

# 50th ANNIVERSARY

of the end of Australia's  
involvement in the  
Vietnam war



**BOXHILLRSL**  
2023 ANNUAL REPORT







**BOXHILLRSL**



### ***“The Long Tan Cross”***

*The battle of Long Tan was fought on 18 August 1966. One-hundred-and-five men from D Company, 6th Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment (6RAR) and three New Zealanders from an artillery forward observation party from New Zealand's 161 Field Battery, encountered a force of more than 2,000 Viet Cong soldiers. During the battle, 17 Australians were killed and a further 25 were wounded, one of whom later died of wounds. This was the highest number of Australian casualties incurred in any one engagement of the Vietnam War.*

**LEST WE FORGET**









# BOXHILLRSL

## Chairman:

**John Haward**

President

## General Manger:

**Ben Myers**

## Committee:

**Arthur Merryweather**

Vice President

**Andrew Guest**

Secretary

**Lindsay Burke**

Treasurer, Weapons Officer  
and Memorials Officer

**Steve Bennett**

Committee Member

**Judy Coates**

Committee Member,  
Women's Auxiliary

**Bep Dawes**

Committee Member,  
Appeals Officer

**Russell Keast**

Committee Member,  
RSL Active Coordinator

**Brian Tateson**

Committee Member,  
Curator of Memorabilia



# 2023

## OUR MISSION & VISION

The Box Hill RSL Sub-Branch dedicates itself to the task of raising much needed money for the RSL's primary objective of providing support to veterans and their families when they need help. The Box Hill RSL supports and engages with veterans from all generations.

The granting of an RSL Sub-Branch Charter carries with it important obligations, particularly working in support of veterans and raising money for veteran welfare through the ANZAC and Poppy Appeals. The donating public expects that their money will be directed, by the Box Hill RSL, to benevolent welfare assistance.

### THE OBJECTS FOR WHICH THE BOX HILL RSL SUB-BRANCH IS ESTABLISHED ARE:

- a) Perpetuate the close and kindly ties of friendship created by the mutual service in the Australian Defence Forces or in the forces of nations traditionally allied with Australia and the recollections associated with that experience;
- b) Maintain a proper standard of dignity and honour among all past and present members of the Australian Defence Forces and set an example of public spirit and noble-hearted endeavour;
- c) Preserve the memory and 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 day known as ANZAC Day;
- d) The promotion of a social organisation and Sub-Branch of the Branch composed of those who are serving or who have served in the Australian Defence Forces, the various British Commonwealth Defence Forces, Members of Allied Defence Forces, their dependents and such other persons who from time to time may be admitted to membership in accordance with these Rules.
- e) To establish, maintain and conduct a Sub-Branch of a non-political and non-sectarian character and to provide, furnish, equip and maintain Sub-Branch rooms, reading rooms, recreation rooms and refreshment facilities to establish and maintain facilities for lawful games, sporting facilities and recreation for its Members for the maintenance and improvement of friendly relationships amongst the Members and generally to afford to Members and their friends and guests all the usual privileges, advantages, conveniences and facilities of a Sub-Branch.
- f) To provide means of social interaction between persons who are Members of the League and in particular Members of the Box Hill RSL Sub-Branch and their friends and guests.
- g) To make contributions to any charitable relief benefit commemoration or memorial fund of any kind whatsoever as the Committee may deem advisable.

*The Box Hill RSL Sub-Branch will strive to be the best RSL in providing welfare for veterans and their dependents over the next 100 years. This will be achieved with continued profitability in order to meet veteran and broader community objectives.*

# President

The year started with high hopes after coming out of three years of COVID issues.

February saw building tenders let out to interested parties and a successful builder selected for our latest extensions starting in April.



Late February Box Hill RSL updated its website by employing a film company to interview various members talking about the benefits offered by becoming a member, particularly younger members.

On the 26th March our Annual General Meeting was held, with all Committee positions filled.

Early April saw our building works commence starting with the new Administration Block/Boardroom/Library and toilets. These works when completed will be followed by additional bar facilities in what is currently our Library, Boardroom and new staff change facilities in our current Administration area.

It is expected that all the works will be completed by the end of June 2024.

April 25th ANZAC Day Service saw an excellent turn out of both Veterans and general public. Because of building works numbers invited to the Gun Fire Breakfast were restricted to Veterans and VIP's who took part in the service. Many thanks must go to Faye Clark, Judy Coates and Lindsay Burke, for their hard work in the organisation of the morning, and the staff of Box Hill RSL for their tireless efforts.

On 25th June three of our RSL Members were awarded Life Membership to the RSL League. The Members were Brian Tateson, Neil Brown and Ray Wall. Congratulations to them all for their many years of long service to Box Hill RSL.

For the first time Box Hill RSL supported Box Hill Vietnam Veterans in commemorating Vietnam Veterans Day on the 18th August at our Cenotaph in the Box Hill Gardens.

Box Hill RSL also conducted its Remembrance Day Service on the 11th November, with an increased attendance and refreshments provided by the RSL following the service.

Late November I accepted the resignation of our long serving General Manager, Denis Fernando. Denis served Box Hill RSL for a period of 15 years, but felt it was time that he retired. The Committee and Members wish Denis a happy retirement and success in any future endeavours.

Early December saw the employment of our new General Manager, Ben Myers. Ben has wide hospitality, gaming and RSL experience. We welcome Ben into our fold and wish him all the best for his future employment with Box Hill RSL.

Our Welfare Section, ably managed by Faye Clark, provided many services to our Members. These services include Veteran Pensions, visits to hospitals and nursing homes, gardening, cleaning and free haircuts.

Thanks must go to all our Volunteers and many groups who have provided wonderful support to our Sub-Branch throughout the year.

There are many people who have worked tirelessly to ensure the Sub-Branch runs smoothly. First amongst those is Denis Fernando, our General Manager throughout 2023, for his professional management, dedicated service and assistance to me. To the supervisors and staff of the organisation, a big well done.

Lastly, but not least, to my Executive Committee and Committee, a big thank you for all their hard work and the support they provided to me.

**John Haward**  
HON. PRESIDENT

# General Manager

Dear Members,

I am honoured to serve as the General Manager of Box Hill RSL and delighted to report on the club's activities throughout 2023.



Since joining the club in late November, I have been genuinely impressed by the warmth and camaraderie exhibited by our members and guests, especially during the bustling festive period. I offer my sincere appreciation for the warm welcome I have received.

In 2023, Box Hill RSL celebrated a significant milestone, marking the 50th anniversary of the end of Australia's involvement in the Vietnam War. On 18 August, we hosted a poignant local service at the War Memorial in Box Hill Gardens, attended by over 100 veterans, their families, and friends. This event, marked by a spirit of mateship and belonging, was a testament to our commitment to honour and remember our servicemen and women. I extend special thanks to the VVAA Box Hill Sub-Branch for their dedicated efforts.

Our dedication to commemorating and reflecting on significant dates continued with our observance of Anzac Day and Remembrance Day. The contributions of the Box Hill RSL Committee and associated organizations throughout the year were invaluable, and I express my sincere gratitude to them.

The Box Hill RSL Sub-Branch has remained proactive in initiatives aimed at benefitting veterans and their families, with a particular focus on providing additional support to younger veterans considering the forthcoming recommendations from the Royal Commission. Our consolidated welfare and charitable expenditure across all 3 entities was \$918,247 for the year. In 2024, we will unveil a state-of-the-art welfare and administration centre to expand these support services. This project, initiated some years ago, will enable us to significantly increase our advocacy efforts and further solidify our commitment to supporting veterans and their families.

Despite the inconveniences caused by the ongoing construction, I am pleased to report a combined surplus

of \$1,504,106 for the Box Hill RSL Sub-Branch Inc. account and the Patriotic Fund. This surplus reflects a historic milestone for the club, with EBITDAR exceeding \$3.4 million for the first time. Our total revenue witnessed a significant increase, driven by heightened patronage, particularly in gaming, which experienced robust growth and an expanded market share.

While all expense categories increased in line with revenue growth, this was anticipated given the prevailing economic climate. I am confident that our prudent financial management will ensure the continued success and sustainability of Box Hill RSL well into the future.

As we look ahead, the completion of our building works will position Box Hill RSL as the premier RSL in Victoria. I am excited about the new amenities that will complement and enhance our current offerings, and I assure you that I will keep you informed as the works progress, particularly as we move into the main service areas of the club in late April. I extend my thanks to our members for your continued support and patience.

## **A quick snapshot of the internal works which will be completed in 2024:**

- Welfare and Administration wing (to open in April)
- Library, Toilets and Memorabilia Walkway
- Boardroom with outdoor kitchen and balcony
- Upton Room refurbishment
- New smoke free alfresco dining area
- Introduction of a new dedicated smoking area on the Shipley Street balcony
- New Lounge Bar
- New dedicated staff amenities incorporating lounge area, kitchenette and change facility

I would also like to take this moment to offer my appreciation and recognition to the management team and all our staff. Your dedication and tireless efforts have been instrumental in driving the vision to create a successful and contemporary club with the excellent service and amenities that our members deserve. Your commitment to the club's values and goals has been truly commendable, and it is your hard work and determination that have helped shape what we believe to be the best Club in Victoria. Thank you for all that you do.

## GENERAL MANAGER

To President John Haward and the entire committee, you are steadfast in your support of all management and staff, and you do this by keeping top of mind members' interests in all your decisions. Your commitment to me, and your loyalty to Box Hill RSL is exemplary and inspiring.

To all our volunteers who give countless hours of their time, 'Thank you'. Without your contributions we could not do the great work that we do in supporting our veterans, their families and the community, year in year out.

On behalf of everyone at Box Hill RSL, I want to take this opportunity to extend our heartfelt gratitude and appreciation to Denis Fernando for his remarkable 15 years of dedicated service, exemplary leadership, visionary guidance and unwavering friendship. We are immensely grateful for everything you have done and wish you the very best in all your future endeavours.

In closing, I would like to reiterate that as members of Box Hill RSL, please consider this your second home—a place of friendship and community where you are always welcome. Your patronage and support are deeply appreciated, and we are committed to ensuring that your experience at the club remains enjoyable and fulfilling.

Warm regards,

**Ben Myers**

GENERAL MANAGER





# Secretary

Box Hill RSL's core objective is veterans' welfare, and most of what we do is aimed at supporting that objective.



Our welfare related activities are very diverse, including small things such as providing free haircuts for veterans, and larger items such as grants of money to other organisations that also support veterans' welfare.

There were two important changes that occurred in 2023 that affected, or will affect, our ability to deliver welfare services.

One of those changes was our Stage 3 Redevelopment which includes an enlarged, fit for purpose, welfare area that will enable veterans to enter discreetly and be interviewed by Pension Advocates without being seen or overheard. Your committee hopes that further down the track Box Hill RSL will become a welfare hub, helping veterans from a much wider area.

The other change was the gaming reforms flagged by the State Government. We take harm minimisation extremely seriously and we don't in any way oppose the concept. However, what the government proposed is a 'one size fits all' approach, even though there are huge differences between types of gaming venues. RSL's allocate most of their profits to welfare, community aid, or improvement of their facilities, whereas the profits of pubs and casinos go into the pockets of the owners or shareholders. Any reduction in the ability of RSL's to deliver welfare is greatly concerning, and the matter is being taken up with the State Government by the Victorian State Branch of the RSL.

In addition to improved welfare facilities, 2023 saw work begin on new memorabilia, library and administration areas as part of the Stage 3 Redevelopment, with the existing administration area earmarked for conversion to much needed staff amenities.

Late in 2023 Box Hill RSL was visited by representatives of the Royal Commission Into Defence And Veteran Suicide. A group of Committee Members were interviewed by them to help inform the Commission's work in this extremely important area. We fervently

hope that the findings of the Commission will contain actionable answers to this appalling issue.

During the year we commemorated ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day. It was very gratifying to see large numbers of veterans and family members at those ceremonies. Vietnam Veterans Day was commemorated for the first time at the War Memorial in Box Hill Gardens, organised by the Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia (Box Hill Sub-Branch) and funded by Box Hill RSL. Despite the rain, the ceremony was very well attended and from now on it will be a regular annual event at Box Hill.

As usual, we financially supported the sections and associate organisations of Box Hill RSL (of which there are now 11 such groups). A particular note must be made of our mutually beneficial relationship with all three of the cadet units based at the Surrey Hills Depot (305 Army Cadet Unit, 401 Squadron Australian Air Force Cadets, and Training Ship Melbourne Australian Naval Cadets). In November those three cadet units combined to put on their first, very successful Tri-Services Dining In Night which was held in the Upton Room and partly funded by Box Hill RSL. As an invited guest, it gave me great pleasure to be in the company of such an outstanding body of young people.

In 2023 we began planning for a major redevelopment of the War Memorial Precinct in Box Hill Gardens. We are working closely with Whitehorse City Council to enlarge and enhance the immediate surrounds of the War Memorial. The objectives are to improve access and create a more unified landscape so that veterans and members of the public can gain more from the commemorative experience.

Finally, it was sad to see our past General Manager, Denis Fernando, go on his way. After 15 years of dedicated service and sound management Denis decided to pull up stumps and begin a new phase in his life. Happily, after an exhaustive process, we were able to find a very able successor in Ben Myers. Highly experienced in all important areas and very forward looking, Ben will help Box Hill RSL on its way to becoming the RSL par excellence in Victoria.

**Andrew Guest**  
HON. SECRETARY

# Treasurer

Net operating surplus was \$1,308,406. Taking into consideration the rent the RSL Inc paid into our Patriotic account and allow for depreciation, the surplus/profit increases add up to more than three million dollars. A very satisfactory achievement.



Rent received from Box Hill RSL Commercial Business was \$1,320,001, an increase of \$360,001 on the 2022 rent amount. The rent was paid into our Patriotic account. The Patriotic account is used to pay for any loans we may have or require from time to time. These funds will assist our RSL to pay for Stage 3 building renovations.

Welfare expenses were \$792,096, in line with our 2023 Budget.

As at the end of 2023 BHRSL has drawn down \$4,852,902 from the ANZ Bank as part of the cost for Stage 3 of our Building commitments. The total expected cost is \$10.2M.

## NET OPERATING INCOME

	2023	2022
Gaming	\$4,056,773	\$3,916,166
Bar Trading	653,117	528,516
Sundry Items	281,711	459,502
Catering	657,099	347,827
Subscriptions	118,770	67,206
Interest Received	215,028	49,647
Investment Property	11,206	10,398
<b>Totals</b>	<b>5,993,704</b>	<b>5,379,262</b>
% Staff Costs to Revenue	26.2%	25.6%

## MAJOR EXPENSES INCLUDE

Salaries And Wages	\$3,414,235
Rent	1,320,001
Welfare And Donations	792,096
Depreciation	296,442
Gas And Electricity	199,721
Cleaning	196,920
Repairs And Maintenance	181,027
League Support Fund	167,524
Security Costs	133,146
Payroll Tax	149,539
Insurance	97,929

## APPEALS

ANZAC Day	\$56,661
Remembrance Day	53,266
Appeal Totals	\$109,927

## MAJOR CONTRIBUTORS WERE

RSL Members	\$32,988
Nashos	24,335
305 Army Cadets	15,884
Bowls Section	10,278
401 Airforce Cadets	3,881



On behalf of the Box Hill RSL President and Committee, I would like to thank our Appeals officer, Bep Dawes and her many volunteers who did a sterling job in coordinating this very difficult task and especially all those who donated to the Appeals. All Appeal money is directly credited to RSL State Branch Victoria. We are then able to request a transfer of up to 50% of the money raised by our RSL back to Box Hill RSL to assist with our own Veterans and their families. All assistance given is coordinated and approved by our Welfare Manager, Faye Clark and the full Committee.

### CAPITAL EXPENDITURE ITEMS

Bistro Furniture	\$76,374
Stage 3 Furniture	81,513
Coffee Machines	36,820
Carpet	21,449
Refrigeration Cabinets	18,530
Chandeliers	18,950
E Bet	18,406
New Boardroom Table	33,546
Pizza Oven	14,956
Cash/Note Machine	10,600
Flag Poles	10,256

### CONCLUSION

All Community and Club donations made by Box Hill RSL are listed on the inside back cover of this report. We again thank the Gordon Kersey fund for assisting us with a donation of more than \$900,000 some ten years ago. It has helped the Sub-Branch and many Veteran members and their families in many ways over many years.

I must thank our outgoing General Manager, Denis Fernando for his untiring devotion to the RSL, especially during the COVID lockdown. His leadership of our staff and the assistance to the Committee over the past 12 months has helped us all in many ways. I valued his advice to me as a committee member and as a new Treasurer of our RSL. Another added responsibility he took on above his normal duties was the role as the project Manager of the Stage 3 works.

Welcome to our new General Manager, Ben Myers. Ben has taken on his new job as General Manager with enthusiasm. The changeover of managers has been seamless. Ben and I are working collaboratively on financial matters for the benefit of Box Hill RSL, and I look forward to a close association with Ben.

I also thank our administrative staff, Kristina Freeman, Rachael Forsyth and Farida Stanley for their attention to detail with regard to the finances of the RSL. Their duties ranged from calculating the staff payroll each week, to checking and arranging all invoices to be paid in a timely manner. They also completed many necessary administrative duties, RSLVIC and government returns and have been an integral part of the Box Hill RSL team for many years.

This is my first year as your Treasurer and I will do my best to carry out the role as efficiently as I am able to.

I commend the financial report to the members of Box Hill RSL.

**Lindsay Burke**  
HONORARY TREASURER

# Welfare Report



This is my 22nd Annual Report. Where has that time gone? This has been a rewarding job. From my first year our veterans and war widows have been an inspiration and a motivating force. It was a different, smaller RSL back then, and I remember the bar table and the characters who came in to have a quick drink with their mates and stayed all day.



They had nicknames that are totally politically incorrect in today's world. There were the Upton House Group, the War Widows, and who can forget Trevor Symes who was the mainstay of that era? All had a sense of mate-ship and stoicism that endeared them to your heart, expecting nothing and forever thankful for any help they received. I will also be forever grateful to the other members and volunteers who have been pillars of support over these years. One who comes to mind is Colin Holt who was such an asset to the Welfare Administration area for so long. Needless to say, we miss all these great people as they laid down to rest at sunset and left us with an enduring memory of them at sunrise.

In 2023 our volunteers starred, and I feel particularly proud as some of our Welfare Volunteers were given significant recognition with Life Membership and Volunteer of the Year Awards. Life membership of the Returned and Services League of Australia is a great honour bestowed by the national body in recognition of long, continuous and outstanding service to the League. All three who received this award not only contributed to the League and our Committee but were also valued members of the Welfare Section. They were Neil Brown as Administration Assistant, Brian Tateson as Memorabilia Officer and Ray Wall as Movie Guru.



Neil Brown



Brian Tateson



Ray Wall

I was also pleased that two members of our Welfare Section were given the honour of receiving Volunteer of the Year awards alongside Judy Smith in 2023. They were Judy Coates and Stephen Eno. All were worthy recipients of this award.



**Judy Smith** has been an active volunteer in the Bowls Section for some 15 years. She held the position as Vice-Chair for some time amongst her various other duties and regularly followed up with our bowls members regarding welfare issues. She was also an active member of our Welfare Section as a regular badge seller for both Anzac Day and Remembrance Day Appeals.



**Judy Coates** was an active member and volunteer of the Bowls Section, serving as Treasurer, President and Chairperson. She is currently President of the Women's Auxiliary and active member of the Sub-Branch Committee. But it is her volunteer work for the Welfare Section that makes her a valuable member of our team. Judy presents on a regular basis to help me with administration duties, organises the Remembrance and Anzac Day Services, liaises with various representatives of Eastern Health, Upton House, Cottage by the Sea, St Kilda Mums and Wantirna Palliative Care to find ways we can help and support them. She has the ability to get things done, has excellent communication skills and a willingness to work hard with loyalty, respect and passion for our members. Through her service she has made a real and tangible difference to the wellbeing of our members and the communities we support.



**Stephen Eno** is an outstanding volunteer. Stephen is a quiet achiever who has been an enthusiastic member of our Visiting Team. He dedicates his precious time to visiting our members in aged care facilities and hospitals on a regular basis, even keeping in touch during the COVID period. He delivers gifts on significant occasions, such as



Christmas and Easter. He has always been an eager volunteer, responding to any request for help and would generously give his time and make himself available for our Social Support Program, where members of the community and aged care facilities who are isolated are invited to enjoy a social lunch.

### FUNERALS

We lost 52 of our esteemed members during 2023, 29 Service members and 23 Affiliate members. Four of those were volunteers - Geraldine MacDonald, Ian Ward OAM, Ken Lyons, and Zoe Kyle. They will all be missed. We had three Ritual Celebrants who conducted the RSL Ritual for 11 veterans, being Charles Kook, Peter McPhee and Lindsay Burke. I thank them for their exceptional service to our members.

When we are notified of a member's death we arrange for the Volunteer Celebrant, write to the Australian Defence Force Records Department for eulogy details, put a notice in the Herald Sun, send a bereavement card and arrange for our contribution to the wake if it is held here at the RSL. We do a follow-up with the partner to see how they are managing at home, to offer support and to discuss the possibility of a War Widow(er)'s Pension application if applicable.

### VISITATION AND SUPPORT PROGRAM

Our visiting program continued during 2023 with volunteers giving support to members in hospitals, rehabilitation and aged care facilities. Visitors were Graeme Agnew, Stephen Eno, Cheryl Frail, Judy Coates and Paul Fraser and new volunteer Susan Sims. I thank all the visiting team for their dedication to the welfare of our members. Back in the office Joan Waters rang members in hospital on a regular basis to check on their wellbeing and update our lists.

### GIFTS

We provided our members in aged care facilities and hospital with gifts at Easter and Christmas. Thank you to the volunteers who delivered these and to our knitters who made each person a knitted mitten for their Christmas gift. For those members who live too far away to receive a visitor, we sent cards.



#### Letters of Appreciation:

*Thank you all for your gifts. The mittens will be well used in the winter. Appreciate the connection with RSL very much. Alma and Jim*

### SOCIAL GROUPS AND ACTIVITIES

#### TAI CHI

The Tai Chi program continues to be very popular and members are looking forward to continuing this program in 2024. Participants have stated that they feel their mobility, flexibility and balance has improved since commencing Tai Chi. This is important feedback given the age of most of the participants. Improving balance, mobility and flexibility can only improve their personal safety. I would like to thank our instructor Rani Hughes whose positivity and patience make the classes so enjoyable. Rani is a Tai Chi Health Master Trainer and Occupational Therapist.



### **Rani's Report:**

*It was wonderful to have a mixture of both old and new students join our tai chi during 2023. We held 15 sessions during 2023 (1st & 3rd Wednesday of the month), with an average of 11 people attending each session. A special thanks to Faye for her coordination and support of our program. Tai Chi is a safe and enjoyable mind/body exercise, suitable to all levels of abilities. People report feeling more relaxed, improved balance and decreased pain after our tai chi sessions. New people are always welcome to join us.*

**Rani Hughes**

### **MEDITATION**

Meditation continued during 2023. Thanks to Helen Nemeth who was instrumental in keeping this group participating in the art of relaxation and thoughtfulness. Thank you, Helen.

### **GENEALOGY**

Sue Archbold leads the Genealogy Group and they meet on the 1st Monday of the month from 1.30pm to 3.30pm in the library. If you are interested in tracing your family history, please contact me on 9989 2854 for further information. Meanwhile, the members remain at varying stages in the search for their family histories, with some finding surprising and unknown facts about their family ancestors. A big thank you to Sue for the great work she does in organising this group each month.

### **Sue's Report:**

*We are a group who all have the same interest in Family History. We help each other to try and solve 'Brick Walls'. There is a wealth of knowledge in our group, and members are very happy to help. We welcome new members who are just starting out and not sure where to start. The meetings are very informal, and we do have a lot of fun.*

**Sue Archbold**

### **TRIPS**

Les Davis, our Assistant Manager organises our race days which have proved to be very successful. He will be organising another couple of these during 2024. Thank you, Les.

### **MOVIES**

Thank goodness for our Movie Guru, Ray Wall, who does an excellent job of organising the movies. Members were able to enjoy some great shows thanks to Ray's private library of DVDs. Ray started the year with Real Men, then First Grader, Article 99, Süskind, Bullseye, Coach Carter, Mr. Destiny, Eddie the Eagle and the final movie for the year was The 15.17 to Paris. The movie Knives Out was cancelled twice, once for building works and the other for COVID. It has been rescheduled for 2024, fingers crossed!

Ray's great movie selections include action, drama, real-life adaptations and foreign films. Members are certainly looking forward to his future selections. Movies are held on the last Thursday of each month and all full members are welcome. A big thank you, Ray!

### **GARDENING GROUP**

Our two bowlers Mick Frail and Kevin Moffatt, who are our resident gardeners, encouraged other bowlers, including Peter and Mark Leonard, Allan Turk, Allan Schumer, Mal Hams and John Harrington to tend to the garden area around the Bowling Green, and I thank them very much for great work they did during 2023.

### **FRIDAY NIGHT RAFFLE**

A big thanks to the volunteers who make Friday night such a great social night for our members where lots of prizes were won. The volunteers who helped to make this night such a success were Mandy Wallace, Jimmy Douglas, Bronwen and David Laughlin, with Ray Jones helping when he is needed. Thank you all for your dedication.

### **KNITTING GROUP**

This group is the most productive group of the Welfare Section. It is led by Laura Yodgee and the group members in 2023 were Dorothy Conway, Viti Keys, Hazel Mournay, Karen Holt, Lydia John, Hilary Stewart, Emi Luppino, Joy McKelvey, Renée Shapero and Yvonne Yodgee. A big thank you to Laura and her knitting group, as well as to Judy Coates, Hennie Pasveer, Nola Gold, Pat Keech, Joy Stewart, Carol Calder, Marselle Foster and Mary Pinjo who also contributed knitted goods to the cause. We provided goods such as blankets to



Wantirna Palliative Care, beanies, mittens and scarves to Cottage by the Sea and all types of knitted goods to St Kilda Mums and St Vinnies, as well as knitted teddies to Box Hill Hospital.

### **Laura's Report:**

*What a marvellous year 2023 was for the Box Hill RSL Knitting Group. Not only did we gain more members, but we put in record volunteer hours and huge numbers of beautiful and useful handmade items for charity.*

*The Knitting Group meets all the objectives of being a community group within the RSL. We provide a great opportunity for social interaction whilst producing handmade items for charity and giving back to the community.*

*The year started off with a new member, Joy McKelvey, who discovered us when she read our report in last year's Annual Report. Joy is a talented knitter and a member of the Women's Auxiliary. Joy's lovely mother, Kit, joins us every week. Whilst she isn't a knitter, she is great company and also a member of the Women's Auxiliary. Later in the year Renée Shapero joined our group. She is another wonderful knitter who has fitted right in. Kit told Renée about us through their association with the Balwyn War Widows. We are also often joined by Emi Luppino's granddaughter, Luna, who is our much-adored mini mascot.*

*Our knitting strategy for each year always starts with us busily working on our core winter items: beanies, scarves, fingerless gloves, and knee rugs. We make all the items in a range of colours, styles, and sizes. Some of our group knit baby clothes and toys. These are always beautiful and so dainty.*

*For 2023, our items that go to Cottage by the Sea were boosted by the Women's Auxiliary, who committed themselves to providing not just knitted items but many other goods on the Cottage's winter wish list. We were kindly invited by the Women's Auxiliary to join a talk given by Donna Campisi, Melbourne Community Relations, from Cottage by the Sea.*

*Last year saw an explosion of knee rugs being made due to the knitting group at Levande Wantirna Retirement Village who donated hundreds of knitted squares to us. Several of our knitters were able to take these squares and sew them into knee rugs, which were predominantly donated to Wantirna Health. Lucy, a lovely crocheter from Levande*

*regularly donates various beautiful items to include in our giving. We wish to extend our thanks to these wonderful ladies.*

*We continue to make fiddle mitts for Wantirna Health when requested. Fiddle mitts are given to dementia patients and are made with lots of texture and stringy bits to keep the patient's hands busy.*

*As we moved past winter, we allowed ourselves a bit of a change. Over the last couple of years, we have cemented a new tradition where we make a specific gift for all the Box Hill RSL members in care. We share ideas, test patterns, and narrow the possibilities down until we find something we are all happy with. For Christmas 2023 we made gorgeous fingerless gloves. There were so many different patterns and colours. We had a wrapping session in late November to give them a touch of Christmas cheer. The gloves were then gifted to the members in care by the volunteers who regularly visit the care homes. We received some lovely feedback from the recipients who were thrilled to receive the gifts. Thank you to the visiting volunteers for getting the gifts delivered.*

**Laura Yodgee**

### **The knitting group received many Letters of Appreciation, a couple follow:**

*On behalf of Wantirna Health, we would like to thank the Knitting group for their recent donation of handmade rugs. These rugs will be used to help us provide a more comforting and home-like stay for our patients and their families.*

*Each Rug will be used by one patient and stay with them throughout their journey with us. These extra touches mean so much to the patients and their loved ones, at what is often a difficult time.*

*Thank you again to your volunteers for the time and thoughtfulness in donating the rugs.*

**Jason Dunn –**  
Associate Program Director Acute & Aged Medicine

Dear Knitting Ladies,

You have done it again, an amazing amount of rugs and so beautiful.

Last Thursday there was an end-of-life lady, all on her own, bland room so I chose a really bright rug and popped it on top of the light bedspread. It cheered up the whole room.

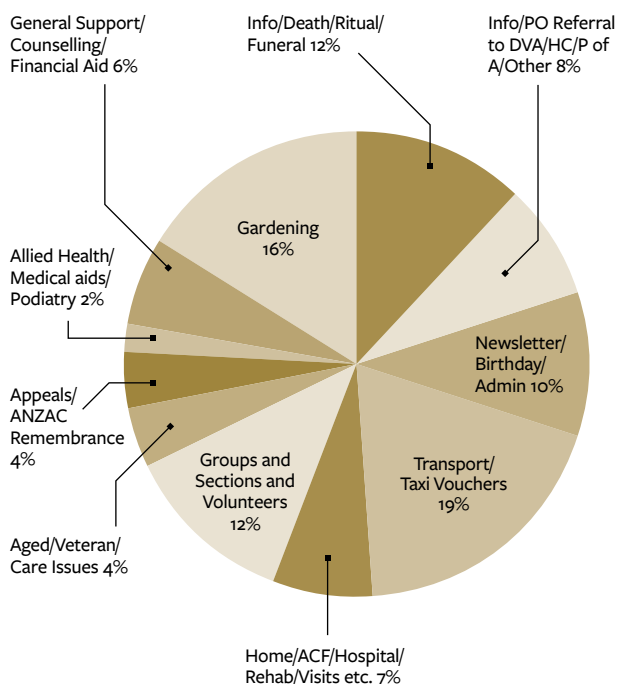
Thanks, heaps, for the fiddle mitts, just great. I didn't have the chance to speak to staff re anything else that can be added yet.

A very grateful Pam R.



## SUPPORT PROGRAMS

We offered a comprehensive support program and provided a wide range of services tailored to support the independence of our members, veterans and war widows in the community. The following graph shows the areas where members received support during 2023.



## LAWN MOWING AND GARDENING

Our gardening service continued to help our members to remain independent and stay in their own home. During 2023, twenty-two members who, for age or health reasons, were no longer able to do their own gardens, had their lawns mowed and/or their gardens tidied.

### Letter of appreciation:

Thank you very much for getting me the gardener. Guy is very good and will soon have it looking good again.  
Pam F

## TRANSPORT ASSISTANCE

To further support the independence of members, we provided 1223 taxi vouchers to 54 members. These were provided to recipients who were unable to drive or catch public transport. With our assistance they were able to attend groups here at the RSL, visit their loved ones in hospital or aged care facilities and attend medical appointments or rehabilitation not covered by DVA.

## REMEMBERING BIRTHDAYS

We know that birthdays are important especially significant ones like turning 100. We had several members who turned 100 during 2023. They were Service members and World War 2 veterans Leon Bloom,



Jim and Beryl Burrowes, Edward Fox, Fred Pike and Affiliate member Lois Comerford. We always give or send them a gift to celebrate this significant milestone.

We remembered Max Hayes 91<sup>st</sup> Birthday and said farewell at the same time last year, as he moved to the country. We thanked Max for being a great volunteer over the years selling ANZAC Badges and Remembrance Poppies, as well as helping regularly with mailouts.

## **Letter of Appreciation:**

*President, Committee, and fellow members of the Box Hill RSL Sub Branch, I wish to give you my sincere thanks on the occasion of my surprise 91st Birthday & "Au Revoir" send off. I am very grateful to all for their service and support over the last 24 years. I will continue with my membership. Sincere Thanks, Max*

## **MEDICAL AIDS AND ALLIED HEALTH**

To further support our members, we covered out of pocket expenses for podiatry and made referrals to Occupational Therapists and purchased items for members, such as walking aids and bowling arms.

## **Letter of Appreciation:**

*A huge thank you to you, and the RSL for your assistance in purchasing a bed pole for Alan.*

*It will be a huge help when he returns home next week after his second surgery. This was an unexpected but very welcome gift. Pam R*

## **HAIRCUTS**

The free Haircut Program was again offered during 2023 with Kay doing 732 haircuts for 131 members. I would again like to thank Kay for her wonderful work.

## **GENERAL SUPPORT**

We provided general, social, emotional, and financial support to our members in aged care and the community. I was only a phone call away.

## **SUPPORT GROUPS**

Support groups during 2023 were:

### **PROSTATE SUPPORT GROUP**

This group meets every 3rd Tuesday of the month at 9:30am in Upton 2.

### **SENIOR MEN'S DISCUSSION GROUP**

This group meets the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month at 2pm in the library.

## **EDUCATION & COMMUNITY PROJECTS**

### **CUB/SCOUT AND SCHOOL PROGRAM**

Our Cub/Scout and School program was back in 2023. Our volunteer Brian Tateson was very keen to develop new ways to communicate the RSL message, he explained our military history, as well as the role of the RSL in the community to the following Cub/Scout Groups – Box Hill North, 1st Heatherdale and 6th Box Hill South. Thank you, Brian!

### **LIBRARY**

The library is a hidden treasure and a useful resource for people wanting to research our participation in the World Wars. I thank our library volunteer Sue Stewart who spent one day a week rearranging and updating our library system. A job well done!

### **MEMORABILIA**

I thank Brian Tateson who again did a superb job of collating and organising the memorabilia display. (See Brian's Memorabilia report)

### **HERITAGE AND COMMEMORATIONS**

I thank Lindsay Burke who has taken on the roles of Memorials Officer and Weapons Officer. He has done a superb job. (See his War Memorial and Heritage report)

### **WEB SITE AND INTERNET ACCESS**

Our Web site is [www.boxhillrsl.com.au](http://www.boxhillrsl.com.au) and members were able to access the internet during their time at the RSL.

## PENSION ADVICE

During 2023 our Pension Advocates, Geoff Smith and Wayne Bastow, conducted 77 interviews between them and saw 22 veterans and/or their partners. Outcomes included one successful TPI application and two accepted conditions under MICRA for 2 veterans. The Pension Advocates were assisted with all their administration by Neil Brown, who was helped for part of the year by John Sheehan. I thank all four for their dedication to our members as well as to other veterans and war widows from the community.

## SOCIAL ACTIVITIES AND SPECIAL EVENTS

On the 17th of October, we were lucky enough to have a WW2, BCOF, and Korean Veterans Lunch for some of our remaining veterans from these conflicts. The WW2 veterans who attended were John Brownbill, Jim Burrowes, Phyllis Knop, George Leondas, Bart Morris, Bill St Aubyn, Don Haggarty, Harold Renton, Don Hall Gordon Press, George Agius, Ian Gillies and Herbert Cave. Sadly, both the Dons' passed away in November and we send our condolences to their families. A big thank you to the Committee who volunteered on the day, John Haward, Arthur Merryweather, Brian Tateson, Judy Coates and Andrew Guest, who each hosted a table of veterans. Also, a thank you to Bep Dawes who took photos for the newsletter.

The very successful Children's Christmas Party was organised by Arthur Merryweather. Arthur would like to thank the following for their help - Cheryl Ryan, Cheryl Frail, Phil Peterson, Jan Durham and Emi Luppino.



## DONATIONS

In keeping with our commitment to veterans organisations and the needy, grants were given to our sporting sections, current and ex-service organisations in need, and other not-for-profit organisations in the community. See our Community Benefit Statement at the end of the Annual Financial Report for further details.

### **Letter of appreciation:**

*Dear Andrew,*

*Thank you to you and Box Hill RSL for your long-term commitment and support of Eastern Health. We are incredibly grateful for your most recent donation of \$19,045.00 to support the refurbishment of the Men's Lounge in Upton House. This support is invaluable in ensuring some of our most vulnerable patients have an appropriate environment to receive their treatment and are provided with the very best care and health outcomes.*

*You are helping provide great healthcare in Melbourne's east and beyond.*

*Your support, and support from others like you, helps fund lifesaving medical equipment, research, staff, education, as well as innovative patient care programs and services.*

*Your doctors, nurses and medical care teams are so grateful for your ongoing support.*

*You are making a difference in the lives of local people in their time of need. Thank you!*

*With sincere gratitude,*

*Mikaela Figgis  
Philanthropy Manager  
Eastern Health Foundation*

## COMMEMORATION

### SERVICES FOR AGED CARE FACILITIES

Thank you to John Haward, Andrew Guest and Charles Kook who provided services at Aged Care Facilities to commemorate ANZAC and/or Remembrance Days during 2023.

### SERVICES FOR ANZAC DAY AND REMEMBRANCE DAYS



For Anzac Day and Remembrance Day we commemorated our Service Men and Women of all wars with services at the Cenotaph in the Box Hill Gardens. For the first time we raised the New Zealand national flag alongside our own and we played God Defend New Zealand and Advance Australia Fair. The 305 Army Cadet Unit mounted the cenotaph guard. The 401 Squadron Air Force Cadets attended. We thank them together with the pipers Ron Sinclair and Stuart Goghil, as well as bugler Lauren Innes. Their contribution to their respective services made them extra special. A minute's silence was observed and wreaths were laid.

Our President, John Haward opened the services. A big thank you to him and the other Committee

members who contributed to the services being Arthur Merryweather, Andrew Guest, Steve Bennett, Brian Tateson, Lindsay Burke and Russell Keast. A thank you also to everyone who participated in both days. It takes a mountain of volunteers, staff and participants to make these days successful. I would like to thank Judy Coates who spent many hours organising each day, as well as the people who helped on the days such as Bep Dawes, Ray Wall, Cheryl Ryan, Cheryl and Mick Frail, Helen and John Harrington, Mal Hams, Alan Schumer and John Woodford. Everyone's contribution to both days reflects the importance of these occasions.

## APPEALS

Our Appeal volunteers, who sold badges and poppies at their respective spots at Box Hill Central, outside Coles Balwyn East in Belmore Road and Bunnings Box Hill raised a substantial amount for veterans. Volunteers during 2023 were Bert Alesich, Stanley Archer, Suresh Alphonse, Dennis Arnel, Heather Arnel, Wayne Bastow, Kenneth Boothroyd, Doreen Brooker, Neil Brown, Juliana Burgess, Russ Burgess, Ian Carnegie, Kevin Cowling, Robert Creek, Bob Denison, Colin Duck, Jan Durham, Trevor Eddy, Kevin Epps, Jim Farrow, Michael Frail, Mal Fraser, Neville Frostick, Bruce Gibbs, Mal Hams, Roslyn Harberts, Herman Harberts, Isabell Harkensee, John Harrington, Helen Harrington, Edward Hayes, Peter Houghton, Joe Ippolito, Ian Jennings, Katrina Jones, Russel Keast, Phillip Kennedy, Denise Kirwan, John Knezevich, Bronwen Laughlin, David Laughlin, Josephine Lessels, George Liondas, Jan Liondas, Todd Logan, Emi Luppino, Colin Lyons, Julia McCammon, Pam McCormack, John MacDonald, Arthur Merryweather, Anthony Mulholland, Neville Nash, Bryan Neale, Hennie Pasveer, Lynn Riddell, Alan Rutherford, John Sheehan, Allan Schumer, Judy Schumer, John Simpson, Mary Simpson, Merv Sims, Susan Sims, David Skinner, Judy Smith, Doug Stewart, Sue Stewart, Boz Student, Richard Tregear, Allan Turk, Mandy Wallace, Bill Waterman, Joan Waters, John Woodford, Chris Wong, Rob Woolard, Bob Yendall, Allan Young, as well as Lindsay Burke and his 305 ACU Cadets and Megan Goulding and her 401 Squadron AAFC. A big thank you to all and to those casual volunteers who helped but I did not get your name.



Bep Dawes worked hard to organise participation by schools, businesses and aged care facilities. Our members also made donations via mail and our website which all helped to make our Appeals a success. Thank you Bep for your great work. Thank you also to Lindsay Burke, Phil Peterson, Chris Torr, Julie Charenko, Emi Luppino, Cheryl Ryan, Arthur Merryweather, Cheryl Frail, Phil Kinnear, Ray Wall and John Sheehan, who helped Bep with selling, packing trays and deliveries.



Bep with some of her Appeals Volunteers.

## NEWSLETTER AND ANNUAL REPORT MAILOUTS

A regular job where volunteers contribute their time is for our mailouts of the Newsletters and the Annual Report during 2023.

I thank the Volunteers who helped on the day of the mailouts - Lindsay Burke, Neil Brown, Brenda Burr, Judy Coates, Phil Peterson, Bep Dawes, Cheryl Frail, Cheryl Ryan, Kaye Garrett, Helen Harrington, Joan Waters, Hennie Pasveer, Glenys and Anthony Pickup, Marilyn Vella, Emi Luppino, Sue Archbold. Maxine Bennett-Wyatt, Pam Ferguson, Rose-Marie Power and Laura Yodgee. I would also like to thank Marilyn Vella, Bep Dawes, Andrew Guest and Ray Wall who edited and proofread our newsletters so they were ready for publication. Without all these volunteers the mailout would not have happened.

## VOLUNTEERS

As you have read, the Welfare Department again successfully provided a wide range of services to our members during 2023. We had an exciting and wonderful group of volunteers who were also here to support you.

A total of 16,064 volunteer hours were donated by 157 volunteers to all areas of the RSL during 2023. Welfare volunteers dedicated approximately 9,770 hours directly to the welfare of our members and the community. The knitters alone did 7,045 hours and the appeal volunteers 1,223 hours. Some are mentioned in this report, others did work on a casual basis. All are sincerely thanked. Your dedication to the Box Hill RSL Welfare Section is really appreciated.

I would like to give a special mention for Judy Coates. Judy certainly deserves the special recognition she received in 2023 with the Volunteer of the Year award. You will note that she has been mentioned in this report numerous times as she works tirelessly for you the members. I would like to give my personal special big thank you to her as she regularly comes into the Welfare office to help with whatever I need done. I would also like to thank Cheryl Frail and Joan Waters who gave their support through doing administrative help in the Welfare office, Laura Yodgee who took the work home to do and Bep for taking photos of all the special events we had during 2023. A thank you also to my new administrative assistant, staff member Karen Whiteman, who now helps me on Thursdays.

Finally, thank you to John Haward and Committee, Denis Fernando, and the Staff, for all your support during 2023. A big welcome to Ben Myers, our new General Manager. I am looking forward to working with you during 2024.

**Faye Clark**

WELFARE COORDINATOR

# Memorabilia Report



2023 has been a big year in Memorabilia coming off the back of the visit to our RSL of His Excellency General the Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Retd) Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia in 2022, and the exhibition that followed. The exhibit included many photos of most of our RSL members who attended the 100th Anniversary Day. I had the photos reproduced in a different way. They were larger and gave a 3D effect. Thanks to Grace Petrou for a wonderful job doing the photography. This was a truly special exhibition for members of Box Hill RSL.

In 2023, I had the chance to do an exhibition I had been waiting ages to do - 11 Bats, by Anthony 'Harry' Moffitt. Harry gave me a lot of his personal photos that were taken while he was on tour in Afghanistan with the SAS. They were brilliant photos, and again I had them reproduced in a 3D style for this exhibition. The story of 11 Bats relates to Harry Moffitt's experiences when he was sent to war, not only in Afghanistan but other parts of the world where Australia was committed to sending troops. I can highly recommend his book to everyone. It includes some experiences he encountered along with his fellow commando comrades.

I was having lunch with Paul Daley and Peter Wegner one day, when out of the blue we started talking about the Rats of Tobruk and how Peter had painted many of them, all 100 years of age. Each of these Rats had a remarkable story to tell Peter whilst painting them.

I was so intrigued that I asked Peter if I could borrow these paintings to do the exhibition on the Rats. Peter explained to me that he had given all these paintings to the Shrine of Remembrance, but I thought the Shrine would not mind if I had them for a short time. I contacted Laughlin Gayland from Tobruk House in Albert Park to loan me some of the Tobruk Banners to act as a backdrop in the exhibition. To visit Laughlan at Tobruk House was like walking back in time. All the Tobruk original memorabilia was something else. It was a great honour and pleasure to walk around the walls to see and handle some of the items. After I had done the art display at Box Hill RSL of 10 of the original Rats of Tobruk, I was pleased to have many of our members come and let me know what a great display it was.

I recall one member standing in front of the display with tears rolling down her face. I asked her what was wrong and she replied that the display reminded her of her father, who was also a Rat of Tobruk. The exhibition went live on the internet and we received replies from people in London and remote areas of Australia. This was so pleasing to know that our exhibition was warmly received. The "Rats of Tobruk" also put our display in their monthly newsletter of which we were very proud. We thank them as it is all about their association, and the men who played such a big part in naming "The Rats of Tobruk" and what they stood for.

Every time I have to take down an exhibition, I feel a little bit of remorse as the exhibition had worked well,

and we put so much work into the exhibition to make it what it is for Box Hill RSL.

The last exhibition for 2023 was a very important one. It was based on General Sir John Monash GCMG KCB VD who was commander of the 13th Infantry Brigade and later became commander of the 4th Infantry Brigade with whom he took part in the Gallipoli campaign. General Sir John Monash was considered to be one of WW1's most outstanding commanders and was responsible for turning the tide of many battles. Monash attended Scotch College where he was dux of the college and a most outstanding student.

The Honourable Tim Fischer AC FTSE, former leader of the National Party, a great politician and a Vietnam Veteran, believed and fought with all his might to have Monash elevated to the position of Field Marshall. Although he was backed by many Commonwealth Prime Ministers, he was let down by their 'word' to carry it through. It was a great pity that Tim (who was a great admirer of and paid many visits to Box Hill RSL) passed away before he could achieve his wish for Monash's elevation.

The exhibition required lengthy negotiations with Monash University; it was the first time the uniform and medals of General Sir John Monash had been loaned to someone outside of the university. I had to liaise with the lawyers for Monash University to get the loan documents signed. This took some months, and I was nearly unable to present the display because of the delay in time. The exhibition may not have worked out for us, had it not been for the work that our member Michael Hedberry did in swaying the hierarchy at Monash University. In the end it all came together very well. We had General Sir John Monash's uniform, medals, some great photos and other personal artefacts. I must also thank the Artefacts Curator Lucinda Davies at Monash University for her help and assistance.

Sadly, this exhibition will be the last in the traditional cabinets, as they will be taken down early in 2024 to make way for the new bar area of the RSL, which will look magnificent. The new bar will also incorporate a new Memorabilia cabinet, bigger and better than our existing one, and that will be another challenge for me.

The new building extension is due to be completed early in the new year and the amount of memorabilia will be astounding. I have been working on the memorabilia for the past six months, including artefacts that have not been seen before. As part of the building committee with past general manager, Denis Fernando, John Haward and

Andrew Guest, we have worked hard to get everything just right for our members. Members will be proud of the new building.

I take this opportunity to thank Denis Fernando for his input and guidance to me with Memorabilia during the year of 2023. Our new general manager, Ben Myers, has been with us for a short time and he has well and truly picked up the baton and given me some advice on Memorabilia which I appreciate. I look forward to working with Ben in our new Memorabilia areas in 2024. I also take this opportunity to thank our President John Haward and his committee for the support they have given me with Memorabilia especially for our new building. I also must thank Glen Bartlett, my right-hand man, in putting the exhibitions together. We both talk the same language and he knows exactly what I want. I look forward to working again with him in 2024.

One person whom I have worked with for around 20 years is our framer, Renato Del A Costa. Renato has done all the frames within Box Hill RSL and his advice is so valuable. Thanks to our photographer Stephan Robart who does some wonderful work with his photos of our exhibitions which also go on the RSL's web page and overseas as well. I take this opportunity to thank Harry Houllis of Inspired Printing who does all the printing of our photos for our exhibitions. Harry has been so good to me about anything I ask for. He comes up with the goods, and on time. I would be remiss in not giving a huge thank you to Ben Doyle Cox who has guided me in Memorabilia for many years and helped me out with just about anything I need. He is an inspiration to work with and my mentor in many ways.

I am not going to name these people, but they know who I mean when I say a big thank you for loaning me many different artefacts for my exhibitions. Thanks guys.

There is a large group of people to thank for many years of support and they are our members of Box Hill RSL. In 2023 I had the honour of being presented with Life Membership of the RSL. I contribute this award to the work I have put into the RSL with Memorabilia now for some 23 years. I thank John Haward and his committee and members rewarding me in this way.

I thank those who I may have forgotten in this report, and I look forward to serving you, the members of Box Hill RSL, with Memorabilia in 2024. It will be a big year I promise.

**Brian Tateson**  
MEMORABILIA OFFICER



# Section Reports



## ANGLING SECTION

We had a great 2023 season. Graeme, our events coordinator, changed charter companies, resulting in large numbers of fish being caught.

Our membership has increased to record numbers. As most charter boats only take 12 people, it's whoever is first to contact Graeme, who gets the spot.

We had our Christmas lunch at the RSL, which was well attended and we are now hoping for a good 2024.

Thanks to the Box Hill RSL staff and Committee for their ongoing support of the Angling Section.

Tight Lines

**Charles Kook**

SECRETARY

## BILLIARDS AND SNOOKER SECTION

2023 was a successful year for the Billiards and Snooker Section. We were able to add several new members to increase our membership to 39 and, as a bonus, some of these new recruits represented Box Hill RSL in our various teams. We were also able to hold our club championship which had been dormant for a couple of years, and this was an enormous success.

Congratulations to Jerry Alexander and Marg Conomy, our Billiards winner and runner-up respectively and to Sam Mulholland and Rick Conomy our Snooker winner and runner-up respectively. We hope to see you all defend your bragging rights in 2024!

In 2023 our Section had four teams represented by Monday and Thursday night teams and our two Tuesday morning teams entered the Victorian over 55 RSL competition. In our most successful year, the Thursday night snooker team become Premiers of their division whilst the two 0-55 teams finished Premiers and Runners-up in their league. We will have to find more space on the wall for all the shields, plaques, and team photos! Congratulations to all captains and team members.

In 2023, the Billiard & Snooker Section did subsidise quite heavily the above teams, as well as the Club championship and lunch at the AGM. This is our intent as

a non-profit organisation. However, as our bank balance was lower at year end vs the previous year, we decided to increase the annual membership fee to \$25 especially with forecast new expenses in early 2024 (refer next paragraph). This \$25 fee was the previous fee prior to COVID. However, we reduced that to \$10 over this challenging period to support our members. To ensure financial sustainability, this increase was proposed and accepted unanimously at our recent AGM.

In 2024 at the AGM, we added two sub-committee members, Roger Buckmaster and Russell Burgess, to encourage input from a wider group and to be more representative of all areas of our membership. We have plans to support the team entries and promote the Club championship further. We also decided to have both snooker tables resurfaced at considerable cost in January 2024 and for this we thank the Box Hill RSL committee for their ongoing support, both financially and personally. The table surfaces were one of the worst in the leagues we participated in but now they are one of the best.

We welcome all new members, so why not join and meet some fantastic new friends.

**Andrew Brown**

PRESIDENT

**John Sweeney**

SECRETARY

**Rick Conomy**

TREASURER

## BOWLS SECTION

Here we are again nearing the end of the pennant season with one full year played on our new green which has received great endorsements from all who have played on it, including opposition teams.

The Greens Committee, under the guidance of John Harrington, have kept the greens and surrounds in excellent condition which allows us to enjoy our bowling all year round. John and Crew also had to face the added challenge of replacing equipment and keeping our maintenance going following the fire in the equipment garage and are to be congratulated for their efforts. The support and assistance of the RSL committee and management at that time is most appreciated.

We have had a large number of bowlers who have played their first pennant season or who had only played a few games the previous year. We thank you for

selecting our club to play your bowls and it is great to see you enjoying the game.

We kicked the pennant season off with a pennant practice challenge day on our green with our great friends Blackburn North Bowling Club. The day was sponsored by Kieser with the presentation of Trophies and Prize Money by Alex Bussell, Clinic Leader /Exercise Physiologist at Kieser Mont Albert. A great day was had by all and we look forward to the rematch in 2024.

To all of the sub-committees this season we thank you all for your input. Thank you to Kat Jones and Lynn Riddell with help from their gofers: David Skinner and Russell Keast (Catering), Graham Spriggs (Sponsorship), Peter Houghton (Match Committee), Hennie Pasveer (Uniforms), Phil Johnson (Corporate Bowls) and Peter Leonard (Green Room supplies). We cannot forget our Bunnings Sausage Sizzle CEO John Knezevich. We know we would be unable to operate as we do without your combined contributions and hours of work. I make special mention of Hennie Pasveer who, after a wonderful contribution over many years organising our uniforms, is standing down from the position.

Selection committees are a difficult task at the best of times. Thank you to the following for their input every week - Cheryl Frail and David Skinner (Mid-Week); Jan Durham, David Skinner and Russell Keast (Saturday pennant) and Bob Jones (Night pennant).

Ron Hutson, Bob Jones and Harold Lepp, as our umpire and coaches, provide invaluable advice, support and assistance to all members, especially to our new members. Thank you for your continued contribution.

We congratulate Judy Smith who was awarded a Volunteer of the Year Award for her tireless years of voluntary work for the Bowls Section and her contribution to Box Hill RSL Sub-Branch.

The 2023-24 Pennant Season has been a successful one in circumstances where illness, hospitalisation and other issues have affected availability of players each week. All players have contributed to our being in good positions to play finals at the time of this report:

- Saturday Pennant - Division 4, Section 4 – 2nd and Division 7, Section 4 – in first place;
- Midweek Pennant - Division 3, Section 4 – 5th and Division 5 Section 4 – 3rd.

Our Club Championship program is still in progress. The following Club Champion titles have been decided:

#### **Men's Singles**

**Champion** Russell Keast  
**Runner up** Peter Forbes

#### **Women's Singles**

**Champion** Kat Jones  
**Runner Up** Jan Durham

#### **Open Pairs**

**Champions** Russell Keast and Peter Houghton  
**Runners Up** David Skinner and Kat Jones

#### **Inaugural Arms**

**Champion** Bob Jones  
**Runner Up** Alan Turk.

The 100-up, President's Cup and Club Triples are yet to be decided.

Early in the year we played our first Jim Burrowes Shield Day, combined with our Memorial Day, and we had a great turnout. Pam McCormack received the inaugural Jim Burrowes Shield, which recognises a rising star in our ranks, and was presented with the Shield by 100-year-old Jim Burrowes. Well done Pam. Other presentations were made by our sponsor Bethel Funerals.

Once again, we will be representing Box Hill RSL in the RSL Edinburgh Shield bowls tournament to be played at the Yarrowonga Bowling and Golf Club on 13th and 14th April.

We look forward to being very competitive and going a step further than the previous year.

To all of our sponsors whose boards flank our green – we appreciate your continued support and contributions to our bowling club.

To those members who are not in good health we wish you all a speedy recovery and look forward to seeing you back at the club soon. To the families of those members who passed away during the year we offer our thoughts and condolences.

Personally, I thank the members of the Bowls Section committee for their continued efforts and contributions in making this club the envy of many of our opposition clubs. We look forward to building our player numbers

## SECTION REPORTS

and need to keep our new member count going. If you have any friends or relatives or know anyone interested, social bowls is a great introduction.



Club Singles Champions – Russell Keast and Kat Jones



Jim Burrowes Shield Winner, Pam McCormack with Jim Burrowes and Dennis Arnel

On behalf of the Bowls Section I take this opportunity to welcome Ben Myers as the newly appointed Box Hill RSL General Manager and look forward to working with Ben and his staff in the future.

**John Woodford**  
PRESIDENT

### DARTS SECTION

The Darts Section has continued to thrive with a growing membership. Even with the demise of the Eastern Districts Darts League we now have a membership of 26 dedicated darters.

The Darts Section meet each Monday night in the Sports Lounge. Games are usually organised on the night, depending on numbers. We usually start at about 7:45pm with an early finish around 10pm. Throughout



Edith Baker (Centre) with Runners-Up Bernie Tinsley and Steve Carter.

the year we hold shield and trophy competitions. We also provide a number of social outings during the year.

All competition nights were well attended with all three dart boards put to good use.

Competition winners were,

#### Drawn Doubles

Winners: Helen Jones & Charles Eller  
Runners Up: Paul Tinsley & Steve Carter

#### Double Start/Finish

Winner: Edith Baker  
Runners Up: Steve Carter & Bernie Tinsley

#### Selected Doubles

Winners: Wayne Bastow & Peter Page  
Runners Up: Helen Jones & Ray Jones

#### Mens Singles

Winner: Peter Page  
Runner Up: Graeme Bertra

#### Ladies Singles

Winner: Edith Baker  
Runner Up: Bernie Tinsley

#### Club Champion

Winner: Wayne Bastow  
Runner Up: Edith Baker



Cheryl Hunt threw Triple 20, Single 20 then Double 20. A finish worthy of a special trophy. John Jones also earned a special trophy for throwing his first (and we hope not last) top score of 180.

Congratulations to all winners and a special shout out for Bernie Tinsley, our Competition Director who works tirelessly to organise the complexities of competition play.

Midway through the year a sit-down dinner was organised for members and partners with door prizes.

In late December, we held our Awards Night Dinner for members and partners to present trophies and awards. A fun night was enjoyed by all with prizes and key fobs displaying the Box Hill Darts logo for quiz and door prizes.

We look forward to another successful year in 2024. If people are interested in joining the Darts Section, please contact Ray Jones 0419 114 126.

We meet each Monday evening from 7:30. We have spare darts to lend for newcomers to give it a try.

#### **Ray Jones**

TREASURER

### **DAY SECTION**

2023 proved to be another year of minor disruptions. Some speakers had to cancel but our members came up trumps by stepping in. It's always good to have 'audience participation' and we covered a wide range of topics and interests.

Unfortunately, Covid reared its ugly head again within our community in November and I had to cancel one meeting. Everyone was relieved about the cancellation as nobody wanted an early Christmas present in the form of 'the bug.'

Our meetings with the 'chew'n'chat' format went down well again as it affords the chance to catch up with those we might not see otherwise. It also means we are fulfilling one of our main aims in providing the opportunity to socialise and alleviate social isolation.

We also had to cancel our very popular 'Footy Day' because of on-going work being done at the RSL but you cannot stand in the way of progress. We'll just have to make up for it next September.

Our Christmas lunch was well attended and enjoyed by all, both members and invited guests. RSL staff contributed to its success, despite having to cater for 3 functions on that very day, so may I pass on our thanks to them. Santa Kevin and his elves came along so everyone must have behaved well over the year.

The success and smooth running (most of the time) of our Section is due to the help from our volunteers and committee who work really efficiently. Thanks to everyone concerned. I really appreciate the team effort.

Thanks also go to all RSL staff who are always obliging and helpful.

It's hardly been noticeable that we have entered a new era (and I don't mean Taylor Swift!) and that there has been a change 'at the top'. Welcome to Ben Myers on behalf of our Section. We look forward to your joining us at one of our meetings in the not-too-distant future.

Last, but not least, thanks to the RSL committee who give of their time, guidance and financial support. Your generosity is really appreciated by our members.

#### **Mary Simpson**

COORDINATOR

### **LEGACY WIDOWS SECTION**

Another year has just finished where we were able to get back to a bit of normality. As our meetings for the year don't start until the 3rd Monday in February, it was decided that we would get together for lunch at the RSL on the 3rd Monday in January, just to catch up with each other which was very well received when told at our Christmas lunch. There were thirteen members who came, and we have decided to continue this each year if possible.

One of our members, Lois Commerford, turned 100 in June and we had a special cake for her. The RSL President, John Haward, gave a talk and presented her with a bouquet of flowers. It was lovely that she could have her daughter and son-in-law from Queensland to help celebrate this special time. Our thanks to Faye Clark for taking photos.

We had a talk by Rosemary Perry on 'Memories in the Cupboard'. Janet Kearns, Occupational Therapist from DVA, came to speak and explain to the ladies what help they were able to get in the home and also for mobility help. Our RSL Welfare Coordinator Faye Clark also came

## SECTION REPORTS



and gave an interesting and helpful talk on what is available to members through our Welfare Section.

For our 39th birthday, Arthur Merryweather talked to us about all the new amenities and alterations that were going to take place at the RSL.

We would like to thank Pam Whitfield and Robyn Weir for all their help during the year and for the entertainment by Robyn on two occasions. We would also like to thank Wei Wei and Justin for all their help arranging the venue for our lunches and organising the rooms for our meetings.

We ended the year with our Christmas lunch which was attended by four of the Committee and staff.

Toward the end of the year, we welcomed a new member who had moved over from Western Australia. We were very sorry last year to lose one of our Legatee's and three of our members.

Last but not least I would like to thank the Committee for their help during the year. To our two Legatees that have stepped in to help advise us, especially to my Treasurer/Secretary Patricia Keech for all the work, help, and friendship she has given to me. Thank you.

**Glenys Lewis**  
HON PRESIDENT

### SWIMMING SECTION

Whilst we were again fortunate to avail ourselves of more swims in 2023 at our wonderful facilities at Croydon Aquahub in Civic Square, Croydon. We still missed plenty of Sunday evenings throughout the year due to lower-than-average attendees for varying reasons.

Fortunately, we were able to hold three carnivals in 2023. These were Albury in January, Box Hill in June and Bentleigh in October. We hosted the Box Hill carnival in June and held our presentation function at the Box Hill RSL. Our thanks to the RSL staff for a memorable occasion.

At the Albury Carnival in January we finished second overall to Bentleigh RSL with the host club finishing third. We had no luck in the relays other than the Braced Pairs Relay which was won by Austin and Kyle Hernaut.

In a great result for the swim section at the Box Hill carnival, we managed to finish ahead of the Bentleigh RSL Swimming Team and Albury Commercial Club team to win the overall Ted Knyvett Memorial Trophy, and we won the Syd Krasey Memorial Trophy for the WW2 relay. Individual highlights included David O'Connell winning the 25 metres individual event.

At the Bentleigh RSL Swimming Carnival in October Bentleigh won the day for overall points. That said, the Box Hill team won two of the main relays (WW2 and RSL Entitlement) on the day. Steven and Liam O'Connell won the Braced Pairs Relay, Tom Ware and Liam O'Connell tied for first in the 100 metres, and Steven O'Connell won the 25 metres.

We are hoping that the swimming carnival hosted by Box Hill RSL Swimming Section will be able to take place on Saturday 25 May 2024 at Croydon Aquahub where teams from Albury and Bentleigh are expected to attend. We are advised that this is likely to be the last year in which the Albury team compete and that the carnival in Albury 2024 will be the last that it hosts. As a postscript, our team were victorious at this final carnival in Albury.

Again, we express thanks to the RSL for its continuing support and assistance during the year, which helps to promote membership and more enjoyment for swimmers.

We wish everyone a safe, healthy and successful year in 2024.

All Box Hill RSL members are welcome to join us at our fortnightly Sunday evening swims at Croydon Aquahub. Please contact Steven O'Connell at [soconnell@soccal.com.au](mailto:soconnell@soccal.com.au) for details.

We would love to see more Box Hill RSL members enjoy the benefits of swimming and join our social atmosphere at the pool. We cater for all ages and abilities and all our events are handicapped which means you don't have to be as fast as Ian Thorpe to enjoy yourself.

We note that the swimming section has been operating within the Box Hill RSL for 40 years and some of our members were born into the club. Lifelong and new friendships have been made across the club and the AIF Swimming Association and we continue to enjoy this healthy pastime with friends and family.

**Steven O'Connell**  
SECRETARY / TREASURER

### WOMEN'S AUXILIARY SECTION

We can reflect proudly on our work and success of 2023. Our good financial position has enabled us to meet our commitment to our members and have a positive impact on our community projects and the needs of the Sub-Branch.

The year saw us welcome six new members to our group and sadly saw the passing of three long term members: Geraldine MacDonald, Zoe Kyle, and Rhoda Gordon.

Our monthly meetings have been conducted as usual and we welcomed some great guest speakers over the course of the year. These included:

- Rob Winther from Austin Health who is tied in with Ward 17 which is dedicated to support returned servicemen and also emergency unit people.
- Deanne MacKenzie and Raylene from Careconnect spoke about support for independent living and different stages of care.
- John Storey, author of the book titled 'Big Wars', spoke about military history and the future of warfare.
- Graham Duncan, a retired firefighter (Fire Rescue Victoria), spoke on Senior Fire Safety in our homes.

- We also welcomed Donna Campisi from Cottage By The Sea, which is an organisation supporting children for more than 130 years and
- Chris Gray and Lee-Anne Suryn from Vasey RSL Care, which serves those who served, being our ex-veterans and war widows. Providing for all ages, Vasey helps them live independently delivering Home Care, Ex-Service Accommodation, Residential Aged Care and Veteran Services.



The tremendous support of our members, together with the various raffles organised by the Women's Auxiliary (Mother's Day, Father's Day and Christmas) has enabled us to help our community with numerous donations to Austin Health (Ward 17) of \$1,500, Box Hill Emergency Department and Cottage by the Sea of \$536.84 in toiletry items, Vasey RSL Care Veteran Centre of \$2,187.79 worth of bedding/kitchen/bathroom items, as well as a new printer/photocopier for Box Hill RSL Welfare Department \$1,900. In all our donations totalled \$6,124.63. In addition to this, our members also donated various toiletry items, groceries, and a great number of knitted items to Cottage by the Sea, Box Hill Emergency Department, Upton House, Wantirna Palliative and Aged Care, and St Kilda Mums.

Along with all our hard work we found time for pleasure with a number of great social days with the Musical Man, Kays Fashion, Film Day and three bus trips to Ballarat Begonia Festival, Cranbourne Royal Botanic Gardens, and the Shrine of Remembrance.



## BOX HILL RSL SUB BRANCH INC

# War Memorial & Heritage Report

Some of our members attended the Women's Council Forum in Pascoe Vale, Christmas in July at the Ringwood RSL and enjoyed a lunch at Belgrave/Upwey RSL with Ringwood RSL Women's Auxiliary members where we were treated to a tour of the Running Rabbits Military Museum.

Whilst celebrating our Birthday Lunch in May and our Christmas Lunch in December we were joined by Lynese Goldie, Secretary of Women's Council and John Haward, President of Box Hill RSL, who presented the Gold and Silver Star Awards to members who served either 20 or 10 years to the Women's Auxiliary.

Gold Star for 20 years went to Helen Jones, Joy Bates, Rosemary Howden, Michelle Novelli. Silver Star for 10 years went to Denise Colliver, Pat Calabresi, Doreen Booker and myself, Judy Coates. All were honoured to receive their Stars.

What a busy year! None of this would have been possible without the dedication, support, and excellent work of my committee. I would like to thank Vice President Helen Harrington, Secretary Isabel Harkensee, Treasurer Emi Luppino, Kaye Garrett, Maxine Bennett-Wyatt, Doreen Brooker, Therese Streets and Susan Sims.

Lastly, the Women's Auxiliary is enormously grateful to the Sub-Branch, the then General Manager Denis Fernando and all the staff for their ongoing support.

### **Judy Coates**

HON. PRESIDENT

### COMMEMORATION VIETNAM VETERANS DAY 18 AUG 23

The VVAA Box Hill Sub-branch assisted by Lindsay Burke ran a very successful commemoration service at the Box Hill War Memorial. This was due to the Vietnam Veterans Day Service no longer being run at the Melbourne Shrine of Remembrance.

To the haunting tones of I was only Nineteen, the service commenced. The Cadets from 305 ACU were formed up in greens and webbing in front of a replica Long Tan Cross with an infantry piper also in attendance. This was to replicate the famous photo of the dedication of the original Long Tan Cross. A prayer was said, and Rod Burgess made a commemorative address. Wreaths were laid for the 523 who paid the supreme sacrifice and those who have since passed on.

### WAR MEMORIAL REDEVELOPMENT:

Lindsay Burke and Steve Bennet arranged with Whitehorse Council to give presentations on Box Hill RSL's vision for the redevelopment of the Box Hill War Memorial precinct.

On Wednesday 30 Aug 23 Steve Bennet and Lindsay Burke attended the Council offices and gave a presentation to Council Officers and, on Monday 11 Sep we gave presentation to Whitehorse City Councillors.

Both meetings were very positive. The councillors asked for a copy of the presentation which I have sent to them. There seemed to be no negative comments at either meeting and the questions focussed on how we would proceed with this project and how it could be funded.

The redevelopment includes landscaping, moving the Boer War Memorial from its current location to the Box Hill Gardens and creating an amphitheatre around the memorial.

### **Lindsay Burke**

MEMORIAL OFFICER

# Associate Organisations



## NATIONAL SERVICEMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA, WHITEHORSE SUB-BRANCH

I acknowledge and thank our patron Brigadier Graeme Standish, Ret, AM, RFD, ED, RL.

Thank you to the Box Hill RSL, President John Hayward, his committee and staff for their support during the year.

As we grow older, we start to slow down and, in some cases, ill health appears just when we don't want it to. This is what's happening to some members of our sub-branch and their partners. Therefore, we have had to stop having sausage sizzles as our mainstream of income due to not enough members to work the sizzle.

But we are very fortunate to have an excellent treasurer, who advises the committee on proposed outings and events as to their viability. We are combining outings and NASHO events with Waverley sub-branch, so they become more cost effective.

Our funds are slowly evaporating to a point where we can still operate for the next 2-4 years. By that time our youngest member will be about 80. Most of our members are now approaching 90, and decisions will be made by then.

We are still helping out Legacy, with badge selling for ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day and children's day at The Shrine. We achieve a feeling of fulfilment, gratitude, and achievement. Also, it is less painful on our bodies.

By the time you read this, our AGM would have been held. The same committee members have nominated again, together with Bryan Neale stepping up to Assistant Secretary.

**Ian Carnegie**  
PRESIDENT

## TPI EASTERN SUBURBS SOCIAL CLUB

The purpose of our Social Club is to provide venues for TPI members to socialise with each other at Box Hill RSL and many other pleasant locations. We have monthly meetings in the Upton Room after lunch in the bistro. Often, we have informative speakers.

We also have a monthly second event. It may be bus travels in Victoria or lunches at various venues of members' choosing, from hotels to restaurants. Field trips are often looked forward to.

In May we bussed to Forest Glades at Mt Macedon and had lunch at the Hanging Rock Café. Perfect chilly weather for a drive. In June we bussed to Marysville for a scenic venture with a cosy lunch at the Buxton Hotel. So great not having to drive oneself. In August it was off to Phillip Island with lunch at the Island's RSL. A good visit was had to the Vietnam Veterans Museum as most of the men were veterans from that era. Our last bus journey for 2023 was in August to the Alowyn Gardens in the Yarra Valley with a pleasing lunch at the Healesville RSL. All of these events were good for switching off the TV at home for the day.

Last to mention, we had a grant from DVA to have a positive activity in the Upton Room for Veterans' Health Week themed on Mental Health. We exercised to Tai Chi and had a lesson on Mental Health from a professional counsellor. This was followed up with a healthy light lunch. It was well worth it.

Finally, it is worth saying that our annual Combined TPI Social Clubs event was a great success with another planned for this year. Our Christmas luncheon was very well attended and was very enjoyable.

**Ziggy Ziogas**  
PRESIDENT

## VIETNAM VETERANS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA, BOX HILL SUB-BRANCH

The VVAA Box Hill Sub-Branch is an independent organisation operating at Box Hill RSL, with the majority of our members also members of Box Hill RSL.

2023 was a year of consolidation for us. With a relatively new committee it took a little time to get up and running. However, by mid-year planned functions were starting to take place with two sausage sizzles held over two weeks at Bunnings Box Hill, these being our main fundraisers for the year.

We also reintroduced the Black Powder Shoot at the Seymour Black Powder Gun Club. These had been put on hold due to lockdowns and the pandemic. It was a very successful day with participants firing a vast number of antique weapons. On the way to the gun club, we called into the Vietnam Wall to pay our respects as well as holding a small service in memory of fallen comrades and those who had passed on since returning from war.

November saw our major event for the year with the return of the Black Tie Dinner being held in the Upton Room, with about 80 guests and members attending. The guest speaker was Bob Elworthy AM, President of the Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia, Victorian Branch.

VVAA Box Hill Sub-Branch meet at the Box Hill RSL on the last Wednesday of the month for lunch.

### Contact:

Rod Burgess Secretary  
0439 378 989

or

Bill Waterman President  
0423 604 480

I would like to thank the Committee, management and staff of Box Hill RSL for their support during 2023.

**Bill Waterman.**

PRESIDENT

#### NAVAL ASSOCIATION AUSTRALIA, BOX HILL SUB-BRANCH

The Box Hill Sub-Branch of the Naval Association meets quarterly, generally the 2nd Friday of the month, at the Box Hill RSL. After each meeting we enjoy lunch in the bistro.

The membership of our sub-branch is small but has grown during 2023. We enjoy the opportunity to gather together to talk about anything related to the Navy, the RSL & the military. Our membership includes retired Navy personnel, ex Naval Reserves and non-service members who have an interest in the Navy.

During 2023 we attended several Commemorative services and HMAS Cerberus Open Day.

Our President Ray Gill and his wife Dorothy, Treasurer Wayne Bastow and Secretary Joy Emmett and her husband Greg were delighted to be invited to attend Box Hill RSL's Volunteer's Thank You afternoon tea. We thoroughly enjoyed the delicious afternoon tea and the excellent entertainment provided.



We enjoyed a great Christmas lunch at the bistro in November with special invited guests from the Box Hill RSL. It was a wonderful opportunity to connect with members of the Box Hill RSL Committee. Everyone enjoyed the opportunity to meet together.

Thank you again for the support that Box Hill RSL provides in allowing us to use the RSL facilities for our meetings and for the contribution to our funds.

The Naval Association Australia has five pillars:

- **Care** (welfare) for the diverse and crucial support of Navy and ex-Navy men and women,
- **Commemoration** by maintaining the legacy of past service and sacrifice.
- **Cadets** (ANC) by assisting youths to become better citizens through support to the ANC.
- **Camaraderie** to meet and socialise with like-minded Navy and ex-Navy men and women.
- **Community** (engagement) How we interact with and support our local communities.

The aim is to be a dynamic and contemporary organisation supporting the Navy fraternity in a wide range of different ways with **Mateship** at the core of our ethos.

If you are interested in joining us please contact Joy 0406 349 712 or via email [etri1008@hotmail.com](mailto:etri1008@hotmail.com).

We look forward to meeting you.

Further information is also available on the website  
<https://navalassoc.org.au/>

**Joy Emmett**

SECRETARY

#### AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION, BOX HILL SUB-BRANCH

Our group of past service members and associated members of the Air Force Association have, for quite a few years now, held our first Friday of each month luncheons and meetings at the Box Hill RSL. Thanks to the Box Hill RSL's management with whom most of us have become well acquainted.

In March 2023 our committee was approached with a proposal that our group become officially recognised as being the Box Hill RSL's Air Force Sub-Branch. After our committee's consideration, the proposal was accepted and duly recognised with our branch being invited to attend, for the first time, the Anzac Day Dawn Service and being afforded the honour of placing a wreath in Remembrance of those who made the supreme sacrifice.

We look forward to our continued association with the Box Hill RSL. Should anyone feel like having a casual chat with any of our members at one of our Friday luncheons in the bistro please feel free to do so.

In closing, the question was recently put to us as to whether the Air Force Association accepts Associate Members.

The answer is yes:  
Phone 9813 4600 or  
email: [office@afavic.org.au](mailto:office@afavic.org.au)

Best wishes to all for a happy and healthy 2024.

**Laurie Bell**

PRESIDENT





## CELEBRATING *our Centenarians*

Writer:  
Vanessa Murray

Centenarians Jim and Beryl Burrowes both served in World War Two. Married for 73 years, they have been RSL members for more than 50 years.

Jim is aged 100 and is one of two surviving Coastwatcher's, Dixie Lee being the other. Beryl is also 100. They met and married after the Second World War and now live in Blackburn South, having previously lived in Box Hill South for their first 50 years of marriage. They have four children, four grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

Jim first joined the Middle Park RSL when he returned home from the South Pacific. Then, a keen lawn bowler, he joined the Box Hill RSL when it absorbed the Box Hill Bowls Club into its operations in the mid 2000s. Beryl joined at the same time – originally as members of the RSL Day Section. The Box Hill RSL quickly became a cornerstone of their social life.

*“We found the Box Hill RSL very comforting socially. For many years there was a group of us that met regularly at the RSL for meals and a good catch up. We’d go on bus trips together; they were a lot of fun,” says Beryl.*

In 2023, in honour of Jim’s outstanding contribution to the RSL Bowls Section over the years, the club created the “Jim Burrowes Perpetual Trophy”. It is designed to recognise a rising star of the club.

Jim and Beryl met four years after the end of World War Two, on the tennis courts at Albert Park. Discovering they’d both been in service was a great conversation starter, and in 1951, they were married.

Beryl and her sister Maureen served in the records department of the Women’s Auxiliary Australian Air Force (WAAAF).

“It was a great experience. You met people from all over the country. We mixed well. At that time women in service weren’t allowed out of Australia, so I worked in the Air Force Records Department. I had a set of books of 2,000 men. I took the records of where they were and what they were doing,” remembers Beryl.

Jim served in the Army. When Jim turned 18 in 1941, keen to join his two brothers who were already in service, he joined up as quickly as he could. Jim learnt Morse Code and became a wireless operator and signaller. He went on to become a Sergeant.

“After a year and a half of having contact with our troops in Port Moresby, I heard they were looking for six people to go on a dangerous mission. I couldn’t put my hand up quick enough.”

Jim had volunteered for a secret mission with the Americans and the US 7th Fleet Amphibious Landing Force. When that mission finished Jim transferred to the Australian Coastwatchers, serving with the Allied Intelligence Bureau's M Special Unit during the Second World War.

The Coastwatchers were Allied military intelligence operatives stationed on remote Pacific islands. Their job was to observe enemy movement and rescue stranded Allied personnel, and the intelligence they gathered is often credited with turning the tide of the war in the Pacific. Their radioed reports gave the Allies a decisive advantage in some of the most crucial battles, including the Battle of the Coral Sea, and acted as an early warning network.

"We were all under the strict mandate of the Coastwatchers to not confront the enemy, but to hide from them and observe and report enemy movements," says Jim.

"Our job was basically communication and not to get caught. We were to dodge the Japanese and to spy on them generally and signal any movements. For example, we'd be able to signal, '60 Japanese Betty Bombers on the way to attack Guadalcanal, expect them to attack in two hours,' so that when the Japs arrived, the Americans were ready, their planes were up in the air, their ships were at general quarters, and their land army was ready with their anti-aircraft weaponry to attack and repulse the Japanese.' Admiral Halsey, the general commander of the whole south-west Pacific area stated that the Coastwatchers saved Guadalcanal and Guadalcanal saved the Pacific War, and later, General MacArthur also stated something similar."

Jim came home, but on his return, he learnt that his older brother Bob and twin brother Tom had been lost. He picked up the accountancy career he'd embarked on before the war broke out and became a chartered accountant. He spent 31 years working as Executive Director of the Mining Group and was on the Board of Directors. He was also awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia in 1991 for his services to lifesaving.



Jim And Beryl celebrating their 73rd Wedding Anniversary, February 2024.

"Beryl was a wizard when it came to running the business called the family," Jim says, going on to share that marrying "the right sort of person" is the secret to a happy marriage.

*Beryl's advice to be able to laugh. "You must be able to laugh at everything – it's the most important thing."*

**Sources:**

<https://www.awm.gov.au/articles/blog/jim-burrowes-and-the-coastwatchers>

<https://thelastcoastwatcher.wordpress.com/>

<https://www.whitehorse.vic.gov.au/about-council/news/whitehorse-news/bowls-club-honour-jim-burrowes>





# A Lifetime OF COMMITMENT

Writer  
Vanessa Murray

Terry Nolan retired from the Australian Army in 1996 after 34 years' service. He joined the RSL on his return from Vietnam in 1969 and has been a member ever since.

Terry was raised in Sydney. In November 1962, aged 17, he joined the Army Reserve as a Gunner in an Artillery Unit. Then in August 1963, he transferred to the 1st Commando Company at Mosman, Sydney to attend the Selection Course which took about 12 months. He was successful and gained the right to wear the Commando Green Beret.

Terry had come to realise that the Army was the life for him, so in mid-1965, he resigned from his job at a bank and joined the Regular Army. He was selected to attend the Officer Cadet School, Portsea training course in July 1965 and gained a Commission in the Australian Army as a Second Lieutenant.

In the following year, 2LT Terry Nolan completed an SASR Selection Course and was appointed as an SASR Troop Commander. He saw active service in Vietnam with 2nd and 3rd SAS Squadrons in 1968-69; and was Commanding Officer of SASR in 1985-87 and Commander Special Forces 1991-92. Terry was made a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) for his service to the Australian Army and as Commanding Officer SASR.

In 1993, Terry was promoted to Brigadier and worked in various staff appointments in Perth and Canberra until his retirement in November 1996 to take up a position with Royal Dutch Shell in Melbourne. He remained with Shell for 12 years.

Terry joined the RSL in Bankstown, Sydney immediately on his return from Vietnam and has been a member of various RSLs including Perth, Geelong, Kew (where he was President for five years), Toorak and Box Hill.

Terry met his wife, Jeannine, in Perth in late 1966, before he went to Vietnam. They married in May 1970. Jeannine has been a stalwart supporter of Terry with her leadership and participation in Women's Auxiliaries during his military career. Subsequently in civilian life, she has been active in RSL Clubs with charitable work and commemorative activities. They have three children (two surviving) and eight grandchildren.

*The Nolans are regular attendees of Box Hill RSL. "People join RSLs for various reasons; to stay in touch with old mates, to meet new people and friends and to get involved in the welfare activities of the Club," Terry reflects.*

"I recommend people come along and enjoy the comradeship, the meals, a drink or two and a whole range of interest groups that operate within the Club. I think Box Hill RSL fulfills its role very well."





# Vale 2023

Diana Ridler	Peter Dunn	Kevin Jones
John Hopkins	John Elford	William Jackson
Geraldine MacDonald	Mary Forrest	George Selkrig
Richard Orr	Stanley McKay	Assunta Hall
Charles Hamilton	William Dempster	Faye Henderson
Brian Storey	Barry McVilly	Allan Stones
Helen Beesley	Garry Levey	Don Haggarty
Nesta Lister	Graeme Woolard	Alan Alcock
Grant Emberson	Francis Donnelly	John Fulton
Ken Lyons	Kevin Trevarthen	Alan Bentley
Ron Eade	John Clarke	Don Hall
Norman Jarman	Ian Browne OAM	Kevin Cosier
Elizabeth Simpson	Eleanor Carter- Johannes	Zoe Kyle
David Clifton	Nola Merryweather	Robert Baker
Ian Ward OAM	Betty Morton	Lois Prichard
Melville Grace	Lindsay Horner	Alma George
Norman Riches	Thelma DeLacy	
Graeme Tippet	Elsa Hatfield	

*Lest We Forget*

# BOX HILL RSL SUB BRANCH INC ABN 30009 528 173

## Financial Statements

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023



### STATEMENT OF SURPLUS OR DEFICIT AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
Revenue	2	15,095,545	12,925,843
Raw materials and consumables used		(1,722,674)	(1,486,257)
Bar expenses		(512,624)	(409,984)
Gaming expenses		(5,279,820)	(4,295,180)
Catering and restaurant expenses		(1,565,855)	(1,319,760)
TAB expenses		(3,394)	(18,942)
Welfare expenses		(792,096)	(466,121)
Administration and operating expenditure:			
Employee benefits expense		(992,895)	(784,530)
Depreciation		(296,442)	(226,007)
Occupancy expenses		(1,550,420)	(1,185,681)
Administrative expenses		(819,233)	(926,323)
Investment property expenses		(17,474)	(16,458)
Other expenses		(234,212)	(191,570)
<b>Surplus before Income Tax Expense</b>		<b>1,308,406</b>	<b>1,599,030</b>
Income tax expense		-	-
<b>Surplus after Income Tax Expense</b>		<b>1,308,406</b>	<b>1,599,030</b>
Other comprehensive income for the year (net of tax)		-	-
<b>Total Comprehensive Income for the year attributable to the members</b>		<b>1,308,406</b>	<b>1,599,030</b>

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

as at 31 December 2023

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash & cash equivalents	14	6,779,955	6,800,159
Trade & other assets	3	195,141	136,456
Inventories	4	43,318	39,713
Related party loans	5	100,000	100,000
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>7,118,414</b>	<b>7,076,328</b>
<b>Non Current Assets</b>			
Related party loans	5	3,748,762	3,848,762
Plant and equipment	6	2,006,185	1,038,334
Gaming licence entitlements	7	3,275,804	3,596,537
Investment property	8	1,382,602	1,382,602
Other intangible assets	9	28,916	36,120
<b>Total Non Current Assets</b>		<b>10,442,269</b>	<b>9,902,355</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>17,560,683</b>	<b>16,978,683</b>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Trade payables & other liabilities	10	1,127,457	885,916
Provisions	13	433,332	461,284
Other liabilities	11	74,040	77,542
Borrowings	12	704,560	553,463
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<b>2,339,389</b>	<b>1,978,205</b>
<b>Non Current Liabilities</b>			
Borrowings	12	1,948,012	3,041,493
Provisions	13	26,926	21,035
<b>Total Non Current Liabilities</b>		<b>1,974,938</b>	<b>3,062,528</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<b>4,314,327</b>	<b>5,040,733</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>		<b>13,246,356</b>	<b>11,937,950</b>
<b>Equity</b>			
Gift fund		907,121	907,121
Retained surplus		12,339,235	11,030,829
<b>Total Equity</b>		<b>13,246,356</b>	<b>11,937,950</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.



## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

	Gift Fund	Retained surplus	Total
	\$	\$	\$
<b>Balance at 1 January 2022</b>	907,121	<b>9,431,799</b>	10,338,920
Surplus attributable to members		<b>1,599,030</b>	1,599,030
<b>Balance at 31 December 2022</b>	907,121	<b>11,030,829</b>	11,937,950
Surplus attributable to members		<b>1,308,406</b>	1,308,406
<b>Balance at 31 December 2023</b>	907,121	<b>12,339,235</b>	13,246,356

## STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
<b>Cash Flows from Operating Activities</b>			
Cash receipts from customers		<b>14,863,822</b>	12,857,953
Cash payments to suppliers and employees		<b>(12,905,488)</b>	(10,589,021)
Interest received		<b>215,028</b>	49,647
<b>Net cash inflow from operating activities</b>	14(b)	<b>2,173,362</b>	2,318,579
<b>Cash Flows from Investing Activities</b>			
Purchase of assets associated with investment property		-	(2,632)
Proceeds from disposal of gaming machines and associated hardware		-	84,267
Purchase of fixed assets		<b>(2,293,566)</b>	(440,055)
<b>Net cash (outflow) from investing activities</b>		<b>(2,293,566)</b>	(358,420)
<b>Cash Flows from Financing Activities</b>			
Provision of loan to the Patriotic Fund		<b>100,000</b>	100,000
<b>Net cash inflow from financing activities</b>		<b>100,000</b>	100,000
<b>Net (decrease) / increase in cash held</b>		<b>(20,204)</b>	2,060,159
Cash at beginning of financial year		<b>6,800,159</b>	4,740,000
<b>Cash at end of financial year</b>	14(a)	<b>6,779,955</b>	6,800,159

## NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

### 1. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

This special purpose financial report has been prepared for distribution to the members of the Sub- Branch to fulfil the Association's financial reporting requirements under the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 and the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Act 2012. The accounting policies used in the preparation of this report, as described below, are consistent with the financial reporting requirements of the Act, and are, in the opinion of the committee, appropriate to meet the needs of members. The policies comply with the measurement and recognition requirements of Australian Accounting Standards.

The requirements of Australian Accounting Standards, Accounting Interpretations, and other professional reporting requirements, do not have mandatory applicability to the Sub-Branch, except to the extent required by the Act, because it is not a "reporting entity".

No other Accounting Standards, Accounting Interpretations or other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board have been applied.

#### Reporting Basis and Conventions

The financial report has been prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historical costs modified by the revaluation of selected non-current assets, and financial assets and financial liabilities for which the fair value basis of accounting has been applied.

The following is a summary of the material policies adopted by the Association in the preparation of the financial report. The accounting policies have been consistently applied, unless otherwise stated.

#### Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within short term borrowings in current liabilities on the statement of financial position.

#### Inventory

Inventory is valued at the lower of cost or net realisable value basis. Costs are assigned on a first-in first-out basis.

#### Plant and equipment

Plant and equipment is measured on the cost basis less depreciation and impairment losses.

Plant and equipment is measured initially at cost. Cost includes all directly attributable expenditure incurred including costs to get the asset ready for its use as intended by management. Costs include an estimate of any expenditure expected to be incurred at the end of the asset's useful life.

The carrying amount of plant and equipment is reviewed annually by the Committee for indications of impairment. If any such indications exist, an impairment test is carried out, and any impairment losses on the assets recognised.

## NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the Year Ended 31 December 2023 (cont'd)

### 1. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (cont'd)

#### Depreciation

The depreciable amount of all plant and equipment is depreciated on a straight-line basis over their useful lives (commencing from the time the asset is ready for use). Leasehold improvements are depreciated over the shorter of either the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful lives of the improvements.

The depreciable amount is the carrying value of the asset less estimated residual amounts. The residual amount is based on what a similar asset of the expected condition of the asset at the end of its useful life could be sold for.

The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted as appropriate, at each statement of financial position date.

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing proceeds with the carrying amount. These gains and losses are included in the Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income.

Depreciation rates are as follows:

- Gaming machines – 14%
- Computer software – 25%

#### Gaming Licence Entitlements

The Sub-branch has elected to account for its gaming entitlements on a cost basis.

#### Other Intangible Assets

Software has a finite life and is carried at cost less any accumulated amortisation and impairment losses. It has an estimated useful life of four years.

#### Investment property

Investment properties are measured initially at cost, including transaction costs. Subsequent to initial recognition, investment properties are stated at fair value, which reflects market conditions at the reporting date. Gains or losses arising from changes in the fair value of investment properties are included in surplus or deficit in the period in which they arise. Fair values are determined based on the Committee's annual evaluation, and an independent valuation conducted at least every five years, unless volatile market conditions warrant more frequent independent valuation.

#### Financial Instruments

##### Initial recognition and measurement

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the Association becomes a party to the contractual provisions to the instrument. For financial assets, this is the date that the Association commits itself to either the purchase or sale of the asset (i.e. trade date accounting is adopted).

Financial instruments (except for trade receivables) are initially measured at fair value plus transaction costs, except where the instrument is classified "at fair value through profit or loss", in which case transaction costs are expensed to profit or loss immediately. Where available, quoted prices in an active market are used to determine fair value. In other circumstances, valuation techniques are adopted.

Trade receivables are initially measured at the transaction price if the trade receivables do not contain a significant financing component or if the practical expedient was applied as specified in AASB 15.63.

##### Classification and subsequent measurement

###### *Financial liabilities*

Financial liabilities are subsequently measured at:



## NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the Year Ended 31 December 2023 (cont'd)

### 1. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (cont'd)

#### Financial Instruments (cont'd)

- amortised cost; or
- fair value through profit and loss.

A financial liability is measured at fair value through profit and loss if the financial liability is:

- a contingent consideration of an acquirer in a business combination to which AASB 3: Business Combinations applies;
- held for trading; or
- initially designated as at fair value through profit or loss.

All other financial liabilities are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

The effective interest method is a method of calculating the amortised cost of a debt instrument and of allocating interest expense in profit or loss over the relevant period.

The effective interest rate is the internal rate of return of the financial asset or liability, that is, it is the rate that discounts the estimated future cash flows through the expected life of the instrument to the net carrying amount at initial recognition.

A financial liability is held for trading if:

- it is incurred for the purpose of repurchasing or repaying in the near term;
- it is part of a portfolio where there is an actual pattern of short-term profit taking; or
- it is a derivative financial instrument (except for a derivative that is in a financial guarantee contract or a derivative that is in effective hedging relationships)

Any gains or losses arising on changes in fair value are recognised in profit or loss to the extent that they are not part of a designated hedging relationship.

The change in fair value of a financial liability attributable to changes in the issuer's credit risk is taken to other comprehensive income and is not subsequently reclassified to profit or loss. Instead, it is transferred to accumulated surplus upon derecognition of the financial liability.

If taking the change in credit risk in other comprehensive income enlarges or creates an accounting mismatch, then these gains or losses are taken to profit or loss rather than other comprehensive income.

A financial liability cannot be reclassified.

#### *Financial asset*

Financial assets are subsequently measured at:

- amortised cost;
- fair value through other comprehensive income; or
- fair value through profit and loss

on the basis of the two primary criteria:

- the contractual cash flow characteristics of the financial asset; and
- the business model for managing the financial assets.

A financial asset is subsequently measured at amortised cost if it meets the following conditions:

- the financial asset is managed solely to collect contractual cash flows; and
- the contractual terms within the financial asset give rise to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest on the principle amount outstanding on specified dates.

## NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the Year Ended 31 December 2023 (cont'd)

### 1. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (cont'd)

#### Financial Instruments (cont'd)

A financial asset is subsequently measured at fair value through other comprehensive income if it meets the following conditions:

- the contractual terms within the financial asset give rise to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest on the principle amount outstanding on specified dates; and
- the business model for managing the financial assets comprises both contractual cash flows collection and the selling of the financial asset.

By default, all other financial assets that do not meet the conditions of amortised cost and fair value through other comprehensive income's measurement conditions are subsequently measured at fair value through profit and loss. The Association initially designates a financial instrument as measured at fair value through profit and loss if:

- it eliminates or significantly reduces a measurement or recognition inconsistency (often referred to as accounting mismatch) that would otherwise arise from measuring assets or liabilities or recognising the gains and losses on them on different bases;
- it is in accordance with the documented risk management or investment strategy and information about the Association was documented appropriately, so as the performance of the financial liability that was part of an Association's financial liabilities or financial assets can be managed and evaluated consistently on a fair value basis; and
- it is a hybrid contract that contains an embedded derivative that significantly modifies the cash flows otherwise required by the contract.

The initial designation of the financial instruments to measure at fair value through profit and loss is a one-time option on initial classification and is irrevocable until the financial asset is derecognised.

#### Derecognition

Derecognition refers to the removal of a previously recognised financial asset or financial liability from the statement of financial position.

##### *Derecognition of financial liabilities*

A liability is derecognised when it is extinguished (i.e. when the obligation in the contract is discharged, cancelled or expires). An exchange of an existing financial liability for a new one with substantially modified terms, or a substantial modification to the terms of a financial liability, is treated as an extinguishment of the existing liability and recognition of a new financial liability.

The difference between the carrying amount of the financial liability derecognised and the consideration paid and payable, including any non-cash assets transferred or liabilities assumed, is recognised in profit or loss.

##### *Derecognition of financial assets*

A financial asset is derecognised when the holder's contractual rights to its cash flows expires, or the asset is transferred in such a way that all the risks and rewards of ownership are substantially transferred.

All the following criteria need to be satisfied for derecognition of a financial asset:

- the right to receive cash flows from the asset has expired or been transferred;
- all risk and rewards of ownership of the asset have been substantially transferred; and
- the Association no longer controls the asset (i.e. no practical ability to make unilateral decision to sell the asset to a third party).

## NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the Year Ended 31 December 2023 (cont'd)

### 1. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (cont'd)

#### Financial Instruments (cont'd)

On derecognition of a financial asset measured at amortised cost, the difference between the asset's carrying amount and the sum of the consideration received and receivable is recognised in profit or loss.

On derecognition of a debt instrument classified as at fair value through other comprehensive income, the cumulative gain or loss previously accumulated in an investment revaluation reserve is reclassified to profit or loss.

On derecognition of an investment in equity which was elected to be classified under fair value through other comprehensive income, the cumulative gain or loss previously accumulated in an investments revaluation reserve is not reclassified to profit or loss, but is transferred to accumulated surplus.

#### Impairment

The Association recognises a loss allowance for expected credit losses on:

- financial assets that are measured at amortised cost or fair value through other comprehensive income;
- loan commitments that are not measured at fair value through profit or loss; and
- financial guarantee contracts that are not measured at fair value through profit or loss.

Loss allowance is not recognised for:

- financial assets measured at fair value through profit or loss; or
- equity instruments measured at fair value through other comprehensive income.

Expected credit losses are the probability-weighted estimate of credit losses over the expected life of a financial instrument. A credit loss is the difference between all contractual cash flows that are due and all cash flows expected to be received, all discounted at the original effective interest rate of the financial instrument.

The Association uses the following approaches to impairment, as applicable under AASB 9:

- the general approach;
- the simplified approach;
- the purchased or originated credit impaired approach; and
- low credit risk operational simplification.

#### *General approach*

Under the general approach, at each reporting period, the Association assesses whether the financial instruments are credit impaired, and if:

- the credit risk of the financial instrument has increased significantly since initial recognition, the Association measures the loss allowance of the financial instrument at an amount equal to the lifetime expected credit losses; and
- there is no significant increase in credit risk since initial recognition, the Association measures the loss allowance for that financial instrument at an amount equal to 12-month expected credit losses.

#### *Simplified approach*

The simplified approach does not require tracking of changes in credit risk at every reporting period, but instead requires the recognition of lifetime expected credit loss at all times.

This approach is applicable to:

- trade receivables or contract assets that result from transactions that are within the scope of AASB 15, that contain a significant financing component; and
- lease receivables.

In measuring the expected credit loss, a provision matrix for trade receivables is used, taking into consideration various data to derive an expected credit loss, (i.e. diversity of its customer base, appropriate groupings of its historical loss experience etc).



## NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the Year Ended 31 December 2023 (cont'd)

### 1. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (cont'd)

#### Financial Instruments (cont'd)

##### *Purchased or originated credit-impaired approach*

For a financial asset that is considered to be credit impaired (not on acquisition or origination), the Association measures any change in its lifetime expected credit loss as the difference between the asset's gross carrying amount and the present value of estimated future cash flows discounted at the financial asset's original effective interest rate. Any adjustment is recognised in profit or loss as an impairment gain or loss.

Evidence of credit impairment includes:

- significant financial difficulty of the issuer or borrower;
- a breach of contract (e.g. default or past due event);
- where a lender has granted to the borrower a concession, due to borrower's financial difficulty, that the lender would not otherwise consider;
- where it is probable the borrower will enter bankruptcy or other financial reorganisation; and
- the disappearance of an active market for the financial asset because of financial difficulties.

##### *Low credit risk operational simplification approach*

If a financial asset is determined to have low credit risk at the initial reporting date, the Association assumes that the credit risk has not increased significantly since initial recognition and accordingly can continue to recognise a loss allowance of 12-month expected credit loss.

In order to make such determination that the financial asset has low credit risk, the Association applies its internal credit risk ratings or other methodologies using a globally comparable definition of low credit risk.

A financial asset is considered to have low credit risk if:

- there is a low risk of default by the borrower;
- the borrower has strong capacity to meet its contractual cash flow obligations in the near term; and
- adverse changes in economic and business conditions in the longer term, may, but not necessarily, reduce the ability of the borrower to fulfil its contractual cash flow obligations.

A financial asset is not considered to carry low credit risk merely due to existence of collateral, or because a borrower has a lower risk of default than the risk inherent in the financial assets, or lower than the credit risk of the jurisdiction in which it operates.

##### *Recognition of expected credit losses in financial statements*

At each reporting date, the Association recognises the movement in the loss allowance as an impairment gain or loss in the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income.

The carrying amount of financial assets measured at amortised cost includes the loss allowance relating to that asset.

Assets measured at fair value through other comprehensive income are recognised at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in other comprehensive income. The amount in relation to change in credit risk is transferred from other comprehensive income to profit or loss at every reporting period.

For financial assets that are unrecognised (e.g. loan commitments yet to be drawn, financial guarantees), a provision for loss allowance is created in the statement of financial position to recognise the loss allowance.

#### Impairment of Assets

At each reporting date, the Sub-Branch reviews the carrying values of its tangible and intangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have been impaired. If such an indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use, is compared to the asset's carrying value. Any excess of the asset's carrying value over its recoverable amount is expensed to the income statement.

## NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the Year Ended 31 December 2023 (cont'd)

### 1. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (cont'd)

#### Impairment of Assets (cont'd)

Where it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, the Sub-Branch estimates the recoverable amount of the cash generating unit to which the asset belongs.

#### Employee benefits

Provision for employee benefits represents amounts accrued for annual and long service leave.

Long service leave is accrued based on the estimated probability the employee serves sufficient time for legal entitlement to vest.

The current portion for this provision includes the total amount accrued for annual leave entitlements. Based on past experience, the Sub-Branch does not expect the full amount of annual leave classified as current liabilities to be settled within the next 12 months. However, these amounts must be classified as current liabilities since the Sub-Branch does not have an unconditional right to defer the settlement of these amounts in the event employees wish to use their leave entitlement.

#### Revenue

Revenue is recognised to the extent that it is probable that economic will flow to the Company and the revenue can be reliably measured. The following specific criteria must also be met before revenue is recognised:

##### *Gaming revenue*

Gaming revenue is the net amount received after deducting the difference between gaming wins and losses. Gaming revenue is recognised at a point in time, which occurs on the outcome of the game in question.

##### *Food and beverage revenue*

Revenue from sales of food and beverages is recognised at a point in time, being when goods are provided to a customer.

Revenue is measured at the fair value of consideration received or receivable.

##### *Interest revenue*

Interest revenue is recognised on a proportional basis taking into account the interest rates applicable to the financial assets.

##### *Other income*

Other income is recognised on an accruals basis when the Sub-Branch is entitled to it.

#### Income Tax

The Sub-Branch is not liable for income tax. The ongoing Income Exempt Charity status is subject to the Sub-Branch meeting the terms of the Deed of Settlement with the Commissioner of Taxation of the Commonwealth of Australia.

#### Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues and expenses are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Tax Office. In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense. Receivables and payables in the statement of financial position are shown inclusive of GST. Cash flows are presented in the cash flow statement on a gross basis, except for the GST component of investing and financial activities, which are disclosed as operating cash flows.

#### Comparative Figures

When required by Accounting Standards, comparative figures have been adjusted to conform to changes in presentation for the current financial year.

#### Significant accounting judgments

The Committee evaluate estimates and judgements incorporated into the financial statements based on historical knowledge and best available current information. In the current financial year, all such estimates are deemed to be 'normal' estimations in the ordinary course of business.

## NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the Year Ended 31 December 2023 (cont'd)

### 2 REVENUE AND OTHER INCOME

Included in operating surplus are the following items of operating revenue:

	2023 \$	2022 \$
- bar trading income	1,707,790	1,411,876
- gaming income	9,336,593	8,211,346
- catering income	3,403,579	2,680,468
- investment property income	28,680	26,856
- other income	656,137	627,070
- (loss) on disposal of fixed assets	(37,234)	(31,773)
	<b>15,095,545</b>	<b>12,925,843</b>

### 3 TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES

#### Current

Receivables	82,966	81,659
Provision for impairment of receivables	-	-
	<b>82,966</b>	<b>81,659</b>
Other receivables	33,200	21,314
Prepayments and other assets	78,975	33,483
	<b>195,141</b>	<b>136,456</b>

### 4 INVENTORIES

Stock on hand at cost	43,318	39,713
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### 5 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The loan to the Box Hill RSL Sub Branch Patriotic Fund is non interest bearing and is unsecured. It has repayment terms of \$100,000 per annum.

The following table provides the total amount of transactions that have been entered into with related parties for the year:

- Rent paid from the Sub-Branch to the Patriotic Fund	1,320,001	960,000
- Contribution towards Welfare Co-ordinators wages paid from the Patriotic Fund to the Sub Branch	67,000	70,000
- Honorariums paid	30,000	28,000

### 6 PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

Gaming room, machines and plant and equipment - at cost	3,804,748	2,811,880
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(1,868,464)	(1,860,863)
	<b>1,936,284</b>	<b>951,017</b>

## NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the Year Ended 31 December 2023 (cont'd)

		2023 \$	2022 \$
<b>6 PLANT AND EQUIPMENT (cont'd)</b>			
Motor vehicles – at cost	(a)	90,342	90,342
Less: Accumulated depreciation		(20,441)	(3,025)
		69,901	87,317
<b>Total Plant and Equipment</b>		<b>2,006,185</b>	<b>1,038,334</b>
(a) A motor vehicle is retained for the use of the General Manager of the Sub-Branch.			
<b>7 GAMING LICENCE ENTITLEMENTS</b>			
2022 Entitlements at cost		3,796,262	3,735,097
Less: Accumulated Amortisation		(520,458)	(138,560)
		<b>3,275,804</b>	<b>3,596,537</b>
<b>8 INVESTMENT PROPERTY</b>			
Investment property - at fair value		<b>1,382,602</b>	<b>1,382,602</b>
<b>9 OTHER INTANGIBLES ASSETS</b>			
<i>Computer software</i>			
Cost		183,172	183,172
Less: accumulated amortisation and impairment		(154,256)	(147,052)
		<b>28,916</b>	<b>36,120</b>
<b>10 TRADE PAYABLES &amp; OTHER LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>Current</b>			
Trade creditors		685,943	513,450
Sundry creditors & accruals		441,514	372,466
		<b>1,127,457</b>	<b>885,916</b>



**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**for the Year Ended 31 December 2023 (cont'd)**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>11 OTHER LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>Current</b>		
Subscriptions in advance	<b>53,850</b>	60,219
Gift cards	<b>19,327</b>	17,323
Other income in advance	<b>863</b>	-
	<b>74,040</b>	77,542
<b>12 BORROWINGS</b>		
<b>Current</b>		
Hire purchase agreements	<b>218,726</b>	67,629
Payable – Gaming entitlements	<b>485,834</b>	485,834
	<b>704,560</b>	553,463
<b>Non-Current</b>		
Hire purchase agreements	<b>240,374</b>	104,620
Payable – Gaming entitlements	<b>1,707,638</b>	2,936,873
	<b>1,948,012</b>	3,041,493
The Sub-Branch executed an ‘Offer Deed Poll’, where it would acquire 103 gaming entitlements at a cost of \$38,079 each for the period 16 August 2022 to 15 August 2032.		
<b>13 PROVISIONS</b>		
<b>Current</b>		
Provision for annual leave	<b>212,022</b>	267,356
Provision for long service leave	<b>221,310</b>	193,928
	<b>433,332</b>	461,284
<b>Non-Current</b>		
Provision for long service leave	<b>26,926</b>	21,035

**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**for the Year Ended 31 December 2023 (cont'd)**

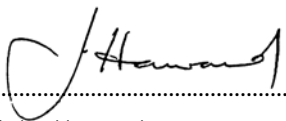
	2023 \$	2022 \$
<b>14 NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF CASH FLOW</b>		
<b>(a) Reconciliation of Cash</b>		
Cash at the end of the financial year as shown in the statement of cash flows is reconciled to the related items in the statement of financial position as follows:		
Cash at bank and on hand	2,573,137	1,992,527
Short term deposits	4,206,818	4,807,632
	<b>6,779,955</b>	<b>6,800,159</b>
<b>(b) Reconciliation of Net Cash used in Operating Activities to Operating Surplus / (Deficit)</b>		
Operating surplus after income tax	1,308,406	1,599,030
<i>Non Cash Flows in operating surplus:</i>		
Depreciation and amortisation	674,034	482,732
Loss on disposal of non current assets	37,234	31,773
<i>Change in Operating Assets &amp; Liabilities:</i>		
(Increase) in trade receivables and other assets	(58,685)	(34,091)
(Increase) in inventories	(3,605)	(6,134)
Increase in trade creditors and accruals	238,039	225,614
(Decrease)/increase in provisions	(22,061)	19,655
Net cash from / (used in) operating activities	<b>2,173,362</b>	<b>2,318,579</b>
<b>15 REMUNERATION OF KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL</b>		
Total key management personnel remuneration:	<b>1,260,603</b>	<b>1,065,482</b>

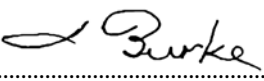
DECLARATION BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

The Members of the Committee ('the Committee') of Box Hill Sub-Branch Inc. declare that in the Committee's opinion:

- a) there are reasonable grounds to believe that the registered entity is able to pay all of its debts, as and when they become due and payable; and
- b) the financial statements and notes satisfy the requirements of the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profit Commission Act 2012.

Signed in accordance with subsection 60.15(2) of the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profit Commission Regulation 2013.

President:  .....  
John Haward

Treasurer:  .....  
Lindsay Burke

Dated 6/2/2024

**Independent Audit Report  
To the Members of Box Hill RSL Sub-Branch Inc**

**Report on the Audit of the Financial Report**

***Opinion***

We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of Box Hill RSL Sub-Branch Inc ("the Sub Branch"), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2023, the statement of surplus or deficit and other comprehensive income, the statement of changes in equity and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the Committee's declaration.

In our opinion the financial report of the Sub Branch is properly drawn up, including:

- a. giving a true and fair view of the Sub Branch's financial position as at 31 December 2023 and of its financial performance for the year ended; and
- b. complying with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 1 and with the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 and Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Act 2012 (ACNC Act).

***Basis for Opinion***

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibility under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the Sub Branch in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

***Emphasis of Matter - Basis of Accounting***

Without modifying our opinion, we draw attention to Note 1 of the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared for distribution to members for the purpose of fulfilling the Committee's financial reporting responsibilities under the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 and the ACNC Act. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose.

**Committee's Responsibility for the Financial Report**

The Committee of the Sub Branch is responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and have determined that the basis of preparation described in Note 1 to the financial report is appropriate to meet the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 and the ACNC Act. The Committee's responsibility also includes establishing and maintaining internal controls relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the Committee is responsible for assessing the Sub Branch's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Committee either intends to liquidate the Sub Branch or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Sub Branch's financial reporting process.



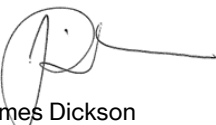
**Independent Audit Report  
To the Members of Box Hill RSL Sub-Branch Inc (cont'd)**

**Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial report is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website at: <http://www.auasb.gov.au/Home.aspx>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Stannards Accountants and Advisors

  
 James Dickson  
 Partner

Date: 6<sup>th</sup> February 2024

## SUMMARY OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT

**For the Year Ended 31 December 2023**

	2023 \$	2022 \$
Income – Operating	5,767,470	5,319,217
Income – Non-Operating	226,234	60,045
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>5,993,704</b>	5,379,262
Operating expenditure	(3,893,202)	(3,314,111)
Welfare expenses	(792,096)	(466,121)
<b>Net Operating Surplus</b>	<b>1,308,406</b>	1,599,030
<b>EBITDAR</b>	<b>3,469,177</b>	3,060,487
<b>% Staff Costs to Revenue</b>	<b>26.2%</b>	25.6%

## SUMMARY INCOME STATEMENT

For the Year Ended 31 December 2023

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Operating Income		
Bar trading – Net	653,117	528,516
Gaming room – Net	4,056,773	3,916,166
Catering – Net	657,099	347,827
TAB – Net	(968)	(5,792)
Subscriptions	118,770	67,206
Sundry Income	319,913	497,067
(Loss) on disposal of gaming machines	(37,234)	(31,773)
	5,767,470	5,319,217
Non-Operating Income		
Interest received	215,028	49,647
Investment property – Net	11,206	10,398
	226,234	60,045
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>5,993,704</b>	<b>5,379,262</b>

## BAR TRADING STATEMENT

For the Year Ended 31 December 2023

<b>Income</b>		
Sales	1,707,790	1,411,876
Less cost of sales	(542,049)	(473,376)
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>1,165,741</b>	<b>938,500</b>
<b>Less Expenses</b>		
Bar expense	36,561	28,950
Superannuation	45,406	34,384
Wages – Bar	426,053	344,440
WorkCover premiums	4,604	2,210
	512,624	409,984
<b>Net Operating Income</b>	<b>653,117</b>	<b>528,516</b>

## GAMING STATEMENT

For the Year Ended 31 December 2023

### Income

Gaming revenue

### Gross Profit

### Less Expenses

Gaming on-costs

Gaming expenses / promotions

State gaming tax

Superannuation

Wages

WorkCover premiums

### Net Operating Income

2023 \$	2022 \$
9,336,593	8,211,346
9,336,593	8,211,346
1,016,937	919,333
187,428	68,283
3,417,547	2,701,837
63,335	52,527
587,685	548,702
6,888	4,498
5,279,820	4,295,180
4,056,773	3,916,166

## CATERING STATEMENT

For the Year Ended 31 December 2023

### Income

Revenue

Less cost of sales

### Gross Profit

### Less Expenses

Other catering expenses

Superannuation

Wages

WorkCover premiums

### Net Operating Income

3,403,579	2,680,468
(1,180,625)	(1,012,881)
2,222,954	1,667,587
71,943	57,028
143,187	117,345
1,336,471	1,137,373
14,254	8,014
1,565,855	1,319,760
657,099	347,827

## TAB STATEMENT

For the Year Ended 31 December 2023

### Income

TAB commission

### Gross Profit

### Less Expenses

TAB on-costs

### Net Operating (Deficit)

2,426	13,150
2,426	13,150
3,394	18,942
3,394	18,942
(968)	(5,792)

## OPERATING EXPENDITURE STATEMENT

For the Year Ended 31 December 2023

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
<b>Operating Expenditure</b>		
Accounting fees	23,500	23,910
Advertising	4,833	4,961
ANZAC House operating support fees	15,649	192,270
Bank charges	48,866	38,014
Cleaning	196,920	185,950
Committee Expenses/Honarariums	47,031	41,984
Computer expenses	58,786	49,947
Consulting and professional fees	22,018	7,775
Depreciation	296,442	226,007
Entertainment	4,200	5,000
Fees and permits	2,663	2,056
Fringe benefits tax expense	12,538	14,837
Fund raising expenses	42,284	39,542
Gas and electricity	199,721	195,161
Insurance	97,929	88,918
Keno	740	4,332
Miscellaneous expense	41,442	37,122
Motor vehicle expenses	8,501	6,624
Payroll tax	141,987	98,726
Payroll services	9,452	6,694
Postage	2,206	2,507
Printing and stationery	25,431	23,790
Provision for annual leave	(55,335)	24,596
Provision for long service leave	33,273	(4,940)
Rates and taxes	30,698	30,520
Rent	1,320,001	960,000
Repairs and maintenance	181,027	169,248
Security	133,146	126,321
Staff Training	1,544	390
Subscription expenses	5,215	5,408
Superannuation	77,895	66,176
Telephone	24,086	17,325
Uniforms	10,090	3,770
Wages - Administration	650,471	469,887
Wages - Reception	124,015	110,921
Waste disposal	45,886	34,035
WorkCover premiums	8,051	4,327
<b>Total Operating Expense</b>	<b>3,893,202</b>	<b>3,314,111</b>



## WELFARE EXPENDITURE STATEMENT

For the Year Ended 31 December 2023

### Welfare Expenses Community

Donations	22,736	16,951
Funeral expenses	823	1,478
Gardening expenses	790	1,008
Medical Expenses	90	496
Miscellaneous	1,040	512
Room hire cost	16,455	17,555
Subsidised meals	144,998	74,515
Taxi Services	10,457	6,507

### Total Welfare Expenses Community

197,389 119,022

### Welfare Expenses Veterans

Administration fees	27,330	27,008
ANZAC House League support fees	167,524	-
Funeral expenses	1,584	253
Gardening Expenses	1,251	795
Grants to sporting bodies / Ex-Servicemen	47,660	44,515
Miscellaneous / Memorabilia / Other	41,935	29,353
Payroll tax	7,552	4,652
Postage	12,158	10,373
Printing and stationery	8,225	10,322
Remembrance of sacrifice	16,076	19,984
Room hire cost	20,786	19,379
Subsidised meals	38,239	19,574
Superannuation	17,542	12,743
Telephone	1,593	1,415
Taxi Services	3,200	2,171
Volunteer expenses	11,599	18,681
Wages	168,655	124,983
WorkCover premiums	1,798	898

### Total Welfare Expenses Veterans

594,707 347,099

### Total Welfare Expense

792,096 466,121

## INVESTMENT PROPERTY STATEMENT

For the Year Ended 31 December 2023

### Income

Rental Income	28,680	26,856
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### Gross Profit

28,680 26,856

### Less Expenses

Insurance	2,094	1,864
Property Management Fees	1,538	1,440
Rates / Water	3,021	2,858
Repairs & Maintenance	6,355	6,753
Sundry Expenses	4,466	3,543

### Total Rental Expense

17,474 16,458

### Net Non-Operating Income

11,206 10,398

BOX HILL RSL SUB-BRANCH PATRIOTIC FUND ABN 44440 882 245

# Financial Statements

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023



## STATEMENT OF SURPLUS OR DEFICIT AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
Revenue	2	1,345,509	1,126,776
Expenses		(1,149,809)	(1,122,151)
<b>Surplus Before Income Tax Expense</b>		<b>195,700</b>	<b>4,625</b>
Income tax expense		-	-
<b>Surplus After Income Tax Expense</b>		<b>195,700</b>	<b>4,625</b>
Other comprehensive income for the year (net of tax)		-	-
<b>Total Comprehensive Income for the year attributable to the members</b>		<b>195,700</b>	<b>4,625</b>

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

as at 31 December 2023

	Note	2023	2022
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash & cash equivalents	6	882,826	620,374
Trade & Other Receivables	3	95,658	6,440
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>978,484</b>	<b>626,814</b>
<b>Non Current Assets</b>			
Property, plant and equipment	4	27,088,959	22,019,731
<b>Total Non Current Assets</b>		<b>27,088,959</b>	<b>22,019,731</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>28,067,443</b>	<b>22,646,545</b>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Trade payables & other liabilities		521,628	49,332
Related party borrowings	5	100,000	100,000
Bank loan		475,000	-
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<b>1,096,628</b>	<b>149,332</b>
<b>Non Current Liabilities</b>			
Related party borrowings	5	3,748,762	3,848,762
Bank loan		4,377,902	-
<b>Total Non Current Liabilities</b>		<b>8,126,664</b>	<b>3,848,762</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<b>9,223,292</b>	<b>3,998,094</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>		<b>18,844,151</b>	<b>18,648,451</b>
<b>Equity</b>			
Retained surplus		18,844,151	18,648,451
<b>Total Equity</b>		<b>18,844,151</b>	<b>18,648,451</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

	Retained surplus \$	Total \$
<b>Balance at 1 January 2022</b>	18,643,826	18,643,826
Surplus attributable to members	4,625	4,625
<b>Balance at 31 December 2022</b>	18,648,451	18,648,451
Surplus attributable to members	195,700	195,700
<b>Balance at 31 December 2023</b>	18,844,151	18,844,151

## STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
<b>Cash Flows from Operating Activities</b>			
Cash receipts from customers		1,230,783	1,118,110
Cash payments to suppliers		(105,770)	(143,631)
Interest received		25,508	6,777
Interest paid		(89,379)	-
<b>Net cash inflow from operating activities</b>	6	1,061,142	981,256
<b>Cash Flows from Investing Activities</b>			
Property, Plant and equipment acquired		(5,551,592)	(749,681)
Sale proceeds from fixed assets		-	-
<b>Net cash inflow / (outflow) from investing activities</b>		(5,551,592)	(749,681)
<b>Cash Flows from Financing Activities</b>			
Repayment of loan from Box Hill RSL - Sub Branch		(100,000)	(100,000)
Commercial loan from bank		4,852,902	-
<b>Net cash inflow / (outflow) from financing activities</b>		4,752,902	(100,000)
<b>Net increase in cash held</b>		262,452	131,575
Cash at beginning of financial year		620,374	488,799
<b>Cash at end of financial year</b>	6	882,826	620,374

## NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

### 1. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

This special purpose financial report has been prepared for distribution to the members of the Sub- Branch to fulfil the Association's financial reporting requirements under the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Act 2012 (the Act). The accounting policies used in the preparation of this report, as described below, are consistent with the financial reporting requirements of the Act, and are, in the opinion of the committee, appropriate to meet the needs of members. The policies comply with the measurement and recognition requirements of Australian Accounting Standards.

The requirements of Australian Accounting Standards, Accounting Interpretations, and other professional reporting requirements, do not have mandatory applicability to the Fund, except to the extent required by the Act, because it is not a "reporting entity".

#### Reporting Basis and Conventions

The financial report has been prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historical costs modified by the revaluation of selected non-current assets, and financial assets and financial liabilities for which the fair value basis of accounting has been applied.

The following is a summary of the material policies adopted by the fund in the preparation of the financial report. The accounting policies have been consistently applied, unless otherwise stated.

#### Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within short term borrowings in current liabilities on the statement of financial position.

#### Property, Plant and Equipment

Property, plant and equipment are included at cost or at valuation.

All assets, excluding freehold land and buildings from which rental income is derived are depreciated over their estimated economic lives. The carrying value of property, plant and equipment is reviewed regularly such that it does not exceed its recoverable amount.

Depreciation rates are as follows:

- Buildings and improvements	2.50%	Straight line
- Plant and equipment	9% to 50%	Diminishing value

#### Financial Instruments

##### Initial recognition and measurement

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the Fund becomes a party to the contractual provisions to the instrument. For financial assets, this is the date that the Fund commits itself to either the purchase or sale of the asset (i.e. trade date accounting is adopted).

Financial instruments (except for trade receivables) are initially measured at fair value plus transaction costs, except where the instrument is classified "at fair value through profit or loss", in which case transaction costs are expensed to profit or loss immediately. Where available, quoted prices in an active market are used to determine fair value. In other circumstances, valuation techniques are adopted.



## NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the Year Ended 31 December 2023 (cont'd)

### 1. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (cont'd)

#### Financial Instruments (cont'd)

Trade receivables are initially measured at the transaction price if the trade receivables do not contain a significant financing component or if the practical expedient was applied as specified in AASB 15.63.

#### Classification and subsequent measurement

##### *Financial liabilities*

Financial liabilities are subsequently measured at:

- amortised cost; or
- fair value through profit and loss.

A financial liability is measured at fair value through profit and loss if the financial liability is:

- a contingent consideration of an acquirer in a business combination to which AASB 3: Business Combinations applies;
- held for trading; or
- initially designated as at fair value through profit or loss.

All other financial liabilities are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

The effective interest method is a method of calculating the amortised cost of a debt instrument and of allocating interest expense in profit or loss over the relevant period.

The effective interest rate is the internal rate of return of the financial asset or liability, that is, it is the rate that discounts the estimated future cash flows through the expected life of the instrument to the net carrying amount at initial recognition.

A financial liability is held for trading if:

- it is incurred for the purpose of repurchasing or repaying in the near term;
- it is part of a portfolio where there is an actual pattern of short-term profit taking; or
- it is a derivative financial instrument (except for a derivative that is in a financial guarantee contract or a derivative that is in effective hedging relationships)

Any gains or losses arising on changes in fair value are recognised in profit or loss to the extent that they are not part of a designated hedging relationship.

The change in fair value of a financial liability attributable to changes in the issuer's credit risk is taken to other comprehensive income and is not subsequently reclassified to profit or loss. Instead, it is transferred to accumulated surplus upon derecognition of the financial liability.

If taking the change in credit risk in other comprehensive income enlarges or creates an accounting mismatch, then these gains or losses are taken to profit or loss rather than other comprehensive income.

A financial liability cannot be reclassified.

##### *Financial asset*

Financial assets are subsequently measured at:

- amortised cost;
- fair value through other comprehensive income; or
- fair value through profit and loss

on the basis of the two primary criteria:

- the contractual cash flow characteristics of the financial asset; and
- the business model for managing the financial assets.

A financial asset is subsequently measured at amortised cost if it meets the following conditions:

## NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the Year Ended 31 December 2023 (cont'd)

### 1. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (cont'd)

#### Financial Instruments (cont'd)

- the financial asset is managed solely to collect contractual cash flows; and
- the contractual terms within the financial asset give rise to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest on the principle amount outstanding on specified dates.

A financial asset is subsequently measured at fair value through other comprehensive income if it meets the following conditions:

- the contractual terms within the financial asset give rise to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest on the principle amount outstanding on specified dates; and
- the business model for managing the financial assets comprises both contractual cash flows collection and the selling of the financial asset.

By default, all other financial assets that do not meet the conditions of amortised cost and fair value through other comprehensive income's measurement conditions are subsequently measured at fair value through profit and loss.

The Fund initially designates a financial instrument as measured at fair value through profit and loss if:

- it eliminates or significantly reduces a measurement or recognition inconsistency (often referred to as accounting mismatch) that would otherwise arise from measuring assets or liabilities or recognising the gains and losses on them on different bases;
- it is in accordance with the documented risk management or investment strategy and information about the Fund was documented appropriately, so as the performance of the financial liability that was part of an Fund's financial liabilities or financial assets can be managed and evaluated consistently on a fair value basis; and
- it is a hybrid contract that contains an embedded derivative that significantly modifies the cash flows otherwise required by the contract.

The initial designation of the financial instruments to measure at fair value through profit and loss is a one-time option on initial classification and is irrevocable until the financial asset is derecognised.

#### Derecognition

Derecognition refers to the removal of a previously recognised financial asset or financial liability from the statement of financial position.

##### *Derecognition of financial liabilities*

A liability is derecognised when it is extinguished (i.e. when the obligation in the contract is discharged, cancelled or expires). An exchange of an existing financial liability for a new one with substantially modified terms, or a substantial modification to the terms of a financial liability, is treated as an extinguishment of the existing liability and recognition of a new financial liability.

The difference between the carrying amount of the financial liability derecognised and the consideration paid and payable, including any non-cash assets transferred or liabilities assumed, is recognised in profit or loss.

##### *Derecognition of financial assets*

A financial asset is derecognised when the holder's contractual rights to its cash flows expires, or the asset is transferred in such a way that all the risks and rewards of ownership are substantially transferred.

All the following criteria need to be satisfied for derecognition of a financial asset:

- the right to receive cash flows from the asset has expired or been transferred;
- all risk and rewards of ownership of the asset have been substantially transferred; and
- the Fund no longer controls the asset (i.e. no practical ability to make unilateral decision to sell the asset to a third party).

## NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the Year Ended 31 December 2023 (cont'd)

### 1. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (cont'd)

#### Financial Instruments (cont'd)

On derecognition of a financial asset measured at amortised cost, the difference between the asset's carrying amount and the sum of the consideration received and receivable is recognised in profit or loss.

On derecognition of a debt instrument classified as at fair value through other comprehensive income, the cumulative gain or loss previously accumulated in an investment revaluation reserve is reclassified to profit or loss.

On derecognition of an investment in equity which was elected to be classified under fair value through other comprehensive income, the cumulative gain or loss previously accumulated in an investments revaluation reserve is not reclassified to profit or loss, but is transferred to accumulated surplus.

#### Impairment

The Fund recognises a loss allowance for expected credit losses on:

- financial assets that are measured at amortised cost or fair value through other comprehensive income;
- loan commitments that are not measured at fair value through profit or loss; and
- financial guarantee contracts that are not measured at fair value through profit or loss.

Loss allowance is not recognised for:

- financial assets measured at fair value through profit or loss; or
- equity instruments measured at fair value through other comprehensive income.

Expected credit losses are the probability-weighted estimate of credit losses over the expected life of a financial instrument. A credit loss is the difference between all contractual cash flows that are due and all cash flows expected to be received, all discounted at the original effective interest rate of the financial instrument.

The Fund uses the following approaches to impairment, as applicable under AASB 9:

- the general approach;
- the simplified approach;
- the purchased or originated credit impaired approach; and
- low credit risk operational simplification.

#### *General approach*

Under the general approach, at each reporting period, the Fund assesses whether the financial instruments are credit impaired, and if:

- the credit risk of the financial instrument has increased significantly since initial recognition, the Fund measures the loss allowance of the financial instrument at an amount equal to the lifetime expected credit losses; and
- there is no significant increase in credit risk since initial recognition, the Fund measures the loss allowance for that financial instrument at an amount equal to 12-month expected credit losses.

#### *Simplified approach*

The simplified approach does not require tracking of changes in credit risk at every reporting period, but instead requires the recognition of lifetime expected credit loss at all times.

This approach is applicable to:

- trade receivables or contract assets that result from transactions that are within the scope of AASB 15, that contain a significant financing component; and
- lease receivables.

## NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the Year Ended 31 December 2023 (cont'd)

### 1. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (cont'd)

#### Financial Instruments (cont'd)

In measuring the expected credit loss, a provision matrix for trade receivables is used, taking into consideration various data to derive an expected credit loss, (i.e. diversity of its customer base, appropriate groupings of its historical loss experience etc).

##### *Purchased or originated credit-impaired approach*

For a financial asset that is considered to be credit impaired (not on acquisition or origination), the Fund measures any change in its lifetime expected credit loss as the difference between the asset's gross carrying amount and the present value of estimated future cash flows discounted at the financial asset's original effective interest rate. Any adjustment is recognised in profit or loss as an impairment gain or loss.

Evidence of credit impairment includes:

- significant financial difficulty of the issuer or borrower;
- a breach of contract (e.g. default or past due event);
- where a lender has granted to the borrower a concession, due to borrower's financial difficulty, that the lender would not otherwise consider;
- where it is probable the borrower will enter bankruptcy or other financial reorganisation; and
- the disappearance of an active market for the financial asset because of financial difficulties.

##### *Low credit risk operational simplification approach*

If a financial asset is determined to have low credit risk at the initial reporting date, the Fund assumes that the credit risk has not increased significantly since initial recognition and accordingly can continue to recognise a loss allowance of 12-month expected credit loss.

In order to make such determination that the financial asset has low credit risk, the Fund applies its internal credit risk ratings or other methodologies using a globally comparable definition of low credit risk.

A financial asset is considered to have low credit risk if:

- there is a low risk of default by the borrower;
- the borrower has strong capacity to meet its contractual cash flow obligations in the near term; and
- adverse changes in economic and business conditions in the longer term, may, but not necessarily, reduce the ability of the borrower to fulfil its contractual cash flow obligations.

A financial asset is not considered to carry low credit risk merely due to existence of collateral, or because a borrower has a lower risk of default than the risk inherent in the financial assets, or lower than the credit risk of the jurisdiction in which it operates.

##### *Recognition of expected credit losses in financial statements*

At each reporting date, the Fund recognises the movement in the loss allowance as an impairment gain or loss in the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income.

The carrying amount of financial assets measured at amortised cost includes the loss allowance relating to that asset.

Assets measured at fair value through other comprehensive income are recognised at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in other comprehensive income. The amount in relation to change in credit risk is transferred from other comprehensive income to profit or loss at every reporting period.

For financial assets that are unrecognised (e.g. loan commitments yet to be drawn, financial guarantees), a provision for loss allowance is created in the statement of financial position to recognise the loss allowance.



## NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the Year Ended 31 December 2023 (cont'd)

### 1. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (cont'd)

#### Impairment of Assets

At each reporting date, the Fund reviews the carrying values of its tangible and intangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have been impaired. If such an indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use, is compared to the asset's carrying value. Any excess of the asset's carrying value over its recoverable amount is expensed to the income statement.

Where it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, the Fund estimates the recoverable amount of the cash generating unit to which the asset belongs.

#### Revenue

Revenue is recognised to the extent that it is probable that economic will flow to the Company and the revenue can be reliably measured. The following specific criteria must also be met before revenue is recognised:

##### *Rental income*

Rental income is recognised on a straight-line basis over the lease term, in line with the contractual agreement between the Fund and the customer.

##### *Interest revenue*

Interest revenue is recognised on a proportional basis taking into account the interest rates applicable to the financial assets.

##### *Other income*

Other income is recognised on an accruals basis when the Fund is entitled to it.

#### Income Tax

The Fund is not liable for income tax. The ongoing Income Exempt Charity status is subject to the Fund meeting the terms of the Deed of Settlement with the Commissioner of Taxation of the Commonwealth of Australia.

#### Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues and expenses are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Tax Office. In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense. Receivables and payables in the statement of financial position are shown inclusive of GST. Cash flows are presented in the cash flow statement on a gross basis, except for the GST component of investing and financial activities, which are disclosed as operating cash flows.

#### Significant accounting judgments

The Committee evaluate estimates and judgements incorporated into the financial statements based on historical knowledge and best available current information. In the current financial year, all such estimates are deemed to be 'normal' estimations in the ordinary course of business.

## NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the Year Ended 31 December 2023 (cont'd)

**2 REVENUE AND OTHER INCOME**

Included in operating surplus are the following items of operating revenue:

- rent received
- interest received
- other income

2023 \$	2022 \$
1,320,001	960,000
25,508	6,777
-	159,999
<b>1,345,509</b>	<b>1,126,776</b>

**3 TRADE & OTHER RECEIVABLES****Current**

Prepayments and other assets

<b>95,658</b>	6,440
---------------	-------

**4 PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT****Land and buildings**

Freehold land

Club rooms - at deemed cost

Less: Accumulated depreciation

Capital structure improvements - at cost

Less: Accumulated depreciation

Work in progress

<b>792,143</b>	792,143
<b>2,060,000</b>	2,060,000
<b>(977,657)</b>	(926,157)
<b>29,180,386</b>	29,094,986
<b>(11,516,904)</b>	(10,804,006)
<b>6,451,963</b>	637,178
<b>25,197,788</b>	20,062,001
<b>25,989,931</b>	20,854,144
<b>4,497,677</b>	4,373,974
<b>(3,398,649)</b>	(3,208,387)
<b>1,099,028</b>	1,165,587
<b>1,099,028</b>	1,165,587
<b>27,088,959</b>	22,019,731

**Total land and buildings****Plant and equipment**

Plant and equipment - at cost

Less: Accumulated depreciation

**Total plant and equipment****Total Property, Plant & Equipment**

## NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the Year Ended 31 December 2023 (cont'd)

### 4(b) PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

Movement in the carrying value for each class of property plant and equipment between the beginning and end of the financial year is as follows:

	Land	Buildings	Plant and equipment	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>Year ended 31 December 2023</b>				
Balance at the beginning of the year	792,143	20,062,001	1,165,587	22,019,731
Additions	-	5,918,789	105,099	6,023,888
Disposals - written down value	-	-	-	-
Depreciation expense	-	(783,002)	(171,658)	(954,660)
Balance at the end of the year	792,143	25,197,788	1,099,028	27,088,959

### 5 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The loan from Box Hill RSL Sub Branch Inc is non interest bearing and is unsecured. It has repayment terms of \$100,000 per annum.

The following table provides the total amount of transactions that have been entered into with related parties for the year:

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
- Rent paid from the Sub-Branch to the Patriotic Fund	1,320,001	960,000
- Contribution towards Welfare Co-ordinators wages paid from the Patriotic Fund to the Sub Branch	67,000	70,000

## NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the Year Ended 31 December 2023 (cont'd)

## 6 NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

## (a) Reconciliation of Cash

Cash at the end of the financial year as shown in the statement of cash flows is reconciled to the related items in the statement of financial position as follows:

	2023	2022
Cash at bank	882,826	620,374

Represented by:

Patriotic Fund

882,826

620,374

## (b) Reconciliation of Net Cash used in Operating Activities to Operating Surplus

Operating surplus

195,700

4,625

Non Cash Flows in operating surplus:

Depreciation

954,660

969,638

Change in Operating Assets &amp; Liabilities:

(Increase) in trade debtors and other receivables

(89,218)

(1,889)

Increase in trade creditors and accruals

-

8,882

Net cash from operating activities

1,061,142

981,256

## DECLARATION BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

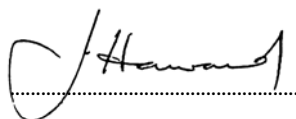
The Members of the Committee ('the Committee') of Box Hill Sub-Branch Inc. declare that in the Committee's opinion:

(a) there are reasonable grounds to believe that the registered entity is able to pay all of its debts, as and when they become due and payable; and

(b) the financial statements and notes satisfy the requirements of the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profit Commission Act 2012.

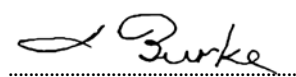
Signed in accordance with subsection 60.15(2) of the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profit Commission Regulation 2013.

President:



John Haward

Treasurer:



Lindsay Burke

Dated: 6/2/2024

**Independent Audit Reports  
To the Members of Box Hill RSL Sub-Branch (Patriotic Fund)**

**Report on the Audit of the Financial Report**

***Opinion***

We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of Box Hill RSL Sub-Branch (Patriotic Fund) ("the Fund"), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2023, the statement of surplus or deficit and other comprehensive income, the statement of changes in equity and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the committee's declaration.

In our opinion the financial report of the Fund is properly drawn up, including:

- a. giving a true and fair view of the Fund's financial position as at 31 December 2023 and of its financial performance for the year ended; and
- b. complying with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 1 and with the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profit Commission Act 2012 (ACNC Act).

***Basis for Opinion***

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibility under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the Fund in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

***Emphasis of Matter - Basis of Accounting***

Without modifying our opinion, we draw attention to Note 1 of the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared for distribution to members for the purpose of fulfilling the Committee's financial reporting responsibilities under the ACNC Act. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose.

***Committee's Responsibility for the Financial Report***

The Committee of the Fund is responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and have determined that the basis of preparation described in Note 1 to the financial report is appropriate to meet the requirements of the ACNC Act. The Committee's responsibility also includes establishing and maintaining internal controls relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the Committee is responsible for assessing the Fund's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Committee either intends to liquidate the Fund or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Fund's financial reporting process.



**Independent Audit Report  
To the Members of Box Hill RSL Sub-Branch (Patriotic Fund) (cont'd)**

***Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report***

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial report is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website at: <http://www.auasb.gov.au/Home.aspx>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Stannards Accountants and Advisors



James Dickson  
Partner

Date: 6<sup>th</sup> February 2024

## DETAILED SURPLUS OR DEFICIT STATEMENT

for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

	2023	2022
<b>Income</b>		
Rent received	1,320,001	960,000
Interest received	25,508	6,777
Other Income	-	159,999
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,345,509</b>	<b>1,126,776</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Administration Expenses	1,036	6,564
Consultancy and professional fees	1,843	-
Depreciation	954,660	969,638
Interest expense	89,379	-
Repairs and maintenance	35,891	75,949
Welfare expenditure	67,000	70,000
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>1,149,809</b>	<b>1,122,151</b>
<b>Net Surplus</b>	<b>195,700</b>	<b>4,625</b>

BOX HILL RSL SUB-BRANCH AGENCY APPEALS FUND  
(AGENT FOR RSL VIC BRANCH GENERAL APPEALS FUND)

# Financial Statements

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023



## STATEMENT OF SURPLUS OR DEFICIT AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
Revenue		59,112	64,588
Expenses		(59,151)	(67,113)
<b>(Deficit) Before Income Tax Expense</b>		<b>(39)</b>	<b>(2,525)</b>
Income tax expense		-	-
<b>(Deficit) After Income Tax Expense</b>		<b>(39)</b>	<b>(2,525)</b>
Other comprehensive income for the year (net of tax)		-	-
<b>Total Comprehensive Income for the year attributable to the members</b>		<b>(39)</b>	<b>(2,525)</b>

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

as at 31 December 2023

	Note	2023	2022
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash & cash equivalents	2	28,710	27,881
Receivables		-	-
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>28,710</b>	<b>27,881</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>28,710</b>	<b>27,881</b>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Trade payables & other liabilities		2,986	2,118
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<b>2,986</b>	<b>2,118</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<b>2,986</b>	<b>2,118</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>		<b>25,724</b>	<b>25,763</b>
<b>Equity</b>			
Retained surplus		25,724	25,763
<b>Total Equity</b>		<b>25,724</b>	<b>25,763</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

	Retained surplus	Total
	\$	\$
<b>Balance at 1 January 2022</b>	<b>28,288</b>	28,288
Deficit attributable to members	(2,525)	(2,525)
<b>Balance at 31 December 2022</b>	<b>25,763</b>	25,763
Deficit incurred by members	(39)	(39)
<b>Balance at 31 December 2023</b>	<b>25,724</b>	25,724

## STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
<b>Cash Flows from Operating Activities</b>			
Cash receipts from appeals and donations		59,110	88,313
Cash payments in the provision of welfare		(58,283)	(67,627)
Interest received		2	3
<b>Net cash inflow from operating activities</b>	2	<b>829</b>	20,689
<b>Net increase in cash held</b>		<b>829</b>	20,689
Cash at beginning of financial year		27,881	7,192
<b>Cash at end of financial year</b>	2	<b>28,710</b>	27,881

## NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

### 1. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

This special purpose financial report has been prepared for distribution to the members of the Sub- Branch to fulfil the needs of the members. The accounting policies used in the preparation of this report, as described below, are consistent with the financial reporting requirements of the Act, and are, in the opinion of the committee, appropriate to meet the needs of members. The policies comply with the measurement and recognition requirements of Australian Accounting Standards.

The requirements of Australian Accounting Standards, Accounting Interpretations, and other professional reporting requirements, do not have mandatory applicability to the Fund, except to the extent required by the Act, because it is not a “reporting entity”.

This financial report related to the Box Hill RSL Agency Appeals Fund which was created under Branch Bylaw 7A to facilitate the administration and management of designated appeal funds received by Box Hill RSL Sub-Branch as agent for the Returned & Services League of Australian (Victorian Branch) (ANZAC House). This was undertaken in order to preserve the Designated Gift Recipient status of the fund represented by the Agency Fund.

The bylaw specifies that if the funds are not spent within one year of the initial receipt, they must be remitted back to the RSL General Appeals Fund administered by ANZAC House.

#### Basis of Accounting

The report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the following applicable Australian Accounting Standards and Accounting Interpretations:

- AASB 107: Statement of Cash Flows
- AASB 108: Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors;
- AASB 110: Events after the Balance Sheet Date;
- AASB 1048: Interpretation of Standards; and
- AASB 1054: Australian Additional Disclosures

No other Accounting Standards, Accounting Interpretations or other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board have been applied.

#### Reporting Basis and Conventions

The financial report has been prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historical costs modified by the revaluation of selected non-current assets, and financial assets and financial liabilities for which the fair value basis of accounting has been applied.

The following is a summary of the material policies adopted by the fund in the preparation of the financial report. The accounting policies have been consistently applied, unless otherwise stated.

#### Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within short term borrowings in current liabilities on the statement of financial position.

Rental and all other sources of income are accounted for on an accruals basis, such that revenue is recognised when contract conditions are fulfilled.

Interest revenue is recognised on a proportional basis taking into account the interest rates applicable to the financial assets.



## NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the Year Ended 31 December 2023 (cont'd)

### 1. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (cont'd)

#### Income Tax

The Fund is not liable for income tax. The ongoing Income Exempt Charity status is subject to the Fund meeting the terms of the Deed of Settlement with the Commissioner of Taxation of the Commonwealth of Australia.

#### Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues and expenses are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Tax Office. In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense. Receivables and payables in the statement of financial position are shown inclusive of GST. Cash flows are presented in the cash flow statement on a gross basis, except for the GST component of investing and financial activities, which are disclosed as operating cash flows.

#### Comparative Figures

When required by Accounting Standards, comparative figures have been adjusted to conform to changes in presentation for the current financial year.

#### Significant accounting judgments

The Committee evaluate estimates and judgements incorporated into the financial statements based on historical knowledge and best available current information. In the current financial year, all such estimates are deemed to be 'normal' estimations in the ordinary course of business.

### 2 NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

#### (a) Reconciliation of Cash

Cash at the end of the financial year as shown in the statement of cash flows is reconciled to the related items in the statement of financial position as follows:

Cash at bank

2023  
\$

2022  
\$

28,710

27,881

#### (b) Reconciliation of Net Cash used in Operating Activities to Operating (Deficit)

Operating (deficit)

(39)

(2,525)

Change in Operating Assets & Liabilities:

Increase/(decrease) in trade creditors and accruals

868

(514)

Decrease in trade receivables and other assets

-

23,728

Net cash from / (used in) operating activities

829

20,689

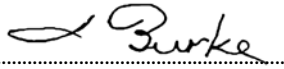
**DECLARATION BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE**

The Members of the Committee ('the Committee') of Box Hill Sub-Branch Inc. declare that in the Committee's opinion:

- (a) there are reasonable grounds to believe that the registered entity is able to pay all of its debts, as and when they become due and payable; and
- (b) the financial statements and notes satisfy the requirements of the members.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the committee.

President:   
John Haward

Treasurer:   
Lindsay Burke

Dated: 6/2/2024

**Independent Audit Report  
To the Members of Box Hill RSL Sub-Branch (Agency Appeals Fund)**

**Report on the Audit of the Financial Report**

***Opinion***

We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of Box Hill RSL Sub-Branch (Agency Appeals Fund) ("the Fund"), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2023, the statement of surplus or deficit and other comprehensive income, the statement of changes in equity and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the committee's declaration.

In our opinion the financial report of the Fund is properly drawn up, including:

- a. giving a true and fair view of the Fund's financial position as at 31 December 2023 and of its financial performance for the year ended; and
- b. complying with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 1.

***Basis for Opinion***

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibility under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the Fund in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

***Emphasis of Matter - Basis of Accounting***

Without modifying our opinion, we draw attention to Note 1 of the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared for distribution to members for the purpose of fulfilling the Committee's financial reporting responsibilities of the Returned & Services League of Australian (Victorian Branch). As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose.

***Committee's Responsibility for the Financial Report***

The Committee of the Fund is responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and have determined that the basis of preparation described in Note 1 to the financial report is appropriate to meet the requirements of the Returned & Services League of Australian (Victorian Branch). The Committee's responsibility also includes establishing and maintaining internal controls relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the Committee is responsible for assessing the Fund's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Committee either intends to liquidate the Fund or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Fund's financial reporting process.



**Independent Audit Report  
To the Members of Box Hill RSL Sub-Branch (Agency Appeals Fund)**

***Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report***

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial report is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website at: <http://www.auasb.gov.au/Home.aspx>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Stannards Accountants and Advisors

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James Dickson', written over a faint circular stamp.

James Dickson  
Partner

Date: 6<sup>th</sup> February 2024

## DETAILED SURPLUS OR DEFICIT STATEMENT

for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
<b>Income</b>		
ANZAC Day Appeal	28,000	33,400
Donations	4,510	3,985
Interest	2	3
Poppy Day Appeal	26,600	27,200
<b>Total</b>	<b>59,112</b>	<b>64,588</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Administration expenses	264	77
ANZAC Day Appeal - Wreaths	3,456	-
Death notices	9,427	8,090
Funeral Expenses	2,240	3,200
Gardening service	12,548	10,941
Medical equipment and doctors fees	1,084	820
Poppy Day Appeal - Wreaths	2,576	-
Taxi services	17,014	17,002
Wages & salaries	8,800	26,400
Other welfare services	1,742	583
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>59,151</b>	<b>67,113</b>
<b>Net (Deficit)</b>	<b>(39)</b>	<b>(2,525)</b>



## BOX HILL RSL SUB-BRANCH EBITDAR



	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
<b>Profit</b>	\$403,848	\$13,478	\$476,859	\$718,179	\$643,305	\$573,293	\$821,412
<b>EBITDAR</b>	\$1,643,848	\$1,641,913	\$2,263,957	\$3,037,541	\$2,913,160	\$2,782,743	\$3,158,324

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
<b>Profit</b>	\$624,651	\$428,852	\$427,804	-\$9,620	\$1,101,022	\$1,599,030	\$1,308,406
<b>EBITDAR</b>	\$3,110,740	\$2,925,300	\$2,628,939	\$671,673	\$2,057,824	\$3,060,487	\$3,469,177

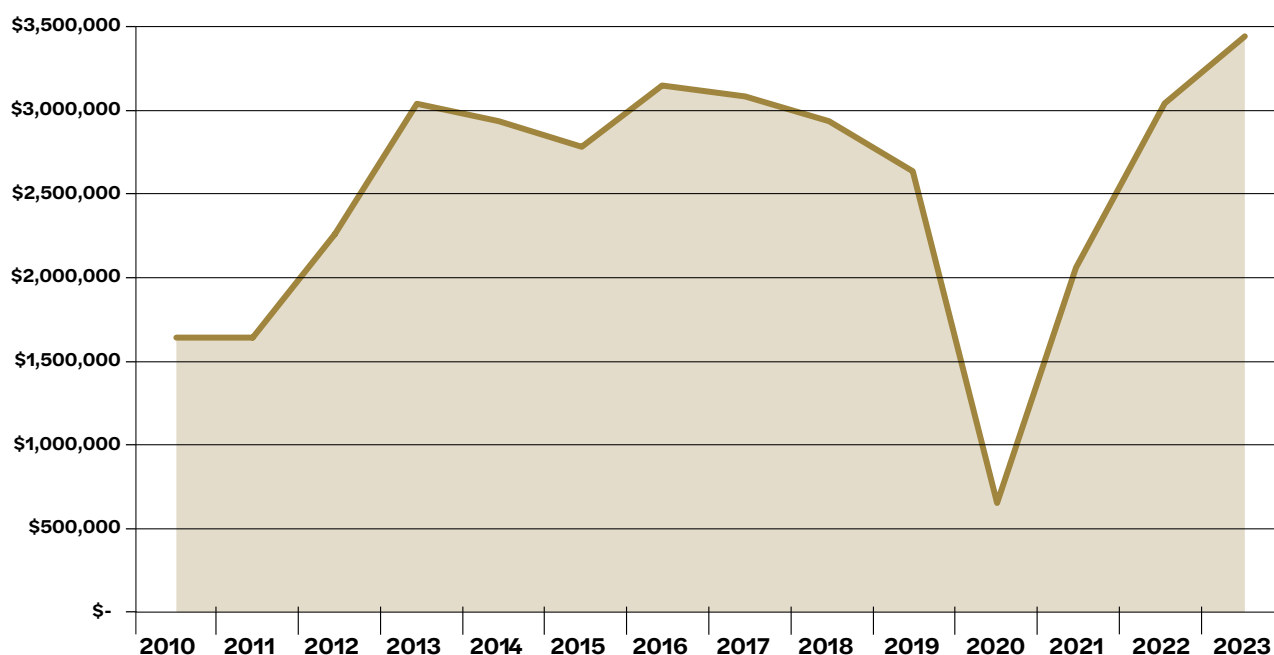
NOTE - EBITDAR represents **E**arnings **B**efore **I**nterest, **T**ax, **D**epreciation, **A**mortisation and **R**ent

EBITDA offers a clearer reflection of operations by stripping out expenses that can obscure how the company is really performing.

Interest and rent are ignored as they are a function of the financing model and not operational performance

Taxes are left out because they can vary widely depending on past performance leading to variations that can distort net income.

Depreciation and amortization are removed due to the arbitrary and subjective judgments that can go into the calculation, such as useful lives, residual values and various depreciation methods.



**NB** - Donations to the Patriotic Fund have been added back to the profit figure in the years they were recorded  
 - 'Loan forgiven after related income tax expense' has not been included from 2002.

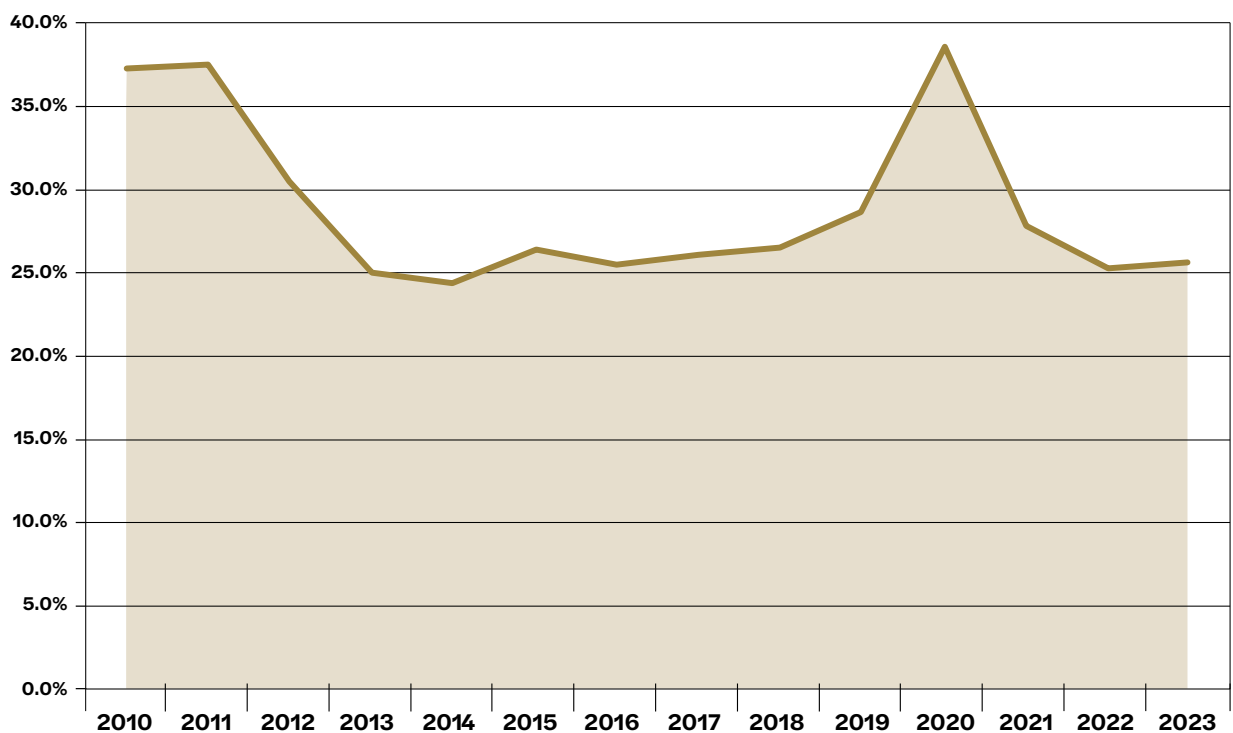
## BOX HILL RSL SUB-BRANCH

# Percentage Staff Costs to Revenue

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
<b>Revenue</b>	\$6,232,423	\$6,435,966	\$8,147,386	\$10,757,227	\$11,029,374	\$11,374,092	\$12,405,608
<b>Adjusted Revenue</b>	\$6,052,119	\$6,192,983	\$7,895,115	\$10,489,792	\$10,748,342	\$11,084,713	\$12,109,128
<b>Total Staff Costs</b>	\$2,237,875	\$2,316,033	\$2,394,328	\$2,622,921	\$2,669,455	\$2,944,056	\$3,113,686
<b>% Staff Costs to Revenue</b>	<b>37.0%</b>	<b>37.4%</b>	<b>30.3%</b>	<b>25.0%</b>	<b>24.8%</b>	<b>26.6%</b>	<b>25.7%</b>

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
<b>Revenue</b>	\$12,873,016	\$13,120,321	\$12,962,622	4,369,050	\$8,100,109	\$12,925,843	\$15,095,545
<b>Adjusted Revenue</b>	\$12,549,585	\$12,750,366	\$12,625,013	4,095,985	\$7,727,548	\$12,546,422	\$14,722,245
<b>Total Staff Costs</b>	\$3,306,450	\$3,430,960	\$3,597,885	1,568,889	\$2,111,885	\$3,210,514	\$3,861,411
<b>% Staff Costs to Revenue</b>	<b>26.3%</b>	<b>26.9%</b>	<b>28.5%</b>	<b>38.3%</b>	<b>27.3%</b>	<b>25.6%</b>	<b>26.2%</b>



## BOX HILL RSL SUB-BRANCH

# Community Benefit Statement



### An Explanation

The largest amount in this report is for the support given to ANZAC House. Thereafter the next largest amount in this report is “Subsidised Meals”, this sizable amount is essentially the cost of the Free Meal Vouchers we provide to our members on their birthdays, combined with the small discount built into the cost of providing a senior’s meal, which the Sub-Branch absorbs.

The next highest cost was the Box Hill RSL Newsletter, which keeps our members updated with all the latest club news.

Some of the other listed amounts are for:

- Funding to various groups
- Taxi vouchers for those members who are unable to drive or catch public transport
- Gardening for members who for age or health reasons are no longer able to do their own gardens.
- Room Hire which is where we provide the use of rooms free of charge to in-house groups and various Ex-Military groups.
- and Tributes to members who have passed.

Should you have any questions relating to any item on this statement you can contact our Treasurer, Lindsay Burke

### 2023

#### Veterans Room Hire

Anglo Boer War Study Group  
Box Hill Legacy Widows  
Navy League  
NSAA  
RAAFA  
TPI Association  
Vietnam Veterans

#### Community Room Hire

Prostate Cancer Support Group  
Seniors Men’s Discussion Group  
Box Hill Rotary

#### Social Groups

Genealogy  
Meditation  
Movie Morning  
Tai Chi Class  
The Knitting Group

## BOX HILL RSL SUB-BRANCH

### Community Benefit Statement (cont'd)

305 Army Cadets	\$10,200
401 Squadron Australian Air Force Cadets	\$4,460
5/6 RVR Association	\$300
ANZAC Day Dawn Service-ceremony & gun fire breakfast	\$6,211
Blackburn Football Club	\$200
Box Hill Academy Brass	\$1,300
Box Hill North Football Club	\$1,500
Box Hill RSL Air Force Sub Branch	\$1,000
Box Hill RSL Angling Section	\$1,500
Box Hill RSL Billiards & Snooker Section	\$1,000
Box Hill RSL Bowls Section	\$7,670
Box Hill RSL Darts Section	\$1,000
Box Hill RSL Day Club	\$2,000
Box Hill RSL Womens Auxiliary	\$6,169
Children's Christmas Party	\$9,179
Doreen RSL	\$200
Eastern Health	\$19,045
Funeral Expenses/Wakes	\$2,406
Gardening Services Community	\$790
Gardening Services Veterans	\$1,251
Haircuts for veterans and others-male and female	\$10,995
League Support Fees	\$167,523
Legacy Widows	\$1,000
Long Tan Ceremony	\$2,427
Medical Aids/Doctors-Community	\$90
Medical Aids/Doctors-Veterans	\$560
Membership paid by RSL	\$600
Memorabilia	\$10,990
Miscellaneous Welfare	\$5,500
Movie Days	\$358
Naval Association	\$1,000
Newsletter Expenses-Scuttlebutt	\$31,428
NSAA-Whitehorse Sub Branch	\$2,000
Path of the Horse-Therapy Program	\$1,000
Presidents/Volunteers's Night & Expenses	\$9,277
Remembrance Day Ceremony	\$6,582
Room Hire (foregone Income)-Community	\$16,454
Room Hire-(foregone Income)-Veterans	\$20,786
Royal Victoria Regiment Association Inc	\$1,000
RSL Active	\$336

Scouts	\$473
Subsidised Meals-Community	\$144,998
Subsidised Meals-Veterans	\$38,238
Box Hill RSL Swimming Section	\$1,000
Tai Chi Exercise Classes	\$2,250
TPI Eastern Suburbs	\$2,200
Transport for Community-Taxi Vouchers	\$10,457
Veratans Film Festival	\$1,000
Veterans Fundraising for Cancer and Crisis Support	\$500
Vietnam Veterans	\$5,500
WW2 Luncheon	\$1,102
Youth of Tomorrow	\$91
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$575,097</b>

#### Agency to RSL Vic Branch

Death Notices	\$9,427
ANZAC Day	\$3,456
Remembrance Day	\$2,576
Funeral Expenses	\$2,240
Gardening Service	\$12,547
Medical Expenses	\$1,084
Miscellaneous Welfare Costs	\$1,744
Transport for veterans and family-Taxi Vouchers	\$17,013
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$50,087</b>

Volunteer Hours	16,064 @ \$20 per hour	\$321,280
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#### Grand Total

**\$946,464**





BOX HILL RSL  
STAGE 3  
RENOVATION

“Lounge Bar”  
opening 2024



**BOXHILLRSL**  
**2023 ANNUAL REPORT**