



# NEWS TIME

Kilcoy RSL Sub Branch

Edition 18

## *Message from your President*

In these trying times with the Corona Virus going around I ask that we all take care, remember our hygiene and social distancing and look out for each other as you are aware, we are now closed and do not know when we can open again. The Committee will still be coming in as required to keep up to date with Admin, so if you need help please ring and we can see what we can do.

**With ANZAC Day being cancelled please remember the Fallen by going to the end of your driveway at 0600hrs and observe a minute's silence. RSL Qld has organized the ODE, the Last Post, a minute's silence & Reveille to be broadcasted at this time.**

I also recommend that if you would like to lay flowers at the Cenotaph or Memorial Wall you can do so during the day in your own time.

If we all do as required, we will get through this. All the best.

All meetings are cancelled until further notice. The AGM has been postponed for a maximum of six months at this stage.

**We need to move some of the alcohol that we have if you wish to purchase some please contact us by phone, they must be full cartons, or full bottles.**

**The Committee is working hard behind the scenes not taking in any money but paying bills, keeping in touch with members to check on their wellbeing etc.**

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A suggestion by one of our member's was to publish a

story on our member's history, we thought we

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**would start with one of our deceased member's, Rob Conrad.**

Robin Conrad the fourth child of Margaret and Herbert Conrad, was born on the 7<sup>th</sup> July 1938 at Rockhampton. He and his siblings, Trevor, Noel, Bert, June and Patricia, grew up on the family farm in the small, rural town of Ogmoo. Enjoying the same freedom as most farm kids from his era, Rob used to tell us that, in their spare time, he and his brothers used to go fishing for barramundi on the banks of Ogmoo's crocodile infested river.

Rob was educated at Ogmoo State School. He was a good student and he loved to remind us that he was so smart that all the other kids would rely on copying his homework. Once his teacher clued into why she was marking a class full of identical homework submissions, Rob was promptly instructed not to complete homework ever again. He went on to pass Scholarship at age 13, at the end of the 1951 school year.

At that time his mother Margaret had a bad accident and broke her leg in three places. As Rob was the only

one available at home at the time, he was relied upon to do the cooking, cleaning, washing and ironing for the entire family. Rob was a hard worker from a very young age, and his strong work ethic was a trait which continued throughout his life and was role-modelled to his children. At 14 years old, Rob left home for Rockhampton to work as a Lad Porter at Stanley Street Railway Station for a period of two years. When he returned home, he went to work in the Styx State Coal Mine as a laborer for two years until his brother Bert, crushed his hand in a logging accident. Rob took over Bert's timber cutting role alongside his older brother, Trevor, until Bert had recuperated.

At the age of 19, Rob enlisted in the RAAF. In 1960 Rob was posted overseas to RAAF base Butterworth for two years, followed by Wagga Wagga base on his return. He enjoyed a bit of rugby union with his RAAF mates.

Rob met Valda June Reilly, at the Wagga Wagga base and after a short romance, they were married on the 30<sup>th</sup> March 1964. They had two children and three grandchildren. Rob enjoyed

being connected to the community. He and Val helped co-ordinate the parking at the Kilcoy races, and volunteered their time to help the Kilcoy RSL. Apparently, he dominated the RSL footy tipping competition for two years running before retiring to give others a shot at winning. Sport was another favourite of Rob's. He loved watching his beloved Bronco's and was a passionate armchair referee. In recent months, Rob's health declined quite quickly. Rob passed away peacefully in his sleep at Kilcoy Hospital during the early hours 'at age 81 and  $\frac{3}{4}$ . We will love him and miss him every day, but his memory will live on in the lives of those who respected and treasured him.

**Rest in Peace Rob.**

Keep Safe and look after each other.

Regards from your  
Committee