



Dear Sub Branch members

I am pleased to be able to nominate for election to the position of Cairns Sub Branch President following the recent resignation of the President.

As some of you might know, following my leaving the role of Mayor of Cairns some 14 years ago, I have spent a good deal of time working in and mostly out of Australia in management roles in the oil and gas development space in PNG. I returned to Cairns on a permanent basis in 2016. I have had a long association with the Cairns Sub Branch since arriving here on a posting to the then 51 Independent Rifle Company in 1982. It was there I served with Duncan Walker and other luminaries of the club membership many of whom I am still connected with today. In my 18 year military career I served in various capacities in four different battalions of the Royal Australian Regiment including on active service as well as instructor appointments at the Jungle Warfare School Canungra, the Joint Services College in Lae, Papua New Guinea and finally as Senior Instructor at the Royal Military College, Duntroon. I also served in a staff officer secondment role to the Commander of the Papua New Guinea Defence Force at the time of Independence. I served all over Australia and overseas seeing service in SVN, Malaysia, Singapore, Rhodesia and Papua New Guinea.

My other pursuits over the years have included 11 years as the Mayor of Cairns and a number of years in organisational management roles including regional and national advocacy appointments both here and overseas. I am currently Executive Manager of Enterprise North, a regional advocacy member organisation which as the name suggests serves the interests of those who seek to seek development policies and infrastructure to grow and develop Northern Australia. I have served on numerous commercial and NFP boards and management committees and I am currently a director on the board of Cootharinga NQ

The purpose of my nomination at this time is to provide some stability and clarity to the Sub Branch leadership team in dealing with ongoing Sub Branch management issues and strengthen the relationship between the Sub Branch and the RSL Club entity which is crucial to the ongoing viability of the Sub Branch as well as ensuring our long term viability on the current Esplanade location. These issues have been around for some time and remain largely unresolved. As the property owner it is incumbent on the Sub Branch to act professionally in the best interests of both entities and our members.

I am mindful of the enormous respect that our organisation and current and ex service members enjoy in the wider Cairns community, and importantly nationally. The very existence RSL Sub Branches and member clubs everywhere are being challenged every day. We need to be demonstrate that we are a professional organisation in everything we do and we will need robust business plans to survive into the future. I am confident that I will bring a range of skills to the Cairns Sub Branch to make a worthwhile contribution to our ongoing future and I seek your support for my nomination.

Please do not hesitate to contact me here at 0418750165 for any additional information.