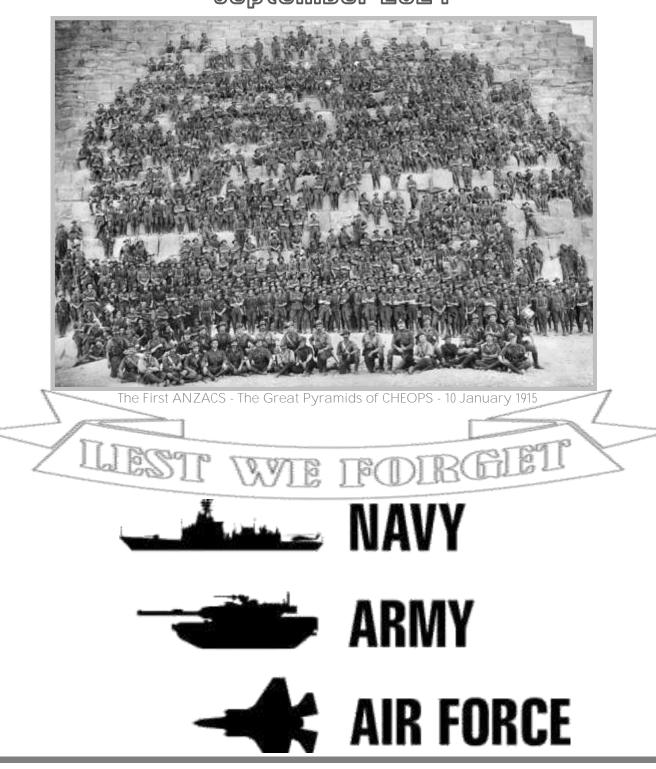


## THE BRANCH NEWSLETTER September 2024





**Presidents Report for September 2024** 

P Welcome Members to this edition of "The Branch" Spring has sprung which is good as winter is behind us and we can look forward to nice weather. 2 Firstly I would like to thank Tracy (Treasurer) and the Committee for running the Sub-Branch during my unscheduled trip down South for family reasons. As such I don't have much to report. ) The next Commemoration is Peacekeepers Day to be held on the 14th of September 2024 at the Cenotaph, Freedom Park starting at 1100hrs. Preparations have commenced for the Remembrance Day and details of that service We are very lucky that we now have 2 x Level 2, and 1 x Level 3 Advocates looking after Veterans in need. The Pension and Wellbeing section can be contacted on 0741849496 Monday to Friday between 0900-1500hrs. at 19-21 Torquay Rd Pialba E on the 2 floors. If out of hours, please contact the RSL Club reception for a contact phone number. O My door is always open for any Member to come and have a chat or  $\mathbb{R}$  if you have a grievance as I will listen. The start of the s Brian Tidyman President Don't forget that you can keep abreast of what is happening with the Sub-Branch and Ex-Service Organisations by checking out our website - herveybayrslsubbranch.com.au or Our office hours are Monday to Friday 9.30am - 12.30pm **2** 4197 7477. **1** 

11-13 Torquay Road, Pialba 4655





## HELP US SUPPORT THE VETERAN COMMUNITY BY VOLUNTEERING AS AN ADVOCATE OR ADVOCATE SUPPORT OFFICER



If you wish to volunteer we would like to hear from you. If you volunteer we will do everything within our power to ensure success in your chosen role.

sub-Branch Nho are we? The Hervey Bay Sub-Branch offers a FREE Pensions and Advocacy service that is staffed and operated by qualified Compensation Advocates and Wellbeing Advocates. Our staff provides professional advice and assistance on obtaining eligible benefits under the:

- Veterans' Entitlement Act (VEA);
- Safety, Rehabilitation & Compensation Act (SRCA) and
- Military Rehabilitation & Compensation Act (MRCA)

In addition, the RSL State Branch Pensions, Advocacy and Wellbeing Service have advocates throughout Queensland who are:

Highly experienced in lodging claims under the

Veterans Entitlements Act (VEA), Safety, Rehabilitation & Compensation Act (SRCA) and Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act (MRCA);

- Caring and gualified to practice in their areas of expertise;
- Able to draw on a wealth of operational and broad-based peacetime experience; and
- Having served overseas and in the ADF for many years.

#### **Services We Offer**

The Hervey Bay RSL Sub-Branch's Pensions and Wellbeing Service covers disability pensions, compensation payments, associated allowances, income support payments and treatment available to entitled veterans and former serving members of the Defence Forces and their dependents.



# Hervey Bay RSL Sub-Branch Wellbeing Team

#### Our team of 14 Support Officers are trained and authorised to assist the ex-service community (Navy, Army, Air Force and Police with ADF service) <u>This is a free service.</u>

#### How can they help?

Support Officers are trained to assist with a range of services:

- Visits to Hospitals, homes and aged care facilities (these visits do not include the provision of information or advice); and
- providing services and support on behalf of the Sub-Branch, including but not limited to emergency financial support, accommodation and welfare checks.

#### How to contact the Wellbeing Team:

 Office (07)
 4184
 9496

 After Hours (07)
 4197
 7444

 Email:
 welfare@herveybayrsl.org.au

#### To make an appointment with Wellbeing phone Meagan during office hours: Monday to Friday 9:00am to 3:00pm.

*The Pension and Wellbeing Office is open Monday to Friday, 9:00am to 3:00pm at Suite 18, <u>2nd Floor</u> of the Signature Building, 19-21 Torquay Road, Pialba. Email: welfare@herveybayrsl.org.au* 

## Do you want to help?

We are looking for more volunteers for our Wellbeing and Pension teams and you do not have to be exservice to help out.

It would be an advantage if you have been involved in nursing, Community Services or Lifeline and could give a couple of hours per week. Advocacy Training and Development Program ("ATDP") training and mentoring will be offered to those wishing to do more.

DATES TO REMEMBER 2024					
Annual General Meeting February 24 10:30am (held in 'Hervey House' at the RSL Club)					
<u>General Meetings</u> May 11 10:30am August 10 10:30am November 23 10.30am (held in 'Hervey House' at the RSL Club unless advised otherwise)					
Committee Meetings Usually held the fourth Thursday of the month (no meeting December).					
*There will be a variation in April when the Committee meeting is brought forward due to the ANZAC Day commemoration services.					
Check the website for updates and variations					
Ensure the RSL Club has your correct mobile phone details to receive event notifications and reminders by SMS text message					
<b>Commemorations observed in Hervey Bay:</b>					
*February 23 National Day for War Animals					
*February 23 National Day for War Animals April 25 ANZAC Day July 7 Rimau Commemoration July 27 Korea Memorial Day August 15 VP Day August 18 Vietnam Veterans' Day September 14 Peacekeepers Day November 11 Remembrance Day *War Animal Day will be commemorated a day earlier, on 23 February 2024, due to the Hervey Bay RSL Sub-Branch AGM being held on 24 February 2024					
April 25ANZAC DayJuly 7Rimau CommemorationJuly 27Korea Memorial DayAugust 15VP DayAugust 18Vietnam Veterans' DaySeptember 14Peacekeepers DayNovember 11Remembrance Day*War Animal Day will be commemorated a day earlier, on23 February 2024, due to the Hervey Bay RSL Sub-Branch AGM					



1 June 2024	President Brian attended the District AGM held in Bundaberg.
6 June 2024	Commemoration held at the Cenotaph for the 80th Anniversary of the D Day Landings (see article + photos page 11)
10 June 2024	Planning commences for Vietnam Veterans Day Commemoration Service and function
11 June 2024	President Brian attended the Women's Auxiliary monthly meeting
14 June 2024	The Sub-Branch Bus gets a professional detail
22 June2024	President Brian and his wife, Rose, attended the RSL Queensland State Congress in Brisbane
27 June 2024	Sub-Branch Board Meeting
6 July 2024	President Brian attended the Naval Association Annual Dinner accompanied by his wife, Rose.
7 July 2024	Rimau/KRAIT Commemoration held at Dayman Park (see article + photos page 9)
12 July 2024	The Queensland Police Service, Weapons Licencing, attended at the Sub-Branch to check our security for weapons.
20 July 2024	President Brian attended the RSL Wide Bay Burnett District meeting in Bundaberg
23 July 2024	The sad passing of Sub-Branch Secretary, Kevin Collins
25 July 2024	Sub-Branch Board Meeting
27 July 2024	Korea War Veterans' Commemoration Service held at Freedom Park (see article + photos page 17)
30 July 2024	Christmas in July themed Diggers Lunch at Hervey House
10 August 2024	President Brian chaired the August Quarterly General Meeting in Hervey House.
8 August 2024	The Committee and staff of the Hervey Bay RSL Sub-Branch attend the funeral of Kevin Collins
13 August 2024	President Brian attended the Women's Auxiliary 95th Birthday Luncheon held on "The Deck"
14 August 2024	Request for Ceremonial Support for Remembrance Day
15 August 2024	VP Day Commemoration Service held at Freedom Park, (see article + photos page 17)
16 August 2024	Preparations commence for the Peacekeepers Day Commemoration Service
18 August 2024	Vietnam Veterans Day Commemoration Service (see article + photos page 13)
22 August 2024	Sub-Branch Board Meeting
29 August 2024	Expression of Interest sent to Hervey Bay RSL Sub-Branch Young Vets to do a sunset cruise as part of Veterans Health Week 2024.

For the months of June, July and August the Sub-Branch provided an RSL Poppy Service at four funerals.
 Administrative assistance and/or supply of ordnance was provided to nine Ex-Service Organisations and cadets as well as 13 volunteer / welfare / community organisations in the Hervey Bay area.

The Hervey Bay RSL Sub-Branch Inc. use Chris Thompson at Law Essentials for all their legal requirements.



4/79 Torquay Road, Pialba Q 4655 PO Box 3358, Pialba Q 4655 P (07) 4197 5600 www.lawessentials.net.au

## Slow Cooker Beef and Mushroom Casserole

Easy | 0:15 Prep | 5:00 Cook | 4 Servings

### Ingredients

- 440g canned cream of mushroom soup
- 500g chuck beef steak, cubed

Recipe Corner

- 2 potatoes sliced
- 2 carrots sliced
- 2 onions sliced

## Method

- 1. Brown the meat in a pan and add to the slow cooker
- 2. Heat the potato, onion and carrot in the pan used to brown the meat until the onion becomes translucent
- 3. Add the undiluted mushroom soup and bring to the boil
- 4. Pour vegetables and soup mixture over the beef in the slow cooker and stir to mix
- 5. Cover and cook on high for five hours
- 6. Serve with cous cous and green vegetables





#### by Theatres of Service

Afghanistan	3.8%
East Timor	4.9%
Iraq	3%
Malayan Emergency	3.5%
Other/Unspecified	65.03%
Peacekeepers	5.3%
Rwanda	0.2%
Vietnam	14.45%



21.3%

55.3%



by Demographic

>26yrs	0.2%
26-35yrs	1.9%
36-45yrs	3.3%
46-55yrs	6.4%
56-65yrs	15.6%
66-75yrs	29.2%
76-85yrs	31.2%
86+ yrs	12.2%





#### Rimau/KRAIT Commemoration Service Dayman Park, Urangan 7 July 2024



Keir Welch, HB RSL Pipe Band and Geoff Harper, Bugler





Hervey Bay RSL Sub-Branch President Brian Tidyman conducted a moving service of commemoration at the KRAIT Memorial in Dayman Park, Hervey Bay.

There was a long and solemn moment when the HMAS MELBOURNE commemorative bell was rung for each of the members of "Operation Rimau" as their names were read out. Wreaths were laid while a lone piper played the lament.

More than 150 people attended including several ex-service organisations, Air Cadets, Army Cadets as well as Hervey Bay locals.



one Piper and 9th Battalion Ceremonial Guard

The Hervey Bay RSL Pipe Band and the 9<sup>th</sup> Battalion Ceremonial Guard contributed to the ceremonial atmosphere and, as always, the TS KRAIT cadets did an amazing job acting as catafalque party.



Representatives from the Fraser Coast Naval Association, 216SQN Cadets and President of the Hervey Bay RSL & Services Memorial Club, Ray Eustace.



#### HEART HEALTH

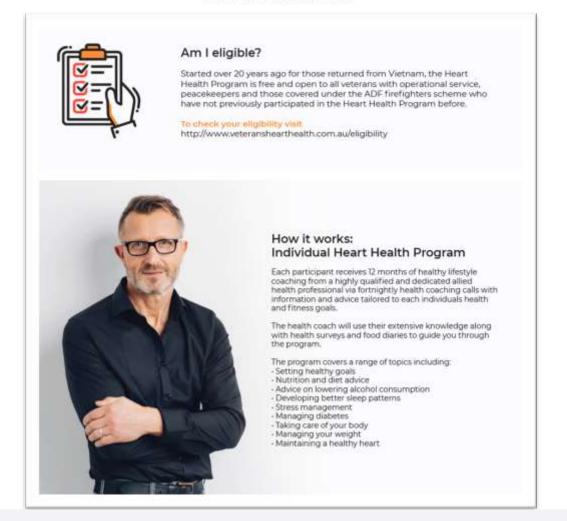


#### Free 12 month Health & Fitness Program - Returned veterans, Peacekeepers and ADF Firefighters Scheme



#### Run on behalf of the DVA by Corporate Health Management, the program aims to help you increase your physical health and wellbeing through practical exercise support and 12 months of telephonic health coaching and advice on healthy lifestyle choices provided by one of our team of highly qualified allied health professionals.

The Heart Health Program is flexible and able to accommodate participants living in metropolitan areas, rural or remote areas, those still working or retired, studying or with other time constraints.





#### **Registering Your Interest**

Registering your interest or checking eligibility is easy.

Visit http://www.veteranshearthealth.com.au/eligibility and follow the steps.

Call the program phone number 1300 246 262 at any time to speak to one of our team.



Hervey Bay RSL Sub-Branch President, Brian Tidyman, lead the service of commemoration at the Cenotaph in Freedom Park, remembering the launch of D DAY operation on its 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

More than 100 Hervey Bay locals and ex-service personnel attended the service on what was yet another beautiful day in Hervey Bay. President Brian gave a brief rundown of Operation Overlord and Rev'd Jeff Jarvis referred to the many tragedies that occurred, during his prayers.

The Sub-Branch was delighted to look after our three WWII veterans with a special luncheon back at the Hervey Bay RSL & Services Memorial Club after the service.



↑WWII veterans Stanley Hanna, Ken Hayden and Alan Williams at Freedom Park / Lunch at the RSL Club→







Don't forget to visit our FB and/or webpage for all the latest Hervey Bay RSL Sub-Branch news.



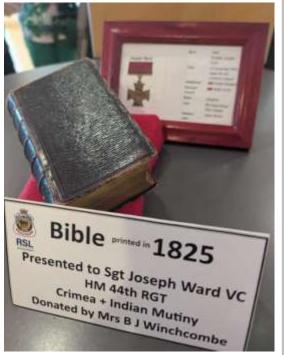
#### WHAT'S NEW IN THE MEMORABILIA COLLECTION

The latest item donated is an 1825 Bible presented to Sgt Joseph Ward VC for service in Crimea in 1854-1855 with H.M 44th Regt of Foot.

Sgt Ward as awarded the Victoria Cross in 1858 in India, during the Indian Mutiny whilst serving with the 8th Irish Hussars.

#### Thank you to Mrs B J Winchcombe for her kind donation.

Next time you are at the RSL Club, you will find it on display in the foyer next to the 'Eternal Flame'





VIETNAM Veterans day



↑ LT Steven Price with the TS KRAIT Cadets

Hervey Bay RSL Sub-Branch President, Brian Tidyman with 9RQR catafalque party, Rev'd Jeff Jarvis and Bugler Geoff Harper prior to the Service.



Hervey Bay RSL Sub-Branch President and Vietnam Veteran, Brian Tidyman, proudly lead the Vietnam Veterans Day Commemoration Service at the Cenotaph in Freedom Park. This year marks the first time this century that the Hervey Bay RSL Sub-Branch has hosted the service and function at the Hervey Bay RSL & Services Memorial Club afterwards.

Thank you to all those who travelled from near and far to attend this service and we hope to see you again next year. As always, our appreciation to the 9RQR Catafalque Party, Chaplain Jeff Jarvis, Bugler Geoff Harper and Hervey Bay RSL Pipe Band Piper, Duncan Birt for their



#### World War Battlefields Tour





France and Belgium

The Itinerary:

One Wreath will be laid at the THIEPVAL Memorial at the Somme in France on the morning of the 1st of July, which was the first day of the Somme campaign in 1916.

We will then travel into Belgium that same afternoon and another Wreath will be laid at the Menin Gate in Ypres.

I will be making several more which will also be laid at the Sir John Monash Centre Memorial in France, (where we will also be presenting our Battlefields Flag) and at the Australian Corps Memorial at LE Hamel, also in the Somme region.

We will be presenting our Battlefields Tour flag at the Victoria Primary School dedicated to Australia at BRETONNEUX in France. This is still an everyday "working school". We will also lay a Wreath at the Adelaide Cemetery at BRETONNEUX.

We will be in France and Brussels for a week, staying at Amiens in the Somme region and at Leper in Ypres, Belgium.

Whilst in Belgium we will visit the Two Brothers (from Nanango) Memorial at Zonnebeke. The sculpture was made by a Sydney artist and sent to Belgium.















## 2025 AVCAT Scholarships



#### **Applications Now Open**

AVCAT scholarships are tertiary scholarships for the children and grandchildren of Australian ex-serving veterans. Scholarships are \$4000-\$6000 per year, for up to three years.

Apply online at <u>avcat.org.au</u> Applications close at midnight AEDT on 31 October 2024.

#### Applicants Must Be:

- Enrolled, or planning to enrol, in a full-time course for one or more academic year's duration at a university, TAFE, or RTO in 2025
- The child, stepchild, foster child, or grandchild of an Australian ex-serving veteran
- An Australian citizen or permanent resident
- In receipt of, or eligible to receive in 2025, a means-tested Commonwealth educational payment – Youth Allowance, ABSTUDY, Austudy or Veterans' Children Education Scheme (VCES), or Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act Education and Training Scheme (MRCAETS).

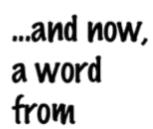
The Long Tan Bursary is sponsored by the Australian Government Department of Veterans' Affairs. View the complete list of AVCAT Scholarship sponsors <u>here</u>.

Find information about scholarships, the application process or scholarship eligibility at avcat.org.au.





Congratulations to one of our youngest Sub-Branch Members, Sam Clayton, on his promotion to Leading Seaman. Seen here getting his rank slides from Dad, Terry Clayton <u>Clayton</u> <u>Hearing</u> RAN (Rtd).



The attendees of the July Diggers Lunch were treated to a rocking live performance from local musicians **Grumps N Roses**.

**Grumps N Roses** volunteered their time freely to entertain the Veteran Community that attend the lunch and would not normally have the opportunity to participate in a live performance.

The joy and thrill **Grumps N Roses** bought to Diggers lunch has been raved about since – Safe to say, **Grumps N Roses** have an extra 100 groupies!

Hervey Bay RSL Sub-Branch Wellbeing Co-ordinator, Lou Shipard



#### KOREA WAR VETERANS COMMEMORATION SERVICE - 27 JULY 2024

The Cenotaph at Freedom Park in Hervey Bay was the focal point for the Korea War Veterans Commemoration Service on Saturday 27 July 2024.

Hervey Bay RSL Sub-Branch President Brian Tidyman led the service and noted the contributions of the HMAS ANZAC and 77SQN.

The presence of the 9<sup>th</sup> Battalion Ceremonial Guard added to the atmosphere while Reverend Jeff Jarvis said prayers in memory of all who suffered and lost their lives.

Bugler Geoff Harper wound the service down with The Last Post and Rouse.



#### VP DAY 15 August 2024



This year's Victory in the Pacific Commemoration Service was again held at the Cenotaph in Freedom Park, led by Hervey Bay RSL Sub-Branch President Brian Tidyman.

The service was well attended and the presence of the 9<sup>th</sup> Battalion Ceremonial Guard added to the event.

The Sub-Branch extends their gratitude to Bugler Geoff Harper and Rev'd Jeff Jarvis B.Ed for their continued support of our commemoration services in Hervey Bay. 17

#### HMAS MELBOURNE COMMEMORATIVE SHIPS BELL

The initial idea conceived of by myself (Petty Officer Axel Larsen) and the idea presented to CDR Rothwell, both of whom were Decommissioning crew members.

The concept was to produce an attractive robust long lasting and affordable memento of the ship. Its been 42 years now and I expect that they will still be around in 2082.

The Bell, mounting bracket and clapper were designed by myself and I sought the assistance of the civilian shipwrights at the Garden Island workshops to produce the initial timber mould and core boxes. They were very happy to participate in the project and would not accept payment for their services.

After a lot of research into various forms of casting, I decided to have the bells cast in sand giving them their distinctive pebbly finish, this was also the most economical form of manufacture which enable me to keep the bells affordable.



Photos below Myself and First and Last Skippers.



The castings were done at Austral Brass foundry in Sydney using new 88/10/2 Admiralty bronze cast from aluminium moulds cast from the original timber one.

The brass dome nuts and thread rods were purchased from Screw lines, also in Sydney and the packaging was purchased from Visy.

In all there were just over 1100 bells manufactured, picked up in batches of fifty or so, taken home to my house and assembled and packaged for distribution by myself.

The bells were delivered to their purchasers all over Australia as well as overseas in a number of ways. As many as possible went by pussers (RAN transport) including some that went as deck cargo on HMAS WEWAK. Some made their way to their destinations via RAAF flights and a few travelled in Diplomatic Pouches.





The Ships Bell from the Hervey Bay RSL Sub-Branch is used for every KRAIT/RIMAU commemoration service in Hervey Bay

Thank you to Hervey Bay RSL Sub-Branch Member, Ian Clark, for providing this overview by his shipmate, PO Steward Axel Larsen of how the HMAS MELBOURNE Bells were manufactured etc.

Ian advises he also served on HMAS MELBOURNE from January 1980 and was one of the last crew to walk off the decommissioned ship in late 1982.

#### VALE 1 JUNE 2024 — 31 AUGUST 2024







LARSEN, Alan William	1410781	ARMY	04.06.2024
GITTINGS, Reginald Roy	R587565	Merchant Navy	12.06.2024
STARKOFF, Lynn	1/710267	ARMY	16.07.2024
COLLINS, Kevin John	R127685	NAVY	23.07.2024
PRICE, Leslie W	1/729015	ARMY	24.07.2024
BRIGGS, Harold Edward	A5515	RAAF	24.07.2024
LITTLE, Robert John	1720685	ARMY	09.08.2024
FOGERTY, Walter Terrence	A29730	RAAF	
EWART, Malcolm	214801	ARMY	21.08.2024
COLUMBUS, Laurie George	645011	NZ ARMY	28.08.2024

TRANQUIL THEY LIE, THEIR KNIGHTLY VIRTUE PROVED. THEIR MEMORY HALLOWED IN THE LAND THEY LOVED. LEST WE FORGET

#### Hervey Bay Ex-Service Organisations

Ex-Service Organization	Secretary/Contact	Meetings
Hervey Bay & District Veterans' Association PO Box 3042	Simon Morley/Toby Tidyman C/- HB RSL Sub-Branch	First Monday of the month og:30am Hervey Bay RSL Club
Hervey Bay Ex-Servicewomen's Social Club Hervey Bay Branch P.O. Box 3339	Pam Lock 0409 629 389	Second Monday of the month 10:30am Hervey Bay RSL Club
HERVEY BAY Q 4655 Hervey Bay Legacy Group PO Box 3302 HERVEY BAY Q 4655	Graeme Inglis (Acting) 0432 385 587	Second Wednesday of the month 5:00pm Hervey Bay RSL Club
Hervey Bay RSL Sub-Branch Inc. PO Box 3042 HERVEY BAY Q 4655	Brad Gray Sub-Branch office: 4197 7477	Committee: Fourth Thursday of the month – 10:15am <u>General meetings</u> Feb, May, Aug, Nov 10:30am Hervey Bay RSL Club
Hervey Bay RSL Women's Auxiliary PO Box 3042 HERVEY BAY Q 4655	Wendy Owen 0458 436 788	Second Tuesday of the month 10:00am Hervey Bay RSL Club
National Servicemen's Association of Aust. Hervey Bay Branch PO Box 3042 HERVEY BAY Q 4655	Jacqui Barker 0427 038 509	Fourth Wednesday of the month 10:00am Hervey Bay RSL Club
Naval Association of Australia Fraser Coast Branch PO Box 802 HERVEY BAY Q 4655	Sue Meehan 0438 911 950	Third Wednesday of the month 11:00am Hervey Bay RSL Club
RAAF Association Hervey Bay PO Box 1076 HERVEY BAY Q 4655	Rosslyn Richards 4128 7685 / 0457 713 333	Second Wednesday of the month 10:30am Hervey Bay RSL Club
TPDSA (Fraser Coast) Inc. PO Box 3241 HERVEY BAY Q 4655	Shirley Smith 4124 6248	Alternating between Hervey Bay RSL Club and Maryborough RSL Club
Veterans of Australia 9 Main Street PIALBA Q 4655	Gary Burke 4128 3759	First Tuesday of the month 12noon Veterans' Social Centre, Main St, Hervey Bay
War Widows' Guild 44 Corfield Street POINT VERNON Q 4655		First Monday of the month 10:00am Hervey Bay RSL Club
Legacy Laurel Club PO Box 3302 TORQUAY Q 4655	Tina Bray 4194 5111   0418 554 057	Third Monday of the month 2:oopm Hervey Bay RSL Club
RSL Social Bowls Club PO Box 3042 HERVEY BAY Q 4655	Milton Martin 0411 675 992	Social Bowls are every Sunday 8am- 11am
RSL Pipe Band 10 Southerden Street HERVEY BAY Q 4655	Pipe Major: Simon Bedding 0432 519 744	Second Monday of each month <u>hbrslpipeband@gmail.com</u>