



# **THE NORMAN A SMITH MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FOR YEAR 10 STUDENTS**



## **Information for Schools - 2025**

### **1. Introduction**

The Norman A. Smith Memorial Scholarship honours a long serving RSL member. Norman worked tirelessly to assist ex-service personnel and families coping with the many problems that confronted them post World War Two.

Norman was an executive member of RSL Victoria and the Waverley RSL Sub-Branch Inc. He expressed keen interest in the welfare and personal development of young people. He was also intensely interested in and involved with competitive sport and encouraged them to participate in physical fitness.

The Scholarship was established in 1986 and has been awarded annually.

### **2. Object of the Scholarship**

To enable a Year 10 student displaying leadership potential and a commitment to their community, and lives or studies in the City of Monash, to continue their schooling through to tertiary studies. Their subsequent career choice should seek to benefit their fellow Australians.

### **3. Eligibility**

An applicant must be a full-time Year 10 student, an Australian citizen and a resident in or attend a secondary school in the City of Monash.

### **4. Assessment**

The assessment will be based on the following criteria:

- Academic ability
- Leadership qualities
- Community awareness and involvement
- Aptitude for logical thinking
- Decision making skills.

Applicants will sit a ninety-minute examination to assess:

- their general knowledge of Australia's history, contemporary society, natural systems and military history, and
- an essay on leadership concepts.

Prior to the examination, applicants will be required to submit a personal profile for assessment. The profile format guidelines will be provided separately.

The multiple-choice questions are drawn from the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA) Years 7 to 10 Civic and Citizenship, History and Geography course descriptions:

- Government and democracy
- Laws and Citizens
- Citizenship, Diversity and Identity
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and cultures
- The history of Australia 1750-1918
- Australia at war (1914-1918): World War I
- Australia at war (1939-1945): World War II
- Biomes and food security
- Environmental change and management
- Geographies of interconnections

The essay topic will draw upon the lived experiences of Year 10 students with an emphasis on the theme of leadership.

The examination will be held on Saturday morning 27 July at Wesley College, Glen Waverley. The Waverley RSL Sub-Branch sincerely thanks Wesley for their ongoing support.

#### **5. Selection of Finalists**

Following the assessment process outlined above, five finalists will be selected to attend interviews on Monday evening 11 August. A Presentation Night will be held on Thursday evening 11 September, at which the winner will be announced. The committee will issue invitations to finalists' families and school representatives as well as the former Norman A Smith Scholars. The Mayor of Monash and other dignitaries are always welcome guests.

#### **6 Value of the Scholarship**

One scholarship of \$8,000 (or some other amount as may be determined from time to time by the Waverley RSL Sub-Branch Inc.) shall be awarded each year. The Scholarship shall be payable in two equal instalments in Years 10 and 11, subject to receipt by the Scholarship Committee of a formal school report confirming satisfactory academic progress during year 11.

#### **7. Communication**

- All contact with schools and applicants by email: [nass@waverleyrsl.com.au](mailto:nass@waverleyrsl.com.au)
- The committee will contact coordinators and applicants by reply email.
- Mobile phones may be used in certain circumstances.
- The Waverley RSL Sub-Branch website includes a NASS page containing all documents and information – <https://www.waverleyrsl.com.au/nass>

#### **8. The 2025 Timeline**

- 18 April Information emailed to schools.
- 16 May Applications close.
- 18 July Personal Profiles submitted.
- 26 July Examination at Wesley College, Glen Waverley.
- 11 August Finalist interviews at Waverley RSL
- 11 September Presentation Night at Waverley RSL

#### **9. Working with Children Checks**

Committee members have current checks.

#### **10. Privacy Provisions**

The committee is bound by the Sub-Branch's Privacy Policy published on its web site.