

Mt Evelyn RSL News



Volume 6, Issue 1, Autumn 2016

A Sub-Branch of the Returned and Services League of Australia



2016 Meeting Dates

Feb 21st (Sun)- AGM

March 18th

April 15th

May 20th

June 17th

July 15th

Aug 19th

Sept 16th

Oct 21st

Nov 18th

Dec 16th

*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

Postal Address:

PO Box 182

Mt Evelyn Vic 3796

MEMORIAL UNVEILED TO MAJOR SCURRY

On Sunday December 20th, 2015 a good crowd turned out on a hot, windy day to commemorate the centenary of the evacuation of Gallipoli and to pay tribute to a local who was instrumental in getting them off the Peninsula safely, Major William Scurry.

Major Scurry grew up in Ascot Vale and enlisted in the 7th Battalion in World War One. He served on Gallipoli and while there invented the time release rifle that was set up on the night of the evacuation and helped fool the Turks into thinking the Anzacs were still there. Scurry then served on the Western Front, was wounded and eventually returned home to marry a war nurse. They settled on a property in Silvan. On the day a special plaque detailing Major Scurry's life and the role he played in the evacuation was unveiled by his daughter Judith Storey at his grave. Many members of the Scurry family were present including one who flew down from Brisbane.

In 2016 the Mt Evelyn RSL plans on publishing a biography of Major Scurry and have already received a grant from the State Government to do so.

Below: Cr Maria McCarthy, Christine Fyffe MLA, Judith Story (Major Scurry's daughter) Tony Smith MP and Don Parsons, President of the Lilydale RSL



Important Dates

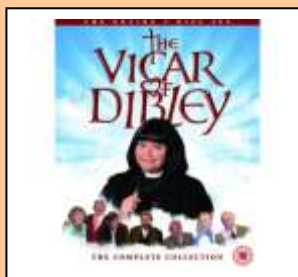
Coming Up:

Athenaeum Theatre, Lilydale

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

We will be doing the same
in 2016 so come along and
see:

The Vicar of Dibley
Sunday March 6th
@ 2.00pm



Breaker Morant
Sunday May 29th
@ 2.00pm



Caught in the Net
Sunday August 21st
@ 2.00pm

Yes, Prime Minister?
Sunday November 13th
@ 2.00pm



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

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

RSL members are reminded that the Annual General Meeting of the Mount Evelyn Community RSL Sub-Branch will be held on Sunday 21st of February 2016 at 2pm at the RSL Clubroom 49 Birmingham Road, Mount Evelyn.

In that regard all committee positions are declared vacant. I encourage all RSL members to consider how they may be able to ensure the Sub-Branch continues to build on the significant achievements of the outgoing 2015 committee. Nominations for committee positions close at 6pm on Friday 19th of February 2016. Nominations will be displayed on the notice board.

On Wednesday the 17th February 2016 at 1:30pm Mount Evelyn RSL will be assisting The Department of Premier & Cabinet in presenting their program, 'Anzac Centenary-Victoria's Journey of Remembrance' to the residents and staff of Mercy Aged Care in Montrose. RSL members are more than welcome to attend this innovative free 60 minute presentation.

Thursday afternoon tea and social interaction will reconvene at the RSL clubroom on Thursday 4th February 2016 at 1pm. All welcome.

Veterans and Veterans Families Counselling Service will be holding a two day workshop on "Mastering Anxiety" at Mount Evelyn on Fridays, 4th & 11th March 2016 9:30am-4:00pm. Limited places available so register your interest early.

Lest We Forget

Roger Boness

APPEAL OFFICER'S REPORT

As Dot Ervine has resigned from the job after many years in the role the club is after a new appeals officer.

If you are interested in what the role entails have a chat to Roger Boness 9737 0830 or feel more than welcome to put up your hand at the annual general meeting on Sunday February 21st.

Membership Subs for 2016 – *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



A little girl was talking to her teacher about whales. The teacher said it was physically impossible for a whale to swallow a human because even though it was a very large mammal its throat was very small. The little girl stated that Jonah was swallowed by a whale. Irritated, the teacher reiterated that a whale could not swallow a human; it was physically impossible. The little girl said, 'When I get to heaven I will ask Jonah'. The teacher asked, 'What if Jonah went to hell?' The little girl replied, 'Then you ask him'.

A Kindergarten teacher was observing her classroom of children while they were drawing. She would occasionally walk around to see each child's work. As she got to one little girl who was working diligently, she asked what the drawing was. The girl replied, 'I'm drawing God.' The teacher paused and said, 'But no one knows what God looks like.' Without missing a beat, or looking up from her drawing, the girl replied, 'They will in a minute.'

A Sunday school teacher was discussing the Ten Commandments with her five and six year olds. After explaining the commandment to 'honour' thy Father and thy Mother, she asked, 'Is there a commandment that teaches us how to treat our brothers and sisters?' From the back, one little boy (the oldest of a family) answered, 'Thou shall not kill.'

One day a little girl was sitting and watching her mother do the dishes at the kitchen sink. She suddenly noticed that her mother had several strands of white hair sticking out in contrast on her brunette head. She looked at her mother and inquisitively asked, 'Why are some of your hairs white, Mum?' Her mother replied, 'Well, every time that you do something wrong and make me cry or unhappy, one of my hairs turns white.' The little girl thought about this revelation for a while and then said, 'Mummy, how come ALL of grandma's hairs are white?'

The children had all been photographed, and the teacher was trying to persuade them each to buy a copy of the group picture. 'Just think how nice it will be to look at it when you are all grown up and say, 'There's Jennifer, she's a lawyer,' or 'That's Michael, He's a doctor.' A small voice at the back of the room rang out, 'And there's the teacher, she's dead.'

Paddy caught his wife having an affair and decided to kill her and himself. He puts the gun to his head, looks at his wife and says "Don't laugh, your next!!"

A teacher was giving a lesson on the circulation of the blood. Trying to make the matter clearer, she said, 'Now, class, if I stood on my head, the blood, as you know, would run into it, and I would turn red in the face.' 'Yes,' the class said. 'Then why is it that while I am standing upright in the ordinary position the blood doesn't run into my feet?' A little fellow shouted, 'Cause your feet ain't empty.'

The children were lined up in the cafeteria of a Catholic elementary school for lunch. At the head of the table was a large pile of apples. The nun made a note, and posted on the apple tray: 'Take only one. God is watching.' Moving further along the lunch line, at the other end of the table was a large pile of chocolate chip cookies. A child had written a note, 'Take all you want. God is watching the apples...'

The lawyer says to the wealthy art collector tycoon: "I have some good news, and I have some bad news." The tycoon replies: "I've had an awful day, let's hear the good news first". The lawyer says: "Your wife invested \$5,000 in two pictures today that she figures are worth a minimum of \$2 million." The tycoon replies enthusiastically: "Well done, very good news indeed! You've just made my day; now what's the bad news?" The lawyer answers: "The pictures are of you and your secretary."

Little boy gets home from school and says:

"Dad, I've got a part in the school play as a man who's been married for 25 years."

His Dad replies:

"Never mind Son. Maybe next time you'll get a speaking part!!"



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www.facebook.com/mtevelynrs

NEWS

SANTA VISITS OVER CHRISTMAS

Below Left:

Any ideas which Mt Evelyn RSL member played Santa (pictured) at the Mt Evelyn Chamber of Commerce Twilight Market on December 4th? He looks quite presidential.

Rumour has it he was lucky to get out alive after he arrived on the Fire Truck with lollies to give out and was mobbed by dozens of kids.

Below Right:

And what about Army Santa. Member L/Cpl Chris McAleer went all out at the 4/19th Prince of Wales's Light Horse Regiment Xmas party at Watsonia Barracks.



FAREWELL TO RUSSELL AND SANDRA



Sadly we say farewell to two members, Major Russell Kirby & Sandra FitzGerald, who have left to live in the UK for 12 months. After that they will be spending time in New Zealand and then settling in Queensland to be near their family.

We bid them Bon Voyage, thank them for all the work they did for the Mt Evelyn RSL and wish them both the best of luck.

Above: Anthony & Jenny McAleer, Sandra FitzGerald and Major (Rtd) Russell Kirby at their farewell

TRIBUTE TO SEVILLE SOLDIER



On Christmas Day 2015 a small group gathered at one of the few remaining trees left from the Seville WWI Avenue of Honour to pay tribute to the centenary of the death of Seville Soldier, Arthur Douglas. Arthur lived in Seville and enlisted in WWI, serving with the 6th Field Ambulance. He was severely wounded while serving on Gallipoli and was evacuated to a hospital on Malta where he passed away on December 25th, 1915. His nephew, Ian Douglas, read out Arthur's life story while dressed in a WWI uniform. He then placed a memorial sign and poppy wreath at the base of the tree in his uncle's memory.



Left: Ian Douglas plays the Last Post.

Above: Pte Arthur Douglas in his training uniform at Broadmeadows

CAN YOU HELP?

A friend of member Jodie Twidale has inherited the object below from her father's collection.

The gentleman concerned served in the RAAF during World War Two.

It is about 5cm long and made of brass.

Does anyone have any ideas what it could be?

Email editor at – mtevrsl@gmail.com



GRAVESITE SERVICE FOR LOCAL VIETNAM CASUALTIES

To mark the 50th Anniversary of Long Tan the Vietnam Veterans Association will be hosting gravesite services at ceremonies around Victoria at the same time & day.

The local branch, the Outer Eastern Metropolitan Sub-branch, will be hosting a service at the Lilydale Cemetery (old) where four local Vietnam Veterans who died while on active service are buried.

They include:

Michael Hannaford
Raymond Moore
Michael Robertson
Garry Willoughby

The service will take place:

Date – Sunday February 21st, 2016

Time – 12.00pm

**Where – Lilydale Cemetery (old)
Cnr Victoria & Nelson Rds, Lilydale**

ALL WELCOME



AWARDS



MECC AWARD

At the Mt Evelyn Chamber of Commerce end of year get together members of the Mt Evelyn RSL were pleasantly surprised when the chamber presented the club with an award in recognition of service to Mt Evelyn.

In accepting the award President Roger Boness thanking the chamber and acknowledged all of the chambers work and achievements in 2015.

Left: Kathie Freeman (President of MECC), Roger Boness and Leanne Vayteur (treasurer of MECC) with the award.



Above: Don Parsons (president Lilydale RSL), Tony Smith MP, Anthony McAleer, Roger Boness (president Mt Evelyn RSL).

COMMUNITY AWARDS

Each year our local Federal member, the Hon Tony Smith MP, awards those in our community certificates of recognition for the good work they have undertaken.

Amongst the RSL members to receive awards include Ted Fairweather and Dot Ervine (pictured above with Tony Smith and Roger Boness). Also our Vice-president Jim Hurley.

Also to receive an award was our secretary Anthony McAleer, who was given the first Casey Volunteer Special Achievement Award for his work as a local historian. See article left.

MASTERING ANXIETY

ANXIETY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM



MASTERING ANXIETY is an educational and skills based group program assisting participants to better understand anxiety and factors that maintain it. The program aims to promote a sense of wellbeing through developing strategies to reduce anxiety and associated stress.

Date: Fridays 4th & 11th March 2016

Location: Mount Evelyn


Structure: 2-day Workshop

Register by: 19th February

Enrolments for VVCS programs are conducted on a 'first come, first in' basis, it is therefore advisable to register early.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

or to register your interest, call **1800 011 046** during business hours.

Keep up to date on  or at **www.vvcs.gov.au**

March 13 2016

BENVENUTI FESTIVAL

KILLARA ESTATE

WWW.BENVENUTI.ORG.AU

Free Family Cultural Day



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FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT YARRA VALLEY ITALIAN CULTURAL GROUP - 0438 339 459

MT EVELYN RSL BOOK LAUNCH COMING UP...

THE VAGABOND IN THE YARRA VALLEY



AJ McAleer (ed)

The Mt Evelyn RSL's next book '**The Vagabond in the Yarra Valley**' will delve into the history of the area in the 19th Century by publishing the articles written by the notable journalist John Thomas, better known under the pen name: 'The Vagabond'.

He visited the Yarra Valley a number of times between 1877 & 1894 and wrote graphic descriptions of the early wine industry, the development of towns like Lilydale and Yarra Glen, what it was like to travel from Melbourne to Lilydale by coach & train, the gold rush at Steele's Creek & seeing Cave Hill.

The wonderful news is the book will be launched on **Sunday March 13th** @ 1.45pm as part of the **Benvenuti Festival** at the Killara Estate in Seville (see flyers opposite).

The book will be launched by Christine Fyffe MLA with special guest Jim Brown (former travel reporter on 'Healthy, Wealthy & Wise' and now a local poet).

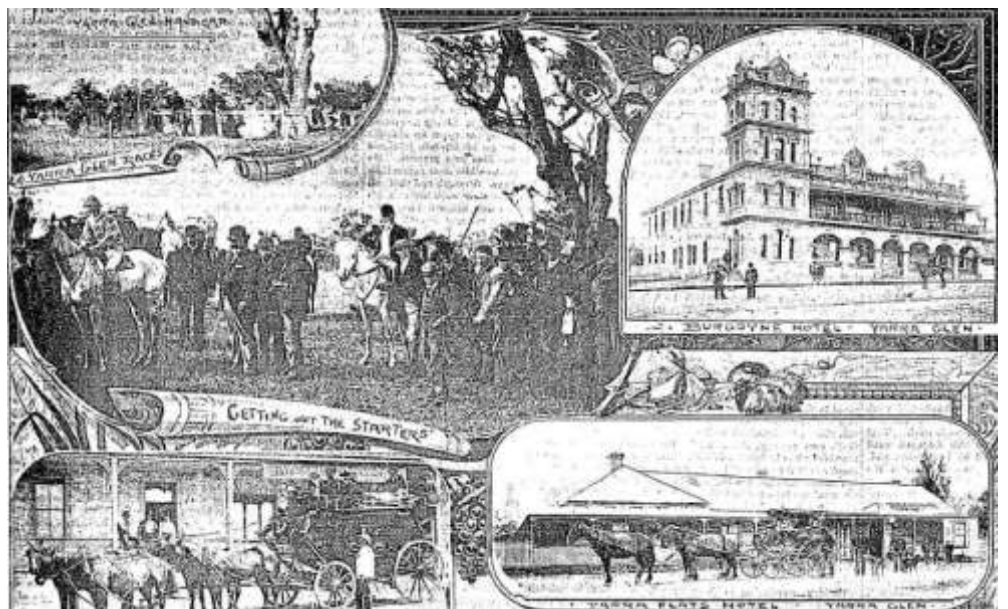
So come along, support the RSL and have a great time at the festival. Bring along the kids! The RSL will also have a stall there. **Entry is free!**

Right:

Some images of Yarra Glen published in the Age along with one of The Vagabond's article.

The book not only has some wonderful descriptions of the early history of the district but will also include some brilliant photos of the Yarra Valley during the 19th Century.

A great book for anyone interested in our heritage.





**Benvenuti Festival
Killara Estate
Seville East
Yarra Valley**

Benvenuti!

Welcome!

Womin Jeka!!

**The inaugural Benvenuti Festival will be held on Sunday
March 13 2016 from 10 to 5pm
at the beautiful Killara Estate,
Cnr Warburton Hwy & Sunnyside Road,
Seville East VIC 3139**

*The Festival's name "Benvenuti" is Italian for "Welcome" as do the
indigenous words "Womin Jeka"*

*This family festival celebrates the diversity of the Yarra Valley- from the
first Wurundjeri people to the waves of migrants who came to the Valley
to build new lives. All have left their mark, and this festival honours
their achievements which have made the Yarra Valley a wonderful part of
Australia.*

The celebrations will include

*Performances of diverse music, dance and Australian poetry,
which has been grown and developed in this remarkable area.
You'll see the launch of a new book about the history of our
Valley, and you'll be enthralled by the finishing touches to a
new and amazing chainsaw sculpture, historical photographs,
mouthwatering food, wine, and winemaking, vintage cars and
old machinery.*

**There'll also be a lot of entertaining and interactive
childrens' activities.**

**Parking and Entry to the Festival is free,
but between 10am and noon there will be ticketed master
classes to learn craft, cooking, and guitar. These must be
booked in advance**

More on this will be released later as we update our website

www.benvenuti.org.au

*Or you can phone Jim Brown, 0438 339 459.
or Luigi Fotia 5964 4920*

***This is the first festival of its kind in the Yarra
Valley, and with your support, won't be the last.***

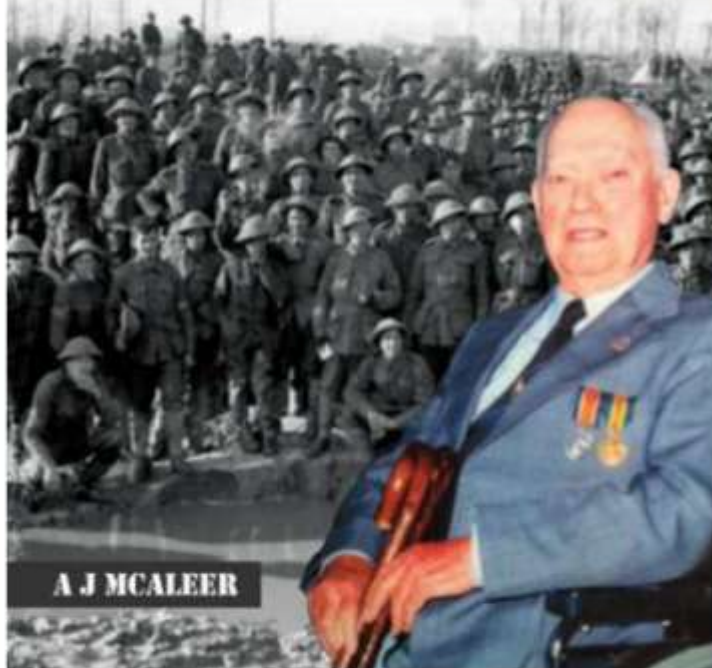
Benvenuti!!!!



THE LILYDALE RSL
SUB-BRANCH
IS PROUD TO INVITE YOU
TO THE LAUNCH OF OUR BOOK:

**SEVENTEEN
YEAR OLD
SOLDIER**

JIM BADDELEY RECALLS HIS GREAT WAR



On February 19th, 1916, 17 year old Jim Baddeley forged his mother's signage on his enlistment papers and joined the AIF underage.

Seventy-six years later, at the age of 93, he sat down with the Lilydale RSL's historian to record his memories of his wartime experiences with the 58th Battalion on the Western Front.

From the terrible winter on the Somme to surviving shell blast at Bapaume, from the horror of the Battle of Polygon Wood to the gas attacks at Ypres, from trench raids at Messines to the killing grounds of Villers Bretonneaux, Ville-Sur-Ancre, Peronne and Bellicourt.

It is a story of sacrifice and endurance, bravery and loss, good times and bad times. An ordinary young Australian who survived extraordinary times.



When: Friday February 19th, 2016

Time: 7.30pm

Place: OTree Restaurant

Cnr Victoria Rd & Albert Hill Rd, Lilydale

To be Launched by: Barry Dickins, writer, historian

Guest Speakers:

Lambis Englezos AM, historian

The Hon Tony Smith MP, Federal Member for Casey, Speaker of the House

For further details: antmca@bigpond.com

VALE HENRIK ZIMMERMANN

We are sad to report the passing of member Henrik Zimmermann, aged 68, on December 29th, 2015 after a long illness. Our thoughts are with his children Steen, Dayle & Terri and grandchildren Noah & Eva.

Henrik was a stalwart of the club about 10 years ago and did much to assist the membership however illness has kept him away in recent times. He was also a member of the Mt Evelyn CFA for a number of years.

Henrik immigrated to Australia from Denmark with his family when he was nine years old in 1956. His brother Claus served in the Australian Army in Vietnam.

Henrik had a long career in the Australian Army, joining 2 Commando Company in May 1966. During his time here he had a great collection of mates, they all went overseas together and in the years that following all took it in turns of being best man at each other's weddings. One remembers a party at Henrik's place on a hot day when the ice ran out in the bath and one of them bought in a CO2 fire extinguisher to cool them off with a spray.

In 1973 he transferred to the 4/19th Prince of Wales's Light Horse Regiment and he served here until 1982, finishing up with the rank of Warrant Officer Class Two. During this period he also spent time with 3 Training Group at the Officer Cadet Training Unit.



Above: In Commando uniform
Below: 4/19th POWLH Regiment



DON'T MISS THIS EXHIBITION

Coming Soon

SPIRIT OF ANZAC CENTENARY EXHIBITION

This acclaimed Exhibition is the major national touring event for the Anzac Centenary. The Exhibition will run until 2017 and the content is drawn from the collections of the Australian War Memorial.

The Exhibition is free, but bookings are essential.



Venue

Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre
Monday 8 - Tuesday 23 February 2016

Please note bookings need to be made online

[-www.spiritofanzac.gov.au/book-tickets/reserve-tickets](http://www.spiritofanzac.gov.au/book-tickets/reserve-tickets)

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:

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PO BOX 182,
Mt Evelyn, Vic, 3796



Name: _____
Address: _____
Post code: _____
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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.

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In commemoration of
the Centenary of World War One
**Mont de Lancey Historical
Homestead is proud to present:**

THE GEORGE INGRAM VC, MM MEMORIAL EXHIBITION



This exhibition will detail the story of the Yarra Valley's only Victoria Cross recipient and the last Australian to be awarded the Victoria Cross in World War One:

George Mawby Ingram VC, MM

*Displaying many items
not seen in public before!*

EXHIBITION LAUNCH

**SATURDAY APRIL 25TH,
2015**

2.00PM

The Exhibition will run
from April 25th 2015
until June 2016

Cost included in purchase of
Museum Ticket

Mont de Lancey Historical Homestead
71 Wellington Rd, Wandin North

Open: Wednesday to Sunday 10:00am to 4:30pm
Closed Public Holidays
Phone: (03) 5964 2088

GREAT COURAGE AND INITIATIVE

*The Heroic Life of
George Ingram VC, MM*



This is the biography of Captain George Ingram VC, MM, the Yarra Valley's only recipient of the Victoria Cross, the Commonwealth's highest award for valor on the battlefield.

From a country boyhood growing up in Seville, to serving with the artillery in Victoria and Rabaul and on to the horror and heroism of the Western Front with the 24th Battalion AIF where he was awarded both the Military Medal and the Victoria Cross.

After the war he spent time as a soldier settler before serving with the Shrine Guard and the Royal Australian Engineers in WW2.

ORDER NOW:

Mont de Lancey
PO BOX 316,
Wandin North, Vic, 3139

Name: _____
Address: _____
Post code: _____
Telephone: _____ Email: _____
Copies required _____ Payment for \$ _____ is enclosed.
Please make cheques or money orders payable to: Wandin & District Historical Museum Society

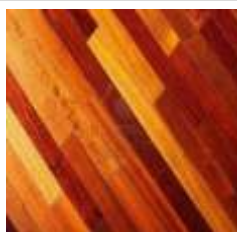
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You can just drop by during one of our meetings, or you can
ring one of the following numbers to get more details.

Leader: Joan 97370397 rosemont.townclub@gmail.com

Weight Recorder: Lesley McKenna 0425624043 or

97391642



PLEASE NOTE

Copies of

ALL OUR BOOKS

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Mt Evelyn RSL

or at the

Mt Evelyn Post Office, Station St

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New Yoga Class

The Yoga class is
Suitable for
beginners,
intermediate or
advanced students.

Suitable for all ages.



If you're curious come and try a class, it may
be the best decision you've ever made! Yoga
will help keep the joints mobile and muscles
supple, but most of all it will provide you
with a sense of calmness and relaxation as it
helps to quieten the mind.

Wednesday evenings from 5:30 - 7pm.

**Casual classes \$15 or Concession \$14 . 10 class pass
\$140 or Concession \$135**

Contact Lilly on **0425 769 443**



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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kimparry@people.net.au

maxbrown.com.au

ORNDON KILBY MONTROSE MT EVELYN LATOALE 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.

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Ph: 9736 2980 Mob: 0408 998 045

vickiwalburg-fitness@yahoo.com.au

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Mt Evelyn

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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**

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Email: hewettma@gmail.com

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

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7 Days

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Contact Dave –

tigersigns@gmail.com

0419 897 134 or 9737 0888



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

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



FRANK LESLIE NICHOLLS

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.....

Frank Leslie Nicholls was born in Brunswick in 1891, one of six children to William and Lillie Nicholls. His father, William Nicholls, had served with the Victoria Colonial Forces and, after Federation, with the militia, eventually rising to the rank of Captain before being placed on the retired list.

Frank grew up in Malvern and served three years in the cadets while at school. Much of his youth was spent on the family's property in Queens Rd, Wandin and after finishing school he farmed the property in Wandin and became well known in the district.

On August 25th, 1914, aged 23, he enlisted in the AIF. His medical record shows he was five feet, seven & a half inches tall, had dark brown hair and hazel eyes, was single and his religion was Church of England.

He undertook his basic training at Broadmeadows where he was allotted to the 5th Battalion. While here he was presented, along with a number of other local soldiers, with a certificate of appreciation from the President of the Shire of Lillydale. The community of Wandin also presented him with a medallion.

Frank left Australia on the first convoy, travelling on the Orvieto. He spent a number of months training in Egypt, once getting into trouble for neglecting to obey an NCO and getting docked seven days pay.

At the landing at Anzac Cove on that first Anzac Day, he was in the second wave that hit the beaches and advanced up the cliffs. He survived the first day but sadly on the following day, he was killed in action.

He was later buried at the Lone Pine Cemetery. His mother eventually receiving a small parcel with his belongings that included a wallet, photos, 2 pipes, a handkerchief and his identity disc.

In The Argus newspaper his parents placed a notice that said:

'He gave his life for his country and for his country's honor'.

In 1919 the Wandin community had a welcome home function for local soldiers and Frank Nicholls parents were invited and were presented with letter expressing the community's deep regret and sympathy at Frank's loss. His name was placed on the Wandin War Memorial in 1927 and a tree was planted in his name in the Wandin Avenue of Honour.

On April 26th, 2015, the centenary of the day he died, the Mt Evelyn RSL conducted a ceremony at the Wandin War Memorial in his memory. Two of Frank's nieces came along with their family on the day to commemorate their uncle. **Right:** *Photo of them laying wreath under his name.*

Items of Frank Nicholls are currently on display at Mont de Lancey's World War One exhibition.

MT EVELYN FURPHYS

- Keep Sunday March 6th free to attend the **Seville War Memorial Cup** at the Seville Reserve between Seville & Wandin Football clubs. This is to raise funds for the new war memorial to go up in Seville.
- It seems **Major Tony Geyer** has retired from the army after decades of service. He and wife **Caroline** are now planning to sell up in Mt Evelyn and move down to Warrnambool for a sea change. We wish them all the best and thank them for all their efforts towards the club over the years.
- **Bruce Watkinson** has spent some time in hospital recently – wishing him all the best.
- Sad to report the passing of former Shire of Lillydale councillor **Brenda Crawshaw** of Kalorama. She is the mother of Colonel Robert Crawshaw (ret'd).
 - Should you require any assistance or advice - Deanne Webb (the Sub-branch's Welfare Officer).
Ph: **0402 783 849**
Or the Rev Richard Schoenmaker
Ph: **9736 1087**



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: antmca@bigpond.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 –

Rev Richard Schoenmaker Ph: 97361087

Appeals Officer –

Dot Ervine Ph: 97363638

Chamber representative –

Les Kennedy Ph: 0418 149 558

Justice of the Peace –

Kim Parry Ph: 0418334416

Committee:

Betty Crittenden, Bill Smart, Ron Jones