

RSL SED WELLBEING REPORT AUGUST 2022

As months tend to rapidly fly by, we can be thankful the Queensland Police Service in particular Beaudesert Patrols have our Veteran community in their sights for assistance. Recently there was a report from RSL Veteran Services Queensland of a homeless Veteran living out of his vehicle in the district reported to VS by the Beaudesert QPS patrols. Following discussion with RSL Qld VS, SED wellbeing attended in looking for the Veteran who like so many others 'when they don't wish to be found, are not found'. A wellbeing pack and a hospital pack were subsequently left with QPS Beaudesert patrols to hand over should the Veteran be found. Still waiting to get an outcome on this case.

It was also wonderful to hear that Qld RSL appear to be reinvigorating and getting the Welfare/Wellbeing course back to the fore. This course was very well received last time it was offered and many took the option to undertake the beneficial training. Albeit that those attending are not ATDP qualified Advocates in Wellbeing/Welfare, yet the service they provide, are the backbone that assists the Veteran community and more so the Advocates in providing DVA, community, RSL Veteran Services. Should any RSL member, volunteer be interested, please contact the District Secretary for further information.

Attending a Long Tan memorial function in Beaudesert with four Vietnam Veterans was the most rewarding thing to happen over the past month. Each of these veterans had stories to tell that related to their respective tours of that country. Each detailed their efforts with the DVA and how their wellbeing was down to family, friends and the mate ship of the RSL. Points to remember are that no matter from what era Veterans come from, each has a story that impinges on today and each has reflections that are recognised by virtually each and all of us. Wellbeing of each other is what we at SED and in each Sub Branch are devoted to. If you, your mates, your family have need for advice, shoulders, assistance, advocacy for pensions or wellbeing, then ask.

vs@rslqueensland.org, vp3@rslsouthqueensland.org, Open Arms 1800 011 046, DVA 1800 838 372, or call into your local RSL Sub Branch and ask for an Advocate or assistance, we have your back as you have had ours.

A long-anticipated retreat to Stanthorpe for a week with my wife was indeed welcome and a return to the bright city lights for the RSL SED 100th was also warmly welcomed as friends, family, confreres, Veterans old and new welcomed the event. Thanks go out to 'Hugh Polson' and the many behind supporting him in provided a wonderful event that fostered the wellbeing of so many.

Looking out for each other is not a catch cry, it's for real and in doing so we look after ourselves, so don't forget the person you daily look at in the mirror because that one person also needs at times looking after.

Steve Monteath RSL SED Wellbeing Co-ordinator

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