



# ARTHUR GRASSBY SCHOLARSHIP



The Arthur Grassby Scholarships (AGS) of \$6,300 are being made available to **Year 11** students across the East Gippsland Shire. The scholarships provide our younger generation with an insight into the Gippsland connection of the Kokoda Trail and the sacrifices made by men from this area so they can enjoy the lives they live today.

The award is an opportunity to join a Kokoda trek with 'Adventure Kokoda' in the July school holidays (July 3-13). Arthur Grassby, of Bairnsdale, fought with the 39th Battalion and was in the first troops to encounter the Japanese at Kokoda, aged 16.

The successful applicants will be assisted with training and chaperoned on the trek. In addition to the scholarship, there will be around an \$600-800 commitment required from participants for items like hiking boots, some incidentals and medical expenses.

Full participation in training is required and the AGS reserves the right to refuse participation of those they do not feel are appropriately prepared from a fitness perspective.

## HOW TO APPLY

The application process is to submit answers to a questionnaire (provided) and write a short essay of not less than 400 words outlining:

1. What does the Kokoda Story mean to Australia.
2. A Gippsland connection to the Kokoda Trail.

The above must be received by the office of Tim Bull MP, Main Street, Bairnsdale, by 5pm Friday, March 8, 2024, accompanied by a parental permission note (also included) indicating support for the student to trek Kokoda.

Full contact details (name, address, email and mobile) for students and parent(s) must be provided. Students must be available to attend a 20 minute in-person interview on a later date (to be specified) if shortlisted. From this interview process the successful applicants will be selected.

These interviews will be held on one day with a panel of three current or ex-service personnel, who will make the difficult final selections independently. Students must be available on this allocated interview day which cannot be altered once chosen and applicants are advised.

## KOKODA TREK DETAILS

- Duration of trek is nine days (11 day trip all up). Length of Trail 120 km.
- A good level of fitness is required, in particular mental and physical endurance.
- International airfares, domestic airfares, PNG internal flight, accommodation, insurance, meals in PNG and personal porter costs are covered.
- Students will be assisted with training locally by previous Kokoda trekkers.
- Extensive detail about the trek company we use and Kokoda Trail can be found on the 'Adventure Kokoda' website: [www.kokodatreks.com](http://www.kokodatreks.com)
- For any further details or questions email [tim.bull@parliament.vic.gov.au](mailto:tim.bull@parliament.vic.gov.au)