

Mt Evelyn RSL News



Volume 5, Issue 2, Winter 2015

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



2015 Meeting Dates

Apr 17th, 2015
May 15th, 2015
Jun 19th, 2015
Jul 17th, 2015
Aug 21st, 2015
Sept 18th, 2015
Oct 16th, 2015
Nov 20th, 2015
Dec 18th, 2015

*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



Follow us on facebook

UNVEILING OF RALPH GOODE MBE MURAL AT LILYDALE HIGH SCHOOL



Above: President of the Mt Evelyn RSL, Roger Boness, (right) with artist Brad Colling, author of Ralph Goode's biography, Anthony McAleer, (kneeling at front) and Ralph Goode's daughters and granddaughters in front of the mural.

On Thursday April 9th, members of the Mt Evelyn RSL were pleased to attend the unveiling of special project that the Lilydale High School had put together as their centenary of Anzac project.

Inspired by our book 'A Stretcher Bearer's War', the war diaries of Ralph Goode, the first man from Lilydale to enlist in WWI, the school commissioned artist Brad Colling (well known as the artist of the murals at the Mt Evelyn War Memorial Park) to work the students to create a mural that told the story of Ralph's service in World War One.

The school held a special ceremony hosted by the history teachers, Kirsty Ann Mays and Darren Strachan, that included special guests Cr Maria McCarthy (Mayor of the Shire of Yarra Ranges), Christine Fyffe MLA, Tony Smith MP and Ted Baillieu (Chair of the Victorian Centenary of Anzac Committee and former Premier of Victoria). James Merlino MLA, deputy Premier and Minister for Education, officially unveiled the mural.

Ralph Goode's two daughter, Merle Slattery & Shirley Burchall, along with six of his granddaughters where there to see the tribute and were very happy with the mural.

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 2015 so come along and
see:

- **Secret Bridesmaids' Business**
Sunday May 31st
2.00pm
- **Daddy's Dyin... Who's Got the Will?**
Sunday August 23rd
2.00pm
- **The Mystery of Edwin Drood**
Sunday Nov 5th
2.00pm

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

Mt Evelyn Community Bush Dance

Saturday May 23rd
7.30pm



Mt Evelyn Public Hall

Mt Evelyn Street FESTIVAL

Saturday
October 24th, 2015

*Stay tuned for
more info.*

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

During 2014 the RSL State Branch introduced RSL Sub-branches to their proposed 'Volunteer Management Strategy'. This new strategy will bring the RSL in Victoria into compliance with the National Standards for Volunteers, for involving volunteers in not for profit organisations.

Mt Evelyn RSL Sub-branch committee and members rely on friends of the Sub-branch who assist the branch to fulfil their community obligations. Our other obligation is to protect the health and safety of all of our members and volunteers under the Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004.

RSL members and volunteers are covered by RSL insurance whilst engaged in RSL related activities providing they are registered volunteers or appear on a volunteers register. The Sub-branch will need to formalise our volunteer register in order to protect our volunteers and if necessary ensure their details are included on the soon to be available RSL Volunteer Management System Database. The RSL Victoria Branch will be trialling the proposed volunteer strategy on a select number of sub-branches prior to introducing the strategy State-wide.

On that note make sure you visit our volunteer sellers out the front of Mt Evelyn IGA who are selling Anzac Tokens for us over the next few weeks – they are doing a wonderful job in raising funds for the welfare of ex-service people.

I would sincerely like to thank all Sub-branch members and friends for the beautiful flowers and kind thoughts that have assisted my family in dealing with my dear wife Julie's illness.

LEST WE FORGET

- Roger Boness – President Mt Evelyn RSL

HELP NEEDED

The Mt Evelyn RSL has volunteered to create concrete plinths for the plaques that will make up the new recreated Mt Evelyn Avenue of Honour to go into the Mt Evelyn War Memorial Gardens in the next few months. We are looking at creating 18 plinths – each will hold a plaque detailing the story of a Mt Evelyn volunteer who served in WWI. So we need anyone who can advise on the creation of concrete plinths or who could possibly loan a mixer.

If you can help please ring **Roger on 9737 0830**

Membership Subs for 2015 – ***DUE NOW!***

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**

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



Shown below is an actual letter that was sent to a bank (*definitely not our Bendigo Bank!!!*) by an 86 year old woman. The bank manager thought it amusing enough to have it published in the Times.

Dear Sir:

I am writing to thank you for bouncing my cheque with which I endeavoured to pay my plumber last month. By my calculations, three nanoseconds must have elapsed between his presenting the cheque and the arrival in my account of the funds needed to honor it. I refer, of course, to the automatic monthly deposit of my entire pension, an arrangement which, I admit, has been in place for only eight years.

You are to be commended for seizing that brief window of opportunity, and also for debiting my account £30 by way of penalty for the inconvenience caused to your bank.

My thankfulness springs from the manner in which this incident has caused me to rethink my errant financial ways. I noticed that whereas I personally answer your telephone calls and letters, — when I try to contact you, I am confronted by the impersonal, overcharging, pre-recorded, faceless entity which your bank has become.

From now on, I, like you, choose only to deal with a flesh-and-blood person.

My mortgage and loan repayments will therefore and hereafter no longer be automatic, but will arrive at your bank, by cheque, addressed personally and confidentially to an employee at your bank whom you must nominate.

Be aware that it is an OFFENSE under the Postal Act for any other person to open such an envelope. Please find attached an Application Contract which I require your chosen employee to complete.

I am sorry it runs to eight pages, but in order that I know as much about him or her as your bank knows about me, there is no alternative.

Please note that all copies of his or her medical history must be countersigned by a Notary Public figure, and the mandatory details of his/her financial situation (income, debts, assets and liabilities) must be accompanied by documented proof.

In due course, at MY convenience, I will issue your employee with a PIN number which he/she must quote in dealings with me.

I regret that it cannot be shorter than 28 digits but, again, I have modelled it on the number of button presses required of me to access my account balance on your phone bank service.

As they say, imitation is the sincerest form of flattery. Let me level the playing field even further.

When you call me, press buttons as follows:
IMMEDIATELY AFTER DIALLING, PRESS THE STAR (*) BUTTON FOR ENGLISH

- #1. To make an appointment to see me
- #2. To query a missing payment.
- #3. To transfer the call to my living room in case I am there.
- #4 To transfer the call to my bedroom in case I am sleeping.
- #5. To transfer the call to my toilet in case I am attending to nature.
- #6. To transfer the call to my mobile phone if I am not at home.
- #7. To leave a message on my computer, a password to access my computer is required.

Password will be communicated to you at a later date to that Authorized Contact mentioned earlier.

- #8. To return to the main menu and to listen to options 1 to 9
- #9. To make a general complaint or inquiry.

The contact will then be put on hold, pending the attention of my automated answering service. While this may, on occasion, involve a lengthy wait, uplifting music will play for the duration of the call.

Regrettably, but again following your example, I must also levy an establishment fee to cover the setting up of this new arrangement.

May I wish you a happy, if ever so slightly less prosperous New Year?

Your Humble Client

UPDATES

PEARSON BUGLE

Thanks to Essendon historian, Lenore Frost, we have been able to definitely prove that the bugle was owned by Ernest Pearson. The following is an article from **The Essendon Gazette and Keilor, Bulla and Broadmeadows Reporter (12/4/1917)**.

***Bugler E. A. Pearson**, of Epsom road, Ascot Vale, who was a member of the Ascot Vale Bugle Band before he enlisted, has been awarded the military medal. The deed for which he received the medal was told in a letter from Major Knox-Knight, as follows -"One of my splendid lads, 385 Bugler E. A. Pearson, A Company, who is only a boy of 18, did magnificent work on Xmas night. He carried an important message right through Fritz's artillery barrage to the Battalion on our right, and brought the answer back, with artillery bursting all round him the whole time. He was knocked over twice by explosions, and when he got back was completely done up. Lieut. J. A. Carrodus **also** wrote in glowing terms of the exploit of the young soldier.*

We have also received word from Gordon Kinghorn, the gentleman from England who donated the bugle. He says: *'I am very pleased that the bugle had gone home to Victoria where it belongs. The bugle had been in the possession of 3 generations of my family from the time of the First World War. I had tried to return it some years earlier to the museum in Melbourne, as you can see by the note of the address of the museum on the envelope which I received from the British War Museum. I have handled the bugle many times over the years, from a small boy at my grandfather's home, to it coming to my father on his death, and eventually me, and I have often wondered about its owner. I am delighted that Eric found you and that it has found a home with your branch of the Returned Services League'.*

Gordon was also surprised he found some similarities with Ernest Pearson: *'When I was called up for military service in 1947 I did 3 months training on 25 pound guns at Larkhill, Salisbury Plain, England, (where Ernest undertook training) and in later years I too owned general grocery stores. How strange a coincidence is that?'*

THE HOWITZER

The Shire of Yarra Ranges recently added asphalt to join the war memorial pathway and the Howitzer slab together (see below).



BELLS OF PEACE



ANZAC - 2014-2018 -
CENTENARY

Sharing Victoria's Stories & Making Connections

CASEY ELECTORATE

SAT 18th APRIL

Discovery Church, Mt Evelyn

12pm FREE EXHIBITION and

ENTERTAINMENT

FOOD to purchase from 12pm

OFFICIAL OPENING AT 1.30pm

PERFORMANCE 2pm



TICKETS www.trybooking.com/HCEL

HONOURING THE CENTENARY OF THE FIRST WORLD WAR (1914–1918)



MT EVELYN RSL



COMMEMORATIVE STUBBY HOLDERS

~
Our special Mt Evelyn Centenary of World War One stubby holders are now available.
Cost is

\$5.00

If you want to order one email –
mtevrsl@gmail.com

SOME IMPORTANT CENTENARY OF ANZAC DATES COMING UP...

- **Friday April 17th – 11.00am** – Lilydale High School – Ceremony to commemorate the Centenary of World War One. RSVP via school website (front page).
- **Saturday April 18th – Evening** – Mt Evelyn Discovery Church – Monbulk Rd, Mt Evelyn
Spectacular 'Bells of Peace' centenary of Anzac concert for the Casey electorate.
A marvellous production written especially for the Dandenong Ranges Music Council with music, songs and drama telling local stories of what happened in this area during World War One.
- **Saturday April 25th – 5.45am** – Mt Evelyn War Memorial Park
Dawn service, march back to clubrooms, free community breakfast.
This year relatives of Gallipoli veterans are invited to head the march
(*must wear their medals or carry their photo*)
- **Saturday April 25th – 8.30am** – Wandin War Memorial, Cnr Hunter & Beenak Rds, Wandin
Anzac Day service
- **Saturday April 25th – 2.00pm** – Launch of 'George Ingram VC, MM Exhibition' – Mont de Lancey Museum – 71 Wellington Rd, Wandin North.
- **Sunday April 26th – 11.00am** – Wandin War Memorial, Cnr Hunter & Beenak Rds, Wandin
Remembrance service for Frank Nichols – killed in action 100 years ago on 26/4/1915
- **Now – early May** – Healesville Library – fantastic & unique display of Gallipoli memorabilia by local collector Rod Wilson – well worth seeing! – entry is free
- **Sunday May 3rd – 2.00pm** – Lilydale Lawn (old) Cemetery
Special service to mark the centenary of the loss of the WWI submarine, AE2, at Gallipoli.
Grave side service and plaque unveiling at the grave of Geoffrey Haggard, 2IC on the AE2.
Hosted by the Lilydale RSL
- **Friday May 8th – 11.00am** – Mt Evelyn War Memorial Park
Remembrance service for William Aicher – killed in action 100 years ago on 8/5/1915
- **May 30th to August 23rd** – Yarra Ranges Regional Museum, 35 Castella St, Lilydale – Free Exhibition – 'Australia Will Be There – Victorians in the First World War' (includes Ralph Goode display)
- **Wednesday June 3rd – 12.30pm** – Yarra Ranges Regional Museum – 33 Castella St, Lilydale – Free Talk by Dr Michael Lawriwsky on 'Albert Jacka VC'



Follow us on facebook: www.facebook.com/mtevelynrsl



Left:

One of our members, John Keane, recently saw this howitzer set up over a shop next to RSL House in Darwin and sent us the photo.

He thought if we ever have trouble with vandals we could always display it like this.

What do you think Gary and Kathie – would it look good over the Post Office?

Or maybe it could be used to make the Howitzer and Soul Café? Or the Billy Gun Hill Café?

LAUNCH OF GEORGE INGRAM VC, MM BIOGRAPHY



On Sunday March 29th, 2015 a very good crowd were at Mont de Lancey Museum in Wandin for the launch of our secretary Anthony McAleer's new book 'Great Courage & Initiative – the Heroic Life of George Ingram VC, MM'.

Guest speakers included Cr Maria McCarthy (Mayor of the Shire of Yarra Ranges), Tony Smith MP (federal member for Casey), Toni Munday (curator HMAS Cerberus Museum), Anthony McAleer (author), Inspector Michael Glinski (Commander of the Protective Services Unit – including Shrine Guard), Alex Ingram (George's son), Alison Jones (President of the Wandin & District Historical Society) and Wayne Deklijn (designer of the George Ingram Memorial for Seville).



Bugler Tom Steele and Bill Dobson from Lilydale RSL performed a brief ceremony in remembrance of George Ingram and in tribute to his two brother, Alex & Ronald, who were killed in the war. Shrine Guard were present in uniform as were Kim, Chris and Olivia, all dressed in WWI uniforms.

Photos (left): Georgia McAleer

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

Price: \$25 per copy plus \$5.00 postage

UNVEILING OF THE DESIGN FOR THE SEVILLE TOWNSHIP & GEORGE INGRAM VC, MM WAR MEMORIAL



The Seville War Memorial Committee (of which the Mt Evelyn RSL is involved) unveiled the design for the new Seville War Memorial at the book launch. Unveiled by Alex Ingram (George's son), Cr Maria McCarthy & Tony Smith MP, the memorial will consist of 4 panels, all 4 metres high, with images and text on both the interior & exterior. The committee is currently raising funds to have it built so look out for the donation tins locally.

NEW WAR MEMORIAL TO BE LOCATED IN SEVILLE WATERPLAY PARK

WHAT WE HAVE

COMMUNITY ASPIRATION

- A cenotaph / monument with a two or three step base for the placing of flowers
- Names engraved of fallen men if possible
- Lit up at night
- Permanent seating placed facing cenotaph that can be used during ceremonies and all year round for park users as well
- Placed at the corner of park near roundabout so it can be seen from the road and free up park grounds
- I think its a great idea to include school kids in design ideas
- It would be great to have it as close to the highway as possible so between the highway and the rock of the water park and lit up at night
- A modern twist could be lighting with laser lights which could change colour, making a light show to be seen by all passers by
- To have something in Seville that has its major component of glass would be brilliant. Lighting it up at night is a must!
- I love that a story can be told on the glass. This can include the VC winner and also a story about the pool built as a memorial which I think would be fantastic
- We need a place to gather at or around and while I love the idea of a small section of wall, maybe a glass cenotaph would work well. This could be located towards the corner of the highway and Monbulk Seville Road and so easily visible for all to see

DESIGN RESPONSE

"Glass Art Panels provide a contemporary interpretation of 'cenotaph' and introduce a story telling element."

Laminated Glass Art Panels:

- The final artwork will be printed on a proprietary interlay system and laminated in Super Clear Toughened Glass to produce high quality and durable graphic panels
- This provides a format for presenting digitally produced artwork with unlimited freedom in developing a concept which is site specific, original and defined by the community
- The system provides a suitable and safe medium for presenting artwork in public spaces and conforms to AS/NZS 2208 and AS/NZS 2080
- The system offers the durability of Grade A Safety Glass
- The system provides for artwork longevity through a laminated and UV stable environment for printed film

CONCEPT

EXTERNAL



INTERNAL



Seville Township Group is proudly fundraising for the Seville War Memorial with Lilydale & Mt Evelyn RSLs



Mont de Lancey
Historical Homestead



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

RALPH GOODE'S FAMILY DONATE COLLECTION TO MUSEUM



Above: President of the Mt Evelyn RSL, Roger Boness, (right) talks with Ralph Goode's daughter Merle. Right: Ralph's daughter's Merle Goode and Shirley Slattery with his medals and war diary.



Recently the Mt Evelyn RSL were guests at a special afternoon tea at the Yarra Ranges Regional Museum to mark the donation of the Ralph and Kathleen Goode Collection to the museum's archives. Since our club published the Ralph Goode diaries last year the family decided it was the right time to gather the collection together and donate it to the people of this district as a tribute to the centenary of Ralph's service as a stretcher bearer on Gallipoli. The collection is probably the most significant Lilydale collection to come to the museum. It includes some very rare Lilydale photos that Kathleen Goode (who lived her entire life in Lilydale) had kept as well as items pertaining to Ralph's community and military service, including his medals and war diaries.

VIETNAM VETS VISIT HOWITZER

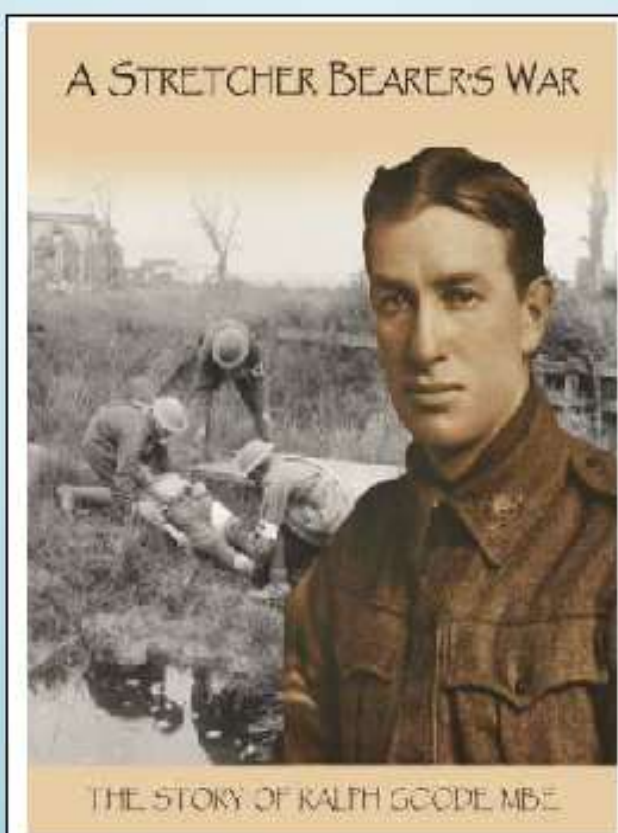


Recently our President, Roger Boness, was proud to play host to group of fellow artillery men who he had served with in Vietnam. The second place they all wanted to visit, after the esky, was our new howitzer, which they were all impressed with.

Photo courtesy 'Turtle Times'

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
PO BOX 182,
Mt Evelyn, Vic, 3796



Name: _____

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Payment for \$ _____ is enclosed.

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

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

ANZAC DAY 2015

DAWN SERVICE

- MT EVELYN -

Saturday April 25th @ 5.45am

'Mt Evelyn War Memorial Park'
Cnr Wray Cres & Birmingham Rd

- Dawn Service
- March from War Memorial Park to RSL Hall
- Free community breakfast at the RSL Hall

This year the Mt Evelyn RSL is inviting anyone who had a family member who served at Gallipoli to head the march. However in order to march you will need to either wear their medals or carry their photo.

**Groups wanting to lay a floral tribute
at the Dawn Service
please contact RSL secretary
(Anthony) on 9736 4384**

THE MT EVELYN RSL

*proudly presents
the traditional Anzac Day game of*

TWO – UP

Saturday April 25th from 1.00pm

'York on Lilydale Hotel'
Cnr York & Swansea Rds

- RSL run traditional games of 'Two-Up'
- Raffles & prizes to be won
- York sausage sizzle
- Remembrance service to be held

**For further details please contact
Mt Evelyn RSL President
(Roger Boness) on 9737 0830**

Thanks to Craig and Aaron and others from the Shire of Yarra Ranges gardens team who have done work at the Mt Evelyn War Memorial Park prior to Anzac Day. This has included repainting the bench seats (see below left) and adding rocks around the boundary to stop cars driving across the park (see below right).

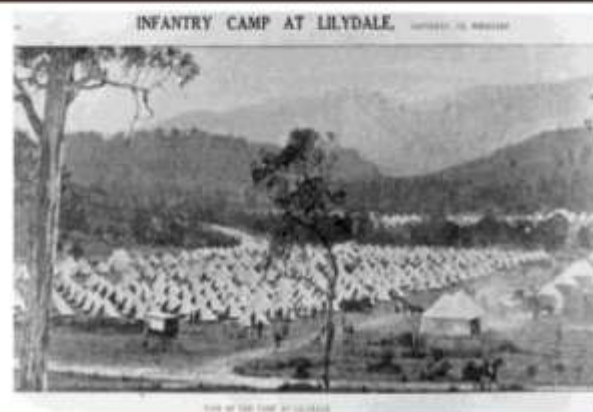


MONASH'S MILITIA CAMP

LILYDALE – FEBRUARY 1914

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

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



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

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

ORDER NOW:

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



Name: _____

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Post code: _____

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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: Joan 97370397 rosemont.townclub@gmail.com

Weight Recorder: Lesley McKenna 0425624043 or
97391642



PLEASE NOTE

Copies of

ALL OUR BOOKS

are available for sale through the

Mt Evelyn RSL

or at the

Mt Evelyn Post Office, Station St

GREAT GIFTS

Mt Evelyn & Districts
Community Bank[®] Branch Bendigo Bank
97371833



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 - \$10

General Meetings:

every third Monday of even months
7.30pm

'Hardy House' –
Mt Evelyn RSL Hall

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ORRAGON KILBYTH MONTROSE MT EVELYN LAPODGE DEERLAP SEVILLE

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brown**

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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Steve Deakins
(Mt Evelyn RSL Member)

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Mob: 0429 183021

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www.artwithdistinction.com.au

Gift vouchers available - great gift idea!!!

JJ's Photography



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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:

HEWETT'S

**Mt Evelyn's
Quality
Butchers**



27 Wray Cres

Ph: 9736 2206

Email: hewettma@gmail.com

**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: 0499475784

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

STEVE'S WHEELCHAIR & SCOOTER REPAIRS & SERVICE



Prompt attention
to breakdowns

SWEP &

private work

7 Days

PH: 0400564267

The Mt Evelyn RSL always uses:

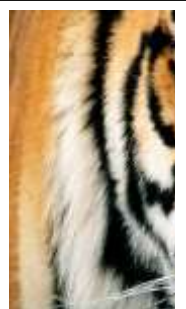
**TIGER
SIGNS**

*Computer Cut Vinyls *Digital Prints *Banners *Signs

Contact Dave –

tigersigns@gmail.com

0419 897 134 or 9737 0888



Mt Evelyn Community Market

4th Saturday of each month (Feb - Nov)

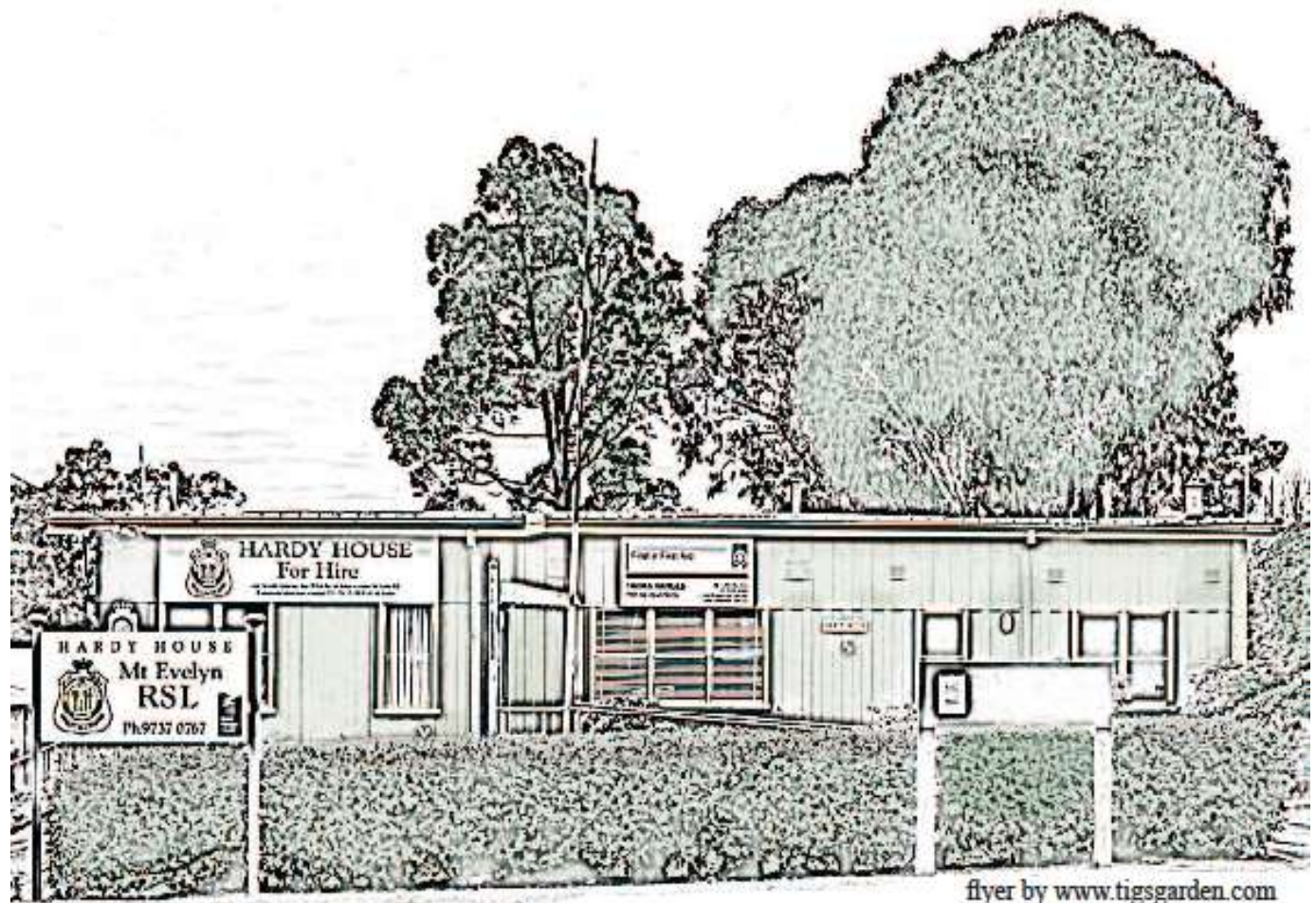
10am - 3pm

RSL/Hardy House, 49 Birmingham Rd

Everyone is welcome to join us at Mt Evelyn's new monthly market,
featuring various stall holders and local business.

Fresh produce and an RSL sausage sizzle and devonshire tea

www.facebook.com/mtevelyncommunitymarket



flyer by www.tigsgarden.com

BILL HARRISON'S STORY – pt 9

This is the story of one of our past members, Bill Harrison. Bill served with the 1st Independent Company during World War Two and was a member of the Mt Evelyn RSL for a short time in the 1990's. In 1999 Anthony McAleer sat down with him and interviewed him about his memories of the war. What follows is Bill's story.....

Last issue: Training others in Jungle warfare

How did you travel to Morotai?

We got on a 'LST' (Landing Ship, Tank), not the most comfortable cruise ships by any means. When we went around the north of New Guinea, opposite Wewak, we went through a storm. It was a terrific storm, gees the ship rolled; even the sailors were getting seasick. Quite a few of us that weren't seasick had to stand watch as the sailors were all sick. At one stage we were on the top deck under and in trucks and things when suddenly the trucks started moving, they weren't properly tied down. It became really quite dangerous as these things were moving around. They had tanks and armoured cars down on the tank deck, they also got a bit loose too but fortunately I didn't have to go down and chain them up. Quite a lot of the trucks went over the side actually, first one broke through the rails, and then once the rails had the break in them they became weak and more were going over. They had pontoons chained on to the side of the ship, big pontoons that were about twenty foot tubes that they just dropped into the water chained together to make a rough pier out of them, that saved a lot of the trucks. There were a couple of blokes too who were washed overboard as well.

What was your role on Morotai?

Actually we weren't on Morotai very long. Before we knew it we were off to be landed on Balikpapan in Dutch Borneo.

What are your memories of the landing at Balikpapan?

It was a walk over really. It was a rehearsal for the 7th Division who it was thought would be going to the Philippines as they expected a long and projected fight in the Philippines and they thought we would be needed. Failing that we fully expected we were to land on Japan. I think it was more for headquarters to work out the logistics. There were only about 14,000 Japs there and the Division group that landed there had 43,000. It was the first time we'd outnumbered the Japs.

We went down in 'LSDs' (Landing Ship, Docks) and then transferred to 'LCVP's' (Landing Craft, Vehicle, Personnel) they hold about 20 men. The Yanks had these rocket ships, there were about four or five of them, and I think they had eight hundred and forty-eight rockets on those ships. They would steam up to the coast and just disappear in a cloud of smoke and then an equivalent cloud of smoke would appear on the shore. They would then sail out and go and load up again, then the next one in line would come in. We were just going around in circles in our LCVPs about 400 or 500 yards off the shore watching these rocket ships, it was beautiful to watch, they sort of put down a carpet before we landed.

We then went ashore in the LCVPs, we landed in the first wave, about ten minutes ahead of the main force, mainly to escort some engineers who were cleaning minefields.

Next issue: The Battle for Balikpapan

Right: Bill Harrison in 1999

MT EVELYN FURPHYS

- Best wishes to **Julie Boness** who recently had a stay in hospital.
- RIP **Richard Geere**, a past member of the club who donated some of his uncle's WW2 items to our exhibition.
- Welcome to new members **Peter McAleer & John Eastham**.
- A huge welcome to new member **Irene Jacob**. Irene is 91 and served in WW2 in England with the WAAF.
- Thanks to those who have recently donated items to our collection – **Tim Herlihy, Kathleen Gawler & Russell Underwood**.
- Please be carefully when leaving the RSL of a night time. One of our members recently fell over and hit his head, requiring a stay in hospital. Always best to organise a lift.
- Thanks to **Graham Northey** for the donation of WW2 official histories for our library.

• 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: 0499475784

Justice of the Peace –

Kim Parry

Ph: 0418334416

Committee:

Betty Crittenden, Bill Smart, Ron Jones