

**RETURNED & SERVICES LEAGUE OF AUSTRALIA
(QUEENSLAND BRANCH)**

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LATEST NEWS

Monday, June 14, 2010

Top Honours for RSL State President

RSL Queensland President Doug Formby has been formally recognised for years of service to both veterans and the wider community, receiving the Member of the Order of Australia as part of the Queen's Birthday Honours.

Mr Formby has served as Queensland President of the RSL since 2006 following a decorated military career and experience at not-for-profit organisations such as Legacy and the RSPCA.

After seeing active duty in both Vietnam and Indonesia, Mr Formby said he dedicated the later years of his life to helping his fellow service men and women because of the mutual understanding between soldiers.

"When a young soldier comes back from service the best person to share with is an old Digger who has been through similar circumstances," he said.

"The RSL provides good, old-fashioned mateship to those in need.

"One of the hardest, but most rewarding parts of my career with RSL Queensland has been the work to keep the League relevant to younger defence force personnel," Mr Formby said.

"The biggest issue for older Diggers is the Defence Force Retirement Benefits Scheme, but for younger soldiers it is about providing proper counselling services when they come home from places like Afghanistan."

Mr Formby said the award should be credited to both his family and the good work done by RSL Queensland.

"This award, while gratefully received, is really a reflection on my wife and children who have allowed me to work for the good of others and the RSL which helps so many of our deserving veterans."

