

OUR HISTORY IN BRIEF 1967 - 2013

Our First Meeting

The following information is taken from our Ruby Reunion luncheon placemats 28 Jul 2007 and the DVD slideshow presentation from our Sapphire Reunion

Budaberg & District Ex Servicewomen's Association Inc
Founders: Merna Freid AAMWS & Jennie Wheeler WAAAF

Inaugural Meeting: Friday 7th July 1967 at 8 pm, RSL Club Rooms
The meeting opened by Tom McLucas, President of the RSL Sub-Branch
in attendance: 30 ex servicewomen

Inaugural President: Merna Freid

Inaugural Minute Secretary: Jennie Wheeler

Moments In History

- 7th July 1967 Inaugural Meeting
- 1st March 1968 First Reunion Dinner
- 25th April 1968 First Anzac Day involvement
- 25th April 1971 First parading of our new banner
- 1979 Ex Servicewomen's plaque mounted in RSL
- 1992 Ex Servicewomen's Assn began efforts to have the War Nurses Memorial and Park restored. This was mirrored by researchers Shirely & Trevor Mclvor of Toowoomba and this led to a combined effort.
- July 1992 25th Anniversary Reunion and first ever service conducted by our Association at the War Nurses Memorial followed by 'brunch BBQ' in Alexandra Park with the Vietnam Veterans cooking.
- April 1993 Memorial plaque near the Monument
- 25th April 1993 First Anzac Day Service at War Nurses Memorial
- 18th February 1994 Association incorporated
- 15th August 1995 Re-dedication of War Nurses Memorial - official guest Shirley Mclvor
- 20th October 1997 News sheet (Chests Out) proposed
- 16th March 1998 First Life Member (Lil Feguson)
- 20th April 1998 Procurement of a President/Secretary/Treasurer's Board
- 27th March 1999 Seven members attended the Dedication of the Canberra Memorial
- 16th September 2002 First 'BBQ Meeting' at Fairways

- 21st July 2003 Dedication of our new Memorial to Servicewomen, Lions Remembrance Park
- 16th February 2007 'Loyal Members' category of Honorary Membership established
- 21st July 2008 Association appointed its first Patron - Jennie Wheeler
- 18th August 2008 'Chests Out' mailed free to all members
- 15th June 2009 'Tea on the Terrace' held in lieu of a General Meeting
- 18th January 2010 Tea & coffee facilities introduced to meetings
- 29th March 2010 BYO Picnic lunch with partners held at the Wheeler's residence
- 30th August 2010 'Paterson's Picnic' with Ron cooking corned beef & cabbage for our lunch
- 20th June 2011 Approved new design for committee badges of office
- 20th February 2012 Purchase of artwork for our badge
- 16th April 2012 Financial (2012) World War Two members granted free membership from 2013
- 16th April 2012 New Banner procured
- 25th April 2012 New Banner used on parades in Bundaberg & Burnett Heads.
- 13th July 2012 DVD produced by Jenny Waldron launched and viewed at Reunion dinner
- 16th July 2012 Proposed History project for completion in 2017, adopted
- 17th September 2012 Members to be invited to submit to the History Project and issued with an introduction pack.
- October 2012 Patricia Pearson became first to be interviewed for the History Project.
- 21st January 2013 Association adopted a Policy & Procedures document
- 21st January 2013 Association agreed to a proposed polo shirt design
- March 2013 Expansion of War Nurses Memorial ideas progressed as a firm project
- 25th April 2013 War Nurses memorial service included a Piper playing the Lament and also a special tribute named 'Rosemary Tribute' supported by the placement of a cloned bush from the Mittleheuser garden located at Patricia Pearson's home.

