



Kyneton RSL members at the 'Hall of Fame' Awards



L to R: Millie Gibbs, Warren Rogan, Rob Renton, Dylan Thomas and Rebecca Hemphill

The Victoria Branch of the RSL held its annual 'Hall of Fame' Awards night on Saturday, 15 February at the Frankston RSL. The awards are an opportunity to not only recognise the work of RSL Sub-Branches but also the achievements of individual employees. The awards are based on the overall excellence and development of initiatives in the areas of veteran support and commemorative activities, membership growth and initiatives and the overall quality of the Sub-Branch operations and services. The Kyneton RSL Sub-Branch received a Commendation Award in our particular category.

At the individual level, popular staff member Millie Gibbs received an Achievement and Recognition Award.

This award recognises the personal attributes and achievements of full or part-time employees who contribute to the ongoing development of the Sub-Branch, an award Millie thoroughly deserves.



Millie Gibbs accepts her award from Ian Hantos and Rebecca Dowling



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FROM THE PRESIDENT Mike Gretton

Welcome to the ANZAC Day 2025 edition of Despatch, the journal of the Kyneton RSL. Members of the Sub-Branch were very busy with a variety of events leading up to ANZAC Day, on the day itself and afterwards. Prior to ANZAC Day we gave a presentation at Langley Primary School and attended ANZAC ceremonies at Our Lady of the Rosary Parish School and Sacred Heart College. We also conducted our usual ceremonies at Respect, BUPA and Trentham Aged Care facilities which are always very well received.

ANZAC Day commenced with a solemn Dawn Service at the Cenotaph followed by a traditional Gunfire Breakfast at the RSL. During the day we either conducted or assisted with ceremonies in Kyneton, Malmsbury, Trentham and Taradale. The ceremonies were all well attended by young and old alike despite the gathering rain clouds. Fortunately the weather held off until later in the day but did nothing to dampen the spirits of those in attendance. We were honoured to have four World War II veterans attend the ceremony in Kyneton.

We also conducted a Last Post ceremony at the 'Clash of the Tigers' football/netball matches. This was the second of what is to become an ongoing ANZAC Day clash between Kyneton and Lancefield Football/Netball Clubs. The trophy, which was donated by the Kyneton RSL, was won for the first time by Lancefield. Congratulations to Kyneton players Isaac Barassi and Laura Bennie in winning the Most Courageous Player awards in their respective sports.

We wrapped up ANZAC Day ceremonies with attendance at Braemar College's ANZAC Assembly on the Tuesday following ANZAC Day. This is always a very respectful service with representatives of all Macedon Ranges RSLs in attendance.

Thanks to all those committee members, staff and volunteers for their efforts in ensuring the success of all these ceremonies. Particular thanks go to Bob Anderson, our ever-reliable Parade Marshal, Craig Bryne, who conducted the Kyneton ceremony with his usual professionalism and also assisted with some of our representative duties, Gerard Noonan for his tireless bugling and finally, Rick Morris, who gave the heartfelt ANZAC address in Kyneton. Thanks also to all those who volunteered their time to sell badges for the ANZAC Appeal which raised about \$12,500 to support our veterans.

A huge thank you to Dough Si Dough who pledged 50 cents from every coffee sold on 'Two Up Tuesday' to the ANZAC Appeal. This resulted in a donation of \$1000.

On the subject of ANZAC Day, we have been fortunate over the past few years to have had the generous support of the MRSC in covering the costs of traffic management associated with ANZAC Day. Council has now implemented an ANZAC Day Commemorative Services Support Fund which will operate from 2026. This will require RSLs in the Macedon Ranges Shire to apply for a grant from the fund to cover traffic management costs for ANZAC Day. Read in conjunction with the Council's Gambling Harm Minimisation Policy, there is uncertainty surrounding a grant being approved for traffic management costs in Kyneton in 2026. We are in discussions with the Council over this matter.

The Kyneton RSL again had success at the annual Hall of Fame Awards with the Sub-Branch receiving a Commendation Award in our category of RSL Sub-Branches. Particularly pleasing was the individual Recognition and Achievement Award going to Millie Gibbs for her outstanding contribution to the Sub-Branch.

Since our last edition we have welcomed two new committee members to the Committee – Elaine and Colin Arney. Elaine has an interest in memorabilia and will be working on cataloguing our memorabilia and library collection. Colin is gradually going to take over production of the Newsletter. We were sorry to lose the services of Joy McDermott due to family reasons. Joy was tireless in visiting our veterans and war widows and arranging transport to various appointments for them. However, there is always a silver lining and Leanne Taylor came on board at the same time as Joy left.

On the social side of things, we had a very successful bus trip to Bendigo in March with visits to Bendigo RSL's Military Museum and the Golden Dragon Museum with lunch at the Bendigo District RSL. Thanks to Leanne for organising the trip. As well as visiting our veterans, Leanne will also be organising our social events and the RSL Active program. The next 'bus trip is to the RAAF Museum at Point Cook on 12 June. There are still a few seats available on the bus. Leanne has also arranged an indoor shooting event at the Kyneton Small Rifle Club for 5 July as part of the RSL Active program.

I would like to remind all our members that the courtesy bus is for travel to and from the Kyneton RSL only. It is not for general transport to other venues in Kyneton. I would also like to ask that users of the bus respect the spirit of the appropriate donation based on the map that will be displayed in the bus. In this ever-increasing cashless society we are looking at a system whereby people can make the donation via their mobile phones.

VALE

Ronald Abruzzi	20 November 24
June Turner	1 December 24
Brian Fosskett	22 April 25
Julia Sievers	30 April 25

Lest We Forget

KYNETON RSL COURTESY BUS



**Courtesy Bus operates from
4pm Wednesday till Saturday.**

**A gold coin donation required on
boarding if pick up is in town, for any
towns just out of**

Kyneton such as;

Malmsbury, Tylden and Woodend.

**There will be a fee of \$5 per person
and a minimum of 2 if in
surrounding towns.**

To book call 5422 6735.



Kyneton RSL Management Committee 2025

OFFICE BEARERS

President:	Mike Gretton
Senior Vice President:	Brian Turley
Vice President:	Rob Renton
Secretary:	Natalie Gretton
Treasurer:	Ian Jackson
Committee:	Greg Muir, Elaine Arney, Colin Arney

ADMINISTRATION:

Manager:	Rebecca Hemphill
Bookkeeper:	Erin Downie
Pensions & Welfare:	Rob Renton, Phil Davis
Memorabilia:	Ian Jackson, Mike Gretton, Elaine Arney
Appeals:	Brian Turley
Social Events:	Ian Jackson, Leanne Taylor
Funerals:	Rob Renton, Mike Gretton
Despatch Journal Team:	Mike Gretton, Natalie Gretton, Colin Arney, Lyn Ingles



Creative: Lynette Ingles
blue pencil publishing 0429 911 980

A visit to Bendigo Military Museum...



ABOVE: At the Bendigo District RSL Military Museum. The day proved most informative and our tour guide very interesting. Well worth the visit and the weather ... perfect!



Craig Byrne explains to our interested lads some of features of the Bushmaster armoured vehicle manufactured in Bendigo.

.... and the Golden Dragon Museum



LEFT: Kyneton RSL members at the Golden Dragon Museum

BELOW: Loong, one of the oldest dragons at the Golden Dragon Museum



BECOME A MEMBER...

join the Kyneton RSL

To become a member of Kyneton RSL, all you need to do is download the appropriate membership form at the bottom of this page, or visit our RSL and fill it in, and present it to our friendly Reception staff.

New membership is \$15 for Service, Affiliate or Social Membership. Triennial membership is \$40.

Benefits of becoming a Member

- Use of all facilities
- Discounts on every drink you buy over the bar
- Discounts on main meals
- Access to member activities and sporting clubs
- Continuous '**Members only**' promotions
- Regular Newsletters
- **Complimentary Birthday Drink Voucher** when swiping your card at kiosk
- **RSL Rewards**
- Being part of a club that strongly supports your local community ... and so much more

Please turn to Page 8 for more Kyneton RSL entertainment, times and benefits.

KYNETON - ANZAC DAY CEREMONY



WWII veterans from L – R: John Wyke, Jim Foreman, Tim Collins, Joyce Daymon



Photography Courtesy Lyn Ingles / blue pencil publishing

ANZAC DAY in Trentham



The community of Trentham and surrounds came together to pay their respects at the ever growing service for ANZAC Day. Service was conducted by Mr Michael Gretton, President of the Kyneton RSL, address was spoken by Cr. Brian Hood and ANZAC address by Dr. David Stoney. Families were reminded of the sacrifices of all participants serving in war and peacetime in the past to present day services.



Abby from Trentham DPS raises the flag



Dr. David Stoney addressing the community



Shani Clarke, bugler, and Rev'd Peta Sherlock



430 SQN cadets from the Catafalque Party

Photography Courtesy Lyn Ingles / blue pencil publishing

Residents at Respect (Ray M Begg) and BUPA commemorating ANZAC Day.



Mr Michael Gretton addressing the residents at Respect Kyneton



Residents at BUPA Kyneton

KYNETON RSL ... always on hand to assist.

Assistance to Veterans

The Kyneton RSL has a **Veterans Assistance Program** in place. Under this program veterans, their dependants and war widows can request assistance for such things as window and gutter cleaning, lawn mowing, general garden maintenance and tree clearing. Requests for other services or financial assistance will be considered on their merit. Forms requesting assistance can be obtained from the RSL. You do not need to be a member of the RSL to qualify for this assistance.

Support to the Community

The Kyneton RSL continues to meet its obligations in supporting local community groups, schools and sporting clubs. The Sub-Branch makes a monthly donation to the local Food Bank to assist needy families in the Macedon Ranges.

We also made a donation to the Kyneton Primary School to assist them to provide their students with breakfast to start the day.

The Kyneton Scouts were also helped with the purchase of 8 tents to enable them to go on bivouac during the colder months. Other sporting clubs that enjoyed Kyneton RSL support were the Kyneton Football Netball Club, the Kyneton Golf Bowls Club and Kyneton Tennis Club.

As usual, we supported the two Kyneton RSL bowls teams in the Edinburgh Shield bowls tournament.

The Kyneton RSL is also the only organisation in the Macedon Ranges that supports the Kyneton Handweavers & Spinners with their Fingers & Toes Festival which is held in conjunction with the Kyneton Daffodil & Arts Festival. Kyneton U3A has also received assistance to run their choir.



Evan Edward Jones great grandsons visit

On ANZAC Day this year, the great grandson of Evan Edward Jones, Kuyal Young and his family, visited the Kyneton RSL and were quite interested in the display at the RSL of the **'Jones Boys of Kyneton'**. The Jones Boys, Evan Edward and Edward both served with 29 Battalion during World War I, Edward enlisting on 7 July 1915 and his brother Evan Edward on 12 July 1915.

Edward was killed in action, beside his brother, in France on 16 August 1916. Evan Edward survived by pure luck when a bullet struck a cartridge in his pouch, missing his body and saving his life. Evan Edward died on 10 December 1946.

The cafe area at the Kyneton RSL is named 'The Jones Boys Room' in their honour.

Pictured are the great-great-grandsons of Evan Edward Jones, Evan (3) and Edward (8), in front of the Jones Boys display.

CLASH OF THE TIGERS



An annual feature of the Riddell District Football Netball League will be the **'Clash of the Tigers'** on ANZAC Day between Kyneton and Lancefield Football Netball Clubs – both Tigers.

The first clash was in 2024 but this year was the first year that the **'Clash of the Tigers'** trophy, donated by the Kyneton RSL, was awarded.

Unfortunately, Kyneton was outpointed by Lancefield on the day. Congratulations to the Lancefield teams.

Congratulations also to Kyneton players **Isaac Barassi** and **Laura Bennie** who won the **'Most Courageous Player'** awards in their respective sports. Prior to the senior football/netball matches, the Kyneton RSL was invited to perform a Last Post ceremony which was much appreciated by both players and fans.

Kyneton RSL President, Mike Gretton, presents the 'Clash of the Tigers' trophy to Lancefield FNC President, Joe Schembri.



RSL Active

RSL Active is a program from RSL Victoria designed to support the physical health and wellbeing of veterans and their families. Through **RSL Active**, a wide range of programs and activities are on offer that support veterans to develop social networks, share ideas, tell stories, enhance support circles, and improve physical and mental health.

The **RSL Active** program is open to all veterans and their immediate families. Importantly you do not need to be a RSL member to be part of **RSL Active**.

There are regular **RSL Active** events held through RSL Sub-Branches around Victoria.

For more information about events in your location, please contact rsllactive@rslvic.com.au or (03) 9655 5573.



RSL Active is proudly supported by the Victorian State Government.



RIFLE SHOOTING



FAMILY DAY FISHING



SMALL BORE RIFLE SHOOTING



22-24 Jennings Street | Kyneton | Vic | 3444

Provides a fitness program that is funded for eligible Veterans.

The program is tailored to meet individual needs with assistance from accredited **Exercise Physiologists**.

Exercise Physiologists specialise in chronic diseases management through targeted exercise interventions, optimising strength and function to help individuals maximise their health, well-being and quality of life.

The benefits of exercise physiology include:

- Improved strength and endurance
- Improved aerobic fitness
- Injury prevention
- Pain management
- Chronic disease management
- Improved mental health
- Management of weight and blood pressure
- Improved balance and mobility



quality of life

APPLICATION Application can be made through your doctor if you have a White or Gold DVA card.

Contact can also be made via the website: <https://pro-active.com.au/exercise-physiology/>

Or, Linton Colclough linton@pro-active.com.au Mobile: 0487 682 465 Or, KYNETON RSL 5422 6735

Welcome to the Kyneton RSL Club

Great Venue, Great Service, Great Value & Meals

Show & Save & Earn

Members receive **10% discount** off all food and drink upon presentation of their **MEMBER'S CARD**

RSL REWARDS PROGRAM is open to RSL Members only at participating RSL venues throughout Victoria.



Kyneton RSL Trading Times

Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday 9am – 10pm
Thursday 9am – 11pm
Friday & Saturday 9am – 12 midnight
Sunday 10am – 10pm

Kyneton RSL Club

Closed on Christmas Day & Good Friday

Bistro Trading Times

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Sunday
Lunch 11.30am – 2pm | Dinner 5.30pm – 8pm
Thursday, Friday & Saturday
Lunch 11.30am – 2pm | Dinner 5.30pm – 8.30pm



**ALL DAY PIZZA AVAILABLE
IN THE SPORTS BAR**

PLEASE NOTE:

While the Kyneton RSL will endeavour to accommodate requests for special dietary requirements, allergies or intolerances, we cannot guarantee complete allergy free meals due to potential trace allergens in the working environment and supplied ingredients.

PARMA NIGHT - TUESDAY

A choice of toppings

Come and enjoy a meal in our bistro.

**\$16
EACH**

MEMBERS' DRAW – THURSDAY

Thursday – You must be present to win it!

SPORTS BAR MENU

Available everyday between
11.30am – 2pm & 5.30pm – 8pm

PASTA NIGHT MONDAY NIGHTS

**\$18
EACH**

HAPPY HOUR:

Thursday & Friday 6pm – 7pm
Saturday 12pm – 1pm

EUCHRE

First Tuesday of the month at 1.30pm.
New players are most welcome.

VETERANS CATCH UP

Please join us the last **Sunday of the month**.
This is a great way to meet other veterans and their families.

ENTERTAINMENT AT OUR CLUB

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Last Saturday of every month.

MORNING MELODIES MONTHLY

2nd Wednesday of every month
from 10.30am - 11.30am.

For more information about bookings:
(03) 5422 6735

\$5pp

includes tea, coffee
(coffee station only)
& scones

For more information on any of our events
and services please call (03) 5422 6735

We welcome your company...