



RSL STATE COUNCIL OF AUXILIARIES

A United Voice

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Queensland RSL Auxiliaries NEWS – March 2017

Editor: Maureen Sargent OAM

2016/2017 COMMITTEE

President: Lynne Gambrill (Redlands); Vice President: Rebecca McEwan (Kilcoy);
Secretary: Maureen Sargent OAM (Banyo); Treasurer: Lesley Boye (Pine Rivers)
Councillors: Rhonda James (Toowoomba United); Gerry Murray (Meandarra/Glenmorgan);
Judy Kranen OAM (Pine Rivers); Glenis Rogers (Geebung/Zillmere/Bald Hills/Aspley),
Glenys O'Malley (Wynnum), Mary Okely (Nanango) Assistant Secretary: Debra Clifford (Pine Rivers)
Patron: Cathy Cameron

MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT, Lynne Gambrill

Welcome to our first newsletter for 2017. Wishing you all a very happy and successful New Year.

As you would all be aware we have been lobbying to get information about Auxiliaries on the State RSL website, we were given an undertaking that this would happen prior to Christmas and I am pleased to report that this promise was kept.



Plans for our AGM which will be held in Brisbane on Friday 23rd June with a dinner on the evening prior are well in hand. Registration will be on the State website. More detailed information will accompany this newsletter. Remember that ALL Auxiliaries are entitled to send a delegate to the AGM.

Since our last newsletter I have had the pleasure of attending a number of functions and two District AGMs giving me the opportunity to meet with many of our members. Looking forward to meeting with you at our AGM. **Lynne**

**CHECK OUT THE WEBSITE - www.rslqld.org
then RSL AUXILIARIES**

hit on FOR MEMBERS,

"We Also Serve"

BYLAW 9. Draft copies of the new by-laws have been circulated for comment to RSL sub-branches and will be voted on at the State RSL AGM. If you haven't seen a copy yet you should check with your sub-branch. With the new by-laws, auxiliaries are now covered by ByLaw 9.

MEMBERSHIP

With the last newsletter forms were included for auxiliaries to return information on their auxiliary. This includes information about the auxiliary, the number of members, and a list of members. The number of members as at **1 December 2016** will be used to work out the winner of the Joy Bryson Shield for 2016.

Once again I remind you to **check with your sub-branch that your members are updated on the MMS** each year when they renew their subscriptions or when you get a new member.

Please ensure your form/s have been returned to the Secretary, Queensland Council of Auxiliaries, PO Box 2036, Chermside Qld 4032 or emailed to rsllqsac@gmail.com as soon as possible. Forms were requested by 28 February. If you need new forms please contact Secretary on rsllqsac@gmail.com.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Under our current bylaw 6 and the proposed bylaw 9, Auxiliaries can have Life Members.

6.74 A special award, known as "The Gold Badge of Life Membership", may be granted to members of the Auxiliary, subject to the following conditions:

- **approval of the grant shall be the prerogative of the Board only;**
- **when the recommendation is submitted by an Auxiliary, the same shall, in the first instance, be forwarded to the Sub-Branch/District Branch for approval and then to the District Council, supported by a written Citation of the member's qualifications. If, after due consideration, the recommendation shall be approved by District Branch, it shall be presented to the next Board meeting for final approval;**
- **no person shall be eligible for the award who has not been a financial member of the Auxiliary, continuously, for a period of at least ten years immediately prior to date of the citation, and has rendered seven years honorary services of outstanding nature to the League;**

PLEASE NOTE that this is where it is IMPORTANT that your members are listed on the MMS as being financial each year and also the positions they have held over the years.

There is also the Long Service Awards

6.75 A special award, known as "The Long Service Award", may be granted to members of the Auxiliary, for 30 and 50 years' service, and is to be submitted using the Membership Management System.

Please look at your membership and see if there are any members who are deserving of these Awards.

2017 AGM - Keep this date free. Friday 23 June

All auxiliaries and members are advised of the **Annual General Meeting for the 2017 State Council of Auxiliaries to be held on Friday 23 June at Rydges, South Bank.** Business at the AGM will include Minutes of the last AGM, Reports (President, Secretary, Treasurer), Election of office bearers (Vice President, Treasurer, and 2 Councillor positions), Motions to be voted on (if any). There will also be several guest speakers. The winner of the Joy Bryson Shield will also be announced and Shield presented.

Each auxiliary is allowed to have one delegate who will be paid for by State RSL and who will be able to vote on behalf of their auxiliary. Other auxiliary members and Sub-branch members are able to attend but there is a cost. Delegates will have travel, 2 nights' accommodation – 22 and 23 June, dinner, registration and AGM Sessions (lunch/morning tea) and the Meet and Greet paid for by State RSL.

Information on the Friday's session is on the RSL website under RSL (Queensland Branch) State Congress button. Scroll down to nearly end of page and you will see the 2017 State Council of Auxiliaries AGM.

Our AGM Dinner will precede the AGM and be held on Thursday evening 22 June at Rydges. **Registration should be completed as soon as possible and closes on 9 June 2017.** Please note that partners of Delegates are able to attend the AGM Dinner

All auxiliaries in Queensland are members of the Council of Auxiliaries. It is up to your auxiliary as to whether you get involved.

Nomination forms for the four positions are enclosed. **Nominations will close on 1 May 2017.**

If you have a **motion that you would like presented at our AGM** please forward it to the Secretary by no later than 1 May 2017 so it can be sent out to those auxiliaries who are attending.

NEXT MEETING OF COUNCIL OF AUXILIARIES

The next meeting of the Queensland Council of Auxiliaries will be held at Beaudesert RSL Sub Branch on Tuesday 16 May 2017, at 10.30am. All members of auxiliaries are welcome to attend. Please RSVP if you are attending to State Secretary Maureen on rslqsac@gmail.com by Friday 12 May for catering/seating purposes. Any business to be discussed at the meeting should also be advised by that date.

NEWS FROM OUR AUXILIARIES

Two of our Auxiliaries have sent information on their recent projects. Thank you very much and congratulations to Pine Rivers and Wynnum Women's Auxiliaries. If you have a project that you think others might find interesting please share it with us.

PINE RIVERS

It started off by our asking "What new can we do?"

Like many auxiliaries that have been in operation for many years, each year it can be difficult to come up with new ideas on how we can support our local community.

An auxiliary's main core and purpose is to support the Sub Branch, its members and the people within the Services and as our motto states:...."We Also Serve". Keeping this in mind we also have a desire to reach further to our local community as it is needed, whilst still keeping within the guidelines of the Leaguer

So each year we ask "What New can We Do".

Here at Pine Rivers RSL Sub Branch Women's Auxiliary, at such a meeting when we posed this question, our President said "I have an idea".... It took a lot of planning, negotiating and thought, but with teamwork "Assist a Student Scheme" was born.

We recognised a need for assistance very close to home and our hearts... the children of our future. We, of course, can't help them all, but we have come up with a scheme where we can make a small difference, even if it is one at a time.

At first we had to answer three critical questions:

- Does this fit within the Welfare guidelines of the League?
 - How do we identify a child in need and still work within the laws of privacy?
 - How do we know that what we have in mind will make a difference?
1. Yes, it is within the Welfare Guidelines of the League and our Sub Branch support and encourage the Scheme
 2. We approached the Principal of our first chosen School, Kallangur State School, with our idea and asked that they choose a worthy recipient.
 3. We asked that if they are comfortable, the student and family meet, we be kept informed of the student's progress, and have regular meet and greets with our members. We also of course stated that if they not wish to be identified, we will accept and respect their wishes.

Once these were clarified, the rest was just fine tuning. So how does it work? We chose a year Six student because we wanted to relieve some of the financial pressures of the costs involved with the senior year of Primary School that may hold them back through circumstances beyond their control. It was also thought that by doing so, this will give the student every chance to excel and feel free to perform at their maximum as they transition into high School. This is a joint project with ourselves and the school in nurturing the student by the Auxiliary covering ALL the student's needs for the year...uniforms, gear for swimming, school fees, any excursions/camp and the like. They email us an invoice...we pay it...simple really. The Scheme package also included five book packs that were distributed to five other students in the school that would have otherwise gone without.

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We are pleased to say that the student and family chosen were happy to meet with us and be known to our members, keep us up to date with their progress and allow us to celebrate the scheme and their success later in the year.

It is very heart warming to know that the student wanted to take part in the school band this year and follow their love of music but did not want to ask and therefore burden the family budget.

It is the Pine Rivers Women's Auxiliary's goal to not only spread this scheme throughout all the schools within our community over the years, but for it to grow each year so we can hopefully add and assist more than one student and family per year.

WYNNUM

It came to the attention of the Wynnum Women's Auxiliary that there was a need for food for folk in dire circumstances before the Christmas period. We were happy to provide vouchers from the local chicken shop for these folk. One of the positive flow-ons from this was the chicken shop providing the vouchers at a discounted rate for us.

We also received a request for haberdashery items for a lady in the country. We sent the requested items plus some "goodies" which included chocolates, a magazine, body wash and body lotion. This was favourably received by the lady in question.

The Wynnum Women's Auxiliary is happy to source and provide any items that folk are having difficulty sourcing. **Please contact the secretary Glenys O'Malley at P O Box 327 WYNNUM QLD 4178 or via email at glenysomalley@bigpond.com.**

BANYO CITIZENS AUXILIARY

Two of the younger members received Lilley Australia Day Awards on Australia Day for their service to the RSL. **Lauren Meiklejohn** has been a member since she was 13 years old (now 23) and for 10 years has been involved in our annual Christmas giftwrapping at Taigum Shopping Centre. Lauren is also a Welfare Officer at the sub-branch, the official sub-branch photographer, is called on to assist with graphic design for our banners, posters, placemats etc. when needed. She also helps out at badge selling. **Katelyn Sargent** has been a member for 6 years (now 20) and has been involved for 6 years in our annual Christmas giftwrapping, sells badges regularly for ANZAC and Remembrance Day, works on ANZAC Day for the sub-branch and also helps out at our Veterans/Widows luncheons.



Picture shows the proud Presidents with the two awardees, Katelyn, Fay Coman, Lauren and Mick Frawley.

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GEEBUNG, ZILLMERE, BALD HILLS, ASPLEY WOMEN'S AUXILIARY

At the same Lilley Australia Day Awards, Marilyn Selby also received an award. Congratulations Marilyn.

WESTERN DISTRICT RSL COUNCIL OF AUXILIARIES AGM

The AGM was held in Toowoomba the last weekend in February. Lynne Gambrill and Rebecca McEwan attended from the State Council, as well as our Western District councillors, Rhonda James and Gerry Murray.

Photo shows those attending from Western District.

Back Row: Kathy Uprichard (Harlaxton), Gerry Murray & Cynthia Cronin (Meandarra/Glenmorgan), Rhonda James (Toowoomba United), Front Row: Carol Kahler (Pittsworth), Grace Cossu (Harlaxton), and Lyn Coles (Dalby)



TOWNSVILLE WOMEN'S AUXILIARY

The attached photo is of the Townsville RSL Women's Auxiliary when we donated 2 special wheelchairs to Mates4Mates to be used for wheelchair rugby. This assists veterans in their mental and physical recovery after discharge from the Services. The price of these wheelchairs was over \$14000 which would not have been possible without the ongoing support of the RSL Patrons by our money board we conduct every Friday night.

Recently we also purchased a children's wheelchair and a stroller for the Children's Ward of the Townsville Hospital.



We thank our patrons at the RSL on a regular basis, and hope that we can continue our good work in the veteran community.

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS



Townsville Women's Auxiliary celebrated at their Christmas Party. Only one missing is Lynne who took the photo

Those seated from left to right are Carole, Dennis, Julie, Margaret Landy. Back from left to right are Juanita, Margaret Standfast, Annette, Mary, and Sandra our President

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NSW CENTRAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN'S AUXILIARIES

Recently Lynne and Maureen met with Pauline James, State President of the NSW Central Council of Women's Auxiliaries.



DATE CLAIMERS FOR BRISBANE NORTH DISTRICT COUNCIL OFAUXILIARIES

2 July Gaythorne Bowls Club Annual Bowls Day -

Fun/Prizes/Raffles Anyone interested ring Pat Carbis in May/June
(once final arrangements are made) 0417 708 262

5 September Diggers Day – Norths Kallangur

Fun day for our oldies - all help welcomed.

17 October – Annual Luncheon Norths Kallangur

All auxiliaries welcome to attend.

VALE

Sadly each issue we report on the loss of some of our Life Members

Bribie Island Mrs Jean Illidge, (94 years)

Late of Bribie Island and Inverpine Village

Jean joined the Auxiliary on 14.11.94 and was made a Life Member in 2006.

Worked tirelessly for the Auxiliary in all areas of our fund raising.

Redlands Una Oliver passed away in early February. Una was awarded her Life Membership and Gold Badge on the 7th June, 1979, she was a long term resident at Cazna Gardens at Sunnybank prior to her passing.

Goondiwindi Bub Howarth passed away last week. Bub had been a member of the Women's Auxiliary since 1955 - yes 1955- that's 62 years. On our western trip in 2014 we met Bub Howarth and she was still interested in the Auxiliary and supporting the RSL. She was very

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disheartened that the RSL had lost their Club. Bub worked tirelessly for the RSL and Auxiliary over many years. Bub was awarded Life Membership in 1978. With Bub's passing it signals the end of the Women's Auxiliary in Goondiwindi. It is hoped that they can form a Citizens Auxiliary shortly.

The Council of Auxiliaries extends our sympathy to the families of these ladies.

NOTE TO ALL AUXILIARIES – It would be appreciated if advice could be sent to the State Secretary when an Auxiliary Life Member passes away. A short story about the member would also be appreciated. Thanks to the auxiliaries who have kept us informed.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR NEWSLETTER ARE WELCOME.

We love to get your news. Please keep it coming. THANK YOU to those auxiliaries who provided stories for this edition. Very much appreciated.

Please forward all contributions and any photos to our email rsqsac@gmail.com or post to our mailing address. Closing date for contributions for the next newsletter will be **15 July 2017**.

REMINDER - registrations for our State Council of Auxiliaries AGM close **9 June**

Nominations for our AGM elections close **1 May**. **Nomination form is attached.**

For your information - Positions are currently held by:

Vice President - Rebecca McEwan (Kilcoy)

Treasurer - Lesley Boye (Pine Rivers)

Councillor – Gerry Muray (Meandarra/Glenmorgan)

Councillor - Glenis Rogers (Geebung/Zillmere/Bald Hills/Aspley)

MEMBERSHIP FORMS/INFO A very disappointing number of auxiliaries have returned their list of members and contact details at this time. Once your AGM is over you also need to let us know who are your Committee.

AGM RAFFLE - we will be sending out raffle tickets after our May meeting. The raffle will be drawn at the State RSL AGM on Saturday 24 June. Please support our raffle.