



Media Release

Senator the Hon Michael Ronaldson
Minister for Veterans' Affairs
Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for the Centenary of ANZAC
Special Minister of State

Monday, 28 July 2014

VA051

ANZAC SPIRIT LIVES ON IN OUR SCHOOLS

The Minister for Veterans' Affairs and the Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for the Centenary of ANZAC, Senator the Hon. Michael Ronaldson, today congratulated schools from the Australian Capital Territory (ACT) and Western Australia (WA) that have been awarded top honours in this year's *Anzac Day Schools' Awards*.

"I am pleased to announce that Melba Copland Secondary School, ACT and Binu Primary School, WA have taken out their respective state and national categories in this year's *Anzac Day Schools' Awards*," Senator Ronaldson said.

"Both schools have demonstrated their commitment to appropriately commemorating and learning about the service and sacrifice of Australians during wartime and, in doing so, are ensuring the Anzac spirit lives on for future generations."

This year's National and ACT Secondary Winner, Melba Copland Secondary School is commended for undertaking a wide variety of Anzac related learning activities, and encouraging students to research and think critically about Australia's military service. The school also extensively involved their local community by inviting veterans to talk to students and inviting current serving members of the Australian Defence Force and other local schools to participate in their Anzac Day service.

This year's National and WA Primary Winning entry came from Binu Primary School. The school conducted a special project where students grew 100 seedlings from their established Lone Pine tree. They will gift the seedlings to other schools across the state in a gesture of sharing the Anzac spirit. It is planned the seedlings will be planted on Anzac Day in 2015.

Senator Ronaldson today visited two schools in Wangaratta to congratulate students on their efforts: Wangaratta High School, the Victorian runner-up in the Secondary school category, and Wangaratta West Primary School, winner of the *Best Innovative Activity* special category.

"With the Anzac Centenary almost upon us, now is the time to reflect, as these schools have done, on the contribution of the men and women who left our shores bound for the First World War, and all those who have followed in their footsteps in the hundred years since," Senator Ronaldson said.

"An understanding of service and sacrifice will live on in future generations of Australians thanks to the commitment of these primary and secondary schools. The *Anzac Day Schools' Awards* competition recognises the exceptional innovative learning that is occurring in our schools and the importance of commemorating our wartime history."

For more information on the *Anzac Day Schools' Awards* visit www.dva.gov.au/schoolsawards

Editor's note: A full list of winners and runners-up in each state and territory is attached.

Media inquiries: Minister Ronaldson: David Roberts 02 6277 7820 or 0418 515331
Department of Veterans' Affairs Media: 02 6289 6203

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2014 Anzac Day Schools' Awards

NATIONAL WINNERS	STATE	AMOUNT
Melba Copland Secondary College	ACT	\$1,000
Binnu Primary School	WA	\$1,000
STATE WINNERS -Secondary	STATE	AMOUNT
John Therry Catholic High School	NSW	\$2,000
Alkira Secondary College	VIC	\$2,000
St Ursula's College	QLD	\$2,000
Craigmore Christian School	SA	\$2,000
Comet Bay College	WA	\$2,000
Rose Bay High School	TAS	\$2,000
Mackillop Catholic College	NT	\$2,000
Melba Copland Secondary College	ACT	\$2,000
STATE RUNNERS-UP -Secondary	STATE	AMOUNT
Asquith Girls High School	NSW	\$500
Wangaratta High School	VIC	\$500
Biggenden State School	QLD	\$500
Urrbrae Agricultural High School	SA	\$500
Lesmurdie Senior High School	WA	\$500
Palmerston Senior College	NT	\$500
St Clare's College	ACT	\$500
STATE WINNERS - Primary	STATE	AMOUNT
St John Vianney's Parish School	NSW	\$2,000
Thomas Chirnside Primary School	VIC	\$2,000
Ooonoonba State School	QLD	\$2,000
Snowtown Primary School	SA	\$2,000
Binnu Primary School	WA	\$2,000
Trevallyn Primary School	TAS	\$2,000
Tipperary Station School	NT	\$2,000
Red Hill Primary School	ACT	\$2,000
STATE RUNNERS-UP - Primary	STATE	AMOUNT
Leppington Public School	NSW	\$500
Mossgiel Park Primary School	VIC	\$500
West Moreton Anglican College	QLD	\$500
St Columba's Memorial School	SA	\$500
Falls Road Primary School	WA	\$500
Moil Primary School	NT	\$500
Weetangera Primary School	ACT	\$500
SPECIAL CATEGORY WINNERS	STATE	AMOUNT
Best Innovative Activity - Wangaratta West Primary School	VIC	\$1,000
Best Local History Research - Urrbrae Agricultural High School	SA	\$1,000
Best Veteran & Community Involvement - Omeo Primary School	VIC	\$1,000
Best Use of Technology - The Essington School Darwin	NT	\$1,000
Best Commemorative Art - Sunrise Christian School, Paradise Campus	SA	\$1,000