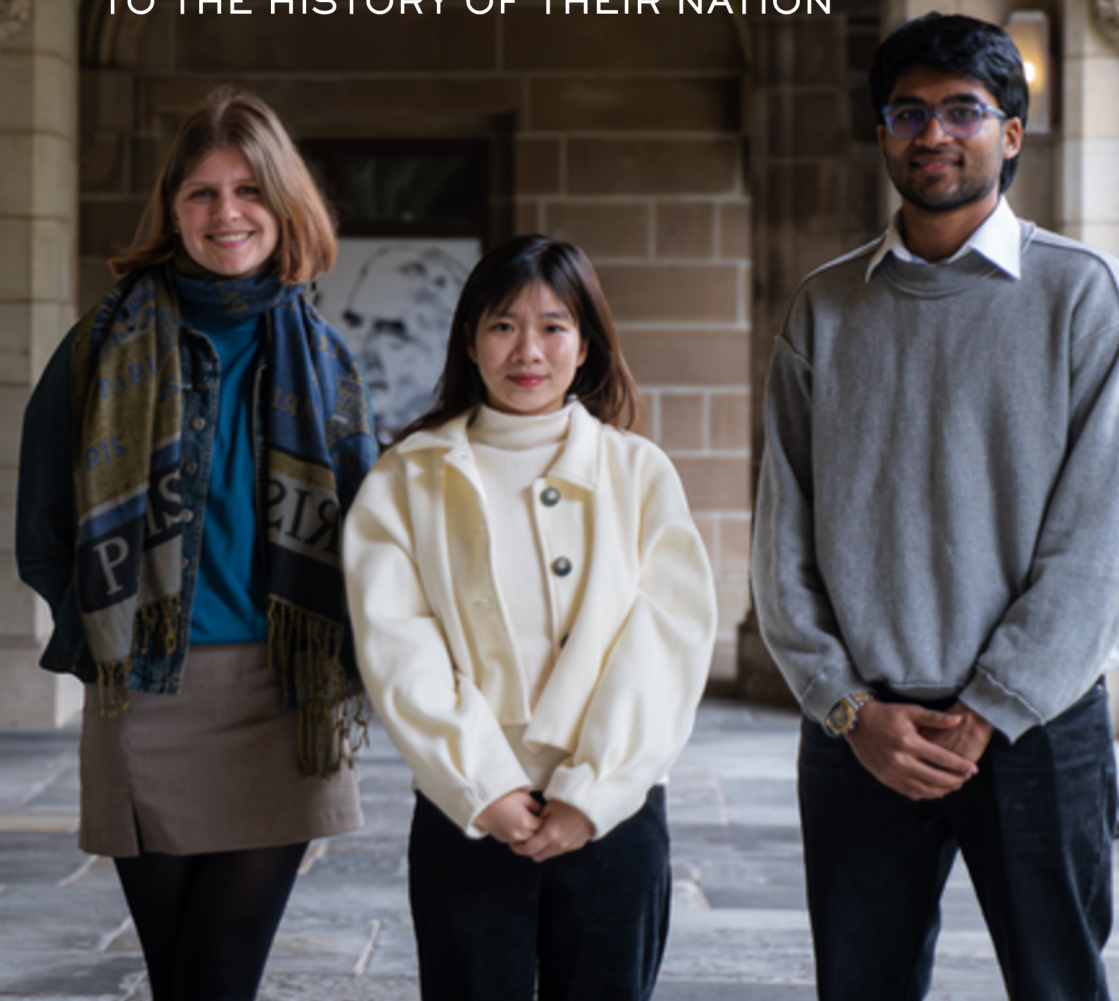


OUR PAST THEIR FUTURE

BECOME THE BRIDGE THAT
CONNECTS YOUNG AUSTRALIANS
TO THE HISTORY OF THEIR NATION



WWW.ROBERTMENZIESINSTITUTE.ORG.AU

Robert
Menzies
INSTITUTE

CHARLY GAUTREAUX

Intern, Robert Menzies Institute

Being a 19-year-old living in Melbourne, I can say with 100 per cent certainty that 99 per cent of my friends have no clue who Robert Menzies is. Which is why the Institute's so important.

I promote the Institute's podcast because podcasts are so popular at the moment and are a brilliant way for young people like me to connect with Australia's national history, why it's so important, and how and why it affects us today.



CHARLIE HUME

Menzies Early Career Network Scholar

Menzies transformed Australia through liberal policies that empowered ordinary people to own homes, cars, and secure prosperity, completely reshaping the nation's fabric. Those same issues such as housing, jobs, and wages remain central today. Writing even a chapter on the Menzies era for MECN is far more fulfilling and challenging than a graded essay, giving young people like me a rare chance to contribute meaningfully to something that truly matters.



GURU THANABALASINGAM

2025 Annual Speech Competition Winner
Year 7 / 8 Category

Preparing for the Robert Menzies Institute's Annual Speech Competition was an experience that I have found simultaneously challenging and rewarding.

As someone who admittedly was not great with my Australian history, this competition gave me the opportunity to delve into the extraordinary achievements of Sir Robert Menzies whilst allowing me to discuss a very important contemporary issue of freedom of speech and expression.



ABEL EBI JOSEPH

**2025 Annual Speech Competition Winner
Year 11 / 12 Category**

The Robert Menzies speech competition gave me a valuable opportunity to deepen my understanding of Australian history and politics. I found myself immersed within ideas and policies discussed all those decades ago, and understood their prominent effect on Australian society even today. It encouraged me to delve into the positives and negatives of issues and ultimately understand how important respectful dialogue is to the flourishing of a nation.



NGOC TU NGUYEN

Volunteer, Robert Menzies Institute

Volunteering at the Robert Menzies Institute has been an inspiring experience where I get to connect with lovely people from the institute as well as with visitors. I think museums like this play a vital role in helping Australians like me reflect on their national identity and democratic values. Visitors often share with me a similar sense of appreciation, allowing museums to bridge generations and inspire dialogue, learning, and pride in our nation's history.



EBONY FREESTONE

Volunteer, Robert Menzies Institute

As a student of art history, I am conscious of the importance of preserving our history, both through narratives and artefacts. The Menzies era is a significant part of our nation's 20th century history – an era when Australia truly transformed. As a volunteer at the Robert Menzies Institute, not only am I gaining practical skills in curation and conservation, I am also learning the socio-political context of Australia during his lengthy prime ministership.



The Robert Menzies Institute is a centre promoting the study of 20th century Australian history through the life and legacy of Sir Robert Menzies, Australia's longest-serving prime minister.

Your donation to our Appeal will support young Australians gain a new insight and appreciation into how modern Australia was forged and the men, women and ideas that transformed it.

Donate to our Appeal today
Make an online donation by visiting
www.robertmenziesinstitute.org.au/support



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