



January 25'

Message from the President

Looking Forward to 2025!

As we step into 2025, I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to each of you for your ongoing support and commitment to the Melton RSL Sub-Branch. This year marks a momentous milestone—our 40th anniversary!

To commemorate this significant achievement, we are excited to announce the release of exclusive 40th Anniversary Challenge Coins. These will be available for purchase soon, so stay tuned for more details.

Looking ahead, we have a packed calendar of events, including the resumption of our popular Hobby Modelling Sessions and Monthly Veterans BBQ Drop-Ins. These gatherings are free and designed to foster camaraderie and connection among our members.

Looking back on last year, I am proud to share that the Hon. Sam Rae, Member for Hawke, and the Hon. Matt Keogh, MP, Minister for Veterans Affairs, engaged in a productive meeting with our Executive Committee. These discussions were pivotal in highlighting the key challenges faced by our local veteran community and ensuring that these issues are understood at the highest levels of government. In addition, our efforts to grow engagement have borne fruit, with increased attendance at our Veterans BBQ events and a noticeable rise in participation from the younger veteran cohort. These achievements reaffirm the critical role of our advocacy and community initiatives in supporting those who have served.

Finally, I want to acknowledge the completion of upgrades at the Melton Country Club, which will enhance the experience for all who visit. I encourage you to take advantage of the free, tailored DVA Advocacy Services available in-house on Mondays and Wednesdays.

Kind Regards,
Mr. Steve Cook
President – Melton RSL

The Returned and Services League (RSL) of Australia has a proud tradition of supporting veterans, service members, and their families since its founding in 1916. At the Melton RSL Sub-branch, we honour this legacy through our commitment to creating a welcoming, supportive community where veterans can connect, share, and find the support they need.

Community Updates

Don't miss out

40th Anniversary Challenge Coins: To celebrate 40 years of the Melton RSL Sub-Branch, we will soon release limited-edition challenge coins. Stay tuned for purchase details!

DVA Advocacy Services at the Country Club: Recently the Melton RSL undertook extensive renovations at the Melton CC to improve our ability to provide reliable advocacy services. We are proud to announce these upgrades are now complete, allowing our in-house DVA Advocate to provide comprehensive advice to our Veterans. Monday and Wednesday from 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM, Bronwyn will be in the Office.

Veteran Showcase: Starting next month, this Newsletter will feature a “Veteran Showcase” which will highlight a member of our RSL community, sharing their story and service. To be featured or nominate someone, contact a committee member or email Webmaster@MeltonRSL.org.au (Attention: Sam). Stay tuned for our first story!

Upcoming RSL Events

Model Hobby Club

The Melton RSL proudly sponsors a free Model Hobby Club, offering veterans the opportunity to craft their own military figurines with expert guidance from our partner, Andrew's Hobbies. Participants are welcome to take their projects home to complete at their leisure.

The next session will take place at the Vietnam Veterans Association Melton House, located within Willows Historic Park, starting at 11:00 AM on Saturday, 8 February 2025. We look forward to seeing you there!

Veterans BBQ

Join us for the Veterans Drop-In BBQ, a free monthly event designed to bring veterans together in a relaxed and welcoming atmosphere. Enjoy a delicious barbecue while connecting with fellow veterans, sharing stories, and accessing valuable resources.

Our next BBQ will be held on Saturday, 22 February 2025, from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM at the Melton Country Club. Whether you're new to the area or a long-time member, this is a great opportunity to strengthen community ties. We hope to see you there!

President's and Veterans' Ball

The President's Ball will be held on Saturday, 7 June 2025, at the Melton Country Club, following the great success of last year's event. This elegant evening celebrates the contributions of our veteran community and provides an opportunity to connect and reflect in a formal setting. Tickets will be available soon—don't miss this memorable occasion!

VETERAN'S SHOW CASE

The Veteran Showcase is a new feature in the Melton RSL Sub-Branch Newsletter, launching next month. Its purpose is to celebrate the remarkable individuals within our veteran community by highlighting their unique stories of service, resilience, and connection to the Melton region. Each month, the showcase will spotlight a member, offering readers a glimpse into their military history, personal experiences, and contributions to the community.

This initiative aims to honour the sacrifices and achievements of our veterans while fostering a deeper sense of connection and understanding within our RSL family. Whether it's a tale of bravery during active service or the transition to civilian life, these stories will inspire and engage our readers.

Other News

Melton RSL Sub-Branch has recently undergone a major website upgrade, adding the feature for an online membership application! Check it out for yourself at www.meltonrsl.org.au. Furthermore, the Melton RSL Sub-Branch is in the process of outfitting a Merchandise portal to order Merchandise!

Get involved in a supportive Veteran focused social group in the City of Melton!

Community Support & Resources

Lifeline (24/7): 13 11 14

Open Arms (24/7): 1800 011 046

Soldier On (Monday – Friday): 1800 011 046

RSL Advocate (Monday, Wednesday): 0425 261 806

Mr. Steve Cook (President) president@meltonRSL.org.au

Mr. Dale Borthwick (Membership Officer) membership@meltonrsl.org.au