



Brig Brett Chaloner CSC – Patron

Minutes of the Harbord RSL sub-Branch general meeting.

Wednesday 26th June, 2024 @ 6.30 pm.

Meeting opened: The President COL John Platt, CSC (Retd) opened the Meeting at 6:30 pm and thanked all present with a special welcome to our special Guest Craig Horner, the Veteran Well-being Centre Co-Ordinator RSL Lifecare Dee Why and Wayne Raffo son of Steve Raffo & nephew of Fred Raffo.

Attendees: COL John Platt CSC (Retd), COL Jacqueline Costello, Wendy Machon, Chris Frith, Ian Lynch, John Oliver, Scott West, Rob Low, Robert Dodds, Denis Lynch, Merri Mack.

Guest:

Quorum: Achieved.

Apologies: BRIG Brett Chaloner CSC, Sean Rout, Anne Trimble, Joan Tucker, John Wackett, Alex Trima, Geoff Costello, Ken Covey, Kieran Toohey, Tom Gleeson, Karl Delaney, Peter Harley, Peter Erickson, Alex Trima, Steve Dunn, Jordan Thorncroft, Matthew Smith.

• WE HAD FIVE NEW MEMBERS SINCE THE LAST MEETING AND THEY ARE AS FOLLOWS:-

- Matthew Cramp (Transfer from Mosman)
- Christopher Hall (present)
- Matthew Smith (apology)
- Chelsea Scott (apology)
- Emiyu Park

** plus ONE pending member application received with the last 2 days Daniel Nilsson **

Declare any Conflict of Interest. None declared.

Minutes of the previous meeting:

The President advised that the Hon. Secretary had circulated the minutes to the membership.

Business arising: Nil.

Adoption of the Minutes. Moved by: Rob Low Seconded: Denis Lynch

Resolved: That the Minutes of the 22nd May, 2024 Meeting as circulated, be accepted, and signed as a true and accurate record.

PRESENTATION OF WW2 MEDALLION

President Col John Platt presented the 75th Anniversary Medallion to Wayne Raffo who is the son of Steve Raffo & nephew of Fred Raffo. Both Steve & Fred served in WW2 with the RAAF. Both were local boys from Freshwater and both were members of the Freshwater SLSC. Steve Raffo nicknamed 'Tiggy' was a

talented footballer and in 1946 he captained The Manly Warringah Sea Eagles. He played 58 graded games for the Manly Warringah Sea Eagles from 1947 to 1951. Legend has it that Raffo was the first player to run onto Brookvale Oval in a Manly Jersey in the 1947 third grade match. Wayne was very proud to receive the Medallion on behalf of his father & Uncle and attended the meeting with his daughter & son who were also equally proud of their Grandfather Steve & Great Uncle Fred.

GUEST SPEAKER MR CRAIG HORNER – VETERANS WELLBEING CENTRE CO-ORDINATOR RSL LIFECARE DY.

Craig outlined the Services of the Veterans Wellbeing Centre @ DY and advised that there were 2560 Veterans on the Northern Beaches. Programs offered at DY are:- Ten Pin Bowling, Paddle Boarding, Surfing Programs, Yoga & Pilates. There is a big focus on Mental Health and he will engage with Jacqui with Veterans Health Week in October. Craig will present to us again later in the year when we have more attendees and is happy to address any issues Members may have by contacting him at the DY Centre.

VICE PRESIDENT – CASUAL VACANCY.

President Col John Platt called for any nominations from the floor for the Casual Vacancy of Vice President and as there were none forthcoming it was proposed by Col Jacqueline Costello to nominate Karl Delaney as VP which was seconded by Ian Lynch. All agreed to the proposal and as such Karl Delaney was unanimously appointed as Vice President of Harbord RSL sub Branch.

Executive Reports

1. President COL John Platt, CSC (Retired)

Opening Notes

1. Veterans Health Week - TBA October
2. Local Legends Luncheon – Friday 18th October
** John advised original date of 1st Nov was not suitable as our MC was not available & other dates didn't work so it was agreed that FRIDAY 18th OCT as the best date that works for all.
3. Remembrance Day – Monday 11th Nov
4. Christmas Function – TBA December
5. Sub Branch Patron – Brigadier Brett Chaloner, CSC (tba)

The Strategic Plan 2023-2024 is unchanged:-

Vision	Local Veterans know what Harbord RSL sub Branch stands for, what it does and wants to be Involved as a member.
Mission	Supportive and co-ordinated programs and activities for veterans and families
Our Motto	Working together, delivering locally
Our Values	Remembrance, Compassion, Patriotism, Mateship

2. COL Jacqueline Costello - Veterans Health Week – ‘Mental Health Matters’

GOAL 1: SUPPORT VETERANS & FAMILIES – Jacque Costello

Overarching theme is connection and self care. Jacque advised that the Costello Family will be embarking on doing the Kokoda Track and have been in training over the past few months. We wish them well in this amazing endeavour. Jacque also spoke about doing a ‘Book Club’ on line which we will discuss further at our next meeting in September.

Key Initiatives for 2024:-

- Veterans' Health Week – Oct to focus on Mental Health & Suicide Prevention training
- Veterans Wellbeing Centre – Dee Why. Engagement to facilitate online learning tools and programs that enhance MH & WB.
- Sub-Branch fundraising support to a Veterans MH Charity eg: Veterans COPE program or Young Veterans.

Welfare Support Team

- Availability to support funeral and bereavement duties as required.
- Sponsors for welfare support guest speakers to meetings – eg: lived experience.

GOAL 3: COMMEMORATE AND PAY RESPECT – Col John Platt (Rtd)

FOCUS FOR 2024:

- Veterans' Health Week (OCT -TBA)
- NSW State Congress (27th – 29th OCT)
- Local Legends Luncheon – SQNLDR John Williams, DFC (**Friday 18th OCT**)
- Remembrance Day (Monday 11th November)

3. Correspondence - Hon Secretary Pam Hansen

Circulars from RSL NSW which are also available on line for members to view.

RSL DAY CLUB - The DAY CLUB enjoyed an outing to Mounties Mt Pritchard this month and had a Banquet Lunch at their famous JUMBO's Restaurant. It was a long day but they all thoroughly enjoyed it.

TREASURERS REPORT - JOHN OLIVER

Financials as at 11th June, 2024

Savings Account \$ 8,384.71
Term Deposit \$55,000.00

Deposits & Credits as at 11 Jun 2024 \$ 18,175.73
Withdrawals & Debits as at 11 Jun 24 \$ 9,791.02
Closing Balance as at 11 Jun 2024 \$ 8,384.71

GENERAL BUSINESS

No other business was presented for discussion.

Next meeting:- WED 25TH SEPTEMBER, 2024 @ 6PM FOR 6.30PM START.

The President recited the ODE. Meeting closed at 1922 hrs.