn RSL

APPEAL OFFICER'S REPORT

Fifty days to go to another collection period, so please check your calendars and see what days and what location you are available for and get back to me – we need as many volunteers as possible.

We have received the new order forms, and catalogue, and we will be completing our order shortly, and as was expected there are some new items available.

On my last appeals officer report, which was read in Head Office, I was taken to task by Peter Smith, who said that I had been a little economical with the truth regarding what was happening with some of the Anzac badges, anyway after a phone call to Peter everything was sorted out, and I learnt not to repeat gossip, thankyou Peter.

- 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



Q. What five-letter word becomes shorter if you add two letters to it?

A. "Short" (add + "er")!

Q: What do you call sad coffee?

A: Despresso.

Q: How are coffee beans like kids?

A: They're always getting grounded!

Q: What's it called when you steal someone's coffee?

A: Mugging!

Q: Why did the butcher work extra hours at the shop? **A: To make ends meat**

Q: Why couldn't the sesame seed leave the casino?

A: He was on a roll!

Q. I'm the size of an elephant, but I weigh nothing. What am I?

A. An elephant's shadow!

Q. I have a neck, but no head, and I wear a cap. What am I?

A. A bottle!

Q: What kind of sports car does a cat drive?

A: A Furrari.

Q: What do cats wear at night?

A: Paw-jamas.

Q You know why you never see elephants hiding up in trees?

A. Because they're really good at it.

Q. What do you call bears with no ears?

A. B1.

Q What do you get when you cross a dyslexic, an insomniac, and an agnostic?

A Someone who lays awake at night wondering if there is a dog.

Q A pirate walks into a bar with a steering wheel on his pants, a peg leg and a parrot on his shoulder. The bartender says, "Hey, you've got a steering wheel on your pants."

A The pirate says, "Arrrrr, I know. It's driving me nuts."

Q What is red and smells like blue paint?

A Red paint.

A dyslexic man walks into a bra.

What's the best thing about Switzerland?

I don't know, but the flag is a huge plus.

What's the difference between a hippo and a Zippo?

One is really heavy, and the other is a little lighter.

A horse walks into a bar...

The bartender says, "Hey."

The horse replies, "Sure."

Apparently you can't use "beef stew" as a password.

It's not stroganoff.

You have 10 apples in one hand and 14 oranges in the other, what do you have?

Really, really big hands.

What do you call two monkeys that share an Amazon account?

Prime mates.

A man walks into a lawyer's office and asks, "How much do you charge?"

The lawyer says, "\$5,000 for three questions."

"Wow, that's pretty expensive, isn't it?" the man asks.

"Yes," says the lawyer. "Now, what's your third question?"

What do we want? Low-flying airplane noises!

When do we want them?

NNNNNEEEEEOOOOOOOWWWWWWW!

I took part in the suntanning Olympics...

...but I only got bronze.

Follow us on facebook

www.facebook.com/MtEvelynRsl/

KEN'S PHOTOS FROM THE BOOK LAUNCH



Photos: courtesy of Ken Mackenzie OAM



50th ANNIVERSARY OF OUR FOUNDATION MEETING 1968 - 2018



In August 1968 a meeting was held at the Presbyterian Hall between World War One & World War Two veterans who lived locally to form a branch of the RSL at Mt Evelyn. To mark the 50th anniversary of the sub-branch's foundation meeting we all shared a cake at our August General Meeting. Doing the honours of cutting the cake was the club's stalwart, 90 year old Betty Crittenden, a life member of the Women's auxiliary and RSL awardee as well as a long time member. Plans are now underway for the club's 50th anniversary, which will be in January 2019 – when the club received its charter and officially began. We are interested in hearing your ideas about how the club should celebrate this special event.



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 CLIPPED WINGS

Cockatoo Rise War Veterans Retreat inc.



(www.cockatooisere retreat.com.au)

MEMBERSHIP 2018

Hi everybody, we would like you to support us by being a member of Cockatoo Rise Retreat. We get no other funding, so the support and interest we get from my fellow veterans and friends is crucial in helping us, to continue providing this valuable facility for those who have served.

You may be able to pass this onto any friends or other veterans that could be interested in helping us.

E-mail: cockatooise@wideband.net.au

Yearly \$10.00 per person
10 years \$50.00 per person
Life time membership \$100.00 per person
Groups or organisations \$250.00 Life time

Monies can be put directly into the retreat account,
BENDIGO BANK, BSB 633000 AC NO 158053827
NAME COCKATOO RISE WAR VETERANS
OR BY CHEQUE TO COCKATOO RISE RETREAT
PO BOX 1775, BAIRNSDALE 3875, TEL 0409418332

New members can return this form with payment and details,

Name Tel no

Address

Service details

e-mail address

JUNE 2018



Join Us Today!

The Air League is for boys and girls aged 8 to 18 with a passion for aviation, fun and adventure. If that sounds like you - we'd love to hear from you!



Are you a dedicated adult with a passion for aviation who cares about the future of our children?

Air League Officers are volunteers from the community, often former cadets themselves or parents of cadets, keenly interested in developing the potential of young Australians and willing to volunteer their time to develop today's young people.

Your Nearest Squadron:

LILYDALE SQUADRON (Serving the Yarra Ranges)

Coldstream Community Centre

12 Kelso St. Coldstream

Times - Monday nights 6:30 - 8:30pm
(during school terms)

Contact: Jeremy Furness - 0403 310 032



1st Mt Evelyn Scouts

Past and Present Members, Supporters and the General Community
are invited to a celebratory dinner

September 15th | 23 Station St, Mt Evelyn

Official speeches and cake presentation 5.30pm

Two-course roast dinner 6.30pm

Campfire and band all evening

\$20 per person or \$150 for a table of 8
Tea and coffee provided. BYO drinks and alcohol

Bookings, dietary restrictions and payment essential by Sept 5
Contact Di Bull at ag1stmt Evelyn@gmail.com

Brought to you by YouthARK Theatre
In Association with ARK Theatre



September 27 | 28 | 30
October 5 | 6

7:30pm start at Lilydale Heights PAC

<https://www.trybooking.com/XODW>

Written by Doug Rand. This production is presented through special arrangements with Origin Theatrical, on behalf of Playscript Inc.

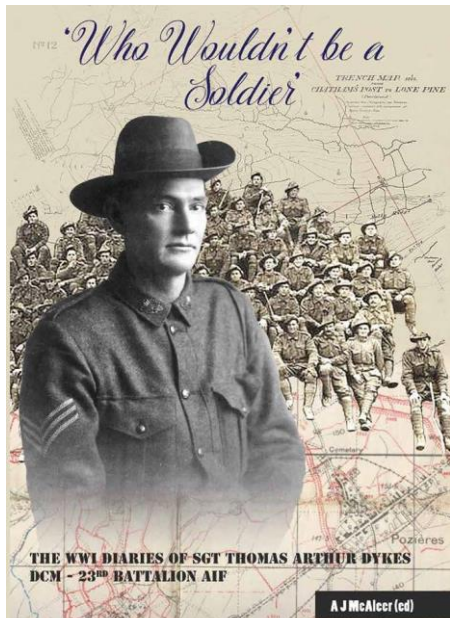


DONATION TO WAR MEMORIAL



Last year the Mt Evelyn RSL hosted the launch of former Mt Evelyn resident Elva Cunningham's book 'Who Wouldn't Be a Soldier?'. This published for the first time her father's WWI diaries, detailing his time from Gallipoli through to the Western Front with the 23rd Battalion.

Recently Mt Evelyn RSL members, Peter Paterson and Anthony McAleer, accompanied Elva to Canberra where she officially donated her father's original WWI diaries to the archives of the Australian War Memorial (see image left). She was also thanked by the museum's director, Dr Brendan Nelson (see below). See our website for order form for the book.



A VISIT TO THE SPEAKER



While in Canberra, Anthony, Peter and Elva had the opportunity to visit our local Federal member, the Hon Tony Smith MP, in his office at Parliament House. They were impressed with the magnificent artwork from the AWM in his office and how he performs as the Speaker.



VALE ARCH CARSWELL



**Above: Arch Carswell enjoying himself at the Thursday afternoon tea.
Below: Kathie with Roger Boness, presenting the RSL with a Community Group of the Year Award from the MECC.**

The members of the Mt Evelyn RSL were sad to learn of the passing of long time affiliate member Arch Carswell on Wednesday August 15th.

Arch grew up in Mt Evelyn where he and his father ran a butcher's shop for many years. Arch's father, also Arch, was a returned serviceman from WW2 and was a foundation member of the Mt Evelyn RSL.

Arch was a regular at the Thursday afternoon social functions and often came on our bus trips.

Our thoughts are with his wife Pauline and family.

VALE KATHIE FREEMAN



The membership were also very sad to hear of the passing of another well-liked affiliate member, Kathie Freeman.

Kathie and her husband Gary and Daughter Natalie ran the Post office in Mt Evelyn for many years. The club presented them with a Victorian RSL certificate of achievement for their support of the club during that time.

Kathie was also president of the Mt Evelyn Chamber of Commerce and achieved a number of worth while projects for our community and the RSL.

Our thoughts are with Gary and their family.

YARRA VALLEY VIETNAM VETERANS

YARRA VALLEY VIETNAM VETERANS



Fifty years after they served Australia in the Vietnam War, sixteen veterans of that conflict from the Yarra Valley sat down with the Mt Evelyn RSL's historian and revealed, some for the first time, their wartime experiences.

Their stories tell of our nation's involvement in Vietnam and spans the period 1964 to 1972. They served with the Navy, with the Regular Army, with the CMF and as National Servicemen. Their backgrounds varied as much as their experiences 'in country' during that time.

It is a story of sacrifice and endurance, bravery and loss, good times and bad times. It reveals the environment they were forced to exist in and the role they played, from the mundane to the terrifying.

Surviving all of this they then returned home to a nation where many people ignored or even condemned them. For most, those decades after the war were an ongoing battle to deal with the physical and mental scars.

With a Foreword by Neville Clark MC, OAM

An Introduction by The Hon Tony Smith MP

ORDER NOW:

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PO BOX 182
Mt Evelyn, Vic, 3796**



Name: _____

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Copies required _____

Payment for \$_____ is enclosed.

Please make cheques or money orders payable to: **Mt Evelyn RSL.**

Price: \$35 per copy plus \$5.00 postage

MONASH'S MILITIA CAMP

LILYDALE - FEBRUARY 1914

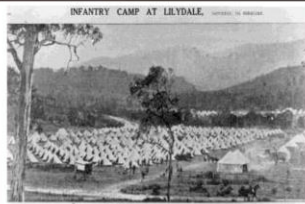
100 years ago John Monash and 3000 citizen soldiers descended on Lilydale and camped for week where the Lilydale Lake is today.

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'.



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Mt Evelyn, Vic, 3796



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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:

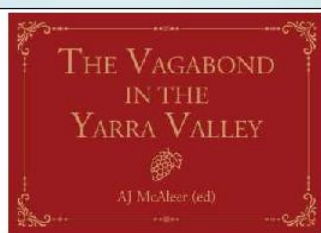
Mt Evelyn RSL
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Copies required _____ Payment for \$ _____ is enclosed.
Please make cheques or money orders payable to: Mt Evelyn RSL.

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'



ORDER NOW:

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

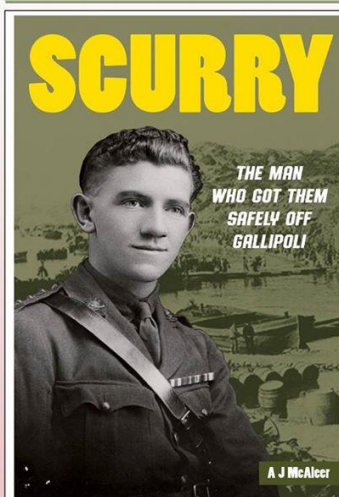


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Please make cheques or money orders payable to: Mt Evelyn RSL.

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

SCURRY

*THE MAN WHO GOT THEM
SAFELY OFF GALLIPOLI*



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 knowing.

How they did this was helped in no small way by an ingenious invention created by twenty year old Lance-Corporal Bill Scurry, a self-firing rifle with a primitive timer that would convince the Turkish soldiers that the 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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Price: \$35 per copy plus \$5.00 postage

Mt Evelyn & Districts
Community Bank® Branch Bendigo Bank
 97371833



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

Mount Evelyn Medical Clinic
 9-11 Wray Cres Mount Evelyn
 Ph: (03) 9736 1444
www.mtevelynodoctors.com.au

Take Off Weight Naturally

*Do you want to lose weight
 with the help of a supportive,
 friendly group of people,
 and not have to pay a fortune?*



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
 ring one of the following numbers to get more details.

Leader: Wilma 0488776294
rosemont.townclub@gmail.com

PAUL E O'REILLY

TIMBER FLOORING SPECIALIST

- Floor sanding & Finishing
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 Diploma of Remedial Massage –
 Member AAMT

38 Hardy St, Lilydale

9737 6070
0413533634

*Sports Injuries * Lomi Lomi*
**Trigger Point Therapy*



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

Kim N Parry | Licensed Estate Agent
 & Auctioneer
 Justice of the Peace



Max Brown - Yarra Valley
M: 0418 334 416 anytime
P: 03 5964 4900
F: 03 5964 2189
E: kimp@maxbrown.com.au
kimparry@people.net.au



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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- Custom Picture Framing
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Steve Deakins
(Mt Evelyn RSL Member)

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Shop 7B York Rd, Mt Evelyn

www.artwithdistinction.com.au

Gift vouchers available - great gift idea!!!

JJ's Photography



Ph: 9736 1822

Mob: 0427100818

Shop 7B York Rd

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:

TIGER
SIGNS

- *Computer Cut Vinyls
- *Digital Prints
- *Banners *Signs



Contact Dave –

tigersigns@gmail.com

0419 897 134 or 9737 0888

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.

Start today and experience the benefits...

- ✓ Increase mobility and balance
- ✓ Reduce and manage age related illness
- ✓ Assist with the management of chronic health conditions, back pain, cardiovascular disease, arthritis, diabetes and more.
- ✓ Exercise Physiology, Occupational Therapy, Dietetic & Physiotherapy services available.
- ✓ Operating out of Gym & Aquatic facilities, also with the option of home visits.

NJF
Exercise Physiologists



AUSTRALIA WIDE

NJF operates out of numerous locations, call to find your nearest location.

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

njfwellness.com.au

ALFRED HENRY NIBLETT

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.....

Alfred Niblett was born in England in 1880 and grew up in Leicester. In 1912, at the age of thirty-two, he came out to Victoria on the ship the 'Ballarat'. By 1914 he was living and working in Lilydale and was there when war was declared. Soon after the war started, he decided to join up but not with the AIF. He made arrangements to travel to England to enlist there with the hope of getting into quicker with the British military forces.

Strangely enough he went into camp with the AIF in Broadmeadows and began his military training with them, even though he wasn't a member of the AIF. He was there when the president of the Shire of Lillydale visited the camp and presented all of the local soldiers including Alfred with a certificate of appreciation for enlisting.

In October 1914 he left Melbourne with the first convoy of Australian troops bound for the war. On the way over he witnessed the HMAS Sydney and it's attack on the German ship 'Emden' and remained on board after the Australian troops disembarked in Egypt and travelled on to England.

Arriving in England he wasted no time enlisting in the 19th Battery of the Royal Field Artillery that was attached to the Indian Contingent. He was given leave to have Christmas at home and then went into camp. By February 1915 he was in action in France.

In June, after five months in the frontline, he wrote the following to a friend in Lilydale:

'This is a war, and no mistake the Huns are a dirty lot of fighters. No doubt you have read about their inhuman methods of trying to beat us. They even set fire to our wounded men if they see them move between the trenches. There are plenty of horrible things they do, but we will pay them back at their own game yet. What you see in the papers about them and their tricks is quite true, because I have seen them with my own eyes, and I have had some narrow squeaks myself, but am still smiling, and hope to continue so'.

In March he was involved in the Battle of Neuve Chappelle, an attempt by the British forces to break through the German lines. After much fierce fighting they failed make much headway and only really consolidated the British lines along that sector. In a letter to Lilydale friends Alfred wrote:

'The bombardment of Neuve Chappelle was a hell of its own. We have had several similar ones since. We gave them a proper shaking up too. We will give them "baby killers" before we have done with them. One thing, you are fairly safe from air raids out here. I see by the papers that the Australians and New Zealanders are doing fine work at the Dardenelles. I hope there are a lot more of the boys from Lilydale gone to help keep the good name up. I hope one day, if I am spared through this war, to return to Australia and renew old acquaintances'.

He served in France until November 1915 and then his battery was sent to Persia along with Indian and British forces to help defend the garrison town of Kut, along the Tigris River, from the Turkish forces. They weren't there long when the town was attacked by over whelming Turkish troops and besieged. Alfred Niblett was killed in action here on February 7th, 1916 and is buried in the British War Cemetery in Basra. The rest of the forces here surrendered in April 1916 after 147 days beseiged and were taken prisoner. Only 30% would survive their captivity.

LEST WE FORGET

Right: British Artillery at Kut

MT EVELYN FURPHYS

- Best wishes to members who have spent time in hospital recently: **Deanne Webb, Bruce Watkinson & Barry McCormack.**
- Our thoughts are with **Matt Crymble** whose father passed away recently.
- Our first Mt Evelyn RSL Community Market in the War Memorial Gardens was a great success.
- Stand by for some very interesting events being planned around the centenary of the armistice in November.
- The RSL has been successful in getting grants for two more books – one on the story of the Homefront locally during WW1 and another is a collection of centenary speeches by the Hon Tony Smith MP.
- Copies of our recently publication – **Scurry – The Man Who Got Them Safely off Gallipoli** – have been reprinted and are now available to order.
- Many thanks to **Ken Mackenzie OAM** for his donation of military maps from Vietnam & Cambodia to the RSL's collection.
- Should you require any assistance or advice - **Deanne Webb** (the Sub-branch's Welfare Officer).
Ph: **0402 783 849**



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, Stan
Beaumont, Rob Webb, Dot Ervine