

DUNEDIN RSA
&
WELFARE TRUST
September 2018 Newsletter



POPPY DAY IN WANAKA

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.*



**On the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month 2018
people will gather at the Cenotaph, Queens Gardens,
Dunedin for the 100th Anniversary of the signing of the
Armistice.**

All Welcome

Presidents Report

In June I visited many of the battle sites where the New Zealand soldiers fought in northern France and Belgium.

Of special interest was a visit to Caterpillar Ridge and the cemetery where the remains of a New Zealand soldier were exhumed and returned to home as the Unknown Warrior.



Other highlights were some of the cemeteries where our soldiers are buried and the tremendous amount of care that the War Graves Commission undertakes to maintain them. At the time of our visit all the roses were in full bloom. The Otago fallen are well cared for.

The service at Menin Gate attracts a large crowd every day. Of note were the large groups of school groups from the UK and Europe that attended and were touring the battlefield sites

My lasting memory was the questioning the decisions of some of the military leaders in the Western Front that led to many unnecessary casualties.

This year brings to a close the WW100 commemorations.



The Fields of Remembrance crosses will be placed at the Queens Gardens for the final time.

It will be the entire holding of crosses, approximately 4000 that covers all the campaigns.

The installation will be on the 29th of August under direction of the DCC and the Army and they will remain there until after Armistice Day. Options for disposal are being discussed and may include public input.

Planning for the Armistice Day service at the Cenotaph is being finalised and we hope to incorporate a number of community organisations. Other activities within the city are being planned

Last week after 20 years in the role I handed over the task of Ceremonies co-ordinator to Lt Cdr (Ret) Rob Tomlinson. Rob served with the RNZNVR at HMNZS TOROA. He has a background in service protocols and will do an excellent job.

This year we have a full executive with a wide range of experience.

Fred Daniel, former CEO of Monticello, Bob Barlin who has served in a number of UN Missions and with Red Cross, Fiona Stewart, a past member of 4 Otago Southland Regt and Otago/Southland District RSA secretary, Professor Broughton John, New Zealand Dental Corps and now elected as the RSA Kaumatua, Graeme Jenkins, ex - Royal NZ Engineers has undertaken to organise luncheons and social events , John Cosgrove has an RNZAC and army and photography background and Graham Nicholls, the Dunedin RSA Choir Rep.

On the community side of the house the Greater Green Island Community Trust has been fundraising for the installation of a childrens play area at the Memorial Gardens. The Dunedin RSA applied for and received funding for the project and work will begin in spring.

Initial discussions have been held with them with regard to relocating the current memorials further into the gardens and away from the roadside.

Last newsletter I outlined the future financial issues.

The good news is that our financial position has improved following advice undertaken and it will allow us to go forward and consider small projects in the future.

Finally, as our older veteran community passes on please ensure you encourage younger veterans to join the organisation and support the youth in our area.

Lox Kellas

President

RSA - Guardians of remembrance since 1916

Armistice Day 100 years ago

Dunedin Town Hall 1918 Armistice Day



After four terrible years, the First World War finally came to a close with the signing of an armistice between Germany and the Allied Powers on the 11th November 1918.

On the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, the guns famously fell silent. New Zealanders celebrated enthusiastically, despite having recently celebrated the surrenders of the three other Central Powers – Bulgaria, Turkey and Austria-Hungary – and the premature news of an armistice with Germany.

On the declaration of the Armistice on 11 November 1918, a total of 52,123 New Zealand troops were still overseas, including 24,115 in France, 23,541 in England and 4,451 in Egypt.

URGENT 11 17 3904

NEW ZEALAND POST OFFICE TELEGRAPHS

Code:		THE EASTERN EXTENSION A. and C. TELEGRAPH CO. LTD.			
Local No. 287					
Handed in (time):	Inst. No.	Received:		Sent at..... 191	
No. of Message:	Station from	Time: H. M.	By	To.....	
			3104	By.....	
			Clerk	Asst. recd. by.....	
Office of Origin:	LONDONPO	XYNB		Checked by	
VIA EASTERN		Number of words: 13	Date: 11	Time: 10/55AM	
Remarks: MULTIPLE BG CLEAR THE LINE PRIORITY BG PASLONDON at 1					
TO GOVERNOR GENERAL WELLINGTON..					
<p style="text-align: center;">MOST URGENT. ARMISTICE SIGNED 5 AM THIS MORNING</p> <p style="text-align: center;">LONG.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">11/13PM RN.</p>					

EXAMINED BY CENSOR.

This is the telegram that informed New Zealand's Governor-General, Lord Liverpool, of the signing of the Armistice.

Armistice Day 1918 - 2018



To mark the centenary of Armistice Day, the Reserve Bank will be issuing a colored legal tender 50 cent coin.

The majority of the coins (approximately 1.6 million) will be released into circulation from 1st October. The coins will be distributed to New Zealand retailers throughout the country.

Armistice Day & Dunedin Field of Remembrance

Towards the end of August 3,988 white crosses were placed at the Queens gardens in Dunedin. Each cross bears the name and service number of a service person from the Otago roll of Honour from WW1.

A list of the names is available on our website. www.dn-rsa.org.nz



People will be able to claim their relative's crosses two weeks after Armistice Day. The crosses will then be removed permanently.

DUNEDIN RSA LUNCHEON

ROBBIES BAR AND BISTRO

CNR MACANDREW ROAD & KING EDWARD STREET

Wednesday 3RD October at Noon

THREE MEAL OPTIONS

INCLUDING DESERT, TEA & COFFEE **\$14.00**

RSVP please by 24th September

Ring Graham Jenkins 034551742 or email: finance@dn-rsa.org.nz



Reminder - RSA members welcome at Garrison Club

RSA members are welcome to attend Friday nights at the Garrison Club at Kensington Army Hall, Bridgeman Street, South Dunedin. The bar is open from 5.30. Realistic bar prices, friendly atmosphere. I am one of a number of associate members who attend most Friday nights.

Sign into the visitor's book and make yourself known. We might not have a club room anymore, but as an RSA let's start socialising again.

Any questions give Graham a ring 034551742

ANZAC DAY in Cromwell



A detachment from Otago / Southland 2/4 Battalion retreat from the Cromwell Cenotaph at the completion of the wreath laying ceremony. Watching on the left are Cromwell RSA members, Veterans and Fire and Emergency personal. To the right are Cromwell Scouts, Cubs and St John members.

Bill Eady

Secretary Cromwell RSA

Poppy Appeal 2018 marked the 96th running of the appeal, making it New Zealand oldest continuously run appeal.

From RNZRSA

- **\$1.7 million donated**
- **Poppy funds provide vital help to veterans and their families**
- **Focus on mental health creates a strong connection and conversation**

New Zealand Returned and Services' Association (RSA) have paid tribute to New Zealanders for their generosity and empathy for current and former service personnel through the 2018 Poppy Appeal. The Appeal raised \$1.7 million in donations across New Zealand.

The theme of the 2018 Poppy Appeal – Not all wounds bleed – generated significant discussion and focus around the mental health challenges faced by current and former service men and women as well as their families.



Poppy Day 2019 Friday 12th April

This day has been carefully selected because in 2019 the Friday before ANZAC Day, which is usually Poppy Day, is Easter weekend.

Montecillo RSA Mid-Winter Xmas Dinner July 25th



Photo Left: George Wong, Bill Curly, Eva Mafi, Richard Wells, Noel McCutcheon, & Jim Moran

This year the RSA Welfare Trust sponsored Montecillo Veterans Home & Hospital mid-winter Christmas dinner. The menu included hot ham on the bone, new potatoes and baby carrots, followed by brandy snaps, plum pudding, custard and ice cream.



Above: Food Service Manager David Malloch carves ham for residents Barry Tither, Duncan Peat, Judith Innes, Don McKechnie

RSA Welfare Trustee Dave Campbell, Support Advisor Niall Shepherd & RSA President Lox Kellas joined the residents for the festive event.



The Royal NZ Artillery Association Inc

84th Annual Gathering & AGM

19th October - 21st October 2018

**To be held in
Dunedin**

Contact Details:

email: rnza.association@gmail.com

Postal address: 18 Walford Dr, Rotorua 3010

Local Contact: Robbie Gardiner – 021 289 912



Dunedin RSA Welfare Trust Chair - David Abercrombie

David was involved with the Air Training Corps from an early age, starting initially as a cadet with No 26 [Oamaru] ATC Squadron, then No 5 [Dunedin] ATC Squadron. He was commissioned and eventually retired as Unit Commander of Number 42 [Cargill] ATC Squadron at the rank of Squadron Leader.

During his time with ATC, David assisted with the formation of No 45 [Balclutha] ATC Squadron (no longer exists), briefly for No 50 [Alexandra] ATC Squadron and quite extensively for No 42 [Cargill] ATC Squadron. The latter unit is now known as No 42 [City of Dunedin] ATC Squadron. David maintains a watching brief of ATC activities through the eyes of his great nephew who is a second-year cadet.

As a member of the former Otago Branch of the Royal New Zealand Air Force Association, David served on the committee, as Treasurer and as Junior Vice-President

David is a former member and President of Heritage (Otago) Inc, and a former President of Heritage Inc. The Otago society has since become a Trust within the Dunedin RSA Welfare Trust. The purpose is to provide support to Children of deceased returned and service persons.

Still an active member of the Otago Officers' Club, David has been a committee member, Secretary, Secretary/Treasurer and President of the club.

Both David's grandparents were veterans of WW1 [Navy and Army], and his father is as veteran of WW2 [Air Force].

David operates his own property consultancy business, specialising in land related matters involving public sector transactions (acquisition and divestment), land and mineral ownership investigations, OIA sensitive

land investigations, absentee owners land purchase and matters associated with land of the Crown. He is a Land Information New Zealand accredited Crown Property service provider and holds a real estate agent's licence as a contingency for statutory land divestment, has no active participation in the property market.

In 2013 David was appointed a Trustee of the Dunedin RSA Welfare Trust and elected Chairman of the Trust in February of this year.

Current Trustees

Prof John Broughton - Vice Chairman

Jim Cutler, Father Tony Harrison, Lyall Cocks, Lox Kellas (RSA President)

Newly appointed in 2018

Brenda Harwood, Phillip Witchall & Dave Campbell

How to maintain and wear medals, and what they represent

**Can the family wear more than one set of miniatures for a deceased relative
e.g. one set for each of our three grandchildren?**



Yes, on the right chest at official commemorative functions and events. This is far preferable to splitting up an original group of medals so each child receives one medal. This causes the 'mana of the group' to be lost as they no longer tell the whole story of the military service delivered for their medal entitlement.

I found my father's Second World War medals in an old box in his attic. He has never worn them. They are not mounted, and the ribbons, stars and round medals are all mixed together in a random pile. I cannot figure out which ribbon belongs to which star or medal. Can you tell me which go together?

You should be able to match the ribbons and medals using the thumbnail images of Second World War medals on the NZDF Medals website at www.medals.nzdf.mil.nz If there are still some mystery medals please feel free to contact NZDF by one of the options listed in the General Enquiries section of this website. A photo will assist to answer your question and can be sent by email when asked for.

For more information go to www.rsa.org.nz/news/how-maintain-and-wear-medals-and-what-they-represent

Have you served?

When it comes to Welfare and RSA Support Services I often hear comments like *"I've been an RSA member for many years so I am entitled to....."* Well, the truth of the matter is that, from a welfare perspective, it doesn't matter if you are an RSA member or not. If you **need** something and you are part of the **service family** then you can count on receiving support, advice, advocacy, or an appropriate referral.

What is the **service family**? A service family member is someone who has served or is currently serving in the NZ military or police, or is the spouse, partner, widow, widower, or dependant of someone who has served or is serving. That service may have been in the Army, Navy, Airforce or Police and does include CMT, National Service, Territorial or Reserve service and service with the Cadet Forces. You are part of our **service family**. Service with the Merchant Navy during WW2 and service with allied militaries may also qualify.

OK, so what is **need**? Well, **need**, in our Welfare or Support Services context is something that improves your health or wellbeing and you can't afford yourself without suffering some hardship. For instance, you might require a new pair of glasses, but because you can't afford to pay for them you don't get them and so you are unable to see well enough to read the paper. You have demonstrated a **need**, your wellbeing is suffering.

Of course, it's not all about 'things'. A lot of the work I do is helping people find their way to the attention of various services appropriate to their needs. This may include referrals to, and advocating on your behalf with; Veterans Affairs, ACC, WINZ, DHB, various social agencies and service providers, budget advice services, legal advisory services, health care providers and hosts of other organisations. It can be very confusing trying to access a service if you aren't familiar with the complicated paths of bureaucracy. My job is all about connecting you to the people who can appropriately address your needs.

One of the challenges I have, and one that you can help me with, is to identify those members of our **service family** who may be in need. Remember they may not, for a variety of reasons, be members of an RSA, and membership isn't a requirement to access support. It might surprise

you to learn that only a very small percentage of our ***service family*** are members of any RSA. I am sure that each of you who are members will know of others among your circle of acquaintances who may have served. Please pass the word – it's called camaraderie and its why the RSA was invented over 100 years ago.

If you or anyone you know from the ***service family*** is struggling, there is no shame in putting your hand up for help. Grant funding, referrals to appropriate agencies and services, advocacy and advice are just some of the support services freely available.

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 in Bay View Rd.

Niall Shepherd

Support Advisor

RSA



ATTENTION SERVICE, EX-SERVICE, POLICE & PARTNERS

- Struggling to adjust back to civilian life?
- Having health or stress issues possibly resulting from your service?
- Is your family life suffering?
- Finding it hard to make financial ends meet?

Our Support Adviser, based in Dunedin is available to help make those **BIG** problems smaller. Grant funding, referrals to appropriate agencies and services, advocacy and advice are just some of the support services available.

FOR HELP, CONTACT 0800 664 888 OR EMAIL [WELFARE@DN-RSA.ORG.NZ](mailto:welfare@dn-rsa.org.nz)

Dunedin RSA Administrator

RSA Reciprocal Rights

A reminder that RSA Club Card holders have reciprocal rights to enter all RSAs, this includes RSA Online members.

As stated in the November 2017 Model Rules, Chapter 53, Paragraph 'b';

That this Association, while affiliated to the Royal New Zealand Returned and Services Association (Inc.), grants reciprocal visiting rights to all other Associations and RSA Clubs affiliated to the Royal New Zealand Returned and Services Association (Inc.) as defined in the Sixth Schedule to the rules of the Royal New Zealand Returned and Services Association (Inc.) and to all overseas service organisations and any other club which has confirmed reciprocal rights in writing with the Royal New Zealand Returned and Services Association (Inc.).

Volunteers: we are always seeking volunteers to assist with various RSA duties. Hospital / Rest home visiting, RSA Funeral Tributes - full training will be given to suitable volunteers.

RSA Review: if you do not subscribe to the RSA Review you can pick up a copy from the RSA office. Copies are also posted to the Branches.

If you would like to subscribe to the RSA Review which is circulated four times a year - email mareenm@rsa.org.nz the cost is \$20.00 yearly.

Exclusive RSA Club Card Member Deals:

As an RSA member you are given a Club Card, with this you are entitled to a number of member benefits including amazing retail deals. To redeem these member benefits, simply show proof of your RSA membership at the retailers listed to receive the following amazing deals.



Main Sponsors:

- Resene Paint – up to 15% cash discount on paint on wallpaper
- Insurance (VERO): discount package up to 40%
- Heartland - \$150 discount on the home valuation
- Mondo Travel – discounts on hotels, vehicle rentals, duty free and holiday deals
- Public Trust - \$50 off per Will and EPA

Check out these and more at www.rsa.org.nz/benefits or give us a ring at the office.



I would like to introduce you to Briggitte Gamble – the new receptionist at Montecillo Veterans Home & Hospital, actually Briggitte has been sitting at the desk for just over a year. So, if there is no one in the RSA office Briggitte is happy to pass us a message, or occasionally I will leave things with her for members to pick up.

Sally Turner



Otago Officers' Club
The President, Col (Ret.)
Roger McElwain

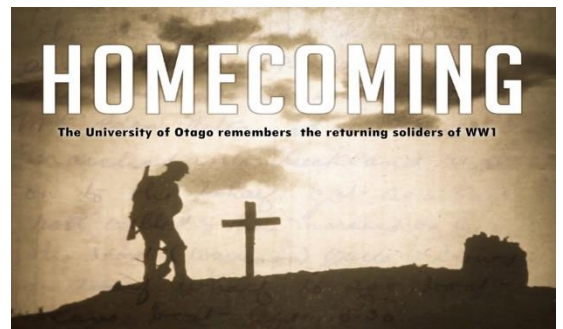
requests the pleasure of your company
(and partner) to the Gala Performance of
"Homecoming" on Saturday 8 September 2018
at Allen Hall Theatre, University of Otago.

Pre- theatre reception at the University Staff Club from 7.00 pm

Decorations and medals (miniatures) Tickets \$25 per person

RSVP to John Broughton: john.broughton@otago.ac.nz

by 31 August 2018

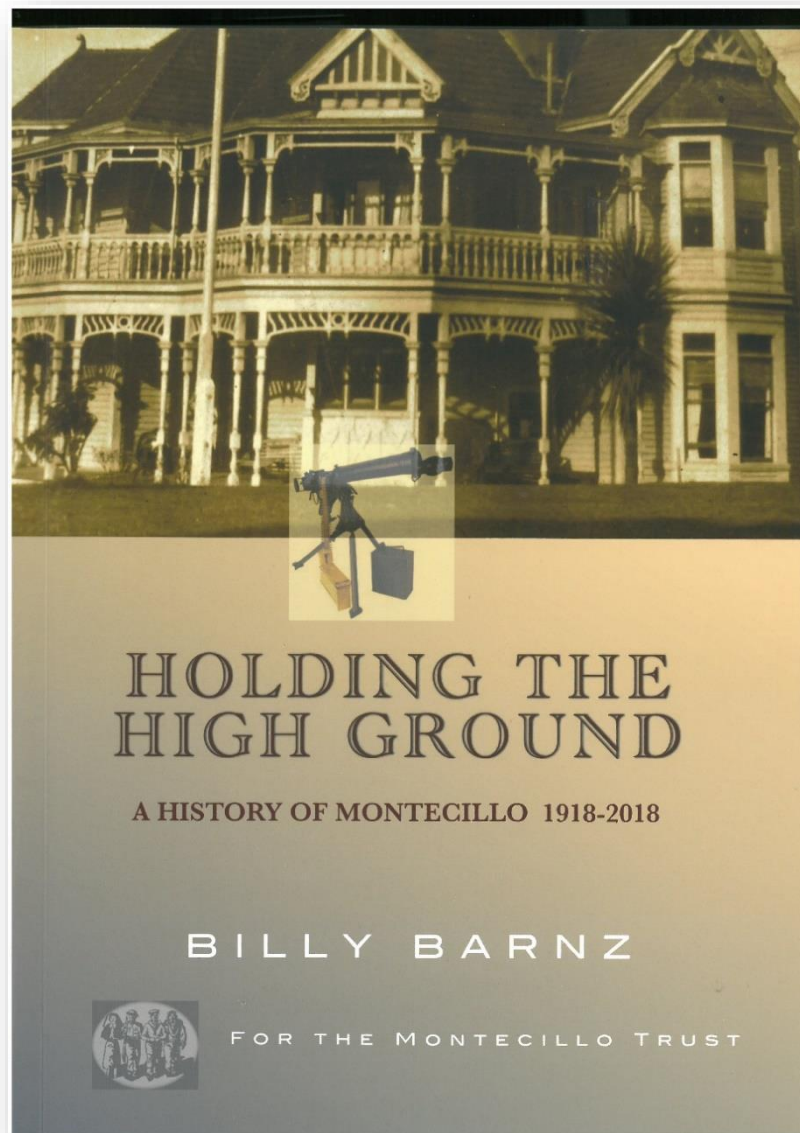


A History of Montecillo 1918 - 2018

On the 26th June Montecillo Rest Home & Hospital celebrated 100 years since opening. Holding the High Ground - A History of Montecillo 1918 - 2018 has been written by Billy Barnz for the Montecillo Trust. The book is full of photos, anecdotes, and the history of Montecillo over the past 100 years.

The book is available for a donation of \$20 or more. A receipt for tax purposes is available.

For more information please phone 03 4664 778 or email: admin@montecillo.org.nz





When you make a donation to the RSA you will receive a Poppy T shirt (sizes and stock permitting)



New RSA ties and scarf are now available



Lacquered Poppy Brooch

The Lacquered Poppy Brooch is a lovely glittery brooch. At 6 cm high (including stem) and 4cm wide



Car & Truck Poppies



Variety of badges still available for \$10.00 each



Please ring 03 466 4886 or email finance@dn-rsa.org.nz if you would like to order any of these RSA items.

The Medals Guy – Kevin Tansley.

**Kevin can help you out with
new ribbons, cleaning,
displays & framing,
restoration and much more**

THE MEDALS GUY

Kevin F Tansley

03 473 7085 | 021 022 30870
medalsguydunedin@gmail.com
www.medalsguy.co.nz

PO Box 6254, North Dunedin, DUNEDIN 9059



Dunedin RSA and Dunedin RSA Welfare Trust

63 Bay View Road
P.O. Box 4008, St Kilda
DUNEDIN 9016

Access to our Offices is through Reception at Montecillo Veterans Home and Hospital - 63 Bay View Road or by the service lift behind Montecillo's kitchen - 3 Prince Albert Road, opposite Domino's Pizza.

RSA Administrator:

Sally Turner

Phone: 03 466 4886

Email: finance@dn-rsa.org.nz

Support Advisor:

Niall Shepherd

Phone: 03 466 4888

Email: welfare@dn-rsa.org.nz

Freephone: 0800 664 888

Website: www.dn-rsa.org.nz