



39th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION (1941 – 1943) ASSOCIATION Inc.

HAROLD BOULD (CARDINIA) KOKODA AWARD

The Harold Bould (Cardinia) Kokoda Award is available each year to Year 10 students who are enrolled in secondary schools in the Cardinia Shire. The award will provide the opportunity for the winning student to join a Kokoda trek at no cost to the winner other than his/her personal equipment and spending money. The successful student will be offered assistance with training prior to the trek. This literary competition was first held within the Cardinia Shire in 2008 and was named after **Harold Bould**. The competition was open to all year 10 students from all the secondary schools within the Cardinia Shire. The students were invited to submit an essay of approximately six hundred words on “What Kokoda Means to Me” and “What Kokoda meant to Australia”. The concept came from the adjoining Baw Baw Shire, organised by the State Member for Narracan, Gary Blackwood. The purpose of the competition is to encourage young people to research and understand the sacrifice made by so many ordinary people, like a farmer from Cardinia, to keep this nation free

HOW TO APPLY

Candidates should complete the attached application form and write an essay of not more than 600 words explaining two aspects of the Kokoda campaign:

1. Why would you like to trek the Kokoda Trail?
2. What was the importance of the Kokoda campaign to Australia in the Battle For Australia?

The Candidate’s school Principal is asked to provide a confidential reference covering the points in the attached Letter to the Principal.

The essay, application form and reference (sent separately) should be submitted to:

The 39th Battalion Association, C/O, 47 Antibes St Parkdale VIC 3195
before 5pm. on 30th September.

KOKODA TREK DETAILS

The trek takes 10 days and covers 100km of difficult country.

A reasonable level of physical fitness is required along with mental endurance and determination.

Airfare and accommodation costs will be covered.

Personal spending and equipment costs (boots, clothes, medical supplies) will be met by the student.

Details of the trek and Kokoda Track may be found on: <http://www.kokodahistorical.com.au/>

Details of the campaign may be found in many books and websites including www.39battalion.com

WHO WAS HARRY BOULD?.

Harold Bould was one of ten children. His family were potato and onion farmers from Cardinia, near Pakenham. Five brothers from this family enlisted for service during WW2. Harold and his brother Keith did not come home. Private Harold Bould who served in B Company 39th Battalion, was killed in action at Kokoda Village on 29th July 1942, only eight days after the Japanese invasion of Papua New Guinea, he has no known grave. Brother Keith was taken prisoner at the fall of Singapore and he died when the prison ship returning to Japan was sunk by the Allies.

The words of Lt. Col. Ralph Honner, DSO. MC. CO. 39th Australian Infantry Battalion remind us that:-

“They died so young. They missed so much. They gave up so much, their hopes, their dreams, their loved ones. They laid down their lives that their friends might live. Greater love hath no man than this”

The service and sacrifice in defence of our homeland, must always remain as part of our heritage. Our generation has a duty to ensure that the next generation of Australians understand that sacrifice and that it is never forgotten.

APPLICATION FORM

Name

Address

.....P/Code.....

Phone

Mobile

Email

School Attended

Date of Birth

Hobbies/Interests.....

.....

SignatureDate.....

PARENTAL PERMISSION FORM

I consent to my child applying for the Harold Bould (Cardinia) Kokoda Award. I understand that the prize is a trek of the Kokoda Track.

I understand that selection is by essay, school reference and interview. Should my child be the winner and the prize is a Kokoda Trek, I realise that I will be responsible for his/her personal equipment and spending money costs.

I also realize that I will have to authorize the person in charge of the trek to consent, where it is impracticable to communicate with me, to my child receiving such medical or surgical treatment as may be deemed necessary and I agree to meet any expense incurred thereby.

Signed.....Date.....

Office Use: Date received.....Replied.....

Interview arrangements.....



39th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION (1941–1943) ASSOCIATION Inc.

Please give this letter to your Principal.

Dear Principal,

The student who has given you this letter is requesting a supporting reference for his/her application for the **Harold Bould (Cardinia) Kokoda Award**.

This award was initiated to highlight the deeds performed by the 39th Battalion in Papua New Guinea during WW2, and the prize for a young local student, is a character building trek over the Kokoda Track.

The soldiers of the 39th Battalion were also young volunteers, with an average age of eighteen and a half, when the Battalion was sent to prevent the Japanese from taking Port Moresby by way of the Kokoda track. They held the track alone, against the Japanese, for five weeks of continuous fighting before being reinforced.

The Association hopes that the award will not only raise awareness among young people of the Battle for Australia but also to give the winner the opportunity to develop personal leadership and teamwork skills.

Therefore, would you please forward a confidential reference by 30th September to:
The 39th Battalion Association, c/o 47 Antibes Street, Parkdale VIC 3195.

In your reference would you please comment on:

- the applicant's suitability as an ambassador for his/her family, school and community,
- his/her physical and mental capabilities to complete a physically and emotionally arduous trek as a member of a team.

The Association values the qualities exhibited by our veterans, particularly determination, endurance, courage, selflessness, and mateship and so....

We are not looking for the best academic applicant for this award but rather, the best person.

Yours sincerely,

Alan Jameson
39th Battalion Association.