

# DEVONPORT RSA

February 2025

Presidents Newsletter

Kia ora all,

I hope everyone had a wonderful summer and Christmas. We started the year well last Friday with a good turnout at club night, featuring meat raffles and a \$50 member draw.

## Christmas lunch

We were privileged to have singer and song writer Tommy Picket provide the entertainment with excellent food by Chateaubriant. It was great afternoon with presents from Santa, thank you Possum. Congratulations to the committee and all those people that helped make it a wonderful afternoon.





## Purple Poppy Day

Purple Poppy Day commemorating the animals that have served was again held in collaboration with the Torpedo Bay Navy Museum at 1100 on Sunday 23 February. Thanks to Jane and the team from the Navy Museum, Chris Mullane (MC), Trouty Taylor & Stephen Millham (RSA) for organising such a great event. A special mention to Celine Wu for her excellent playing of the Last Post and Rouse, and Holly (TGS RSA Youth Ambassador) for her reading of the Poem “The Soldier’s Loyal Mate”.



## RNZRSA Constitution Update

### What will the new Constitution change for my Association?

The Constitution going up for adoption at a EGM 22 Mar 25 changes nothing for Associations and how they operate in their communities. All Associations remain independent and can operate however they see fit – whether that is a hospitality venue, an Association amalgamated with another Club, a veteran support centre or a virtual RSA.

Your Devonport RSA chooses to be a member of the RNZRSA because it is committed to the cause it represents – supporting New Zealand’s veterans and their whanau through the three pillars of Remembrance, Support and Advocacy.

The RNZRSA Constitution provides the framework for how the umbrella organisation will operate and be governed. What this provides for Devonport RSA is confidence that the

RNZRSA remains committed to the core purpose, that the appropriate structure is in place to ensure the voice of the membership remains an important part of decision making, and that it is operating in a legally safe way. It does not impose any restrictions on Associations and how they operate, other than a requirement to deliver remembrance, support and advocacy for the veterans in their communities as a condition of membership.

The Devonport RSA must update its constitution to comply with the requirements of the Incorporated Societies Act and align with RNZRSA purpose and objectives. The draft will be completed and put to a vote later in the year.

## **Poppy Foundation**

### **Do you need financial assistance?**

The Devonport RSA participates in the Poppy Foundation of Auckland Trust (PFT). The PFT provides financial assistance to veterans, ex-service persons and their dependents in need for welfare associated costs eg: glasses, hearing aids, dental and medical costs not covered by any health insurance scheme or a war pension entitlement.



If you are in need of requiring additional support please submit an application with a covering letter. It is suggested that you evaluate needs based on the degree of hardship or poverty. For example, a veteran, spouse, or dependent who can reasonably afford a specific expense without falling into poverty or enduring significant discomfort, it is recommended such costs are not claimed through PFT. This approach guarantees that PFT resources are channelled toward individuals who truly require assistance to alleviate financial hardship and maintain a basic standard of living. If there is no other priority source of support. Any funds available in the Devonport RSA Poppy Day Trust may be used to support eligible members in extenuating circumstances or facing financial hardship for which PFT support is not available or is inadequate.

Please ensure you have all Poppy claims to Gail Kennett as soon as possible as claims that are older than three months will only be considered in extenuating circumstances.

If you have any questions or need assistance in submitting a claim of covering letter please contact Gail on 021446011.

## AGM 1400 Sunday 30 March 25

Nominations are open for President, Vice President, and seven committee members. Note I do not intend to stand for president again, however remain fully committed to the Devonport RSA and will assist any new committee members as best I can.

The committee is a vital part of the Devonport RSA. Your committee members are chosen at the AGM to manage, direct and supervise its operations and affairs. **Get involved and make a difference.** Nomination forms are available from the manager <mailto:manager@devonportrsa.co.nz>

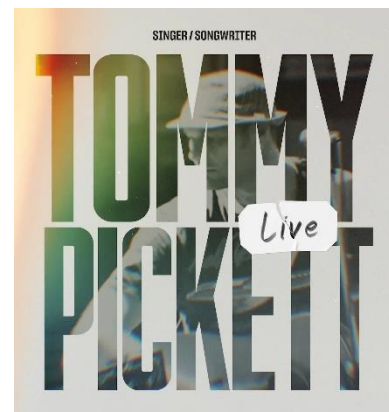
Each person on the committee is an officer of the society. Under the Incorporated society Act 2022 a person standing for an officer position must consent and certify, in writing, that they are not disqualified (currently bankrupt, prohibited from being a director or promoter of a company, disqualified from being an officer of a charitable entity etc), and must be 16 years of age or older.

As an officer you must Act in good faith and in the best interests of the society, exercise powers for proper purposes only, comply with the Act and your society's constitution, exercise reasonable care and diligence, not create a substantial risk of serious loss to creditors, and not incur an obligation the officer doesn't reasonably believe the society can perform.

## Club Night

The upcoming Club night will be held on Friday, April 4th, featuring a performance by singer Tommy Pickett from 1800 to 2000. Tommy, the nephew of former member Lance Pickett, is known for his up-tempo and folk-inspired songwriting, which is both lively and heartfelt. His distinctive style and socially conscious lyrics are sure to captivate the audience. Admission is free, so we encourage you to bring family and friends to join us for an evening of enjoyable music by Tommy Pickett.

1600 bar opens, finger food from 1700.



## Fri 11 – Sun 13 Apr – Poppy Day and Poppy Collection.

Due to Easter weekend Poppy Day is early this year on Friday 11 April. This is the one time of the year when we need members to commit a couple of hours to assist with the collection. Friday we collect on the streets of Takapuna and Devonport, local supermarkets and Takapuna Mall. Sat and Sun we collect at the local supermarkets and Takapuna Mall only. The Navy is providing personnel to assist with Friday's Street collection, but we do need volunteers for Friday, Saturday and Sunday at the supermarkets. If you can assist, please let the manager or myself know.

## **Fri 25 April – Anzac Day**

**1030 - Parade Muster at Fleet Street**

**1045 – Guests Seated**

**1045 – Parade March Off**

**1100 – Ceremony Commences**

Auckland Heritage and Culture have approved adding SGT Alan Wallace, Service Number 4/72A, to the list of WWI personnel killed in action on the Devonport War Memorial. Alan Wallace was born in Devonport, New Zealand, in 1891 to George and Florence Wallace. He grew up on Lake Road, where his father managed the Devonport Gas Works. He died on 10 May 1915 from injuries sustained at Gallipoli on 9 May 1915. His brother Bertram also died in the War at the Somme, France in 1916, and is listed on the Devonport Memorial WWI list.

The intention is to tell the Wallace family story and unveil his name with family members present on Anzac Day.



**Muzz Kennett**  
President