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MEDIA RELEASE

COUNCIL TO HOST TENTH ANNUAL MONASH DINNER

A decade after the first Sir John Monash Dinner was held, the Jerilderie community is still just as passionate about honouring the legacy of the great military hero.

This year's event, to be held at the Jerilderie Civic Hall on Friday evening, 24 November, will see highly respected military historian Ashley Ekins attend as guest speaker. Mr Ekins' oration is titled: General Sir John Monash, Master of the Battlefield—an Appreciation.

Mr Ekins is head of the Military History Section at the Australian War Memorial, where he has worked as a military historian for more than 27 years.

Murrumbidgee Council General Manager Craig Moffitt is encouraging residents from right across the Council area to attend. "It is always an excellent night and very informative," he said. "If you have an interest in military history or just want to find out a bit more about Sir John Monash and his achievements I'd urge you to come along."

A highlight of the evening will be the official unveiling of a portrait of Sir John Monash by renowned artist Peter Smeeth. The artwork has been generously donated to Murrumbidgee Council by Mrs Miriam Berman.

The Sir John Monash Lecture will be followed by the presentation of the 2017 Monash Education Bursary.

Applicants are currently being invited to submit an essay: "Depend upon it, the only hope for Australia is the ballot box and an educated electorate", details of which can be found in the Bursary requirements and conditions on Council's

website. The \$2000 Bursary is open to long term residents of Murrumbidgee Council who are considering entry into post-secondary education through University, College or TAFE, or an approved course of formal training with a Registered Training Organisation, ie apprentices, trainees, adult education. Entries close at 4.00pm on Friday 10 November 2017.

Further details on the Monash Dinner and Lecture, Friday evening 24 November, 2017 are available on Council's website <u>www.murrumbidgee.nsw.gov.au</u> or telephone Murrumbidgee Council 03 5886 1200.

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