

The ANZAC spirit has different meanings for each of us and yet ANZAC is an instantly identifiable marker of our unique Australian character. From the tradition that tempered our nation on the cliffs at Gallipoli to the reality lived by those serving today, ANZAC has been a testament of Australian culture for over 100 years.

The ANZAC’s place are ingrained in our national psyche and extend far beyond Gallipoli or World War I to dozens of places that combined, create a roll call of sacrifice. Each generation understands the burden of ANZAC is a debt we cannot live up to, except continue to live as the nation we are – generous and free.

In a truly unique way, Australia uses ANZAC day to reflect on the events of our military past, to emphasise remembrance, and to contemplate the lessons of our history.

This year for ANZAC day, to continue this tradition of contemplation, I along with our community RSL clubs will inaugurate an annual writing competition open to high school students in years 9 and 10 in the Pine Rivers community.

The aim of this writing competition is to provide a new generation the opportunity to express their understanding and interest in ANZAC men and women both past and present. It is hoped that these written pieces will offer fresh perspectives that bring to light the spirit of ANZAC in writing.

In your written pieces you are encouraged to highlight what the ANZAC spirit means to you. For some the ANZAC spirit encompasses a ‘can-do’ attitude, the bringing together of a community, being there for a mate when they are in need or the love from those who answer the call to service and sacrifice and the life they leave behind. These are some traditional perspectives, but new ones are found every year – and this year yours are welcome too.

Whatever your interpretation of the ANZAC spirit is, the stories can take the form of a poem, short story, narrative essay or descriptive essay. The written pieces should be no more than 1,000 words.

The ANZAC writing competition will open on the 2nd of March, closing on the 2nd of April. Judging will be undertaken by a panel of President’s from our local RSL clubs.

Best wishes to all our exceptional writers and to the schools. I look forward to reading all your marvellous entries.



Open to students in grades 9 and 10, this competition provides the opportunity to express what the ANZAC spirit means to you in today’s world. Entries must be based on the ANZAC spirit, with a category highlighted throughout the essay, one of the three categories below must be chosen. The winner will receive a $300 Visa card. All stories must be submitted via email sent to campaign@nikkiboyd.com.au by midnight 2nd of April.

Select applicable category:

What does the ANZAC spirit mean to you?

ANZAC spirit in the modern day

A person who encompasses the ANZAC spirit.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

RSL representative- Dayboro, Samford or Bray Park- Strathpine (please circle if applicable)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

***This completed form and essay must be attached to the email***

Competition rules:

1. Written in formal writing style (such as poem, short story, narrative essay or descriptive essay)
2. The story must capture your understanding and interest in ANZAC men and women of the past and present.
3. Word length 1000 words
4. Participants must be in grades 9 or 10 in order to enter
5. All entry forms can either be signed by parent/guardian, school representative if they are a student of Bray Park State High or Pine Rivers State High OR signed by a representative of either Dayboro, Samford or Bray Park- Strathpine RSL.
6. Permission is granted to publish story on Nikki Boyd’s MP’s Facebook and website. As well protentional distribution of the winning essay at events and outlets.

I *(parent/guardian),*

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Approvethe Nikki Boyd MP ANZAC spirit essay competition. I understand that winning the essay competition that the story along with the student’s name, grade and school will be published on Nikki Boyd MP’s Facebook and website. As well the potential distribution of the essay at events and outlets.