

EDITION 14
MARCH 2026



LEONGATHA
RSL



EDITION HIGHLIGHTS:

New Chef's

A huge welcome to our two new chefs Karuna and Aayush.

- Staff profile - Alisha Tull
- Blazeaid fundraiser
- Easter
- Anzac Day
- AGM

👤 hello@leongatha-rsl.com.au

🌐 www.leongatha-rsl.com.au

BlazeAid
AUSTRALIA



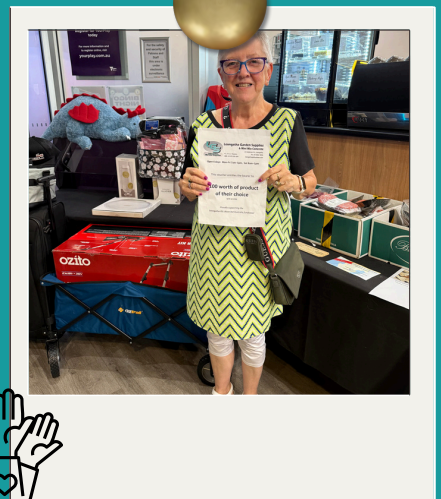
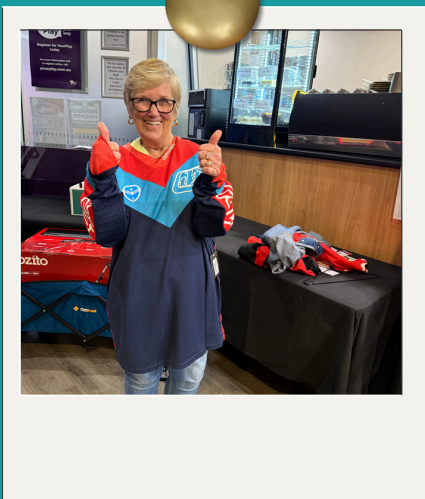
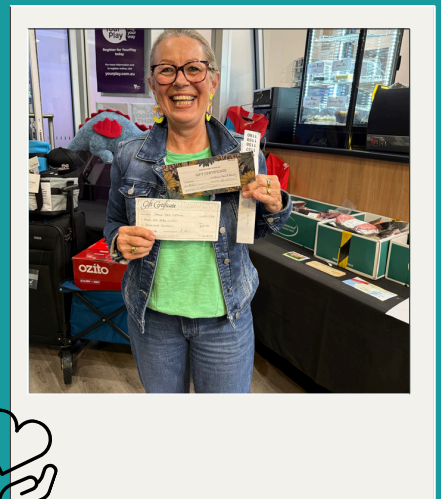
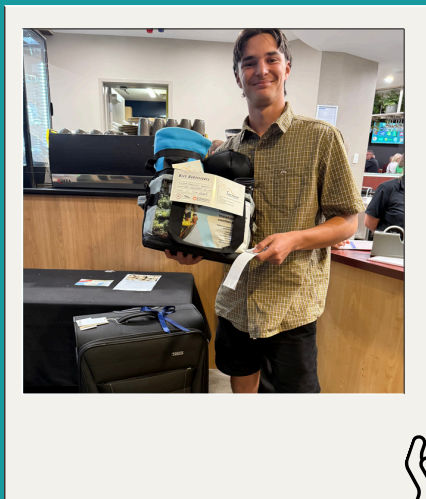
Did You Know?

Easter is next week!

FOLLOW OUR SOCIALS TO KEEP UP TO DATE WITH ALL OF OUR NEWS AND EVENTS



NEWSLETTER



BLAZE AID FUNDRAISER

Our BlazeAid FAB Friday Fundraiser was HUGE with over \$3400 raised that went directly to helping those affected by fires. Of course, it wouldn't have been possible without the support of all of our fabulous locals and local businesses who donated prizes to be raffled on the night! Thankyou to everyone who supported this night and our community! ❤️

WHAT'S ON *at the* RSL



CALLING volunteers

ANZAC Merchandise Selling

It's that time of year again where we will be calling on volunteers to sell ANZAC Merchandise. If you have any availability from April 13th - 24th please see Wendy. She will be asking for people to fill 2 hour shifts selling at IGA and Aldi in Leongatha over this period.

Extra items for our ANZAC Day program are being worked on as we speak. Keep an eye out for updates on our socials.

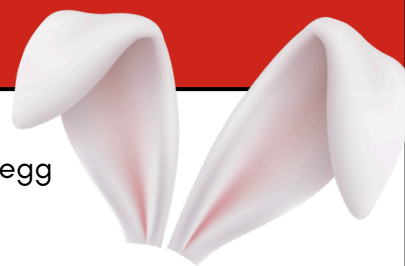
EASTER hours

Thursday April 2nd - Members Easter Party - Normal trade

Expect a special guest, extra prizes and the drawing of the easter egg raffle.

CLOSED GOOD FRIDAY

Regular hours Saturday April 4th, Sunday April 5th and Monday April 6th



upcoming EVENTS



EVENT COORDINATOR

You'll have seen Shyla working hard in our bistro - now she will also be your point of contact for events.

Shyla is working hard behind the scenes to bring events to the RSL in 2026 - do you have any suggestions on what you would like to see?

Let her know by having a chat or emailing events@leongatha-rsl.com.au



Meet Our New Chef's

Welcome to the Team, Karuna

We are thrilled to welcome Karuna to our culinary team! As she steps into the role of Sous Chef, Karuna will play an essential part in our kitchen, working closely with Head Chef Jake.

Recently relocated to Leongatha from Melbourne, Karuna brings a wealth of experience, having refined her skills alongside some of the best in the industry.

When she's not crafting delicious meals at the RSL, Karuna enjoys honing her culinary abilities at home, often cooking for her loved ones while savouring a limoncello. Her favourite dishes to prepare and enjoy include pasta and tiramisu, as well as traditional Nepalese cuisine like Mo Mo.

We've had the pleasure of sampling some of Karuna's creations, and we can confidently say they are all mouthwatering! Please join us in giving a warm welcome to Karuna as she joins our team.



Welcome to the team Aayush

We are excited to introduce Aayush as our new Chef de partie!

With a wealth of experience from vibrant Melbourne restaurants like Bistro Sou Sou and the Rising Sun Hotel—recognized as 3AW's Best Pub of the Year—Aayush will undoubtedly bring valuable culinary expertise to our team.

Outside of his culinary pursuits, Aayush has a deep passion for soccer. Although he humbly claims he's not the best player, we have a feeling his skills might surprise us! When he's relaxing, he enjoys sipping on a refreshing negroni or a spicy margarita while catching a soccer match.

Aayush has a special love for French cuisine but also enjoys Nepalese dishes and, naturally, anything that Karuna loves to prepare!

Make sure to give Aayush a warm welcome when you see him around!

Exciting News!

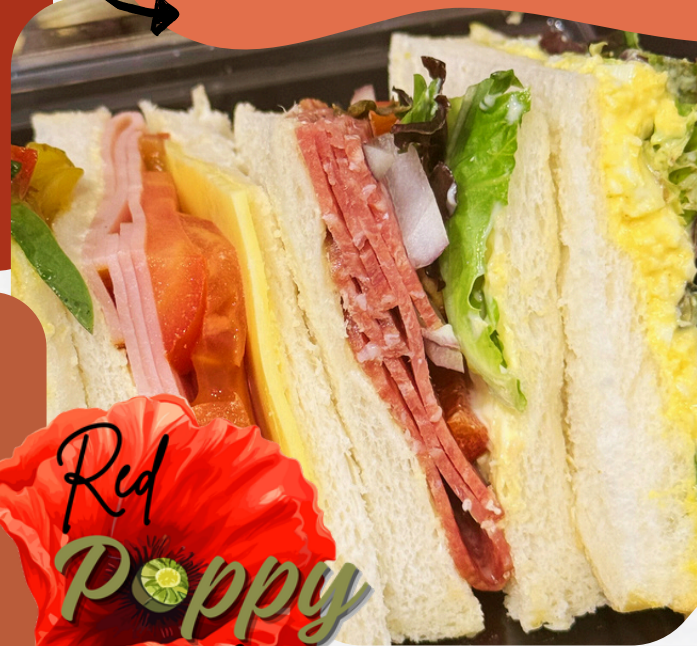
MENU UPDATES COMING

OUR HEAD CHEF JAKE NOW HAS THE FABULOUS SUPPORT OF KARUNA AND AAYUSH SO IS WORKING HARD TO BRING A NEW MENU TO OUR VALUED CUSTOMERS. WE KNOW YOU'LL BE JUST AS EXCITED AS WE ARE TO SEE WHAT NEW ITEMS WE CAN ENJOY.

YOU SPOKE - WE LISTENED!



OUR DELICIOUS SANDWICHES ARE BACK!



RED POPPY CAFE

WE'VE ADDED SOME ALL TIME FAVOURITES TO OUR CAFE MENU - NOW SERVING:

- TOASTIES
- SAUSAGE ROLLS
- BANANA BREAD & BLISS BALLS

ALONG WITH THE GREAT SELECTION OF CAKES, MUFFINS AND SLICES WE ALREADY SERVE.

OPEN FROM 11AM-5:30PM EVERY DAY. NEW ITEMS WILL BE ADDED IN THE COMING MONTHS SO STAY TUNED.



Sunday bistro deal

To say thankyou for your patience with our Sunday closures we will be offering a free drink with all main meals purchased on Sundays in the month of April. Simply order a main meal at lunch or dinner and recieve a voucher to redeem at the bar. Terms & conditions apply



ANZAC DAY 2026

LEONGATHA RSL

Order of Service

Dawn Service

- 5:45am - Congregate at Cenotaph
- 6:00am - Dawn Service
- Gunfire Breakfast back at RSL

Commemorative Service

- 10:45am - Congregate at Cenotaph
- 11:00am - Welcome and introduction
- Commemorative Service inside Memorial Hall
- Guest Speaker - Lieutenant Kelly Clarke
- Light lunch at the Leongatha RSL

Master of Ceremonies Greg Nugent
Introductory Remarks by President,
Leongatha RSL Sub-Branch,
Willem Verboon

Music by South Gippsland Shire Brass Band
and South Gippsland Singers



JOIN US ON ANZAC DAY

as we remember our fallen and departed comrades.



FOLLOW US

on our socials - its the best way to keep informed!



www.facebook.com/leongatha.rsl



www.instagram.com/leongatha.rsl

STH GIPPSLAND SALVOS

Red Shield Concert

SATURDAY 30TH MAY
2PM LEONGATHA MEMORIAL HALL

Purchase concert tickets online at:
allevents.in/leongatha/red-shield-concert

Featuring Brass Bands from
Gippsland & Bass Coast

Get \$5 off any main meal at Leongatha RSL from 12-2 PM
on 30/05 by showing your concert ticket. T's & C's apply.

Lunch bookings essential - ☎ 56622747

LEONGATHA
RSL
EST 1919

Leongatha RSL

EASTER RAFFLE

3 "Eggstravagant" Hampers to be won

\$2 per ticket

Tickets at reception | Drawn April 2nd



LEONGATHA RSL HUB



Drop in & Chat For Veterans

Our Wellbeing Officer, Kerry, warmly invites all Veterans in our wider community to stop by for a friendly chat and a cuppa.

Where:

Our Welfare Hub - 2 Bellingham Street, Leongatha (entry to the Hub is best from the McDonalds car park side)

When:

Wednesdays: 2:30pm - 3:30pm
No appointment necessary, simply pop in



Did you know that the Leongatha RSL has an annex dedicated to community groups and our welfare team? We refer to it as the "Hub".

- Our "Knit and Knatter" group gathers in the Hub each week to enjoy each other's company over a cup of tea while they create beautiful items. These handcrafted pieces are generously donated to local hospitals, emergency services, and individuals in need.
- Our Welfare Officer, Kerry, is available every Wednesday from 2:30 PM to 3:30 PM for any veterans who wish to drop by for a chat and a cup of tea. No appointments are - necessary just come in, say hello, and learn more about the wonderful services we provide.
- Additionally, our fantastic volunteers, Gary and Rob, invite anyone to visit on Fridays from 12 - 3pm for a friendly chat, a cup of tea, and a game of pool. Again, no appointment is needed; simply come to 2 Bellingham Street and enter through the door by the McDonald's car park side.



Drop in & Chat

Gary and Rob, two of our volunteers, warmly invite anyone to stop by for a friendly chat, a game of pool or a cuppa.

Where:

Our Welfare Hub - 2 Bellingham Street, Leongatha (entry to the Hub is best from the McDonalds car park side)

When:

Fridays: 12pm-3pm
No appointment necessary, simply pop in.



KIDS ZONE DELAYS

We're still awaiting approvals for our access ramp which is holding up progress on our kids zone. Fingers crossed we can move ahead soon.



FAB FRIDAY

COMMUNITY RAFFLES

Want your club to **HOST?**

Email Kate - kate.gourlay@leongatha-rsl.com.au

MAR 27

FAB FRIDAY featuring **LEONGATHA TENNIS CLUB**

Gather family and friends, reserve a table for a meal and drinks, and purchase raffle tickets for a chance to win prizes, all while supporting a great local club in fundraising for essential equipment!

- \$500 worth of meat
- Joker poker cash
- Members Draw cash
- \$5 schooners - members price

Book now 56622747 leongatha-rsl.com.au

FAB FRIDAY featuring **Leongatha Lyric Theatre**

April 10th

You could win

- \$500 worth of meat
- Joker Poker cash
- Members draw money
- Complimentary prizes

Grab your family and friends for a meal and drinks, buy raffle tickets to win prizes all while supporting a local club's fundraising efforts!

Bookings Essential 56622747

LEONGATHA RSL EST 1999

FAB FRIDAY featuring **LEONGATHA FIRE BRIGADE**

April 17th

Gather family and friends, reserve a table for a meal and drinks, and purchase raffle tickets for a chance to win prizes, all while supporting a great local service in fundraising for essential equipment!

- \$500 MEAT
- JOKER POKER CASH
- MEMBERS DRAW
- \$5 SCHOONERS

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL 56622747 OR LEONGATHA-RSL.COM.AU

FAB FRIDAY featuring **SES LEONGATHA UNIT**

April 24th

Gather Family and friends, reserve a table for a meal and drinks, and purchase raffle tickets for a chance to win prizes, all while supporting a great local service in fundraising for essential equipment!

WIN -

- \$500 meat raffles
- \$ joker poker cash
- \$ members draw

Bookings essential on 56622747 or leongatha-rsl.com.au

HAVE YOU BOOKED YOUR CLUBS FAB FRIDAY SPOT FOR 2026?

GET IN TOUCH NOW:
[KATE.GOURLAY@LEONGATHA-RSL.COM.AU](mailto:kate.gourlay@leongatha-rsl.com.au)

We've given back to our community groups through our

FAB FRIDAY program

\$41,946.94

Get your group involved - email kate.gourlay@leongatha-rsl.com.au

COMMUNITY

TRIVIA *with Deaksy*



HAS
BEEN A
HUGE

success!



Averaging between 80-100 people each week, trivia with Deaksy has been extremely well received and by all accounts enjoyed by everyone who has attended. With 3 weeks still to go, there is still time to come along and enjoy a night of quiz fun. Book a table on 56622747

KOOROMAN Wool & SPINNING GROUP



For another year running the Kooroman Wool and Spinning Group participated in the Back to Back Wool Challenge on March 21st at the Tarndwarncourt Homestead in Warncoort, Victoria. The well attended competition raises money for rare cancers and has been running for 30 years. The Kooroman Wool and Spinning Group, who meet on the first Saturday of every month at the Leongatha RSL from 10:30-2:30pm, once again had a fabulous time competing, winning trophies and socialising while enjoying the market and welcoming atmosphere!



STAFF profile

Alisha Tull

Waitress & Bar attendant



Meet 19-year-old Alisha, the crew's tallest dynamo, who's been sprinting through our bistro and bar for just over a year like she's in a perpetual race!



What's her menu must-have?
The chicken schnitty burger is her jam, but really, she'll devour anything edible! 🍔

Her drink of choice?
If it's not a Coca-Cola or coffee in hand, she's busy crafting and sipping on a tequila sunrise. 🍹

Favorite job perk?
The food and mixing up crazy cocktail concoctions.

Fun Alisha fact? 😊
She's diving into the world of Vietnamese cuisine with gusto at the moment.

How does she spend her free time?
Watching the work app to fill any open shifts! She loves making the money!



The team say Alisha is:
A whirlwind of energy, unstoppable, collaborative, thoughtful, speedy, resourceful, and a fiery team player!

Leongatha RSL Sub-Branch Inc

Annual General Meeting

Wednesday
April 22nd, 2026
7:30pm
Leongatha RSL
Meeting Room
All Welcome

Committee nomination forms available from reception and invited until 5pm on Thursday April 2nd

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leongatha-rsl.com.au



We are considering organizing a Nepalese night where guests can enjoy the incredible traditional cuisine crafted by our new chefs, Karuna and Aayush.

If this is something you would be interested in attending please be sure to let our team know!



VALE

It is with deep sadness that we report the passing* of the following members:

Service - John Maynard

Affiliate - Heather Beilby

Affiliate - Alan Browne

Affiliate - Moya Butler

Social - Lipke Holwerda

Social - Dianne O'Connor

Social - Irene McKenzie

Social - Geoffrey Whykes

Social - Marie Campbell

Social - Yvonne Osbourne

*passed since January 26th, 2026 and the printing of this newsletter.