



Pittwater RSL Sub-Branch Newsletter



OCTOBER 2019

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Pittwater RSL Sub-Branch

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Current Membership: 110

The next Newsletter will be published in January 2020



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President's Report

Deborah Carter

STOP PRESS

We are now on Facebook!

Please search for us, Pittwater RSL Sub-Branch. We would love your support, and will be using the page to advertise upcoming events.

Vale

I am pleased to say at the time of writing this report we have not lost any members.

July

The July meeting was CPO Zamri Burns last meeting before his deployment to Afghanistan. Our prayers and good wishes go with Zamri, and we are here to support his wife Kate and their two daughters whilst he is on deployment.

August

Hyde Park Inn has introduced a Defence Family Loyalty Club. For details, please contact inforequest@hydeparkinn.com.au.

The August meeting welcomed Jeff Greene, National Relations Manager of Everyman's Welfare Service.

Jeff presented a PowerPoint and talk on the history and role of this service dating back to 1939. Your Sub-Branch donated \$500 to this worthwhile cause and this donation was matched by Pittwater RSL Club Ltd.

Also, at this meeting it was voted on to donate money for the construction of a new honour board recognising Contemporary Veterans for Newport Surf Club.

August is the month we remember our Vietnam Vets and on Friday 16 August your Executive attended the National Serviceman's Commemoration for Vietnam Veterans Day at Manly Cenotaph.

On Sunday 18 August (Long Tan Day) Vietnam Veterans Northern Group conducted a service at Palm Beach RSL Club.

Michael Carrodus and I placed books on the Cenotaph on both occasions. Please see photographs of these two events on page 4 of this Newsletter.

September

I had the pleasure of attending Pittwater House Cadets Passing out Parade and Unit Prize Giving. The Reviewing Officer was BRIG. Michael Ashleigh, Commander of the Australian Army Cadet Corp. This parade was of the highest calibre of any parade witnessed at Pittwater House. Congratulations to CUO Naveen Dhillon, Head Cadet of Service Training, being awarded The Captain B W Hart Baton prize.

At the September meeting, I informed the Sub-Branch of the wonderful TV program on the ABC on Tuesday at 8.30pm. It is called "Old People's Home for 4 Year Olds". This five week documentary showed the interaction between the Little Diggers Kindergarten and some of our Senior Veterans who reside at the War Vets, Narrabeen. The series has now finished on the ABC. If you missed this series, you can still watch it on iView.

The Sub-Branch has received a copy of Furlough House, A Centenary History 1919 – 2019, written by Ian Jacobs.

I attended the High Tea Reception for Pittwater Community Leaders at Mona Vale Golf Club. This reception was hosted by the Hon. Rob Stokes MP Member for Pittwater.

Congratulations to Ian Hutchinson founder of CPR Friendly on his award for his Community Service.

Upcoming events in October, November and December

This year's "Veterans Health" week will focus on the important issue of Veteran's Mental Health.

Presidents Report continued

All the NBDC have been cleared for Congress and I will be attending in Albury from Sunday 27 October to Wednesday 30 October.

I hope that the new proposed Constitution will be voted and ratified by Sub-Branches of the NSW RSL. I look forward to sharing the outcome of the conference via email in November.

Please put in your diary Remembrance Day, Monday 11 November 2019. Form up at 10:20am at the Pittwater RSL Club Lower Cenotaph.

An email or letter for Renewals will be sent out this month for 2020. All instructions will be included. Please pay promptly.

Our Christmas lunch will be held on Sunday 08 December following our General Meeting. If you wish to purchase tickets please contact the Sub-Branch office 8401 0785. The last date for ticket purchases or any change is Monday 25 November. Remember, if you

have any food allergies, we need to know on purchase of tickets.

Please note, we are Volunteers and are in the office only on a Monday between 10:00am and 4:00pm.

On behalf of all of us at the Pittwater RSL Sub-Branch, we would like to take this opportunity to wish you a wonderful Christmas, and very best wishes for 2020.

Our first meeting for the new year will be on Sunday 09 February 2020. This will be a General Meeting, followed by our AGM.



Lest We Forget
Regards,

Deborah Carter

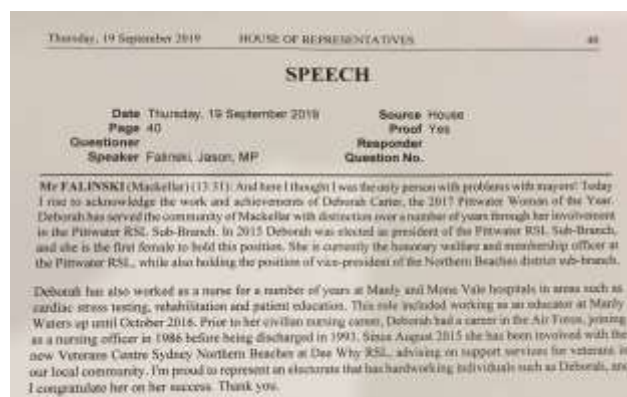
Deborah Carter



Correspondence from Jason Falinski MP to Deborah Carter

Retyped by Sandra May-Crabb

The following is a Certificate, a Letter and Jason's speech made in Parliament on Thursday 19 September 2019.



Letter 23 Sep 2019:

Dear Deborah, Please find enclosed a copy of my speech delivered in Parliament on Thursday the 19th of September about you and your efforts in the community.

The Mackellar community and I are proud of what you have achieved. Please excuse the first line of the transcript, I was replying to something another member had said in their previous speech. Kind regards, Jason Falinski.

Speech Thursday 19 September 2019.

Mr Falinski (Mackellar) (13:31): And here I thought I was the only person with problems with mayors! Today I rise to acknowledge the work and achievements of Deborah Carter, the 2017 Pittwater Woman of the Year. Deborah has served the community of Mackellar with distinction over a number of years through her involvement in the Pittwater RSL Sub-Branch. In 2015 Deborah was elected as president of the Pittwater RSL Sub-Branch, and she is the first female to hold this position. She is currently the honorary welfare and membership officer at the Pittwater RSL, while also holding the position of vice-president of the Northern Beaches district sub-branch.

Deborah has also worked as a nurse for a number of years at Manly and Mona Vale hospitals in areas such as cardiac stress testing, rehabilitation and patient education. This role included working as an educator at Manly Waters up until October 2016. Prior to her civilian nursing career, Deborah had a career in the Air Force, joining as a nursing officer in 1986 before being discharged in 1993. Since August 2015 she has been involved with the new Veterans Centre Sydney Northern Beaches at Dee Why RSL, advising on support services for veterans in our local community. I'm proud to represent an electorate that has hardworking individuals such as Deborah, and I congratulate her on her success. Thank you.

Editors Note: Deborah, on behalf of the Sub-Branch, a well deserved recognition!



In August, Darren and I travelled to Canada, England and Italy.

Whilst in England, we had the pleasure of visiting Windsor Castle and Eton College at the start of the week.

We also visited Runnymede Air Forces Memorial in Surrey. The Memorial commemorates more than 20,000 airmen and women who were lost in WW2, who have no known grave. The operations were from bases in the United Kingdom and North and Western Europe.

Amongst a total of 20,275 identified casualties listed on panels, we located the name of Frank Sidney Hawkes, F/O 423287, RAAF, died 27 Aug 1944, age 33 years, who flew the Lancaster. Frank disappeared on operations over Germany. Our very good friend, Phillip Hawkes, was only 5 years old when his father died.

We then took up residence in the village of Minster Lovell in the Cotswolds in the Old Swan Hotel c.1445, for the next few days. From here, we could visit many other villages, and places of interest, namely Highclere Castle, the film set of Downton Abbey, Blenheim Palace, the birth home of Sir Winston Churchill, and Althorp House, which is home for Charles Spencer, 9th Earl Spencer. We met and had our photo taken with Lord Spencer. As you no doubt know, it was the home of, and now resting place for his sister, the late Diana, Princess of Wales. Finally, we went to Bletchley Park, home of the Codebreakers in WW2.

In Minster Lovell, one old pub, The White Hart, had a memorial mural on their side wall. We thought it poignant, so we just had to stop, pay our respects and quench our thirst!



Runnymede Air Forces Memorial



Bletchley Park, Milton Keynes, home of the Codebreakers in WW2.

We saw a very interesting demonstration of The Turing Bombe, conducted by John Pickles, the son of one of the Codebreakers!



October

10, 1917

Battle of Poelcappelle, Western Front. Australian divisions continued to attack in the third battle of Ypres. The attack on Poelcappelle, launched amid heavy rain, was to cost 1250 casualties for no gain of ground.

21, 1916

5th Australian Division on Western Front. The 5th Australian Division entered the front line near Flers on the Somme. By October the Somme battlefield was a waste of mud-bound craters. The troops' misery is depicted in the Somme Winter diorama in the Memorial's galleries.

30, 1918

Armistice with Turkey. Armistice signed with Turkey, ending Turkish involvement in the First World War. Australian troops had taken a prominent part in the war against the Ottoman empire, especially on Gallipoli and in Sinai-Palestine.

November

01, 1914

First AIF sails. The first Australian and New Zealand contingent sails from Albany, Western Australia, bound for Egypt. Only one in three of those who sailed in the first convoy would return physically unscathed at the end of the First World War.

08, 1944

"G for George" arrives at Amberley. This Lancaster bomber survived 89 operations with No. 460 Squadron RAAF. After touring to support war loan campaigns, it was presented to the Memorial. "George" is now on display at the Memorial in Anzac Hall.

15, 1944

Australian government approves sending of Australian Women's Army Service members overseas. Australian Women's Army Service went to Lae, New Guinea, and served in the forward area for the first time. Members of the Australian Army Nursing Service and the Australian Army Medical Women's Service were already serving in New Guinea

December

03, 1914

First AIF disembarked in Egypt. Though many had expected to go to Britain, after Turkey's entry into the war the first Australian troops were sent to Egypt to protect the vital Suez Canal.

03, 1954

No. 77 Squadron RAAF returns from Korea. 77 Squadron achieved a high level of operational performance throughout the war, flying Mustangs and then Meteors.

08, 1941

Japan invades Malaya and Thailand. This attack (which occurred virtually simultaneously with the attack on Pearl Harbor) would lead within three months to the loss of Malaya and Singapore.



Battle of Poelcappelle, 10 Oct 1917



"G for George", 08 Nov 1944



77 Squadron, 03 Dec 1954

Commemorating Nashos Vietnam Veterans Day, Manly Cenotaph, Friday 16 Aug 2019. Michael Carrodus, Bill Hardman OAM, Deborah Carter, Jason Falinski MP



Commemorating Vietnam Veterans Northern Group (Long Tan Day), Palm Beach RSL Club. Sunday 18 Aug 2019. Michael Carrodus, Deborah Carter





Dad was born on 23 July 1935 in Auburn, NSW.

The sixth of 12 children to Fanny and Arthur, he spent his younger years doing what most kids would do in a poor, working class family – playing outdoors, in the local bush and creek, building slingshots, hunting small animals and the like. As a large family in a small house, he always shared a room, and often a bed, with a brother for most of his younger life.

There are very few photos of dad in his youth, and his world was shaped by his Mother dying suddenly when he was 15, precipitating his father to clear out and leave him to be largely being brought up by his sisters and brothers. I think this event and his absent Dad very much shaped how he would live his life as a man and father. We learn from both good and bad role models in life.

At age 15, with no money, limited education and few prospects, Colin Petersen was accepted into the Royal Australian Air Force as an Engineering apprentice and became an instrument fitter on aircraft.

Colin spent 24 years in the Air Force, travelling around the world and rising to become a Warrant Officer. He spent time in the UK and the USA on projects, including going to MIT as part of the team who coded and brought the first aircraft flight simulator to Australia, powered by a room full of computers.

Rather than spend the rest of his career there, he chose to leave, and held a range of jobs, but I think none really gave him the same satisfaction, and the routine, that he got from his Air Force days. He retired from

paid work quite early, and focused his time working at home, helping me and others renovate houses, and fixing broken stuff that people would bring him – almost always without accepting any payment.

I think Dad figured out his purpose in life was to help other people; to use his skills and knowledge in a way that solved problems for others. This gave him a real sense of satisfaction. There was nothing he liked more than taking a problem down to his backyard workshop and figuring out how to solve it. He loved working with his mind and his hands, leaving a lasting impact on his world around him – fixing wrongs, making things right, making objects work better.

Given his reserved nature and comfort with his own company, Mum's death five years ago was a challenge for Dad. She was the social organizer for them both, and so he was forced to get back out into the world and become sociable – not an easy thing for one at that stage of his life.

I was so pleased that he was able to connect into the Pittwater RSL Garden and Day clubs, and he built a new network of friends to share interests and spend time with.

Dad didn't have an easy childhood in a large family during the post-depression world of the 1930's and 40's, but his character, commitment and drive allowed him to make his way in the world, to develop a family, to buy a home and provide safety, security and certainty for the ones he loved. From humble beginnings, with odds stacked against him, my dad, Colin Petersen carved out an existence and created the environment for me, my family, and his friends to live a better-off life than he did – and is there anything else you could hope to do as a father – to give your kids a better chance than you had?

Dad was a tremendous man, husband, father, grandfather, friend and role model, and everyone is better off from having known and loved him. There's a Col Petersen sized hole in our hearts that will be hard to fill, and it's hard to accept that the smell of Old Spice After Shave won't come wafting up our stairs on a Sunday morning anymore.

Colin's funeral was held on 03 June 2019.

Everyman's Welfare Service

Sandra May-Crabb

At our Sub-Branch meeting on Sunday 11 August, we had a very interesting presentation by Jeff Greene, National Relations Manager. Since 1940, this invaluable organisation has been serving Australian Defence Force Personnel, Allies, Families and Veterans.

Their most visible association are the Everyman Brew Trucks that provide refreshments and moral support to our service personnel in the field.

For more information, please refer to their website: <http://www.everymans.org.au/>. From here, you can read more about their reps, history, projects, locations, etc, and how you can make a personal donation.

General

Mission

Providing for the well-being, care, compensation and commemoration of all Service personnel, especially those who paid the supreme sacrifice.

We engage with the general community promoting the patriotic spirit of ANZAC, providing information on our activities, and encouraging membership of, and interaction with, the Sub-Branch and their families.

Welfare

Our Welfare and Membership Officer can assist you with enquiries regarding war pensions, obtaining service records, membership eligibility and any other queries you may have.

Please contact Deborah Carter on 8401 0785, or send an email to: pittwaterslsubbranch@gmail.com

Australian Air Power Today

Darren Crabb, Vice-President

I have recently had two articles published in the magazine, Australian Air Power Today, which is published by Flight Publishing Pty Ltd NSW. You may find these of interest.

March 2019 - The A-37B Dragonfly, pages 26-29.

http://australianairpowertoday.com.au/aapt/public_html/digital/March19/mobile/index.html

August 2019 - Cold War Tornado Kill, pages 12, 13, 15.

http://australianairpowertoday.com.au/aapt/public_html/digital/August19/mobile/index.html



October, November, December

Sandra May-Crabb

John Roxburgh 01 Oct
Wal Williams 10 Oct
Peter Williams 15 Oct
James Roche 19 Oct
Ed Koeppen 26 Oct
Zamri Burns 27 Oct
Joe Crumlin 29 Oct

Paul Batson 01 Nov
Carolyn Noble 08 Nov
Bert Brownlie 11 Nov
Aldo Sirotic 17 Nov
Jonathon Conrad 20 Nov
Keith Stevens 27 Nov

Phil Lewis 01 Dec
Joseph Chase-Berry 01 Dec
Bill Underwood 03 Dec
Sandra Langfield 04 Dec
John Faul 05 Dec
Kate Burns 08 Dec
Robert Wood 10 Dec
Brian Sargeson 15 Dec
Dennis De Silva 15 Dec
Chris Christensen 17 Dec
Guy Bryant 21 Dec
Stan Juracich 25 Dec
Alfred Siddons 28 Dec
Ted Blackwood 30 Dec

We Need Your Profile

Many members have already provided their profiles. If you haven't done so, how about making 2020 the year to provide 250-300 words about your career.

Please email your copy to Sandra at smay44@bigpond.net.au Thank you.

50 Year Certificate

If you have been a Sub-Branch Member, continuously of any Branch, for longer than 50 years, please contact Deborah as soon as possible. Thank you.

On The Horizon



Sun 13 Oct	10:30am	Meeting	Auditorium
Sun 10 Nov	10:30am	Meeting	Auditorium
Mon 11 Nov	10:20am	Remembrance Day Service	Pittwater RSL Club, Form up lower carpark
Mon 11 Nov	12:00 noon	Lunch	Distillery
Sun 08 Dec	10:30am	Meeting	Auditorium
Sun 08 Dec	12:00 noon	Christmas Lunch	Auditorium

Executive Committee - Contact Numbers

Deborah Carter	President	0414 470 913
Michael Carrodus	Senior Vice President	0414 669 190
Darren Crabb	Vice President	0407 042 547
Graeme Lee	Secretary	0490 014 693
John Ward	Treasurer	0408 236 628
Bob Wood	Assistant Treasurer	0409 712 349
Joan Wood	Pastoral Care Officer	0407 931 987

