

# DUNEDIN RSA & WELFARE TRUST

## December 2019 Newsletter



Left: Armistice Day, this years service was lead by CHAP4 Aaron Knotts

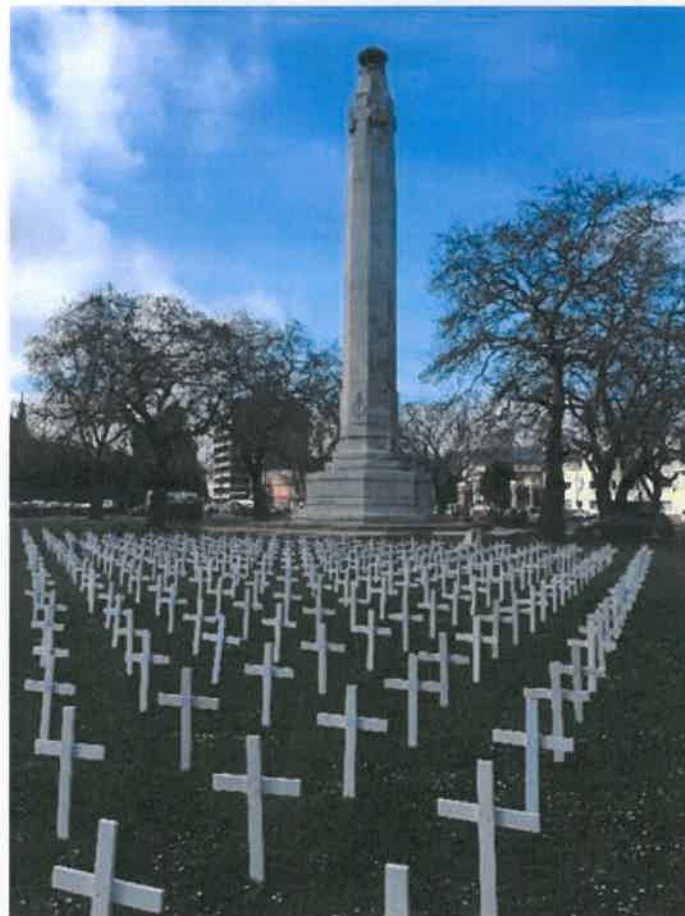
Right: Matai McGinty Tahuna Intermediate read the ODE in Te Reo



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

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



# ARMISTICE DAY 2019

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Despite the cooler day a large crowd gathered around the Cenotaph in the Queens Gardens for this year's Armistice Day.

The service was led by for the first time by CHAP 4 Aaron Knotts.

The Dunedin RSA Choir led the singing of God Save the Queen

Readings this year were; In the Service of the Nation, The sons of William and Susan Dunford Andersons Bay - Colby Allen (OBHS) (above), and A Gloucestershire Lad - Destiny Crawford (Queens High School).

Speaker was Dunedin RSA President Lox Kellas, QSM ED.

Above: Colby Allen Otago Boys High School – reads a lesson

Below: Students from Tahuna Intermediate School







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Above: The Gunners prepare to fire the gun.

## Cromwell Armistice Day

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# Bill King Award 2019

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This year the Bill King was awarded to the Dunedin Branch of the  
New Zealand Remembrance Army

**The Awarded is in memory of the late Bill King (Upper Clutha) for Welfare Services in the Area of the Dunedin Returned and Services Association. Presented on the 12th December 2019.**

**Below:** Laneene Rutherford from the Remembrance Army accepts the award from Dunedin RSA Welfare Trust Chair David Abercrombie. Dunedin RSA President Lox Kellas looks on.



The branch was established in Dunedin by a group of volunteers following the first establishment of the NZRA in Porirua.

The aims of the organisation are to locate the burial sites of servicemen and women whose headstones have been neglected or damaged and record the histories of those people. They will then follow up with repairing the damaged headstones. To date they are in the process of identifying the burial sites, the campaigns and units that the deceased took part in. The branch has formed a trust and established protocols with the DCC. They also have to provide all the materials in the cleaning of the headstones.

# Administration Update

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I hope you all have had a great year, as always please let me know if you have moved so we are able to keep in touch.

Another busy year in the office again – I look forward to catching up with many of you in the new year when you come in to pay your 2020 RSA subscription, the 2020 cards have all been printed and ready to go out.

If you have moved into a rest home or were born before 1930 and you do not have a capitation discount on your subscription account, please give me a call.

If you are calling into the office, please remember that we don't have eftpos. Cash or cheques only please. Internet banking information is on your invoice.

Please see below the 2020 membership cards.

**The Office will be closed from the 23<sup>rd</sup> December until the 7<sup>th</sup> January.**

I would like to thank all the members and volunteers who support us in our work and give up their time freely, when help is needed.

I hope you all have a Merry Christmas and a happy New year.

***Sally Turner – Administrator***





## Montecillo Veteran's Christmas Cake presentation

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Residents staff volunteers and family members enjoyed morning tea, Christmas carols and Santa Claus on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December.

The RSA presents a Christmas cake to Montecillo each year. This is a tradition which has been happening for many years



Fred Daniel (RSA) presents the cake to Leigh Dorward-Minards (Clinical Care Manager Montecillo).

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# POPPY DAY 2020

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Poppy Day 2020 will be held on the 17<sup>th</sup> April, we are once again relying on support from our many volunteers, if you would like to help out this year please phone Sally 03 466 4886 or Niall 03 466 4888

## Dunedin RSA Choir Calendars for sale

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\$10.00 each



Call into reception at Montecillo Veteran's Home & Hospital, 63 Bay View Road, South Dunedin – or email : [finance@dn-rsa.org.nz](mailto:finance@dn-rsa.org.nz)

### THE MEDALS GUY

**Kevin F Tansley**

03 473 7085 | 021 022 30870  
[medalsguydunedin@gmail.com](mailto:medalsguydunedin@gmail.com)  
[www.medalsguy.co.nz](http://www.medalsguy.co.nz)

PO Box 6254, North Dunedin, DUNEDIN 9059





# VIETNAM MEMORIAL DAY LUNCHEON 2019

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This year the RSA decided to organise a get together of Vietnam Veterans and their families to remember our time during the Vietnam conflict by way of a lunch at Ironie Cafe. After some conversations about who we knew about and how to contact others we managed through advertising in the mid-weekly paper and the RSA newsletter to attract about 25 people. The lunch was a great start to what we hope to be an annual event. RSA President Lox Kellas ably presided over the event and we were privileged to enjoy the company of Willie Walker who was the artillery radio operator in the field at Long Tan on August 18th 1966 from which this Memorial Day is named.

This gathering is open to all persons that had time "in country" including our allies at the time. It was great to have a Red Cross nurse join us as well. The Dunedin RSA Welfare Trust assisted us very graciously with a subsidy on the meal. I was really encouraged by the turnout and thoroughly enjoyed many new conversations.

See you all next year

Best wishes

Gary Shields.



# SUPPORT SERVICES NEWS

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End of year thoughts from your Support Advisor.

This time of year is traditionally when thoughts turn to Christmas festivities, end of year functions, holidays, family and friends. It can also be a stressful time and people can find themselves; alone as their mates enjoy their own families, under extra financial pressure, swamped by visitors or just upset through having their routines disrupted.

In the RSA Support Services space, this is a time when we need be extra vigilant to the needs of our greater service family. Those of you who are RSA members will, I am sure, know other service or ex-service families who aren't members. Not all service or ex-service people belong to an RSA, yet they live among us in our communities. Many surviving spouses or dependants aren't members either, but they are just as entitled to our care and support as those who are.

Much of the work I do involves being pro-active and extending awareness and care to those in our community who are in need. I think that seeking opportunities to offer support is a far better way to do business than waiting to respond to cries for help, though crisis response is important too. As true today as when Joseph Malins wrote them in 1895 are the words from his poem '*A Fence or an Ambulance*':

*Better guide well the young than reclaim them when old,*

*For the voice of true wisdom is calling:*

*"To rescue the fallen is good, but 'tis best*

*To prevent other people from falling."*

*Better close up the source of temptation and crime*

*Than deliver from dungeon or galley;*

*Better put a strong fence round the top of the cliff.*

*Than an ambulance down in the valley!*

If you or anyone you know from our greater service family is in need of help or advice – please contact me or encourage them to do so. Most of the time you will find me by '*the strong fence at the top of the cliff*', or you can make contact in the conventional way by phoning and leaving a message: 0800 664 888, or email : [welfare@dn-rsa.org.nz](mailto:welfare@dn-rsa.org.nz)

Best wishes for a relaxing safe and happy festive season.

Niall Shepherd

Support Advisor



Just in case you didn't get to view this story here's the link again.

Here's a unique story on how your Poppy donation helps our Veterans! Check out this awesome video made by ANZ New Zealand!

<https://www.rsa.org.nz/sometimes-its-little-things-matter>



Niall Shepherd visited Barbara Pickering for a significant birthday in September. Barbara a Life member of the Christchurch RSA moved to Dunedin a few years ago.

Barbara was a WAAC in the Army during WW2.



# RNZRSA News

## 79th year RSA sends taste of Kiwi Christmas to troops overseas

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It was more than 30 Christmases ago, but BJ Clark still vividly remembers being far from home and family, opening the treat-laden Royal New Zealand Returned and Services' Association gift parcel.

The now-National President of the RSA, who took a New Zealand Army team down to Antarctica in 1986 to undertake a major construction project, says he quickly homed in on one particular delicacy: a can of hearty tuatua soup.

"That soup was delicious, warm and, it didn't last very long at all in that temperature. Having said that, we didn't let a white Christmas stop us rugging up and tucking into a few Kiwi barbecues."

Mr Clark joined the RNZRSA Board, Chief Executive Karen Rolleston and staff for one of the most important days on the organisation's calendar – packing gift parcels for the New Zealand Defence Force personnel serving overseas this Christmas.



And, the RSA team weren't short on helpers. Defence Minister Ron Mark, Chief of Defence Force Air Marshal Kevin Short, NZDF staff, returned servicepeople and school children were among those rolling up their sleeves to

pack more than 300 parcels.

Ms Rolleston says RNZRSA staff love being involved in a tradition that started 79 years ago.

"We're very grateful to Headquarters Joint Forces NZ which does a phenomenal job helping with organisation, and also ensuring the packages are delivered everywhere from the Israel-Lebanon border region and the Sinai Peninsula, the North and South Korea border, Afghanistan and Iraq to Antarctica.

"It's so important for us that everyone who receives a Christmas parcel feels with it the immense gratitude, care and support from not just all of us in the RSA movement, but the many others who make this happen."

## Navy Reunion 2020

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Thursday 13th February 2020

### DID YOU SERVE IN HMNZS TAMAKI ON MOTUIHE ISLAND?

A one-off reunion of all those who served in HMNZS TAMAKI on Motuihe Island, known as The Rock, during its period as a Navy training establishment from 1941 to 1963 will be held in Auckland 14-16 February 2020. The reunion is aimed at bringing together those who experienced a unique time in their lives and the history of the RNZN. As those who undertook their basic training on The Rock can attest, surviving the training was an experience that will never be forgotten.

If you served on The Rock, either as a trainee or as Ship's Company, and are interested in the reunion, please go to the RNZN Communicators website at [www.rnzncomms.org](http://www.rnzncomms.org), then click on 'The 'ROCK' Reunion' (in the black banner under the photos). From the drop-down menu you can find further information on the reunion in the Newsletters and Register for it. Alternatively, if you would like information or a Registration Form in hard-copy form then please contact Gary Houghton via email at [garydk@icloud.com](mailto:garydk@icloud.com) or on telephone 022 3134634.

# DUNEDIN RSA WELFARE TRUST SCHOLARSHIP 2020

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The Welfare Trust is very pleased to announce the recipients for the 2020 Scholarship are

Hikaru Fitzgerald  
Avalon Beker  
Tapekaoterangi Hakopa

Certificates were presented to Avalon Beker & Tapekaoterangi Hakopa at this year RSA Xmas morning tea held at HMNZS TOROA on the 12<sup>th</sup> December.

## Dunedin RSA, Welfare Trust Christmas morning tea. 12th December

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**Above:** Colby Allen (OBHS), David Abercrombie & Lox Kellas (RSA), Graham Nicholls (RSA Choir), Richard Wells (Montecillo Volunteer), Laneene Rutherford (NZ Remembrance Army), Avalon Beker, Matai McGinty & Tapekaoterangi Hakopa (scholarship recipients), were presented certificates at this year's awards.





Above: Montecillo residents & staff attended the morning tea and where presented with a certificate of appreciation for contributions to the Annual Poppy Day appeal .

From left: Richard Wells, Helene Krawiec ,Dan Gillion, Elsie Herriott, Connie Wright, and Brigitte Gamble.

## RSA Social News

Graham Jenkins has organised another luncheon, it will be held at Equinox Bar & Restaurant 146 Victoria Road( Forbury Park raceway) so we hope to see you there on **Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> January** as usual please give Graham a call and let him know that you are coming.

### **DUNEDIN RSA LUNCHEON**

### **Equinox Bar & Restaurant**

**Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> January**

Roast of the day special or order from the menu

RSVP please by 20<sup>th</sup> January

Ring Graham Jenkins 034551742 or email: [finance@dn-rsa.org.nz](mailto:finance@dn-rsa.org.nz)

# 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)**

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**IF YOU ARE MOVING PLEASE LET SALLY OR NIAL  
KNOW SO WE CAN KEEP OUR RECORDS UP TO  
DATE**

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**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

**RSA Administrator:**

Sally Turner

Phone: 03 466 4886

Email: [finance@dn-rsa.org.nz](mailto:finance@dn-rsa.org.nz)

**Support Advisor:**

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**Freephone: 0800 664 888**

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