



Media Release Re:Tumbarumba, 6<sup>th</sup> Feb. 2020

## **Aussie Youth Competitions - 180<sup>th</sup> anniversary of naming Mt Kosciuszko**

An innovative, unique endeavour is being undertaken as an agreement between Sydney-based Kosciuszko Heritage Inc. and the Tumbarumba High School gets signed. To celebrate the 180th anniversary of naming Mt Kosciuszko and exploration of Gippsland by Paul Edmund Strzelecki, two youth competitions have been announced on January 30th 2020. Kosciuszko Heritage Inc. is providing the opportunity for the High School students to participate in TWO competitions. The theme of the first one (writing competition) is *Kindness Matters! Kindness is Powerful! Do you agree? Why? To what extent is this true for Paul Edmund Strzelecki and/or Thaddeus Kosciuszko?* The theme of the other one, a graphic art competition, is *Mt Kosciuszko in My Mind's Eye*.

The competitions close on 1st May 2020 just a few days before *The Strzelecki Festival* which is to be held in Tumbarumba. Total amount of 12 awards will be worth \$2600. The awards gala is to be held on Friday 8th of May 2020.

More info about the Competitions just here:

[http://www.zrobtosam.com/PulsPol/Puls3/index.php?sekcja=95&arty\\_id=19648](http://www.zrobtosam.com/PulsPol/Puls3/index.php?sekcja=95&arty_id=19648)

A day later a special ceremony is planned to take place in Welaregang. A memorial plaque to Strzelecki and his team will be unveiled by the sponsors: Kosciuszko Heritage Inc. and the Snowy Valleys Council. The bronze plaque has been designed by a Sydney artist Mr Jacek Łuszczczyk.

**The Inscription:** In March 1840, Paul Edmund Strzelecki, James Macarthur, James Riley with indigenous guide Charley tarra of Golbourn and convict servants James Nolan and John Rent reached Messrs. Hay and Chalmer's Welaregang Station aiming to explore the Snowy Mountains and Eastern Victoria.

On Monday 9 March the convict servants remained to help with the shearing while a local Aboriginal guide Jackey joined the others to ascend the nearby Australian Alps.

On the afternoon of Thursday 12 March 1840 Strzelecki climbed the highest peak and named it Mount Kosciuszko in honour of Thaddeus Kosciuszko, Polish and American National Hero, champion of human rights and freedom for all.

All five returned to Welaregang and on 16 March 1840 the original group of six left the station to explore a part of eastern Victoria. Which Strzelecki later named Gippsland.

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