

NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2015

DUNEDIN RSA & WELFARE TRUST



AUGUST
6TH

MEMORIAL
CROSSES
AT
QUEENS
GARDENS
DUNEDIN



146 OTAGO SOLDIERS WERE KILLED AT CHUNUK BAI
100 YEARS AGO

Last Post

In remembrance of all service and ex
service personnel who are no longer
with us

At the going down of the sun
and in the morning
We will remember them.



*THIS POEM WAS SENT IN TO US FROM THE MANIOTOTO RSA ,
It is from a pupil at the local school*

I am a War Nurse

I wonder when it will stop

I hear people cry for help

I see horses helping

I want to go home

I am a War Nurse



I pretend I am at home

I feel home sick

I touch the bullet that hurts me

I worry about if I will ever see my family

I cry in my sleep

I am a War Nurse

I understand why this started

I say goodbye to my family

I dream that I never had to go to war

I try to run from bombs

I hope to live

I am a War Nurse



BY CASSIDY

YEAR 4

MERCHANDISE AVAILABLE



Bumper stickers \$ 2.00

The New Returned & Service Pin

\$10.00



This pin is customisable, with either "Returned" or "Service" on the front, and the individual's service number engraved on the back

Silver plated fern nestled behind a red enamel RSA poppy \$8.00



Red enamel RSA poppy on a sturdy gold coloured push pin – a classic design recognised by all- \$5.00



PENNY HAT Products \$8.00

Great Southern Land Collectables

New Zealand Penny Products

Key Ring



Utility Clip



Lapel Pin



Brooch



Cromwell Mid-winter Lunch

Cromwell sub-branch held their mid-winter lunch at the Victoria Arms Hotel on 23 July 2015. More than 60 members, partners and guests enjoyed a well presented two course meal. This luncheon was organised and chaired by our vice President, Jim Cutler. We enjoyed having as our guests, our Acting District President, Jennifer Glover, and Branch Welfare Officer Niall Shepherd. This function is always an opportunity to include the widows of former members. We always make a particular point of inviting ex-service personnel and their widows, now living at Ripponburn Retirement Home.

John Morton, President

Association News

This year has been especially busy, the community has had a renewed interest in the WW1 soldiers who 100 years ago headed off to Gallipoli. We continue to receive calls from relatives of these soldiers. Learning more about the military history of your family is a great way to honour their Service. If you are interested in researching your family members and have internet access go to the link below it will give you information on how to find military service records https://rsa.org.nz/portals/0/documents/DIY_MilitaryServiceRecords.pdf

Archives New Zealand has all pre 1921 service files these can be downloaded free of charge from there website www.archway.archives.govt.nz .

Or you can write to NZDF Archives they have service files after 1921, copies of these files must be made in writing to

NZDF Archives , Personnel Enquiries, Private Bag 905,Trentham Military Camp, Upper Hutt 5140, NZ or email : persarch@nzdf.mil.nz . Toitu Otago Settlers Museum also has a lot of information on the soldiers from Otago area. Toitu is situated across the road from the Cenothaph at Queens Gardens .

As many of you know we sold out of all the badges pre Anzac Day – All badges are now back in stock, if you missed out and haven't been contacted please give me a call 03 4664886.

A new badge for Service & Returned people is now available, your service number is engraved on the back of the badge, the cost is \$10 – I will be putting in an order in the next few weeks so contact me if you would like to order one of these badges.



The RSA is looking at its future in Dunedin so included in this newsletter there is a short survey which we would like all members to complete, I am happy to do this with you over the phone 03 4664886 or you can post it back to us or email it to finance@dn-rsa.org.nz.

The Membership database is always changing if you have moved, changed your phone number or email please let me know so I can keep the membership information up to date.

You are all invited to attend our spring luncheon on the 9th September at Robbies Bar & Bistro , check out the back page for information , you need to book in so please give me a call if you want to come, it will be great see you

Sally Turner Administrator

RNZRSA will be issuing RSA membership cards to all members- these cards can be used to obtain discounts at the business below – we will let you know when these cards will be available

Resene Paints is proud to announce a partnership with the RSA, including special deals for members. These deals include:



- **15% off Resene premium paint 500ml - 4L**
- **10% off Resene premium paint 10L**
- **10% off wallpaper**
- **10% off accessories**

- **Domestic Insurance**
- **Premiums for home**
- **Contents Insurance**
- **Car and boat insurance**





the new travel company

Holiday deals

- **Car rental discounts**
- **Duty Free discounts**
- **Holiday deals**



From 1 April 2015, Public Trust has committed to become a RSA member partner. This means the two organisations will officially be working more closely together, on growing a sustainable, long term relationship, designed to help and protect New Zealand families.



-
- **4 weeks free trial**
- **Personalised response**
- **Self-funded option \$299 + \$25.99 a fortnight**
- **GSM medical alarm option (no landline required)**
- **Free upgrade to latest technology alarms**

A message from Veterans' Affairs for members on War Disablement Pension

Effective from 30 June 2015 veterans will not need to transfer from their War Disablement Pension to the Disablement Pension to be able to access new or extra support services.

Under the Veterans' Support Act 2014, these services are referred to as "rehabilitation services". They are aimed at helping veterans to recover from injury or illness and achieve the level of independence appropriate for each veteran.

The services include such things as:

- Aids and appliances (e.g. hearing aids and glasses)
- Home Help (short-term home help with domestic activities such as cleaning and grocery shopping)
- Modifications to the home (e.g. ramps, level access shower)
- Training for Independence (coaching a veteran to adapt to their injury or illness and regain as much independence as possible)
- Transport for Independence (e.g. adapting a veteran's vehicle for a wheelchair hoist)

A number of veterans raised concerns to Veterans' Affairs about the requirement to transfer from a War Disablement Pension to the Disablement Pension in order to access new or extra support services.

In response, Veterans' Affairs has reviewed the Veterans' Support Act and decided that access to such services can be administered in a similar manner as access to treatment.

Welfare news August 2015

It has been a while since our last newsletter and there has been a lot happening on the welfare front over the last few months.

There was a significant increase in activity leading up to and for a month or so after Anzac day 2015 which was obviously due to awareness generated by the unprecedented publicity surrounding WW1 centennial commemorations. I think most RSAs around the country, ours included, report a significant increase in donations received on Poppy day this year.

18 applications for funding were processed resulting in significant grant funding for 12 people over last year. Scope of grants included gardening and home maintenance, hearing aids, glasses, physio treatment, specialist bedding, and specialist cutlery.

Approximately 50 clients were assisted with various applications to Veterans Affairs including Surviving Spouse Pension, War Disablement Pension, Disablement Pension, New Conditions, Weekly Income Compensation, Funeral Expenses, Memorial Orders, and Travel Concessions. Pensions, benefit, and other advice and explanations given to many more.

140 Total Mobility (Taxi) books were issued on behalf of Otago Regional Council and 25 new Total Mobility clients assessed and accepted.

Currently we coordinate the activities of 13 volunteer visitors in Dunedin making regular visits to rethomes and hospital. 3 volunteer visitors have resigned over the year.

Welfare Officers are active in 5 Dunedin RSA sub-branches (Lawrence, Cromwell, Wanaka, Omakau and Ranfurly) and their activities include regular visits to clients, hospitals and

resthomes in their areas. These Welfare Officers have logistical and administrative support from the Dunedin office.

Over the year hundreds of people researching family history and records have been assisted by directing to various appropriate agencies or giving advice.

There is always work to do developing and maintaining active relationships with the large number of supportive service provider agencies, NGOs, local government, and other stakeholder agencies throughout Dunedin. The idea behind doing this is so we can be comfortable referring people to each other knowing they are being directed to the most appropriate help.

The Dunedin RSA Welfare Trust exists to support our service and ex-service family – if you, someone you know, or your spouse have ever donned a uniform and need help or advice that is what we do – please contact your Welfare Officer – 03 466 4888 / 0800 664 888.

Niall Shepherd

Welfare Officer



Contact details

Niall Shepherd - Welfare Officer

Phone: 03 4664 888 or 0800 664 888

email: welfare@dn-rsa.org.nz

Sally Turner - Administrator

Phone 034664886

email: finance@dn-rsa.org.nz

Check out the new Dunedin RSA Welfare car partly sponsored by Cooke Howlison Toyota



Wanted – Volunteer Hospital visitor

A caring person willing to spend a couple of hours a week visiting ex-service people in Dunedin Hospital.

Wanted – Volunteer Rest home visitors

Caring people willing to make a monthly companionable visit to a Dunedin Rest home to chat with any of our ex-service family resident there.

If either of these positions interest you, please contact Niall at the RSA – 466 4888



Idea's to show support
for the current flag.

If you have a flagpole
fly the flag.

Put a flag bumper sticker on your car or letter
box.

Post a virtual flag on social media.

People who support the current flag can
exercise their democratic right to vote in the
first referendum later this year, by writing
their choice on the ballot paper.

People can choose the fifth option – rather
than voting for one of the four alternative
designs, they can write on the ballot paper ‘I
vote for the current flag’.”

**“These ‘informal’ votes are also
counted, so this is a way for people to
register their views.”**

+++++

Check out the Dunedin RSA on line at

www.dn-rsa.org.nz & Join us on Facebook



OUR FLAG



*Our flag bears the stars that blaze at night,
In our southern sky of blue,
And the little old flag in the corner,
That's part of our heritage too.
It's for the English, the Scots and the Irish,
Who were sent to the ends of the earth,
The Rogues and the schemers, the doers and the dreamers,
Who gave New Zealand its birth.*

*And you who are shouting to change it,'
You don't seem to understand,
It's the flag of our laws and our language,
Not the flag of far away land.
There are lots of people who will tell you,
How when Europe was plunged into night,
The Little old flag in the corner
Was their symbol of freedom and light.*

*It doesn't mean we owe our allegiance,
To a forgotten imperial dream,
We've the stars to show where we're going,
And the old flag to show where we've been.
It's only an old piece of bunting,
It's only an old coloured rag,
But there are thousands who dies for its honour,
And shed their blood for our flag.*

Anon

WEST DUNEDIN CARE & CRAFT CENTRE

CAN WE HELP YOU?

*Do you have contact
with a lonely, elderly or
not so mobile person
who would appreciate
the opportunity to have
an outing once a week?*

*To find out more about
what **CARE & CRAFT
CENTRE** can offer.*

*Come to our OPEN DAY THURSDAY 27
AUGUST BETWEEN 10.30 – 2PM AT WAKARI
SCOUT HALL*

*Holyrood Avenue- Join us for a cuppa and
chat.*

*For more information please contact
Supervisor, Peg Makinson ph 4667407 or
email: makinsonfamily@slingshot.co.nz*

© NEW FRIENDS



**THE CARE AND CRAFT
CENTRES OF N.Z. TRUST**

A Care and Craft Centre caters for lonely house-bound people and not so mobile adults, known as guests, who are encouraged to participate in a wide variety of handcrafts and social activities.

Care and Craft is not affiliated with any religious denomination.

There are no paid staff, and costs are kept to a minimum. Established centres help finance new centres. These, in turn, become self-supporting, through weekly trading tables and support from their local communities.

Volunteers, called helpers, organise and staff the centres which function in local halls one day a week, from approximately 10am to 1pm, except during school holidays.

Morning tea and lunch are provided at a nominal charge.



Dunedin RSA Spring Luncheon

*The RSA would like to invite you to
attend a spring luncheon at
Robbies Bar & Bistro*



67 Macandrew Road,

South Dunedin .

Wednesday 9th September

12 Noon

\$15.00 per person

*Choice of Fish & Chips, Roast or special of the
day and Dessert*

RAFFLES - RAFFLES - RAFFLES

COME ALONG AND HAVE A CATCH UP

Bookings required

Phone Sally 466 886 or Niall 466 4888