



## DARYL CHRISTIE TREASURER

Daryl is the current Treasurer of Camberwell RSL and former Treasurer of Tramways East Melbourne RSL Sub-Branch from 2007-2023 inclusive. Previously, Daryl spent 33 years working for the Commonwealth Bank in various Bank Manager roles which took him to many country towns in Victoria before he moved to Melbourne to fill the role of Central Branch Manager - Greensborough Region.

Daryl is a proud Carlton supporter and was recruited to play for Carlton in 1965, training under Ron Barassi. His football career was cut short in the mid-1960s, as conscription hit with all young men mandated to register for National Service. Daryl was conscripted for two years of Military Service in September 1966.

Records show Lance-Corporal Daryl Charles Christie, service NO.3789736, served with the 1st Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment in Vietnam from 18th March to the 30th July 1968. His wartime story was ferocious and bloody. Juxtaposed with the less-publicised horrors of The Battle of Coral Balmoral — the longest, most sustained battle fought by Australians in Vietnam and the first instance of hand-to-hand combat since WW2.

On 12th May 1968, they were tasked to set up a Fire Support Patrol Base (FSPB) named Coral, to impede the enemy progress into and out of Saigon (now Ho Chi Minh City). They were constantly under attack, or under fire in the jungle, often for weeks at a time.



Coral was overrun by large forces of enemy soldiers on two occasions — in the early hours of 13th and 16th May.

The Battle of Coral Balmoral lasted from 12th May to the 6th June 1968 — nearly a month of ever-present danger. Daryl 'celebrated' his 22nd birthday in the jungle and on the battlefield at Coral. Everyone has heard of the battle of Long Tan, which lasted about three hours, yet no one knows of the battle of Coral. Because of the number of casualties, the Government of the day elected to keep it quiet from the public. You can read more about Daryl's experience in the jungle [here](#).

Daryl's goal is to see the Camberwell 'Pompey Elliott' RSL grow into a safe, social space for members to catch up, have fun and get access to the support they need. He values community and is a committee member of a body corporate group of elected owners who are responsible for effective management and governance of the apartment block where he lives in Port Melbourne. He values family and is the proud husband of Robyn, father to his three children and 'Pa' to his 4 granddaughters.