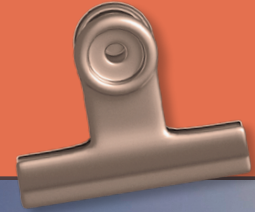


EDITION 15  
JUNE 2026



LEONGATHA  
RSL

# NEWSLETTER



## EDITION HIGHLIGHTS:

- ANZAC Day
- Staff profile - Michelle Hanily
- AGM
- Captain Bowser Promotion
- Thankyou volunteers morning tea
- War Memorial bus trip

 [hello@leongatha-rsl.com.au](mailto:hello@leongatha-rsl.com.au)

 [www.leongatha-rsl.com.au](http://www.leongatha-rsl.com.au)

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



# ANZAC DAY

Our ANZAC Day services were well attended, with a sense of reverence and gratitude filling the air. The morning began with a solemn dawn service, where veterans, families, and community members gathered to honour the courage and sacrifice of those who served, and was followed by a well attended Gun-Fire breakfast at the Leongatha RSL.

The day was not only a tribute to the past but also a celebration of the enduring spirit of camaraderie and resilience that defines our community. It was a time to reflect on the values of courage, mateship, and service, ensuring that the legacy of the ANZACs continues to inspire future generations.





# Easter Members Night



Our Easter Members Night was well attended by members and guests alike. As always the highlight of the night was the Easter Bunny and his bucket of eggs, which the bunny and his little friends handed out to our eagerly awaiting guests.



# Thankyou Volunteers

morning tea



To coincide with National Volunteer Week, and to show our gratitude to our amazing volunteers we hosted a morning tea on Thursday, May 21st, at 10:30 a.m. in our members' lounge.

The event was well-attended by many of our dedicated volunteers, who selflessly contribute their time throughout the year by:

- Selling merchandise
- Driving veterans to appointments
- Knitting beanies for those in need
- Engaging in various other supportive activities

Additionally, around 40 students from Leongatha Secondary College, who were instrumental in selling merchandise in the lead-up to our commemorative days, joined us and enjoyed a delightful morning tea.

General Manager Greg Nugent and Welfare Officer Wendy Wyhoon delivered speeches to express gratitude to all our volunteers for their remarkable efforts.



Interested in  
volunteering?

Send an email to:  
[wendy.wyhoon@leongatha-rsl.com.au](mailto:wendy.wyhoon@leongatha-rsl.com.au)  
to find out how you can help.

# NEW MEMBER MONTH!


JOIN THE RSL THIS MONTH AND GO INTO THE DRAW TO WIN \$500 WITH RSL REWARDS!



**RSL REWARDS**  
More Rewards. More Often.

RSL Victoria are running a statewide promotion where they are giving away 1 x \$500 Eftpos gift card every month until April 2027. Anyone who joins our RSL will be eligible to win this prize in the month that they join.



 5500 EFTPOS card drawn every month. New members are automatically entered into draw for the month they join. Eligible for anyone who signs up at a participating RSL Rewards Sub-Branch in Victoria. Each new member can only enter once. Terms & conditions apply.

# FOLLOW US

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



[www.facebook.com/leongatha.rsl](http://www.facebook.com/leongatha.rsl)



[www.instagram.com/leongatha.rsl](http://www.instagram.com/leongatha.rsl)

Don't miss out on our information evening!

Join us to learn all about our exciting bus trip and to register your interest.



## War Memorial Bus Trip

The Leongatha RSL are organizing a bus trip to the Australian War Memorial in Canberra from October 5 to 9, 2026, with a possible visit to the Floriade Festival.

An information evening will be held to assess interest on:

**WHEN:** Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June

**WHERE:** Leongatha RSL Members Lounge

**TIME:** 7pm



**Monday  
June 15 - 7pm**



*A light supper will be provided, please come along to learn more and register your interest.*

# Captain Bowser Promotion!

Final weeks!



Our Captain Bowser promotion is in its final weeks with the major prize draw set for Friday June 12th. The minor prizes of fuel vouchers, which have made a nice change to the meat trays, will still be given away on Friday June 5th so be sure to book for your chance to win those and a hefty members draw of \$4400 and joker poker worth \$350!

On FAB Friday June 12th, we're expecting a large crowd to attend for the major prize draw where one lucky winner will take home \$500 worth of fuel vouchers from Evans Petroleum Leongatha. Not only that, but we will have \$500 worth of meat trays, a members draw, joker poker and complimentary raffles all up for grabs AND all profits from the sale of those raffle tickets will go to the Koonwarra - Leongatha RSL Cricket Club! Be sure to book your table early to avoid disappointment, remembering you must be here on the night to win the fuel vouchers!



## Win a holiday promotion!

RSL Victoria's statewide holiday promotion runs from June 1st - June 21st. A \$10,000 holiday is up for grabs as the major prize and in each venue there is also a minor prize of 2 suitcases worth \$700. To enter simply swipe your member card at the kiosk daily to be entered into the digital draw.



**\$10K**

Swipe at kiosk daily

Digital ticket

Win suitcases worth \$700 in venue



# FAB FRIDAY

COMMUNITY RAFFLES

Want your club to **HOST?**

Email Kate - [kate.gourlay@leongatha-rsl.com.au](mailto:kate.gourlay@leongatha-rsl.com.au)

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## FAB FRIDAY

FEATURING  
**KOONY RSL CRICKET CLUB**

**JUNE 12**



**WIN!**

- \$500 WORTH OF MEAT
- MEMBERS DRAW \$\$
- JOKER POKER \$\$
- COMPLIMENTARY PRIZES

GRAB YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS FOR A MEAL AND DRINKS, BUY RAFFLE TICKETS TO WIN PRIZES, ALL WHILE SUPPORTING KOONWARRA LEONGATHA RSL CRICKET CLUB.

LEONGATHA RSL EST 1919

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL 56622747 | [WWW.LEONGATHA-RSL.COM.AU](http://WWW.LEONGATHA-RSL.COM.AU)

## FAB FRIDAY

featuring  
**Leongatha Junior Football Club**

**JUNE 26**



**WIN!**

- \$500 worth of meat trays
- Members draw \$\$
- Joker Poker Cash
- Complimentary Raffles

Grab your family and friends for a meal or drinks, buy raffle tickets to win prizes, all while supporting your local junior football club!

LEONGATHA RSL EST 1919

Bookings essential 56622747 | [leongatha-rsl.com.au](http://leongatha-rsl.com.au)

## FAB FRIDAY

featuring  
**LEONGATHA MOTORCYCLE CLUB**

**JULY 17**



**WIN!**

- \$500 WORTH OF MEAT
- MEMBERS DRAW \$\$
- JOKER POKER \$\$
- COMPLIMENTARY PRIZES

Grab your family and friends for a meal and drinks, & buy raffle tickets to win prizes, all while supporting the Leongatha Motorcycle Club.

LEONGATHA RSL EST 1919

Bookings essential 56622747

## FAB FRIDAY

featuring  
**LEONGATHA COMMUNITY CAROLS**

**JULY 24th**



**Win!**

- \$500 WORTH OF MEAT
- MEMBERS DRAW \$\$
- JOKER POKER \$\$
- COMPLIMENTARY PRIZES

Grab your family and friends for a meal and drinks, & buy raffle tickets to win prizes, all while supporting the Leongatha Community Carols.

LEONGATHA RSL EST 1919

Bookings essential - 56622747

## FAB FRIDAY with TFNC

TARWIN FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB

**JULY 31ST**



**WIN!**

- \$500 WORTH OF MEAT
- MEMBERS DRAW \$\$
- JOKER POKER \$\$
- COMPLIMENTARY PRIZES

Invite family and friends for a meal and drinks, and buy raffle tickets to win prizes all while supporting the Tarwin Football Netball Club.

LEONGATHA RSL EST 1919

Bookings essential - 56622747 | [www.leongatha-rsl.com.au](http://www.leongatha-rsl.com.au)

## FAB FRIDAY

featuring  
**LEONGATHA SOUTH COMMUNITY HALL**

**AUG 7TH**



**WIN!**

- \$500 WORTH OF MEAT
- MEMBERS DRAW \$\$
- JOKER POKER \$\$
- COMPLIMENTARY PRIZES

Invite family and friends for a meal and drinks, and buy raffle tickets to win prizes all while supporting the Leongatha South Community Hall.

LEONGATHA RSL EST 1919

Bookings essential 56622747 or at [www.leongatha-rsl.com.au](http://www.leongatha-rsl.com.au)



# \$50,000

## We've given over \$50,000 back to our Community through FAB Friday's!

### FAB FRIDAYS

Thanks to your support, in the past 18 months we've been able to put over \$50,000 back into our local community groups and sporting clubs through our FAB Friday initiative. With over 40 separate groups or clubs hosting a FAB Friday night atleast once, this initiative has had a huge impact on our local community.

If you ask any of the groups or clubs that have hosted a night how easy it was they will be sure to tell you that it is some of the easiest money they've ever made! All of the hard work is already done by our team, community groups simply reach out to their networks to get as many people into the club on their night for the greatest chance to make money. Groups get to have a social night out with their family and friends, win prizes and make money for their cause!

## Next goal \$100K



[kate.gourlay@leongatha-rsl.com.au](mailto:kate.gourlay@leongatha-rsl.com.au)



# Kokoda Trek



## Journey begins at the end of June!

This year's recipients of the Leongatha RSL Kokoda Scholarship are well into their training for the upcoming trip. Both Bede Challis and Rose Bowler have been training hard for the trek and leave at the end of June on their journey. They fly from Melbourne on the 28<sup>th</sup> of June and return on the 9<sup>th</sup> of July.

Each participant is allocated a soldier on the trip and in most cases they visit where he died. The Leongatha participants have been allocated:

Bill Owen - DSC recipient, one of the first killed in the battle of Kokoda. Bill was a Leongatha resident.

Ernest Aeschlimann - Killed in the northern beaches campaign. Ernest was a Korumburra resident.

We wish Bede and Rose all the best and are excited to hear all about their journey when they get back.

# AGM AND COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

We recently conducted our Annual General Meeting (AGM), and the newly elected committee for the upcoming year is listed below:

**President - Bill Verboon**

**Senior Vice President - John Blunt**

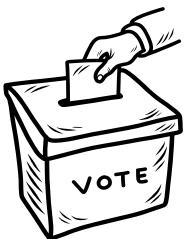
**Junior Vice President - Gordon Vagg**

**Secretary - Peter Graham**

**Treasurer - Mark Carruthers**

## COMMITTEE:

Gary Quinn  
David Hoy  
Richard Lester  
Frank Jones



# STAFF profile

## Michelle Hanily

Bistro Manager/  
Event Coordinator



Meet Michelle, the whirlwind who breezed into the team as a casual waitress in August 2025, rocketed up to Bistro Manager, and is now juggling event coordination as well!

Her favourite menu item?  
Chicken, bacon & avocado.

Drink of choice?  
Morning latte and a nightcap of Jameson with diet coke.

Job's cherry on top?  
Mingling and gabbing with new people.

Michelle tidbit?  
She started hairdressing at the age of 16 and continued with that, owning her own business up until she needed a change and found herself in hospitality. She wrangles 6 horses at home and holds stakes in 3 racehorses!

Spare time shenanigans?  
What spare time?! Work, family, and horses keep her busier than a bee in a flower shop!

The team's verdict:  
Michelle is a dynamo - driven, fun & bubbly, supportive, efficient, the ultimate problem solver, and everyone's "fave"!

## Roll up your sleeves, Leongatha.

Flex that community spirit and  
get ready to give blood.



Look for the big red bus at  
Leongatha Regional Hospital



life IS THE REASON

# June 23 - July 7 Leongatha Hospital



## VALE

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

Service - Ronald Irwin  
Service - Ted Clarke

Affiliate - Robert Helms  
Affiliate - Pat Thomas  
Affiliate - Heather Macqueen  
Affiliate - Barry Smith  
Affiliate - Jenny Kerville  
Affiliate - Jock McKenzie

Social - Brigitte Fuchs  
Social - Glenis Church  
Social - Ronald Burrows

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