



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dear Bendigo District RSL Sub-Branch Inc Members and Families,
I hope this report finds you well, and that the warmer weather of spring is now upon us.

Welfare:

Our Welfare Team has been hard at work responding to numerous requests for support and proactively reaching out to our Service and Life Members. Regular phone calls and visits continue to ensure that Veterans and their families receive the resources and care they need. This year, we will again distribute Bendigo District RSL Vouchers, providing Veterans and their partners the opportunity to enjoy the warm, welcoming atmosphere of our award-winning hospitality venue.

We remain committed to engaging with Veterans and their dependents through direct outreach and referrals. Behind the scenes, our Welfare Advocate and volunteers work tirelessly to ensure that those in need receive the vital support and referrals required.

Outreach and Engagement:

Our Sub-Branch remains highly active across the local community and beyond. The process of establishing the Central Victorian Veterans and Families Hub is progressing well, thanks to the collaboration between BDRSL, RSL Victoria, Bendigo Legacy Club, and the Vietnam Veterans Association Bendigo Branch. A special thanks to our working group and Sub-Branch Committee, who are nearing completion of the formal proposal.

Engagement with veterans continues through a variety of activities, including Veteran nights, Walk Talk Cuppa, golf, fitness sessions, morning teas, informal gatherings, and our Sheds programs. The "Faces of Peace" exhibition at the Bendigo Military Museum has been a resounding success, with many visitors gaining insight into our local Veterans' experiences.

We were also excited to host a Formal Mixed Military Dining Night, in collaboration with our Commemorative Committee, Central Victorian Veterans, and Bendigo Military Museum. This event aligned with the RSL Victoria theme of 'Peacekeepers, Peacemakers, and Peace Builders,' providing an opportunity for many to learn about the broader role of the ADF.

Collaboration:

We continue to strengthen our relationships with RSL State Executive, RSL Region 7, Legacy, the Vietnam Veterans Association Bendigo Branch, and other Ex-Service Organisations. Recent Region 7 meetings in Bendigo, Castlemaine, Koondrook, Swan Hill, and Woodend have been productive, fostering a united effort to support veterans.



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Congratulations are in order for Immediate Past President Peter Swandale, who has been elected to the Victorian Veterans Council and continues to serve on the RSL Victoria State Executive.

I've also been involved with our Sheds Program, supporting Occupational Health and Safety alongside our OHS Committee and Vice President Paul Stevenson. I'm pleased to see so many embracing the opportunity to create a safer environment for our staff and participants by adhering to Safe Work Procedures and Risk Management protocols.

Commemorative Activities:

Our Commemorative Sub-Committee has been actively involved in significant events such as the Korean Veterans Commemoration, Malaya Borneo Day, Victory in the Pacific (VP) Day, Vietnam Veterans Day, and National Peacekeepers Day.

Conclusion:

In closing, I hope our Sub-Branch continues to offer you moments of connection, reflection, and support. Together, let's remain a beacon of advocacy and assistance for Veterans and their families.

Warm regards,
Glenn Ludeman
Sub-Branch President
Bendigo District RSL Inc.



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LEST WE FORGET



MyRSL

VETERAN SUPPORT- WELFARE

The BDRSL Welfare Program, through the Welfare and Charitable Sub Committee delivers direct proactive support, connection and outreach to the Veteran community through face to face and telephone contact, and off-site visitation. Service personal identified through networking, word of mouth and direct referral are supported in-house and followed up directly by the Welfare Advocate. Other contacts are connected to appropriate adjunct agencies to facilitate both autonomous support and ease of access to those support interventions. The Welfare Program strongly networks with all local and state-wide ESOs and support agencies to establish and cement sound relationships of support, trust, and integrity.

This quarterly report provides an overview of activities, initiatives, and developments pertaining to the W&CSC supported by the Bendigo District RSL during the reporting period of July - September 2024. The report highlights key achievements, challenges, and ongoing efforts to enhance the welfare and support of Veterans and their dependents in the region.

VETERANS ENGAGEMENT AND SUPPORT

Outreach:

In September 2023 the Welfare Program commenced an ambitious program to contact all Veterans and ex-service personnel on the RSLs database and within the District. Two primary volunteers have continued to deliver this initiative. At the time of writing close to 85% of service personnel, out of a total of close to 900, have been contacted and offered a welcome, connection, support, and assistance on their terms.

The consultative analysis undertaken post-contact identifies approximately 20% who are in need of or request support for common themes such as financial support, assistance with house/garden tasks, and opportunities for social inclusion. The majority of contacts require no further assistance and all express their gratitude for the initiative.



VETERAN SUPPORT- WELFARE

Follow Up:

If initial contact has not been successful – messages left, no voicemail, correct address but wrong phone. details etc. the Welfare Advocat will attempt to make contact again and will frequently make the decision to visit the last known address of the member. Consequently, contact details have been found to be outdated, members have moved to higher supported accommodation. Nursing homes, palliative care etc., or have deceased and that information has not passed on.

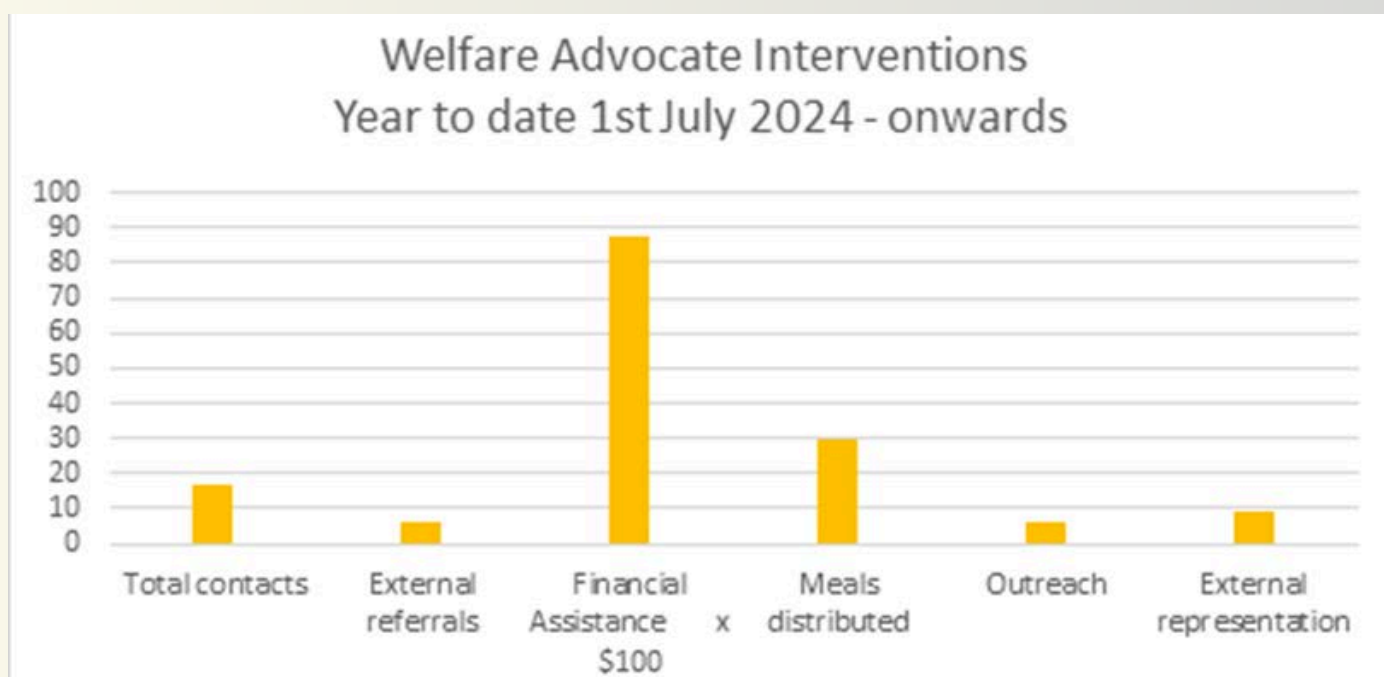
Ongoing Support:

Members are contacted regularly to provide and embed support frameworks and options until they are able to autonomously assume responsibility.

Financial Assistance:

Requests from Veterans for financial assistance cover a wide-ranging scope of needs. Financial assistance has been provided to address such issues as:

- Emergency motel accommodation
- Vehicle breakdown and repair
- Transport to attend medical interventions
- The completion of routine domestic tasks - gardening/pruning/digging/tree removal etc. or Internal/external home maintenance – replacing tiles/fixing fences/cleaning gutters.
- Purchase of split firewood for a TPI Vet
- Support for purchase of pharmaceutical products
- The provision of food/petrol vouchers, groceries purchase or the delivery of fresh take away or frozen meals to ensure adequate short-term sustainability.



VETERAN SUPPORT- WELFARE

At the time of writing the Welfare Program had financed Veteran's support of \$8900 for this financial year. There were also 30 take away and frozen meals distributed by the organisation in this timespan.

Requests for support are usually approved at the time. Prompt intervention enables Veterans to attain the support they need, when they need it, and without the need to experience further embarrassment or humiliation that might accompany cap-in-hand crisis Agency requests.

Additional support is quickly available for more urgent approval from both the Chair of Welfare & Charitable Sub-Committee and the BDRSL President.

External Support:

A strength-based networking and outreach strategy has been pursued by the incumbent Welfare Advocates. Local sister RSL agencies- Castlemaine/Heathcote/Shepparton have been contacted and key personnel communicated with. Organisations such as Lifeline Loddon Mallee, Veteran's Counselling Service, Uniting AgeWell, Estia, Bupa, Anglicare for example have been networked within this report period.

- Total contacts include ad hoc walk ins, telephone contacts and call outs
- External referrals include DVA/white card issues, legal advice, Welfare support, financial support, Veteran's support services
- Financial assistance includes individual food / fuel vouchers, utilities support, home maintenance support:
- Meals distributed include individual fresh and frozen take away meals only
- Practical assistance includes assessment/authorising of home maintenance tasks, pickup from individual homes to appointments, liaising with 3rd parties etc.
- External representation includes: any initiated networking and collegial opportunities with sector colleagues and associated agencies.



03 5443 4013

welfare@bendigorsl.com.au

www.bendigorsl.com.au/welfare-office

MONDAY - THURSDAY

9:00am - 4:30pm

VETERAN SUPPORT- WELFARE

Outreach and connection continue to identify issues such as:

- Many clients struggling with the impact of advancing age and the lessening of cognitive and physical capacity. This has an impact upon self-esteem and self-confidence.
- The difficulty involved in working through compensation issues with DVA. The Welfare Advocate has sourced other referral points for Military Compensation Advocacy and has safe, sensitive and competent agents acting on behalf of Veterans.
- The need for social connection which is absent from a lot of Veterans lives. A significant number speak of a sense of loneliness in their lives. Proactive inclusion is achieved through invitational outreach to the BDRSL Sheds program, Veteran's in-house social functions, and other affiliated community activities.
- Many Veterans need to seek support to complete routine domestic tasks such as gardening chores or internal / external home maintenance. Amongst other issues that this raises there are greater incurred financial expenses.

Upcoming Initiatives:

- The Welfare program continues to consider recruitment to bolster the endeavors of current members and sustain the committee.
- The Welfare & Charitable Sub-Committee continues to consider ways to resurrect the Hospital Visitation program that was in place before the impact of Covid closed contact and on-site visitation.
- More “welfare-specific” activities could be organised. The Welfare Advocate has commenced plans to aggressively drive this with the commencement of the new Veteran's Activities Coordinator.
- The up-coming Veteran's Health Week 13-20 Oct. provides the opportunity for new initiatives and contact possibilities.

The Welfare & Charitable Sub-Committee remains strongly committed to supporting the welfare of Veterans. We continue to foster a strong pro-active and supportive community for veterans in the region by supporting our veterans through effective welfare programs and initiatives to a place of wellbeing.

John Edelsten
Welfare & Charitable Sub-Committee
Chair

Bendigo District RSL welcomes veterans & their partners alongside current or retired police & their partners to join us for a **free roast dinner** as speaker **Shaun O'Gorman** speaks on his 13 years in law enforcement and his long road back from PTSD. His book **'My Dark Companion'** shares his journey of his darkest days of PTSD, suicidal tendencies and unhealthy behaviours through to the life he leads today - one that is filled with positive relationships, vital health & a purposeful career. His story is filled with lessons on how to lead a great life.

LIMITED SEATS AVAILABLE: BOOK NOW

VETERANS & PARTNERS scan below: 

CURRENT OR RETIRED POLICE & PARTNERS scan below: 

www.bendigord.com.au
Ph: (03) 8442 2890
E: office@bendigord.com.au

LEST WE FORGET

VETERAN SUPPORT- HEALTH AND WELLBEING

This report provides an overview of activities, initiatives, and developments pertaining to the Health & Wellbeing Sub-Committee supported by the Bendigo District RSL during the reporting period of July - September 2024. The report highlights key achievements, challenges, and ongoing efforts to enhance the health and wellbeing of veterans in the region.

During this reporting period, the Health and Wellbeing Sub-Committee(HWPSC) continued its efforts to promote the physical, mental, and emotional wellbeing of our Veterans and members. The BDRSL now has a Veterans Activities Officer; welcome Cassandra Liddy.

Programs and Initiatives:

During this period, the HWSC facilitated the following regular activities for this reporting period:

- The Sheds programs offer Woodwork, Metalwork, Art, Gemstones, Leatherwork, Haircuts, Lead lighting and Computers
- Group Cross-Fit,
- Yoga in conjunction with Kangaroo Flat RSL
- Veterans' Morning Tea
- Veterans' Golf Day
- Walk, Talk & Cuppa in conjunction with Bendigo Veterans Exercise Program
- An ongoing 3-month calendar of events for Veterans' activities
- An enhanced Veteran support brochure stand is displayed at the entry of the RSL providing support and activities offered.

Initiatives that have also occurred during this period are:

Sheds:

- OHS revamp in Sheds including Risk Assessments, Safe Work Procedures, Asset Inventory Management and remediation work.
- Tag and Test all Electrical Items including 3 phase items
- Clearing out of all disused and out of date items

Monthly Health and Wellbeing Newsletter

Onboarding of three new Committee members

Potential Events are:

- Victorian Historic Racing Register (VHRR): Historic Sandown- November 11th 2024 TBC
- Monthly BBQ on RSL Deck for veterans' groups, i.e, RSL Sheds Program
- Veteran's Health Week Events



VETERAN SUPPORT- HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Health and Wellbeing Support: is now extended by the use of:

- Monthly Calendars
- Health & Wellbeing Program Newsletter
- Veteran Support Brochure Stand
- Veterans Activities Officer

These are located at the front entrance to the RSL, on the Bendigo District RSL Veteran Support and Central Victorian Veterans Facebook sites.

Upcoming Initiatives:

Looking ahead to the next quarter, the HWBSC are planning day trips extended to surrounding Sub-Branches such as:

Veterans' Health Week, events offered are:

- Train trip to Kyneton RSL for lunch offering other Sub-Branches in the area to catchup
- Village and Star Cinema Movie Nights
- Veteran's Health Week Events
- The Strong Life Project with Shaun O'Gorman

Other Possibilities:

- Walking off the War Within
- Bicycle ride on the O'Keefe Rail Trail to Axedale

Conclusion:

The BDRSL Health & Wellbeing Program Sub-Committee remains committed to improving the overall health and wellbeing of our veterans. The initiatives undertaken during this quarter reflect our dedication to promoting physical, mental, and emotional wellness within our community.

Glenn Ludeman
Health and Wellbeing Sub-Committee
Interim Chair



ACHEIVMENTS

It has been a big few months for Bendigo RSL stalwart, Peter Ball being awarded the BeBendigo Volunteer of the Year Award, and then doubling down when he was awarded the Volunteer of the year from the 2024 Victorian Museums and Galleries Awards night. An absolute highlight for Peter was when, at the Military Dining Night, he was presented with The Meritorious Service Medal of The Returned Services League of Australia. It is the league's highest honour, over and above Life Membership.

These awards have been widely applauded, with congratulations coming from far and wide. From all of us here at the Bendigo District RSL, congratulations Peter, to a very worthy recipient and thank you for your service and dedication over many years.



COMMEMORATIVE ACTIVITIES



A wreath laying ceremony was held in the Memorial Garden on the 1st July to remember the bravery and sacrifice of the members of the 2/22 Battalion. Lark force.

Lest We forget

On 27th July we commemorated all those that served in the Korean conflict. we remembered the 340 service Australians that paid the ultimate sacrifice and those that were wounded and spent time as prisoners of war. Lest We Forget



The 15th August 1945 marks Japan's acceptance of the Allied forces' demand for unconditional surrender. For Australians, this signified the end of the Second World War. To commemorate the occasion a wreath was laid in the Memorial Garden. Lest We Forget



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LEST WE FORGET

COMMEMORATIVE ACTIVITIES



The morning of Sunday 18th August was ideal for the Vietnam Veterans Day memorial ceremony in Bendigo. We witnessed an impressive turnout of veterans, dignitaries, and members of the public who came together to remember and honor the service and sacrifice of our men and women who served in the Vietnam War.

Lest We Forget

Each year on 31st August, Australia commemorates Malaya and Borneo Veterans' Day. It is the day we reflect on the service and sacrifice of all Australian military personnel who served in the Malayan Emergency and the Indonesian Confrontation.

A wreath laying ceremony to honour the service, sacrifice and memory of those personnel who served in the Indonesian Confrontation.

Lest We Forget



The Commemorative Activities Sub-Committee continues to uphold the legacy of our Veterans through meaningful commemorations and community engagement. The dedication of the members and their commitment to preserving history remains the cornerstone of our efforts.

On behalf of the Commemorative Activities Sub-Committee, I would like to thank the members of the Committee, and the support offered by the RSL in assisting services conducted throughout the year.

Dale Hodges
Commemorative Activities Sub-Committee
Chair



BENDIGO MILITARY MUSEUM

The Bendigo Military Museum continues its efforts to honour the service and sacrifice of local Veterans by preserving the rich military history of our region. We remain focused on working with the community to improve our collection and exhibits whilst planning for the future to provide a Museum the Sub-Branch can be proud of.

First and foremost, I must congratulate Peter Ball for winning the Volunteer of the Year Category of the Bendigo Business Excellence Awards. Peter has now followed that up by winning the Victorian Museums and Galleries “Volunteer of the Year Award”. This is a significant acknowledgment of his tireless efforts over many years, and it is well deserved.

The “Faces of Peace” exhibition is in its last days, so if you haven’t yet seen it, I strongly recommend you do so. Planning is well underway for our next exhibition ‘Ink in the Lines’. This exhibition showcases Australia’s modern veterans and their families, who through their tattoos commemorate the people, events and experiences which shaped their lives. This is due to open on the 7th Dec 2024.

Our cataloguing team continues to do great work in cataloguing all Bendigo District RSL Sub-Branch Memorabilia on the Victorian Collections Database. They have catalogued 7822 items as of 11th September 2024. The scanning and cataloguing of photo collections is going well and are being researched and sorted into categories. Examples are 70 x photos from RSM 57th Bn, Edgar Dawson DCM and 180 x photos of Arthur Holley RAN from his service on HMAS Hobart. We also received two suitcases of memorabilia from the family of Bill Theodore DSM. Bill served on HMAS Vendetta which did 39 runs into Tobruk so we now hold his photos taken in Tobruk, Derna and Syria.

We have had a busy few months with many groups visiting the Museum since the last report. We had a huge response to our call out to regional schools, with many taking advantage of the opportunity to visit the Museum e.g. Marong Primary School and Harcourt Valley Primary School. We have five group bookings for September alone, so many thanks to Kym and his band of tour guides who make this work. Through their efforts they ensure the stories of local Veterans are passed on to future generations.

Plans to revamp the hallway space are being developed. We intend to move the Honour Boards and flags to make room for the Jack Grinton Photographs. This is a nationally significant collection which deserves to be showcased, and redeveloping the space is a cost-effective way to leave visitors with a positive first impression of the Museum.

It goes without saying, I’d like to acknowledge the tireless work of the Sub-Branch support staff and our band of dedicated volunteers. We truly appreciate their professionalism and dedication. If you are interested in volunteering a few hours, particularly as a Tour Guide, please feel free to contact us via email at museum@bendigorsl.com.au or call the museum on 5442 4513 on Wednesdays between 11.00am and 2.00pm.

Steve Burke
Chair, Bendigo Military Museum Sub-Committee

phone: 03 5442 4513

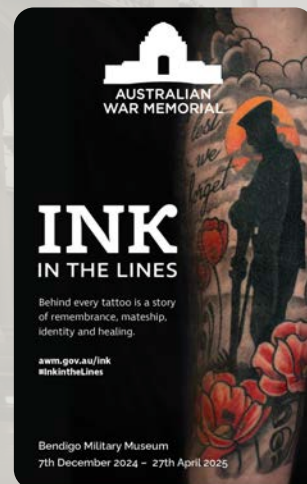
museum@bendigorsl.com.au

www.bendigorsl.com.au/museum

Open Hours

WEDNESDAY, SATURDAY &
SUNDAY

11:00am - 3:00pm



APPEALS

Although there has not been an appeal during the past few months but it doesn't mean the Appeals Team has been sitting on our hands. We have already held our first preparatory meeting last week for the upcoming 2024 Poppy Appeal and we've submitted our order for appeal merchandise and for loan EFTPOS terminals. We're all working to give this appeal every opportunity to be the raging success we all intend it to be – our aim is to beat the \$73,882 we raised during the 2023 Poppy Appeal.

The key dates for the Poppy Appeal are:

- | | |
|---|--|
| • Working Bee (Appeals Office) - Set-up | Tue 29 October 2024 |
| • Sell at Bendigo Cup (if permitted): | Wed 30 October 2024 |
| • Distribute Honesty Boxes: | Thu 31 October/Fri 01 November 2024 |
| • Sell at BDRSL Members' Night: | Fri 01 November 2024 |
| • Sell at Selling Locations: | Sun 03 November – Mon 11 November 2024 |
| • Sell at Bendigo District RSL | Fri 08 November 2024 |
| • Sell at Showgrounds Market: | Sun 10 November 2024 |
| • Collect Honesty Boxes: | Tue 12/Wed 13 November 2024 |
| • Working Bee (Appeals Office) -Closure | Wed 13 November 2024 |

We are very sad to have lost Louise Wellard from the front office team. Louise, along with Karina O'Shea, has been a mainstay of our appeals efforts for the past few years and her humour, guidance and assistance will be very sadly missed. We are currently searching for someone who can step into this very supportive position.

As always, we will also be very grateful for any help you can give us with this 2024 Poppy Appeal - whether helping with the set-up and close working bees, selling badges at our various selling locations around town or distributing/collecting the honesty boxes to schools and businesses. If you're a regular volunteer and haven't heard from myself or one of the team by late October 2024 - don't be bashful - please call either me or the front office and we'll quickly fix what has obviously been a bad oversight.

The biggest challenges facing us for future appeals continue to be the economic environment and our internal sustainability. We can't do anything about the economics, but we CAN do something about our number of Volunteers. So please remember:

- **If not me, who?**
- **f not now, when?**

Carl Chirgwin
Chair
Appeals Sub-Committee



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LEST WE FORGET

CENTRAL VICTORIAN VETERANS

This is the Q3 Report 2024 for the period 21st June 2024 – 13th September 2024

- Central Victorian Veterans (CVV) Catch-Up Night has been rescheduled to the second Friday of each month. This change has been well-received, and attendance has been steadily growing.
- The CVV has been actively engaging with members during Catch-Up Nights to collect ideas for future events and activities they would like to see take place.
- The CVV has collaborated with the Bendigo District RSL Sub Branch team to organise the Annual Dinner on Saturday, 14th September, in honour of Australian Peacekeepers Day.

Tim Hughan

Chair- Central Victorian Veterans Sub-Committee.



WHAT'S ON



Wine & Dine

Hosted by **Domaine Asmara winery**
owner **Andreas Greiving**

FOOD & WINE PAIRING NIGHT

WED 13TH NOVEMBER

5 COURSES - 7 WINES - STARTING 6PM

\$79 PER HEAD

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

SCAN TO BOOK



DOMAINE ASMARA IN GOD WE TRUST SPIRITS OF RESISTANCE

Have you booked your table yet? This promises to be a fabulous night of food, wine and good company. Gather a few friends and come along on the 13th November and indulge. The night will be hosted by the owner of Domaine Asmara Winery, Andreas Greiving who will talk you through the complexities and subtleties of 7 of his wines, all the while taking part in a five course meal. To reserve your space please scan the QR code or go to: <https://www.trybooking.com/CUFHE>



Courtesy Bus Now Running

4.30pm - 9.00pm

Covering a 10km radius around the Bendigo District RSL Sub-Branch every **Thursday, Friday & Saturday**

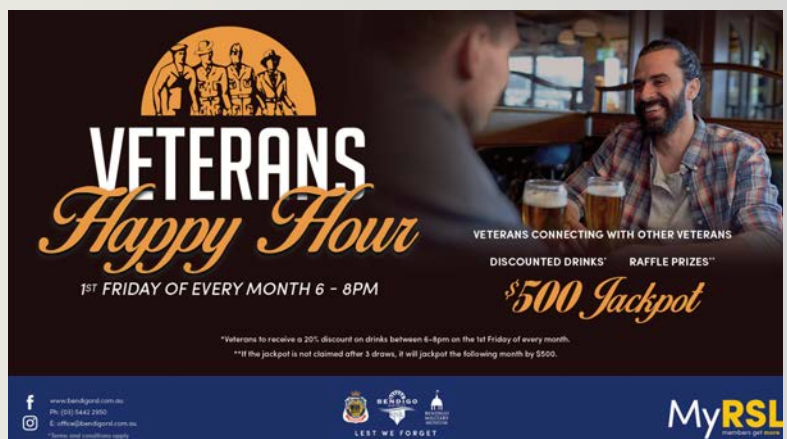
Our courtesy bus is supplied for the use of all members and guests. The bus is available Thursday through to Saturday each week from 4.30pm until 9.00pm.

We will pick up and drop patrons off within a 10km radius from the Bendigo District RSL.

Call reception on 5442 2950 to make a bus booking.

With the Veterans Jackpot increasing by \$500 a month, there is never a better time to get yourself along to our monthly Veterans Night. There are three chances to win the cash, with the first draw at 6.30pm, plus a Veterans Happy Hour. We have a couple of gift cards to give away and a meat raffle open for everyone to enter. Veterans Night is held on the first Friday of each month.

Looking forward to seeing you here.



VETERANS Happy Hour

VETERANS CONNECTING WITH OTHER VETERANS

DISCOUNTED DRINKS* RAFFLE PRIZES**

\$500 Jackpot

1ST FRIDAY OF EVERY MONTH 6 - 8PM

*Veterans to receive a 20% discount on drinks between 6-8pm on the 1st Friday of every month.
**If the jackpot is not claimed after 3 draws, it will jackpot the following month by \$500.

MyRSL members get more

FUNCTIONS

Overview:

The Bendigo District RSL provides exceptional facilities and services for a diverse range of events. Our venue is ideal for conferences, meetings, Christmas parties, engagement parties, weddings, and other family occasions. We cater to both intimate gatherings and large-scale functions.

Capacity and Flexibility:

Our venue is designed to accommodate a variety of events. We can host up to 200 people for sit-down events, and our adaptable floor plan allows for creative configurations to meet your needs. Our space is fully equipped with a licensed bar featuring a wide selection of wines, beers, spirits, soft drinks, tea, and coffee.

Catering:

Our fully licensed bar and catering services will provide a delightful dining experience for your guests. Choose from a variety of menu options to suit different tastes and dietary requirements, including:

- Buffet or Sit-Down Dinner: Customised menus with a range of delicious dishes.
- Drinks Package: Including wines, beers, spirits, soft drinks, tea and coffee.

Our experienced and dedicated staff are committed to delivering outstanding service, ensuring that every event is a success, whether for a small gathering or a large celebration.



Recently we have had the pleasure of hosting a diverse array of events, each crafted to meet the unique needs and preferences of our clients:

- Corporate Conferences: Providing a professional and productive environment for meetings and presentations.
- Christmas Parties: Creating festive and joyful celebrations for numerous organizations.
- Engagement Parties and Weddings: Offering personalized and beautiful settings for couples, ensuring unforgettable moments.
- Family Occasions: Hosting family reunions, birthdays, and other gatherings, turning each into a cherished memory.
- Presentation Night for Sporting Club: Held to honour and support local clubs, demonstrating your community engagement.
- Vietnam Veterans Day Luncheon: A significant event honouring Vietnam Veterans.
- BBQ Lunch for the BDRSL Sheds: Provided a casual and enjoyable BBQ experience.
- Wake: Supporting families during a time of loss with a respectful and accommodating setting.
- BDRSL 2024 Annual Dinner: Recognized and honoured peacekeepers, peacemakers, and peace builders at a prestigious military dining night.
- Bus Group with Two-Course Menu: Catered to bus groups with a delightful two-course meal.
- Most importantly. Hosting monthly Veterans morning teas.



Looking Ahead:

As we move forward, we remain committed to enhancing our offerings and maintaining our high standards of service. Our goal is to continue to be the premier choice for events in the Bendigo District, ensuring every function is executed with excellence and creativity.

Thank you for choosing Bendigo District RSL for your events. We look forward to welcoming you to our venue and making your next occasion truly memorable.

Peace Keepers - Military Dining Night

I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to everyone who supported and attended the National Peacekeepers Day, and the Formal Mixed Military Dining Night held at the Bendigo District RSL on Saturday, 14th September 2024.

It was truly a wonderful evening, seeing so many from our Veteran community, spanning multiple generations, come together. The afternoon began with our Commemorative Committee facilitating the National Peacekeepers Day Service with Guest Speaker Mr. Peter Swandale, followed by a remarkable Dining-In event in the large function room, organised by our Central Victorian Veterans. The night was further enhanced by digital photo storyboards and memorabilia displays supported by the Bendigo Military Museum.

Many memorable moments were shared, including the bestowing of the highest RSL National Honour, the Meritorious Service Medal, to our Life Member, Mr. Peter Ball. We also had the privilege of presenting a Life Membership to Immediate Past President, Mr. Peter Swandale.

The speeches delivered by our State President, Dr. Robert Webster OAM, and Colonel Laura Sinclair CSC, deeply resonated with us all. Their dedication to leadership and service is an inspiration and truly enriched the spirit of camaraderie that this Dining-In night sought to represent.

Again, thank you for supporting this event. Formal appreciation has also been passed to our wonderful staff for their tireless efforts in assisting with this event.

Regards,
Glenn Ludeman
Sub-Branch President
Bendigo District RSL



Peace Keepers - Military Dining Night



WINNERS

Congratulations to all of our many winners over the past few months. Members of the MyRSL rewards program have many chances to win, just by being a member of the club. From member's jackpots to monthly promotions and kiosk rewards.



www.bendigorsl.com.au

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E: office@bendigorsl.com.au



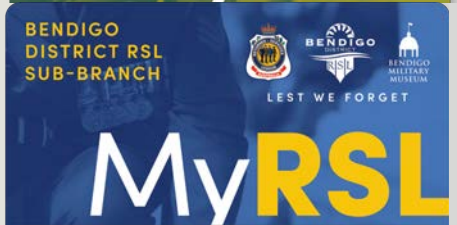
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MyRSL

LEST WE FORGET

WINNERS



GIVING BACK

The Bendigo District RSL is excited and proud to sponsor a number of causes including local sporting and support groups as well as statewide and national institutions.

It is very important that we, as a charitable organisation, assist community groups at a grass level which it is hoped will help build a happier, healthier and vibrant community.

Below are a few of the organisations the Bendigo District RSL has been happy to contribute to:

15th Force Support Squadron
309 Army Cadets
8th 7th Battalion, Royal Victoria Regiment
Cancer Council of Victoria
Legacy Australia
Kangaroo Flat RSL
Gurkha Welfare Trust
Integra Service Dogs
410 Squadron Aust Airforce Cadets
Australian Navy Cadets
Royal Victoria Regiment Association Inc.
Newstead Rural Transaction Centre Inc.
(Avenue of Honour project)
Victorian Rifle Association Inc.
Castlemaine & Kyneton Rifle Clubs
Bendigo Cricket Club Inc.
Bendigo Easter Fair Society Inc.
Bendigo Jockey Club
Bendigo RSL Eaglehawk Edinburgh Shield
Bendigo Tennis Club Inc.
Cancer Council of Victoria
Epsom Football Club
Jacob Floyd *(Deaf football Australia)*
Central Victoria Veterans Support Centre

Neangar Park Golf Club Inc.
Victorian CP Football Team
North West Lightning Inc. *(Hockey)*
Radio KLFM
Mandurang South Pony Club
Sandhurst Cricket Club Inc.
Maxi Shanahan *(Deaf Football Australia)*
Long Gully Neighbourhood Centre
Youth of Tomorrow Ltd.
Bendigo Tennis Association
Be.Bendigo
Victorian RSL Lawn Bowls
Loddon Valley Football Netball League
North Bendigo Bowls
East Bendigo Bowls
Breeze Tennis Academy
National Breast Cancer Foundation
Bendigo Tennis Association
Bendigo VRI Bowling Club
RSL Victoria
Bendigo BMX Club
Golden City Soccer Inc.
Bendigo Tourism
Black Dog Ride *(Mental Health Fundraiser)*



PROMOTIONS

Parma Nights *only \$22.90*

NOW MONDAY & TUESDAY

Includes pot of beer or a glass of house wine or soft drink

Picture is a representation only
Not available public holidays - no further discounts apply

MyRSL

TIME TO RENEW YOUR **Membership**

Renew your membership between **November 1st** and **December 31st 2024** and enter the draw to win a bottle of Penfolds Grange or whisky, each valued up to **\$1,000**

Tickets are a representation and for promotional purposes only

MyRSL

HAPPY HOUR

4:30pm - 5:30pm
MONDAY - FRIDAY

Schooner of beer \$6.50
Glass of house wine \$6.50
Pint of soft drink \$5

*Not available public holidays

MyRSL

GET OUR FREE APP

GAIN INSTANT ACCESS TO:

- Exclusive App only Member benefits
- Digital Membership Card with all your Membership details & Rewards
- Our Members only Interactive Game | Menus & Booking facilities
- What's On info & much more!

MyRSL

BIG BREAKFAST *ONLY \$22.90*

Sunday 9am - 11am
Kids, Seniors and VEGETARIAN OPTIONS AVAILABLE.

MyRSL

\$15 BUDGET BUSTERS

Available for lunch Monday
Entrée or Dessert \$5

Not available on public holidays - No further discounts apply

Choose from:

- Roast of the Day
- Lams fry
- Bangers & Mash
- Pasta of the Day
- Stir Fry of the Day
- Battered fish & chips

MyRSL

WEDNESDAY Steak Night *250g rump only \$29*

Includes pot of beer or a glass of house wine or soft drink

Picture is a representation only

MyRSL

Tradies' Deals

In the Sportsbar | Lunch only | Mon - Fri

ONLY \$22

MyRSL

FREE TRIVIA NIGHT

Presented by **TRISTAR**
Trivia & Entertainment

First Wednesday of the month 7pm - 9pm

In the Large Function Room Teams of 4-10 people

Prizes and giveaways throughout the night!

Bistro open from 6pm
Book Early and have dinner before playing Trivia!

MyRSL

VETERANS Happy Hour

1st FRIDAY OF EVERY MONTH 6 - 8PM

VETERANS CONNECTING WITH OTHER VETERANS
DISCOUNTED DRINKS* RAFFLE PRIZES*

\$500 Jackpot

*Veterans to receive a 20% discount on drinks between 6pm and 8pm on the 1st Friday of every month.
**If the jackpot is not claimed after 8 drinks, it will jackpot the following month by 20%.

MyRSL

SUPER SATURDAY 12pm - 2pm
EXTENDED HAPPY HOUR EVERY SATURDAY

\$22 POT & PARMA
or enjoy with a glass of house wine or pot of soft drink

Watch all your favourite sports live on the **BIG screens**

*Not available public holidays

MyRSL

WEEKLY MEMBER'S **JACKPOT**

Thursday MEMBER'S NIGHT 6PM - 8PM

\$1,000 MAX VALUE \$5,000

PLUS meat trays and gift card draws from 6pm
Tickets available at the bar

Phone 03 5442 2950 to book

*The \$1K jackpot if not won, increases each week by \$1K until a max of \$5K is on offer. Then the \$5K must be won before the jackpot resets to \$1K again.

MyRSL

ACCOLADES



In early July 2024, the Bendigo RSL was nominated for a number of awards at the 2023 - 2024 Community Clubs Victoria awards night. We were also a nominated finalist in two categories in the 2024 Victoria & Tasmania Restaurant & Catering Host Plus Awards of Excellence. These nominations and awards do not come about by accident. They are due to the tireless and consistent efforts put in by the whole of the hospitality team, their managers and indeed each and every employee here at the Bendigo District RSL. The entire team can take a bow and give themselves a huge pat on the back.

The Bendigo District RSL was successful in two of the categories. The first was the award for Regional Mental & Social Wellbeing. The second was for the Best Hospitality Team.



UP & COMING



Santa has arrived early and so, for the Month of November, our Member's Draws will look a little different. Each Member's night we have a guaranteed \$1500.00 to be won and our 2nd Chance Draw will be a stocking filling \$500. Book early and don't miss out.



Join us for a night of wining and dining when Andreas Greiving presents a selection of 7 beautiful Domaine Asmara wines whilst we pair them with a delicious 5 course meal. Bookings can be made by scanning the QR code or by following the link below.

<https://www.trybooking.com/CUFHE>



Members, when you renew your membership between 1st November and 31st December you will be automatically entered into a draw to win your choice of either a bottle of Penfolds Grange valued at up to \$1000 or a bottle of whiskey, also valued up to \$1000.

Watch out in the lead up to Christmas for our 12 Days of Christmas promotion. From the 13th December through until Christmas Eve we will be giving away a Christmas hamper valued at over \$200.

To enter just spend \$25 on food or beverage and place your entry into the barrel provided. You can also exchange 250 MyRSL rewards points at the kiosks to get more entries.

12 DAYS OF
Christmas
13 - 24 DECEMBER

Your chance to win
1 of 12 Christmas hampers*

\$2,700 TOTAL PRIZE POOL

One hamper to be given
away each night at 7pm

Spend \$25 on food and
beverages in the venue
to receive an entry

EXCHANGE 250
REWARDS POINTS FOR
AN EXTRA ENTRY