



Brig Brett Chaloner CSC – Patron

**Minutes of the Harbord RSL sub-Branch 69^h AGM
Sunday 26th March, 2023 – at 1130hrs**

1. **Meeting opened:** At 1130am by President Sean Rout.
1.1 Quorum: achieved.
2. **Declare any Conflict of Interest.** None declared.
3. Welcome guests to AGM; **Bob Lunnon, President of NB RSL District Council and President of Forestville sub-Branch who was warmly welcomed by members.**

3.1 Attendees: Sean Rout, Pam Hansen, John Platt, Wendy Machon, Don Williams, John Wackett, John Oliver, Scott West, Merri Mack, Denis Lynch, Robert Dodds, Steve Dunn, Peter Harley, Capt Cameron Wise, Karl Delaney, Peter Rawling, Jacque Costello, Peter Watson.

Apologies: – BRIG Brett Chaloner, Joan Tucker, Anne Trimble, Alex Trimcevski, Lt Col Nick Misko, Lt Col Geoff Costello, Victoria Felsman, Brodie Felsman, Robert Low, Frances Chaloner, Peter Erickson.

Sean asked Hon Sect., if there were any new members present.

Capt Cameron Wise was present and received his membership card and pin and addressed the meeting.

4. **Stand in Memory of Fallen Members** – one minute silence.
4.1 Pledge Allegiance was given to the Commonwealth of Australia and to the constitution of RSL Australia.
5. **Minutes of the previous meeting: Hon Secretary – Pam Hansen**
Hon. Secretary advised that she had circulated the minutes to the membership.
5.1 Business arising: Nil.
Adoption of the Minutes
Moved by: **Wendy Machon** Seconded by: **John Wackett**
Resolved: That the minutes of the 68th AGM as circulated, be accepted, and signed as a true and accurate record. Minutes duly signed by President Sean Rout.
6. **President's AGM Report was given by Sean as circulated in AGM packs.**
Sean also gave a message from our **Patron Brig Brett Chaloner CSC, which was well received.**

Main points of the President's last Annual report were as follows:

2022 – “Anzac Sportsman's of War” luncheon, we paid tribute to Cecil Healy, Australia's only Olympic Gold Medallist, killed in battle during WW1.

This year on **Friday 14th April** we will be paying tribute to **Sir Roden Cutler VC**, with our special Guest Speaker being no other than the current Governor of New South Wales, the **Honourable Margaret Beazley AC, KC.**

Our 2022 Anzac Day service was well attended; the guest speaker was our sub-Branch member Lt Col Jacqueline Costello, who gave all present a very thoughtful talk. Thank you Jacqueline.

This year's parade will form up at 0740hrs and the service will start at 0800hrs, followed by a "gunfire breakfast" for veterans.

Passing on the Baton. To attract younger members and current ADF members, we needed to make major changes to the way we ran our sub Branch, including less meetings, we changed the number of meetings from 9 to 6. We now start them at 6pm instead of at 5.00pm and they are also on Zoom. Having winter and summer breaks, of two months each, also helps. This helps younger veterans attend meetings.

Senior Veterans Well-being Program. In 2022 I introduced a new initiative for our senior veterans. With great support from G-Fitness they agreed to supply for free, a training studio in the gym where we hold weekly veterans' gym classes at nil cost. These year long free gym sessions are led by a qualified trainer from Rebound Health, is DVA approved and has been going now for two years. A number of other Northern Beaches sub Branch Veterans have joined us, building better communications between our sub Branches.

Jacka Park Memorial - Refurbishment. After receiving an NSW government grant of \$25,000.00 this long overdue project, with outstanding support from Council was unveiled on the 11th November, 2022, with our Anzac WW1 Actor making a big impression in front of a large crowd. This project was the biggest undertaken since the Centenary of Anzac back in 2015.

Our Patron: Brigadier Brett Chaloner CSC, assumed command of the 13th Brigade based in Western Australia in late 2020. In late 2021, Brett re-raised the famous 10th Light Horse Regiment, as part of his command and it was granted the "Keys to the City of Perth". Brigadier Chaloner continues to build the 13th Brigade. Our sub-Branch is proud to have Brigadier Brett Chaloner CSC, as the first patron of our sub-Branch, in forty-two years. Thank you, Sir.

To the **Diggers management and the Mounties Club, Directors, thank you** for your ongoing support of the veteran's community here at the Diggers.

Thanks to my Team. I started this journey with Pam Hansen over 4 years ago and without Pam we could not have done what we have been able to achieve in such a short time. Harbord RSL sub Branch is in good shape now and I'm convinced that the sub Branch is in very safe and capable hands going forward over the next three years. To our Vice President John Platt, CSC and Treasurer John Oliver thank you both for your wise counsel on a range of issues.

6.1 Adoption

6.2 Mover by: **Peter Watson** Seconded By: **Merri Mack**

7. Treasurer's Report - Balance Sheet presented by John Oliver for acceptance, as circulated.

7.1 Business arising: Peter Watson queried income from Sportsmen's lunch which was answered by John Oliver.

7.2 Adoption. Moved by: **Denis Lynch** . Seconded by: **Wendy Machon**

8. Sean Rout presented a submission for the **RSL NSW Certificate of Merit & Gold Medal** to be awarded to Pamela Hansen for her Service to the Harbord RSL sub Branch to be endorsed by the Membership.

Submission was unanimously accepted and duly authorized by President Sean Rout, Vice President John Platt CSC and witnessed by JP Snr Sergeant Scott West. Document was also duly endorsed by Northern Beaches District Council President Mr Bob Lunnon.

9. ELECTION OF HARBORD RSL sub BRANCH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2023.

Sean Rout asked the meeting if it was acceptable for him to be the Returning Officer which was accepted unanimously with Mr Denis Lynch to be Scrutineer.

All positions were declared vacant with existing executives vacated their chairs.

Nominations were duly called for the following positions:-

President:- John Platt CSC, was duly nominated

Moved by: Scott West Seconded by: Peter Watson

Vice President (1): Lt Col Jacqueline Costello was duly nominated.

Moved by: John Platt Seconded by: Cameron Wise

Vice President (2) Lt Col Nick Misko was duly nominated.

Moved by: John Platt Seconded by: Scott West

Treasurer: John Oliver was duly nominated

Moved by: Scott West Seconded by: Pam Hansen

Hon Secretary: Pamela Hansen was duly nominated.

Moved by: John Oliver Seconded by: Merri Mack

The Returning Officer vacated the Chair and called on the elected President to chair the rest of the meeting.

10. Other Business – Northern Beaches RSL District Council (NBDC) President Bob Lunnon.

Bob spoke about the outstanding work done by outgoing President Mr Sean Rout and commended him on the work he had done over the past 4 years building the Membership of Harbord RSL sub Branch and the initiatives with the annual Sportsmen's Lunch which is now well received by all sub Branches. He also thanked him for his support of the NBDC. Bob's talk was warmly received by the members.

11. General Business: President John Platt CSC, addressed the meeting and thanked the membership for the appointment and congratulated the new Executive team. He thanked the out-going President Sean Rout for the outstanding work he had done over the past 4 years with the sub Branch and in particular the negotiation of the Gym Membership deal for Veterans and Affiliates as well as the introduction of the annual Sportsman's Lunch which has been an outstanding success not to mention the increase in Membership of the sub Branch and his devotion to the Anzac Day Services and the Refurbishment of Jacka Park in 2022 being a major highlight.

12. No meeting in April next meeting is 23rd May at 6pm

Being no further general business.

The President recited the ODE.

Meeting closed at 1220hrs, which was followed by refreshments.