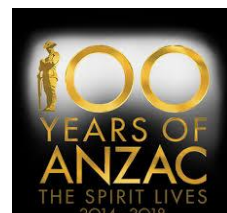


Mt Evelyn RSL News



Volume 9, Issue 1, Autumn Edition A Sub-Branch of the Returned and Services League of Australia



THE CLUB TURNS 50



2019 Meeting Dates

Fri March 15th

Fri April 12th
(Earlier due to Easter)

Fri May 17th

Fri June 21st

Fri July 19th

Fri Aug 16th

Fri Sept 20th

Fri Oct 18th

Fri Nov 15th

Fri Dec 20th

*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**

Above: Everyone enjoying the celebratory luncheon (photo Iain Townsley)

On Sunday January 20th, 2019 members got together with representatives of the community for a special luncheon to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the club receiving its charter on January 23rd, 1969. Those attending have hailed it as a huge success with over ninety guesses enjoying the superb luncheon catered for by local company Blue Diamond Catering and the desserts made by the ladies at the club. Each guess was also gifted with a special 50th anniversary pen created especially for the event.

The members were also very pleased to host representatives from the Mt Evelyn community, especially those who we work with on projects or who have supported the club. Special guests on the day included Cr Tim Heenan, Cr Tony Stevenson (Mayor of the Yarra Ranges Council), Bridget Vallence (the member for Evelyn) and the Hon Tony Smith MP (Federal member for Casey and Speaker of the House). Each spoke in praise of the club, its members and what we have been able to achieve locally.

Cr Tony Stevenson used the occasion to announce that the Yarra Ranges Council had awarded one of the stalwarts of the club, Betty Crittenden, a certificate of achievement and the Hon Tony Smith MP also announced that the club had been successful in getting a grant for \$6000 to produce a book of the speeches undertaken during the centenary of World War One.

All in all it was an enjoyable day and a wonderful way to celebrate 50 years in the Mt Evelyn community.

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 2019 so come along and
see:

QUARTET MARCH 17th 2019



THE WISDOM OF EVE MAY 2019



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

**Individual
Veteran services
@ 11.00am**

**June 20th, 2019
Mt Evelyn War
Memorial
Frank Larkins
KIA – WW1**

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

2019 has barely begun and we have been actively involved with our local community assisting where possible in community events. In January, we celebrated the club's 50th anniversary with a wonderful luncheon put on for members, community guests and special guests including Cr Tim Heenan, Mayor Tony Stevenson, Brigitte Vallance MLA and the Hon Tony Smith MP. I thank those members who helped set the hall up and made desserts for the occasion.

Most of our energy at the moment is going into the planning of our well attended Anzac Day dawn service, visits from our local school children as part of their school curriculum and the other Anzac Day activities. Other community activities include the RSL community market, ongoing development of the Seville War Memorial and completion of our next two publications; WW1 Homefront and Casey Commemorates books.

I would sincerely like to thank our Shire Gardener/s for their remarkable presentation of the community memorial garden which will enhance our Anzac Day memorial service and parade.

With Thanks
Roger Boness

APPEAL OFFICER'S REPORT

Once again, the time for our Anzac Appeal collection is nearly upon us. In the past, you have given up your time most generously and I am sure you will be only too willing to help out again this year. After our Anzac Appeal of 2018 finished we were asked to return all stock on hand so you will see that most of our badges have a new look.

We shall hopefully be manning the usual sites at Mt Evelyn IGA and Coles Mooroolbark, also our local schools and businesses have agreed to help us.

Therefore, I am looking forward to seeing you, with my timetable gripped firmly in my hot little hand. You have been warned!

Gladys Allwood – Appeals Officer

Membership Subs for 2019 – *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



Definitions of "OLD"

Just before the funeral services, the undertaker came up to the very elderly widow and asked,

"How old was your husband?"

"98," she replied: "Two years older than me"

"So you're 96," the undertaker commented.

She responded, "Hardly worth going home, is it?"

Reporters interviewing a 104-year-old woman:

"And what do you think is the best thing

About being 104?" the reporter asked.

She simply replied, "No peer pressure."

I've sure gotten old! I have outlived my feet and my teeth

I've had two bypass surgeries, a hip replacement,

New knees, fought prostate cancer and diabetes

I'm half blind,

Can't hear anything quieter than a jet engine,

Take 40 different medications that

make me dizzy, windy, and subject to blackouts.

Have bouts with dementia.

Have poor circulation;

Hardly feel my hands and feet anymore.

Can't remember if I'm 85 or 92.

Have lost all my friends. But, thank God,

I still have my driver's license!

My memory is not as sharp as it used to be.

Also, my memory's not as sharp as it used to be.

I feel like my body has gotten totally out of shape,

So I got my doctor's permission to

Join a fitness club and start exercising.

I decided to take an aerobics class for seniors.

I bent, twisted, gyrated, jumped up and down, and perspired for an hour. But,

By the time I got my leotards on,

The class was over.

An elderly woman decided to prepare her will and told her priest she had two final requests.

First, she wanted to be cremated, and second,

She wanted her ashes scattered over K-Mart.

"K-Mart?" the priest exclaimed.

"Why K-Mart?"

"Then I'll be sure my daughters visit me twice a week"

Know how to prevent sagging?

Just eat till the wrinkles fill out.

It's scary when you start making the same noises

As your coffee machine.

Lord, grant me the senility to forget the people

I never liked anyway,

The good fortune to run into the ones I do, and

The eyesight to tell the difference.

Follow us on facebook

www.facebook.com/MtEvelynRsl/

WELL DONE BETTY



Congratulations to our Betty Crittenden, club stalwart for the past 35 years, who was awarded a Certificate of Achievement by the Yarra Ranges Council during their Australia Day Awards for all her efforts over the years for the club and the Mt Evelyn community. Betty was presented the award at a special ceremony at Yarra Glen which was attended by Roger Boness and Wendy & Tom Steele.

SEVILLE WAR MEMORIAL



The construction of the base and frame of the new Seville War Memorial is almost finished. Situated at the front of the Seville Water Play Park and near Warburton Hwy it stands nearly four metres high. SMAQ Pty Ltd have been commissioned to design and build the memorial, they are the same team that designed and built the Vietnam Veterans Wall at Seymour. The war memorial committee have raised enough funds to complete the structure and create the first of the glass panels; there will be four glass panels all up. It has taken the committee five years to get to this point.

The first glass will be dedicated to Seville war hero Capt George Ingram VC, MM, who was awarded the last Australian Victoria Cross of World War One. On both sides of the panel will be images and stories on the life of George Ingram. The committee are planning to unveil the first glass panel on **Sunday May 12th, 2019 at 2.00pm** – special guests to be announced.

Above: Wayne Dekljin from SMAQ Pty Ltd working on the construction.

Right: the base and framework nearly finished.



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

NEW LOCAL WWI WEBSITE

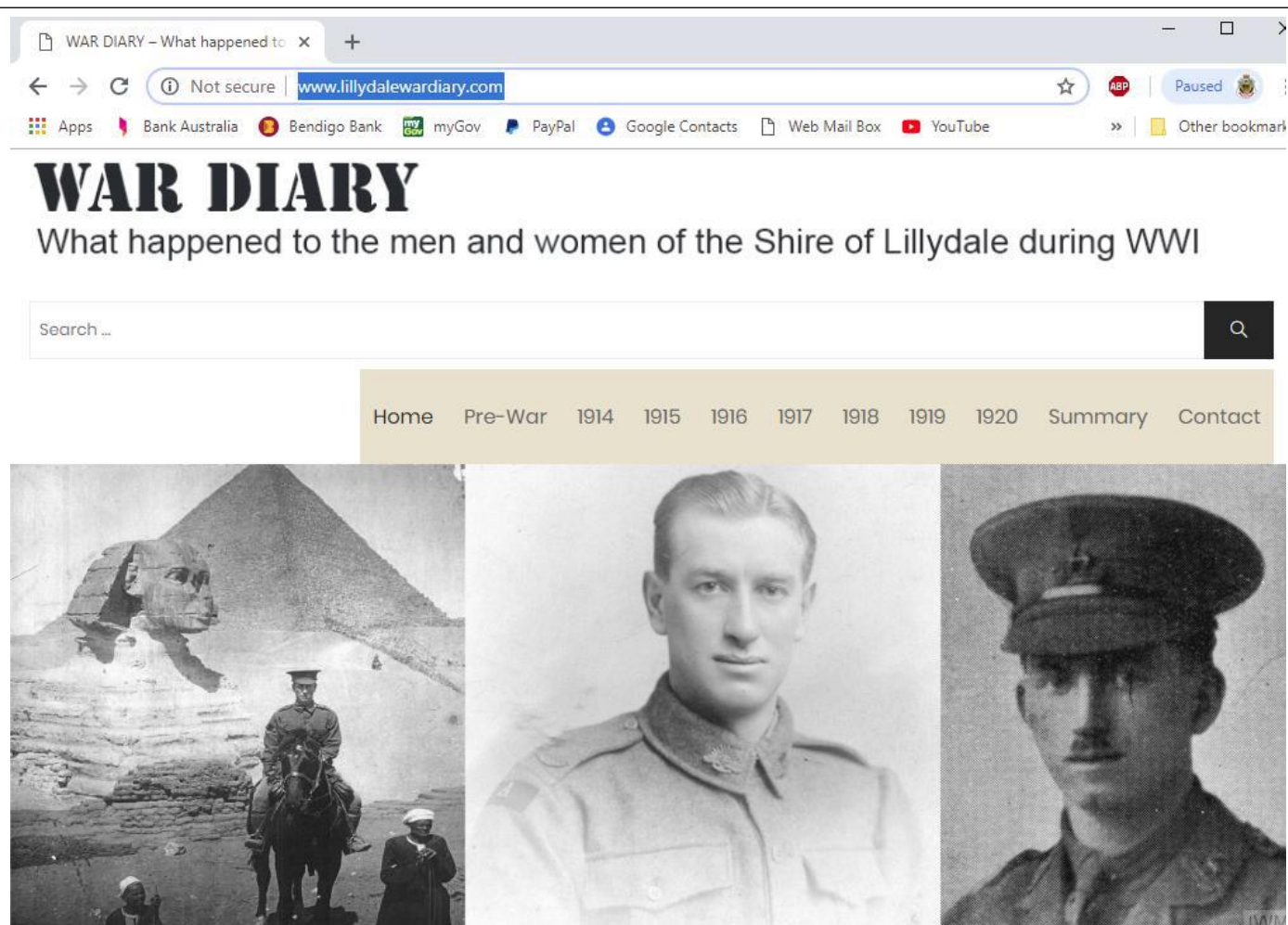
As their centenary of armistice project, our colleagues at the Lilydale RSL have created a website that looks at highlighting the service of this district's men and women during World War One. Called Lillydale (with two l's like the former shire) War Diary it chronicles the former Shire of Lillydale's Great War volunteers with a day by day account of what happened to them all and the important events that effected them.

It details the moments they enlisted, when they sailed, the brave deeds they performed to receive awards, when they were wounded or hospitalised and tragically when and how they died while on active service. Furthermore, it chronicles their thought and words, so that by using their diaries, letters and postcards, and in some cases autobiographies, they themselves describe events in historical order.

Moving through the yearly tabs at the top you will read how, as the war unfolded, it effected this district and its residents. A summary at the end uses the information gained here to reveal further data of interest. Here you will learn who were the first and last from each township to serve, die and come back home.

This website will be of immense value to family historians, military researchers and those interested in local events. Go to:

www.lillydalewardiary.com



A Centenary of Armistice Project by the Lilydale RSL Sub-Branch.

www.lilydalersl.com.au

Facebook page: www.facebook.com/LilydaleRSL

50th ANNIVERSARY LUNCHEON



Photos from our 50th Anniversary luncheon.
Courtesy of Ken Mackenzie OAM

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

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MONASH'S MILITIA CAMP

LILYDALE – FEBRUARY 1914

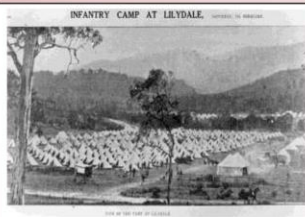
100 years ago John Monash and 3000 citizen soldiers descended on Lilydale and camped for week where the Lilydale Lake is today.

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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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:

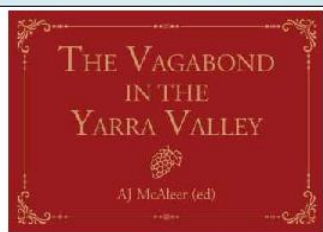
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Price: \$30 per copy plus \$2.00 postage

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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Mt Evelyn, Vic, 3796

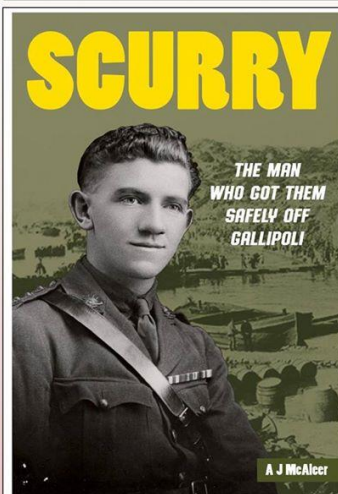


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SCURRY

*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 & 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**
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 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

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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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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.

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vickiwalburg-fitness@yahoo.com.au

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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



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for Life**

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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**

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***Banners *Signs**



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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.

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

Now open in Lilydale
For further information, contact
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njfwellness.com.au

John Warren & Charles Mortomore

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.....

John Edward Clark Warren was born in 1894 at South Melbourne, the son of John Filday Warren and Edith Warren. He grew up in Elsternwick, attending All Saints College in Windsor. In 1914 the family moved to Oban Rd, Ringwood and not long after John starting working as a brass finisher at the Cave Hill Quarry in Lilydale.

Charles Robert Mortomore was born in Malvern in 1888, the son of Charles and Caroline Mortomore. From 1912 the family lived in Lilydale where his father worked as a builder. Charles had his own farm at the time of enlisting. On March 11th, 1916, Charles Mortomore walked into the recruiting depot at Prahran and enlisted in the AIF. A few days later John Warren walked into the same place and also signed up.

John was sent to the army training camp at Castlemaine where he was allotted to the 19th reinforcements for the 7th Battalion, while Charles was sent to Seymour and allocated to the 37th Battalion. John would later be transferred into the 37th Battalion as well before they both headed overseas to England on the HMAT Themistocles in November 1916.

Arriving in England they undertook further training at Perham Downs. They were only here a short time before the 37th Battalion was sent across the Channel to France and within the week were occupying the front line trenches at Armentieres.

On the evening of Christmas Day, 1916, Charles Mortomore was given orders to go into No Man's Land in front of the enemy trenches to find out information for an upcoming raid. It was later stated that: *'as a scout on this night he displayed great daring in getting through the enemy wire and obtaining information. When the scout next to him was wounded he carried him back across No Man's Land to our lines and then returned to his work. When a party of the enemy commenced repairing the damaged wire, he watched from a distance of five yards, and sent back information that proved of great value to our raiding party'.*

For his efforts on this night Charles Mortomore was awarded the Military Medal.

The 37th Battalion spent the terrible winter of 1916 – 1917 in the freezing trenches of Armentieres, regularly undertaking raids on the enemy lines.

In February 1917 400 soldiers from the 38th Battalion and 400 soldiers from the 37th Battalion, including John Warren and Charles Mortomore, formed a special 'battalion' to undertake a large scale raid on the German trenches at Houplines. After several weeks training this force staged a 35 minute raid on the night of February 27th, 1917, exactly one hundred years ago.

At 11.30pm the battalion left their trenches and went over the top into No Man's Land. One witness noticed that John Warren was about half way to the enemy lines when he was hit in the shoulder by machine gun fire. He heard him sing out that he was hit and then he fell down.

Charles Mortomore got close to the German lines when he was hit in the leg and abdomen. His friends carried him back to their lines and he was sent by stretcher bearers and ambulance to the No 2 Australian Casualty Clearing Station. He died here of his wounds soon after.

Charles Mortomore was buried at the Trois Aberes Cemetery in France, he was 27 years old.

John Warren's body was never recovered, he is listed on the memorial to the missing at Villers Bretonneaux, he was 22 years old.

MT EVELYN FURPHYS

- Welcome to new members **Harrison Allwood, Carol Symons, Max Lamb, Ray Buckland, Margaret Kennedy, Ursula Caccano.**
- Best wishes to members who have been in hospital recently – **Bruce Watkinson, Barry McCormack, Dot Ervine, Jim Humphries, Peter McAleer.**
- Best wishes to our president **Roger Boness** who has been battling some serious health issues.
- Our biography on **Major Scurry** has been reprinted and is now for sale again.
- Since our AGM, we have a new Vice-president (**Matt Crymble**), a new secretary (**Wendy McGowan**) and a new Appeals Officer (**Gladys Allwood**).
 - On a recent visit to Tasmania, our president **Roger Boness** tried to visit member **Irene Jacob** (in a nursing home in Huon) but was prevented by the bushfires. However he did organise for his good friend Neville Clarke, who lives outside of Hobart, to call in and see her on a regular basis on behalf of the club.
- Thanks to **John Blassin** from Walkerton in QLD who donated 9 boxes of military books and 2 suitcases of uniforms to the club. Thanks also to **Frank Roche** from Lilydale who drove them down and delivered them.
- 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

Vice Presidents–

Jim Hurley

Matt Crymble

Secretary –

Wendy McGowan

Assistant Secretary –

Anthony McAleer

Treasurer –

John Allwood

Welfare Officer –

Deanne Webb

Social Event Co-Ordinator –

Betty Crittenden

Appeals Officer –

Gladys Allwood

Chamber representative –

Les Kennedy

Committee:

Ron Jones, Stan Beaumont, Rob Webb, Dot Ervine,
Barry McCormack, Stuart Fraser