

DUNEDIN RSA & WELFARE TRUST 2017 Newsletter



Bill King Award 2017



On the 11th November the Bill King Award was presented to Doug Brensell. Doug is the fifth recipient of the "Bill King Award".

Attending the presentation above : Left to right - Paul Galloway (Dunedin RSA Welfare Trust Chairman), Lois King (Bill's widow) Doug Brensell and Lyall Cocks (Upper Clutha RSA)

History of the Award

In April 2010 the Dunedin RSA Welfare Trust agreed to set up the Bill King Award in conjunction with the local community and RSA in Upper Clutha to recognise the work that the late Bill King did in the Upper Clutha area.

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.*



Presidents Report

2017 is the penultimate year of the WW100 commemorations.

1917 was a disastrous year for the province of Otago where many young men did not return, and for those who did their lives had changed forever.

The disastrous campaigns of Messines and the Somme had a huge impact on the province as borne out by the number of crosses placed at the Cenotaph.

It was pleasing to see a number of newspaper articles, tributes and documentaries of the New Zealand soldiers in those campaigns. The colours of the 2/4 Regiment were paraded by a squad from the Regiment in Belgium.

Next year will see the last tranche of crosses from the Fields of Remembrance. At present there is no indication on the final disposal of them after Armistice Day 2018. One option is to place all of them out at one location to be decided on in consultation with the DCC and other parties.

Planning has commenced for the 2018 commemorations with a number of organisations. Details will be released as the plan is developed.

ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day services were well attended in Dunedin and throughout the region.

The Rev Dr Tony Martin, who has been our Padre for many years, has retired from ministerial duties. His input and contribution into organising the services was appreciated. We wish him well in his new career at the Otago Regional Council with the Civil Defence Emergency Management team with the challenges ahead.

David Ellison, our Kaumatua, has moved to the Wellington region to live with family. John Broughton has stepped in to look after the role. He has a service background and strong family military links to the Karitane area.



This year, two of our life members, Verena Lawrence and Len Burgess passed.

This year we recognised Gladys Nilson, Jim Robertson and Glenda Kelly for their contribution to posy making for ANZAC Day.

I attended National Council in November in Wellington. The venue was at the Salvation Army Citadel. The guest speakers were the Prime Minister, The Minister of Veterans Affairs and the CEO of Veterans Affairs. With the change of government and a minister who has a service background, I believe we will see an improved delivery of services for veterans.

Sadly, the World War 2 cohort has almost gone and the needs of the modern-day veteran poses new challenges as the younger veterans have had between three and four postings to different parts of the globe and exposure to a wider of range of environmental issues not seen before.

We all have a responsibility to be aware of them and ensure they are safe.

On a final and more serious note we need to look at the future of the RSA.

Our membership is in the decline and as a result our income is not going to meet our outgoings.

Our only income stream is through subscriptions. There is a wide range of different subscriptions but every sub attracts an \$11.50 capitation fee to national office.

The bottom line is that subs will have to go up to meet our requirements to remain solvent.

We have reviewed all our costs and set a new budget for 2018 and hope to break even at the end of the year.

Any donations would be greatly appreciated and can be included with your subscription payment. Subscription will be reviewed at the 2018 AGM.

A paper on the options for the future will be presented at the AGM. Any contributions please forward to the secretary no later than 19th of Feb 2018.

Lox Kellas

RSA - Guardians of remembrance since 1916

A bit of ANZAC History

During a recent visit to the North Island I stopped by the site of New Zealand's first ANZAC Day service.

Tinui is a small community approximately 30 minutes drive from Masterton on the road to Castlepoint. On 25 April 1916 the Rev. Basil Ashcroft held a ceremony at Tinui's Church of the



Good Shepherd to remember the seven young men of the district who lost their lives in the Gallipoli Campaign. This service is recognised as the first ANZAC Day service to be held in this country. By the end of WW1 36 Tinui locals had died.

Following the service, a cross was erected on top of Mount Maunsel (Tinui Taipo) which overlooks the small town. This was the first memorial of its



type erected during the war. The dedication ceremony included the sounding of the Last Post played by a local resident home on leave at the time.

The original wooden cross has since been replaced by more permanent materials and can be seen against the skyline 300 metres above the village.

As I read the history and the story of that first service at Tinui I reflected on the many small towns and communities that experienced loss and the sacrifice of those who defend our freedom. We are privileged to be a part of a tradition of service, honour and sacrifice.

Lest We Forget

Paul Galloway

Chair

Dunedin RSA Welfare Trust

Armistice Day 2017



Armistice Day in Dunedin was attended by over 100 people this year

The service was lead by Rev Monsignor John P Harrison and this year's quest speaker was Professor Tom Brooking . Several wreaths were laid. Special thanks to the Gunners & Bugler Matt Patchell.

Pictured below is Otago Southland District President Jenepher Glover-Shepherd with members of the Riders for Remembrance Group who attended the service.



All Blacks wear New Zealand's RSA poppy on sleeve at Armistice Day Test

For the first time, the All Blacks wore the Returned and Services Association's New Zealand poppy on the sleeve of their jersey when the team played on Armistice Day against France in Paris. The poppy, which is known as the Earl Haig design, was designed specifically for New Zealand and has been in use since 1978. The All Blacks wore an embroidered poppy on their jerseys to honor those who died in the service of New Zealand and all serving and ex-service veterans in the Test match on Saturday November 11.

It is the second year that New Zealand's Returned and Services Association (RSA) has joined forces with the All Blacks to mark Armistice Day. November 11 marks the day that the guns fell silent on the Western Front in 1918, signaling the end of the First World War. As well as wearing the RSA poppy on their sleeve, an All Blacks contingent paid their respects at a rekindling of the eternal flame ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at the Arc de Triomphe in Paris on the Wednesday evening (French time). The remains of an unknown French soldier were buried at the monument on Armistice Day in 1920 and the flame ceremony has been carried out every evening at 6.30PM since 1921.



RSA President BJ Clark says Armistice Day is a day of great historical significance, solemnity and remembrance through-out the world, particularly in Europe.

“Anzac Day has traditionally been the focus of remembrance in New Zealand. But Armistice Day is far larger internationally, so we are keen to educate Kiwis about this important milestone. Having the All Blacks help us tell that story and pay tribute to all New Zealand veterans, is a great help”.

Every year in recent times the All Blacks have marked Armistice Day during their Northern Hemisphere tours and no more so than when they have played France on or around Armistice Day. The two countries play for the Dave Gallaher Cup, which is named after the captain of the 1905-06 “Originals” All Blacks. Gallaher died on October 4, 1917, from wounds suffered in the Battle of Broodseinde, part of the bloody Passchendaele campaign.

Dunedin Field of Remembrance

A Field of Remembrance was established at the Cenotaph in the Queens Garden Dunedin. The crosses are provided by the Fields of Remembrance Trust and bear the names of the men of the Otago Regiments.

This year 1200 crosses for those who lost their lives during 1917 were put up, the most recent Field was in remembrance of the lives lost at Passchendaele.

Thanks goes to 2/4 Bn RNZIR staff for putting out the crosses and for the South Dunedin Blokes shed group for assembling them. In total 2206 crosses have been put out since 2015.



RSA 2017 Poppy Appeal helps support new generations of veterans

The RSA's 2017 Poppy Appeal raised nearly \$2 million throughout New Zealand. The funds raised are being deployed by the RSA to assist current and former servicemen and women (including NZ Police), and their partners and dependants.

**Poppy Day 2018 is
Friday April 20th**



Maniototo RSA

President Colin Smith & Club Patron Margaret Lockhart presented a certificate of appreciation to the members of the Maniototo Spinners & Weavers Club.

Tracey Canning President Maniototo Spinners and Weaver's member accepted the certificate on behalf of members.



Maniototo RSA widow's Christmas Party

President Colin Smith and his wife Bonnie hosted this year's Christmas party at their home - attending Donella Hore, Rae Paterson, Gaynor Gilchrist, Mary Keenan, Kath McAuley, Betty Kelly, Ruth MacDonald, and Margaret Lockhart who was present as Club Patron.



Scholarship update from Josh Scadden

The Dunedin RSA Welfare Trust was delighted to receive this message from Josh last year's scholarship winner.

Dear Trustees

Thank you again for the scholarship I got from you last year, it helped a lot with my fees. I have enjoyed my first year at university, it has been more interesting and challenging than high school. Of the seven papers I completed, I got an A⁺ in six of them and an A in the other one.

I'm now awaiting confirmation about entry into my second year.

Thank you once again for your support

Kind regards Josh Scadden

Merry Christmas from The RSA Welfare Trust

As 2017 ends and a summer holiday approaches we should take a moment to reflect on the year that has been and look forward to 2018. This year has been a busy and exciting year for The RSA Welfare Trust. Not only are we supporting the Dunedin RSA our Welfare Officer is assisting Mosgiel Memorial RSA and the Gore District RSA with welfare advice and services.



The strength of the RSA is in unity and the support we provide veterans and their families. Sharing resources to deliver the best possible support within our region is a key part of that benefit and unity. We are very happy to be working with other associations on behalf of veterans and their families as a model for the future.

This Christmas we invite you to take time to thank those who give their time to help others in the community and to spare a thought for those less fortunate than ourselves and for those who have put service ahead of being with their families.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

Trustees and Staff RSA Welfare Trust

Dunedin RSA Welfare Officer / Support Advisor

Last month I had the pleasure of attending the RSA National Conference and Support Services Forum in Wellington. I am happy to report that for the most part the conference was a positive experience which was clearly focused on support, where it should be in my own biased opinion.

If we look back 100 years to when RSA first started, it was all about providing services, support and comradeship to soldiers who had suffered a wide spectrum of injuries on battlefields far from home. The RSAs that sprouted up around the country became safe havens where those men could gather. They were places where people had something in common and could relate to each other because of the experiences they shared.

Fast forward 100 years and it comes as no surprise that young men and women are still willingly deploying to dangerous places around the globe to do our country's bidding. We are actually making veterans now at a faster rate than at any time since the end of WW2! They are still paying the same price, and the results are still much the same.

It therefore follows that the need for specialist support services is just as relevant now as it ever has been. Now RSA supports not only those injured in the line of duty but also the wider family around them. We are also interested in and support those who have suffered in the line of duty at home (non-operational service), those who were made to serve (CMT, National Service), Territorials, Reservists, and Cadet Forces. We recognise that the service environment has an affect on families so we include spouses, partners and dependents as well as widows, widowers and survivors.

Responding to these increasing and more specialist demands, RSA Support Services is becoming a more relevant and professional resource, but one which still relies heavily on volunteers and RSAs as a link to our total service family.

As always, if you think I can help I am available by appointment and happy to discuss your particular needs: Ph 03 466 4888, Freephone 0800 664 888, Email welfare@dn-rsa.org.nz or leave a message at the office or with reception at Montecillo Veterans Home and Hospital in Bay View Rd.

Niall Shepherd

Dunedin RSA Administrator

This year has once again gone so fast. Anzac Day & Poppy Day was again very successful and a chance to meet up with the great people in our community who support the RSA.

This year all RSA membership cards were supplied from RZRSA unfortunately many of you had to wait a long time for your cards- so apologies again for the long wait – I am very confident that this year membership cards will be sent as soon as your subscription has been paid.

I am on leave over Xmas from the 22nd December and start back on the 15th January, my first job will be processing payment of subscription and issuing cards. If you are posting in your subscription please include a stamped addressed envelope. Payments can be made via internet banking and of course you can call into the office after the 15th January and pay by Cash or cheque. **(We don't have Eftpos.)**

This month the Dunedin RSA Welfare Trust awarded Scholarship's to Quinn Campbell from John McGlashan High School. Quinn is attending Otago University next year and is planning on studying Psychology. Paris Sinclair - a student from St Hilda Collegiate School is also attending Otago University doing a Bachelor of Teaching. I am sure they will both do well next year and look forward to hearing from them.

In February & March I will be making contact with our volunteers, if you don't hear from me or have been away and missed my call please ring me on 034664886. We are always looking for helpers during the Poppy Day Anzac Day period so if you want to know more please give me a call.

I hope you all have a Merry Xmas with family & friends

Sally Turner



When you make a donation to
the RSA you will receive a
Poppy T shirt



Christmas Treats Packed for NZDF Members Serving Overseas



Christmas packages filled with Kiwi goodies and messages from home are being prepared for our servicemen and women serving abroad.

At Trentham Military Camp 40 volunteers, including schoolchildren, packed hundreds of Christmas treats for New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) members serving overseas.

The Christmas packages included Kiwi treats such as Marmite, liquorice, Anzac biscuits and ingredients for onion dip, which NZDF personnel stationed overseas cannot buy easily. Each parcel also includes Christmas cards written by students from Mount Cook School in Wellington and Collingwood Area School in Nelson.

The yearly initiative, organised by the Royal New Zealand Returned and Services' Association (RNZRSA), involved schoolchildren, veterans, staff from Foodstuffs and Z Energy, and NZDF personnel pitching in to pack the Christmas treats.

“The RNZRSA is thankful two New Zealand-owned, family-oriented companies – Foodstuffs and Z Energy – have come on board to support this.”

Major General Tim Gall, the Commander Joint Forces New Zealand, said the Christmas packages were a tribute to the NZDF's servicemen and women stationed overseas.

“They are making a personal sacrifice by serving overseas over the festive period. It is our way of saying, ‘You are in our thoughts this Christmas and we value the work that you do on behalf of New Zealand’.”

About 300 Defence Force personnel are serving overseas.

The RSA has sent Christmas care packages to deployed military personnel for more than 76 years. Foodstuffs and Z Energy provided more than \$10,000 worth of goods for this year's Christmas packages.

Christmas fun

Match the words to the correct pictures to complete the crossword. Then find a secret message.

bells

candle

candy cane

card

chimney

Christmas tree

elf

gingerbread

holly

letter

lights

ornaments

presents

reindeer

Santa Claus

sleigh

snowman

stocking

wreath



18



4

14

19



6



8



15



2



3



12



7



1



17



5



10

16



11



13



The secret message is _____ lead home.

Variety of badges
still available all
\$10.00



Office Hours during the Christmas period

Last working day is the 21st
December and we will be
re opening 9th January 2018

**Dunedin RSA and
Dunedin RSA Welfare Trust**
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Access to our Offices is from either Montecillo Veterans Home and Hospital 63 Bay View Road or from behind the Montecillo Veterans Home and Hospital 3 Prince Albert Road, opposite Dominos Pizza.

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