

RSL Virtual War Memorial for PRIMARY SCHOOLS

The RSL Virtual War Memorial is built on the four pillars of education, commemoration, engagement and accessibility. It was launched in 2014 with the goal of preserving and sharing the stories of all Australians who have served in conflict from the Boer War to Afghanistan. We currently have over 650,000 individual profiles on the site and will eventually have approximately 1.8 million.

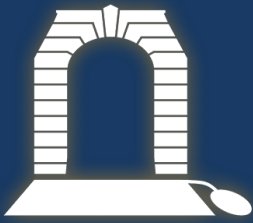
The Schools Program

DECD provided funding to develop a portal within the VWM, to meet national curriculum objectives across the three education sectors and to promote a deeper understanding of the impact of war on communities.

In the secondary schools program, students curate a profile, which is then published on the site. Profile by profile a national memorial is built that commemorates not only those who fell but also those who returned, forever changed.

Although the program was initially conceived for secondary schools, there is a great deal of scope and flexibility for primary schools to use the RSL Virtual War Memorial in a way that will achieve both curriculum and school objectives.

The screenshot displays the RSL Virtual War Memorial website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links: Home, Explore, Community, Education, Gallery, Research, Donors, and About. Below this is a search bar with the placeholder text "Enter keywords...". The main content area is titled "Schools Program" and features a large image of Nuriootpa High School. To the right of the image is a sidebar with links: "Schools Program", "Invitation to 2016 Schools Program", "School Resources", and "The Premier's ANZAC Spirit Prize". Below the main image is a section titled "Participating Schools" which lists two schools: Loxton High School (Loxton, Loxton Waikerie - South Australia, Australia) and Aberfoyle Park High School (Adelaide, South Australia, Australia). The sidebar also contains an "About" section with text describing the Schools Program as an exciting learning opportunity involving the partnership between the Department of Education and Child Development (DECD) and RSL-SA. It mentions that the program has been built around the use of the RSL Virtual War Memorial for teaching and learning relating to the Australian Curriculum: History at Years 9 and 10 and Civics and Citizenship at Year 10. Students research and build a profile of an individual who has served Australia, discovering and documenting his or her wartime experience. At the bottom of the sidebar, it states that a trial Schools Program was conducted in 2015 and was used to make the site as student-friendly and as educationally valid as possible ahead of full implementation in 2016. Through the educational portal of the site students have the opportunity, under teacher moderation, to publish their work on the website. Each




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Using the portal

The education portal allows teachers to manage student/class contributions to the RSL Virtual War Memorial through the administration system. It allows them to monitor student progress, provide feedback and control the publication of student work.

1. Schools that wish to work through the education portal contact the Schools Program Manager to set up a specific school page and school administrator.
2. The administrator is then able to add groups and individuals.
3. When published on the site, the projects appear as having been curated by individuals (with parental permission) or by the school.

Orroroo Area School[Back to schools page](#)

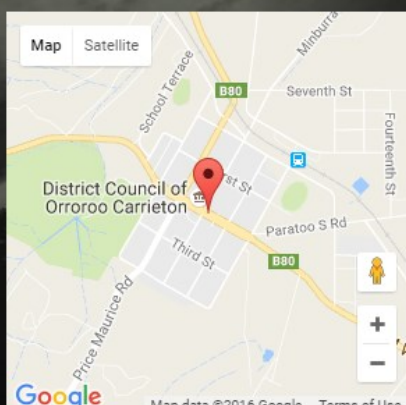




About

Orroroo Area School services the communities of Orroroo, Black Rock, Carrieton, Pekina, Morchard, Walloway, Dawson, Johnburg, Belton, Willowie and Hammond. Students are transported from a radius of about 50km. The district supports cereal cropping and pastoral pursuits and the township of Orroroo is the service centre for outlying areas as well as an extremely healthy flow of tourists. The township has an extremely positive feel about it which also permeates the school. The core values of Orroroo Area School are respect, responsibility, excellence, tolerance and honesty. The school has a history of academic and sporting success of which the community is extremely proud.

[Read more...](#)

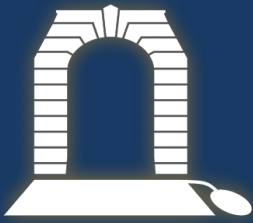


Blog
No blog posts.

Find a student's project

Curated People by Orroroo Area School Students

Filter	Showing 5 people curated by Orroroo Area School
Group	SCHULTZ, Henry James Curated by Taylor Shute Year 9



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4. There is no standard contribution that a student or user needs to make. Their contribution to individual profiles may include personal details, images, links, documents. Students can also contribute in a myriad of ways including texts, posters, and audio-visual presentations (Case Study 1)

Case Study 1 – Eva Thomson and her great grandfather Frank McLean (MM)



A primary school student at Avondale Grammar in Singapore, Eva Thomson used the RSL Virtual War Memorial to research her great grandfather, a veteran of World War Two, who served in the Middle Eastern and Pacific theatres of war. Her parents filmed her presentation for inclusion in Frank McLean's profile on the RSL Virtual War Memorial.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?>

5. Groups may include, but are not limited to:
- Whole classes
 - Groups of students
 - Groups formed by the broader school community – eg. parents, associated volunteers
- (See for example Case Study 2)

Case Study 2 - Comet Bay College

Comet Bay College is an independent R-12 school in Western Australia. Their close proximity to the naval base, HMAS *Stirling*, means that they have a high proportion of children of Defence families and, as a result, a Defence Transition Mentor (DTM) on site. The school and the DTM have established a museum, an honour wall and volunteer groups, composed of members of the school community. This volunteer group works on researching individuals associated with the school who have served Australia in conflict.

<https://rslvirtualwarmemorial.org.au/explore/schools/24>





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Using the public system

Individual Profiles – students and classes can contribute to individual profiles through the public system, in a similar manner to the school system. They will just need to register as a user, with an email address and some details. Any information contributed to the biography field will be published as a distinct entry with the user's name.

You can search for people using the Find A Person search on the homepage or on the People page. Use the filters on the left to narrow your results.

<https://rslvirtualwarmemorial.org.au/explore/people>

Memorials - The RSL Virtual War Memorial began as a database of memorials. It allows the connection between names on honour boards and profiles of individuals. In this way, a school memorial can be preserved for perpetuity with the stories behind the names printed on wood or carved in stone.

You can search for local memorials using the map on the Memorials page


<https://rslvirtualwarmemorial.org.au/explore/memorials>

Places - Places can be used to connect all of the elements of the RSL Virtual War Memorial to create the stories of whole communities. They link individuals, memorials, and places such as towns and cities (Case Study 3)


Case Study 3 – Violet Town

Violet Town is a small farming community in rural Victoria. Members of their RSL sub-branch have been researching all of the individuals commemorate on local honour boards and in their avenues of honour. Violet Town is a prime example of the ability of the RSL Virtual War Memorial to preserve the connections between individuals, families and communities. It allows names, memorials and places to be linked to build a more complete picture of the impact of war on communities, on those who were left behind and on those who returned.


Violet Town



War memorial at corner Cowslip St and Railway Cres. Violet Town. Hyacinth St can be seen between the two




YOUNG, John Henry
Service number 519
Corporal
60th Infantry Battalion
AIF WW1
Born 1895




NOONAN, John Joseph
Service number 6057
Private
37th Infantry Battalion
AIF WW1
Born 17 Apr 1890

[View all 80 names](#)


Showing 4 memorials of interest from Violet Town




Violet Town Primary School Honour Roll
Tulip Street
Violet Town, Strathbogie - Victoria, Australia



Earlston State School Honour Board
Cowslip Street, Violet Town
Memorial Hall
Violet Town, Strathbogie - Victoria, Australia



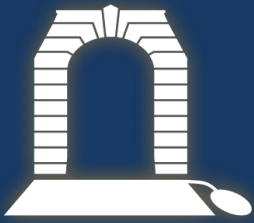
St Dunstan's Honor Roll
High Street
Violet Town, Strathbogie - Victoria, Australia



Violet Town Honour Roll
Cowslip Street
Violet Town, Strathbogie - Victoria, Australia

Details

Located on the Hume Highway between Benalla and Euroa, Violet Town's history is rich. Before Victoria seceded from the colony of New South Wales, The Surveyor-General Major Mitchell



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The RSL Community



For those schools who would like to make connections with the local veteran community but have not yet been able to, we are happy to help. We can put you in touch with local RSL sub-branches and/or with care facilities run by RSL Care SA, at Myrtle Bank and Angle Park.

Please do not hesitate to contact us with your requirements in this respect.

Opening of the Soldiers Home, Myrtle Bank, 1917

Useful Resources

The education resources that have been developed thus far, are aimed at secondary school and public users. However you may find them useful for upper level primary students, or for your own research and use of the RSL Virtual War Memorial.

They can be found at <https://rslvirtualwarmemorial.org.au/education/school-resources>

In particular, you may find the links on our "Researching a Person" resource useful –

https://s3-ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/rslvwm/comfy/cms/files/files/000/000/620/original/Researching_A_Person.pdf



If you have any questions, would like to see the development of any other resources, or would like any on-site assistance, please do not hesitate to ask.