

NEWS



IN MEMORY: Edna Blayden next to the plaque of her late husband, Bill, at the Anzac Day walk. Ms Blayden also served three years in the RAAF.

Poignant Anzac walk

SOLDIERS CLUB

BY ANDREA CANTLE

THE Anzac walk was officially opened at the Batemans Bay Soldiers Club on Anzac Day 2019.

Batemans Bay RSL Sub-Branch president Brian Wheelersaid the first plaques on the wall of remembrance represented service men and women killed in World Wars I and II.

"They're twice the size of the other plaques," he said.

"That represents 26 people who were killed overseas and you know that they never came home. Their families did not see them," he said.

"We dedicate that first section to them.

"(The plaques) will give you their name, their date of birth, where they were born. Then it tells you where they were killed and where they're buried overseas.

"That's our commemoration to those guys."

He said there were 551

plaques altogether, with the last added only a week ago.

"All those people have come home, had whatever life they could with their families," he said.

As each person died, the sub-branch prepared a plaque for them. Sometimes information came late.

"Unfortunately sometimes we get a person who may have died 10 years ago, and we don't know about it at that point," Mr Wheeler said.

"The wall is there for ded-

ication to servicemen and ex-servicemen."

Retired service men and women and the family of those who served attended the opening, including Edna Blayden from Batemans Bay.

Ms Blayden's husband, Bill, served for three and a half years including at Hiroshima.

Ms Blayden also served three years in the Royal Australian Air Force.

Soldiers Club CEO Paul Biddlestone thanked the

club team, the board and the architects and all involved with the production of the walk.

"(This is) something we are incredibly proud of," he said.

Dominic Pelle Architects designed the walk and said on their website it was a "a sensitive and respectful tribute to past servicemen and women, creating a contemplative and reflective transition from the arrival sequence into the main areas of the club."



Princes Highway crash.

SINGLE-VEHICLE CRASH ON PRINCES HIGHWAY

Highway Patrol and Batemans Bay Fire and Rescue responded to a single-vehicle accident on the Princes Highway, Batemans Bay on Thursday, April 25.

A Highway Patrol spokesman said the driver became distracted while turning right on to the Princes Highway from Beach Road.

"The driver had ice cream on the seat, and as he came around the bend, the ice-cream must have moved," he said. "The driver reached for the ice-cream, and in doing so lost control of the vehicle and ran into the central safety railing."

The spokesman confirmed the driver was uninjured.

Batemans Bay Fire and Rescue spokesman, Craig Mashman, said the vehicle has since been towed from the scene.

"We were able to remove the vehicle that was impaled on the fence," he said. "We had to cut the fence away, because it was in a precarious position, and remove it altogether."

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WEATHER

TODAY	TOMORROW	SUNDAY
Mostly sunny Min: 11°C Max: 24°C	Sunny Min: 5°C Max: 19°C	Sunny Min: 4°C Max: 21°C
		MONDAY Mostly sunny Min: 7°C Max: 21°C

CONTACTS

The Bay Post is published every Wednesday and Friday and can be read online seven days a week at www.batemansbaypost.com.au. We welcome your inquiries on the platforms below.

General inquiries: (02) 4472 6577
Email: kerrie.oconnor@fairfaxmedia.com.au
Advertising inquiries: rod.white@fairfaxmedia.com.au

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