



# 2025 Annual Report

YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 2025

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# About Company

Soldiers who returned from Gallipoli, with hopes & aspirations for the future, formed a Branch of the Returned Soldiers' Association in Bendigo on 23 December 1915. The first office of the new branch was established at No 9 Commonwealth Chambers, Charing Cross in January 1916. The first official meeting of the new branch took place on 27 January 1916, and the first elections were held on 3 February 1916.

The Bendigo branch was the first to be formed in Victoria outside of Melbourne. The Bendigo, Eaglehawk and Kangaroo Flat RSL Cooperative Society Ltd was formed in 1977 as a joint venture between Bendigo, Eaglehawk and Kangaroo Flat Sub-Branched of the RSL. Licensed club facilities were built in Havilah Road and were opened in December 1979 and the Bendigo District Servicemen's Club was formed to operate the Club.

In 2000, Bendigo RSL was asked by ANZAC House to take over the operations of the Servicemen's Club and the assets and liabilities of the Cooperative. On 1 January 2001, Bendigo RSL Sub-Branch became Bendigo District RSL Sub-Branch Inc. in recognition of this changed role.



BENDIGO  
DISTRICT  
R.S.L.

# Meet Our Board



**GLENN LUDEMAN**  
PRESIDENT



**PHIL BAULCH**  
COMMITTEE



**BRUCE MCCLURE RFD**  
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT



**JORDAN WILKINSON**  
COMMITTEE



**DALE HANNAFORD**  
SECRETARY



**TRAVIS WINDRIDGE**  
COMMITTEE



**SHANE ROBINSON**  
TREASURER



**MARTIN BEEKES**  
GENERAL MANAGER



**ROBERT HAUGHTON**  
COMMITTEE

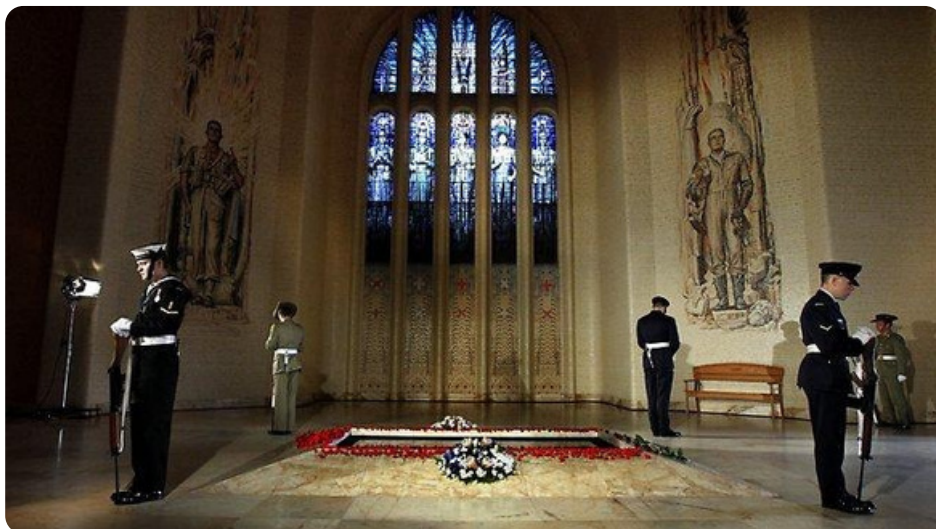
# Vision And Mission

## Vision

- To be the single point of contact for all veterans and their dependents that provides best practice services and support and is financially sustainable.

## Mission

- To support the physical and mental wellbeing of our veterans and their dependents, and to commemorate current and past service personnel.





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# President's Report

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Members,

It is my privilege to present the Annual Report of the Bendigo District RSL Sub-Branch Inc. for the year ended 31 December 2025, for consideration at the 2026 Annual General Meeting.

Throughout 2025, the Sub-Branch has continued to fulfil its core purpose: to care for veterans and their families, to commemorate service and sacrifice, and to engage meaningfully with our community. The year has been marked by steady membership growth, sustained welfare demand, strong commemorative and community participation, and a significant strategic milestone with the anticipated confirmation of the government endorsing a local Veterans and Families Hub.

This report summarises the key activities and outcomes of the Sub-Branch across the reporting period.

## **Membership**

Membership growth during 2025 remained strong across all categories, reflecting the confidence of veterans and the broader community in the work of the Sub-Branch.

As at 31 December 2025:

- Service Members: 923 (including 11 Life Members), an increase of 3
- Affiliate Members: 958, an increase of 57
- Community Members: 5,974, an increase of 595
- Total Membership: 7,855, representing a net increase of 655 members

This growth strengthens the Sub-Branch's advocacy capacity and long-term sustainability.

## **Welfare and Advocacy**

Welfare continues to be the cornerstone of the Bendigo District RSL Sub-Branch's mission. Throughout 2025, the Welfare Team responded to increasing demand arising from cost-of-living pressures, health challenges, and complex personal circumstances affecting veterans and their families.

Key welfare activities undertaken during the year included:

- Proactive outreach to Life and Service Members
- Veterans' Morning Teas supporting social connection and peer support
- Home visits, welfare checks, and financial assistance support
- Referrals to specialist services and advocacy providers
- Engagement with veterans residing in aged care and nursing facilities
- Participation in inter-agency case coordination meetings

Much of this work occurs outside public view; however, it remains one of the most critical and impactful functions of the Sub-Branch.

## **Outreach, Engagement, and Wellbeing**

The Sub-Branch maintained a strong and visible presence throughout Bendigo and the wider region during 2025. Veteran engagement was supported through:

- Monthly Veterans' Nights
- Regular morning teas and informal gatherings
- The Sheds Program, promoting wellbeing, skills sharing, and camaraderie
- Formal Mixed Military Dining Night featuring Historian Lambis Englezos AM
- Veterans and Police Health and Well-Being Event featuring Veteran Damian Thomlinson

# President's Report



## Bendigo Military Museum

The Bendigo Military Museum continued to support education, reflection, and community engagement. Exhibitions during the year included:

- Ink in the Lines (concluding April 2025)
- Map Makers, commemorating the 110th Anniversary of the Royal Australian Survey Corps
- The Art of Sacrifice by George Petrou OAM, honouring more than a century of Australian military service

These exhibitions attracted strong community interest and reinforced the Sub-Branch's role in preserving military heritage.

## Commemorative Activities

The Commemorative Sub-Committee delivered and supported a comprehensive program of commemorative events throughout 2025, including:

- National Day for War Animals
- Darwin Defenders Day
- Sandakan Memorial Service
- Anzac Day (110th Anniversary of Gallipoli)
- Malaya/Borneo Day
- Korean Veterans Day
- Victory in the Pacific Day
- Vietnam Veterans Day
- National Peacekeepers Day
- Police Remembrance Day
- Beersheba Day
- Remembrance Day



Anzac Day 2025 was a particularly significant occasion, with strong attendance at both the Dawn Service and morning service. A personalised version with families across many wars, conflicts and types of service was well received with dignity and respect. The Guest Speaker was a local Sub-Unit Commander who exemplified both currency and tradition. The traditional complimentary veterans' lunch again provided an important opportunity for fellowship and reflection.

Remembrance Day 2025 was highlighted by a Guest Speaker from a very diverse background, however also is nationally well connected to many ex-service organisations and defence communities.

## Fundraising and Appeals

Fundraising activities continued to provide essential support for welfare, wellbeing, and commemorative programs.

Key fundraising outcomes for 2025 included:

- Veterans Night (1st Friday monthly): averaging approximately \$600 per event
- Anzac Appeal 2025 \$105,000 raised
- Poppy Appeal 2025: \$70,057 raised

These results reflect the dedication of Appeals volunteers and the generosity of the Bendigo community.

# President's Report

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## **Collaboration and Partnerships**

The Sub-Branch maintained strong partnerships with:

- RSL Victoria State Executive
- Region 7 Sub-Branches
- Bendigo Legacy Club
- Vietnam Veterans Association Bendigo Branch
- Australian Defence Force Local Unit Headquarters
- Local government and emergency management agencies

In August 2025, the Sub-Branch hosted the RSL Victoria State President, Dr Mark Schröfel, and CEO Sue Cattermole, as part of statewide engagement following RSL Victoria's independent organisational review.

At the Region 7 Annual General Meeting, I was honoured to be elected Chair of Region 7, strengthening regional collaboration and advocacy.

## **Central Victorian Veterans and Families Hub**

A major strategic milestone in 2025 was confirmation that the 18<sup>th</sup> Hub be built in Bendigo with \$5 million allocated. The Bendigo Veterans' and Families' Hub. This consortium supported outcome will deliver a regionally significant facility focused on integrated support, wellbeing, and advocacy for veterans and their families.

Planning, consultation, and working group engagement continued throughout the year in preparation for the next stages of grant application and subsequent development.

## **Volunteer Recognition**

Volunteers remain the backbone of the Bendigo District RSL Sub-Branch. During National Volunteer Week in May 2025, a dedicated recognition event was held, with 13 volunteers receiving RSL Victoria Certificates presented by the then State President, Dr Robert Webster OAM.

The Sub-Branch extends its sincere appreciation to all volunteers for their commitment and service.

## **Governance and Planning**

Throughout 2025, the Sub-Branch remained committed to strong governance, compliance, and strategic planning through:

- Participation in Regional and State meetings and forums
- Hosting of Region 7 meetings
- Attendance at specialist symposiums and conferences
- Regular General Members' Meetings and committee oversight

These activities ensure alignment with RSL Victoria governance standards and organisational objectives.

# President's Report

## Financial Stewardship

The Sub-Branch continued to exercise prudent financial management throughout 2025, ensuring that resources were directed toward core purposes including welfare, commemoration, and community engagement.

While the detailed financial statements are presented separately by the Treasurer, members can be assured that:

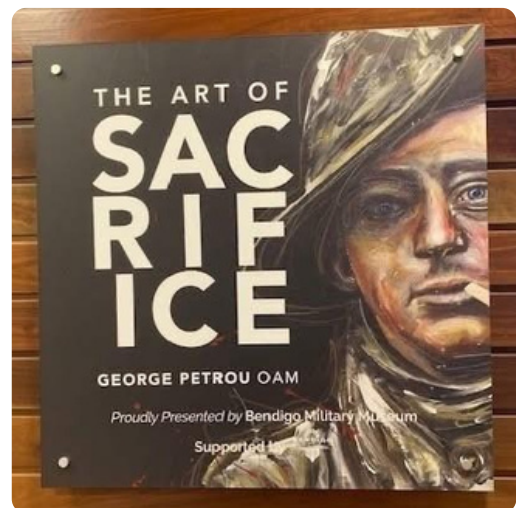
- Expenditure decisions were aligned with strategic priorities and welfare needs
- Fundraising and appeal income was applied in accordance with donor intent
- Strong oversight was maintained through committee governance and reporting

The Sub-Branch remains financially stable and well-positioned to meet both current obligations and future commitments.

## Risk Management and Compliance

Throughout 2025, the Committee maintained oversight of risk management and compliance obligations. This included:

- Adherence to RSL Victoria governance frameworks and policies
- Monitoring and enhancement of workplace health and safety considerations for staff, volunteers, and members
- Oversight of insurance, asset protection, and compliance obligations
- Review of operational risks associated with events, commemorations, and community programs



These measures support the sustainability and integrity of the Sub-Branch.

## Staff and Operational Support

The Sub-Branch acknowledges the important contribution of its staff, whose professionalism and commitment underpin day-to-day operations. Staff support the delivery of welfare services, administration, events, museum operations, and member engagement, ensuring continuity and quality across all activities.

The Committee extends its appreciation to staff for their adaptability and dedication throughout a busy year.

# President's Report



## Strategic Outlook

Looking ahead, the Bendigo District RSL Sub-Branch will continue to focus on:

- Expanding welfare and advocacy capacity in response to emerging veteran needs
- Supporting the application and delivery of the Bendigo Veterans and Families Hub
- Diversification of business model to support long term strategic opportunities
- Strengthening partnerships with Ex-Service Organisations, government, and community stakeholders
- Maintaining strong commemorative traditions while engaging younger veterans and families
- Supporting and recognising volunteers as the backbone of the organisation

The Sub-Branch enters 2026 with confidence, clarity of purpose, and a strong foundation for future growth.

## Conclusion

In closing, I extend my sincere thanks to our members, volunteers, staff, committee, partners, and supporters for their commitment throughout 2025. Together, we have continued to honour service and sacrifice, provide meaningful support to veterans and their families, and strengthen the Bendigo

District RSL Sub-Branch.

Glenn Ludeman

President

Bendigo District RSL Sub-Branch Inc.



*RSL Sub-Branch of the Year 2025*

# General Manager's Statement

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In 2025, the Bendigo District RSL continued its proactive approach to financial sustainability, venue enhancement, and operational improvement. Despite the ongoing cost-of-living pressures affecting our community, the Sub-Branch achieved record-breaking results across all revenue departments. These outstanding outcomes reflect the success of our improved product offerings, strategic initiatives, and disciplined cost management. They have strengthened our reputation as one of Bendigo's leading hospitality venues and positioned the Sub-Branch for further growth in the years ahead.

I am pleased to report a net profit of \$621,469 and an EBITDARD of \$2,878,000 for the 2025 financial year. These results were achieved while paying down an additional \$414,718 in Patriotic Fund debt. We spent \$859,076 on community benefits in 2024-25. These are significant achievements given the current economic landscape.

With 1959 new members and over 2000 renewals in 2025, the Sub-Branch is closing in on its best membership result on record. Our strong financial position has enabled us to continue supporting veteran programs, local 10C Sub-Branches, and a wide range of community, kindred, and sporting organisations. We were also honoured to receive two major awards for our 2024 achievements: the Community Clubs Victoria (CCV) Regional Mental & Social Wellbeing Program Award and the CCV Club Manager of the Year Award. The Bendigo Military Museum (BMM) was awarded 'Best in Show' from the Victoria Collections 2023-25 and Chris Murley, Vanessa Zhu and Ken Butler were recognised with achievement and recognition awards from the RSL Victoria Hall of Fame Awards Night. These recognitions are a testament to the dedication of our staff, volunteers, and leadership team, and they affirm our ongoing commitment to serving veterans, members, and the broader Bendigo community.

Capital investment during the year included the renovation of the gaming room, installation of eight new point-of-sale tills, with additional upgrades scheduled for 2026. We also introduced our automated cleaning robot, Gerty, which supports daily cleaning operations and allows staff to concentrate on detailed work that keeps the venue fresh and welcoming.

Another key initiative for us was the launch of our 'Club Vino' wine platform. Members and guests can join at no cost and order amazing wines through our partner, Oatley Wines, with free delivery for 12 bottles or more. This initiative is accessible via our website or the Bendigo RSL App and represents a new avenue for member engagement and revenue diversification.

Digital transformation also continued to be a major focus. Usage of our digital membership cards within the Bendigo RSL App has increased significantly, allowing members to scan at kiosks and registers to activate tiered benefits. Members have also been redeeming rewards points for additional entries into raffles and promotions, enhancing engagement. A major enhancement to the MyRSL Rewards Program was the ability to redeem points for food and beverage purchases or exchange them for Prezzy Gift Cards redeemable at major retailers. We also expanded online membership renewal capability through both the Bendigo RSL app and website.



# General Manager's Statement

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The Victorian Government's ongoing gambling reforms continued to reshape the industry. Mandatory closure periods from 4am to 10am, the \$100 EGM load-in limit, and the introduction of mandatory pre-commitment trials in several LGAs demonstrate the scale of regulatory change. The trials provided patrons with detailed information about their gambling and allowed them to set spending limits. Pre-commitment remains optional in Victoria, and our members can voluntarily link pre-commitment to their membership cards or use casual YourPlay cards.

Further reforms are expected in 2026–27, including a trial of facial recognition technology to support self-exclusion compliance. The Sub-Branch will integrate this technology in early 2026. These changes highlight the importance of diversifying revenue streams and progressing our long-term master planning.

We have been communicating with Bendigo Heritage Attractions (BHA) on how the Bendigo Military Museum can become a more prominent and visited attraction with the closure of the Bendigo Art Gallery over the next few years. We're investigating how we can leverage off their marketing and experienced staff, whilst BHA adds the BMM to their roster of attractions for visitors to Bendigo.

To ensure the Sub-Branch remains resilient and future-focused, we commissioned two highly regarded architectural firms, ALTIS and BSPN to develop comprehensive master plans. These concepts challenge traditional thinking and outline what the Sub-Branch could evolve into over the next five years and beyond. In 2026, we will select a preferred architect, undertake quantity surveying, and prepare concepts for council approvals before presenting finalised plans to the membership. The renovation program will be staged over several years and will introduce new precincts and revenue-generating opportunities that reflect the region's growing hospitality and entertainment expectations.

Our volunteers and committees continue to play an essential role in delivering the BMM experience and commemorative events, including ANZAC Day, Remembrance Day, and Vietnam Veterans Day. Your dedication involved over 10,719 volunteer hours and ensures these important traditions remain central to our community, and I extend my sincere thanks for your contributions to these events and our annual appeals.

I extend my appreciation to President Glenn Ludeman and the Committee for their professionalism, vision, and ongoing commitment to the Sub-Branch. Because of your attention to detail, governance and support, BDRSL remains an industry leader within regional Victoria.

To my management team, thank you for your continued focus on compliance, hard work and initiative, you each play a vital role in our success. I look forward to input on the master plan from the committee and management team.

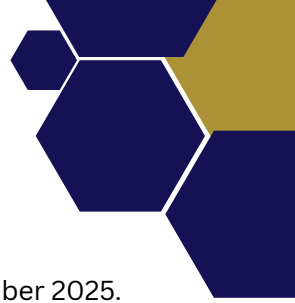
To all staff, both front and back of house, thank you for your professionalism and consistency. Your dedication ensures our members and guests receive exceptional service every day.

Finally, to our members. Thank you for your loyalty and support. The Bendigo District RSL is your place of connection, community, and belonging. I look forward to seeing you around the Sub-Branch throughout 2026.

Martin Beekes  
General Manager

# Treasurer's Report

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## Treasurer's Report

It is my pleasure to present the Treasurer's Report for the financial year ended 31 December 2025. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and audited in accordance with the requirements of the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Act.

### Sub Branch

For the 2025 financial year the Sub-Branch recorded total revenue of \$16.18m, an increase from \$14.64m in 2024, reflecting continued strong activity across the association's operations including gaming, bar, kitchen, functions and other member services.

After accounting for cost of sales and operating expenses, the Sub-Branch achieved a net surplus of \$0.62m, compared with a surplus of \$0.51m in the previous year.

Key expenditure areas included:

- Cost of Goods: \$6.11m
- Employee benefits: \$4.32m
- Occupancy costs: \$1.91m
- Depreciation and amortisation: \$1.03m
- Welfare and charitable activities: \$0.73m

These expenses reflect the ongoing commitment of the Sub-Branch to providing services, facilities and welfare support to veterans, members and the wider community.

As at 31 December 2025, the Sub-Branch remained in a sound financial position:

- Total assets: \$8.38m
- Total liabilities: \$3.97m

Net assets at the end of 2025 had grown to \$4.41m, up from \$3.79m in 2024.

Cash and cash equivalents at year end totalled \$3.24m, an increase from \$2.71m in the prior year, reflecting strong operating cash flow.

The organisation generated net operating cash inflows of \$2.32m during the year, which supported ongoing operations, capital investment in plant and equipment, and repayments of borrowings and lease liabilities. After expenditure on capital investments, plant and equipment and repayment of debts, the cash position increased by \$0.53m.

During the year the Sub-Branch invested \$1.05m in property, plant and equipment, supporting the continued improvement of facilities and operational infrastructure.

Borrowings relating primarily to gaming machine entitlements and other financing arrangements reduced during the year, with total interest-bearing liabilities decreasing to \$1.7m from \$2.23m in 2024, demonstrating continued progress in managing long-term obligations.

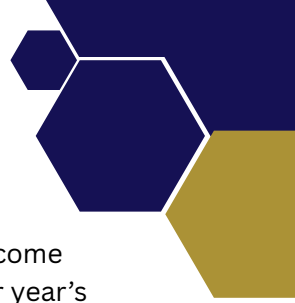
The Sub-Branch continued its strong focus on supporting veterans and the community, with \$0.73m spent on welfare and charitable activities during the year. These funds support programs including commemorative activities, community outreach, subsidised meals and veteran services.

### Patriotic Fund 3220

The financial statements for the Bendigo District RSL Sub-Branch Patriotic Fund 3220 for the year ended 31 December 2025 show another solid financial result and continued strengthening of the fund's financial position.

# Treasurer's Report

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For the year, the fund recorded total revenue of \$1.16m, primarily derived from rental income received from the Sub-Branch. This represents a slight decrease compared with the prior year's revenue of \$1.19m.

After accounting for expenses including depreciation, employee costs, finance costs and maintenance, the fund generated a net operating surplus of \$0.48m, compared with \$0.54m in the previous year. This surplus is used to meet the ongoing debt commitment and property improvements.

A significant event during the year was the independent revaluation of the land and buildings, which resulted in a revaluation increment of \$0.79m recognised in the asset revaluation reserve. This revaluation contributed to total comprehensive income for the year of \$1.26m.

The fund's financial position remains strong. At 31 December 2025:

- Total assets increased to \$11.2m from \$10.34m in 2024
- Net assets increased to \$9.32m from \$8.05m in 2024
- Cash and cash equivalents increased to \$0.45m from \$0.26m in 2024

During the year the fund also continued to reduce its borrowings, with total borrowings decreasing to \$1.84m, reflecting ongoing loan repayments and prudent financial management.

The fund generated net operating cash flows of \$0.76m, supporting loan repayments, capital expenditure of \$0.15m on property and equipment, and strengthening the fund's cash reserves.

## **Patriotic Fund W484**

During the 2025 financial year, the Fund recorded total revenue of \$3,022, received from distributions. Total expenses for the year amounted to \$1,040, which primarily related to accounting and audit fees. As a result, the Fund achieved a surplus of \$1,982 for the year. This compares with a surplus of \$3,402 in 2024. The lower surplus in 2025 largely reflects reduced distributions received during the year. No welfare assistance payments were recorded during the 2025 financial year.

As at 31 December 2025, the Fund held cash and cash equivalents of \$18,124, compared with \$16,142 at the end of the previous year. The increase reflects the surplus generated during the year.

The Fund has strict guidelines on where the funds can be spent. Further to this, there is no regulations on timeframe to have this spent, so the expenditure of the funds is lower with this Fund than the funds raised through the general appeals as this needs to be spent within the calendar year.

## **Conclusion**

Overall, the 2025 financial year produced another solid result for the Bendigo District RSL. The organisation continues to maintain a stable financial position while investing in facilities, supporting veterans and contributing to the community.

I would like to thank the committee, management, staff and volunteers for their ongoing dedication and support throughout the year.

Shane Robinson  
Treasurer  
Bendigo District RSL Sub-Branch Inc.

# Appeals Report

## Overview

The 2025 reporting period has been a significant and demanding year for the Appeals Sub-Committee, marked by exceptional fundraising outcomes, strong community engagement, and a period of leadership transition following the passing of our Immediate Past Chair, Carl Chirgwin.

Across the 2025 ANZAC Appeal and the 2025 Poppy Appeal, the Sub-Committee was supported by an outstanding cohort of volunteers, schools, businesses, community organisations, and partner groups whose collective generosity ensured continued support for veterans and their families throughout the Bendigo District.

## 2025 ANZAC Appeal

The 2025 ANZAC Appeal delivered an exceptional result, raising just over \$105,000, significantly exceeding the long-term average of approximately \$80,000. This outcome reflects the dedication of our volunteers and the strong support of the Bendigo and surrounding communities.

Sincere thanks are extended to all schools and businesses that hosted Honesty Boxes, every organisation that allowed selling at their premises, and every volunteer who gave their time. Special recognition is given for contributions above and beyond:

- Vietnam Veterans of Australia (FSB Bendigo) – use of facilities throughout the Appeal
- Dough-si-Dough Sourdough Bakery, Strathfieldsaye – raised and donated over \$3,100
- Uniting Church Red Dove Opportunity Shop – donation of a full week’s takings
- South Bendigo Football Netball Club – \$2,000 raised from ANZAC Day match initiative
- Bendigo Stadium – support through Braves ANZAC weekend match
- Golden City Soccer Club – ANZAC weekend home match support
- Bendigo Jockey Club and Bendigo Rotary – access to Golden Mile race meeting and Easter Fair
- Retail and selling locations including IGA stores across Bendigo, shopping centres, Bunnings Epsom, Marong businesses, and Elmore Bakery
- Bendigo Real Estate Agents – full staffing of Gillies Corner selling location
- Ian Anderson – badge sales in Mitiamo
- Key volunteer leaders at major selling locations, including Lois Newman, Paul Penno, Bob Harrison, and Hugh Elphinstone

## Leadership Transition and Committee Update

In September 2025, the Sub-Committee acknowledged with deep respect the passing of Carl Chirgwin, Immediate Past Chair of the Appeals Sub-Committee. Carl’s leadership, commitment, and service to the Appeals program have left a lasting legacy.

Robert Haughton assumed the role of Appeals Chair during this period, with the strong support of Committee Members. The Sub-Committee acknowledges the cooperation and guidance provided during this transition.



# Appeals Report

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## 2025 Poppy Appeal

The 2025 Poppy Appeal concluded in November 2025, raising approximately \$71,057. This remains an outstanding achievement reflecting continued community generosity and volunteer commitment.

## Key Acknowledgements

The Sub-Committee thanks all volunteers, schools, businesses, and organisations involved. Special recognition is extended to:

- Vietnam Veterans of Australia (FSB Bendigo) – continued facility support
- Bendigo Jockey Club – fundraising during Bendigo Cup Holiday
- Major retail selling locations including IGA stores, Bendigo Marketplace, Bendigo Pie Shop, Epsom Village, and Bunnings Epsom
- Bendigo Real Estate Agents (Buxton, BRE, DCK, Maher, McKean McGregor, PH Property, Professionals, Tweed Sutherland)
- Long-standing volunteer leaders at key sites: Lois Newman, Paul Penno, Bob Harrison, and Hugh Elphinstone
- Bendigo District RSL staff and the Appeals Committee

## Honesty Box Participation

Strong participation was again received from a broad range of schools and community organisations across the district, including primary schools, secondary colleges, TAFE, health services, and local businesses.

### Standout Contributors

- St Joseph's Primary School
- Creek Street Christian College
- Skip's Café Eaglehawk

The Sub-Committee again encourages members and supporters to assist where possible, whether through working bees, selling at locations, or Honesty Box distribution and collection.

## Closing Message

The Appeals Sub-Committee sincerely thanks every volunteer, supporter, school, business, and organisation involved throughout 2025. The results achieved this year demonstrate what is possible through community spirit, service, and shared commitment.

Robert Haughton  
Appeals Chair



# Health & Wellbeing Report

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The Health and Wellbeing Sub-Committee continued to demonstrate its commitment to supporting the overall wellbeing of veterans and their families throughout the reporting period. The Sub-Committee maintained a strong focus on initiatives that promote physical, mental, and emotional health, while further strengthening its emphasis on social inclusion and community engagement across the Bendigo region.

## **Programs and Initiatives**

### Sheds Program

The Sheds Program remained a central component of the Committee's wellbeing activities, providing structured opportunities for skill development, social interaction, and personal achievement. Activities offered during the period included:

- Woodwork
- Metalwork
- Art and leatherwork
- Lead lighting
- Haircuts
- Computer skills

Continuous improvements were undertaken to enhance safety, accessibility, and operational efficiency across all workshop areas.

A significant highlight of the year was the participation of Sheds members in the 2025 Twilight Markets. A wide range of handmade items were produced and made available for public purchase. The high demand for these items reflects both the quality of the work produced and the strong community interest in supporting veteran initiatives.

## **Fitness and Social Wellbeing Activities**

A diverse suite of health, fitness, and social programs was delivered to encourage active lifestyles, build resilience, and reduce social isolation among veterans.

Key activities included:

- Group CrossFit sessions (Wednesdays and Sundays)
- Yoga classes, in partnership with the Kangaroo Flat RSL
- Veterans' Morning Tea gatherings
- Veterans Golf and Lunch
- Walk, Talk & Cuppa, expanded to two separate locations, with group sizes ranging from 5 to 19 participants
- Veterans and Family social outings, including Ten Pin Bowling and Lawn Bowls
- Special-interest events and themed discussion sessions
- Organised group excursions to locations of interest

These programs continue to play a vital role in fostering camaraderie, enhancing social cohesion, and promoting overall wellbeing.

# Health & Wellbeing Report



## Engagement and Communication Tools

To strengthen ongoing communication and visibility of available support, the Committee utilised a range of engagement tools, including:

- A rolling three-month activity calendar
- An Enhanced Veteran Support Brochure Stand at RSL entry points, ensuring easy access to service and program information
- Veterans Nights, conducted on the first Friday of each month
- Participation in Veterans' Health Week
- Participation in National Volunteer Week

These initiatives contribute to improved awareness and accessibility of services for veterans and their families.

## Health and Wellbeing Support Enhancements

The Health Wellbeing Programs continued to expand communication channels and support resources to ensure veterans remain informed and connected.

Key enhancements include

- Monthly calendars outlining upcoming programs and events
- Continued maintenance of the Veteran Support Brochure Stand at the main RSL entrance
- Regular digital updates shared on the Bendigo District RSL Veteran Support and Central Victorian Veterans Facebook pages.

These measures have significantly strengthened the visibility and reach of support services across the region.

Cassandra Liddy  
Veterans Activities Officer



# Welfare Report

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## Summary

With the support of the BDRSL Welfare and Charitable Sub Committee (WCSC) welfare advocacy is privileged to support all local serving and ex-serving personnel of the Australian Defence Forces (ADF), and their dependents, across a diverse range of issues that impact upon their lives as a consequence of their commitment to service.

At grass roots through the 2025 calendar year WCSC responded to close to 200 initial requests for support and assistance, and disbursed \$45K in direct veteran/ex-service support. This resulted in the delivery of more than 80 hours of garden maintenance, 108 hrs of internal home cleaning, 63 external referrals to legal/financial/military compensation support and advocacy, and more than 350 home/hospital visits by the Welfare Military Advocate (MWA)

On more than 70 occasions the WA has followed up outreach visitation with direct written correspondence and further invitations of support. Additionally, the MWA has initiated networking and collegial opportunities with sector colleagues and associated agencies on more than thirty occasions.

## Direction

WCSC outreach focus embraces proactive identification, connection, inclusion and community. Recipients are connected to identified respectful referrals, offered choice in that process, and supported from welfare to wellbeing.

The WCSC maintains its continuation of robust networks with regional RSLs, Ex Service Organisations (ESO), and service providers of appropriate interventionist support. Onsite visitations and connection occur between regional RSLs, and key support agencies such as Legacy, Central Victorian Veteran's Support Centre, Carry On, Vietnam Veteran's Association, Open Arms, etc. are committed allies in the support of Veterans.

Welfare support is further connected to and represented in conversations with local welfare and individual military compensation advocates, practice forums, housing providers, local government, and communities of advocacy practice.

With its revenue intake status BDRSL is also able to reach out to regional sister branches and offer support commensurate with the financial resources that are enjoyed through that status

## Action

- BDRSL Welfare responded to close to 200 initial enquiries for support and assistance in the 2025 calendar year. These requests varied from short-term financial support, home and garden maintenance, accommodation requests, DVA-related compensation assistance, legal advice, and mental health support.
- Welfare has visited veterans/ex-service personnel at home or in hospital / supportive care on 353 occasions during this year. If difficulty is encountered in connecting, a letter of introduction and offer of support is sent leaving further contact to the members discretion and autonomy.
- During 2025 WCSC completed the ambitious task to contact by telephone all Veterans and ESP – (close to 900) - who were registered on the organisations database. There has been an overwhelmingly positive response to this outreach, with Veterans appreciative of the call and the RSL's interest in them, and the opportunity to identify any potential support issues that arise out of the segue that initial contact provides.

# Welfare Report



While the majority of contacts required no additional action, approximately 18% of calls are followed up by the MWA to address identified concerns. Issues that required additional discussion covered such concerns as:

- physical impairment and the now limited capacity to complete tasks as before;
- internal home maintenance, and external garden and lawn maintenance
- a sense of isolation and withdrawal from social contact, maybe bought on by the death of a spouse, or inability to physically/cognitively function as before and thus need additional support.
- grief and loss issues exacerbated by impacting mental health issues such as PTSD, anxiety, depression, etc.
- compensation, support, and medical issues related to dealing with Department of Veteran's Affairs (DVA).

The WCSC program received requests for financial assistance from Veterans across a range of needs, and financial assistance has been provided to support Veterans experiencing distress with issues such as:

- Relocation expenses / end of lease internal clean or garden maintenance.
- The hardship brought upon Veterans who live with minimal fixed income to be able to meet the impact of unforeseen bills and additional expenses.
- The provision of food / fuel vouchers or the delivery of takeaway Bistro meals to be able to assist short-term sustainability.

## **Moving ahead**

In the process of contacting Veterans, additional 'off the radar' service personnel continue to be identified residing in nursing homes, supportive accommodation residences, or other forms of accommodation for those with less mobility, poor health, and/or autonomy.

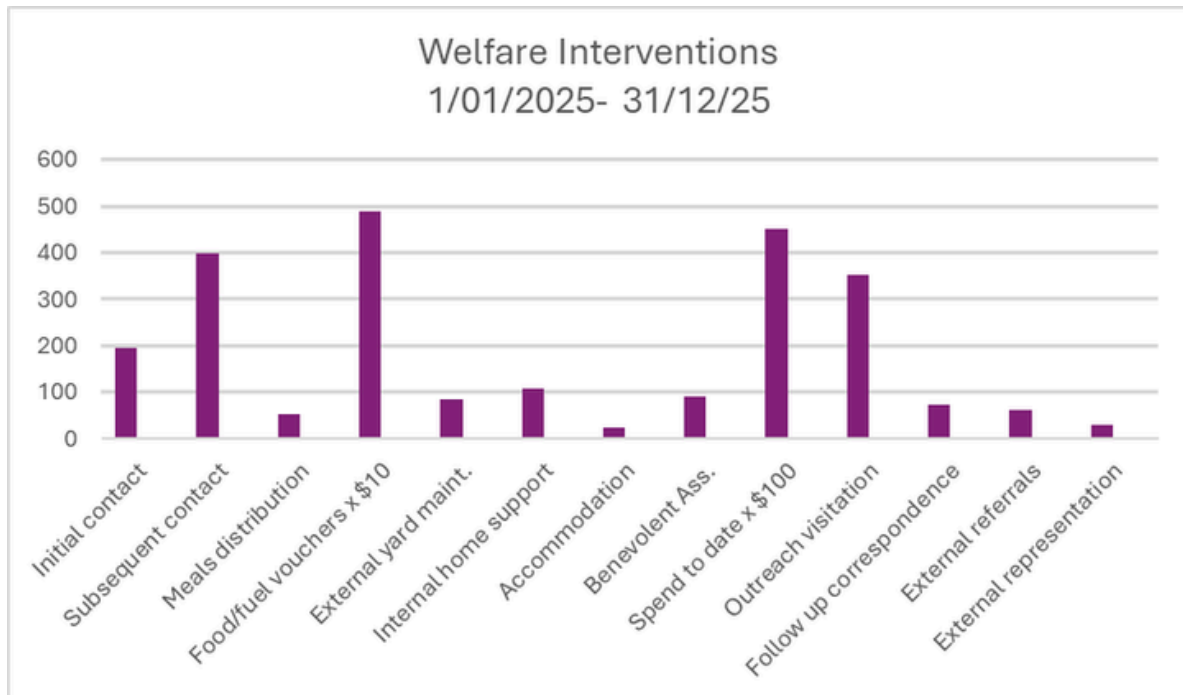
Outreach to these residents has been undertaken by the MWA. Residents are contacted, visited, and consulted regarding any needs that they might have. They are provided with access to social options and/or referral options if that is what they seek. What has been difficult to provide them with in the present climate is on-going visitation and connection. BDRSL home and hospital visitation program, effectively shut down during Covid, is in the process of being elevated back to a stand-alone support and outreach program. To this end personnel have begun to be recruited to the position.

## **Conclusion**

The WCSC Program continues to provide proactive direct contact, connection, outreach, and referral. The programs' salience, influence and uptake has continued to rise quite significantly. More importantly the greater connections that are continuing to be established and forged with external agencies and ESOs have ensured that not only are more ex- service members being identified and connected with, but that there are greater opportunities to support them in a manner that offers them autonomy and a better fit to meet their identified needs.

Writing on behalf of my position as Military Welfare Advocate, I would like to acknowledge the support and commitment given freely by chair John Edelston and the WCSC committee, and both the BDRSL President and General Manager. Working in synergy with the above welfare outreach has expanded to embrace an outstanding support and referral base, Veteran's inclusivity and autonomy, and a proactive shared ambition to support Veterans journeys to sound health and wellbeing.

# Welfare Report



1. Initial contacts include: any 1<sup>st</sup> up telephone contacts, offsite visits, ad hoc walk ins, and calls out.
2. Subsequent contact includes all post-initial contact – F2F, phone, email/text.
3. Meals distributed: individual fresh and frozen take away bistro meals.
4. Financial support food/fuel.
5. Hours external maintenance provider engaged.
6. Hours internal home support – cleaning etc. engaged.
7. Accommodation x nights
8. Benevolent Assessment completed.
9. Total outlaid to date.
10. Outreach covers onsite F2F home/hospital/supportive care visitation.
11. Follow up written correspondence if no response from initial contact.
12. External referrals include: DVA/white card issues, legal advice, mental health support, financial support, Veteran’s support services.
13. External representation includes: any initiated networking and collegial opportunities with sector colleagues and associated agencies.

# Commemorative Report

The Commemorative Activities Sub-Committee (CASC) has had a full and meaningful year in 2025, continuing its proud role of honouring the service and sacrifice of Australian veterans through a comprehensive program of commemorative services, wreath laying, and community engagement activities.

Throughout the year, the CASC planned, coordinated, and supported a wide range of commemorative events that reflected both historical significance and contemporary service, while maintaining strong community participation and respect for tradition.

## Commemorative Services and Activities – 2025

The following commemorative activities were conducted during the year:

February – April 2025

- 19 February – Darwin Defenders Day
- 24 February – Beersheba Day
- February – Animals at War Service (Memorial Garden, Bendigo District RSL)
- 2 March – Sandakan Memorial Service
- 25 April – ANZAC Day Dawn and Morning Services (Bendigo and Eaglehawk)



The Animals at War service was again a unique and well-attended event, held in the Memorial Garden at the RSL. While preparations accounted for a range of animal participation, the service featured a donkey, a support dog, and pigeons that were ceremonially released to return to their home location. The service attracted strong community attendance and highlighted the often-overlooked contribution of animals in wartime.

The Sandakan Memorial Service, held at Crook Street Park, Strathdale, was well supported by the community and provided a respectful and reflective opportunity to remember those who suffered and died as prisoners of war.

ANZAC Day 2025 was a standout event for the Sub-Committee and the broader Bendigo community. Both the Dawn and Morning Services were extremely well attended. Despite uncertain weather conditions, the Morning Service was completed before rain set in, adding a memorable moment to the day. The 2025 ANZAC Day theme focused on Peacekeepers, Peacemakers, and Peacebuilders, with Major Robert Powell delivering a guest address that was warmly received by those in attendance.

## July – September 2025

- 1 July – 2/22nd Lark Force Commemorative Wreath Laying
- 27 July – Korean War Commemorative Wreath Laying
- 15 August – Victory in the Pacific (VP) Day Commemorative Wreath Laying
- 18 August – Vietnam Veterans Day Commemorative Service (hosted by the Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia – Bendigo Branch)
- 31 August – Malaya and Borneo Day Commemorative Wreath Laying
- 14 September – National Peacekeepers Day Commemorative Service

# Commemorative Report

## October – December 2025

- 31 October – Beersheba Day
- 11 November – Remembrance Day

These services collectively ensured that significant milestones across Australia’s military history were respectfully recognised and that veterans from all conflicts and operations were acknowledged.

## Committee Engagement and Acknowledgements

The CASC continued to uphold the legacy of veterans through meaningful commemorations and strong community engagement. The dedication, professionalism, and respect shown by committee members remains the cornerstone of the CASC’s success.

The CASC welcomed several new members during the year, bringing fresh perspectives and ideas that will assist in shaping future commemorative activities. Their enthusiasm and willingness to contribute are warmly welcomed and valued.

On behalf of the CASC, I extend sincere thanks to all members, volunteers, supporting organisations, and community participants who contributed their time and effort throughout 2025. Your continued support ensures that remembrance remains strong within our community.

Dale Hodges

Commemorative Activities Sub-Committee Chair



# Functions Report

The Bendigo District Returned and Services League (BDRSL) is pleased to present the Annual Report for Functions conducted during the 2025 reporting period. This report outlines the range of functions hosted, summarises key operational achievements, and reflects on feedback received from members, community organisations, and external stakeholders.

## Overview of Functions

During 2025, the BDRSL facilitated a diverse and extensive program of functions. These activities supported veterans, commemorative purposes, community organisations, government departments, sporting bodies, and private clients, reinforcing the BDRSL's role as a significant community and veteran-focused venue within the region.

## Meetings, Conferences and Forums

Functions hosted during the year included, but were not limited to:

- Region 7 Committee Meeting and Luncheon
- RSL State Meet and Greet
- RSL State Conference
- RSL Victoria Forum and Networking Events
- RSL Victoria Meetings
- RSL Victoria Firearms and Controlled Weapons Gathering
- Department of Families, Fairness and Housing Meeting and Morning Tea
- Australian Defence Force Careers Information Session
- WendyWu Tours Information Sessions
- Annual General Meetings and General Meetings for:
  - Bendigo District RSL General Membership
  - Retired Ambulance Association Victoria
  - Sub-Committees and Working Groups
  - Future Focus Group
  - Relay for Life Committee
  - Inglewood Football and Netball Club
  - Inglewood Bridgewater RSL
  - Passchendaele Barracks
  - Bendigo City Football Netball Club
  - Bendigo Brass Band

## Community, Veteran and Commemorative Events

- Sandakan Commemorative Service
- Appeals Morning Tea
- Monthly Veterans Morning Teas
- Vietnam Veterans Day Luncheon
- Veterans and Police with Partners Dinner
- Squadron Reunion and Dinner
- Ex-Fortuna Association Dinner and Barbecue
- Bendigo District RSL Volunteers Appreciation Event
- Bendigo Legacy Trivia Night
- Bendigo SES Trivia Night
- AGO Bendigo Social Club Trivia Night



# Functions Report

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## **Social, Club and Special Interest Events**

- Twilight Markets (March and November)
- Bendigo District RSL Wine and Dine Events
- Wednesday Tribute Shows
- Social Club Luncheons
- Bus Group Luncheons
- Shepparton RSL Luncheon

## **Formal Dinners and Annual Events**

- Passchendaele Barracks Dinner
- Life Members and Committee Members Dinner (with partners)
- Bendigo District RSL Mixed Military Formal Dining Night
- 410 Squadron Dining-In Night
- Zone 7 Lions Club Dinner
- Rotary Club Handover Dinner
- Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Dinner
- Australian Stud Sheep Breeders Association Dinner and Meeting
- Black and Coloured Sheep Breeders Dinner
- Fordson Tractor Club of Australia General Meeting and Dinner

## **Presentations and Sporting Club Functions**

- Bendigo Cricket Club
- Sandhurst Cricket Club
- Northwest Lightning Hockey Club
- Bendigo City Football Netball Club
- Inglewood Football Netball Club
- Golden City Soccer Club

## **Celebrations and Private Functions**

- Birthday celebrations (including milestone birthdays)
- Celebrations of Life / Wakes
- Baby Showers
- Wedding ceremonies and receptions

## **Christmas and Seasonal Events**

- Veterans Christmas Lunch
- Central Victorian Vietnam Veterans Christmas Barbecue
- Health and Wellbeing Christmas Lunch
- St Vincent de Paul Christmas Lunch
- Bendigo Military Museum Christmas Lunch
- Bendigo District Aboriginal Cooperative Lunch
- Probus Club Luncheons
- General Members Meeting and Christmas Lunch

# Functions Report

## Training and Development

- First Aid Training
- Responsible Service of Gambling (RSG)
- Leadership Training
- Fire Warden Training
- Mental Health First Aid Training

## Key Achievements

- Successfully delivered a wide range of functions serving veterans, community organisations, government departments, sporting clubs, and private clients.
- Maintained consistently high standards of service across all function types and scales.
- Demonstrated operational flexibility in venue configuration, catering provision, and event coordination.
- Enhanced catering offerings to better accommodate guest preferences and dietary requirements.

## Feedback and Evaluation

Feedback received throughout the year was consistently positive, particularly in relation to professionalism, organisation, and quality of service. A strong level of repeat bookings from community organisations and external stakeholders reflected ongoing confidence in the BDRSL as a preferred venue.

## Conclusion

The 2025 reporting year was highly successful for functions at the BDRSL. A substantial and varied program of events was delivered while maintaining strong operational and service standards. The organisation remains well positioned to build upon this success in 2026 through continued improvement, engagement, and service to the veteran and broader community.

Ratna Holland  
Functions Manager



# Life members

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Life Membership of the League is awarded to Service Members who have displayed long, continuous, and outstanding service to the League. This honour may only be approved by the RSL National Board on the recommendation of the Victorian State Branch.



**Peter Ball**



**Ian Bates**



**Maurice Betts**



**Stephen Burke**



**Robert English**



**Robert Harrison**



**Paul Penno**  
OAM



**Murray Poustie**



**Ian Ray**



**Clifford Richards**  
OAM



**Peter Swandale**

# Bendigo Military Museum

In 2025, the Bendigo Military Museum (BMM) continued to strengthen its role as a leading regional institution dedicated to honouring the service and sacrifice of Central Victorian veterans. Through new exhibitions, major funding successes, collection development, preservation activities, community engagement initiatives, and strategic planning, the BMM achieved one of its most productive and transformative years to date. Our focus remained firmly on preserving the region's military heritage while embracing new technologies and storytelling methods that enhance visitor experience and expand the reach of our history.

## Exhibitions and Public Programming

The BMM delivered two major exhibitions in 2025, showcasing both local stories and national military themes.

- Ink in the Lines, which opened in December 2024, closed in April. This was a fascinating insight into the meaning that tattoos hold for Veterans.
- The Mapmakers: Charting Australia's Defence (May-August) – Marking the 110-year legacy of the Royal Australian Survey Corps and coinciding with their anniversary reunion.
- The Art of Sacrifice (August 2025- January 2026) – Presenting powerful portraiture honouring Australian service personnel by George Petrou OAM.

Exhibitions next year will include:

- Nasho '57: 98 Days at Pucka (January–July 2026) – From the permanent collection of ANVAM, an exhibition of candid works by photojournalist Robert Lennox Suggett documenting his time in training for National Service in 1957.
- Persona - Alongside major exhibitions, BMM delivered guided tours, themed talks, and special programming aligned with the Australian Heritage Festival. These activities included behind-the-scenes tours, building history presentations, and a popular public “Antiques Roadshow-style” session where locals brought personal military items for assessment and advice.

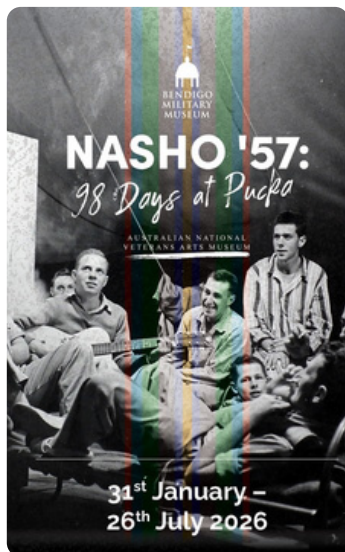
## Community Engagement and Visitor Growth

Community engagement remained at the heart of the BMM's mission in 2025. The year saw steady growth in visitor numbers, fuelled by targeted programming, improved marketing, and an increasing community desire to connect with local history.

More than 20 school and community groups visited the BMM during the year, taking part in tailored tours and learning sessions. Educators reported strong appreciation for the BMM's ability to connect curriculum learning with real artefacts, local stories, and personal narratives. The BMM also continued to participate in local commemorative events, strengthening its partnership with the Bendigo RSL Sub-Branch and ensuring that military history remained visible within the broader community.

Volunteer engagement remained a cornerstone of BMM operations. Collectively, volunteers contributed several thousand hours across cataloguing, front-of-house duties, exhibition installation, research, administrative support, and collection care. Their expertise, passion, and dedication helped sustain a professional standard and enabled the BMM to achieve much of what it accomplished in 2025.





## Major Awards and Recognition

The BMM received significant recognition at both state and community levels during 2025.

In April, the BMM was awarded the Victorian Community History Award for Digital Storytelling for the “Faces of Peace Storytelling Project.” This innovative project captured the experiences of local peacekeepers through digital media, bringing their stories to life in a modern, accessible format. The award acknowledged the Museum’s leadership in using contemporary methods to preserve and share historical narratives.

Later in the year, the Museum was honoured as an official 2023–25 Victorian Collections ‘Best in Show’ recipient, placing BMM among the state’s top-performing collecting organisations. This recognition

highlighted the BMM’s excellence in catalogue management, collection documentation, and the quality and accessibility of its online presence. It also reflected the outstanding contribution of volunteers who dedicated considerable time to cataloguing and digitisation.

These accolades not only strengthened the BMM’s reputation but also validated ongoing efforts to meet professional museum standards and deliver high-quality public history experiences.

## Collection Development, Preservation and Digitisation

The BMM’s collection continued to grow in size, significance, and accessibility throughout 2025. Early in the year, BMM completed a comprehensive Significance Assessment, which formally recognised the Museum as holding one of the most substantial and important regional military collections in Australia. This assessment informed strategic priorities in preservation, documentation, and future exhibition planning.

The BMM also undertook a range of preservation and infrastructure improvements, including repainting and display refinements, repairs to the lift and environmental control systems, acquisition of a LUX monitor to manage light exposure on sensitive materials, and the purchase of a new 3D scanner. These upgrades strengthened the BMM’s capacity to care for fragile or unique items and to maintain a safe, sustainable exhibition environment.

Digitisation also progressed strongly. Thousands of additional collection records were improved or added to Victorian Collections, enhancing public access and strengthening the Museum’s digital footprint. The digitisation of photographic collections, particularly those relating to the Survey Corps and local service personnel, continued as a major undertaking.

## Funding Success and New Projects

A major milestone in 2025 was the BMM’s successful application to the Saluting Their Service Commemorative Grants Program, securing \$136,340 for development of a new audio-visual interpretation initiative. This funding supports a landmark project to enhance visitor experience through immersive storytelling, combining soundscapes, projection, and layered historical interpretation. Scheduled for completion in 2026, the project represents a bold step toward modern, interactive museum engagement.

# Bendigo Military Museum

The BMM also progressed a significant redevelopment project focused on revitalising the former Billiard Room space to create a new gallery interpreting Australian military operations from Korea to Afghanistan. Design and planning were undertaken with support from experienced consultants, laying the groundwork for substantial future upgrades.

## Conclusion

The BMM's achievements in 2025 reflect a year of growth, recognition, and forward momentum. Through new exhibitions, award-winning storytelling projects, strengthened community engagement, expanded collection accessibility, preservation improvements, and future-focused planning, the BMM has positioned itself for an exciting period of development.

Guided by its commitment to honouring the service of Central Victorian veterans and preserving regional military heritage, the BMM continues to evolve into a modern, relevant, and resilient institution—one the Sub-Branch and community can take great pride in.

Dell Winser  
Curator  
Bendigo Military Museum



# Central Victorian Veterans



Throughout 2025, the Central Victorian Veterans Sub-Committee (CVVSC) has continued to work closely with BDRSL Sub-Branch in assisting to run a number of events during the year. The aim has been to increase the number of events and diversify their offerings to encourage greater attendance from our members.

The events and activities held during the year have been well-received and supported by the Central Victoria Veterans (CVV) members.

## Key Events:

- Sandakan Commemorative Service (2nd March 2025)
- Approximately 12 CVV members assisted in the Sandakan Commemorative Service, contributing to the success of the event.
- Anzac Day 2025
- Many CVV members participated in the Dawn and Morning Services, and undertook various duties at several services across the Bendigo area, demonstrating strong support and commitment to the occasion.
- CVV Catch Up on 9th May 2025, the following nominations were received for positions on the CVVSC:
  - Chair- Tim Hughan
  - Deputy Chair -Tim Armstrong
  - Social Coordinator- Cam Scott
  - Communications Officer- Scott Chapman



## CVV Catch-Up Nights:

- Numbers dropped off slightly during the cooler months but picked up again once warmer weather arrived.
- Formal Military Dining Night (13<sup>th</sup> September 2025)

CVV played a key role in organising and assisting with the Formal Military Dining night with committee members also running the night.

- Christmas Catch-Up (6th December 2025)
- The CVV Christmas Catch-Up took place on the inside this year due to weather with a sit down meal.

With around 32 members in attendance, it was a wonderful way to celebrate the start of the holiday season and strengthen veteran engagement.

Tim Hughan  
Central Victorian Veterans Sub-Committee Chair

# Sponsorship & Donations

The Bendigo District RSL's commitment to sponsoring a diverse range of causes reflects its dedication to fostering community wellbeing and resilience. By supporting local sporting, statewide and national institutions, we can play a pivotal role in nurturing grassroots initiatives.

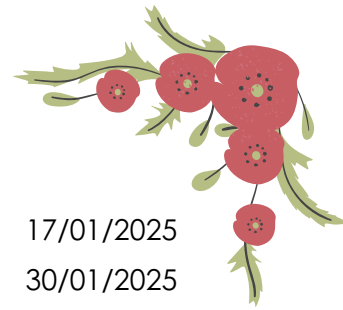
Our involvement not only aids in the development of a happier and healthier community but also strengthens our social fabric. Through these efforts, the Bendigo District RSL strives to have a meaningful and lasting impact, helping to build a thriving and strong community.

ANZAC House  
Kangaroo Flat RSL Sub-Branch  
Bendigo Military Museum  
Eaglehawk Citizens Brass Band Hall  
Rochester RSL  
Heathcote RSL  
Bendigo Legacy Club  
BDRSL Veterans Morning Tea  
RSL Active  
410 Sqn Aust Airforce Cadets  
309 Army Cadet Unit  
TS Bendigo Ships Cadet Fund  
8th/7th Battalion, Royal Victoria Regiment  
8/7 RVR Regimental Dinner  
15<sup>th</sup> Force Support Squadron.  
Kerang Historical Society  
Lifeline  
Blue Ribbon Foundation  
Path of the Horse – Equine Therapy for Veterans  
St. John of God Hospital – Da Vinci Surgical Robot  
Cancer Council of Victoria – Relay for Life  
Cancer Council of Victoria – Ladies Day  
Cancer Council of Victoria – Girls Night In  
Cancer Council of Victoria – Calival United  
FNC Pink Sports Day  
National Breast Cancer Foundation  
Castlemaine & Kyneton Rifle Clubs – Military & Classic Shoot  
Victorian Rifle Association – Kings Shoot  
Bendigo Clay Target Club  
Mandurang CFA  
Bendigo Brass Band

CFA District O2 Headquarters Brigade Trivia Night  
Long Gully Neighbourhood Centre / Community Garden  
Bendigo Tennis Association  
Bendigo Tennis Club  
Breeze Tennis Academy  
Bendigo Eightball Association  
Eaglehawk Bowls Club  
East Bendigo Bowls Club  
North Bendigo Bowls Club  
Bendigo VRI Bowling Club  
Bendigo Gold Raiders Bowls Club  
Golden City Football (Soccer) Club  
Bendigo City FC  
Loddon Valley Football Netball League (faces in the crowd)  
Eaglehawk Juniors Football Club  
Inglewood FNC  
Bendigo BMX Club  
Sandhurst Cricket Club  
Bendigo Cricket Club  
Mandurang Cricket Club  
Neangar Park Golf Club  
North West Lightning Hockey Club  
Mandurang South Pony Club  
BE.Bendigo  
Bendigo Tourism  
City of Greater Bendigo Council  
Strathfieldsaye Probus  
Australian Wool & Sheep Show  
Bendigo SWAP Meet  
Bendigo Agricultural Show  
Various local schools and kindergartens in Bendigo



# VALÉ



FITZPATRICK, Michael William	3108463	ARMY	17/01/2025
WALLACE, Ronald Henry	3/748295	ARMY	30/01/2025
SHERRIFF, Leonard	VX500099	ARMY	31/01/2025
CROUCHER, Leonard Albert	3/756106	ARMY	31/01/2025
THOMASON, William Earl	3208876	ARMY	03/02/2025
LOWE, Laurence William	A6775	RAAF	17/02/2025
POLGLASE, Grant Craig	3791117	ARMY	06/03/2025
GRENFELL, Pierce John	VX141073	ARMY	03/04/2025
ASTON, Derg	14972799	ARMY (British)	03/04/2025
DILLON, Bryan John	3802464	ARMY	20/04/2025
WAGNER, David Roy	39609	ARMY	19/05/2025
WILSON, Robert	125698	RAAF	26/06/2025
CHIRGWIN, Carl Gerard	321507	ARMY	30/06/2025
MASON, Gerald Francis	R55239	NAVY	04/07/2025
TREVASKIS, Raymond John	3745828	ARMY	05/07/2025
BICE, Joseph Claude	3711164	ARMY	08/07/2025
COUSINS, Douglas John	R63945	NAVY	22/07/2025
REWELL, Garry Lawrence	37018	ARMY	25/07/2025
GIBSON, John	235177A	NAVY	30/07/2025
KNIGHT, Robert John	3745777	ARMY	25/08/2025
HOWES, Shirley Joan	F3/459	ARMY	22/08/2025
SCANLON, Susan Lee	F323353	ARMY	24/08/2025
GLAZEBROOK, Thomas Morland	3137211	ARMY	30/08/2025
BELL, Clement Edward	A310358	RAAF	21/09/2025
BARNES, Keith	R64605	NAVY	22/09/2025
SIMMONS, Peter Rodney	3804128	ARMY	04/09/2025
CONSTABLE, Alan Lindsay	3/772198	ARMY	17/10/2025
GILLIES, Rowan	1202701	ARMY	03/11/2025
BOWE, Rodney James	3/744310	ARMY	28/11/2025
GILES, David Hugh	2/780932	ARMY	03/12/2025



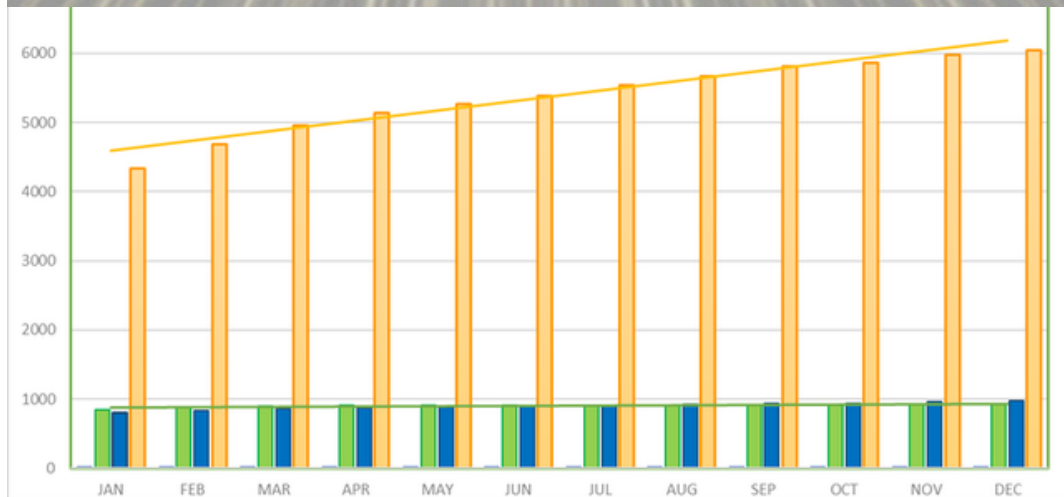
**“Lest We Forget”**

# Awards

**Mr Peter Swandale** – RSL Hall of Fame Inductee  
**Bendigo Military Museum** – Victoria Collections 2023-25 Cataloguing 'Best in Show' Award  
**BDRSL** - Winner of the Community Clubs Victoria 2024-25 Regional Mental & Social Wellbeing Program Award  
**Mr Martin Beekes** - Winner of the Community Clubs Victoria 2024-25 Club Manager of the Year Award  
**Mr Chris Murley** – 2024 RSL Hall of Fame Achievement & Recognition award  
**Ms Vanessa Zhu** – 2024 RSL Hall of Fame Achievement & Recognition award  
**Mr Ken Butler** – 2024 RSL Hall of Fame Achievement & Recognition award



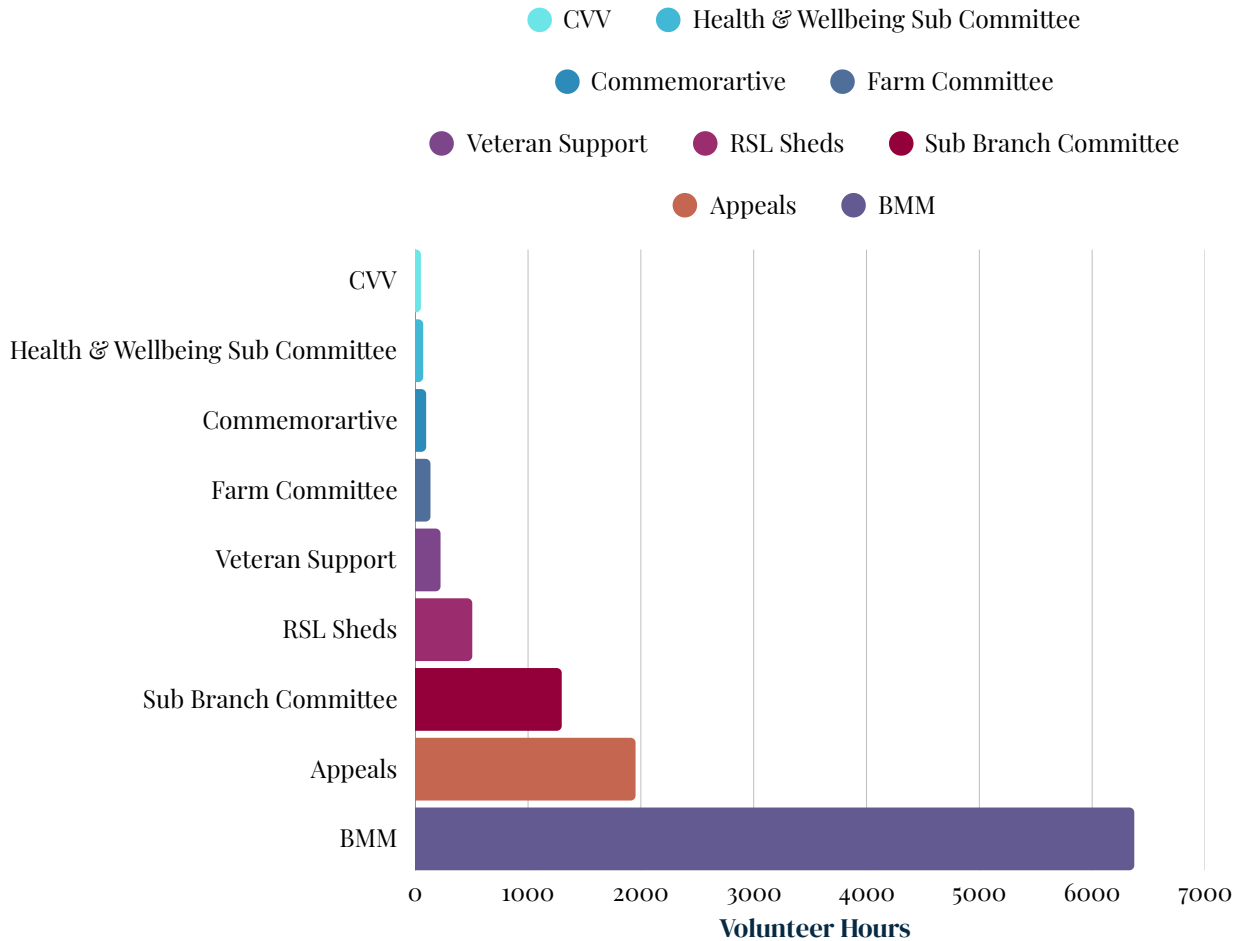
# The Year in Review



**2025 Membership Levels**

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTAL ANNUAL INCREASE
LIFE	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	0
SERVICE	852	881	901	904	907	909	911	909	909	913	923	925	73
AFFILIATE	802	836	857	872	891	901	912	926	936	942	958	971	169
COMMUNITY	4329	4677	4959	5139	5271	5379	5533	5663	5805	5867	5974	6046	1717
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5994</b>	<b>6405</b>	<b>6728</b>	<b>6926</b>	<b>7080</b>	<b>7200</b>	<b>7367</b>	<b>7509</b>	<b>7661</b>	<b>7733</b>	<b>7866</b>	<b>7953</b>	<b>1959</b>

# The Year in Review



# Bendigo & District RSL - 10A

Activity Totals: 1/01/2025 - 31/12/2025

Category	Activity	Hours	Volunteers	Average
APPEALS	Appeals Coordinator	176.83	2	88.42
	Appeals Sub-Committee Chair	199.00	2	99.50
	Appeals Sub-Committee Member	2.00	1	2.00
	Appeals Volunteer	1575.30	83	18.98
	<b>Category Total Hours</b>	<b>1953.13</b>		
BDRSL COMPLEX	Commercial Bus Driver	10.00	1	10.00
	<b>Category Total Hours</b>	<b>10.00</b>		
	CVV Events/Social Officer CVV Sub-	18.50		
Central Victorian Veterans Sub-Committee	Committee Member	32.00	1	18.50
	<b>Category Total Hours</b>	<b>50.50</b>	3	10.67
	ANZAC Day Commemorative Service-Bendigo	22.00		
COMMEMORATIONS	ANZAC Day Commemorative Service- Dawn		4	5.50
	ANZAC Day Commemorative Service-Eaglehawk	8.25	3	2.75
	Commemorative Activities Sub-Committee Chair	9.00	2	4.50
	Commemorative Activities Sub-Committee Member	4.00	1	4.00
	Pre-ANZAC Day Services	25.00	6	4.17
	Remembrance Day Commemorative Service-Bendigo	10.50	2	5.25
	Remembrance Day Commemorative Service-Eaglehawk	13.00	2	6.50
	<b>Category Total Hours</b>		1	5.50
	Committee Member FARM Committee Chair	5.50		
	House & Finance Sub-Committee Member	97.25		
FARM COMMITTEE	<b>Category Total Hours</b>	<b>70.25</b>	3	23.42
	Sub- Committee Member Sub-Committee	42.00	1	42.00
	Chair	23.00	1	23.00
	<b>Category Total Hours</b>	<b>135.25</b>		
	Cataloging Research & Data Entry Volunteer	58.48		
Health Wellbeing Program Sub-Committee	Museum Committee Member Volunteer	12.50	4	14.62
	Museum Host & POS Volunteer Museum	70.98	2	6.25
	Intern Volunteer Museum Public Program	4444.10		
RSL MUSEUM	Volunteer Museum Sub-Committee Chair	85.75	18	246.89
	<b>Category Total Hours</b>	<b>1232.42</b>	5	17.15
		21.00	14	88.03
		159.00	1	21.00
		431.00	1	159.00
	<b>Category Total Hours</b>	<b>6373.27</b>	1	431.00
RSL SHEDS	RSL Sheds Supervisor	505.83	2	252.92

	<b>Category Total Hours</b>	<b>505.83</b>		
SUB-BRANCH COMMITTEE	BDRSL President BDRSL Secretary BDRSL	876.50	1	876.50
	Snr Vice President BDRSL Treasurer Sub-	30.50	1	30.50
	Branch Committee Member	130.50	1	130.50
	<b>Category Total Hours</b>	98.50	1	98.50
	Department of Veterans Affairs Funeral Officer	162.67	4	40.67
	Coordinator Funerals Volunteer Home and	<b>1298.67</b>		
	Hospital Visitor Phone Enquiries Support	40.17		
VETERAN SUPPORT			1	40.17
	Volunteer - Other Welfare & Charitable Sub-	9.00	1	9.00
	Committee Member Wellbeing Advocacy	10.50	1	10.50
	<b>Category Total Hours</b>	96.17	2	48.08
		8.00	1	8.00
		18.00	1	18.00
		37.67	4	9.42
		5.00	1	5.00
		<b>224.51</b>		
		<b>10719.39</b>		
<b>Total Hours</b>				

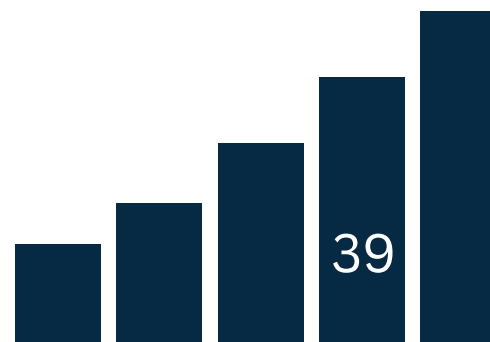


# Financial Report

**BENDIGO DISTRICT SUB-BRANCH INC.**

ABN: 32 661 050 883

**Financial Report For The Year Ended  
31 December 2025**



# **BENDIGO DISTRICT RSL SUB-BRANCH INC.**

**ABN: 32 661 050 883**

**Financial Report For The Year Ended  
31 December 2025**

# **Bendigo District RSL Sub-Branch Inc.**

**ABN: 32 661 050 883**

## **Financial Report For The Year Ended 31 December 2025**

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**AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION**

**Under the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 Section 60-40***

**TO THE COMMITTEE OF BENDIGO DISTRICT SUB-BRANCH INC.**

In accordance with Subdivision 60-C of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Act 2012*, I am pleased to provide the following declaration of independence to the Committee of Bendigo District RSL Sub-Branch Inc. as the lead auditor for the audit of the financial report of Bendigo District RSL Sub-Branch Inc. for the yearended 31 December 2025, I declare that, to the best of my knowledge, there have been no contraventions of:

- (1) the auditor independence requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Act 2012* in relation to the audit; and
- (2) any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

**ACCOUNTING AND AUDIT SOLUTIONS BENDIGO**



**Bradley Dowsey**  
**Registered Auditor # 528899**  
**Dated this 2nd day of March, 2026.**

**BENDIGO DISTRICT RSL SUB-BRANCH INC.**

**ABN: 32 661 050 883**

**STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
31 DECEMBER 2025**

	Note	2025	2024
		\$	\$
Revenue	2	16,177,365	14,640,344
Cost of sales	3	<u>(6,114,348)</u>	<u>(5,352,727)</u>
Gross Profit		10,063,017	9,287,617
Other income	2	255,210	295,567
Administration expense		(486,272)	(477,551)
Advertising and promotion costs		(607,101)	(590,472)
Depreciation and amortisation expense	3	(1,031,437)	(932,465)
Finance costs	3	(85,396)	(100,872)
Occupancy expense		(1,914,880)	(1,885,789)
Employee benefits expense		(4,319,524)	(3,998,950)
Welfare and charitable expense		(729,478)	(718,950)
BMM Expenses		(329,675)	(171,053)
Other expenses		(192,995)	(196,007)
<b>Net current year surplus</b>		<b><u>621,469</u></b>	<b><u>511,075</u></b>
<b>Other comprehensive income</b>		-	-
<b>Total comprehensive income for the year</b>		<b><u>621,469</u></b>	<b><u>511,075</u></b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

**BENDIGO DISTRICT RSL SUB-BRANCH INC.**  
**ABN: 32 661 050 883**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2025**

	Note	2025 \$	2024 \$
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	4	3,243,004	2,712,396
Trade and other receivables	5	229,826	176,368
Inventories		121,471	87,898
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b><u>3,594,301</u></b>	<b><u>2,976,662</u></b>
<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Property, plant and equipment	6	2,053,329	1,722,665
Intangible assets	7	2,191,008	2,521,607
Right-of-use assets	8	544,302	549,383
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b><u>4,788,639</u></b>	<b><u>4,793,655</u></b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b><u>8,382,940</u></b>	<b><u>7,770,317</u></b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Trade and other payables	9	1,292,622	895,758
Interest bearing liabilities	10	448,934	498,095
Lease Liabilities	11	158,559	202,932
Employee provisions	12	599,901	513,444
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<b><u>2,500,016</u></b>	<b><u>2,110,229</u></b>
<b>NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Interest bearing liabilities	10	1,255,853	1,728,147
Lease Liabilities	11	169,988	101,077
Employee provisions	12	48,485	43,735
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<b><u>1,474,326</u></b>	<b><u>1,872,959</u></b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<b><u>3,974,342</u></b>	<b><u>3,983,188</u></b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b><u>4,408,598</u></b>	<b><u>3,787,129</u></b>
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Retained surplus		4,408,598	3,787,129
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>		<b><u>4,408,598</u></b>	<b><u>3,787,129</u></b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

**BENDIGO DISTRICT RSL SUB-BRANCH INC.**  
**ABN: 32 661 050 883**  
**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025**

	Retained Surplus \$	Total \$
<b>Balance at 1 January 2024</b>	<b>3,276,054</b>	<b>3,276,054</b>
Surplus for the year	511,075	511,075
Other comprehensive income for the year	-	-
<b>Total comprehensive income for the year</b>	<b>511,075</b>	<b>511,075</b>
<b>Balance at 31 December 2024</b>	<b>3,787,129</b>	<b>3,787,129</b>
<b>Balance at 1 January 2025</b>	3,787,129	3,787,129
Surplus for the year	621,469	621,469
Other comprehensive income for the year	-	-
<b>Total comprehensive income for the year</b>	<b>621,469</b>	<b>621,469</b>
<b>Balance at 31 December 2025</b>	<b>4,408,598</b>	<b>4,408,598</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

**BENDIGO DISTRICT RSL SUB-BRANCH INC.**  
**ABN: 32 661 050 883**  
**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025**

	Note	2025 \$	2024 \$
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Receipts from customers		16,340,073	14,921,281
Payments to suppliers and employees		(12,810,829)	(11,901,295)
Variable lease payments excluded from lease liability measurement		(1,164,830)	(1,189,267)
Short-term and low value lease payments		-	(22,900)
Interest received		39,044	44,300
Finance costs		(85,396)	(100,872)
Net cash generated from operating activities		2,318,062	1,751,247
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Payment for property, plant and equipment		(945,477)	(443,771)
Net cash used in investing activities		(945,477)	(443,771)
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Payment of principalelementsofleasepayments		(320,522)	(367,974)
Repayment of borrowing		(521,455)	(396,366)
Net cash used in financing activities		(841,977)	(764,340)
Net increase in cash held		530,608	543,136
Cash on hand at beginning of the financial year		2,712,396	2,169,260
Cash on hand at end of the financial year	4	3,243,004	2,712,396

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

**BENDIGO DISTRICT RSL SUB-BRANCH INC.**  
**ABN: 32 661 050 883**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025**

The financial statements cover Bendigo District RSL Sub-Branch Inc. as an individual entity, incorporated and domiciled in Australia. Bendigo District RSL Sub-Branch Inc. is a company limited by guarantee.

The financial statements were authorised for issue on 2nd March 2026 by the committee of the company.

**Note 1 Summary of Material Accounting Policy Information**

**Basis of Preparation**

The financial statements are general purpose financial statements that have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures of the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*. The entity is a not-for-profit entity for financial reporting purposes under Australian Accounting Standards.

Australian Accounting Standards set out accounting policies that the AASB has concluded would result in financial statements containing relevant and reliable information about transactions, events and conditions. Material accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are presented below and have been consistently applied unless otherwise stated.

The financial statements, except for the cash flow information, have been prepared on an accrual basis and are based on historical costs, modified, where applicable, by the measurement at fair value of selected non-current assets, financial assets and financial liabilities. The amounts presented in the financial statements are in Australian Dollars and have been rounded to the nearest dollar.

**Statement of Compliance**

The association does not have public accountability as defined in AASB 1053 *Application of Tiers of Australian Accounting Standards* and is therefore eligible to apply the Tier 2 reporting framework under the Australian Accounting Standards.

The financial statements comply with the recognition and measurement requirements of Australian Accounting Standards, the presentation requirements in those Standards as modified by AASB 1060 *General Purpose Financial Statements - Simplified Disclosure for Not-for-Profit Tier 2 Entities* (AASB 1060) and the disclosure requirements in AASB 1060. Accordingly the financial statements comply with Australian Accounting Standards - Simplified Disclosures.

**Accounting Policies**

(a)

**Revenue and Other Income**

The association is first required to determine whether amounts received are accounted for as Revenue per AASB 15: *Revenue from Contracts with Customers* or Income per AASB 1058: *Income of Not-for-Profit Entities*.

Funding arrangements which are enforceable and contain sufficiently specific performance obligations are recognised as revenue under AASB 15. Otherwise, such arrangements are accounted for under AASB 1058, where upon initial recognition of an asset, the Entity is required to consider whether any other financial statement elements should be recognised (for example, financial liabilities representing repayable amounts), with any difference being recognised immediately in profit or loss as income.

*Operating Grants, Donations and Bequests*

When the association receives operating grant funding, donations or bequests, it assesses whether the contract is enforceable and has sufficiently specific performance obligations in accordance to AASB 15.

When both these conditions are satisfied, the association:

- identifies each performance obligation relating to the grant;
- recognises a contract liability for its obligations under the agreement; and
- recognises revenue as it satisfies its performance obligations.

Where the contract is not enforceable or does not have sufficiently specific performance obligations, the association:

- recognises the asset received in accordance with the recognition requirements of other applicable accounting standards (for example AASB 9, AASB 16, AASB 116 and AASB 138);
- recognises related amounts (being contributions by owners, lease liability, financial instruments, provisions); and
- recognises income immediately in profit or loss as the difference between the initial carrying amount of the asset and the related amount.

*Gaming, TAB and Keno Revenue*

The gaming revenue directly attributable to the association is recognised as the residual value after deducting the return to customers from the wagering and gaming turnover net of the amounts collected by the association on behalf of Intralot and the Government. The association recognises only the association's portion of revenue. Revenue is recognised at a point in time.

*Bar and Kitchen Revenue*

Revenue is recognised when the bar and kitchen products are provided to the customer. Revenue is recognised at a point in time.

*Membership Revenue*

Revenue from membership fees are recognised progressively over the period to which the membership relates, which reflects when the service is transferred to the customer over time. Membership fees are levied on a financial year basis.

*Function Revenue*

Revenue is recognised when the function is provided to the customer. Revenue is recognised at a point in time.

*Volunteer Services*

A not-for-profit association may, as an accounting policy choice, elect to recognise volunteer services, if the fair value of those services can be measured reliably, whether or not the services would have been purchased if they had not been donated. The association receives volunteer services from members of the community in relation to hospital and home visitations for Veterans, Veteran transport, welfare officers, pensions officers and various other Veteran support activities. Whilst the provision of such volunteer services are important to the achievement of the entities objectives, as an accounting policy choice, the association has elected not to recognise such volunteer contributions as revenue and expenditure within profit or loss. This election has no impact on the association's surplus or net assets.

*Interest income*

Interest income is recognised using the effective interest method.

*Other Revenue*

Revenue from the rendering of a service is recognised upon the delivery of the service to the customers.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax.

**BENDIGO DISTRICT RSL SUB-BRANCH INC.**

**ABN: 32 661 050 883**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025**

**(b) Property, Plant and Equipment**

Each class of plant and equipment is carried at cost or fair value as indicated, less, where applicable, accumulated depreciation and any impairment losses.

Plant and equipment are measured on a cost basis and are therefore carried at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. In the event the carrying amount of plant and equipment is greater than the estimated recoverable amount, the carrying amount is written down immediately to the estimated recoverable amount and impairment losses are recognised in profit or loss. A formal assessment of recoverable amount is made when impairment indicators are present.

**Depreciation**

The depreciable amount of all plant and equipment but excluding freehold land, is depreciated on a straight-line basis over the asset's useful life to the association commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

The depreciation rates used for each class of depreciable assets are:

<b>Class of Fixed Asset</b>	<b>Depreciation Rate</b>
Plant and equipment	2.5-7.5%

The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at the end of each reporting period.

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing proceeds with the carrying amount. These gains or losses are recognised in profit or loss in the period in which they arise. Gains are not classified as revenue. When revalued assets are sold, amounts included in the revaluation surplus relating to that asset are transferred to retained earnings.

**(c) Intangible Assets**

*Gaming machine entitlements*

Gaming machine entitlements are recognised at net present value. The useful life of the asset expires in line with the expiry of the gaming machine entitlements held. The asset is being amortised on a straight line basis over a ten year period.

**(d) Impairment of Assets**

At the end of each reporting period, the entity reviews the carrying amounts of its intangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have been impaired. If such an indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less costs of disposal and value in use, is compared to the asset's carrying amount. Any excess of the asset's carrying amount over its recoverable amount is recognised in profit or loss.

Where the assets are not held primarily for their ability to generate net cash inflows – that is, they are specialised assets held for continuing use of their service capacity – the recoverable amounts are expected to be materially the same as fair value.

Where it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, the entity estimates the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs.

Where an impairment loss on a revalued individual asset is identified, this is recognised against the revaluation surplus in respect of the same class of asset to the extent that the impairment loss does not exceed the amount in the revaluation surplus for that class of asset.

**(e) Leases**

*Lease recognition*

At inception of a contract, the association assesses if the contract contains or is a lease. If there is a lease present, a right-of-use asset and a corresponding lease liability is recognised by the association where the association is a lessee. However all contracts that are classified as short-term leases (lease with remaining lease term of 12 months or less) and leases of low value assets (i.e. fair value less than \$10,000) are recognised as an expense on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease.

Initially the lease liability is measured at the present value of the lease payments still to be paid at commencement date. The lease payments are discounted at the interest rate implicit in the lease. If this rate cannot be readily determined, the association uses the incremental borrowing rate.

Lease payments included in the measurement of the lease liability are as follows:

- fixed lease payments less any lease incentives;
- variable lease payments that depend on an index or rate, initially measured using the index or rate at the commencement date;
- the amount expected to be payable by the lessee under residual value guarantees;
- the exercise price of purchase options, if the lessee is reasonably certain to exercise the options;
- lease payments under extension options if lessee is reasonably certain to exercise the options; and
- payments of penalties for terminating the lease, if the lease term reflects the exercise of an option to terminate the lease

The association is exposed to potential future increases in variable lease payments based on an index or rate, which are not included in the lease liability until they take effect. When adjustments to lease payments based on an index or rate take effect, the lease liability is reassessed and adjusted against the right-of-use asset.

The association's lease of land and buildings from the Patriotic Fund contains a variable payment term that is not linked to an index or rate. Variable payment terms are used for a variety of reasons as it enables the Patriotic Fund to charge the association rent to meet its cash flow needs. Such variable lease payments that depend on the Patriotic Fund's cash flow needs are recognised in profit or loss in the period in which the condition that triggers those payments occurs.

The right-of-use assets comprise the initial measurement of the corresponding lease liability as mentioned above, any lease payments made at or before the commencement date as well as any initial direct costs. The subsequent measurement of the right-of-use assets is at cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment losses.

Right-of-use assets are depreciated over the lease term or useful life of the underlying asset whichever is the shortest.

Where a lease transfers ownership of the underlying asset or the cost of the right-of-use asset reflects that the association anticipates to exercise a purchase option, the specific asset is depreciated over the useful life of the underlying asset.

For leases that have significantly below-market terms and conditions principally to enable the association to further its objectives (commonly known as peppercorn/concessionary leases), the association has adopted the temporary relief under AASB 2018-8 and measures the right-of-use assets at cost on initial recognition. Each of the association's lease arrangements are for use in the production or supply of goods or services, or for administrative purposes.

**BENDIGO DISTRICT RSL SUB-BRANCH INC.**

**ABN: 32 661 050 883**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025**

**(f) Employee Benefits *Short-term employee benefits***

Provision is made for the association's obligation for short-term employee benefits. Short-term employee benefits are benefits (other than termination benefits) that are expected to be settled wholly within 12 months after the end of the annual reporting period in which the employees render the related service, including wages and salaries. Short-term employee benefits are measured at the (undiscounted) amounts expected to be paid when the obligation is settled. The association's obligations for short-term employee benefits such as wages and salaries are recognised as employee provisions in the statement of financial position.

***Other long-term employee benefits***

The association classifies employees' long service leave and annual leave entitlements as other long-term employee benefits as they are not expected to be settled wholly within 12 months after the end of the annual reporting period in which the employees render the related service. Provision is made for the association's obligation for other long-term employee benefits, which are measured at the present value of the expected future payments to be made to employees. Expected future payments incorporate anticipated future wage and salary levels, durations of service and employee departures, and are discounted at rates determined by reference to market yields at the end of the reporting period on high quality corporate bonds that have maturity dates that approximate the terms of the obligations. Upon the remeasurement of obligations for other long-term employee benefits, the net change in the obligation is recognised in profit or loss classified under employee benefits expense. The association's obligations for long-term employee benefits are presented as non-current liabilities in its statement of financial position, except where the association does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least 12 months after the end of the reporting period, in which case the obligations are presented as current liabilities.

**(g) Financial Instruments**

The association's financial instruments consist of cash and cash equivalents, accounts receivable and payable, interest bearing liabilities and leases.

***Financial Assets***

Financial assets include cash, cash equivalents and trade and other receivables and are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

***Financial liabilities***

Financial liabilities include trade payables, other payables, interest bearing liabilities and leases and are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method.

**(h) Income Tax**

No provision for income tax has been raised as the entity is exempt from income tax under Div 50 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*.

**(i) Comparative Figures**

When required by Accounting Standards comparative figures have been adjusted to conform to changes in presentation for the current financial year.

**(j) Critical Accounting Estimates and Judgements**

The committee evaluate estimates and judgements incorporated into the financial statements based on historical knowledge and best available current information. Estimates assume a reasonable expectation of future events and are based on current trends and economic data, obtained both externally and within the association.

**Key estimates**

***(i) Impairment***

The association assesses impairment at each reporting period by evaluating the conditions and events specific to the association that may be indicative of impairment triggers. Recoverable amount of the relevant assets are reassessed using the value-in-use calculation which incorporates various key assumptions.

***(ii) Useful lives of plant and equipment***

The association reviews the estimated useful lives of plant and equipment at the end of each annual reporting period.

**Key judgements**

***(i) Performance obligations under AASB 15***

To identify a performance obligation under AASB 15, the promise must be sufficiently specific to be able to determine when the obligation is satisfied. Management exercises judgement to determine whether the promise is sufficiently specific by taking into account any conditions specified in the arrangement, explicit or implicit, regarding the promised goods or services. In making this assessment, management includes the nature/ type, cost/ value, quantity and the period of transfer related to the goods or services promised.

***(ii) Determination and timing of revenue recognition under AASB 15***

For each revenue stream, the association applies significant judgement to determine when a performance obligation has been satisfied and the transaction price that is to be allocated to each performance obligation.

With the exception of membership revenue, each of the association's revenue streams transfer a good or service to a customer at a point in time. Revenue is recognised based on the output method once promised goods or services are transferred as this represents when the underlying performance obligation has been satisfied.

***(iii) Lease term and purchase options***

The lease term is defined as the non-cancellable period of a lease together with both periods covered by an option to extend the lease if the lessee is reasonably certain to exercise that option; and also periods covered by an option to terminate the lease if the lessee is reasonably certain not to exercise that option. The options that are reasonably going to be exercised is a key management judgement that the association will make.

***(iv) Borrowing rate under AASB 16***

The lease payments are discounted using the interest rate implicit in the lease. If that rate cannot be readily determined, which is generally the case for the association's leases, the association's incremental borrowing rate is used, being the rate that the association would have to pay to borrow the funds necessary to obtain an asset of similar value to the right-of-use asset in a similar economic environment with similar terms, security and conditions. To determine the incremental borrowing rate, the association, where possible, uses recent third-party financing received by the individual lessee as a starting point, adjusted to reflect changes in financing conditions since third party financing was received.

***(v) Employee benefits***

For the purpose of measurement, AASB 119: *Employee Benefits* defines obligations for short-term employee benefits as obligations expected to be settled wholly before 12 months after the end of the annual reporting period in which the employees render the related service. The association expects most employees will take their annual leave entitlements within 24 months of the reporting period in which they were earned, but this will not have a material impact on the amounts recognised in respect of obligations for employees' leave entitlements.

**BENDIGO DISTRICT RSL SUB-BRANCH INC.**

**ABN: 32 661 050 883**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025**

**Note 2 Revenue and Other Income**

	2025	2024
	\$	\$
<b>Revenue</b>		
Revenue from contracts with customers	16,177,365	14,640,344
<b>Total revenue</b>	<u>16,177,365</u>	<u>14,640,344</u>

**(a) Disaggregated revenue**

The association has disaggregated revenue by type of good/service and timing of revenue recognition below:

—Gaming revenue	10,433,622	9,325,317
—Bar sales	2,020,835	1,797,953
—Kitchen sales	3,178,816	2,994,167
—Memberships	65,432	71,771
—TAB commissions	50,678	49,039
—Keno commissions	51,242	34,290
—Other operational revenue	376,740	367,807
<b>Total revenue</b>	<u>16,177,365</u>	<u>14,640,344</u>

**Timing of revenue recognition**

Services transferred to customers:

—At a point in time	16,111,933	14,568,573
—Over time	65,432	71,771
<b>Total revenue</b>	<u>16,177,365</u>	<u>14,640,344</u>

The following significant income items contained within other operational income are relevant in explaining the financial performance:

—ATM rebates	112,400	103,296
—Donations received	10,123	95,686
—Raffles	46,219	59,184
—Bendigo Military Museum entry fees	33,214	31,386
—Grants	110,730	26,755
	<u>312,686</u>	<u>316,307</u>

**Other Income**

—Interest received	39,044	44,300
—Veteran raffle money	7,164	6,283
—Lion Co rebate	6,452	20,263
—Function income	202,550	224,721
<b>Total other income</b>	<u>255,210</u>	<u>295,567</u>

**Total revenue and other income**

16,432,575	<u>14,935,911</u>
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The association applies the practical expedient in AASB 15.121 and does not disclose information about remaining performance obligations that have original expected durations of one year or less.

**Note 3 Expenses**

	2025	2024
	\$	\$
<b>(a) Cost of Sales</b>		
—Gaming and TAB	4,585,881	3,909,472
—Kitchen and bar	1,528,316	1,441,653
—Bendigo Military Museum Gift Shop	151	1,602
	<u>6,114,348</u>	<u>5,352,727</u>

**(b) Depreciation and amortisation:**

<b>Depreciation:</b>		
—Plant and equipment	266,362	190,233
—Gaming machines	336,613	302,250
	<u>602,975</u>	<u>492,483</u>

**Depreciation of right-of-use assets:**

—Leased gaming machines	89,789	101,714
—Leased plant and equipment	8,003	6,693
—Leased land and buildings	71	71
	<u>97,863</u>	<u>108,478</u>

**Amortisation of gaming machine entitlements**

330,599	331,504
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**Total depreciation and amortisation**

1,031,437	<u>932,465</u>
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**BENDIGO DISTRICT RSL SUB-BRANCH INC.**

**ABN: 32 661 050 883**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025**

**Note 3 Expenses (cont.)**

(c) Rental expense on operating leases excluded in lease liability measurement:

—Lease Liabilities	1,164,830	1,189,267
—Low-value lease expense	-	22,900
	<u>1,164,830</u>	<u>1,212,167</u>

All of the \$1,164,830 variable lease payments made in 2025 was paid via cash to the Patriotic Fund (\$1,189,267 in 2024).

Finance costs

—Lease Liabilities	2,402	2,165
—Other financial liabilities	82,994	98,707
	<u>85,396</u>	<u>100,872</u>

The following significant expense items contained within welfare and charitable expenses are relevant in explaining the financial performance:

—Commemorative day expenses	44,887	46,900
—Community Outreach	55,611	41,856
—RSL Sheds	6,389	8,586
—Subsidised meals, functions & events	225,590	216,669
—League Support Fee	180,489	172,552
—Bendigo Sub-Branch Support	17,232	17,974
	<u>530,198</u>	<u>504,537</u>

(d) Bendigo Military Museum revenue and expenses

The following significant income and expense items contained within the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income are relevant in explaining the financial performance of the Bendigo Military Museum:

**Revenue**

—Other revenue	152,109	66,769
—Cost of sales	(151)	(1,602)
Gross profit	<u>151,958</u>	<u>65,167</u>

**Expenses**

—Administration expenses	(5,490)	(4,045)
—Grant expenses	(135,940)	(919)
—Occupancy expenses	(15,990)	(11,438)
—Salaries and employee benefits expense	(111,318)	(101,458)
—Other expenses	(60,937)	(53,193)
Total other expenses	<u>(329,675)</u>	<u>(171,053)</u>

**Net operating result**

	<u>(177,717)</u>	<u>(105,886)</u>
--	------------------	------------------

**Note 4 Cash and Cash Equivalents**

	2025	2024
	\$	\$
CURRENT		
Cash at bank	2,978,854	2,473,246
Cash on hand	264,150	239,150
	<u>3,243,004</u>	<u>2,712,396</u>

**Note 5 Trade and Other Receivables**

	Note	2025	2024
		\$	\$
CURRENT			
Trade receivables		91,922	44,161
Prepayments		137,904	132,207
Total current accounts receivable and other debtors		<u>229,826</u>	<u>176,368</u>
Financial assets at amortised cost classified as trade and other receivables			
Trade and other receivables:			
—Total current		229,826	176,368
Less prepayments		(137,904)	(132,207)
Financial assets as trade and other receivables	19	<u>91,922</u>	<u>44,161</u>

**BENDIGO DISTRICT RSL SUB-BRANCH INC.**  
**ABN: 32 661 050 883**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025**

**Note 6 Property, Plant and Equipment**

	2025	2024
	\$	\$
<b>PLANT AND EQUIPMENT</b>		
Plant and equipment - at cost	1,861,105	1,277,129
(Accumulated depreciation)	(676,767)	(421,384)
	1,184,338	855,745
Gaming machines and equipment - at cost	1,701,198	1,494,478
(Accumulated depreciation)	(832,207)	(627,558)
	868,991	866,920
Total property, plant and equipment	2,053,329	1,722,665

**Movements in Carrying Amounts**

Movement in the carrying amounts for each class of property, plant and equipment between the beginning and the end of the current financial year:

	Plant and equipment	Gaming machines and equipment	Total
	\$	\$	\$
<b>2024</b>			
Balance at the beginning of the year	790,368	1,050,682	1,841,050
Additions at cost	275,033	168,738	443,771
Disposals	(19,423)	(50,250)	(69,673)
Depreciation expense	(190,233)	(302,250)	(492,483)
Carrying amount at the end of the year	855,745	866,920	1,722,665
<b>2025</b>			
Balance at the beginning of the year	855,745	866,920	1,722,665
Additions at cost	606,299	439,677	1,045,976
Disposals	(8,371)	(100,993)	(109,364)
Depreciation expense	(269,335)	(336,613)	(605,948)
Carrying amount at the end of the year	1,184,338	868,991	2,053,329

Land and buildings are recorded by the Patriotic Fund 3220, the accounts for which are reported separately to these financial statements.

The rent payable for the use of these facilities is included in Note 3, as rental expenses on operating leases.

Plant and equipment purchased since 1 January 2020 to assist with the day to day operations has been recorded on the association's statement of financial position at the request of RSL Victoria. Additionally, plant and equipment previously owned by the Patriotic Fund 3220 was approved by Consumer Affairs Victoria to be purchased by the association in 2021, at the written down value as at 31 December 2021.

**Note 7 Intangible Assets**

	2025	2024
	\$	\$
Gaming machine entitlements 2022-32	3,307,797	3,307,797
(Accumulated amortisation)	(1,116,789)	(786,190)
Net carrying amount	2,191,008	2,521,607

**Movements in Carrying Amount**

<b>2024</b>		
Balance at the beginning of the year	2,521,607	2,853,111
Amortisation charge	(330,599)	(331,504)
	2,191,008	2,521,607

In October 2018 the association received confirmation that it had been allocated new gaming machine entitlements which took effect in August 2022 and expire in August 2032. The entitlements will be paid over quarterly instalments ending in May 2029 (Refer Note 10).

**BENDIGO DISTRICT RSL SUB-BRANCH INC.**

**ABN: 32 661 050 883**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025**

**Note 8 Right-of-use Assets**

	2025 \$	2024 \$
Leased building	1,155	1,155
Accumulated depreciation	(498)	(427)
	<u>657</u>	<u>728</u>
Leased equipment	40,024	40,024
Accumulated depreciation	(14,696)	(6,693)
	<u>25,328</u>	<u>33,331</u>
Leased motor vehicles	687,176	710,685
Accumulated depreciation	(168,859)	(195,361)
	<u>518,317</u>	<u>515,324</u>
<b>Total right-of-use asset</b>	<u><u>544,302</u></u>	<u><u>549,383</u></u>

**Movements in carrying amounts:**

	Land and Buildings \$	Plant and Equipment \$	Gaming machines \$	Total \$
<b>2024</b>				
Balance at the beginning of the year	799	5,549	617,038	623,386
Additions at cost	-	40,024	-	40,024
Disposals	-	(5,549)	-	(5,549)
Depreciation expense	(71)	(6,693)	(101,714)	(108,478)
Carrying amount at the end of the year	<u>728</u>	<u>33,331</u>	<u>515,324</u>	<u>549,383</u>
<b>2025</b>				
Balance at the beginning of the year	728	33,331	515,324	549,383
Additions at cost	-	-	247,534	247,534
Disposals	-	-	(154,752)	(154,752)
Depreciation expense	(71)	(8,003)	(89,789)	(97,863)
Carrying amount at the end of the year	<u>657</u>	<u>25,328</u>	<u>518,317</u>	<u>544,302</u>

AASB 16 related amounts recognised in the statement of profit or loss

	2025 \$	2024 \$
Depreciation charge related to right-of-use assets	(97,863)	(108,478)
Interest expense on lease liabilities	(2,402)	(2,165)
Variable lease payments excluded from lease liability measurements	(1,164,830)	(1,189,267)
Low-value asset leases expense	-	(22,900)
	<u>(1,265,095)</u>	<u>(1,322,810)</u>

**Note 9 Trade and Other Payables**

	Note	2025 \$	2024 \$
<b>CURRENT</b>			
Trade payables		679,825	544,536
Sundry payables		180,158	(16,418)
Accrued expenses		155,335	129,521
Other payables (net amount of GST payable)		277,304	238,119
		<u>1,292,622</u>	<u>895,758</u>
<b>Financial liabilities at amortised cost classified as accounts payable and other payables</b>		<u>2025 \$</u>	<u>2024 \$</u>
Accounts payable and other payables:			
—Total current		1,292,622	895,758
—Less other payables (net amount of GST payable)		(277,304)	(238,119)
Financial liabilities as trade and other payables	19	<u>1,015,318</u>	<u>657,639</u>

**BENDIGO DISTRICT RSL SUB-BRANCH INC.**  
**ABN: 32 661 050 883**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025**

**Note 10 Interest Bearing Liabilities**

	2025	2024
CURRENT	\$	\$
Gaming machine entitlements	448,934	448,934
Insurance finance	-	49,161
Total Current Interest Bearing Liabilities	<u>448,934</u>	<u>498,095</u>
NON-CURRENT		
Gaming machine entitlements	1,234,437	1,683,371
Insurance finance	21,416	44,776
Total Non-Current Interest Bearing Liabilities	<u>1,255,853</u>	<u>1,728,147</u>
Total Interest Bearing Liabilities	<u>1,704,787</u>	<u>2,226,242</u>

The gaming machine entitlements liability represents the remaining balance of the 2022-23 entitlements payable.

**Note 11 Lease Liabilities**

	2025	2024
CURRENT	\$	\$
Lease liability	176,823	215,730
Unexpired interest	(18,264)	(12,798)
Total Current Lease Liabilities	<u>158,559</u>	<u>202,932</u>
NON-CURRENT		
Lease liability	182,680	106,459
Unexpired interest	(12,692)	(5,382)
Total Non-Current Interest Bearing Liabilities	<u>169,988</u>	<u>101,077</u>
Total Lease Liabilities	<u>328,547</u>	<u>304,009</u>
Total lease liability	359,503	322,189
Total unexpired interest	<u>(30,956)</u>	<u>(18,180)</u>
	<u>328,547</u>	<u>304,009</u>

The leases for land and buildings, which are considered peppercorn leases as the minimum lease payments are significantly below fair value, commenced in approximately 2000. One of the lease arrangements has an initial lease term of 21 years, whilst the other arrangement is extended on an annual basis subject to the satisfaction of both parties.

Neither lease arrangement contains optional terms or purchase options.

The association has a number of arrangements with Aristocrat for the lease of gaming machines.

The leases implementation dates range from March 2023 to November 2025.

There are no further purchase options or optional terms.

The lease for the plant and equipment (photocopiers) commenced in February 2024, is financed with DLL Pty Ltd.

**Note 12 Provisions**

	2025	2024
CURRENT	\$	\$
Provision for employee benefits: annual leave	349,264	324,482
Provision for employee benefits: long service leave	250,637	188,962
	<u>599,901</u>	<u>513,444</u>
NON-CURRENT		
Provision for employee benefits: long service leave	48,485	43,735
	<u>48,485</u>	<u>43,735</u>
Total provisions	<u>648,386</u>	<u>557,179</u>

**Note 13 Cash Flow Information**

	2025	2024
Reconciliation of cash flow from operations with surplus	\$	\$
Surplus	621,469	511,075
<i>Non-cash flows in surplus:</i>		
Depreciating and amortisation expense	1,031,437	932,465
Loss on disposal of assets	264,116	75,222
	<u>1,295,553</u>	<u>1,007,687</u>
<i>Changes in assets and liabilities:</i>		
(Increase)/decrease in trade & other receivables	(53,458)	29,670
(Increase)/decrease in inventories	(33,573)	(13,543)
Increase/(decrease) in trade & other payables	396,864	121,422
Increase/(decrease) in employee benefits	91,207	94,936
Net Cash Inflow From Operating Activities	<u>2,318,062</u>	<u>1,751,247</u>

**Note 14 Capital and Leasing Commitments**

No capital expenditure commitments were contracted for at year end.

**BENDIGO DISTRICT RSL SUB-BRANCH INC.**  
**ABN: 32 661 050 883**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025**

**Note 15 Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets**

The association's committee are not aware of any contingent liabilities or assets as at the date of signing this financial report.

**Note 16 Events After the Reporting Period**

There have been no events subsequent to 31 December 2025 that requires disclosure in the financial statements or notes thereof.

**Note 17 Key Management Personnel Compensation**

**Key Management Personnel**

The aggregate compensation made to responsible persons and other members of key management personnel (General Manager, Administration Manager, Welfare Officer Manager and Committee Members) of the association is set out below:

	2025	2024
	\$	\$
KMP compensation:	405,943	385,598

**Note 18 Related Party Transactions**

The association paid honorariums to the following committee members:  
 President Senior Vice President Vice President Treasurer Secretary

	2025	2024
	\$	\$
	3,360	3,330
	1,394	2,232
	3,345	559
	3,345	3,330
	3,360	3,330
	<u>14,804</u>	<u>12,781</u>

The association paid variable payments to the Patriotic Fund which is a related entity to the association:

Rental expenses on operating leases paid	1,164,830	1,189,267
	<u>1,164,830</u>	<u>1,189,267</u>

Transactions between related parties are on normal commercial terms and conditions no more favourable than those available to other parties unless otherwise stated. Rent is negotiated on an annual basis between the association and the Bendigo District RSL Sub-Branch.

No committee members have entered into any material contract with the association since the end of the previous financial year and there were no material contracts involving committee members interests subsisting at year end. There were no loans to committee members.

**Note 19 Financial Risk Management**

The totals for each category of financial instruments, measured in accordance with AASB 9: *Financial Instruments* as detailed in the accounting policies to these financial statements, are as follows:

	Note	2025	2024
		\$	\$
<b>Financial assets</b>			
Financial assets at amortised cost:			
—cash and cash equivalents	4	3,243,004	2,712,396
—trade and other receivables	5	229,826	176,368
<b>Total financial assets</b>		<u>3,472,830</u>	<u>2,888,764</u>
<b>Financial liabilities</b>			
Financial liabilities at amortised cost:			
—trade and other payables	9	1,015,318	657,639
—Interest bearing liabilities	10	1,704,787	2,226,242
—lease liabilities	11	328,547	304,009
<b>Total financial liabilities</b>		<u>3,048,652</u>	<u>3,187,890</u>

**Note 20 Economic Dependency**

The association is economically dependent on the continued support of its bankers (ANZ) and the continued occupation of its premises (Patriotic Fund). Any change in one or more of the above would have a significant adverse impact on the association's ability to continue to operate as a going concern.

**Note 21 Auditor's Remuneration**

	2025	2024
	\$	\$
Remuneration of the auditor:		
—auditing or reviewing the financial statements	22,500	22,500
— other	2,000	2,000
	<u>24,500</u>	<u>24,500</u>

**Note 22 Entity Details**

The registered office and principal place of business  
 Bendigo District RSL Sub-Branch Inc.  
 73-75 Havilah road  
 Bendigo VIC 3550

**BENDIGO DISTRICT RSL SUB-BRANCH INC.**

**ABN: 32 661 050 883**

**COMMITTEE' DECLARATION**

In accordance with a resolution of the committee of Bendigo District RSL Sub-Branch Inc., the committee of the entity declare that:

1. The financial statements and notes, as set out on pages 2 to 14, are in accordance with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and:
  - (a) comply with Australian Accounting Standards - Simplified Disclosures applicable to the entity; and
  - (b) give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Registered Entity as at 31 December 2025 and of its performance for the year ended on that date.
2. There are reasonable grounds to believe that the Entity will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This declaration is signed in accordance with subs 60.15(2) of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2022.



\_\_\_\_\_  
President



\_\_\_\_\_  
Treasurer

Dated this     2nd     day of             March             2026

***Independent Audit Report to the Members of  
BENDIGO DISTRICT RSL SUB-BRANCH INC.***

***Opinion***

We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a general purpose financial report, of the Bendigo District RSL Sub-Branch Inc., which comprises the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2025, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity, statement of cash flows for the year then ended and notes comprising a summary of the significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the certification by members of the committee on the annual statements giving a true and fair view of the financial position of the Association.

In our opinion, the financial report of the Bendigo District RSL Sub-Branch Inc. has been prepared in accordance with the Div. 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Act 2012*, including:

- ii. Giving a true and fair view of the Association's financial position as at 31 December 2025 and of its performance for the year ended on that date; and  
Complying with Australian Accounting Standards – AASB 1060 General Purpose Financial Statements – Simplified Disclosures for For-Profit and Not-for-Profit Tier 2 entities and Div. 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission regulation 2022*.

***Basis for Opinion***

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibility under those standards are further described in the *Auditors Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the Association in accordance with the auditor requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Act 2012* and, the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional Ethical Standards Board's APES 110: *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide basis for the opinion.

***Information Other Than the Financial Report and Auditor's Report Thereon***

The committee of the Association is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Association's annual report for the year ended 31 December 2025, but does not include the financial report and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. In connection with our audit of the financial report, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report the fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

***Responsibilities of the Committee for the Financial Report***

The committee of the Association are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards - AASB 1060 General Purpose Financial Statements – Simplified Disclosures for For-Profit and Not-for-Profit Tier 2 entities and the the *Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Act 2012* and for such

internal control as the committee determine necessary to enable the preparation of a financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial report, the committee is responsible for assessing the Association's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the committee either intend to liquidate the Association or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

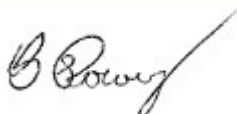
### **Auditor's Responsibility**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion, reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis on this financial report. As part of an audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report , whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion, The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
  - Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Association's internal control.
  - Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures by the committee.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the committees' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Association's ability as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report, or if disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Association to cease or continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report presents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the committee regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

### **ACCOUNTING AND AUDIT SOLUTIONS BENDIGO**



**Bradley Dowsey**

**Registered Auditor # 528899**

**Dated this 2nd day of March, 2026.**

**BENDIGO DISTRICT RSL SUB-BRANCH  
PATRIOTIC FUND 3220**

**ABN: 31 336 592 019**

**Financial Report For The Year Ended  
31 December 2025**

# Bendigo District RSL Sub-Branch Patriotic Fund 3220

ABN: 31 336 592 019

## Financial Report For The Year Ended 31 December 2025

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**BENDIGO DISTRICT RSL SUB-BRANCH PATRIOTIC FUND 3220**  
**ABN: 31 336 592 019**  
**STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR**  
**ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025**

	Note	2025 \$	2024 \$
Revenue	2	1,164,830	1,191,271
Employee benefits expense		(132,668)	(85,539)
Depreciation and amortisation expense		(272,899)	(251,231)
Repairs and Maintenance		(60,456)	(84,671)
Finance Costs		(143,161)	(191,631)
Other expenses		(80,494)	(33,598)
<b>Net current year surplus</b>		<u><b>475,152</b></u>	<u><b>544,601</b></u>
<b>Other comprehensive income</b>			
Items that will not be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss:			
Gain on revaluation of land and buildings	4	<u>787,956</u>	-
<b>Total other comprehensive (losses)/income for the year</b>		<u><b>787,956</b></u>	-
<b>Total comprehensive income attributable to members of the entity</b>		<u><b>1,263,108</b></u>	<u><b>544,601</b></u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

**BENDIGO DISTRICT RSL SUB-BRANCH PATRIOTIC FUND 3220**  
**ABN: 31 336 592 019**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2025**

	Note	2025 \$	2024 \$
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	3	447,215	255,232
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>447,215</u>	<u>255,232</u>
<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Property, plant and equipment	4	10,751,525	10,086,781
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>10,751,525</u>	<u>10,086,781</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<u>11,198,740</u>	<u>10,342,013</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Trade and other payables	5	47,821	39,484
Borrowings	6	1,250,000	-
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<u>1,297,821</u>	<u>39,484</u>
<b>NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Borrowings	6	585,282	2,250,000
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<u>585,282</u>	<u>2,250,000</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<u>1,883,103</u>	<u>2,289,484</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u>9,315,637</u>	<u>8,052,529</u>
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Retained surplus		7,197,232	6,722,080
Reserves		2,118,405	1,330,449
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>		<u>9,315,637</u>	<u>8,052,529</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

**BENDIGO DISTRICT RSL SUB-BRANCH PATRIOTIC FUND 3220**  
**ABN: 31 336 592 019**  
**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025**

	Retained Surplus	Asset Revaluation Reserve	Total
	\$	\$	\$
<b>Balance at 1 January 2024</b>	<b>6,177,479</b>	<b>1,330,449</b>	<b>7,507,928</b>
<b>Comprehensive Income</b>			
Surplus for the year	544,601	-	544,601
Other comprehensive income for the year	-	-	-
Total other comprehensive income	544,601	-	544,601
<b>Balance at 31 December 2024</b>	<b>6,722,080</b>	<b>1,330,449</b>	<b>8,052,529</b>
<b>Balance at 1 January 2025</b>	6,722,080	1,330,449	8,052,529
<b>Comprehensive Income</b>			
Surplus for the year	475,152	-	475,152
Other comprehensive income for the year	-	787,956	787,956
Total comprehensive income for the year	475,152	787,956	1,263,108
<b>Balance at 31 December 2025</b>	<b>7,197,232</b>	<b>2,118,405</b>	<b>9,315,637</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

**BENDIGO DISTRICT RSL SUB-BRANCH PATRIOTIC FUND 3220**  
**ABN: 31 336 592 019**  
**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025**

	Note	2025 \$	2024 \$
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Distributions received		1,164,830	1,191,271
Payments to suppliers and employees		(265,281)	(192,749)
Interest received		(143,161)	(191,631)
Net cash generated from operating activities	11	<u>756,388</u>	<u>806,891</u>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Payment for property, plant and equipment	4	<u>(149,687)</u>	<u>(88,727)</u>
Net cash used in investing activities		<u>(149,687)</u>	<u>(88,727)</u>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Net repayment of lease liabilities		<u>(414,718)</u>	<u>(1,000,000)</u>
Net cash used in financing activities		<u>(414,718)</u>	<u>(1,000,000)</u>
Net increase in cash held		191,983	(281,836)
Cash on hand at beginning of the financial year		255,232	537,068
Cash on hand at end of the financial year	3	<u>447,215</u>	<u>255,232</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

**BENDIGO DISTRICT RSL SUB-BRANCH PATRIOTIC FUND 3220**  
**ABN: 31 336 692 019**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025**

The financial statements cover Bendigo District RSL Sub-Branch Patriotic Fund 3220 as an individual entity.

The financial statements were authorised for issue on 2nd March 2026 by the committee of the fund.

**Note 1 Summary of Material Accounting Policies**

**Basis of Preparation**

The committee have prepared the financial statements on the basis that Bendigo District RSL Sub-Branch Patriotic Fund 3220 (the fund) is a non-reporting entity because there are no users who are dependent on its general purpose financial statements. The financial statements are therefore Special Purpose financial statements that have been prepared in order to meet the requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*.

These special purpose financial statements do not comply with all the recognition and measurement requirements in *Australian Accounting Standards*. The recognition and measurement requirements that have not been complied with are those specified in AASB 116 Property, Plant and Equipment and AASB 140 Investment Property. The fund recognises land and buildings rented to the Bendigo District RSL Sub-Branch Inc. as property, plant and equipment instead of recognising such assets as an investment property. This means gains and losses on revaluation are recorded through other comprehensive income instead of being recorded through profit and loss. It also means land and buildings are depreciated which is not the case for an investment property measured at fair value.

The financial statements, except for the cash flow information, have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historical costs, modified, where applicable, by the measurement at fair value of selected non-current assets, financial assets and financial liabilities. The amounts presented in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest dollar.

**Accounting Policies**

**(a) Revenue and Other Income**

The fund recognises rental revenue as it satisfies its obligations, at the time of which services are rendered.

If the fund receives a donation or bequest, it assesses whether the contract is enforceable and has sufficiently specific performance obligations under AASB 15. Where these conditions are satisfied, the fund identifies each performance obligation, recognises a liability for its obligation and recognises revenue as it satisfies its obligations. However where the contract is not enforceable or sufficiently specific, the fund recognises income in profit or loss immediately.

The fund has not elected to recognise volunteer contributions as revenue and expenditure within the profit or loss. This election has no impact on the funds' surplus or net assets.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST).

**(b) Property, Plant and Equipment**

Each class of property, plant and equipment is carried at cost or fair value less, where applicable, accumulated depreciation and any impairment losses.

**Freehold Property**

Freehold land and buildings are shown at their fair value based on periodic, valuations by external independent valuers, less subsequent depreciation for buildings.

Increases in the carrying amount arising on revaluation of land and buildings are recognised in other comprehensive income and accumulated in the revaluation surplus in equity. Revaluation decreases that offset previous increases of the same class of assets shall be recognised in other comprehensive income under the heading of revaluation surplus. All other decreases are recognised in profit or loss. Any accumulated depreciation at the date of the revaluation is eliminated against the gross carrying amount of the asset and the net amount is restated to the revalued amount of the asset.

**Plant and Equipment**

Plant and equipment are measured on a cost basis and are therefore carried at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. In the event the carrying amount of plant and equipment is greater than the estimated recoverable amount, the carrying amount is written down immediately to the estimated recoverable amount and impairment losses are recognised in profit or loss.

Plant and equipment that have been contributed at no cost, or for nominal cost, are valued and recognised at the fair value of the asset at the date it is acquired.

**Depreciation**

The depreciable amount of all fixed assets, including buildings and plant and equipment but excluding freehold land, is depreciated on a straight-line basis over the asset's useful life to the entity commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use. Leasehold improvements are depreciated over the shorter of either the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful lives of the improvements.

The depreciation rates used for each class of depreciable assets are:

<b>Class of Fixed Asset</b>	<b>Depreciation Rate</b>
Buildings	2.5%
Plant and equipment	2.5-25%

The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at the end of each reporting period.

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing proceeds with the carrying amount. These gains or losses are recognised in profit or loss in the period in which they arise. Gains are not classified as revenue. When revalued assets are sold, amounts included in the revaluation surplus relating to that asset are transferred to retained earnings.

**BENDIGO DISTRICT RSL SUB-BRANCH PATRIOTIC FUND 3220**  
**ABN: 31 336 592 019**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025**

**(c) Impairment of Assets**

At the end of each reporting period, the entity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible and intangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have been impaired. If such an indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less costs of disposal and value in use, is compared to the asset's carrying amount. Any excess of the asset's carrying amount over its recoverable amount is recognised in profit or loss.

Where the assets are not held primarily for their ability to generate net cash inflows – that is, they are specialised assets held for continuing use of their service capacity – the recoverable amounts are expected to be materially the same as fair value.

Where an impairment loss on a revalued individual asset is identified, this is recognised against the revaluation surplus in respect of the same class of asset to the extent that the impairment loss does not exceed the amount in the revaluation surplus for that class of asset.

**(d) Financial Instruments**

The fund's financial instruments consist of cash and cash equivalents, accounts payable and borrowings.

*Financial Assets*

Financial assets include cash, cash equivalents and are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

*Financial liabilities*

Financial liabilities include trade payables and borrowings and are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method.

**(e) Goods and Services Tax (GST)**

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included with other receivables or payables in the statement of financial position.

Cash flows are presented on a gross basis. The GST components of cash flows arising from investing or financing activities which are recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO are presented as operating cash flows included in receipts from customers or payments to

**(f) Income Tax**

The fund has negotiated with the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) that income tax payable by the fund is to be calculated after taking into account a number of community activities and the provision for capital maintenance. Therefore an income tax exemption was gained on the basis of the fund being a charitable institution.

**(g) Comparative Figures**

When required by Accounting Standards comparative figures have been adjusted to conform to changes in presentation for the current financial year.

**(h) Economic Dependence**

The fund is economically dependent on the continued support of its bankers (ANZ) and the Returned & Services League of Australia (Victorian Branch) Inc. in meeting the bank covenant requirements imposed on their commercial loan. The fund is also dependent on administrative support provided by Bendigo District RSL Sub Branch Inc. Any change in one or more of the above would have a significant adverse effect on the fund's ability to continue to trade as a going concern.

**Note 2 Revenue and Other Income**

	2025	2024
<b>Revenue</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
— Rental income from operating leases	1,164,830	1,189,267
— Other	-	2,004
<b>Total revenue and other income</b>	<b><u>1,164,830</u></b>	<b><u>1,191,271</u></b>

**Note 3 Cash and Cash Equivalents**

	2025	2024
<b>CURRENT</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
Cash at bank	<u>447,215</u>	<u>255,232</u>

**BENDIGO DISTRICT RSL SUB-BRANCH PATRIOTIC FUND 3220**  
**ABN: 31 336 592 019**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025**

**Note 4 Property, Plant and Equipment**

	2025	2024
<b>LAND AND BUILDINGS</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
Freehold land at fair value:		
— Independent valuation	1,650,000	1,650,000
Total land	<u>1,650,000</u>	<u>1,650,000</u>
Buildings at fair value:		
— Independent valuation	9,110,000	8,835,000
Less accumulated depreciation	(30,207)	(584,654)
Total buildings	<u>9,079,793</u>	<u>8,250,346</u>
Total land and buildings	<u>10,729,793</u>	<u>9,900,346</u>
<b>PLANT AND EQUIPMENT</b>		
Plant and equipment at fair value	47,609	191,164
Less accumulated depreciation	(25,877)	(48,130)
	<u>21,732</u>	<u>143,034</u>
Ground Works at cost	-	56,582
(Accumulated depreciation)	-	(13,181)
	<u>-</u>	<u>43,401</u>
Total plant and equipment	<u>21,732</u>	<u>186,435</u>
Total property, plant and equipment	<u>10,751,525</u>	<u>10,086,781</u>

**Movements in Carrying Amounts**

Movement in the carrying amounts for each class of property, plant and equipment between the beginning and the end of the current financial year:

	Land and Buildings - Owned \$	Plant and Equipment \$	Ground Works \$	Total \$
<b>2024</b>				
Balance at the beginning of the year	10,121,918	83,093	44,274	10,249,285
Additions at cost	-	81,108	7,619	88,727
Depreciation expense	(221,572)	(21,167)	(8,492)	(251,231)
Carrying amount at the end of the year	<u>9,900,346</u>	<u>143,034</u>	<u>43,401</u>	<u>10,086,781</u>
<b>2025</b>				
Balance at the beginning of the year	9,900,346	143,034	43,401	10,086,781
Additions at cost	-	149,687	-	149,687
Revaluations	1,049,967	(227,620)	(34,391)	787,956
Depreciation expense	(220,520)	(43,369)	(9,010)	(272,899)
Carrying amount at the end of the year	<u>10,729,793</u>	<u>21,732</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>10,751,525</u>

**Asset Revaluations**

The freehold land and buildings were independently valued at 24 November 2025. The valuation resulted in a revaluation increment of \$787,956 being recognised in the revaluation surplus for the year ended 31 December 2025.

**Assets held as security**

The fund's freehold land and buildings located at 73-75 Havilah Road, Bendigo, are held as security by ANZ in connection with the fund's commercial bill borrowings. Refer to Note 6 for further information.

**Note 5 Trade and Other Payables**

	2025	2024
<b>CURRENT</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
Trade payables	27,025	12,199
GST payable	20,796	27,285
	<u>47,821</u>	<u>39,484</u>

**BENDIGO DISTRICT RSL SUB-BRANCH PATRIOTIC FUND 3220**  
**ABN: 31 336 592 019**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025**

**Note 6 Borrowings**

	2025	2024
	\$	\$
<b>CURRENT</b>		
Commercial bills payable	1,250,000	-
	<u>1,250,000</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>NON-CURRENT</b>		
Commercial bills payable	585,282	2,250,000
	<u>585,282</u>	<u>2,250,000</u>
	<u>1,835,282</u>	<u>2,250,000</u>

The fund's commercial bill facilities were initially opened in August 2016 for the Returned & Services League of Australia (Victorian Branch) Inc. as trustee for the Bendigo, Eaglehawk and Kangaroo Flat RSL Sub-Branches Havilah Road Building Patriotic Fund No. 3220.

At 31 December 2025, the commercial bills consisted of two individual facilities. Represented by a \$1 million commercial bill, financed on fixed interest and interest only terms until August 2026 and a \$0.83 million commercial bill, financed on a variable interest rate until January 2029, respectively.

The fund's commercial bill loan agreement contains covenants, requiring aggregated EBITDA of the fund and Bendigo District RSL Sub-Branch Inc. to be no less than:

- \$500,000 from 1 January to 30 June each year; and
- \$1,000,000 from 1 January to 31 December each year.

There has been no breaches of loan covenants during the year.

The fund's commercial bill facilities are secured by:

- the fund's land and buildings, which had a total carrying amount of approximately \$10.8 million at 31 December 2025.
- a corporate guarantee and indemnity from Bendigo District RSL Sub-Branch in respect of Returned & Services League of Australia (Victorian Branch) Inc. as trustee for Bendigo District RSL Sub-Branch Patriotic Fund 3220 limited to \$3,779,906, supported by a General Security Agreement and Specific Security Agreement given by Bendigo District RSL Sub-Branch Patriotic Fund 3220 Inc.

**Note 7 Asset Revaluation Reserve**

The asset revaluation reserve records the revaluations of non-current land and buildings, and plant and equipment.

	2025	2024
	\$	\$
Balance at the beginning of the year	1,330,449	1,330,449
Decrease in revaluation of land and buildings	787,956	-
Balance at end of year	<u>2,118,405</u>	<u>1,330,449</u>

**Note 8 Related party transactions**

The fund received lease payments from the Bendigo District RSL Sub-Branch which is a related entity to the association:

	2025	2024
	\$	\$
Rental income	1,164,830	1,189,267
	<u>1,164,830</u>	<u>1,189,267</u>

**Note 9 Capital and Leasing Commitments**

No commitments for capital expenditure or leases were entered into at year end.

**Note 10 Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets**

The fund's committee are not aware of any contingent liabilities or assets as at the date of signing this financial report.

**Note 11 Cash flow information**

	2025	2024
	\$	\$
Reconciliation of cash flow from operations with surplus		
Surplus	475,152	544,601
	<u>475,152</u>	<u>544,601</u>
Non-cash flows in surplus - depreciation expense	272,899	251,231
	<u>272,899</u>	<u>251,231</u>
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
- Increase/(decrease) in trade and other payables	8,337	11,059
	<u>8,337</u>	<u>11,059</u>
Cash flows from operations	<u>756,388</u>	<u>806,891</u>

**BENDIGO DISTRICT RSL SUB-BRANCH PATRIOTIC FUND 3220**  
**ABN: 31 336 592 019**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025**

**Note 12**      **Events After the Reporting Period**

There have been no events subsequent to 31 December 2025 that require disclosure in the financial statements or notes thereof.

**Note 13**      **Significant changes in the state of affairs**

There have been no significant changes in the nature of activities occurred during the year.

**Note 14**      **Fund details**

The registered office and principal place of business is:

Bendigo District RSL Sub-Branch Patriotic Fund 3220  
73-75 Havilah Road  
Bendigo Victoria 3550

**BENDIGO DISTRICT RSL SUB-BRANCH PATRIOTIC FUND 3220**  
**ABN: 31 336 592 019**  
**COMMITTEES' DECLARATION**

**Responsible persons' declaration**

In accordance with a resolution of the committee of Bendigo District RSL Sub-Branch Patriotic Fund 3220, the committee of the fund declare that:

1. The financial statements and notes which are prepared in accordance with Note 1 to the financial statements satisfy the requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*; and
2. In the committees' opinion there are reasonable grounds to believe that the fund will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This declaration is signed in accordance with subs 60.15(2) of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2022*.



President



Treasurer

Dated this 2nd day of March 2026

## **Independent Audit Report to the Members of BENDIGO DISTRICT RSL SUB-BRANCH PATRIOTIC FUND 3220**

**Opinion** We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of the Bendigo District RSL Sub-Branch Patriotic Fund 3220 (the Fund), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2025, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies and the certification by responsible persons.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of the Fund is in accordance with the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, including:

- i. giving a true and fair view of the financial position of the Fund as at 31 December 2025 and its financial performance for the year then ended,
- ii. Complying with the accounting policies described in Note 1 of the financial report.

### ***Basis for Opinion***

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibility under those standards are further described in the *Auditors Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the Fund in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional Ethical Standards Board's APES 110: *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide basis for the opinion.

### ***Responsibilities of the Committee for the Financial Report***

The Committee is responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with the accounting policies used and described in Note 1 to the financial statements and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, and for such internal control as the Committee determine necessary to enable the preparation of a financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the Committee is responsible for assessing the Fund's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Committee either intend to liquidate the Fund or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

### ***Auditor's Responsibility***

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion, reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis on this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion, The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Fund's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures by the Committee. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used are appropriate to the needs of the members.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Committees' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Fund's ability as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report, or if disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Fund to cease or continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report presents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the Committee regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

**Basis of Accounting and Restriction on Distribution and Use** Without modifying our opinion, we draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared to assist the Fund to meet the requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*. As a result, the report may not be suitable for another purpose.

**ACCOUNTING AND AUDIT SOLUTIONS BENDIGO**



**Bradley Dowsey CA**

**Dated this 2nd day of March, 2026.**

# Patriotic Fund - Statement of Receipts & Disbursements for the year ended 31/12/2025 (Annual Income Statement / AIS)

STATEMENT DUE DATE: 16th FEBRUARY 2026

## Important Notes:

1. All currency values in this form are to be filled in as per the bank statement in format of two decimal places (e.g., 10.00). Where the amount is 0 please leave the cell blank. However if the field is required, please input 0.00.
2. If you are unable to complete this form in one session, you may click "Save and complete later" at any time.
3. When you save, a unique access URL will be generated for your response. Please store this URL securely, Without this link, your saved response cannot be accessed.
4. Before starting this form, please ensure you have a **digital copy (pdf or scanned image) of your bank statement(s)** ready. You need to **upload these documents** to complete the form.

## Sub-Branch Name

BENDIGO&DISTRICT RSL

## Bank Account Number

BSB

## ABN Number

## CAV Ref No

Did the bank account number change in 2025? \*

Yes  No

## Sub-Branch Email

# Cash Inflows

## Operational

### Rent Received (from sub-branch trading entity)

1281312.72

### Rent Received (from others)

\$

### Donations

\$

### Fundraising

\$

### Grants (external)

\$

### Grants (internal)

\$

e.g. government entities, city council, general public

e.g. state branch, trading entity

Interest

\$

Investments Redeemed

\$

CAV Approved Transfer

\$

External Loans

\$

ATO Refund

\$

2024 Refunds / Adjustments

\$

2025 Incorrect Entries

\$

Other Income

\$

Total Operational & Loan Cash Inflows

\$1281312.72

## Capital Expenditure (CapEx) Inflows

Did you receive grants for capital projects this year? \*

Yes  No

Did you receive donations for capital projects this year? \*

Yes  No

Total Cash Inflows from CapEx

\$0.00

## 2025 Total Cash Inflows

Total Cash Inflows

\$1281312.72

Comments from Auditor

No comments regarding Cash Inflows

Comments from Charity & Compliance Team

No comments regarding Cash Inflows

## Cash Outflows

Operational

**Property Related Expenses**

139402.04

Rent, Repairs &amp; maintenance, Council Rates, Insurance etc.

**Accountant / Auditor Fees**

6780.00

**Bank Fees / Charges**

9333.42

**Transfers Approved By CAV**

\$

**ATO Payment (BAS/GST)**

94308.00

**Term Deposit**

\$

**2025 Adjustments**

\$

**2025 Incorrect Entries**

\$

**Loan Repayments - Principal**

485693.04

**Loan Repayments - Interest**

63585.96

**Total Operational & Loans Cash Outflows**

\$799102.46

## Veteran Welfare

### Material Assistance

**Housing Security**

\$

Rent or mortgage payments

**Education and Childcare**

\$

Childcare, School fees, Registered childcare fees

**Medical**

\$

GP, Podiatrist, Hospital bills, Medications, Mobility scooter hire

**Professional Fees & Other Financial Support**

\$

Legal/Accounting advice, Debt Repayments

**Household Necessities & Transport**

\$

Home maintenance (Gardening, cleaning gutters), Utilities/Essential services, Furniture/Whitegoods, Travel expenses

**Funeral Expenses**

\$

Wreaths &amp; flowers, Wakes, Newspaper notice

**Emergency Food**

\$

Food, Meals, Food vouchers/gift cards

**Total Material Assistance**

\$0.00

## Social Inclusion

**Health & Wellbeing Gatherings for Veterans (please specify in below table, leave it blank if not relevant)**

500.00

Event Title	Event Description	Spending (Must Add Up To Above Listed Total)
Korea Veterans Association	Korean War Exhibition	500.00

Health & Wellbeing Recreational Activities (please specify in below table, leave it blank if not relevant)

4529.50

RSL Active Events

Activity Title	Activity Description	Spending (Must Add Up To Above Listed Total)
CrossFit By Design	CrossFit for Veterans	3596.50
Deep Mindfulness Yoga	Yoga sessions for Veterans	960.00

Sub-Branch Memberships for Elderly Members

\$

Total Social Inclusion

\$5029.50

## Military Compensation & Wellbeing

Costs of Running Veterans Centre

\$

Costs of Advocates & Wellbeing Personnel

123122.83

Have you notified RSL Victoria about charging this expenditure to the Patriotic Fund? \*

Yes

No

Volunteer Costs for Veterans' Wellbeing Support

\$

Christmas Parcels (Requested by MCA/Wellbeing)

6827.72

Total Military Compensation & Wellbeing

\$129950.55

## Other Ancillary Activities

Fundraising

\$

Total Other Ancillary Activities

\$0.00

Costs of running ANZAC and Poppy Appeals

## Capital Expenditure

Capital Expenditure - Building

155246.92

Do you have approval for this expenditure from Property & Legal team? \*

Yes  No

**Please contact State Branch Property and Legal regarding your capital project expenditure**

Capital Expenditure - Other Assets

\$

Total Cash Outflows 2025

### Total Cash Outflows

\$1089329.43

### Comments from Auditor

No comments regarding Cash Outflows

### Comments From Charity & Compliance Team

No comments regarding Cash Outflows

## Bank Balance Check

### Bank Balance at 1st January 2025

255232.42

### Total Cash Inflows (per form input)

\$1281312.72

### Total Cash Outflows (per form input)

\$1089329.43

### Bank Balance at 31st December 2025

\$447215.71

### Does this total match your bank statements? \*

- Yes  
 No

### Please upload your bank statements (from 01/01/2025 to 31/12/2025) \*

Multiple uploads are allowed; there is no restriction on the number of files.

Other attached files: Pat Fund General Acc Dec25.pdf, Pat Fund General Acc Statement June25.pdf, Patriotic Fund Loan Repay Acc 5537.pdf, Pat Fund Loan2132 Acc May25.pdf, Pat Fund General Account Statement Feb25.pdf, BDRSL Pat Fund 5537 Bank Statement Jan25.pdf, Pat Fund Loan Acc5537 Statement April25.pdf, Pat Fund Loan 5537 Dec25.pdf, Pat Fund General Acc Sept25.pdf, Patriotic Fund Loan Repay Acc 2132.pdf, Pat Fund Acc5537 March25.pdf, Pat Fund Loan Repayment 5537.pdf, Pat Fund General Acc Statement April25.pdf, Pat Fund Loan5537 Acc May25.pdf, BDRSL Pat Fund Bank Statement Jan25.pdf, Pat Fund Loan 2132 Dec25.pdf, Pat Fund Loan 2132 Transaction Dec25.pdf, Pat Fund Loan Acc 5537 July25.pdf, Pat Fund Loan Acc 2132 Statement Sept25.pdf, Pat Fund Genearl Acc Nov25.pdf, Pat Fund Loan Repayment 2132 Statement Feb25.pdf, Pat Fund Loan Acc 2132 July25.pdf, Pat Fund Loan Acc2132 Statement April25.pdf, Pat Fund Genearl Acc July25.pdf, BDRSL Pat Fund Loan Acc 2132 Statement Aug25.pdf, Pat Fund General Acc March25.pdf, Pat Fund Loan Repayment 5537 Statement Feb25.pdf, Pat Fund Loan Acc 5537 Statement Sept25.pdf, Pat Fund Loan Acc Statement 2132.pdf, Pat Fund General Acc May25.pdf, Pat Fund Acc2132 March25.pdf, BDRSL Pat Fund Loan Acc 5537 Statement Aug25.pdf, Patriotic Fund Genearl Acc Oct25.pdf, Pat Fund Loan Acc Statement 5537.pdf, BDRSL Pat Fund 2132 Bank Statement Jan25.pdf, Pat Fund Loan Repayment 2132.pdf, BDRSL Pat Fund General Acc Statement Aug25.pdf

## Balance Sheet (31/12/2025)

### Assets

#### Current Assets

#### Cash at Bank (building / PF) \*

447215.71

#### Cash at Bank (welfare) \*

0.00

**Term Deposits (building / PF)**

**Term Deposits (welfare)**

**Prepayments**

**Accrued Income**

**Accounts Receivable**

**Other Current Assets**

**Total Current Assets**

**Non-current Assets**

**Loans Receivable**

**Property Value**

as per 2025 Balance Sheet Financial Statement/Rates Notice-CIV/Valuation

**Property Address**

If the above address is not up-to-date, please contact State Branch Charity and Compliance to update your address information

**Please upload rate notice (if applicable)**

**Furniture / Fittings / Plant / Equipment (as per 2025 Financial Statements)**

**Long Term Investments**

**Other Non-Current Assets**

**Total Non-Current Assets**

**Please upload asset register**

Or asset list if you don't have a proper asset register

Other attached files: Patriotic Fund Asset Register Dec25.xlsx

**Total Assets**

\$11198740.25

## Liabilities

### Current Liabilities

**Accounts Payable**

27024.39

**Accrued Expenses**

20796.28

**Other Current Liabilities**

1250000.00

**Please specify other current liabilities \***

Commercial Bill 7356-32236 Variable

**Total Current Liability**

\$1297820.67

### Non-Current Liabilities

**External Loan 1**

585281.68

**Please specify external loan party: \***

ANZ

**External Loan 2**

**Internal Loan (existing only)**

**Other Non-current Liabilities**

**Total Non-Current Liabilities**

\$585281.68

**Total Liabilities**

\$1883102.35

**Net Assets (Total Assets - Total Liabilities)**

\$9315637.90

**Comments from Auditor**

NocommentsregardingAssets & Liabilities

## Comments from Charity & Compliance Team

No comments regarding Assets & Liabilities

## Number of Volunteers Who Worked in 2025 Including Committee Members \*

125

## Related Party Transactions (RPT)

### Does your Sub-Branch have a RPT policy? \*

Yes  No

### Did your Sub-Branch have any related party transactions in 2025? \*

Yes  No

### Please Select ALL applicable RPT Categories \*

- Fees for goods or services provided to the charity
- Loans from/to a related party
- Rent arrangement between the Sub-Branch Inc and Patriotic Fund
- Salaries or wages paid to a related party's relatives
- Goods or services provided at a discount to a related party
- Other (Please specify)

## Declaration and Signature

### Treasurer's Report

I declare that I am authorised to submit this annual statement on behalf of the Trustee. I confirm that the information in this form and any attachments is true and correct and that all disbursements have been made in accordance with expenditure guidelines and By-law 7, and are consistent with guidance issued by Consumer Affairs Victoria (CAV). I also acknowledge that it is an offence to supply false or misleading information. Significant fines may apply.

I acknowledge that CAV may conduct checks of publicly available information held by the Australian Securities & Investments Commission, the Australian Financial Security Authority or other relevant agencies relating to the information contained in this form.

A copy of the bank statements as of 31st December 2025 has been provided. \*

### Treasurer's Name \*

Shane Robinson

### Date of Signature \*

13/02/2026

### Signature \*

Shane Robinson

As total receipts are over \$10,000, an auditor's signature is required. Please enter auditor's email address below. The submitted form will be automatically forwarded to the email address provided, for auditing purposes.

### Auditor's Email Address \*

bdowsey@aasbendigo.com.au

### Auditor's Name \*

Brad Dowsey

Auditor's Declaration (Required as total receipts exceed \$10,000)

I have audited the books, vouchers, bank records, and other records of the Patriotic Fund for the period covered by this annual statement and certify that in my opinion the books and records are kept in a satisfactory manner and that the above statements give a true and fair view of the fund's activities for the period and of its assets and liabilities as per 31/12/2025. \*

As total receipts exceed \$50,000, an audited financial report is required \*

Other attached files: Audit Report PAT 3220.pdf

The statement is ready to submit for State Branch review \*

Ready  Not Ready (need sub-branches resubmission for audit)

Auditor's Name \*

Bradley Dowsey

Auditor's Qualification \*

Chartered Accountant

Signature Date \*

13/02/2026

Auditor Signature \*

B Dowsey

## Please Review and Approve the CAV Statement

CAV Statement is: \*

- Approved
- Not Approved
- Not Yet Reviewed by Charity & Compliance

CAV Statement is: \*

- Ready to submit to CAV
- Not ready to submit

Review By: \*

Reviewer's Role \*

Date of Review \*

0

Signature \*

\_\_\_\_\_

**BENDIGO HAVILAH ROAD WELFARE  
PATRIOTIC FUND W484**

**ABN: 47 685 373 398**

**Financial Report For The Year Ended  
31 December 2025**

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# Bendigo Havilah Road Welfare Patriotic Fund W484

ABN: 47 685 373 398

## Financial Report For The Year Ended 31 December 2025

<b>CONTENTS</b>	<b>Page</b>
Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income	1
Statement of Financial Position	2
Statement of Changes in Equity	3
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Committees' Declaration	7
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**BENDIGO HAVILAH ROAD WELFARE PATRIOTIC FUND W484**  
**ABN: 47 685 373 398**  
**STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR**  
**ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025**

	Note	2025 \$	2024 \$
<b>Revenue</b>			
Distributions		3,022	6,188
<b>Expenses</b>			
Welfare assistance		-	(1,640)
Accounting and audit Fees		(1,040)	(1,146)
<b>Current year surplus/(deficit) before income tax</b>		<u>1,982</u>	<u>3,402</u>
<b>Deficit attributable to the fund for the year</b>	3	<u>1,982</u>	<u>3,402</u>
Other comprehensive income		-	-
<b>Total comprehensive income attributable to the fund for the year</b>		<u>1,982</u>	<u>3,402</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

**BENDIGO HAVILAH ROAD WELFARE PATRIOTIC FUND W484**  
**ABN: 47 685 373 398**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2025**

	Note	2025 \$	2024 \$
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents		18,124	16,142
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>18,124</u>	<u>16,142</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<u>18,124</u>	<u>16,142</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u>18,124</u>	<u>16,142</u>
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Retained surplus		18,124	16,142
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>		<u>18,124</u>	<u>16,142</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

**BENDIGO HAVILAH ROAD WELFARE PATRIOTIC FUND W484**  
**ABN: 47 685 373 398**  
**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025**

	Retained Surplus \$	Total \$
<b>Balance at 1 January 2023</b>	<b>12,740</b>	<b>12,740</b>
Deficit attributable to the fund for the year	3,402	3,402
Other comprehensive income for the year	-	-
<b>Total comprehensive income for the year</b>	<b>3,402</b>	<b>3,402</b>
<b>Balance at 31 December 2024</b>	<b>16,142</b>	<b>16,142</b>
<b>Balance at 1 January 2024</b>	<b>16,142</b>	<b>16,142</b>
Surplus attributable to the fund for the year	1,982	1,982
Other comprehensive income for the year	-	-
<b>Total comprehensive income for the year</b>	<b>1,982</b>	<b>1,982</b>
<b>Balance at 31 December 2025</b>	<b>18,124</b>	<b>18,124</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

**BENDIGO HAVILAH ROAD WELFARE PATRIOTIC FUND W484**  
**ABN: 47 685 373 398**  
**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025**

	Note	2025 \$	2024 \$
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Receipts from distributions		3,022	6,188
Payments to veterans		<u>(1,040)</u>	<u>(2,786)</u>
<b>Net cash generated from operating activities</b>	<b>4</b>	<b><u>1,982</u></b>	<b><u>3,402</u></b>
Net increase in cash held		1,982	3,402
Cash on hand at beginning of the financial year		<u>16,142</u>	<u>12,740</u>
<b>Cash on hand at end of the financial year</b>	<b>2</b>	<b><u>18,124</u></b>	<b><u>16,142</u></b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

**BENDIGO HAVILAH ROAD WELFARE PATRIOTIC FUND W484**  
**ABN: 47 685 373 398**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025**

The financial statements cover Bendigo Havilah Road Welfare Patriotic Fund W484 as an individual entity.

The financial statements were authorised for issue on 2nd March 2026 by the committee of the fund.

**Note 1 Summary of Material Accounting Policy Information**

**Basis of Preparation**

The committee have prepared the financial statements on the basis that the fund is a non-reporting entity because there are no users dependent on general purpose financial statements. The financial statements are therefore special purpose financial statements that have been prepared in order to meet the requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*.

These special purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the mandatory Australian Accounting Standards applicable to entities reporting under the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* and the significant accounting policies disclosed below. Such accounting policies are consistent with those of previous reporting periods unless otherwise stated.

The financial statements, except for the cash flow information, have been prepared on an accrual basis and are based on historical costs, modified, where applicable, by the measurement at fair value of selected non-current assets, financial assets and financial liabilities. The amounts presented in the financial statements are in Australian Dollars and have been rounded to the nearest dollar.

**Statement of compliance**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the mandatory Australian Accounting Standards applicable to entities reporting under the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, the basis of the accounting specified by all Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations, and the disclosure requirements of the Accounting Standards AASB 101: *Presentation of Financial Statements*, AASB 107: *Cash Flow Statements*, AASB 108: *Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors*, AASB 1031: *Materiality* and AASB 1054: *Australian Additional Disclosures*.

**Accounting Policies**

**(a) Revenue and Other Income**

The fund recognises revenue as it satisfied its obligations, at the time of which the services are rendered.

Distribution revenue is recognised upon receipt or where the fund has the right to receive the distribution.

If the fund receives a donation or bequest, it assesses whether the contract is enforceable and has sufficiently specific performance obligations under AASB 15. Where these conditions are satisfied, the fund identifies each performance obligation, recognises a liability for its obligation and recognises revenue as it satisfies its obligations. However where the contract is not enforceable or sufficiently specific, the fund recognises income in profit or loss immediately.

The fund has not elected to recognise volunteer contributions as revenue and expenditure within the profit or loss. This election has no impact on the funds' surplus or net assets.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax.

**(b) Cash and Cash Equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits held at-call with banks, other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within short-term borrowings in current liabilities on the statement of financial position where applicable.

**(c) Goods and Services Tax (GST)**

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included with other receivables or payables in the statement of financial position.

Cash flows are presented on a gross basis. The GST components of cash flows arising from investing or financing activities which are recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO are presented as operating cash flows included in receipts from customers or payments to suppliers.

**(d) Income Tax**

The fund has negotiated with the Australian Taxation Office that income tax payable by the Welfare Patriotic Fund is to be calculated after taking into account a number of community activities and the provision for capital maintenance. Therefore an income tax exemption was gained on the basis of the fund being a charitable institution.

**(e) Comparative Figures**

When required by Accounting Standards comparative figures have been adjusted to conform to changes in presentation for the current financial year.

**(f) Economic Dependence**

The fund is economically dependant on the continued support of the Bendigo District RSL Sub-Branch Inc. and the support of its bankers. Any change in one or more of the above may have a significant adverse effect on the fund's ability to continue to trade as a going concern.

**BENDIGO HAVILAH ROAD WELFARE PATRIOTIC FUND W484**  
**ABN: 47 685 373 398**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025**

<b>Note 2</b>	<b>Cash and Cash Equivalents</b>		
		2025	2024
	CURRENT	\$	\$
	Cash at bank	18,124	16,142
	Total Cash and Cash Equivalents	<u>18,124</u>	<u>16,142</u>

<b>Note 3</b>	<b>Retained Surplus</b>		
		2025	2024
		\$	\$
	Retained surplus at the beginning of the year	16,142	12,740
	Surplus attributable to the fund for the year	<u>1,982</u>	<u>3,402</u>
		<u>18,124</u>	<u>16,142</u>

<b>Note 4</b>	<b>Reconciliation of Surplus/(Deficit) Attributable to the Fund to Net Cash used in Operating Activities</b>		
		2025	2024
		\$	\$
	Deficit attributable to the fund for the year	<u>1,982</u>	<u>3,402</u>
	Net cash used in operating activities	<u>1,982</u>	<u>3,402</u>

**Note 5 Capital and Leasing Commitments**

The Bendigo Havilah Road RSL Sub-Branch Welfare Patriotic Fund W484 does not have any capital or lease commitments.

**Note 6 Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets**

The fund's committee are not aware of any contingent liabilities or assets as at the date of signing this financial report.

**Note 7 Events After the Reporting Period**

There have been no events subsequent to the balance sheet date that have an impact that would require disclosure in the financial statements or notes there of.

**Note 8 Entity Details**

The registered office and principal place of business of the entity is:

Bendigo Havilah Road Welfare Patriotic Fund W484  
 73-45 Havilah Road  
 Bendigo VIC 3550

**BENDIGO HAVILAH ROAD WELFARE PATRIOTIC FUND W484**  
**ABN: 47 685 373 398**  
**COMMITTEES' DECLARATION**

The Responsible Persons declare that in the Responsible Persons' Opinion:

1. The financial statements and notes which are prepared in accordance with Note 1 to the financial statements satisfy the requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*; and
2. There are reasonable grounds to believe that the fund will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This declaration is signed in accordance with subs 60.15(2) of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2022*.



\_\_\_\_\_  
President



\_\_\_\_\_  
Treasurer

Dated this 2nd day of March 2026

## **Independent Audit Report to the Members of BENDIGO HAVILAH ROAD WELFARE PATRIOTIC FUND W484**

### **Opinion**

We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of the Bendigo Havilah Road Welfare Patriotic Fund W484 (the Fund), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2025, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies and the certification by responsible persons.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of the Fund is in accordance with the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, including:

- i. giving a true and fair view of the financial position of the Fund as at 31 December 2025 and its financial performance for the year then ended,
- ii. Complying with the accounting policies described in Note 1 of the financial report.

### **Basis for Opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibility under those standards are further described in the *Auditors Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the Fund in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional Ethical Standards Board's APES 110: *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide basis for the opinion.

### **Responsibilities of the Committee for the Financial Report**

The Committee is responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with the accounting policies used and described in Note 1 to the financial statements and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, and for such internal control as the Committee determine necessary to enable the preparation of a financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the Committee is responsible for assessing the Fund's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Committee either intend to liquidate the Fund or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

### **Auditor's Responsibility**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion, reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis on this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion, The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Fund's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures by the Committee. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used are appropriate to the needs of the members.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Committees' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Fund's ability as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report, or if disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Fund to cease or continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report presents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the Committee regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

**Basis of Accounting and Restriction on Distribution and Use** Without modifying our opinion, we draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared to assist the Fund to meet the requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*. As a result, the report may not be suitable for another purpose.

**ACCOUNTING AND AUDIT SOLUTIONS BENDIGO**



**Bradley Dowsey CA**

**Dated this 2nd day of March, 2026.**

# Agency Statement of Receipts & Disbursements for the Year Ended 31/12/2025

STATEMENT DUE DATE: 16th FEBRUARY 2026

## Important Notes:

1. All currency values in this form are to be filled in as per the bank statement in format of two decimal places (e.g., 10.00). Where the amount is 0 please leave the cell blank. However if the field is required, please input 0.00.
2. If you are unable to complete this form in one session, you may click "Save and complete later" at any time.
3. When you save, a unique access URL will be generated for your response. Please store this URL securely, Without this link, your saved response cannot be accessed.
4. Before starting this form, please ensure you have a **digital copy (pdf or scanned image) of your bank statement(s)** ready. You need to **upload these documents** to complete the form.

## Sub-Branch Name

BENDIGO&DISTRICT RSL

## Sub-Branch Email

secretary@bendigorsl.com.au

## 2025 Appeals Data as Reported on Appeals Statements

The details provided below are for **reference only** and are drawn from your **2025 ANZAC and Poppy Appeal Statements**, submitted to **RSL Victoria**, with data as of 07 January 2026.

### ANZAC Appeal

Cash (does not include RSL VIC POS)

69310

RSL VIC POS (Point of Sale)

35734

QR Code & Others

0

Total Amount Raised

\$105044.00

### POPPY Appeal

Cash (does not include RSL VIC POS)

49608.1

RSL VIC POS (Point of Sale)

25002.25

QR Code & Others

0

Total Amount Raised

\$74610.35

## Receipts as per Bank Statement

2025 ANZAC Deposit to Bank Account

69309.60

2025 Poppy Deposit to Bank Account

46055.30

2024 Poppy Deposit to Bank Account in 2025 (if applicable)

\$

2025 Anzac Appeal Reimbursement from GAPF

52522.00

2025 Poppy Appeal Reimbursement from GAPF

35528.00

2024 Poppy Appeal Reimbursement from GAPF (if applicable)

0

Bank Interest

3.48

2025 Donations

\$

2025 Adjustments

\$

2025 Total Receipts per Bank Statements

\$203418.38

## 2025 RSL Victoria Sub-Branch Welfare & Commemorative Grants

Welfare

0

Commemoration

0

Total Grants

\$0.00

## 2025 Total Receipts

Total Receipts from Transfers & Grants

\$203418.38

Comments from Charity & Compliance Team

No Comments from Charity Team yet

Auditor's Comments

No Comments from Auditor yet

## Disbursements in 2025

2025 ANZAC Appeal Remitted to GAPF \*

69310.00

2025 POPPY Appeal Remitted to GAPF \*

46055.30

2024 Poppy Appeal - Remitted to RSL GAPF in 2025 (if applicable)

\$

2024 Unused Monies Sent to RSL GAPF in 2025 (if applicable)

\$

2025 Adjustments

\$

## 2025 RSL Victoria Sub-Branch Welfare & Commemorative Grants Expenditure

**Welfare Expenditure****Commemoration Expenditure****Total Expenditure on Grant****Comments from Charity & Compliance Team**

No Comments from Charity Team yet

**Auditor's Comments**

No Comments from Auditor yet

# Benevolent Veteran & Dependants Welfare Expenses:

**MUST relate to assistance for veterans and those dependants on a veteran in 2025**

## Material Assistance

**Housing Security**

Rent or mortgage payments

**Education and Childcare**

Childcare, School fees, Registered childcare fees

**Medical**

GP, Podiatrist, Hospital bills, Medications, Mobility scooter hire

**Professional Fees & Other Financial Support**

Legal/Accounting advice, Debt Repayments

**Household Necessities & Transport**

Home maintenance (Gardening, cleaning gutters), Utilities/Essential services, Furniture/Whitegoods, Travel expenses

**Funeral Expenses**

Wreaths & flowers, Wakes, Newspaper notice

**Emergency Food**

Food, Meals, Food vouchers/gift cards

**Total Material Assistance**

## Social Inclusion

**Health & wellbeing gatherings for Veterans (please specify in below table, leave it blank if not relevant)**

Event Title	Neangar	Event Description	Spending (Must Add Up To Above Listed Total)
Park Golf Club Deep		Golf day for Veterans	511.00 770.00 632.50
Mindfulness Yoga		Yoga sessions for Veterans x 2	
Crossfit by Design		Crossfit sessions for Veterans	

**Health & wellbeing recreational activities (please specify in below table, leave it blank if not relevant)**

RSL Active Events and other recreation activities only where main purpose is social inclusion not competition

Activity Title	Activity Description	Spending (Must Add Up To Above Listed Total)
Korea Veterans Association of Aust	Korean War 75th Anniversary - Commemorative Trip to Canberra 24 - 26 June 2025	3000.00

**Sub-Branch Memberships for Elderly Members**

**Total Social Inclusion**

## Military Compensation & Wellbeing

**Costs of Running Veterans Centre**

**Costs of Advocates & Wellbeing Personnel**

Have you obtained approval from RSL Victoria about charging this expenditure to the Agency Account? \*

- Yes
- No

**Volunteer Costs for Veterans' Wellbeing Support**

**Christmas Parcels (Requested by MCA/Wellbeing)**

**Total Military Compensation & Wellbeing**

## Other Ancillary Activities

**Fundraising**

Costs of running ANZAC and Poppy Appeals, Printing and Stationery related to appeals

**Administration Cost**

Auditor/Accountant fee, Bank fees

**Total Other Ancillary Activities**

## Total Disbursements 2025

**Total Disbursements**

**Comments from Charity & Compliance Team**

**Auditor's Comments**

## Bank Balance Check

### Bank Balance at 1st January 2025

36533.23

### Total Receipts (per form input)

\$203418.38

### Total Disbursements (per form input)

\$207095.51

### Bank Balance at 31st December 2025

\$32856.10

### Does this total match your bank statements? \*

Yes  
 No

### Please upload your bank statements (from 01/01/2025 to 31/12/2025) \*

Multiple uploads are allowed; there is no restriction on the number of files.

Other attached files: 01. GAPF Jan25.pdf, 12. GAPF Dec25.pdf, 09. GAPF Sept25.pdf, 05. GAPF May25.pdf, 04. GAPF April25.pdf, 10. GAPF Oct25.pdf, 02. GAPF Feb25.pdf, 07. GAPF July25.pdf, 08. GAPF Aug25.pdf, 11. GAPF Nov25.pdf, 06. GAPF June25.pdf, 03. GAPF March25.pdf

### Comments from Charity & Compliance Team

No Comments from Charity Team yet

### Auditor's Comments

No Comments from Auditors yet

## Unused funds

### 2025 Unused funds

-\$2671.90

### Number of Volunteers Who Worked in 2025 Including Committee Members \*

125

Please remit above unused funds to RSL General Appeals Patriotic Fund

BSB 013 030 A/C 8372 79576

### Comments from Charity & Compliance Team

No Comments from Charity Team yet

### Auditor's Comments

No Comments from Auditor yet

## Related Party Transaction (RPT)

Does your Sub-Branch have RPT policy? \*

Yes  No

Did your Sub-Branch have any related party transactions in 2025? \*

Yes  No

## Declaration and Signature

### Treasurer's Report

I certify that the information in this statement is true and correct, and that the disbursements relate to Benevolent Welfare as described in the Sub-Branch Expenditure Guidelines and By-law 8. These disbursements are consistent with the guidelines issued by the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) regarding public benevolent institutions(PBI). A copy of the bank statements as of 31st December 2025 has been provided. \*

Treasurer's Name \*

Shane Robinson

Date of Signature \*

12/02/2026

Treasurer Signature \*

Shane Robinson

As total income exceeds \$10,000, an auditor's signature is required. Please enter auditor's email address below. The submitted form will be automatically forwarded to the email address provided, for auditing purposes.

Auditor's Email Address \*

bdowsey@aasbendigo.com.au

Auditor's Name \*

Brad Dowsey

Auditor Report (Requested as total receipts was over \$10,000)

I have audited the books, vouchers, bank records and other records of the above Agency Account for the period ended 31st December 2025, and certify in my opinion the books and records are kept in a satisfactory manner. The above statement gives a true and fair view of the activities of the Sub-Branch as Agency for RSL Victoria Branch General Appeals Patriotic Fund in meeting its Benevolent Welfare obligations as a PBI. \*

The statement is ready to submit for State Branch review \*

Ready  Not Ready (need sub-branches resubmission for audit)

Auditor's Name \*

Bradley Dowsey

Auditor's Qualification \*

CA #467062

Signature Date \*

12/02/2026

Auditor Signature \*

B Dowsey

This Agency Statement is: \*

Ready for CAV Not Approved  
 Not Yet Reviewed by Charity &  
 Compliance

Reviewed By: \*

Reviewer's Role \*



**RSL**

**Sub-Branch**  
Bendigo District

# Contact Us



03- 5442 2950



office@bendigorsl.com.au



<https://www.bendigorsl.com.au>