

LEGACY 

Winter 2025

TORCH



2025 ANZAC DAY
CELEBRATIONS
CENTRAL
QUEENSLAND
SPOTLIGHT
EASTERN STAR
FUNDING

VALE: LEGATEE
NORM CLARKE
GALLIPOLI BARRACKS
COMMUNITY EVENINGS
NEW AGED CARE ACT
OLDER PERSON'S
ADVOCACY

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ANZAC Day March 2025,
Brisbane



A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT



Dear Legacy Family,

As I sit down to write this, the temperature has dropped, and I've pulled out the winter woollies... well, having spent quite a bit of time in Canberra, I have pulled out the long sleeves and pants and am looking forward to the one really cold week that I can wear my woollies.

I love the beautiful crisp mornings and the sunshine days of winter in Queensland. It's the perfect season for a warm cup of tea, a cosy blanket, and a good catch-up—which is exactly what this edition of Torch is about.

One of my highlights of the past few months was ANZAC Day.

I had the honour of attending the Brisbane Dawn Service and March. At Dawn Service the

rain stopped long enough for the wreath laying and Last Post and started again straight after Reveille—when we could put our umbrellas up again.

There is something powerful about standing shoulder to shoulder as the sun rises, reflecting on those who served, those we have lost, and their families.

I always think of Paul Keating's words at the interment of the Unknown Soldier:

"...He is one of them, he is all of us and he is home."

My great uncle Miller is one of the unknown soldiers at Villers-Bretonneux. He died on the 25th of April 1918.

I also had the pleasure of attending the post-March lunch, where I caught up with many familiar faces. These gatherings are always a special reminder of how strong and connected our Legacy family really is.

As always, it was great to chat to some of you—for whom ANZAC Day can bring up such mixed emotions. As one lady said... *"I'm fine, no, really I'm fine... I am."* And she was. But also, she was not.



We've had some fantastic events throughout May that brought energy to our community. I had such a wonderful time at the Legacy Emerging Leaders Network's Trivia Night on 17 May.

There was laughter, a bit of cheeky competition, and more than a few surprising trivia talents revealed.

It's one of those events that perfectly combines fun with purpose.

The Legacy Emerging Leaders (ELN) are a group of passionate young professionals who are helping shape the future of Legacy, and I left the event feeling hopeful, inspired—and determined to brush up on my general knowledge before next year!

Just a few days later, on 22 May, we held our Legacy Giving Day.

For those who aren't familiar, Giving Day is a 12-hour campaign where every donation is matched by generous supporters, effectively doubling the impact.

It's a day that always humbles me. Watching the donations roll in and reading the messages of support from people across Brisbane—and beyond—reminded me how many people truly care about the wellbeing of Legacy families.

These funds go a long way: helping us provide school scholarships, financial assistance, emotional support, and everything in between.

If you contributed, shared, or simply held the day in your heart—thank you.

Amongst all the activity, we've also taken a moment to pause and reflect on one of our most dedicated members—Legatee Norm Clarke OAM, who sadly passed away earlier this year.

Norm's service to Legacy Brisbane spanned an incredible 44 years, and in that time, he wore many hats: administrator, pensions officer, trainer, board member, mentor, and friend.

He gave so much of himself to this organisation and to the families we support.

His legacy will not be forgotten. We have included a tribute to Norm on page 10 of this edition, and I encourage you to take the time to read it.

It is a reminder of what one person's compassion, determination, and commitment can achieve—and it's also a

reflection of the values we all share as part of the Legacy community.

In times of both joy and loss, I'm reminded of how lucky we are to be part of something that is more than just an organisation—it's a family.

Whether it is through small acts of kindness, turning up to an event, checking in on someone, or just being present, the way we show up for each other is what makes Legacy so special.

As we settle into winter, please remember that support is always available.

Whether you need a little help at home, someone to chat to, or information about our programs, your Legatee or the team at Legacy House are here for you.

You are never alone on this journey.

Wishing you a warm, safe, and peaceful winter season. Stay cosy, look after yourself, and I hope to see many of you at upcoming events.

Yours in Legacy,



Dr Annabel McGuire
President, Legacy Brisbane



A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



Dear Legacy Family,

As we approach winter, I hope you all had a memorable ANZAC Day in your respective communities.

The Brisbane Dawn Services were impacted by local rain however the ANZAC Day March was well attended by our local Legacy family members. The President also attended the ANZAC Day lunch for those who had attended the march.

In March we conducted another Run Army Fun Run that raised funds for Legacy and the Emergency Services charitable organisations.

The event is growing in numbers each year and has events now conducted in Townsville and Sydney. It was a bright sunny day for the 5km and 10km participants in Brisbane with 6,000 runners battling the humidity and circuit through the streets of Brisbane.

I am pleased to advise that construction of our new Legacy House at Greenslopes has commenced, and we are planning, weather permitting, to occupy the new Legacy House in mid-2026.

It will provide a new location where our traditional services delivered by Legatees to our dependants in their local

community will continue as it has done for over 100 years.

In addition, the new Legacy House will be positioned in the Greenslopes Hospital precinct where we can meet families supporting veterans seeking psychological and physical injury support from the Keith Payne VC Mental Health Unit and Greenslopes Private Hospital across the road.

There are several working groups being convened by Department of Veterans Affairs over the course of May/June to design both the Ex-Service Organisation Peak Body (Recommendation 89 from the Royal Commission) and a new Veteran and family Wellbeing entity (Recommendation 87).

Legacy Australia has asked that I represent Legacy at the ESO Peak Body working groups whilst Annabel Wilson (Legacy Melbourne) will be representing at the Veteran Wellbeing Entity working groups.

These are important discussions to ensure that the veteran and family voice is more united and that services for transitioning families are better coordinated in the veteran and family ecosystem in Australia.

On Thursday 22 May we held our (fourth) annual Legacy Giving Day. This day raised important funds for Legacy to deliver its services to our families each year.

Excitingly, this year we were joined by the 36th Governor General of Australia, General Sir Peter John Cosgrove, AK, CVO, MC and Lady Lynne Cosgrove who have

been passionate supporters of the Legacy House Greenslopes campaign and the new model of care for families supporting a veteran with physical and psychological injury.

It was wonderful to host Sir Peter and Lady Lynne again at Legacy House.

Just a reminder that we are always on the look out for homes that need a little support to be part of our Backyard Assist program.

The Backyard Assist program involves soldiers and corporate supporters converging on a widow/ers home to provide additional gardening support that is beyond the Legacy family member at home.

Please contact your Legatee or Legacy House (Adele) on 07 30295617 if you think you would like to be the next Backyard Assist host.

Finally, the eighth Canungra Combat Challenge (C3) will be conducted on Saturday 14 June at Kokoda Army Barracks in Canungra.

It is a wonderful event that brings together Legacy, the Australian Defence Force and our corporate and community supporters. This year's event will be both challenging but also rewarding for all those undertaking the challenge.

Yours in Legacy,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brendan Cox". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Brendan Cox
CEO, Legacy Brisbane



FRASER BURNETT STANDS TALL ON ANZAC DAY

Story by: Lara Maidment

For the first time in many years, Legacy widows across the Fraser Burnett region joined Legatees to lay wreaths of remembrance on ANZAC Day—marking a proud and meaningful return to local services.

At the Tinana Dawn Service in Maryborough, Legacy ward Levi Marschke (15) stood tall as he laid a wreath in memory of the fallen—watched over by roosting bats and the quiet stillness of the early morning. It was a moving tribute and a strong symbol of Legacy's next generation stepping up with pride.

In Toogoom, Sue Meecham, a Legacy widow and Royal Australian Navy veteran, laid the wreath—an especially powerful moment as Legacy now supports three generations of her family. As the kookaburras called during the Last Post, the scene was uniquely Australian and deeply touching.

Later in Hervey Bay, the main ANZAC Day march was followed by a well-attended service where widows Faye Boaden and Janice Chick flanked Group Chair Graeme Inglis to lay the Legacy wreath before a large and supportive crowd.

Elsewhere across the region, Nanango widows joined forces with the local Women's Auxiliary to make beautiful wreaths, with Legacy represented at services in Kingaroy, Nanango, Murgon, and Wondai.

This ANZAC Day was not just about tradition—it was about renewal and presence. Widows, wards, and Legatees stood together in public remembrance, many for the first time in years. Their participation brought joy and pride to the region,

and marked the beginning of something more.

With plans already underway to march with a Legacy banner in 2026, Fraser Burnett is looking forward to building on this year's

momentum and growing Legacy's visibility in the region.

A beautiful day of remembrance was observed by all—and we thank every person who helped make it so special.



Widows Faye Boaden, Chair Graeme Inglis, Janice Chick



Janice Chick



Maryborough: Legacy wards Levi Marschke & Jenni Bryson



ANZAC Day 2025: Toogoom



ANZAC wreaths Nanango: Anna, Jan, Shirley, Robyn, Cath & Pearl



BRISBANE ANZAC DAY MARCH 2025

Story by: Jomante Maksvytyre



It was a wet and grey morning in Brisbane, but not even the rain could dampen the spirit of our Legacy Brisbane family.

On Thursday 25 April, our Legacy Brisbane community—Legatees, widows, staff, volunteers, young families and more—came together for the ANZAC Day March, standing side by side in quiet pride to honour those we carry in our hearts.

Umbrellas were everywhere as our Legacy contingent made its way through the city—smiles on faces, medals pinned with care. From the older generation of veterans and widows to kids on their very first march, proudly waving flags, the moment was a beautiful reflection of the Legacy spirit across generations.

It wasn't a grand display—but it didn't need to be. It was in the small things: the way families linked arms, how children laughed under umbrellas, Legatees reconnecting with old friends, and strangers becoming community, simply by standing together in the rain.

The crowd on the sidelines cheered, waved, and nodded with quiet respect. You could feel what it meant.

After the march, we were warmly welcomed by DBM Vircon, who generously opened their city office to host our post-march lunch. Their support, especially on a day like this, meant more than words can say.

Legacy Brisbane President Dr Annabel McGuire and DBM Vircon CEO Mark Campbell both spoke with heart about why this day matters—and how, through connection and remembrance, we continue to carry these stories forward. A big thank you to Emily as well, for making everyone feel so at home.

For some, it was their first ANZAC Day with Legacy. For others, it's a deeply familiar tradition.

Whether you were marching, helping out, waving from the footpath, or simply remembering in your own quiet way—you were part of something bigger.

This day reminded us why Legacy is here: to walk beside the families of veterans, to honour the sacrifices you've made, and to make sure your stories—and your loved ones—are never forgotten.

To our Legacy families: thank you for being there. Thank you for your strength, your presence, and your trust. You are, and always will be, at the heart of everything we do.

We walk beside you—always.

Lest we forget.



A DAY OF RAIN AND REMEMBRANCE



MEETING THE FAMILIES BEHIND THE UNIFORMS

Story by: Peter Ruff



Over February to March, Legacy Brisbane, alongside Legacy House staff, has had the pleasure of attending several community afternoons and evenings with units based at Gallipoli Barracks.

On Friday 28 February, we joined the 7 CSSB Family event, represented by Legatees Peter Ruff and Bec Rasmussen, with some fantastic help from Bec's daughter Narita (Rita).

In addition to being an active North West Legatee, Bec is also

the Unit Legatee for 7 CSSB, so it was a special opportunity to engage with the unit she works closely with. Rita did an amazing job engaging with children and families—our camo wristbands were once again a huge hit and a great conversation starter.

We were also pleased to attend the 1 Signal Regiment community evening on Friday 21 March, where Sarah Calderwood from Legacy House and Legatee Riley Andersen represented Legacy and had some great chats with families.

And on Thursday 27 March, we wrapped up the month with the 6 RAR event, held at Kedron Wavell RSL, with Legatees Riley Andersen and Peter Ruff in attendance.

These kinds of events are such valuable opportunities for us to connect with serving members and their families—to let them know that Legacy is here, and what we're here for.

It's not always the big gestures—it's often the little things, like a child wandering over for a wristband, which spark real conversations and connection.

We're grateful to each unit for having us along, and to every family who took a moment to stop by and say hello.



GYMPIE ANZAC DAY PARADE

Story by: Ivan Friske

Legacy families proudly marched in this year's Gympie ANZAC Day Parade, with a group of widows and family members walking behind the Legacy banner.

Organised by the Gympie Legacy Contact Group, this is the third

year the group has taken part in the local march.

The photo captures multiple generations—widows, children, and grandchildren—coming together to honour their loved ones and show the strength of Legacy's community.



A huge thank you to the Gympie community for supporting the families we walk beside.

QUILTS, COMMUNITY & GRATITUDE

A HEARTFELT MORNING IN GYMPIE

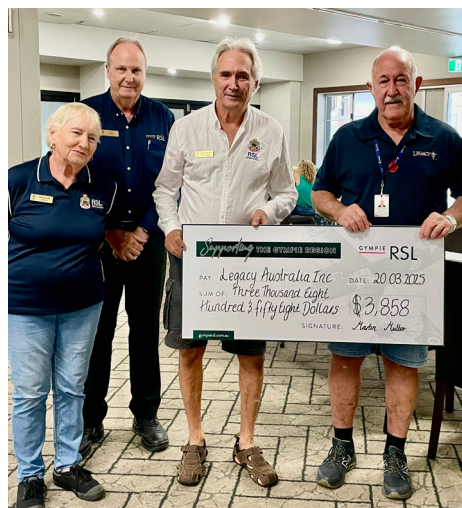
Story by: Laura Maidment

On Thursday 20 March 2025 at Gympie RSL, a wonderful morning tea was shared by Gympie Legacy Widows.

During the event, Gympie RSL sub-branch Deputy President Lindsay Francis and Director Jan Collins presented Legatee Ivan Friske and the Gympie Legacy Chair with a cheque for \$3,858, raised from the November 2024 raffle—an announcement met with much applause and gratitude.

After morning tea, widows Felisa Sinclair, Vivina McKewin, and Lindsay Francis (a Vietnam Veteran) were presented with Quilts of Valour by Ivan Friske and Laurel Group Coordinator Maureen Rush. These quilts, given in recognition of those touched by war, were received with heartfelt thanks—wrapped around their recipients for warmth, comfort, and to proudly display their beautiful designs.

Over the past five years, during Gympie Legacy Contact Group's morning teas, Quilts of Valour Australia representatives Maureen Rush OAM and Ivan Friske OAM have presented 41 of these stunning quilts to Legacy Widows. In that time, they have also presented quilts to 80 Veterans.



VALE: LEGATEE NORM CLARKE

Story by: Chad Sherrin

Legacy is often referred to as 'an iconic Australian charity dedicated to supporting the families of our veterans': Norm Clarke could well be described as an icon within the Legacy organisation and Legacy was a large part of Norm's life.

Just three days after discharging from the Army, Norm joined the Legacy family on 9 November 1981 as the Administrator – the CEO in today's parlance – which gave him a deep insight into the importance of advocating regarding issues involving veterans' widows and their families.

He served in that role for five years when, in keeping with his commitment to helping Legacy families, he left that full-time employment to become a volunteer Pensions Officer advocating on behalf of Legacy widows and families for compensation, pension and other entitlements, resulting from the death of their veteran husband or father.

In this role Norm was quite remarkable. Today's Compensation Advocates have 'Statements of Principles', prepared by an expert medical panel, to refer to in making a case that a veteran's death is attributable to his military service.

Norm had none of this and he would spend days, weeks, sometimes months, poring over war diaries, unit and other military histories, contacting military unit associations, consulting with doctors, and so on, seeking the evidence needed to prove that the veteran's death was related to his military service and therefore compensatable on behalf of the widow or family.

Norm was not one to readily accept DVA's rejection of any



cases he put forward; he would go back and research the case further and appeal the decision, and represent the widow or family at the Veterans' Review Board.

If that was unsuccessful, there was still one avenue of appeal, the Administrative Appeals Tribunal, where the law firm Gilshenan and Luton would provide pro-bono legal representation on behalf of the widow. Norm would then,

much like a solicitor, prepare a brief of evidence for the barrister. With all this effort, Norm had a success rate of over 70% in all of the cases he advocated for.

He became so expert as an advocate that he was regularly called on to advise other Queensland Legacy Clubs; to train advocates for Legacy and

Continued on page 13.....

THANK YOU, EASTERN STAR FOUNDATION

Story by: Karen Plitt

We're so pleased to share that the Eastern Star Foundation has renewed its support of our Older Widows Program for 2025—with the possibility of extending additional funding into 2026 and 2027.

Last year, Eastern Star generously awarded Legacy Brisbane a grant to support our Laurel and Care Clubs, along with dedicated case management for our wonderful War Widows.

This allowed us to offer meaningful social activities and personalised one-on-one support to those needing a little extra care.

Thanks to this continued funding, our programs and services will remain strong in the year ahead.

The new grant will help us build even further—supporting complex case management, expanding social programs, and conducting an external review of our Older Widows Program to better understand and respond to the needs of emerging groups, including Vietnam War widows.



Eastern Star Foundation is deeply committed to improving the quality of life for ageing Australians, and we're incredibly grateful to be working together to support the Legacy community.

A special thank you to Eastern Star Foundation Chairman Jonathan Nantes, who presented the grant to Legacy's Head of Fundraising, Marketing & Communications, Kelly Burmester,

and Annual Giving & Grants Coordinator, Karen Plitt at the April grant presentation.

From all of us at Legacy Brisbane—thank you, Eastern Star, for continuing to walk beside us and our War Widows.



...continued from page 12 | Vale: Legatee Norm Clarke



other ex-service organisations; and, to sit on the Legacy National Pensions Committee, advocating directly to government on behalf of Legacy families Australia wide.

As if this wasn't enough, Norm found time to serve as the convenor of the Personnel and Membership Committee of Legacy Brisbane for many years, advising and training new Legatees; and, as a non-executive director on the club's board of management.

Throughout his time as a volunteer, Norm would work three to five

days a week, every week, until his retirement in 2017, making him a very hard act to follow.

Few people could match Norm's compassion, dedication and commitment to assisting the Legacy family, and this never ceased.

He was still a member of Legacy Brisbane at the time of his passing, after 44 years of service.

In 2013, Norm was recognised for his lifetime of service to the Legacy family and awarded the Order of Australia Medal.



CENTRAL QUEENSLAND SPOTLIGHT

Story by: Carol Gorton

DOROTHY RUSSELL



Dorothy Russell has a special connection to the iconic Singing Ship at Emu Park.

Back in the 1960s, when she was living in Bajool, she knew the designer Peggy Westmoreland—their kids even went to school together.

Dorothy's late husband, George, served in the Navy during the Malayan Emergency. Over six years, he was stationed on at least ten different ships. The two first met many years ago through family—Dorothy's brother was married to George's sister. But it wasn't until 1983 that they reconnected, and they took their time getting to know each other again.

After 20 years together, they married in Cooee Bay in 2003. George may have been slow to propose, but he was a romantic at heart—he gave Dorothy a red rose every single Valentine's Day.

Dorothy and George loved to travel. They spent many years based in Alice Springs, often taking visitors to Uluru. Dorothy once climbed as far as Chicken Rock with her niece—because no one else would! She also found herself roped into riding a camel on the

same trip. Every year, the pair travelled to Ballina for the Navy reunion so George could catch up with his mates. While COVID brought those trips to a halt, Dorothy still keeps in touch with many of them.

Earlier in life, Dorothy spent five years living at the Sea Hill pilot station—a remote spot where only four families lived. Life was simple: tank water, gas lamps, Mrs Potts' irons, home-schooling and a weekly bath heated by a chip heater. She and her first husband raised four children there before moving to Bajool, where they finally had electricity, a school, and shops nearby.

Dorothy has lived through her share of heartbreak. Her only daughter passed away eight years ago, and her eldest son died just last year. She continues to be supported by her two sons, and is surrounded by love from her big, growing family: 10 grandchildren, 20 great-grandchildren, and 3 great-great-grandchildren.

She says she's lucky that all of the children got along well with George, who had no children of his own.

These days, Dorothy keeps busy with the RSL Ladies Auxiliary and enjoys the social side of both the RSL and Legacy. She's grateful for all the support she's received over the years, especially from the Department of Veterans' Affairs.

Thank you, Dorothy, for sharing your story—and for being such a treasured part of our Central Queensland Legacy community.

ADELLE HUTCHEON

Adelle Hutcheon met Frank on 20 June 1965—she remembers the exact date because it was just two days after her 16th birthday. They met at Taronga

Zoo, and she still smiles at the memory. Frank was 17.



Frank had joined the regular Army and was based at Kapooka in NSW, but that didn't stop him from making the trip back to Sydney every single weekend just to see Adelle. Sometimes he'd hitchhike, sometimes he'd manage a lift with the RAAF—but no matter what, he found a way.

At the time, Dell was still living in Sydney with her parents and finishing her hairdressing apprenticeship.

They were married on 19 May 1967 in Auburn, and not long after, their first child—a son—was born. But just nine weeks later, Frank was sent off to Vietnam.

He came home four months into his posting after being wounded, but eventually returned about eighteen months later to complete his full twelve months of service. Frank never talked much about his time in Vietnam—only ever mentioning the awful Agent Orange that was sprayed everywhere.

Frank stayed in the Army for several more years and became an Engineer with Mission Support Element (MSE). After discharging at the rank of Sergeant, the family

moved to Perth, where Frank took on work at the Swan Brewery. From there, life took them across the world—living in America, Mexico, and Malaysia.

It was in Malaysia that Frank was diagnosed with cancer. He was brought back to Australia for treatment—first at John Flynn Hospital on the Gold Coast, then to Yeppoon Hospital, where he passed away in 2015, aged just 67.

Frank had a hard road. He battled PTSD and health issues for many years, but he was always a hard worker and would give anything a go. He worked as a coach driver, crane and truck operator, and even spent time training young people. He never sat still.

Dell says that through everything, he never gave up—and that's how she remembers him. A devoted husband, a proud dad of two, and a man who always showed up, no matter what.

JOAN HINRICHSEN



Joan Hinrichsen's story begins with wartime memories and a hospital bedside romance—and it's one she still tells with pride and warmth today.

Her late husband, Henry Neville Hinrichsen, served as a Flight Lieutenant Wireless Air Gunner

(WAG) in the Royal Australian Air Force, flying with the 8th Squadron in Beaufort Bombers. One of his most memorable moments was escorting General Sir Thomas Blamey to the Pacific Peace Treaty signing on 2 September 1945.

But it was after the war that Joan and Neville's paths crossed. Joan was a Registered Nurse in Brisbane when she was called to care for a patient flown in from Blackall for surgery. That patient turned out to be Neville's father—and it wasn't long before love bloomed around the hospital bed.

The pair were married in 1964 at St Paul's Presbyterian Church in Brisbane, and spent the next 48 years living and working on the family cattle property in Alpha, originally purchased by Neville's father in 1926. Together they raised five children, and their legacy has grown to include 18 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

Neville rarely spoke about the war, but over the years, a few stories came through. He once recalled a moment in New Guinea where, while staying in a half-walled camp, bandicoots would run along the tops of the walls. One night, fed up, Neville threw his shoe—only to hear someone yell from the other side of the wall, "What the hell is going on?" It turned out to be none other than Gough Whitlam, who would later become Prime Minister.

Another story involved a training flight where something flew past the aircraft mid-air—it was the plane's propeller. Miraculously, the pilot managed a safe landing. Decades later, in the 1980s, a fishing trawler hauled up the very same propeller, which was confirmed as Neville's. It now sits mounted on a plaque at



the Huskisson Air and Maritime Museum, with the names of Neville and his crew inscribed. Joan and Neville were flown from Rockhampton to Williamtown Air Base for a moving ceremony to honour the crew—one Joan remembers fondly, although only the navigator, gunner, and Neville were able to attend.

Joan also has strong memories of the home front. As a child living in Sandgate during the war, she remembers the fear when air raid sirens rang out, windows covered in black paper and no lights allowed. While many families evacuated, her mother insisted on staying behind so her father, a railway worker, could keep doing his job helping move troops and equipment. The Americans were based nearby too, making Sandgate a hub of wartime movement.

Though Joan is surrounded by close family, she says Legacy's continued support still means a lot. "I still get my phone call from Legacy," she says with a smile—and that connection matters.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY WISHES FROM LEGACY



HAPPY BIRTHDAY NANCY!

Submitted by: Verona Lowndes

On 30 March, Verona Lowndes and Barbara Owens set out on a mission.

The room was electric, with smiles, hugs and lots of love, as family and friends greeted each other from far and near (Perth-Melbourne-Sydney-New Zealand), who had come to celebrate the birthday of their mother, grandmother, great nan, aunt and friend – Nancy, as she celebrated 100 years.

Nancy is a resident of Inverpine Aged Care at Murrumba Downs. She enjoys her independence and family and social life including regular outings and family visits.

Nancy and her children had a very close relationship with Legacy after the passing of her husband through the education system and the support group camps plus the family fun days. Many memories were discussed throughout the day as the time passed.

They still venture down memory lane enjoying their experiences

with their siblings.

Nancy had requested *"No presents please"* and instead, requested that the family make donations to Legacy.

Thank you Nancy for giving Verona and Barbara the opportunity to share the joy of your great celebration plus the many stories they heard throughout the day.

Wishing you worldly joy and happy time ahead.

PS. The donations have been registered and will be used for supporting young families as requested.



HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY PHYLLIS!

Submitted by: Brigid Gonano

Many happy returns to Phyllis Buchanan, who turned 100 years young on 4 April 2025.

Born and raised in Tewantin, Mrs Buchanan celebrated the special milestone with her family at the Noosa Golf Club—a location close to her heart, as her mother was one of the founding members who helped establish the club.

The celebration was a joyful occasion, with Legatee Brigid Gonano visiting to pass on Legacy's warm wishes.



GEORGINA'S WONDERFUL 90TH BIRTHDAY

Submitted by: Diane Applewhite

Georgina was all smiles when she received a surprise visit from Diane, who dropped by with flowers, a card, and an Easter bunny to mark her 90th birthday.

She was thrilled by the thoughtful gesture and shared that she had a big celebration planned for the following day.

One of her sons will be picking her up and taking her to Wynnum, where the whole family—including her grandchildren—will be gathering to honour this very special milestone.

Happy 90th, Georgina!





DOROTHY BRAMWELL CELEBRATES 100 YEARS

Submitted by: Shona Harper

Happy 100th birthday to Dorothy Bramwell, who recently celebrated this wonderful occasion at her home in Azure Blue, Redcliffe.

Dorothy received a special flower delivery from Legacy, presented by Shona Harper to honour her centenary.

It was a warm and joyful moment, recognising Dorothy's long life and the memories she carries with her.



CELEBRATING 104 YEARS YOUNG

Submitted by: Verona Lowndes

April has seen one of Legacy's oldest clients reach an amazing milestone. Eva Waters who lives at Rothwell spent the day celebrating with family and friends.

Although now blind, Eva hasn't slowed down. She is still very involved with her favourite activities being listening to music, craft and reading.

There is always time for a chat and a cup of tea. We hope there are many more to come.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY OLIVE!

Submitted by: Verona Lowndes

On 17 May 2025, Olive Hull marked an incredible milestone—her 96th birthday—with a charming high tea surrounded by family and friends.

The celebration, held in a beautifully decorated garden, featured laughter, flowers, and a special moment of three generations coming together: Olive, her daughter, and granddaughter. The occasion was a testament to Olive's enduring spirit and the love she continues to inspire.

Happy Birthday Olive!

GRACE COATES TURNS 100

Submitted by: Shona Harper

Legacy congratulates Grace Coates on reaching an incredible milestone—her 100th birthday!

Grace celebrated her special day in Redcliffe, surrounded by love and well wishes.

She received a beautiful bouquet of flowers on behalf of Legacy, delivered by Shona to mark the occasion.

Wishing Grace continued good health and happiness in her next century!

A New Aged Care Act for the Rights of Older People



CHANGES COMING TO AGED CARE: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

From 1 July 2025, a new Aged Care Act will come into effect across Australia.

This new legislation is designed to improve the quality of care and strengthen the rights of older Australians receiving government-funded aged care services.

The new Act has been developed by the Australian Government in response to the recommendations from the Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety, which released its final report in 2021. It reflects 58 of those recommendations and aims to create a more respectful, transparent, and supportive aged care system for all.

A NEW “STATEMENT OF RIGHTS”

One of the biggest changes is the introduction of a Statement of Rights, which clearly outlines the rights of older people receiving aged care services. This new statement will replace the existing Charter of Aged Care Rights. It includes the right to be treated with dignity and respect, to have a say in decisions about your care, and to feel safe and supported.

This Statement of Rights will apply to all aged care services funded by the Australian Government and will take effect from 1 July 2025.

CHANGES TO IN-HOME CARE

The Support at Home program will also begin on 1 July 2025. This new program will replace both the Home Care Packages and the Short-Term Restorative Care Program. These changes aim to make it easier for older Australians to access the support they need to live independently at home.

The Commonwealth Home Support Program (CHSP), which many of our Legacy widows currently receive, is expected to stay the same for now and will not begin transitioning into the new system until at least 1 July 2027.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR YOU?

If you are currently receiving aged care services, you don't need to worry. You can speak directly with your care provider to discuss how these changes might affect you personally. In many cases, the changes are about improving communication, increasing

transparency, and ensuring your voice is heard in your care.

WANT TO KNOW MORE?

The Department of Health and Aged Care has created two helpful factsheets to explain the new Act and the Statement of Rights in plain language.

You or a family member can read these online:

Plain Language Fact Sheet



SCAN ME

You can also **call the Seniors Enquiry Line on 1300 135 500.**

We know change can sometimes feel overwhelming—but please remember you're not alone.

These reforms are about making aged care better, safer, and more respectful for you. And as always, Legacy is here to walk beside you—every step of the way.

WYNNUM CARE GROUP'S CHRISTMAS CHEER

Story by: Rae Brown



As we settle into the cooler months of 2025, we wanted to take a moment to look back and celebrate a very special day from late last year that brought plenty of joy and festive spirit to our Legacy family.

On Friday 13 December 2024, the Wynnum Care Group gathered at the Wynnum RSL for their much-loved Christmas party.

A cheerful group of 23 Legacy widows, along with 6 Legatees and volunteers and 4 special guests, came together to enjoy good company and a delicious two-course Christmas lunch.

Guests were treated to roast

chicken, ham and baked vegetables, followed by a festive alternate drop of apple crumble or traditional Christmas pudding with custard.

Special thanks to the RSL's talented chef and staff for the wonderful meal, and to Events Manager Kirsty and Dean for their beautiful table settings and warm hospitality on the day.

The room was filled with holiday cheer thanks to the generous raffle prizes and two stunning food hampers, kindly donated by Ross Vasta MP, Joan Pease MP, Lisa Atwood Clr Doboy Ward, Alex Givney Clr Wynnum/Manly Ward, Manly West Pharmacy, and

Bunnings. Lucky door prizes went to Wilma McAllister and Beverley Giles, who each received a Christmas hamper from Joan Pease MP.

We'd also like to sincerely thank Group Chair Liz Clark, Legatees Des Prien, Bruce and Audrey Pattison, and volunteers Lorraine Coombes, Lyn Marsen, and Kay Owen for their continued dedication and care throughout the year.

It was a wonderful way to wrap up 2024, and as we move through 2025, we look forward to creating even more meaningful moments together with the Wynnum Legacy Care Group.



NEED SUPPORT NAVIGATING AGED CARE? *HELP IS JUST A PHONE CALL AWAY*

Story by: Claire Lyon

Are you finding it hard to access aged care services? Or perhaps your current services aren't quite meeting your needs?

You're not alone—and there's support available.

The Older Persons Advocacy Network (OPAN) is a free, independent service that supports older Australians to understand their rights and speak up when it comes to their aged care.

Every year, OPAN helps tens of thousands of older people resolve concerns about their government-funded aged care—whether that's at home or in residential care.

They offer support to you, your family, or carers, making sure your voice is heard and your needs are respected.

YOU MIGHT WANT TO CALL IF:

- You're finding it hard to access aged care services
- You have concerns about the care you're receiving
- Your care isn't quite meeting your needs
- You'd like to make a complaint, but don't know how

OPAN's team of trained aged care advocates can talk with you confidentially about what's going on and help guide you through your next steps.

They're here to make sure your rights are upheld, your wishes are respected, and your care is right for you.

HOW TO CONTACT THE OLDER PERSONS ADVOCACY NETWORK

Call the Aged Care Advocacy Line on

1800 700 600

Weekdays: 8am – 8pm

Saturdays: 10am – 4pm

This service is free, confidential, and available to anyone receiving—or trying to access—government-funded aged care.

You don't need to go through it alone.

If something doesn't feel right with your care, it's okay to speak up.

There is support, and you deserve care that respects your voice and values.

NICHOLAS' BIG DREAMS: GIVING DAY 2025

Story by: Marissa Mak



"Legacy gave me everything I needed," he said. "They helped with school books, clothes—things we never thought we'd need help with. But it wasn't just financial help. The biggest difference was seeing Mum finally feel safe again."

As he grew older, Nicholas reconnected with his love of music—specifically, the trombone. In 2023, he moved to Brisbane to study at the Queensland Conservatorium of Music.

"There is no way that I would have been able to move to Brisbane to study at the Conservatorium of Music without help from Legacy," Nicholas said. "They helped me with life decisions and gave me the support I needed to live and study full time. I feel very humbled being given these opportunities."

Nicholas didn't just feature in our 2025 Giving Day campaign—he shared his story with honesty and heart. Through his words and music, he gave a glimpse into what it's like growing up in a Defence family and finding your way after tough times.

To our matchers, donors and supporters: thank you. Because of you, stories like Nicholas's continue to unfold—with strength, hope, and a lot of heart.



This year, Legacy Brisbane raised over \$300,000 on Giving Day, held on Thursday 22 May.

But more than the number, it was Nicholas Lord's story that captured hearts.

Nicholas was 13 when his mum Joanne—an Army Band veteran—was diagnosed with stage four melanoma. At the time, the family were living in Launceston, Tasmania, and everything shifted quickly.

"Mum started with stage two melanoma in her ear," Nicholas shared. "Within six weeks, it went from stage two to stage four. I tried my best to share my experience with friends, but they just didn't get it."

Legacy provided the support Nicholas and his family needed—school costs, emotional support, and, perhaps most importantly, connection. Through Legacy, Nicholas was introduced to Legatee Chad, who became a mentor and guide.



Giving Day 2025, FRMC Team



CARE GROUPS & LAUREL CLUBS

Laurel Groups and Care Clubs are aimed at bringing Legacy widows together in an atmosphere of friendship and caring. Membership is free and open to all. Most groups hold regular activities, as listed below – however we encourage you to contact the individuals listed below to ensure you have the most current information and events.

Beaudesert Care Group

Beaudesert RSL
23-25 William St,
BEAUDESERT
9.30am, 4th Wed of the
month. Glenda Neuendorf
0402 616 249

Bribie Island Care Group

Bribie Island RSL & Citizens
Memorial Club Inc
Toorbul Street, BONGAREE
9.30am, 4th Tuesday
of the month. Sylvia Seaton
07 5433 9345, Adele Carr
07 3408 3206

Brisbane Laurel Club

Legacy House
41 Merivale Street,
SOUTH BRISBANE
9am to 11am, Monday
& Wednesday
Elizabeth Cowell 3349 2084
Brisbane Legacy 3029 5600

Deception Bay Care Group

Meet at Deception Bay
Tavern
10am, 1st Wednesday
of the month
Verona Lowndes
0421 288 637

Gaythorne Care Group

Arana Leagues Club
247 Dawson Parade,
KEPERRA
11am, Last Friday
of the month
Peter Thatcher 3356 4250

Geebung Care Group

Geebung RSL
Newman Road, GEEBUNG
11am, 2nd Friday
of the month. Christine
Atkins 0411 389 843

Gympie Laurel Club

Veterans Service Centre
44 Nash St. GYMPIE
10am, 3rd Monday
of the month (except
December & January)
Maureen Rush 5483 7410
or 0412 737 380

Inala Care Group

Blue Fin Fishing Club
24 Lilac Street, INALA
11am, last Friday of the
month
Cath David 0408 846 574
Nev Patterson
0419 708 601

Kallangur Region Social Club

Norths Leagues and
Services Club,
1347 ANZAC Ave
KALLANGUR
10am on 12th of the month.
Where this falls on a
weekend, it will be held on
the Friday or Monday Joy
Shaw, 0417 616 023

Kedron Wavell Care Group

Kedron Wavell RSL
9.30am, last Friday of the
month. Margaret Hough
0400 320 530

Kilcoy Care Group

Alternate venue each
month (February to
December) 12 noon, 2nd
Thursday of the month
May Wallace 0405 392 461

LANA – Active Widows Social Group

Different venue each
month, 12 noon Last
Saturday of the month
Helen White 0413 627 266

Logan Central Care Group

Logan Digger's Club
42-48 Blackwood Road
WOODRIDGE
10:30am, 1st Tuesday of
the month – lunch
3rd Wednesday of the
month – bus trip
Eunice Smith
0407 092 234

Logan East Care Group

Cafe 63, 99 Cindarella
Drive, SPRINGWOOD
10am, 2nd Friday
of the month
Glenda McIntosh
0417 764 101, Nola Nicholls
0438 266 455, Jane Jackson
0402 101 334

Logan West Care Group

Greenbank RSL Lounge
ANZAC Parade,
HILLCREST
10am last Friday
of the month
2nd Friday of the month -
bus trip
Clare Heieck 3803 1133

Pine Rivers Care Group

Lawnton Tavern
820 Gympie Rd, LAWNTON
11.30am on the last Friday
of every month.
Please join us for a meal
and the raffle.

If you'd like to join us,
please contact convenor
Cathy Anstey by the
Wednesday before the
meeting on
0418 948 529.

Redcliffe Laurel Club

RSL Club, Peacekeepers
Room, Redcliffe Parade,
REDCLIFFE
10am, 1st & 3rd Tuesday of
the month
Gabby Ryan 0402 268 794

Redlands Care Group

Redlands RSL
8 Passage Street,
CLEVELAND
10am, 1st Friday
of the month
Colin Green 3286 6606
Shree Rogers 3206 7158

Courtesy bus available,
phone Redlands RSL on
3488 1199 before 2pm on
Wednesday before Friday
meeting

Roma Care Group

Venue TBC
10am, 1st Tuesday
of the month
Janet Menz 4622 3339
Jill Denton 4622 2759

Sandgate Care Group

Post Office Hotel
12 noon, 1st Friday
of the month
Tony Ralph 3254 2758

Sherwood Care Group

Westside HQ, Clewley
Street CORINDA
11am, last Friday
of the month
Bill Crossman
0417 795 824

Warwick Care Group

RSL Services and Citizens
Memorial Club
Cnr King and Albion St,
WARWICK
4th Tuesday of the month
for 12pm lunch and 1pm
meeting
Gordon Nielson 4661 5772
& 0429 615 773

Woodford Care Group

Alternate venue each
month, 12 noon, 2nd
Thursday of the month
(February to December)
Shirley Riddle
5496 1161
Glenn Willmann
0439 535 697

Wynnum Care Group

Wynnum RSL
174 Tingal Road,
WYNNUM
10am, 2nd Friday
of the month
Rae Brown 3348 4508 or
0439 928 496



If you wish to know more about Legacy Care Groups or Laurel Clubs, please contact Jackie Devine at Legacy House on (07) 3029 5618.

FRASER-BURNETT CONTACT GROUPS

Maryborough

Maryborough RSL
163-175, Lennox Street,
MARYBOROUGH
10.30am, 1st Tuesday
of the month

Gayndah

Grand Hotel Gayndah
12 noon, 1st Tuesday
of the month

Wondai/Murgon

RSL Club Wondai
87 MacKenzie St,
WONDAI
Morning tea,
10am, 2nd Monday
of the month

Kingaroy

RSL Kingaroy
Markwell St & Short St,
KINGAROY
10am, 2nd Wednesday of
the month

Nanango

RSL Nanango
24-26 Henry Street,
NANANGO
10am, Morning tea,
1st Wednesday of the
month

Hervey Bay

RSL Pialba
11 Torquay Road,
HERVEY BAY
2pm, 3rd Monday
of the month

ROCKHAMPTON CONTACT GROUPS

Biloela

ANZAC Memorial Club,
94 Callide Street, BILOELA
11:30am, 3rd Monday
of the month
Bronwyn Hill
0467 447 872

Clermont

RSL Club, Herschel Street,
CLERMONT
2pm, 3rd Tuesday
of every even month
Peggy Williams
07 4983 2093

Emu Park

Ocean Brew Eatery
34 Pattison Street
EMU PARK
10am, 2nd Wednesday
of each month
Fran Waterson

Gladstone & Tannum Sands

11:30am, last Saturday of
the month, Venue varies,
please contact
Belinda Engstrom
0419 731 912
0407 131 162

Mount Morgan

Uniting Church Hall, East
Street,
MT MORGAN
9:30am, 1st Thursday
of the month
Tony Johnson 0408 068 624

Rockhampton City

Frenchville Sports Club
ROCKHAMPTON
105 Clifton St, Berserker
10am, 2nd Monday
of the month
Anna Dickson
0487 343 583
Rose Swadling
0418 458 622

Yeppoon

Capricorn Tavern
Scenic Hwy,
TARANGANBA
10am, 2nd Saturday
of the month
Denise Lewis 0439 651 305
Sandy Donges 0413 279 358

SUNSHINE COAST CONTACT GROUPS

Caloundra Laurel Club

Caloundra RSL
West Tce, CALOUNDRA
9.30am for 10am
1st Monday of the month
Helen Brett 0429 448 081

Maroochydore Care Club

RSL House, Memorial Ave
MAROOCHYDORE
9.30am, 4th Friday
of the month
Diana Solomon
0405 650 618

Nambour Care Group

Nambour RSL
Matthew St, NAMBOUR
10am, 3rd Monday
of the month
Rhondra Poor 5441 2172

Tewantin/Noosa Care Group

Tewantin/Noosa RSL &
Citizens Memorial Club,
Memorial Avenue,
TEWANTIN
10am, 1st Monday
of the month
Brenda McFeeters
0419 680 870
John Reid 0425 295 055

If you would like
more information
about the groups or
events in your local area,
please contact your local
Legacy office using
the details on the
back cover.



LEGACY TORCH WORD SEARCH

ANZAC DAY

I	L	O	P	I	L	L	A	G	V	X	Z	I	Z	G	D	H	J	D	V
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M	B	M	M	L	W	W	X	J	W	S	C	A	L	O	Z	F	N	Y	G
N	Q	J	N	C	M	H	E	U	Y	I	E	G	A	R	U	O	C	H	N
M	N	U	Z	D	X	F	C	T	F	G	X	A	T	H	S	G	C	C	S
L	X	W	I	A	T	L	U	I	A	P	G	B	S	M	F	U	D	R	H
F	W	R	V	Y	R	K	R	Q	X	O	U	E	J	C	O	I	G	X	K
L	I	U	L	O	Q	C	W	S	G	P	A	D	S	L	B	G	R	X	S
F	P	A	C	A	A	S	T	Z	O	P	U	J	S	X	D	F	E	M	Y
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- | | | |
|-------------|---------------------|--------|
| Legacy | Digger | Wreath |
| Service | March | Poppy |
| Remembrance | Slouch (slouch hat) | Peace |
| Sacrifice | Medal | Mate |
| Gallipoli | ANZAC | Parade |
| Courage | Bugle | Ode |



Supporting our veterans' families

LEGACY BRISBANE

Legacy House, 41 Merivale Street
South Brisbane Q 4101
t. 07 3029 5600
e. admin@legacybrisbane.org.au

**LEGACY SUNSHINE
COAST**

106 Memorial Drive
Maroochydore Q 4558
t. 07 5443 9841
e. suncoast@legacybrisbane.org.au

**LEGACY ROCKHAMPTON &
CENTRAL QUEENSLAND**

Suite 3, Tobruk House
8 Archer Street
Rockhampton Q 4700
t. 07 4922 4010
e. admin@legacyrockhampton.org.au

**LEGACY FRASER
BURNETT**

1 Bryant Street
Pialba Q 4655
t. 07 4194 5111
e. admin@legacyfraserburnett.org.au