



RSL
Cairns Sub Branch

2022 Annual Report

18 June 2023



'Caring For Our Defence Family'.

admin@crslsb.org.au

www.crslsb.org.au

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115 The Esplanade, Cairns, Nth Qld, 4870



RETURNED & SERVICES LEAGUE OF AUSTRALIA

QUEENSLAND BRANCH

DIRECTOR'S DUTIES

1. Act with reasonable care and diligence

Ask yourself: Would someone who was observing me think that I was being careful and conscientious in my duties as a Director?

2. Act honestly in the best interests of the League and support the RSL Objects

Ask yourself: Is the decision in the best interests of the League and does it further the RSL Objects?

3. Not misuse the position of being a Director

Ask yourself: Am I using my position on the Board for the benefit of the League achieving the RSL Objects and for no other reason?

4. Not to misuse information obtained in performing duties as a Director

Ask yourself: Am I using information I obtained as a Director for the benefit of the League and for no other reason?

5. Disclose any actual or perceived conflict of interest

Ask yourself: Would an independent observer think I was acting in my own interests?

6. Ensure the entity's financial affairs are managed responsibly

Ask yourself: Are there systems and processes in place to ensure monies are being used appropriately and protected from misuse.

7. Not allow the entity to operate while insolvent

Ask yourself: Will the entity be able to pay its debts when they fall due?

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Ode

They shall grow not old as we that are left grow old
 Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn
 At the going down of the sun and in the morning
 We will remember them

Lest We Forget

Vale

The following Defence Family members of the Sub Branch have passed in 2022.
 We pay our most humble respects to both them and their families,
We will remember them.



Source: RSLQ MMS

Membership ID	First Name	Last Name
1019058	Desmond	Vizzard
1003119	Keith	Wallace
2408702	Bruce	Potts
1016881	Clive	Gordon
1004605	Paul	Grant
1504671	John	Solomon
1521329	Mial	Bingarape
1003039	Terence	Darcy
1734243	Ian	Orrell
1763051	Graham	Fraser
1760816	Nicholas	Watling
1006914	Michael	McCarthy

2022 Board of Directors

As of 31st December 2022

Jeff Langham	President	Jan - Sept 22
Nathan Shingles	Director	Jan – Oct 22
	President	Oct - Dec 22
Ben Hemphill	Treasurer	Jan – Dec 22
Gordon Burgess	Director	Jan – Oct 2
Craig Maher	Director	Jan – Dec 22
Neil Turnbull	Director	Jan – Dec 22
Rob Lee	Director	Jan – Dec 22
Gillian Bryant	Director	Oct – Dec 22

Mal McCullough	Secretary/Executive Officer
Lucy Cahill	A/Secretary/A/Office Manager

Director Name	Meetings Available	Meetings Attended	Apology/ Absent
Jeffrey Langham	5	4	1
Ben Hemphill	10	8	2
Nathan Shingles	10	10	
Neil Turnbull	10	10	
Rob Lee	10	7	3
Gordon Burgess	9	5	4
Craig Maher	10	8	2
Gillian Bryant	1	1	

Presidents Report

Nathan Shingles
President

2022 has been filled with challenges and triumphs, but the Cairns RLS Sub Branch has managed to overcome them and has continued to support its members and their families, always having our mission and vision of 'Caring for our Defence' families as our number one priority.

The 2022 board of directors has worked tirelessly over the last year, they have displayed dedication and a strong work ethic giving their time to assist in working on the Objects of the League. After nine years on the Board of Directors, Mr. Ben Hemphill will be standing down as Treasurer. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Ben for all that he has done for the Sub Branch and all that has achieved while he has been on the Cairns RLS Sub Branch Board.

Thank you to the Administration team – Lucy Cahill, and Gerry Webb for all they have done over the last 12 months, and the amazing work they have done in organising and continuing to grow our event portfolio.

The following events were successfully held in 2022:

- International Women's Day High Tea
- Anzac Day Dawn Service and March
- Peacekeeper Peacemaker event
- Christmas in July Trivia Night
- Vietnam Veterans Day
- Thank you for your Service – Gala Dinner
- Remembrance Day
- Monthly Morning Teas
- Monthly 'KickStart your Day' Breakfasts
- Mental Health Week Event
- Veterans Health Week Event
- Golf 3 Day event
- Volunteers Christmas Party
- Cairns Veteran Business Networking Quarterly Events
- Time to Remember - Morning Tea
- New Years Eve Party
- Christmas Event - HMAS Cairns
- Youth Events - Youth Development Program
- Health, Safety and Wellbeing Forum

To be able to achieve and put these events together you need a team of volunteers to assist. I would like to thank our volunteers who continue to support and care for our defence families.

Our volunteers include all those who undertake duties on the Sub Branch Board, Advocates, Museum Volunteers, well-being, Commemorative Events, and Celebration Events and Requiems. Without their support, we wouldn't be able to do what we do for our Defence Community.

Our programs, services, and events have continued to grow in 2022 and we have continued to engage with stakeholders to make sure that we are providing services to our members and their families.

This year the Sub Branch developed and successfully implemented the Youth Development Program into its portfolio. This program is aimed at Veteran Teen 12 to 17 years of age. We recognized that there was a gap in services available to teens and worked hard on developing a program that enabled teens to develop friendships, skills, and confidence. We were fortunate in being awarded a grant from Defence Members and Family Support which has allowed us to employ a part time Youth Coordinator to run events and programs. We have received positive feedback from this program and look forward to its continued growth.

Through RSL Queensland we have been able to secure a grant, which has allowed us to make improvements to the building and facilities for the benefit of our members. This grant will also see us move forward in 2023 with Solar installation to the RSL Building.

We are one of the largest Sub Branch's in the District and we are continuing to grow. We have been working hard on promoting the Sub Branch to younger veterans especially those still serving. Relationships with HMAS Cairns and FNQ 51st Battalion are strong, and we have seen a steady increase in serving members joining the Sub Branch.

2023 will see the Strategic plan being up for review and this will be done in consultation and collaboration with our membership.

In conclusion, the past year has been busy but fruitful for our sub-Branch. I am proud of our achievements and am confident that we will continue to thrive in the coming year. Thank you all for your support and commitment, and I look forward to working together to further the success of our sub-Branch.

Nathan Shingles
President

Motion:

"That the Presidents Report as tabled be adopted."

Moved:

Seconded:

Treasurers Report

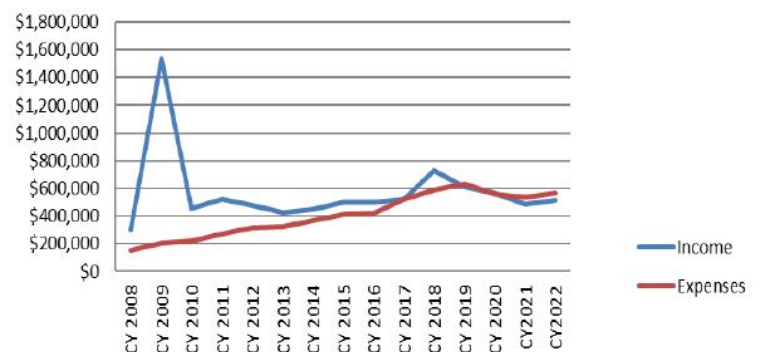
Ben Hemphill
Treasurer

It is my opinion that the Cairns RSL Sub Branch Inc is solvent and have reasonable grounds to believe that the Cairns RSL Sub Branch Inc will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

Key Points - 2022 Financials

- Operational loss of \$52,875
- Income increased by \$24,504 from EOFY 2021
- Expenditure increased by \$26,862 from EOFY 2021
- No Significant change to source of income. RSL Club Rental contribution and Loan Settlement as the major sources of income.
 - \$2474 – Interest earned
 - \$62,334 - Grants
- Expenses
 - \$102,381.66 – Building Works
 - Wages \$150K (Rounded Figure)
 - \$16,344 spent on advocacy, welfare
 - \$2,630.64 on Museum

Income/Expenses 2008 - 2022



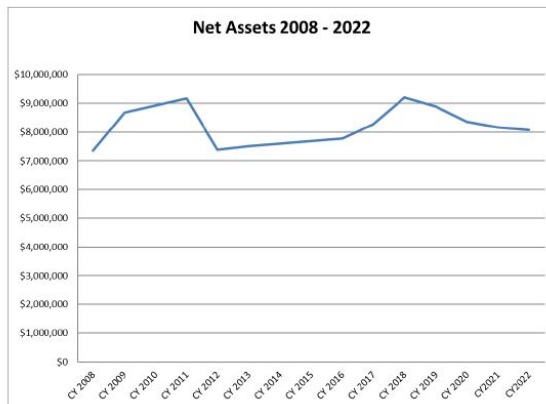
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2018 to 2022 Yearly Comparison

Net Assets influenced by:-

- a. Negative trend influenced by the years of account practices as a result of the Amortisation of the Development/Loan Asset + Depreciation of Plant and Equipment.
- b. \$157K downward movement from 2021.
 - i. Development amortization
 - ii. Refer Note 12

It is the intention of the officers that the Subbranch will keep the development application in its present form until the future of the re-development project can be decided. If the development does not proceed, the capitalised development costs would be fully impaired and would need to be written down to nil. The development costs are being amortised from the date of renewal on **13 August 2018 to the date of expiration on 13 August 2024.**

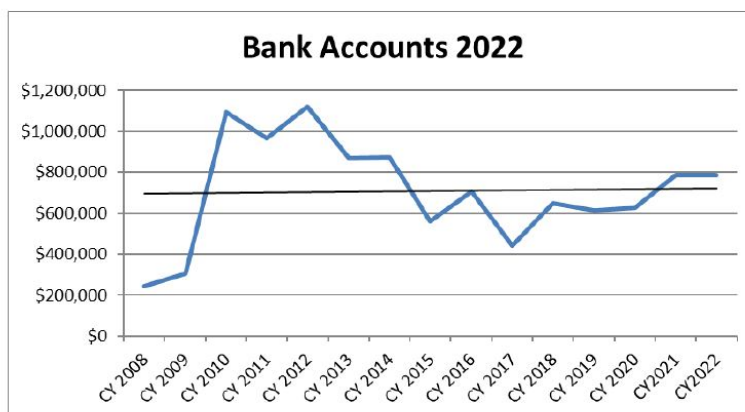


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Bank Accounts – EOFY 2022

Key Bank Account Points:-

- a. Decrease in balance of \$600 from previous year
- b. Ongoing \$100K yearly cash injection for next 8 years
- c. \$2,474 in earned interest.
- d. Term investments to be moved across multiple institutions for risk mitigation



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Management Report Key Points 2022

Key Points carried forward from previous AGM's:-

- All Aspects completed
- No areas of concerns raised within Audit Report

	Rating
1. Provision for Doubtful Debts	A
2. Provision for Non-Recoverability of Loan	A
3. Lack of adequate security in respect of loan to club	A
4. Unspent Grants	A
5. Building Maintenance Programme	A
6. Adjustments to Financial Statements	B

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Key Financial Numbers – 2022

Key Numbers in the Audit Report

- \$6,000,000.00 – Land and Building Valuation. New Valuation to take place in 2023
- \$800,000.00 – Remaining Amount of the Financial Settlement with the RSL Club
- \$400,000 (Approx) – Rental Income from RSL Club
- Board Expenses - Repayment of DVA Grant (not executed correctly utilized) - \$8,764.28
- Building Repairs – \$102,381.66
- Insurance - \$51,624.56
- Rates - \$67,479.52
- Cash at Hand - \$785,288 (31st Dec 2022)
- Net Operating Position - **-\$52,875**



Caring for Our Defence Family



Caring For Our Defence Family

RSL
Cairns Sub Branch

The Subbranch is in a healthy financial position.

We can continue to maintain our core function – Caring For Our Defence Family through our mission and objectives

We can continue to strive to be principal ESO for our Defence Family

Ben Hemphill
Treasurer

Motion:

"That the Treasurers Report for 2022 as tabled be adopted"

Moved: Ben Hemphill **Seconded:**

Motion:

"That the Financial Audit for financial period 2021 as presented be adopted"

Moved: Ben Hemphill **Seconded:**

Motion:

"That the Board of Directors engage Grubers Beckett as auditor for the financial period 2022"

Moved: Ben Hemphill **Seconded:**

A/Officer Managers Report

Lucy Cahill
A/Officer Manager

Throughout 2022, the Cairns RSL Sub Branch has continued to grow and continued to offer services, events and opportunities for its Members and their families.

The Sub Branch Team has developed and implemented both annual events and new initiatives and services with the goal of 'Caring for our Defence Families' always at the forefront.

President Jeffrey 'Blu' Langham stepped down as president in September 2022, and we were fortunate that Board Director Nathan Shingles stepped up to take on the position as Sub Branch President. President Shingles has brought new ideas and a dedication and commitment to the Sub Branch, its future and its members, we look forward to seeing what 2023 holds.

The Sub Branch team includes both staff and volunteers who work tirelessly to deliver events and services to our members. This past year has seen the Sub Branch building its face to face events, which included introducing monthly morning teas, breakfasts and walk and talk, these events have received positive feedback. The Sub Branch has also worked on growing our main events, International Women's Day, Peacekeeper and Peacemaker Event and 'Thank you for your Service' Gala Dinner, all three events has seen a substantial growth in attendance, so much so we have had to move to a larger venue.

Other initiatives include the Cairns Veteran Business Network (CVBN), which was established to recognize and support those Veteran owned/operated businesses, or those Veteran friendly businesses who continually employ at least one Veteran. The CVBN has steadily grown and we continue to hold networking events to bring members together.

2022 saw the establishment of the Youth Development Program for Veteran teen youth 12 to 17 years of age. We recognised that there was a gap in services available to Veteran teen youth and we developed a program to help teens to build new skills and make life long friendships.

There has been continued focus on engaging greater numbers of younger veterans both ex-service and serving and the growing membership of the Cairns Veteran's Business Network is evidence of this focus. Our positive relationship with HMAS Cairns and the FNQ 51 Battalion has also seen a growth in our Serving Member Membership.

I would like to give a heartfelt thank you to the office staff, (Gerry Webb) and the volunteers who make a huge difference to the Sub Branch, we couldn't do what we do for the Defence Community without them and the amazing gift of time that they give the Sub Branch.

The Cairns RSL Sub Branch is one of the leading Ex-Services Organisations in the Far Northern District. 2022 has seen growth in our events and the services that we offer, and I look forward to seeing what 2023 holds for the Cairns RSL Sub Branch.

Lucy Cahill
A/Officer Manager

Motion:

"That the A/Office Managers Report as tabled be adopted".

Moved:

Seconded:

Membership

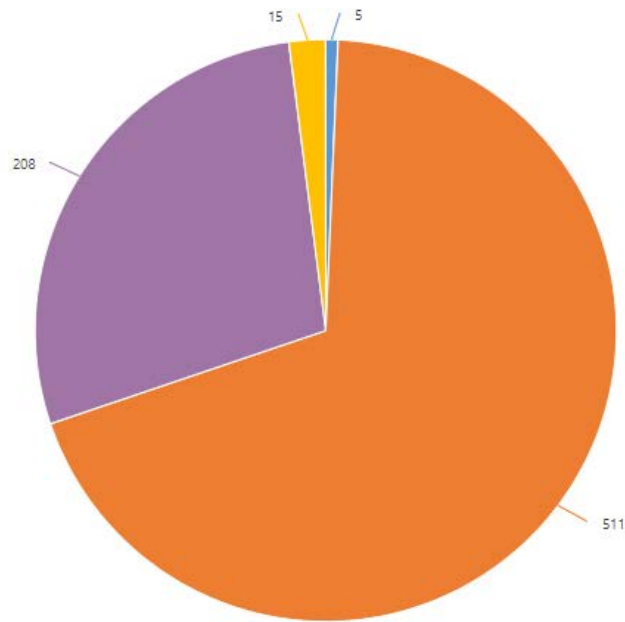
@ December 2022

Dashboard - Financial Members



Service Members by Category

● Life Member
 ● Life Subscriber
 ● Service Member
 ● Special Status



		<26 yrs	26-35 yrs	36-45 yrs	46-55 yrs	56-65 yrs	66-75 yrs	76-85 yrs	86+ yrs	Total	>65 yrs	% >65
Far Northern District												
	Cairns Sub Branch Inc.	10	31	61	68	105	200	185	66	726	468	64%
Grand Total		10	31	61	68	105	200	185	66	726	468	64%

Wellbeing Report

Wellbeing Clients/Welling being Calls	111
Hospital Wellbeing Visits @ Private	171
Public Aged Care Wellbeing Visits	54
Private Home WellBeing Visits	2
Emergency accommodation nights provision	1
Advocate Appointments	364

Volunteers 2022

Registered Active volunteers	43
Advocate	3
Board only	6
Board/events	1
Hospital visits	4
Events only	7
Requiems	3
Events/museum guide	1
Events/stalls	5
Events/Marketing	2
Museum only	66
Office only	1
Museum/weapons	1
Visits and events	1
Pipes and Drums band	99

Marketing Report

Lucy Cahill

Marketing and Events Coordinator

2022 started on a high with another successful International Women's Day event, held at the Shangri La on the Marina, we had a record 180 people attend the event. Councilor Amy Eden was the Guest Speaker, and the Executive Officer of Legacy was the MC. Positive feedback was received from the event and the Cairns RSL Sub Branch aims to grow this event in 2023.

Anzac Day 2022 saw the wettest Dawn Service and March on record, but this did not stop people from attending the Dawn Service and March with record crowds recorded. 2022 saw the Army take the lead, providing the Guest Speaker and leading the March. The theme for Anzac 2022 was the 80th Anniversary of the Battle of the Coral Sea. The Navy will take the lead in 2023 and the theme will be the 50th Anniversary of the end of Australia's involvement in the Vietnam War.

The Cairns RSL Sub Branch continued to hold annual events which included the Annual Peacekeeper/Peacemaker event, the 'Thank you for your Service' Gala Dinner, Vietnam Veterans Day, and Remembrance Day Services. We held three Veterans Health Week events which included the Wellness Challenge, with members from both HMAS Cairns and FNQ 51 Battalion attending, a 3-day Golf Event, and Breakfast on the Esplanade. We also held our first Christmas in July Trivia night which was a sold-out event and very well received by our membership.

The Cairns Veterans Business Network (CVBN) has been steadily growing in numbers, at the end of 2022 we had 40 members of the CVBN. Three networking functions were held and industry experts from the Marketing and Financial Industries attended as well as Major Ben Lanskey, Regional Engagement Manager - Queensland Defence Reserves and Employer Support, and Deborah Scott-Ranson from RSL Queensland Fundraising and Grants attended to advise on Grants and Funding available to Veteran Businesses.

The Cairns RSL Sub Branch monthly 'Kick Start your Day' Breakfasts continued through 2022. These breakfasts were held on the second Sunday of the month. The breakfasts have been a tremendous success with 40 to 60 Cairns RSL Sub Branch Members and their families attending each month, the feedback we have received has been overwhelmingly positive.

Monthly morning teas and Walk and Talk on the Esplanade were introduced in 2022 and have been extremely popular and will continue in 2023.

Our events and marketing portfolio has significantly grown, and we continue to be recognised as one of Cairns' leading Ex-Service Organisations. We have continued to develop strong relationships with stakeholders. We partnered with the Cairns Defence Community Support Group to hold a Youth Event for teens 12 to 17 years, and a New Year's Eve Party in the Catalina Room. We also partnered with HMAS Cairns, Legacy, the Cairns Defence Community Support Group, and Defence Families and Support Services to hold a Christmas Party at HMAS Cairns, this was the first time in many years that Veterans were invited on board HMAS Cairns

Our online growth and engagement have continued to grow steadily through tools such as Facebook, Instagram, our own Website, and Email Marketing. Over 38,000 emails were sent out from our MailChimp account, with a 43.9% open rate. Our website is continuing to grow, and we are continuing to see growth and an increase in the number of users, in 2022 we had over 14,000 people visit our website. Our Facebook page has grown from 2575 in January 2022 to 2961 in December 2022, with a Facebook page reach for 2022 of 101,388. We have also seen steady growth on our Instagram page reaching 3,067 people in 2022.

We successfully achieved Key event and marketing goals for 2022.

Brand Awareness

We have continued to grow the Cairns RSL Sub Branch, brand awareness by sending fortnightly E-Sit Reps, regularly posting blogs on our social media and webpage, and keeping our social media, both Facebook and Instagram, regularly updated. We also attended a number of stakeholder events which include the Bunnings Easter Event, Welcome to Cairns Open Days, HMAS Cairns events, Little Diggers (running the BBQ) as well as attending a number of events representing the Sub Branch.

Relationships with key stakeholders

The Cairns RSL Sub Branch has successfully established relationships with Key Stakeholders, attending quarterly Stakeholder meetings run by Defence Members and Family Support. Also, partnering with the Cairns Defence Community Support Group, FNQ Legacy and Defence Members and Family Support to hold events. We have also continued to work closely with the HMAS Cairns and 51st Battalion to successfully hold commemorative services.

Fundraising

Throughout 2022 we have continued to run annual fundraising events. This included our online merchandise stall, sale of books and kit Submarines which were donated to the museum as well as attending various events to promote and sell merchandise. We also had merchandise stalls set up at commemorative events, for people to purchase wreaths and poppies. We also held a number of raffles and 100 clubs to raise money to hold our events.

To conclude, 2022 was an extremely busy year for the Cairns RSL Sub Branch, in October we farewelled Mr. Jeffery Langham and welcomed new President Mr. Nathan Shingles. All events held were deemed a success. 2023 we will continue to deliver successful events, support members and their families, and will continue to strive to create programs, activities, events, and initiatives to increase awareness, grow memberships, and engage with members and their families.

Lucy Cahill
Events and Marketing Coordinator

Motion:

"That the Marketing Report as tabled be adopted."

Moved:

Seconded:

Administration and Volunteer Coordinator Report

Elizabeth Maguire
Administration Officer
Volunteer Coordinator

In March 2023, I became a part of the Cairns RSL Sub Branch team, taking over from Gerry Webb who retired from the role. I have discovered this is a busy role and have quickly learnt that it covers a range of difference tasks that can be both challenging and rewarding.

In the 2 months that I have been here it has been eye opening to see what the Cairns RSL Sub Branch achieves for its members and the wider community. Having not come from a military background this has been a learning curve for me. Yet one I am enjoying so far.

2022 saw the start of the volunteers returning after Covid restrictions where lifted.

Our advocates have been busy assisting veterans with DVA claims, and our Wellbeing Supports Officers have been out and about visiting veterans in hospitals and doing wellbeing checks.

Our Museum Volunteers have spent numerous Thursday morning cleaning the museum and arranging new displays and are now back in full swing. The museum Volunteers have also coordinated Scout and Cub Groups to come through the museum in the evening and the feedback has been positive from all.

We had many volunteers helping with all the commemorative events, from setups, merchandise sales, First Aid Spotters to Bus Shuttle Drivers.

Volunteer of the Year for 2022 was Mr. Stan Carswell, who has been untiring in his commitment to wellbeing requiems, and events. Mr. Carswell has dedicated many years to volunteering and has carried out more than 150 requiems for deceased veterans.

Elizabeth Magurie
Admin and Volunteer Coordinator

Motion:

"That the Administration and Volunteer Coordinator Report as tabled be adopted."

Moved: **Seconded:**

Volunteer Register

Below is a list of our 43 very valuable active Volunteers that have assisted the Sub Branch in 2022 in our aim of ***‘Caring For Our Defence Family’***

Volunteer of the 2022 Year Stan Carswell

Surname	First		Surname	First
Adams	Christopher		Moule	Desley
Adams	Kim		Neil	Michael
Bird	Mary-Anne		Nicholson	Mark
Bradley	Hayden		Paterson	John
Cahill	Lucy		Redgen	Matthew
Callerame	David		Richards	Ian
Carlin	Kieran		Ross	Findlay
Carswell	Stanley		Royle	Christopher
Crossley	William		Saliba	Mark
Derrington	Scott		Shingles	Nathan
Diprose	Ronald		Simmonds	Mark
Dunstan	Melanie		Smith	Erica
Forster	Nathan		Spurrier	Jennifer
Greenwood	Lee-Ann		Stapleton	Joseph
Hartman	Roy		Tooth	Gerald
Hayton	Peter		Tully	Brendan
Hemphill	Benjamin		Turnbull	Neil
Johns	Darryl		Watson	Phillip
Lee	Rob		Webb	Gerard
Maconachie	William		Whaling	Brian
Maher	Craig			
McLennan	Jason			
Mills	Carol			

Museum Report

Craig Maher
Museum Curator

In February 2022, I was appointed Museum Curator by the then Executive Officer, taking over from Hayden Bradley who had to step down for personal reasons. Throughout 2022, the Museum Volunteers proudly accomplished the following:

- Ten glass cabinets acquired from the Mossman RSL Sub-Branch in September 2021 were all rearranged, trimmed with timber and displays organised. Intention is to clad/paint the kickboards to make them more uniform. A big thank you to Hayden Bradley for organising these cabinets through the Mosman RSL; it has saved the CRSLSB many thousands of dollars.
- The Armoury was repanelled with commercial slat wall panelling. The weapons display was completely re-organised by our Armourer – Gerry Webb and looks great. Work was commenced to panel the reveals of the cabinets with ply. Planned work for the future will be the progressive restoration of our weapons and their further interpretation.
- Stubby Stapleton made a beautiful book stand for our World War One - Lost Anzacs book.
- Bill Maconachie continued to organise, grow, and ‘fine-tune’ our displays and has organised the framing of many items. He also continued to care for our commemorative rosemary on the balcony; a job he has done for us for many years.
- Many more items were donated to the Museum throughout 2022. These includes uniforms, medals, badges, photos, diaries, military equipment, pictures, and models. I would like to thank all of those who have trusted our museum to be custodians of their items. Significant items include:
 - Framed D Company flag from 31/42 Battalion, Royal Queensland Regiment, presented by Battalion members on 17th February 2022. This was the first item for a Porton Barracks display that we hope to tell about the Army presence in Cairns.
 - Model of Lincoln Bomber from Mr. Roy Hartman
 - Bronze statue of a Fuzzy Wuzzy Angel and wounded Digger from Mr. Bill (Slim) Maconachie
 - Full replica Digger’s kit from 75th Anniversary of Kokoda march from WO1 Andrew (Dusty) Miller
 - Ceremonial liferings and uniforms from HMAS Cairns
 - Stand down bronze statue from Mr. Bill Crossley
- Twenty-four additional new spotlights were installed onto the existing lightrails throughout the Museum, including a new lightrail and 5 spotlights in the Armoury. These have made a significant improvement to the Museum, eliminating blackspots.
- New display boards were made by Stubby and I for the four World War One cabinets to create more space inside the cabinets.

- Hayden and I visited CO HMAS Cairns – CMDR Alfie Santos, SWO – WO Paul Priddy and CPO Blue Ridley to discuss possible items for donation. Kind donation of 2 x ceremonial liferings and numerous uniform items were sourced and kindly donated. Further investigation into other items would be arranged. Also, initiatives to increase interaction between serving and retired ADF personnel were also discussed to be actioned through 2023.
- There were two significant VIP visits to the Museum. These included:
 - On 8 April 2022, the Japanese Ambassador, Mr Shingo Yamagami visited. He was impressed with the Museum and interested in the possible repatriation of some of our Japanese items if offered.
 - On 22 April 2022, the Shadow Defence Minister, Mr Brendan O'Connor visited. He enjoyed his visit and was very interested in the Japanese Ambassadors visit earlier.
- A Community Heritage grant of \$5500 was applied for from the National Library. Unfortunately, this was unsuccessful. We'll try again when the opportunity arises again.
- The search for a new standardised system to label and interpret our items was commenced. Hayden showed us what can be done with a laser engraver by the creation of cheese boards as gifts and making table decorations for the TYFYS dinner.
- Storage underneath cabinets was organised and significant space created.
- Flyer drops around our region, and the country, continued, including to other museums, visitor centres etc. Special thanks to Stubby Stapleton in assisting with this while he Grey Nomads
- Two full sized mannequins and four torsos (two female) mannequins were purchased to facilitate uniform displays.
- Numerous sizes of clear acrylic risers purchased to enhance and better organise displays in cabinets.
- Initial sorting of excess uniforms was started.
- Mould remediation efforts were started including lots of cleaning and installing damp absorbers in cabinets. Bill Maconachie kindly donated a dehumidifier.
- Finally, I would like to thank the Kokoda Hall Museum Volunteers over 2022 for all their unsung efforts, especially the endless cleaning and sorting! – Bill Maconachie, Stubby Stapleton, Gerry Webb, Roy Hartman, Ian Richards, Hayden Bradley, and Bill Crossley. I would also like to thank and welcome Matt and Blue, who joined our group in 2022. All are welcome to join us.

Craig Maher
Museum Curator

Motion:

"That the Museum Report as tabled be adopted".

Moved: **Seconded:**

Building Report

Craig Maher/Neil Turnbull
Director

The Board of the Cairns RSL Sub Branch has continued to maintain, repair and upgrade various parts of the Sub Branch building and its surrounds over the last 12 months. Contractors have been increasingly difficult to procure due to high demand but the Cairns RSL Sub Branch Board and done their best to achieve acceptable outcomes for all parties.

The items of maintenance carried out include but are not limited to the following:

1. Cleaning, repairing, repainting, and cladding the remaining side of the Aquarius side of the building. This is the area outside of the Museum wall.
2. Bird Proofing has been progressively installed to mitigate damage and corrosion.
3. Continued cleaning of the remaining roof structures has been carried out as required.
4. Rendering that was delaminating on the entry wall to the building was repaired and repainted.
5. Repair of the Egress Doors in the club gaming area - replacement of the panic bars and minor maintenance was conducted to the double exit doors from the gaming room to Florence Street.
6. A reoccurring leak in the first-floor storeroom was investigated and rectified by contractor - Billy Preece.
7. New A/C compressor was installed in the TAB after the old unit had failed.
8. Roof cleaning and re-screwing was carried out on the building prior to the installation of the new Solar power system being installed on the Roof.
9. This solar system was researched by the Sub Branch starting in 2022 and a grant was applied for from RLS Queensland that was successful for the amount of \$34,679 and additional request for \$7664 was also applied for and we were successful in receiving the additional funds. Having overcome some unforeseen delays with contractors etc the work is now near completed. We would like to thank RSL Queensland for their help and assistance in securing funding for this project.

Future Considerations

- Resurfacing of Carpark
- Renovation of Kitchen/servy on the first floor
- Painting of Catalina Room French doors

Motion:

"That the Building Report as tabled be adopted."

Moved:

Seconded:

Youth Development Program Report

Joanna Minuzzo

Youth Development Coordinator

The Kickstart Together Youth Program for teens aged between 12-17 years, was created due to the recognised, oft-forgotten, needs of the youth of serving members and veterans.

Lifestyle in Context:

- One in twenty Australian households (5.3%) report at least one person who has served or is currently serving in the ADF. (RSL QLD, 2021)
- The Defence Families Survey in 2019 found that 78% of survey respondents had relocated at least once in the period between 2015- 2019.
- The 2019 survey found that some aspects of re-establishing a lifestyle after relocation were easy like transport, medical and dental. Others were more difficult to re-establish like finding special needs assistance and activities for children.
- The Family Wellbeing Study (2018) 'Dependent children may be particularly sensitive to the negative effects of a military family lifestyle; for example, the effects of frequent residential relocations and school changes while growing up, or the disruptions, stresses and increased responsibilities experienced when a parent is deployed or living far away from home.'
- 2021 Census- 13% of veterans need support with basic activities of self-care. This puts young people in a caring role for their parent/s.

The Cairns Sub-Branch has utilised the identified areas of the Family Well-being Study (2018) as evidence that resources need to be allocated to providing the young people of Cairns Defence Families an opportunity to engage with their peers in developing inner Strength, Spirit, and Resilience.

- Kickstart Together Program Youth Development Coordinator Michelle Hayden started slightly before the EOFY 2022.
- Between July 2022- November 2022, when Michelle left, the following was achieved:
 1. Stakeholder engagement, program awareness, and community connection.
 2. Kickstart Together official Launch- 10 teens attended escape rooms, funded through QLD mental health grant.
 3. Kickstart Wellness event- 8 teens attended the Fogarty Park event. Funded through a DVA grant.
 4. Aquapark end-of-year event- (after Michelle left) run by Lucy. Cairns Defence Community Support Group co-funded and co-facilitated. Very successful- 50 teens attended.

While the numbers for the events may seem low for the first two events, the following needs to be considered:

- This is a new grassroots program.
 - The teen population is a difficult group to engage with. It takes a lot of time to build trust and it's also heavily dependent on the current defence and veteran climate at the time.
 - Getting a small group of 10 teens is quite a success for this cohort.
-

Stakeholder Connections:

- DMFS- the YDC attended quarterly stakeholder meetings.
- Engagement with the Defence School Mentors
- Engagement and connection with the Cairns Defence Community Support group. There is an ongoing loop of feedback with community needs and wants.
- Mates4Mates.
- Legacy
- Kapani- with the view of running an over night camp.

Program considerations:

- Tricky age group to engage.
- Social media targeting- needs to be safe and on a platform all YP use. Despite Snapchat and Tik Tok being most utilised it has been identified as not appropriate to use for the program.
- Ratios- ensuring there is 1 adult to 10 YP. These are the recommended ratios set out by Girl Guide Australia. There is no legal ratio requirement in this age group but for the safety of all involved 1:10 is best.
- The developmental stages of the 12-17 yr old group are very different and needs to be accounted for in the event planning.

Joanna Minuzzo
Youth Development Coordinator

Motion:

"That the Youth Development Program Report as tabled be adopted".

Moved:

Seconded:

Activities 2022

Armistice Day - Host and Chair Planning Meeting
Vietnam Veterans Day - Host and Planning Meeting
ANZAC Day - Host and Chair ANZAC Day Planning Meetings
Hospital/Nursing Home Visits
Requiems
International Women's Day High Tea
Market Stalls
Kokoda Museum Displays
Schools/Scouts/Cubs Museum Tours
Swinton Learning Program Scholarship
Peace Keepers / Peacemakers Event
Fortnightly E-SIT REP
Daily Facebook and Instagram
Regular SMS Notifications
Maintenance of Web Site and Members Portal
Sponsorship Young Endeavour
Tobruk Memorial Pool Poppy Installation
Tingira Association Birthday
Veterans' Health Week - Golf Day - Breakfast - Wellness Challenge
Mental Health Week - Breakfast
Volunteer Christmas Party
Thank You For Your Service Dinner
Kickstart Wellbeing Program and Monthly Breakfasts
Members Christmas morning tea
Museum Model Sub-Marine online Sale
Cairns Defence Community Support Group – Youth Event
Cairns Defence Community Support Group (CDCSG) Sponsorship
Defence Members and Family Support, HMAS Cairns, Legacy & CDCSG joint Christmas Party
New Years Eve Party in Catalina Room
Cairns Veterans Business Network Events
Well-Being Calls
Cairns RSL Sub Branch Pipes and Drums
Stakeholder Meetings held quarterly by DMAFS
Monthly Morning Teas
Monthly Walk and Talk Group
Time to Remember Morning Tea - Legacy Grant
3 Day Golf program
Bunnings Easter Hope Event
Welcome to Cairns - DMAFS Event information stall.
Youth Development Program.



RETURNED & SERVICES LEAGUE OF AUSTRALIA

QUEENSLAND BRANCH

OBJECTS

1. Provide for the sick, helpless, wounded, aged, vulnerable, destitute and needy among those who are serving or who have served in the Australian Defence Forces and their dependants;
2. Perpetuate the close and kindly ties of friendship created by a mutual service in the Australian Defence Force or in the forces of nations traditionally allied with Australia and the recollections associated with that experience;
3. Maintain a proper standard of dignity and honour among all past and present members of the Defence Forces of the nation and to set an example of public spirit and noble hearted endeavour;
4. Preserve the memory and the records of those who suffered and died for Australia, erect monuments to their valour, provide them with suitable burial places, and establish and preserve, in their honour, the annual commemoration days known as ANZAC Day, Remembrance Day and other commemorative days;
5. Encourage loyalty to Australia and secure patriotic service in the interests of Australia;
6. Protect the good name and preserve the interests and standing of members of the Australian Defence Force;
7. Encourage Members, as citizens, to serve Australia with that spirit of self-sacrifice and loyalty with which they served as members of the Australian Defence Forces; and
8. Provide welfare to the sick, helpless, wounded, vulnerable, aged, destitute and needy.