

Mt Evelyn RSL News

Volume 1, Issue 1, Autumn 2011 A Sub-Branch of the Returned and Services League of Australia



2011 **Meeting Dates**

April 10th
June 12th
Aug 14th
Oct 9th
Dec 11th

***The Mt Evelyn RSL
Meetings are held on
the second Sunday of
each alternative
month at 2.00pm
at the:***

**Mt Evelyn RSL
Clubrooms
49 Birmingham Rd
Mt Evelyn Vic 3796**

Ph: 9737 0767

**Postal Address:
PO Box 182
Mt Evelyn Vic 3796**

**President:
Roger Boness
Ph: 9737 0830**

NEW PRESIDENT AT MT EVELYN

There is a new team at the helm of the Mt Evelyn RSL after members last month elected a new president, Roger Boness.

Roger is a Vietnam veteran who served as a forward observer with the artillery, 106th Field Battery-4th Field Regiment, in Vietnam during 1967-68. He has lived in the district for 45 years and been a member at the Mt Evelyn RSL for most of that time. Now retired he has decided to take on a more active role in the club and will be ably assisted by James Chapman, a Bendigo Bank Board Member, as Treasurer and Anthony McAleer, a local historian, as Secretary.

Roger paid tribute to retiring president Derek Crittenden who has done a great job to keep the club going under tough circumstances over the past few years while battling health problems. "Our priority is to look after the welfare of our ex-service people and their dependants", Mr Boness said, "The RSL provides its members with a range of benefits and services, as well as promoting the ties of mateship".

He added "I encourage any former or current service men or women to join the club or renew their membership and invite any residents who have served in the emergency services or whose family members were ex-service people to join as 'Affiliate Members'. We also have a 'Women's Auxiliary' who meet regularly and organise many of our social gatherings".

The clubrooms at 49 Birmingham Rd are open every Friday night from 7.00pm onwards and have a range of facilities including billiards, darts, indoor bowls and a wide screen TV. Recently members erected a series of display cases to house the club's amazing collection of militaria and these have been exhibited by a member who works for Museum Victoria.

"We would love to see some new faces", Mr Boness said, "so I invite community members to call in on a Friday and say hello, even if it's to check out our fascinating display cases".

Other Important Dates Coming Up:

Sunday April 17th
2.00pm

Annual Mt Evelyn RSL Anzac Day March

The march will start at Wray Cres and finish at the Mt Evelyn War Memorial Reserve for a ceremony.

Monday April 25th
5.45am

Annual Mt Evelyn RSL Anzac Day Dawn Service

The service will take place at the RSL Memorial out the front of the clubrooms at 49 Birmingham Rd.

Gunfire Breakfast

After the service the 'Mt Evelyn Football Club' will again be putting on a fantastic & popular breakfast in the hall (\$10) while the 'Mt Evelyn Christian Reformed Church' will be cooking sausages in the clubrooms.

Monday April 25th
1.00pm

Two-Up

Our annual game of two-up will again be played at the 'York on Lillydale'. Proceeds to go to the Mt Evelyn RSL.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Initially I found being elected president of Mt Evelyn Returned & Services League to be quite daunting with a range of responsibilities previously being unknown to myself, along with the expectations of the RSL membership and local community to consider.

I must say those initial concerns were unwarranted as I have found that the members/committee are united and more than happy to assist me in this important role as are all the local individuals, clubs, businesses and entities that have had past and ongoing relationships with the RSL. I sincerely hope that I have the necessary skills to fulfil all those expectations and represent their interests. Similarly I encourage everyone associated with the club to raise their interests and concerns with me so the committee can address them as soon as they become evident.

The committee and myself have spent the past weeks preparing for our annual Anzac March on Sunday April 17th at 2.00pm and our Dawn Service at 5.45am on Anzac Day April 25th. The committee has also applied to the relevant minister for permission to hold our traditional two-up event on Anzac Day at the 'York on Lillydale'.

Our next committee and general meeting is on Sunday 10th April 2011 and I encourage all members to attend and assist in determining the future direction of our club.

Lest We Forget.

Roger Boness
President

LADIES AUXILIARY REPORT

The Ladies Auxiliary are gearing up for our busy time. We really need some help selling Anzac Tokens out the front of IGA during April. If you can spare any time between Monday April 11th & Friday April 21st helping to sell tokens to raise funds for the welfare of members we would really appreciate it.

If you can help please ring me on 9736 3638.

As per usual we will be preparing the afternoon tea after the march on April 17th so any help there or offers of cakes or sandwiches will be gratefully accepted.

Dot Irvine

Mt Evelyn RSL Ladies Auxiliary

DON'T FORGET!!

Your 2011 subs are now due.

Full Members – open to ex-service personnel who were in the uniformed services for a period of six months or more. **\$40 a year**

Affiliated Members – open to those who have served with the emergency services or whose relatives were ex-service personnel. **\$40 a year**

Social Members – for those who want to enjoy the club's facilities.

History of the Mt Evelyn RSL

The following was written by A J McAleer as a chapter in the book *'Tracks to Trails – A History of Mt Evelyn'*.


In January 1919 a sub-branch of the 'Returned Servicemen's League' was formed in Lilydale and for over fifty years ex-diggers from the Mt Evelyn area were active members of this club. Throughout 1968 discussions were held between disgruntled ex-servicemen from around Mt Evelyn to form their own club and in August ten of them met at the 'Senior Citizens Rooms' and elected a provisional committee to organise the steps necessary to form their own sub-branch of the RSL at Mt Evelyn.

Approval was obtained from RSL Headquarters by the beginning of 1969, the first AGM was held in February, and in the following month the Chairman of the 11th District Board, Mr D Phillips, presented the branch's charter and installed the first Executive and Ladies Auxiliary. The club's first president was Harold Tarbath, an Englishman who had served in the First World War with the AIF and who had been awarded the 'Meritorious Service Medal' and the 'French Medal of Honor' as well as being 'Mentioned in Dispatches'. The first secretary was Mr A Morton-Walker, another distinguished veteran from the First World War who had won the 'Military Cross' while serving with the British Army. He served the club as secretary until he retired in 1975, when he was made the branch's first 'Life Member'. Foundation member Bill Phillips remembers; *'There were only ten of us at the first meeting and in those days we had quite a few First World War men. They were a good lot and we all used to meet in various rooms and halls around Mt Evelyn'*.

In these early days the branch met at the 'Senior Citizens Rooms' and other local venues. By August of their first year they had signed up six new servicemen including a long time member, Ralph Proctor, and their first returned veteran from Vietnam, Ian Lillie.

To be continued....

Right: the 'Attestation Paper' of Harold Tarbath, the first president of the Mt Evelyn RSL.

AUSTRALIAN  MILITARY FORCES.

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

Attestation Paper of Persons Enlisted for Service Abroad.

No. 3657 Name TARBATH Harold William
Unit 8th. Reinf. Bn.
Joined on 17/8/15

Questions to be put to the Person Enlisting before Attestation.

1. What is your Name?	1. <u>Tarbath Harold William</u>
2. In or near what Parish or Town were you born?	2. In the Parish of <u>Birmingham</u> in or near the Town of <u>Birmingham</u> in the County of <u>Eng Land</u>
3. Are you a natural born British Subject or a Naturalised British Subject? (N.R.—If the latter, papers to be shown.)	3. <u>natural born British Subject.</u>
4. What is your age?	4. <u>21 years</u>
5. What is your trade or calling?	5. <u>Laborer</u>
6. Are you, or have you been, an Apprentice? If so, where, to whom, and for what period?	6. <u>no</u>
7. Are you married?	7. <u>no</u>
8. Who is your next of kin? (Address to be stated)	8. <u>William Tarbath, Rednal, Highfield Road, Purley Surrey England.</u>
9. Have you ever been convicted by the Civil Power?	9. <u>no</u>
10. Have you ever been discharged from any part of His Majesty's Forces, with Ignominy, or as Incurable and Worthless, or on account of Conviction of Felony, or of a Sentence of Penal Servitude, or have you been dismissed with Disgrace from the Navy?	10. <u>no</u>
11. Do you now belong to, or have you ever served in, His Majesty's Army, the Marines, the Militia, the Militia Reserve, the Territorial Force, Royal Navy, or Colonial Forces? If so, state which, and if not now serving, state cause of discharge.	11. <u>no</u>
12. Have you stated the whole, if any, of your previous service?	12. <u>yes</u>
13. Have you ever been rejected as unfit for His Majesty's Service? If so, on what grounds?	13. <u>no</u>
14. (For married men, widowers with children, and soldiers who are the sole support of widowed wives.) Do you understand that a separation allowance will be issued in respect of your service beyond an amount which together with pay would reach eight shillings per day?	14. <u>yes</u>
15. Are you prepared to undergo inoculation against small pox and enteric fever?	15. <u>yes</u>

I, Harold William Tarbath do solemnly declare that the above answers made by me to the above questions are true, and I am willing and hereby voluntarily agree to serve in the Military Forces of the Commonwealth of Australia within or beyond the limits of the Commonwealth.

And I further agree to allot not less than two-fifths of the pay payable to me from time to time during my service for the support of my wife and children.

Date 17/8/15 Signature of person enlisted. H. W. Tarbath

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MT EVELYN FURPHYS

- The Mt Evelyn Festival will be happening on Oct 22nd. Any ideas how the RSL can be involved? What about organising the RSL recruiting caravan as a recruitment drive? What about a display?
- Rumour has it that the theme for this year's Mt Evelyn Festival will be the 'Wizard of Oz'. Furphy reckons our Laurie Hollier would be a dead ringer to play the 'Wizard'.
- Speaking of Captain Hollier, he's on the lookout for a crew for his yacht 'Titanic' – no sorry 'SS Battlestar'. Anyone interested in a day out on the water contact Laurie. Just don't ask to go anywhere near the Rye Pier!!
- Derrick & Betty Crittenden were down from Mildura recently and said to say 'giddy' to everyone.
- Dot Irvine has just returned from a wonderful 14 day cruise on the 'Dawn Princess' where she toured all over New Zealand. Ask to see her photos!!

If undeliverable return to:

The Mt Evelyn RSL Sub-Branch
PO Box 182
Mt Evelyn Vic 3796

Club Opening Hours

*Every Friday Night
7.00pm – 10.30pm*

Celebrate the end of the week with a visit to the clubrooms.

Andy & Marie have a well stocked fridge and Peter is always on hand to make a brew if you so desire.

Friday night football will be playing on our big screen TV and don't forget we also have a pool table, dart board and indoor bowls.

While you're visiting make sure you check out the fascinating display of military memorabilia that members have donated over the years. This has all been exhibited in our new display cases and arranged by an historian from Museum Victoria.

GET YOUR NEWS QUICKER!!

To help save on paper and postage costs to the club – if you would like your copy of the 'Mt Evelyn RSL News' emailed to you – please send your email address to the editor on:

antmca@bigpond.com

*and that way you'll get your copy
before everyone else!!*

Hall Hire

The RSL is a great facility for anyone who requires a place for clubs or social groups to gather. Most of the time this facility lies idle and the RSL could be making (albeit a small amount of) money from hiring it to interested parties. We would greatly appreciate your input if you know of anyone who might be interested in hiring the hall on an ongoing basis. However no birthday parties for the under 21's!

Vicki at the Mt Evelyn Community Link is in charge of administering hall bookings and she can be contacted directly on 9736 1177.

Afternoon Delight

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.

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*Contributions to the
newsletter, including news,
info or photos, are welcomed.*