

Our Supporters

Coles Lara
Woolworths Lara
Bendigo Community Bank
Lara Lions Club
Lara Rotary Club
Lara Quality Meats
Bakers Delight Lara
The Produce Corner
Millars Cafe
Annas Café
Ray White Lara



Open Arms

Open Arms—Veterans and Families Counselling Service

1800 011 046

openarms.coord@dva.gov.au

<http://openarms.gov.au>

At Ease Website:

<http://www.at-ease.dva.gov.au>

DVA General enquires

1800 555 254

generalenquiries@dva.gov.au

<http://www.dva.gov.au>

Statement of Purpose

The RSL was founded in 1916 to provide comradeship and support to Australia's veterans and their families.

That core mission has never changed but has continued to evolve to meet the needs of each generation of servicemen and women.

Executive Committee

President	Marcus McEwen	president@lararsl.com.au	0455 190 679
Sr Vice President	Ian Ballantyne	iballantyne@lararsl.com.au	0447 558 970
Vice President	Roy Cook	rcook@lararsl.com.au	
Secretary	Helen Ballantyne	hballantyne@lararsl.com.au	0422 935 943
Treasurer	Andy Donald	treasurer@lararsl.com.au	0400 824 496

SITREP Lara RSL Sub Branch

ISSUE 4

2023

President Report:



Welcome to another newsletter, one which I hope finds you staying as warm as possible!

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome our new members to the Lara RSL and also encourage our existing members to continue to reach out to any Veterans and Veterans families that we may know and encourage them to come along on a Friday night for some fun and camaraderie!

I would also like to inform those who don't receive emails of some recent changes and also some upcoming events.

When David gets back from his few weeks in W.A. we will be mixing up some of the raffle prizes on a Friday night just to keep things interesting. The long running project to have a mural painted at the RSL is now completed and it is a beautiful addition to the lounge area so please pop down for a look! Our recent wine tasting night was a great success with everyone enjoying the evening and we raised some much-needed money for Soldier On.

Which leads me to the announcement of our upcoming event! On 21st and 22nd of October, we will be hosting a 24hr, 96km Kokoda Walk Challenge! This event is a major fundraising event for Soldier On and is open for anyone to sponsor or participate in and will see the walking group make their way around Lara, Little River and into the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in North Geelong, finishing the walk at a public event at the Lara Sporting Club. The Kokoda Walk sub-committee are working extremely hard to make this event a massive success as we aim to raise \$50,000 to support our fellow Veterans so I would encourage everyone to get behind the event and also to participate in other minor fundraisers in the lead up to the big day.

We will be hosting regular gold coin donation food nights over the coming months with all proceeds going towards the event so please, get onboard where you can. If anyone has any questions about this major event that will most certainly put the Lara RSL on the map, please feel free to reach out to me.

Remember, stay safe, look after your mates, and I look forward to seeing you at the RSL!

Yours Aye,
Marcus McEwen, President.

What's been happening?

- Wine Drive Fundraiser
- New artwork installations
- Elizabeth Goldberg
- Kokoda Trek Fundraiser for Soldier On



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IN MEMORIAM:

**ELIZABETH
GOLDBERG**

THINKING OF THE
FAMILIES OF THOSE
WHO HAVE LOST
FAMILY OR FRIENDS
THIS YEAR.

WINE DRIVE FUNDRAISER

On the 16th June we were held an excellent evening of wine tasting, food, music and fun. The Wine Drive Fundraiser was a great success, raising \$585.00 overall.

All funds raised will be donated to Soldier On, a non for profit organisation that support mental health for veterans.

We would like to extend our thankyou's to the following:

Bob Schouten—For presenting and sharing your knowledge of wine for the evening

Bob Lawson—for keeping all glasses full and donating two hand made chopping boards for the raffle.

Jackie Lowe—for helping to run the evening and organising trivia on the night.

Helen Ballantyne—for the organisation and set up of the night



UPCOMING EVENTS

SOLDIER ON—KOKODA WALK

The 90km walk over 24 hours will take place October 21st—22nd., ending at the Lara Sporting grounds with a public event for all to share.

We are hoping for participants who can either walk solo or as part of a team. Everyone will be walking as one group along the route.

If you would like to participate or help in the carrying out the event over the weekend please contact Marcus McEwen to register.

We will need support from all our members for this to be successful.



REMEMBRANCE DAY

For your diaries,

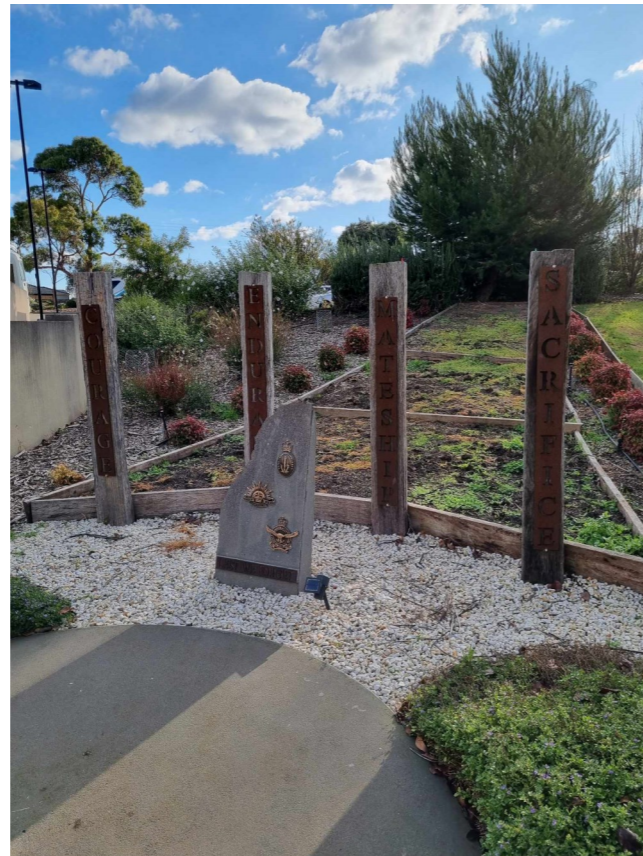
Saturday 11-11-2023

More information to follow.



RSL NOTICES

Notice:	Details
Hall Hire	As of 2023 members can hire the hall for an event at a cost of \$100
Membership details	<p>Please update the following details for your membership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phone number • Address • Email address
Lara RSL Facebook	Follow us on Facebook: The Lara RSL Sub Branch

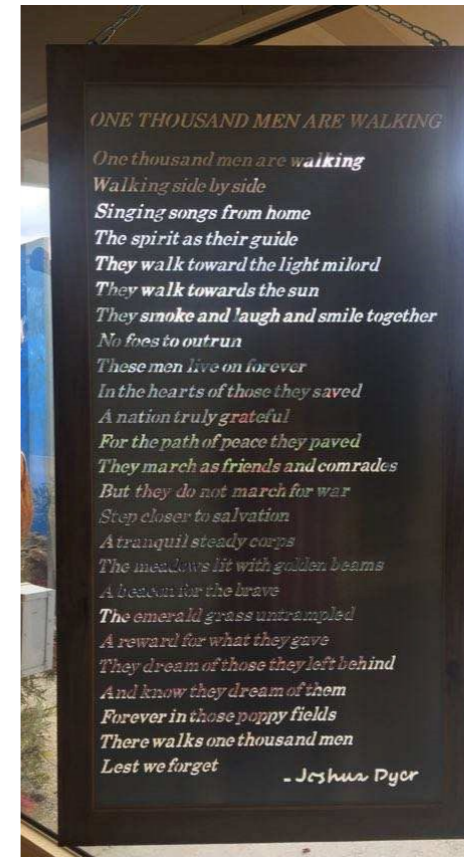


Elizabeth was instrumental in the fundraising for the memorial garden at Gen-U (Costa House). Her husband Colin was a veteran and she spent her remaining years as a huge supporter of Lara RSL and Veterans.

The posts in the above photo read:

Sacrifice — Friendship — Endurance — Courage

ART INSTALLATIONS



One Thousand Men are Walking

Joshua Dyer

One thousand men are walking
 Walking side by side
 Singing songs from home
 The spirit as their guide
 They walk toward the light milord
 They walk towards the sun
 They smoke and laugh and smile together
 No foes to outrun
 The men live on forever
 In the hearts of those they saved
 A nation truly grateful
 For the path of peace they paved
 They march as friends and comrades
 But they do not march for war
 Step closer to salvation
 A tranquil steady corps
 The meadows lit with golden beams
 A beacon for the brave
 The emerald grass untrampled
 A reward for what they gave
 They dream of those they left behind
 And know they dream of them
 Forever in those poppy fields
 There walks one thousand men
Lest we forget.



After a much anticipated wait, we are excited to be able to present our newly created mural in the lounge which offers a pop of colour and thought provoking memoriam. Thankyou to Bob Lawson for his incredible work and effort over past years to see this in fruition.

We are also very lucky that a young man, *Joshua Dyer*, has kindly given his permission for the Lara RSL to use and display the poem he wrote titled “*One Thousand Men are Walking*”

He wrote this poem for a school project in memoriam of veterans, we feel very lucky and proud to have this on display.

This poem can be seen on display in the foyer of the RSL hanging next to our carved soldier.