

Memorandum & Understanding of: the Iluka/Woombah Veterans & Veterans Supporters Hub



This is to give all an understanding of our hub and why it was setup. The Iluka/Woombah Veterans and Veterans Supporters Hub is — and always will be — our total focus on **veterans themselves**. To stay true to that purpose, our Hub cannot formally connect, align, or affiliate with any other community organisation, ceremonial group, or Remembrance-based body.

Our responsibility is to honour **every individual veteran**. Each person has the right to choose which organisations, ceremonies, or activities they wish to be part of. That choice belongs to them — not to the Hub.

If the Hub were to join or align with another organisation, it could unintentionally place pressure on veterans who do not wish to be associated with those groups. That would go against our core values of independence, respect, and personal choice.

By remaining neutral and independent, we protect the dignity, comfort, and freedom of every veteran who walks through our doors.

Why We Remain Neutral

Why our Hub remains neutral. This position isn't based on opinion — it comes directly from the findings of the Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide, as well as the research I personally carried out in 2021. During that time, I travelled throughout Queensland, New South Wales, and the ACT, visiting numerous country towns and major city veteran organisations. I met with veterans from all walks of life and listened closely to the issues that affected them.

Those conversations gave me a clear insight into the challenges many veterans face, and it became obvious that a truly independent, veteran-focused hub was needed — a place free from pressure, politics, or affiliation, where every veteran could feel safe, respected, and supported.

ANZAC Day — A Personal Choice

ANZAC Day is deeply personal for every veteran, and each member of our group has the right to spend the day in whatever way feels right for them. That has always been our position, and it remains unchanged.

We are fortunate to have good people within our Hub who have chosen to help run the ANZAC Day service this year, and we commend them for stepping forward and organising the day. As a Hub, we will always lay a wreath — that is our tradition and our commitment.

Beyond that, it is entirely up to each individual how they choose to participate. No one is expected to attend, assist, or align themselves with any particular group or activity. Personal choice is at the heart of who we are, and we will always respect that.