

Mt Evelyn RSL News



Volume 6, Issue 2, Winter 2016

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



2016 Meeting Dates

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



Follow us on facebook

LAUNCH OF OUR NEW BOOK: **The Vagabond in the Yarra Valley**

On Sunday March 13th, 2016 the Mt Evelyn RSL were proud to be able to launch our latest book – ‘The Vagabond in the Yarra Valley’ – at the Benevuti Festival held at the wonderful Killara Estate Winery in Seville.

The book was launched by Christine Fyffe MLA who also wrote the foreword. As the book deals a lot with the history of the Yarra Valley and especially its early wine industry it had a special interest for Christine who has long run a winery with his husband David in the area. She also noted that the Vagabond was born in Staffordshire, England, the same as her.

Jim Brown, a Yarra Valley poet and former political reporter on Channel 10 & 9, also helped launch the book. Jim also wrote a fascinating introduction to the book, comparing the Vagabond’s travelogues with his time as a travel reporter on ‘Healthy, Wealthy & Wise’. *More photos inside....*

Below: President of the Mt Evelyn RSL, Roger Boness, Secretary of the Mt Evelyn RSL, Anthony McAleer, and Christine Fyffe MLA, member for Evelyn.



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:

**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***

Mt Evelyn RSL is
supporting the Silvan
Football Club's
special Anzac Game

**Saturday April 23rd
2.00pm
Silvan Oval**

This is part of the RSL's
100 clubs program

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Anzac Day is next Monday 25th April and Mt Evelyn RSL Sub-Branch members have been involved in planning the commemoration of this important day when all Australians reflect on, and remember those who served their country and did not return.

The 2016 ANZAC Day Dawn Service will commence at 5.45am in the Mt Evelyn War Memorial Park cnr Wray Cres & Birmingham Rd followed by a March to the RSL Hall where a free community breakfast will be served.

RSL members will be also conducting services at the Wandin and Silvan cenotaphs and the Mt Evelyn Ridge retirement home. The Mt Evelyn RSL will also be presenting the traditional ANZAC Day game of 'Two-Up' at the York on Lilydale Resort from 1-00pm.

100 teams for 100 years is a RSL Victoria community initiative celebrating the centenary of the RSL. It is about engagement and encouraging interest from our local communities in the work of the RSL. The Mt Evelyn RSL Sub-Branch has been aligned with the Silvan Football Club who will be provided with team jumpers bearing the ANZAC appeal and RSL Centenary Logos. The RSL will be conducting a short service prior to the start of play on Saturday 23rd April 2016 at the Silvan Recreation Reserve.

The centenary of the battle of Pozieres is this year; this is where the survivors of Gallipoli, divided into 1st, 2nd and 4th Divisions were thrown into the battle of Pozieres France with the loss of 7000 men. This battle has never been commemorated by Australia, is not taught in our schools, and is unknown by 90% of Australians. We are supporting a memorial to be built in Pozieres France. Community members can buy a brick to assist in this important project. Please contact Mount Evelyn RSL for details.

Lest We Forget – Roger Boness, President – Mt Evelyn RSL

APPEAL OFFICER'S REPORT

Having just taken over the role from Dot Ervine after her many years of service I am pleased to say things are going along very well. Although it's early days yet I am expecting that we may well have another record breaking appeal.

My thanks to all who have volunteered to help out – it has been a great effort.

Regards,

John Allwood

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



Interesting facts:

Banging your head against a wall uses 150 calories an hour. (*Who volunteers for these tests?*)

The ant can lift 50 times its own weight, can pull 30 times its own weight and always falls over on its right side when intoxicated. (*From drinking little bottles of ?*)

Butterflies taste with their feet.

An ostrich's eye is bigger than its brain. (*I know some people like that.*)

Starfish don't have brains. (*I know some people like that, too.*)

And, the best for last.....

Turtles can breathe through their butts.

(*And you thought you had bad breath in the morning!*)

Did our government pay for this research??

Here's some.....

- Airports at higher altitudes require a longer airstrip due to lower air density.
 - The University of Alaska spans four time zones.
 - The tooth is the only part of the human body that cannot heal itself.
 - In ancient Greece, tossing an apple to a girl was a traditional proposal of marriage. Catching it meant she accepted.
 - Warner Communications paid \$28 million for the copyright to the song Happy Birthday.
 - Intelligent people have more zinc and copper in their hair.
 - A comet's tail always points away from the sun.
 - The Swine Flu vaccine in 1976 caused more death and illness than the disease it was intended to prevent.
 - Caffeine increases the power of aspirin and other painkillers, that is why it is found in some medicines.
- >

Reasons why the English language is so hard to learn:

- 1) The bandage was wound around the wound.
- 2) The farm was used to produce produce.
- 3) The dump was so full that it had to refuse more refuse.
- 4) We must polish the Polish furniture.
- 5) He could lead if he would get the lead out.
- 6) The soldier decided to desert his dessert in the desert.
- 7) Since there is no time like the present, he thought it was time to present the present.
- 8) A bass was painted on the head of the bass drum
- 9) When shot at, the dove dove into the bushes.
- 10) I did not object to the object.
- 11) The insurance was invalid for the invalid.
- 12) There was a row among the oarsmen about how to row.
- 13) They were too close to the door to close it.
- 14) The buck does funny things when the does are present.
- 15) A seamstress and a sewer fell down into a sewer line.
- 16) To help with planting, the farmer taught his sow to sow.
- 17) The wind was too strong to wind the sail
- 18) After a number of injections my jaw got number.
- 19) Upon seeing the tear in the painting I shed a tear.
- 20) I had to subject the subject to a series of tests
- 21) How can I intimate this to my most intimate friend?



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NEWS

SERVICE FOR VIETNAM VETERANS AT LILYDALE CEMETERY



On Sunday February 21st, 2016 at 12.00pm, across the state of Victoria, services were held at each of the cemeteries where Vietnam casualties were buried. This was in connection with the 50th Anniversary of Long Tan this year.

At the Lilydale Cemetery the Outer Eastern Vietnam Veterans Association held a service to commemorate four local servicemen who died while an active service in Vietnam, Gary Willoughby, Malcolm Robertson, Ray Moore and Michael Hannaford. Three of these men are listed on the Mt Evelyn War Memorial

Left: a good crowd gathered for the service.



Members of the veteran community gathered on the day along with family and relatives of the four men honoured and local dignitaries. Representatives placed floral tributes on the graves and Tony Smith MP, federal member for Casey, was guest speaker.

Mt Evelyn RSL members present on the day included Roger Boness, Bill Smart, Paula Herlihy, Anthony McAleer and Tom Steele was bugler.

Left: Tony Smith MP and other dignitaries in front of the graves of the four local servicemen.



One of the more moving moments was when Stephen Shortis, a local Vietnam veteran, spoke about Gary Willoughby, his Lilydale High School friend who was honoured at the service. He managed to rally a number of ex-students from the school, including Paula Herlihy, who knew Gary to attend.

Left: Stephen Shortis places a floral tribute on Gary's grave before speaking.

SPIRIT OF ANZAC EXHIBITION



Recently our president, Roger Boness, attended the opening launch of a temporary exhibition 'Spirit of Anzac'. This exhibition came from the Australian War Memorial and is travelling around Australia – it was only in Melbourne at the Exhibition Centre for two weeks.

If you didn't get a chance to see it you really missed something special.

Images here are from the exhibition.

*Please God...
the sacrifices have
not been in vain.*

CORPORAL E. MORGAN, 11 NOVEMBER 1918

BENEVUTI FESTIVAL



The Mt Evelyn RSL had a stall at the Benevuti Festival organised by the Yarra Valley Italian Cultural Group. It was a marvellous day and all members who manned the stall really enjoyed themselves at the beautiful Killara Estate Winery in Seville.

Thanks to those who worked on the stall – Roger & Julie Boness, Anthony & Jenny McAleer, Tim & Paula Herlihy, Betty Crittenden, Jan & Tony Knox, Peter & Annette McAleer.

We managed to make over \$300 for the club on the day.

BOOK LAUNCHES



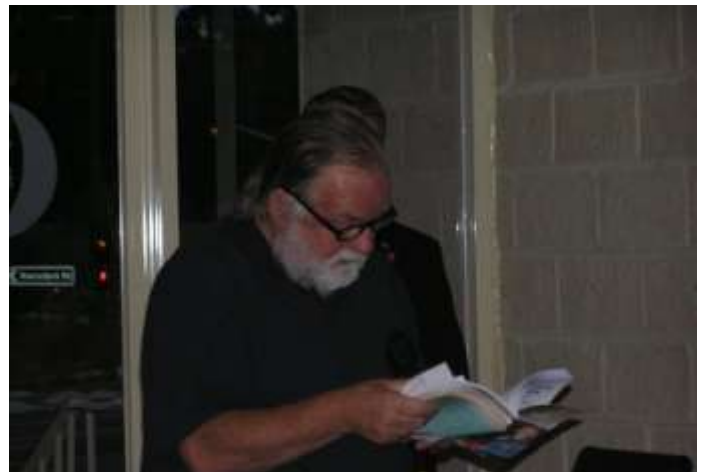
Above: Tony Smith MP, federal member for Casey, speaking at the launch.

Right: Melbourne writer, Barry Dickins, launches the book.

In the book Jim remembers in extraordinary detail his time with the 58th Battalion on the Western Front on the Somme, at Polygon Wood, Messines & Peronne. We have done a swap with the Lilydale RSL and have copies of this book for sale for \$20.

Seventeen Year Old Soldier

On Friday February 19th, members of the Mt Evelyn RSL attended the launch of a book on the WWI wartime memories of Jim Baddeley, who ironically enlisted in the AIF (underage) on that date 100 years ago. The book is based on interviews undertaken by our secretary, Anthony McAleer, over 20 years ago with Jim Baddeley and is a centenary of Anzac project by the Lilydale RSL.



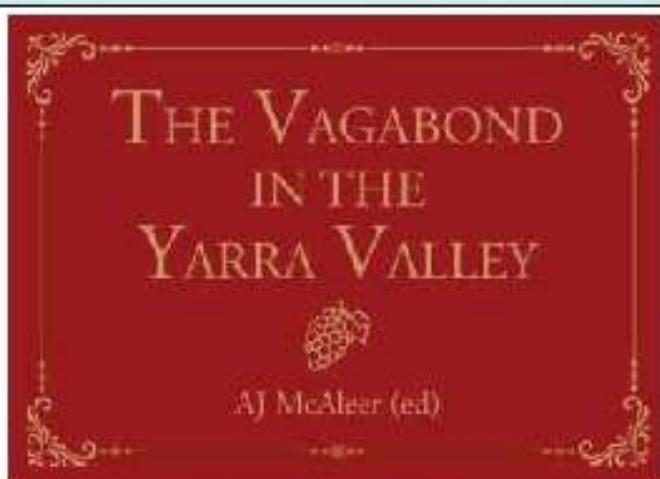
The Vagabond in the Yarra Valley

This book, that was launched at the Benevuti Festival on Sunday March 13th, is a collection of articles written by the renowned 19th century journalist John Stanley Thomas, who wrote under the name – The Vagabond. Between 1877 and 1894 he visited the Yarra Valley numerous times to write about it. We have collected all of his reports for this book as well as a large collection of photos & images of this district in the 19th century – many never seen before. His articles describe the early wine industry, the development of townships such as Lilydale & Yarra Glen, travelling from Melbourne by coach and early train, Cave Hill & the Steels Creek gold rush. The book is available at the club for \$20 or fill in the order form opposite.

Below: Jim Brown interviews editor of the book, Anthony McAleer, at Killara Estate Winery.



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 RSL Sub-branch



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SILVAN WAR MEMORIAL



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**MAJOR WILLIAM SCURRY
MC, DCM**

**VICE-ADMIRAL SIR WILLIAM
ROOKE CRESWELL KC, MG,
KBE**



DATE: Sunday April 24th, 2016

TIME: 2.00pm

PLACE: Out front – Silvan Primary School

269 Main Rd, Silvan

For further details:
mtevrsl@gmail.com

SEVILLE WAR MEMORIAL CUP

On Sunday March 6th, 2016 the Seville War Memorial Cup was held at the Seville Recreation Reserve as a fund raiser for the Seville War Memorial. Members of the Mt Evelyn RSL are on this committee to help assist the Seville community to raise enough funds to erect an amazing glass memorial.

On the day it was a great family event with a number of things on offer for kids and adults to enjoy as well as watching Seville & Wandin Football clubs battle it out and the Seville & Wandin Netball clubs do the same to win the cup. On the day cup winners were Wandin Football Club and Seville Netball Club.

There was also a memorial service to start the game off and Jim Brown & Vince Brophy were half-time entertainment. They also presented the George Ingram VC, MM Medal to the best on ground.



Below: Well done to our member Marion Stott and other members of the veteran community who alerted the police and the media to the missing tile plaque from the Mooroolbark War Memorial.

After a widespread appeal and much angst from the community the plaque was returned unharmed in time for Anzac Day.

Article below: Lilydale & Yarra Ranges Leader 13/4/16

MOOROOLBARK WAR MEMORIAL

Troy Edwards SAIG ADI CHAI DESHAI RIM DASHIYAKA DESHAI

MOOROOLBARK

Plaque found in park, but why take it?

Sam Bidey

VETERANS are relieved a plaque stolen from the Mooroolbark war memorial has been recovered but remain confused and disappointed as to why the tribute was desecrated.

The names of 12 soldiers from Mooroolbark, who served in the Korean War, the Malayan Emergency, Borneo Confrontation and the Vietnam War, were on the plaque that was taken some time in late February.

Retired major Ken MacKenzie, one of four surviving veterans whose names were on the plaque that was put up as part of the revamp of Hookey Park in 2014, said he was angered and shocked by the theft.

"I'm bitterly disappointed and angry that somebody would feel it necessary to deface a memorial to Mooroolbark's veterans," Mr MacKenzie said.

"I don't know why people would disturb a war memorial — it's like going to a cemetery and smashing up tombstones."

Yarra Ranges Police Inspector Peter Wheeler said the plaque was found by a dog-walker at a park in Croydon on Thursday and handed in to police.

It appeared as though the thief had come to their com-



Constable Sally Doherty, Senior Constable Rikilea Mitchell, and Inspector Peter Wheeler returning the plaque to Kerry Crisafulli, Geoff Earney, and Marion Scott at the Hookey Park war memorial in Mooroolbark.

Picture: STEVE TANNER

as I understand it and the member of the public was in the right place at the right time.

"We were able to reunite it back with the rightful people for a good outcome, all

munity voiced their outrage online.

Kerrie Higgins summed the situation up with her post to the Lilydale and Yarra Valley Leader Facebook page: "what the hell is

ney, another surviving veteran who was honoured on the plaque, said he was glad it had been recovered, undamaged, in time for Anzac Day.

"Coming up to Anzac Day

take the plaque," Mr Earney said.

"I do think it's a relief that someone has come to their senses and realised that this is serious."

A GRANDFATHER HE NEVER KNEW

For many Australian families the First World War didn't end with the signing of the Peace Treaty. Many carried the emotion trauma and profound grief that was caused by that war for the decades that followed and some are still affected by it.

Max Lamb, well known to many locally through his involvement with the Australian Air League, lost a grandfather in the First World War. His grandfather was Charles Nash and this year marks the centenary of his death on the Western Front.

As a tribute he has written a letter to the grandfather he never knew. This letter was recently read out by school children visiting the war graves in France.

Right: Max's grandfather and grandmother with his mother (courtesy Max Lamb).



Dear Grandpa,

At the age of nineteen, you answered the call to do your duty for your country. Although you were married with a 12 month old daughter, you enlisted in the Army, for what you thought would be a great adventure for a short time on the other side of the world. It would be all over by Christmas, you were told.

You did your training at the camp at Broadmeadows and assigned to the 7th Battalion. Then as you set sail for Gallipoli, as part of the third re-enforcements, a son was born. A son you never got to see, but did get to know him with the exchanges of letters with your loved ones back home.

You arrived at what is now called ANZAC Cove, one month after the original landing. What a shock that must have been to see what war was really like and the carnage that had taken place there. In total, over 100,000 were to die there before you left. Of these, nearly 9000 were Australians.

*Looking at the photo you sent back from Egypt, after Gallipoli was evacuated, we can see the strain of battle in your face when compared with the one taken before you left home that shows a fresh innocent young man. **An innocent young man.***

It is hard for us to imagine the horrors of war you must have witnessed. In a letter to one of your sisters, you described your disappointment that your wife, Rene, would not tell you when the children were sick, and in your letters to her, you did not mention what the war was like. We guess you both did not want to burden each other unnecessarily with any worrying thoughts.

You asked that your thanks be passed on to those at home that had sent you parcels, you questioned why some of your relatives had not enlisted.

You took your Army responsibilities seriously, being promoted to Lance Corporal when you were transferred to C Company of the 59th Battalion, then to Corporal when you landed in France. In July 1916, at Fromelles, the first major battle the Australians were in since arriving in France, you were wounded in the face and hands.

The British high command had ordered an attack on a heavily fortified German front line. It was a pointless and futile attack. Over 5,500 Australians became casualties. Almost 2,000 of them were killed in action or died of wounds and some 400 were captured. This battle has been described as "the worst 24 hours in Australia's entire history".

Due to war time censorship, it would be many years before the Australian public became aware of this enormous and tragic disaster. Fortunately, the wounds were minor and after 10 days you had recovered enough to perform base duties, then 3 weeks later, you rejoined your battalion; you were again promoted, this time to Sergeant.

Then on the 1st of November 1916, you could do no more, because that was the day you were listed as **killed in action**. You had done your best for your country. Your soul had gone to God.

The circumstances of your death are unknown to us, other than you died **just a few days before your 21st birthday**. According to the Battalion diary, the 59th was at the 'Carton Trench and there were three casualties that day. We do not know where your body lies, is it in an unmarked grave in the cemetery or undiscovered on the Battlefield? **These questions remain unanswered.**

Sadly, your wife, mother of your two children, died in 1919 from the influenza epidemic that swept the world, leaving your two children orphans, who were then raised by their Maternal Grandmother. The Flu pandemic killed more people in two years than the war did in four and like the war, the most vulnerable were the young adults.

But your spirit lives on. From your two children there are:

12 Grandchildren.

38 Great Grandchildren

61 Great Great Grandchildren and

26 Great Great Great Grandchildren
and still counting.

At the War Cemetery at Villers-Bretonneux, your name is proudly displayed on the 'Memorial to the Missing'.

Wherever you are, rest in peace Sergeant Charles Henry Nash, 1860 59th Battalion, 5th Division, Australian Infantry.

You did your duty, we are proud of you,
and we remember you. I salute you.

Your proud grandson

Max



NAVAL ASSOCIATION and HMAS STALWART REUNION

Many thanks to our member Geoff Dawson who has compiled the following report of the recent RAN reunion he attended.

In November last year I attended the Naval Association's *All Ships Reunion*, hosted by the Ballina Sub Section at the Ballina RSL in NSW. As well as the annual All Ships Reunion, it also served as the first reunion for the HMAS Stalwart Association, commemorating 30 years since a fatal gas leak onboard Stalwart claimed the lives of three of its crew. This occurred on the 22nd October, 1985, whilst the ship was off the coast of Darwin enroute to Singapore. At the time of the accident I was a 20 year old Able Seaman posted to HMAS Stalwart.

Not having seen each other for many years, there was lots of catching up to do. Friday night was a 'Meet & Greet', with many funny ditties from a 'Bush Poet'. On Saturday afternoon we presented a framed pencil drawn print of HMAS Stalwart to the Ballina Naval & Maritime Museum. Saturday night was the annual dinner, featuring a very interesting guest speaker who gave an account of the RAN's involvement in the Malayan Crisis during the 1950's. On Sunday morning we all gathered at the Ballina War Memorial for a memorial service and wreath laying, followed by a farewell barbeque at the RSL.

The weekend was a great success. Thanks go to the Ballina Sub Section for allowing the Stalwart reunion to coincide with their All Ships Reunion. Now that the HMAS Stalwart Association has 'broken the ice' and had our first reunion, plans are afoot for many more to come.



Ballina War Memorial



HMAS Stalwart

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.

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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.

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Rosemont T.O.W.N Club is now
meeting on Tuesday at the
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You can just drop by during one of our meetings, or you can
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or at the

Mt Evelyn Post Office, Station St

GREAT GIFTS



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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ORNDON KILBY MONTROSE MT EVELYN LATOAL 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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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**

The Mt Evelyn RSL always use:

HEWETT'S
Mt Evelyn's
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27 Wray Cres

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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: 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 & Arnheim.



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

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7 Days

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The Mt Evelyn RSL always uses:

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*Computer Cut Vinyls *Digital Prints *Banners *Signs

Contact Dave –

tigersigns@gmail.com

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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



WILLIAM LUDWIG AICHER

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.....

William Ludwig Aicher was born in 1892 at Carlton. His father, also William Aicher, had been born in 1861 in Stuttgart, Germany. Ironical when you think that his son later enlisted to fight in a war against Germany.

But that is not the only irony to this story. William's father had arrived in Port Melbourne in 1881 on board the ship British ocean liner RMS Lusitania. This ship later became famous during the First World War when it was sunk by a German U-boat, causing a storm of protest in the USA. This influenced America's eventual declaration of war two years later, in 1917. And what was the date of the sinking of the Lusitania? May 7th, 1915, a day before William Aicher was killed in action at Gallipoli.

In 1910 William's father was appointed an inspector on the O'Shannassy Water Supply Scheme, a project to send water from the O'Shannassy River, through the County of Evelyn and on to the suburbs of Melbourne. While here his father secured a job for William on the project as a metal spinner and as a result he took up residence in Mount Evelyn for three years while he worked on the scheme.

During this time he had a daughter, Majorie Ross Hall, although what the circumstances here are unknown as she had a different surname.

On August 17th, 1914 William Aicher enlisted in the AIF, the first resident of Mt Evelyn to do so. He had previously served with the militia in the 64th Infantry Battalion while living in Richmond. His regimental number was 7.

Soon after enlisting William was sent to the Broadmeadows Military Camp and it was here he was appointed to the Signal section attached to 'C' Company of the 6th Battalion.

He left Melbourne with the first convoy on the HMAT Hororata and travelled to Egypt. On April 25th, 1915, William landed under fire at the beach at Anzac Cove with the 6th Battalion in the second wave. Then on May 5th the 6th Battalion was transferred with the 2nd Infantry Brigade from Anzac Cove to Cape Helles to help in the attack on the village of Krithia. On 8 May 1915 they supported the abortive British attack in the direction of Krithia village. Corporal William Ludwig Aicher was one of those killed in action on that day. He was later buried at Cape Helles in the British Commonwealth War Cemetery there.

MT EVELYN FURPHYS

- Our Treasurer **John Allwood** has now taken on the role of Appeals Officer as well – well done John!
- **Bruce Watkinson** and **Arch Carswell** have spent some time in hospital recently – wishing them the very best.
- Our thoughts go out to our past president **Andy Franks** who has moved recently to a nursing home in Yarra Junction.
- A huge welcome to our newest member **Iris Wilkinson**, aged 92. Iris served as a WAAF in England during the Second World War and her husband was a tail gunner in RAF bombers, in fact he was one of the Dambusters. We are proud to have you on board.
- 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**

It was reported in The Lilydale Express, that: *'Young Aicher was a most promising and capable soldier, and his memory will ever live amongst us as one of the Australian heroes who offered his life for God, Country and Womanhood'.*



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 –

John Allwood Ph: 9736 1551

Chamber representative –

Les Kennedy Ph: 0418 149 558

Justice of the Peace –

Kim Parry Ph: 0418334416

Committee:

Betty Crittenden, Bill Smart, Ron Jones