

TRANQUILLITYON YOUR ARRIVAL

magine a long, green-blue pool, fringed by native palms, long grasses and lush hedging. In the centre stand five Balinese bowls, elevated on plinths and overflowing with water. The movement sends ripples across the Italian mosaic that lines the pool's floor and water laps at the bluestone of the pool's edges. At night, soft lights illuminate the five bowls, glinting off the flowing water and the leaves of the plants in the surrounding gardens. This dreamlike vision has become a reality at Fairfield RSL.

Water symbolises vitality, contentment and wellbeing, and we enjoy the sounds of fresh running water as we walk toward the entrance, our path lined with fiery lamps while glass lanterns catch the light overhead.

With its cool colour scheme

and natural finishes, the pool creates an atmosphere of serene meditation, encouraging us to reflect on the beauty of the natural world. The stretch of water also holds symbolic ties to our identity as an RSL and our duty to the servicemen and women who have fought for Australia across the seas. Quiet and tranquil, this project adds to the celebration of respect and service that forms the centre of our ethos.

"The pool is three metres wide, 23 metres long and 30 centimetres deep, with plenty of leafy landscaping running down one side to separate it from the noise and traffic of Anzac Avenue," says Craig Jones, the RSL's building consultant. "Almost 25 litres of water will circulate through the filtration and pumping system throughout the day. It cascades from the raised bowls into the pool below."

Forming a major aspect of the Club's powerful first impression for visitors, the new water feature is an introduction to the welcoming, soothing dynamic and recurring natural themes that give Fairfield RSL its signature ambience. To tie everything together, the entrance surrounding the pool will see some alterations, with new bluestone and wood finishes around the columns and more fern-filled garden beds lining the doors. Stop by the pool and let the sight and sound of the gently flowing water wash away your worries and relax both your body and mind.