CONFIDENTIAL
HEALESVILLE RSL SUB-BRANCH INC.
MEMBERS ONLY

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

11.00am SUNDAY 24th March 2019

Presidents Report on 2018

2018 was a year of consolidation and setting us up for future prosperity. Financially we made a profit across all aspects of the Business. Our Veterans support services grew and internally we recognized some significant achievements by our people.

Our membership grew in all categories; Service, Affiliate, Social and Community members to 1300 members. We paid down debt. We renewed and revised service contracts and we had no staff turnover for the year.

We again fulfilled the Charity & Compliance Review which is undertaken by RSL Vic. It looks at our Governance and compliance with our (Federal) charity status requirements.

We renamed our old "Welfare" services, to **Support Services** for Veterans & Their Families which more accurately reflect the role we play and what we provide. Service provided range from counselling, legal advice, DVA advice, financial assistance to home help, companionship, social interaction and much more.

We created and installed a slide show of photos of RSL Presidents back to the very first President in 1920. The slide show is interspersed with the RSL Badge story and what each aspect of the badge means.

We had another good ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day with good crowds again at both events and raised the largest amount, $12,625 in appeals for the past ten years. We commenced running our Veterans Day Out tours and we supported 15 veterans directly with home and other assistance. We also assisted seven families with commemorative plaques on our memorial and we inducted a new memorial to commemorate Indigenous Service men and women who have served their country.

We paid a renewal deposit on our $1.1 million gaming licence which commences on the expiry of our current licence in 2022. We together with other RSLs commenced planning for Gaming contracts in 2022. We undertook a study on our energy use and future needs and subsequently engaged a company to provide a combined energy plant/heating and cooling system that will guarantee energy supply (no more blackouts) and meet our future needs at a reduced cost. And we continued work with Melbourne Water on resolving planning issues around our Retirement Village plan.

Our audited accounts show the Operations side of the business made a profit as did our Patriotic fund and we paid down some $350,000 in Bank loans.

Our Annual Community Benefit Statement to the Victorian Government, again demonstrated that we put over $600,000 dollars back into our community by way of direct funds, volunteer hours, venue use and general operation of our business in Healesville.

Significant achievements during the year were Neil Skinner, our former Secretary and current committee member, who was acknowledged by his induction to the RSL Hall of Fame for his work for Healesville RSL and its Veteran community. Carol Ralis, our Veteran Support Services and Administration Manager received a Hall of Fame recognition award for her work and service to our Club. And our staff collectively won multiple incentive programs run by our partners TAB, Keno, TGS and RSL Rewards, focusing on membership and customer service. They won rewards totalling over $6,000. Congratulations to all.

Another significant achievement occurs on 13th July 2020 when Healesville RSL will celebrate the Centenary of our establishment as an RSL when our Charter was granted. The 13th is a Monday and so we will plan some major celebrations over that weekend.

Finally, I would like to finish by thanking the Commemorations, Social and Veteran Support Services Committee's for their wonderful work during the year.

I also thank the General Manager and Staff for their great work in growing our business.

Thank you to retiring Committee members Robert Nation and Major Glenn Mitchell for their outstanding contribution to our Club.

Thank you to my fellow Committee members for their support and work during the year and lastly to Healesville RSL Members for supporting our club by your patronage and bringing friends and relatives.

Brian Luscombe
President