

IN FORCE: Hundreds attend the Anzac Day dawn service in Emu Park.

PHOTO: CI25/0409/2

RSL has foreshore vision

Vietnam vet devises plan for Emu Park

By ADRIAN TAYLOR

RSL stalwart Ross Coulter has revealed an ambitious vision for one of the Capricorn Coast's most iconic foreshores.

The Vietnam veteran has been working for years on a way to transform the pot-holed dirt near the Emu Park RSL and cenotaph into a smart park and tourist attraction.

And his plan won a sympathetic and enthusiastic hearing at Rockhampton Regional Council this week.

Ross, who has lived in Emu Park for 32 years, told councillors he believed it would be possible to create what he called Anzac Plaza as an attractive link between the town's main tourist beach and the Singing Ship sculpture.

The plaza would incorporate the wooden Queensland Country Women's Association rotunda in a redeveloped and landscaped area with paved walkways, sculptures and car parks.

"It would complete the foreshore," he said.

"The cenotaph should be the centre point of the town. It's not good enough at the moment when you look at the surrounds."

The proposal also includes upgrading the cenotaph and extending the RSL Memorial Hall.

Although he was not asking the council to fund the

scheme, he was looking for the council to support it so it could attract funding from other bodies.

"The RSL

hopes to get people on side and enthusiastic," he said.

"It would be perfect if we can open this on Anzac Day in 2015 – the 100th Anzac anniversary."

The RSL has been on site for 61 years.

Tom Upton, the council's general manager of commercial services, said he believed there would be multiple funding opportunities over the coming three years.

Cr Brett Svendsen, who represents Emu Park, was another enthusiastic supporter of the proposal.

"What is proposed here is consistent with our plans. We are certainly heading in the same direction," he said. After making his presentation Ross said he was pleased with the response and stressed that the ideas had not been fully costed.

"So far it is supported by the RSL but we need to be proactive in Emu Park and let people know what we have in mind.

"We will be getting posters printed and we want feedback."



CONCEPT PLAN: Ross's vision for Anzac Plaza would transform the area which is currently a mix of grass and dirt.

Below: Soldiers gather for a dawn service.

PHOTO: SUPPLIED





SOLEMN MOMENT: Ross pays his respects at the cenotaph.



REMEMBER: Ross believes the cenotaph should be the centre of the community.

BULLY BRIEFS

Over limit

A YEPPOON man, 50, recorded a blood-alcohol reading of 0.154 while driving on Appleton Dr, Yeppoon, at 8.25pm on Thursday.

He was immediately disqualified from driving and is due to appear in the Yeppoon Magistrates Court on December 2.

Blues night

A BIG Blues Night will be held tonight at the Yeppoon Town Hall with Mescalito Blues and new local band Medicinal Porpoises.

Cost is \$22, with funds raised going towards Capricorn Coast's community radio station, Radio Nag.

Exhibition

A GLIMPSE of My Travels through Italy and Greece and other works by local artist Kay Duggan will be officially opened by Member for Keppel Paul Hoolihan in the Paint Pot Gallery, Beaman Park, Yeppoon, today at 7pm.

RSVP 4939 6096. Kay's exhibition will be open daily from 9.30am to 4.30pm until November 30.

Market day

THE Anglican Parish of Keppel will hold a market day today at St James, 18 Housden Plc, Lammermoor, from 7am–11am, with plants and produce, cakes and craft, trash and treasure, toys and books and raffles.

All welcome.

Zumba

GET active today and participate in Beach Zumba on the Yeppoon Main Beach at 9.30am.

Join a Zumba instructor for fun and movement on the beach, with an exercise session that is suitable for all ages and experience levels.

A healthy morning tea will be provided after the Zumba workout.

Don't forget to slip, slop, slap and bring a bottle of water to quench your thirst.

For more information contact Sophia on 1300 22 55 77 or visit www.kickstartcq .com.au

Explore genres THE YEPPOON Li-

THE YEPPOON Library will hold a genre workshop, called Genre Smorgasbord, today from 11am to 2.30pm where writers can learn more about the process of writing and get some inspiration.

Bring a plate to share for lunch as participants will have the opportunity to network and discuss ideas with other writers. Phone 4939 3433 to reserve your seat.