



# The Noticeboard

[www.rsaqueenstown.co.nz](http://www.rsaqueenstown.co.nz)

RSA Queenstown  
PO Box 1969  
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**Welcome to the Newsletter of RSA Queenstown**

## Newsletter

Hello Members. The next newsletter was not due until the end of June, however with the exceptional circumstances that prevented us from gathering together on ANZAC day this year, it is appropriate to share individual, family and community efforts that were made to ensure we did what we could to Remember. I am writing this on the eve of New Zealand moving from “level 4” to level 3” status in the fight against COVID19. For the vast majority of us there will be no difference really as we continue to live in our “bubble” but perhaps the adventure of a visit to the supermarket might be a new and welcome event for some 😊

### ANZAC 2020

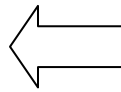


*While we were saddened that we could not show our Respect and Remembrance in the traditional way of Dawn Service, Parade and Civil Service in our community. It was heartening to see how we did what we could, in our driveway, streets and on our balconies to ensure that the sacrifices of the past are not forgotten. The sound of the Last Post and National Anthem being played across the neighbourhood, was both a sombre and important statement that **We Will Remember Them***

I do hope you all opened the Video clip that Queenstown RSA President, Phil Wiel prepared for ANZAC day, it was so nice to have this as a local and personal tribute. A big thank you to

Phil, Lyall, Wayne and Ange for their effort and time in putting it together.

There was of course an abundance of ANZAC material available on line, TV, and UTube so we could participate alone or with our families. Thank goodness for technology!

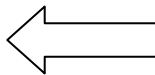


Russel and Louise Houliston's ANZAC fence

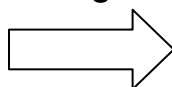
A Homemade wreath placed at the Memorial Gates



Grace and George Mason with their beautifully decorated window at home

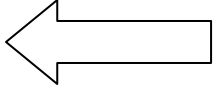


Don Simms Queenstown RSA member from Christchurch ready to head out on ANZC morning

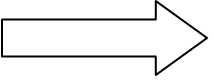




Graeme Stagg,  
Queenstown RSA  
member who lives in the  
UK, lays a wreath at the  
East Grinstead war  
memorial on ANZAC Day



Mike and Helen Skudder's mail box



**The Sacrifice from the Wakatipu region**

A look back into our recent history to gives some perspective and some local context to what war and therefore ANZAC Day has meant to Queenstown and the Wakatipu region. The Roll of Honour, in the Memorial Centre foyer stands as an ongoing memorial to the sons of the Wakatipu whose lives were taken from them, from their families and friends, and from their community while they served their country. During the First World War 275 men left the Wakatipu to serve King and country. Of these 82 did not return. It does not take a

mathematician to work out that almost one in every three men who left this beautiful part of New Zealand never made it home. This tragically high casualty rate, incidentally, was one of the highest of any region in New Zealand, and New Zealand had one of the highest casualty rates of all the British Empire countries involved in what became known as the Great War. 82 men lost from a small community numbering hundreds rather than thousands is an awful price to pay so it is little wonder that our communities took such a long time to recover from the ravages of this war. Which brings me back to the Roll of Honour. In addition to the names of the fallen there are four epitaphs on the Roll. These epitaphs are a message to each and every one of us, we who have benefitted from the sacrifices of those whose names appear on the Roll. I would like to mention a couple of these epitaphs. **Service before Self** epitomizes the selfless attitude of those who were prepared to give so much for the freedoms and lifestyle we enjoy today. The other I would mention has perhaps more meaning than the others. **See to it that they shall not have suffered and died in vain.** The meaning of this will probably be different for each of us who read it, but it implores us to learn from the mistakes of the past, to take every possible step to maintain a state of peace, to be tolerant and understanding of those with whom we might not see eye to eye with, to use the power of the word before the power of the sword, and perhaps more than anything it requires is to maintain the values of freedom that they fought and died for. To do anything less is to dishonor their sacrifice. **We will remember them.**

## **Happy Events**

I will finish this Newsletter with a mention of two couples who celebrated significant wedding anniversaries while we have been in lockdown – I have mentioned this earlier in the month in my brief emails, but there is not a lot of happy news out there so couldn't resist popping these lovely photos in the Newsletter. Congratulations to Lyall and Anne Mcgregor, Ron and Barbara Nind on these fabulous milestones.





**Ron and Barbara Nind  
60 years married**

**CELEBRATE!**

**Lyall and Anne McGregor  
50 years married**



Any comments or questions then please do contact Maryann Geddes, Secretary. In person or via email [maryanngeddes@gmail.com](mailto:maryanngeddes@gmail.com)