

St Marys RSL Sub-Branch

Colin Shepherd OAM Memorial School Scholarship Program

2018 Topics

- Discuss with your parents/family to identify a family link to an Australian soldier then research that person's life. Your research should cover his/her pre-service life, service training, overseas service, post-service life and issues (good and bad). Present your research and ***your views*** about his/her involvement, in a way that best illustrates his/her commitment to Australia's part in the war effort.
- Author a poem or design a visual display that best reflects ***your thoughts/feelings*** about those in the Australian Defence Force who gave their lives so that all current and future Australians can live in the freedom, peace and harmony that we enjoy in this Nation today. The work should focus on the Great War of 1914-1918 leading in particular to the Armistice of 11th November 1918. Your work must include an addendum to illustrate ***what caused you to choose this topic and what were the ideas that your poem/display is trying to display***.
- The 1968 TET Offensive in the Vietnam War, whilst largely countered by the South Vietnamese and American forces, particularly impacted Australia through the Battles of Coral and Balmoral. Discuss the reasons and process of the lead up to TET and then focus on the impact for Australia of the conflict at our Coral and Balmoral Fire Bases. ***Why do you think*** this 'corridor' was so important to the North Vietnamese? Include ***your views*** about the Australian forces' capabilities displayed through those actions.
- Conduct research into the broad range of animals that have been used by Australians in any conflict since the Boer War. What uses were they put to? How effective were they? Detail at least two such instances. What are ***your feelings about the ethical*** use of animals in warfare?
- In recent years Australia has been involved in a number of conflicts including Iraq and Afghanistan. Choose one, then research to determine if Australia's involvement was valued by our Coalition Forces. Was our military involvement accepted and supported by Australians generally? ***Why do you support (or NOT support)*** your research outcomes.
- Discuss the changing role of women in Australia's Armed Forces over the last 100 years. ***Why do you think*** the 'By the Left' movement in Australia come into being and what is its goal?
- Author a poem, design a visual display, or conduct research that best reflects your thoughts/feelings about the experiences of Australian P.O.W.'s. The work should ***focus on*** the WWII era. Present your research and ***your views*** about such experiences in a way that best illustrates the experiences of Australians