



WE SUPPORT YOU, OUR MILITARY FAMILY

EDITION 004. DEC 2019

SITREP 

RSL
Kawana Waters Sub Branch

Newsletter of the Kawana Waters RSL Sub Branch

Merry Christmas from the KWRSL Sub Branch.



General Meetings

General meetings are open to all members of the sub branch and commence at 1000.

Moudly Oldies

Mouldy Oldie morning teas are on the first Monday of the month @1000

Younger Vets Drinks

Drinks for Younger Veterans and those young at heart are the last Friday of the month @1700

From the President.

Dear Fellow Members,



I would like to take this opportunity to thank you, the members, one and all, for the work, support, enthusiasm, and countless hours that you have so selflessly given over the past year.

As a Sub Branch I feel that we have been in harmony working together and for that I am very grateful and wish to thank you for your support. For a Sub Branch to function and be successful requires good teamwork – I am very fortunate to have a very, very good team with me. We have clocked up many welfare miles, we have sadly said goodbye to some of our members through their passing, we have put many, many, runs on the board as a Sub Branch with our veteran related activities – and it has been noticed!!

Finally, both Libby and I wish you and your loved ones a very Merry Christmas, enjoy the break, and please stay safe and enjoy a very Happy New Year 2020. I look forward to seeing you in the New Year 2020 and I am excited to see what our year will bring.

Best regards,
Gary Penney

Opinion.

The 'Veteran's Card' was a good idea, but has been poorly executed.

In October 2018 while announcing a Soldier On initiative to open a repatriation hospital in Sydney, the prime minister announced a 'veteran's card' that would allow businesses to show respect to the veteran community by offering discounts to veterans in possession of this new card. Although details were sketchy, it was announced 'Woolworths, Coles, Kmart, Bunnings, Target, NRMA and Clubs Australia announced they are supportive of the scheme.' (news.com.au 27 October 2018)

Fast forward one year and not only have the DVA simply re-branded the repatriation health cards with the word veteran, none of the businesses mentioned directly offer discounts to anyone with a veteran card. Instead of establishing this card as it was intended, the Australian Government have simply aligned with a scheme previously available to those with a connection to Defence for \$4.95 a month. This is the commercial entity, the Australian Partners of Defence Card (APOD), requires veterans to sign up to their program to access discounts through a select number of vendors. These discounts range from a measly 2% on gift cards to up to 40% from some select vendors.

This, in my opinion, is not what was promised to the veteran community. I can't help but feel the Australian Government found it all too hard and went with an option that was already available. I liken this to the Government sending the ADF on operations, then the generals deciding it would be easier to hire Private Military Contractors to do the job. While the idea of the ADF hiring contractors to do the job of the ADF seems farcical, that's exactly what has happened.

None of the discounts are aimed at lowering the cost of living to the veteran community. No major supermarkets or vendors have signed on allowing veterans who may be struggling to fill their pantry at a lower cost (unless you purchase gift cards at a 2-5% saving then pay for groceries with them). One fuel vendor offers 5% off fuel, but this has been met with mixed reports of availability depending on the individual stores knowledge of the program, and not one service provider for electricity, gas or telephone offers discounts outside of those previously offered to gold and TPI card holders. Although money in a veterans pocket is always a good thing, the majority of items available appear to be gift cards, travel, restaurants and what could be defined as a luxury item by anyone struggling to make ends meet.

To finish on a positive, one recent development which will help the veteran community is the Defence Service Homes Insurance Amendment bill of 2019. This bill means as of 1 January 2020 eligibility for the Defence Service Homes Insurance scheme will be extended to all those with 1 days continuous full time service.

For those unaware, this scheme offers house insurance at discount rates to ex service men and women at reduced rates with no excess unless its an accident or earth quake, in which case you will be \$100 or \$200 out of pocket respectively. For more information on this scheme, or for a quote, contact Defence Service Homes Insurance on 1300 552 662.

Luckily, there is also another large movement on Facebook calling upon all businesses to offer discounts to the veteran community, and shortly our website will be updated with a list of veteran friendly businesses on the Sunshine Coast who will offer discounts to veterans, simply by showing the veterans card as it was originally intended. This is another example of the veteran's community directly supporting veterans.

Shoulder to shoulder, always.

If you have an opinion on something and would like to share it, email me at Daniel.ansett@kawanawaters.rslqld.net.au for inclusion. I can't guarantee everything will be included, but I'll do my best.

Christmas Lunch 2019.

On 14 December, the KWRSL members and family celebrated the festive season at our annual Christmas Lunch at the Kawana Waters Surf Club. Thank you to all those who attended and made the day fantastic.

Of note, Kevin Hurman was able to present life membership to two of our favourite members being Charlie "Chas" Hoepper and Kevin "Guns" Salter.



Guns and Chas displaying their life membership certificates.

The Surf Club once again outdid them selves with decorating the room and fed us an amazing lunch. Thanks again to Jen and her team.

Remembrance Day 2019.

Remembrance Day 2019 was commemorated on 11 Nov at the cenotaph and was well attended. Thank you to all those who attended and supported the event. Of note we wish to thank the following organisations and individuals, who without their support, this event would not have been possible.

The Sunshine Coast Council Community Grants Team.
The Kawana Waters Surf Club.
Counsellor John Connolly.
The Honourable Jarrod Belije.
The Kawana State College.
Buddina State School.
Maj Fred Shaw.
Mr Gary Penney.

Remembrance Day Raffle 2019.

Thanks to our major sponsor Flight Centre, Chancellor Park, we were able to run another successful raffle this year raising funds for our Sub Branch. We wish to thank the following organisations for their support.

Flight Centre Chancellor Park.
Hello Harry's Birtinya (Veteran Owned and run).
Moffat Beach Brewing Company (Veteran Owned and run).
Salisa's Thai Restaurant.
Al Antica Restaurant, Kawana.
Anytime Fitness, Kawana.
Maroochydore Golf Club.
Road Tech Marine, Kawana.
Pet Barn, Kawana Waters.
Sportscare Kawana.
Kawana E.A.R.S.
Kawana Home Hardware.
Yalumba Wine Company.
Supercheap Kawana.
Swain Family Meats.
Pt Cartwright Seafood.
Rockit Climbing Gym.
Beefy's Pies, Kawana.
Jimmy's Catering - Coffee – Eats.
Lazerzone, Kawana.
Banjo's Kawana.
McDonalds, Minyama.
Sunshine Coast Afloat.
Chips and Co Eatery.
The Brisbane Broncos.
The Sunshine Coast Lightning.

We also wish to thank the Kawana Surf Club for selling tickets on our behalf. Above all, we need to thank you, the members for being so proactive in selling the tickets.

Poppy Week, 2019

Thank you to all those who supported the selling of poppys for the annual poppy appeal. Special thanks goes to Tracy Woolley for her outstanding effort arranging rosters, stands and merchandise, as well as manning stands at the Farmers St Markets and outside BWS Warana to ensure our sub branch continues to raise enough money to remain solvent.



Tracy set up outside BWS Warana to take advantage of the Friday Night traffic.

Bunnings BBQ

Thank you to all those who supported the BBQ at Bunnings Kawana on 26 October. Unfortunately it was a slow day but we managed to raise funds to support our community.

Veterans Health Week Wrap Up

The Sub Branch hosted a number of events for Veterans Health Week this year. The events consisted of Equine Assisted Learning hosted by the River Road Equine Assisted Learning in Maroochy River, a stress and relaxation workshop facilitated by Open Arms Counselling Service, Trauma Sensitive Yoga and Thai Chi and an outing to tour the Noosa Everglades. Being in such an amazing location of the world, the everglades trip was a favourite amongst the members.



Sub Branch members following the Equine Assisted Learning.

Based on the success of a number of these events, the Sub Branch will be looking at holding more events in the coming year such as more outings, more Open Arms workshops and events such as fishing at the Bli Bli Fishing Park and visits to locations of military significance such as the Caloundra Aircraft museum. Details will be released via the usual channels when they become available.

Veterans Drop-in Centre – Kawana Surf Club

As of 4 Feb 2020, Kawana Waters RSL Sub Branch will soon be running a Veterans Drop in Centre from the Kawana Waters Surf Club from 1000-1400 on Tuesdays.

During these hours there will be at least one member of the board, or member of the compensation/welfare team available to discuss membership and welfare and compensation issues, or simply to have a coffee and a chat.

If you, or anyone you know is interested, please drop by and see us.

Sub Branch Board Member Profile

William Robert HUNT – Vice President and Membership Officer.

Preferred Name: Rob

Year of Enlistment: 2 Apr 1964
Year of Discharge: 18 Jun 1994
Service(s): RAAF
Trade/Mustering(s): Administration (WOFF)
Favourite Unit/Ship: Base Squadron Amberley (Mess Manager)
Headquarters Wagga Wagga



Rob Hunt during his time in service.

Favourite Posting Location: Amberley; Singapore; Washington DC
(Awarded 'Certificate of Outstanding Service' (Singapore))
Postings/Units/Deployments: Richmond; Tindal N.T.; Canberra; Singapore; Amberley;
Washington DC; - New Guinea; Vietnam.
What year joined RSL: Nov. 1985 (Awarded Life Membership, 22Feb2007.

Why are you passionate about Kawana Waters RSL Sub-Branch: Camaraderie; Helping Sub-Branch operate efficiently as members would expect; Encourage membership to a great organization.

Welfare Team Update

Recently, our welfare team has grown into quite a large team for such a small Sub Branch . They consist of:

Welfare Officer Trainee Level One and Director Welfare: Jim Chapman;
Welfare Officer Trainee Level One: Daniel Ansett;
Welfare Officer Trainee Level One: Trudie Avery; and
Pensions and Compensation Officer Trainee Level One: Dave Avery.

If you have any questions about welfare, pensions or compensation, please don't hesitate to ask. We also have a 24-hour welfare number which is 0413 311 056.

Commander's Diaries

The Australian War Memorial has a collection of Commanders Diaries dating back to the First World War and includes all conflicts up to an including the Vietnam War. The diaries include OPS Logs, SITREPS, After Action Reports and other interesting documents from previous conflicts.

They are broken into theatre, conflict, unit then usually by month, making looking for a battle or event relatively easy.

They are available by loading the AWM page at www.awm.gov.au and then searching 'commanders diaries' or by visiting <https://www.awm.gov.au/collection/official-histories-rolls-unit-diaries>.

Change of Details

Have you moved or changed phone number or email address? If so, please contact VP and Membership Officer Rob Hunt on William.Hunt@kawanawaters.rslqld.net.au.

Events and Catch-ups

Sub Branch Annual General Meeting

Kawana Waters RSL Sub Branch will hold its Annual General Meeting on Saturday, 15 Feb 2020 from 1000. All members are urged to attend to this meeting.

Sub Branch Meetings

Sub Branch meetings are held on the third Saturday of the month commencing at 1000. Subsidised meals are available for \$5, with a free drink for all those in attendance. The Sub Branch also holds a raffle with the prizes being a meat tray and a bottle of wine. The next meetings are:

18 January 2020;
15 February 2020 -Including AGM;
21 March 2020;
18 April 2020; and
01 May 2020.

Dates for subsequent meetings will be disseminated in the next SITREP. All members and guests are welcome to attend and have a say in the running of your Sub Branch.

Seafood Raffle

Each Sunday between 1730-1800, the Sub Branch holds a raffle for a seafood tray in the Kawana Surf Club. Tickets are 1 for \$2, 3 for \$5 and 7 for \$10 with all funds supporting your Sub Branch. Kids also eat free with each adult meal on Sunday. Come along and support your Sub Branch.

Mouldy Oldies

Monthly catch ups of the 'Mouldy Oldies' are held at the Kawana Surf Club on the first Monday of the month at 1000. All WW2 vets, their carers and family welcome.

Vet-Togethers

On the last Friday of each month, Kawana Waters RSL Sub Branch holds a 'Vet-Together' in the Kawana Waters Surf Club where veterans and family can congregate in a social environment. Food and drink are available as well as the surf club holding their 'goose club' raffle which usually sees at least one sub branch member leaving with a meat tray of some description.

Further details are available on our website or you can contact Daniel at daniel.ansett@kawanawaters.rslqld.net.au for further details.

Australia Day BBQ

On 26 Jan 2020, the Sub Branch will be holding a BBQ adjacent to the Surf Club for Australia Day. The Cost is free and there will be a BBQ of sausage sanga and drinks will be available from the Surf Club.

Acknowledgements

Veteran Owned Businesses on the Sunshine Coast.

These businesses are owned by veterans familiar to the Kawana Waters RSL Sub Branch Board and the board receives no form of compensation for these comments. Unless stated, the Kawana Waters Board has no association with these organisations and would disclose any association as per the conflict of interest policy, available on our website.

Hello Harry's, Birtinya, owned by Sub Branch member Scott McClellan offers 15% discount to current and ex ADF members. Great food and atmosphere. Highly recommended by the Sub Branch Executive. Scott also supported our Remembrance Day Raffles by donating vouchers. <http://www.helloharry.com.au/store/birtinya/>

Moffatt Beach Brewery was awarded best small independent brewery in the country 2018 and awarded many medals for their amazing beer. The brewery is run by 1 RAR Veteran, Matty Wilson and stocks a beer remembering his mate and 1 RAR/SASR soldier Josh Porter. Great food and beer in a great location. Matty also supported our Remembrance Day raffles by donating a voucher and a four pack of Josh Porter Pale Ale. <http://moffatbeachbrewingco.beer>

Tony Yarnold, McGrath Caloundra. Tony is a 25 year Navy Veteran who has recently moved to the Sunshine Coast and become a member of our Sub Branch. Thanks to Tony and the team at McGrath Caloundra, the Sub Branch received a \$500 donation under their 12 days of Christmas promotion.



If you are thinking of selling, buying or downsizing, speak to Tony about his defence and emergency services rates. 0417 228 276.

If you know of a veteran owned business in the Sunshine Coast who supports the Returned and Services League and it's members, email Daniel.ansett@kawanawaters.rslqld.net.au to have them considered for inclusion in this list.

Flight Centre Chancellor Park.

Flight Centre Chancellor Park are proud to support the Kawana Waters RSL Sub Branch through the sponsorship of Sub Branch polos for active volunteers and through their 'kick back' program. If you are considering travel, and book it through Flight Centre, Chancellor Park, 1% of the total cost of travel will return to the Sub Branch annually to be put towards Veterans Welfare. All you need to do is mention us to their friendly staff.



Sunshine Coast Council Community Grants Program.

Kawana Waters RSL Sub Branch is proudly supported by Sunshine Coast Council's grants program. Without this program we would be unable to run commemorative events such as ANZAC day and Remembrance Day.

Bob Jane T-Mart Caloundra

Following a recent incident with a Sub Branch member, Bob Jane Caloundra went above and beyond with their service to our member. Following an issue travelling to Lake Monduran, they met our member in Maryborough on a Saturday night with replacement parts to fix his vehicle and ensure he was safe to return to Caloundra.

Thanks to the franchisee, Dwain Freshwater, Bob Jane have also offered our Sub Branch Members a discount on a wheel alignment. Pay only \$75 for a Front Wheel Alignment, Balance and Rotation of Wheels, normally \$103, or pay only \$89 for front and rear wheels normally \$123. (This offer has already had GST removed.)



Bob Jane T-Marts Caloundra

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