

## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Since the last newsletter there has been a steady flow of successes to celebrate. These include ribbons at the Royal Easter show for the Ag team; touch wins for both girls and boys; football and hockey success for the girls. Detailed reports can be found further along in this newsletter.

The ANZAC Day ceremonies both at school and in Wingham again highlighted the quality of students here at Wingham High School. Jesse Crowe and Nick Horgan are to be congratulated for their outstanding ANZAC addresses, Nick at the Dawn Service and Jesse at the town service. We have had many people and organisations contact the school congratulating them for their maturity and sincerity. Each of their addresses have been published in this newsletter. In addition to this we had 8 students attend the dawn service and later that morning 60 students marched to the cenotaph.



Beef week has become an educational extravaganza attracting participants from as far afield as Walcha, Kincumber and Scone. Many hours of work have been put into the organisation of Beef Week by Mr John Hawkins and Mr Charlie Cassells as well as numerous parents and community members. Particular thanks goes to Jenny Gallagher without her it wouldn't have happened at all. The new focus on education and the increasing numbers of schools (20+) and students wanting to participate is a clear indicator that the Beef

Week committee is on a winner and Beef Week is a sustainable event that will not only benefit Wingham High students but the community as a whole for many years to come. Details of the week and supporters are provided in the Beef week report later in this newsletter.



Beef Week kicked off on the Monday with hundreds of Primary School students descending on the Ag farm to participate in workshops on animal care, training of beef cattle, grooming cattle for shows, cattle dog training and general farm activities

and tractor operation. It is inspiring to see the leadership roles that the Wingham High students take on as they present each of the workshop activities to the younger students. Thankyou to all the parent and community supporters who provided lunch to the students and adults attending on the day.

Every student Every School. Further information has arrived providing detail of the Every Student Every School program of support for students with disabilities. Wingham High School has received the good news that we will be provided with extra specialist support teachers (an increase of 1.3) as well as maintaining most of our current level of funding. The role of our Learning and support teachers is yet to be clearly defined but we have been told that it will include "providing direct support for students with additional learning and support needs including the areas of social integration, language and communication, literacy, numeracy and behaviour". As well as providing professional support, mentoring and advice for classroom teachers.

SMS messaging. Feedback from parents has been very positive in response to the sending of SMS text messages when students are absent. We are still ironing a few bugs out of the system and trying our best to have it completely accurate. In order to do this, students are reminded they must sign in at the front office

if they are late to school and if in doubt as to whether they have been marked present to confirm this with their STAR (roll) teacher before they leave roll call.

Another advantage of the SMS system is to alert parents to upcoming events such as parent teacher interviews. To overcome the poor attendance at the recent Years 10, 11 and 12 evening for the next one we will send a text on the day that booking sheets are issued to students. Other sources of information regarding parent teacher interviews, exams and assessment tasks include the school website, <http://www.wingham-h.schools.nsw.edu.au>; look in the calendar and the news items as well as the "SCHOOL YEARS" drop down menu for assessment schedules. The Wingham High School facebook page, <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Wingham-High-School/303228836372188> is another great source of information, where if you become a friend you will receive alerts to new posts.

## SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Industrial Arts aprons are available for purchase from the school canteen at a cost of \$10.00 each. The canteen also supplies Industrial Arts Safety Packs which includes an apron, a set of goggles, a set of earplugs and a dust mask. The Safety Pack is \$20.00 and the canteen has stock of these items at all times.

**Please Note:** Students who do not have the correct footwear and safety clothing will not be permitted to participate in certain classes due to occupational health and safety regulations that the school must adhere to. A copy of appropriate footwear for school is attached for your information.

### SCHOOL SHIRTS

available from the Accounts Office

#### PRICE LIST

White Shirt with or without school emblem	\$5.45 + GST .55c = \$6.00 (xxl – xxxxl)
Blue Shirt with school emblem	\$5.45 + GST .55c = \$6.00 (size 18 – 20)

### CANTEEN ROSTER

21/05/2012	Marie Reeve, Julianne Webster, Joelene Webster
22/05/2012	John Hawkins, Caroline Weekes
23/05/2012	Judy Abdoo, Julie Page
24/05/2012	Louise Smith, Anne Munns
25/05/2012	Pat Skinner, HELP NEEDED PLEASE, HELP NEEDED PLEASE
28/05/2012	Marie Reeve, Caroline Weekes, Annie Upton
29/05/2012	Linda Mackenzie, Belinda Robertson
30/05/2012	John Hawkins, Melinda Murphy, Hermione McCormick
31/05/2012	Hazel Saxby, Ronwyn Meaker
01/06/2012	Therese Hopkins, Deidre Zeilke, HELP NEEDED PLEASE
04/06/2012	Lorraine McGrath, Kay Brauer, HELP NEEDED PLEASE
05/06/2012	MERE MALE DAY – Ken Cameron, Allan Skinner
06/06/2012	Gai Wespi, Lauren Robertson
07/06/2012	Jeffrey Richie, HELP NEEDED PLEASE
08/06/2012	Marie Reeve, Sonia Hughes, Jenny Collier
11/06/2012	Queens Birthday – Long Weekend
12/06/2012	Christine Donehue, Jean Cameron, Bronwyn Wallace
13/06/2012	Lyn Fahey, Leanne Foster
14/06/2012	Christine Richie, Michelle Swannack
15/06/2012	Jeffrey Richie, Susan Watson, HELP NEEDED PLEASE
18/06/2012	Marie Reeve, Julianne Webster, Joelene Webster
19/06/2012	John Hawkins, Caroline Weekes
20/06/2012	Judy Abdoo, Julie Page
21/06/2012	Louise Smith, Anne Munns
22/06/2012	Pat Skinner, HELP NEEDED PLEASE, HELP NEEDED PLEASE

## Indonesia visits Wingham High!

Wingham High School recently had the privilege of hosting Mr Wayan Eka Putra Permada, an Indonesian high school teacher, for two weeks. The visit was sponsored by the Indonesian government with the aim of strengthening ties between the two countries and to provide teachers with the opportunity to gain an insight into the education system of each country. Wayan Eka engaged in team teaching with Jim Rourke in his Year 7 Indonesian class, and also visited Mt George Public, where Mr Rourke is



running an Indonesian program this term. He also took the opportunity to observe other lessons, such as Mrs Reay's Spanish class and Mr A Watts' Earth and Environmental class.

The school captain, Nick Horgan, interviewed Wayan Eka at a whole school assembly. During the interview, Wayan Eka commented on the excellent resources available to students at Wingham High, compared with his school in Lombok. Wayan Eka then presented the school with a traditional Lombok costume, including sarong and headpiece, which Nick modelled for all to see.

Wayan Eka thanked the school for the opportunity to visit, and expressed hopes for the relationship between Wingham High and his school in Lombok to grow in the future.



## ROTARY AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND STUDENT EXCHANGE

### 2012 PROGRAM EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST OPEN



This program is designed for 14-16 year old students (in Year 9 or 10 in 2013) to experience a true 'exchange' with a family in New Zealand. Local Students are matched with a New Zealand student who will travel to Australia and attend school here during Term 2, 2013. Both students then return to New Zealand and attend school there for Term 3, 2013.

The students' family hosts the NZ student and includes them in their normal family life.

This is an exciting way to experience another culture with the support of Rotary.

More information and expression of interest forms can be found at [www.ranzse.com.au](http://www.ranzse.com.au)

**Expressions of interest close 30 June 2012**



Due to **Occupational Health and Safety Regulations** from the **NSW Department of Education and Training** the wearing of appropriate, protective footwear is a mandatory requirement for participation in all **practical lessons**.

**Appropriate Footwear** includes: strong, leather shoes which cover the entire foot.

Leather School Shoes



Leather Joggers



Leather Skate Shoes



**Inappropriate Footwear** - Shoes which do not protect the foot



Leather Shoes which do not cover the top of the foot



Dunlop Volleys



Fabric Joggers



All Canvas Shoes



Ballet Shoes



Thongs



"....a safe and friendly learning environment...."



On behalf of the President and members of the Wingham RSL Sub Branch may I pass on our thanks and gratitude to your School for the part played in the recent Anzac Day commemorative Services.

The presentation by Nick Horgan and Jessica Crowe at the Dawn Service and Anzac Commemoration Service, they both spoke very well to a large gathering with great maturity, every year your School provides these young Australians, we are confident of a bright future for this country with this calibre of our young.

The behaviour of Wingham High Students was of the highest order at all of the Anzac venues, well done to all.

As always Wingham RSL Sub Branch is proud of our association with Wingham High School, may it continue for many years to come.

Yours truly

Ron Irwin  
Secretary  
Returned and Services League of Australia  
Wingham Sub Branch  
6553 4594  
28<sup>th</sup> April 2012

“LEST WE FORGET”





Here are the inspirational words delivered by Jessica Crowe and Nicholas Horgan, our school leaders, on ANZAC Day

#### ANZAC DAY SPEECH – JESSICA CROWE

Good morning ladies and gentlemen,

We gather here today to offer recognition, praise and gratitude to our ANZAC's. They have fought, and continue to fight for their lives, our nation and freedom. Our nation's history holds horrific chapters to the hardships and conflicts faced during the course of battle. Not only the troops but our country has been impacted by the hardships of war. 2012 marks the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the fall of Singapore and the Darwin bombings. Both these onslaughts have left a permanent scar on our young nation.

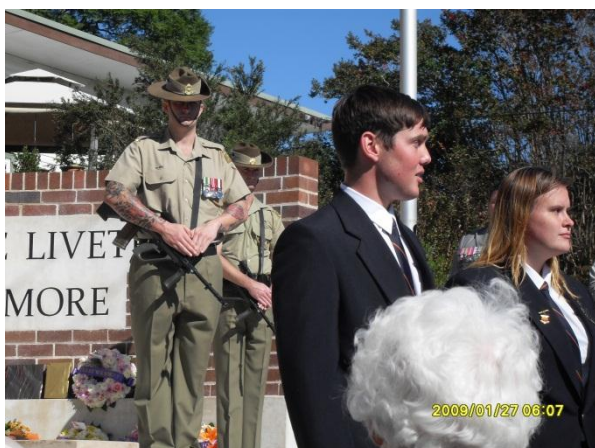


The fall of Singapore, on the 15<sup>th</sup> of February 1942 was the trigger that abruptly forced Australia and their allies with the realisation of what a powerful force they were up against. With speed, wit, ferocity and surprise, the Japanese invaded the impregnable British fortress through the Malayan jungle, with the notion of no survivors.

The heavy bombardment of the Japanese lasted 68 brutal, bloody days in the jungle, until they were able to advance onto their priority target, Singapore. Australia and their allies were short on food, ammunition and medical supplies. After two days of defending Singapore's borders, due to a lack of resources, a decision was agreed upon to surrender to the Japanese.

It was unknown that this surrender would lead to the pitiful conditions for our troops, horrendous hard labour and death. Those taken captive died due to overwork, starvation and disease in Changi prison and on the Burma railway.

The fall of Singapore is referred to as, Australia's greatest military atrocity, as 22,376 Australian's were taken captive, with 8,031 of our troops never making it home. Those taken captive were shot and murdered with a brutality I cannot imagine or begin to comprehend.



Although, on February 19, 1942 was the moment reality hit home. World War 2 pounded Australian shores in a bigger attack than the largely publicised, Pearl Harbour. This was the first time enemy bombs had fallen in Australia. Our nation was stunned when Japanese aircrafts descended on Darwin, in two devastating air raids.

In fear of an invasion, the Australian military was expanded, with the development of Darwin, as the most northerly military base. This base was seen as a major threat to the Japanese who had formulated a plan to invade Timor. In a bid to abolish a counter attack from Timor's closest allies, Australia, the Japanese

attacked, in what is now, one of Australia's darkest days.

A sight to disturbing to be ignored halted the daily routine of a missionary group, just off the coast of Darwin as a huge formation on planes went roaring high overhead. This triggered a chain of calls to the mainland. Due to poor connection and fear of a false alarm, the sirens in Darwin were not sounded until the pounding noises of the 188 approaching Japanese aircrafts were heard.

They hit the town of Darwin at 10 am.

The first attack consisted of 71 medium bombers, 81 dive bombers and 36 fighters. The medium bombers targeted the town and harbour, the dive bombers, escorted by fighters hit military and civilian aerodromes along with the harbour. Within minutes ships, wharfs and buildings were ablaze. The unexpected attack created confusion and disorganisation throughout the town. The first air raid lasted 40 minutes. By the time forces were able to respond to the attack, they were being belted with ammunition with limited resources available to retaliate with.

The second attack came just one hour after the first, lasting 20 minutes. The targets, this time, were the airfields; with the barracks, aircrafts and office quarters being destroyed.

Darwin became smoking shambles. The raids caused a lot of confusion, damage and death. 242 enemy planes dropped 683 separate bombs and unloaded countless machine gun shells upon Darwin. Up to 270 people were killed and hundreds wounded during the raids.

There has been no shortage of heroism by our ANZAC's. The Japanese were very tactful with their Pacific attacks, all within a short time frame and with the element of surprise. Although blood was spilled and treasures were lost, our ANZAC's were heroes and shone in these grave times in our nation's history with courage, strength and human spirit. Today, we must also think of the camaraderie we shared at a time of great darkness. A fierce and oppressive bond fell upon our ANZACS and their allies as the battle for our beliefs was fought. The indelible scars of these horrific times remains with us, and serves as a reminder that we must never forget what our ANZAC's have accomplished and what they still manage to achieve.

#### **GALLIPOLI AND THE ANZAC LEGEND – NICHOLAS HORGAN**

The significance of the ANZAC legend is one that is embedded deeply as an integral part of our Australian culture, and its establishment is one that is an extremely important part of Australian history and tradition. "ANZAC", stands for Australian and New Zealand Army Corps. The term began its life during World War One as a name for a World War 1 army corps, formed in Egypt in 1915 and operated during the Battle of Gallipoli. From this beginning, ANZAC has come to mean so much more than a reference to an army corps. Through their endurance of hardship and through the bravery, strength and selflessness the ANZACS showed while fighting for their country at the doomed battle of Gallipoli, many people believe that Australian nationhood was born as a result of qualities shown by the fighting men during this failed campaign.



Only 13 years prior to the beginning of World War One, on the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 1901, Australia had become a nation and was eager to prove itself on the world stage, taking its place alongside the other Western nations, some of which had thousands of years of history, of which Australia had basically none. The new nation of Australia was therefore enthusiastic to pledge its support alongside other commonwealth nations when Britain declared war on Germany on the 4<sup>th</sup> of August 1914. Conscription had not yet been established in Australia, and would not be put in place until World War Two, and thousands of young men pledged their support to their country in the war effort. Many of the young men who signed up to join the army had no concept of the horror they were going to experience, and indeed, had no way of knowing the full extent of the brutality of war - as many were not much older than me. Some, even younger than me, lied about their age so they could be a part of the Australian war effort, which many thought would be a great adventure.



All in all, 324,000 Australians fought in World War One, and it was a number of these men, alongside their New Zealand counterparts, who made up the ANZAC contingent. Plans for the formation of the ANZAC contingent began in November 1914 when the men were still on convoy towards their original intended destination of Europe. They were not delivered to Europe – but were delivered instead to Cairo in order to receive further training which would augment the training they had already received at home.

Despite this training, there is no way the brave soldiers who boarded the ships to take the Gallipoli peninsula could have been prepared for the bloodshed that was to await them when they landed. The attack on Gallipoli was an ambitious and ultimately fruitless exercise, deemed necessary by the Allied leaders in order to establish a sea lane for the Russians through the Black Sea, which would provide a base from which to attack the central powers through what Churchill described as “the soft underbelly of Europe”, and divert enemy attention away from the Western Front.

Despite the noble intentions of the attack to start with, the landing was a fiasco, with a suspected current or wind causing the boats to land at the wrong beach, where the Turks were ready for them. The Turks entrenched themselves on the high ground pouring artillery and machine gun fire down upon the hapless Australian, New Zealand, Irish, French and British troops below. The bloodbath resulted in the remaining soldiers being pinned down in trenches engaged in a trench-warfare stalemate. The conditions within the trenches at Gallipoli were absolutely horrendous, with the harsh terrain providing no cover against the heat, cold and rain. Although drinkable water was scarce, with each soldier being allocated 2.3 litres a day, food was plentiful, if extremely unvaried, with tinned meat, jam, tea and biscuits being available that were so hard it was like chewing a rock.



With the soldiers living in trenches filled with stagnant water and inadequate sanitation, being immersed in flies, lice, mosquitoes and rats, and taking into account the rotting, empty food tins and countless dead bodies piled across the area between the trenches called no man's land - it was not surprising that disease was widespread.

It was during these horrendous conditions in the trenches that the ANZAC spirit manifested within the men. On the battlefield, the endurance, courage, ingenuity, good humor, larrikinism and most importantly mate ship of the Australian and New Zealand soldiers shone through during these very trying times.

The story of the soldier, John Simpson, and his donkey illustrates the ANZAC spirit. Simpson, after landing on ANZAC cove on April 25<sup>th</sup>, used a donkey to carry otherwise doomed; wounded soldiers back to the camp. Simpson continued this for three and a half weeks, disregarding the danger until, on the morning of 19 May 1915, he was killed by Turkish machine gun fire near Steele's Post, as he was returning down Monash Valley with a wounded man. The donkey continued on the well-worn track, obediently carrying the wounded man to where he would be tended.





It is interesting to note that, some time after Simpson was killed; a New Zealand primary school teacher by the name of Richard Henderson took over Simpson's work, guiding the donkeys while they carried wounded men to safety. The story of Simpson, therefore, does not belong to Australia alone.

Today, even though there are no original ANZACS from Gallipoli remaining, the ANZAC spirit still lives on in Australia. It is our responsibility to always remember them, and to honour their memory by emulating their strength and stoicism in times of war as well as in times of peace. The ANZACS at Gallipoli, and indeed throughout all of the war, fought bravely for their country, and endured unimaginable hardships. I believe the ANZACS embodied the spirit of Australia, and helped us to stand proud and respected in the world. The torch has been passed on from these original ANZACS, and on this day, we acknowledge and pay respect to the ANZAC spirit of bravery and selflessness that lives on in all Australian and New Zealand servicemen and women who have served since World War One, and those who are overseas serving their country today. We will remember them, Lest we forget.

## BEEF WEEK

### A DAY ON THE FARM – PRIMARY SCHOOL DAY

To Mark and John,

I am writing to you both to say a big thank you and well done for a wonderful day at the Farm yesterday for the Junior Field day. The children had a wonderful time and it was well organised and enjoyable.

I decided as the Year 6 teacher at my school to take seven students who were particularly interested in working with animals and whom had previous experience. I am trying very hard to tune into their career aspirations even at this young stage and inspire them to do what they love most. My students were very engaged and learnt a lot. One boy in particular who was in my group struggles in the classroom academically but when lessons and discussions involve cattle and farming he is truly inspired and involved.

I was very impressed with the smooth running of the day and the variety of activities that the students got to experience. The high school students were very knowledgeable when explaining their activity and you could see that they all wanted to be there.

This is the first time in a long time that our school has attended a day like this for Year 6 students and I very much hope that we can continue this as a yearly event.

Please keep us in your contact list for any other events at the farm that may occur in the near future.

Many thanks again, all the best for the busy week ahead.

Kind Regards

Clare Cattell

Stage 3 Teacher - Manning Gardens Public School



## **AG FARM VOLUNTEER PROGRAM**

A big thankyou needs to be given to our Ag Farm Volunteers John Surtees, Vic Prince, Phil Kelly and Lyndsey Mitchell for their recent work on the main farm sheds and tool shed renovations.

John Hawkins

## **WINGHAM DRAMA STUDENTS EXCEL – MANNING EISTEDDFOD**

Year 10 performed their self-devised pieces in two highly competitive sections and took out first, third and two Highly Commended. The adjudicator commented positively on the excellent standard of this section. First placed students were Eddi Raglus, Edward McCormick, Madelyn Hopkins, Joel Hedge, Jess Edwards and Lauren Deegenars. All year ten pieces were devised around the topic “Baggage” with the third placed group looking at the different social groups within a school playground.

Four year 9 plays entered the scripted competition and took out first place in all 3 sections as well as a Highly Commended. Once again the adjudicator commented on the high standard and in particular praised the anti smoking play performed by Samantha Draper, Gabi Manwarring, Thea Wespi and Maitlan Brown. The success of all students shows that students understand the need for rehearsal and are keen to do well in public.

A big step for some year 12 students was to take to the stage as a solo artist for the first time. As a motivator for individual HSC performers the eisteddfod offers a Novice Monologue section. Samantha Cassidy, Victoria Morton, Rachael Archinal and Brandii Yarnold took advantage of this section to kick start their major HSC work. Other Wingham High students competing in the eisteddfod were Courtney Deegenars and Ally Foster who both entered many sections with a variety of successes. Courtney eventually won the senior championship and Ally took out a third place in the Intermediate. Well done to both outstanding students.

Winning students will be asked to perform their pieces along with talented Musicians for parents and friends in the MPC at the CAPA concert on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> June. The evening will commence at 6.00 and finish at 8.30 and will be supported by the Entertainment class.

Wingham High was also called upon at short notice for stage management, front of house and back stage work. Entertainment students Emily Sadler, Aaron Worth, Michael Sutherland, Blake Cant, Liam Wespi, Shane Cross and Hayley Stonehouse gained valuable workplacement time while Calypso Watson, Naomi Archinal, Eddi Raglus, Louise Byrne, Emily Sadler were very much at ease on the microphone. Working effectively in administration were Sharni Allen and Tori Mills and it was clear that eisteddfod staff were grateful for the support of these outstanding students.

Volunteers are always a wonderful resource at school and in the community, it is easy to see that there are many areas that use and need extra help. Many thanks to WHS volunteer eisteddfod crew and to Mrs Rhonda Evans the Speech and Drama organiser who takes long service leave from her job to run the event.

Courtney Deegenars of Year 12 was very successful at the Speech and Drama Eisteddfod last weekend. She came 2nd in the Senior Shakespearean Dramatic Excerpt section and was awarded 1st Place in the Under 23 Senior Dramatic Championship. She was also asked to perform her winning monologue in the Grand Concert at 7.30pm on Saturday 2nd June. It was very exciting and a huge achievement for her.

Ally Foster of Year 11 was also very successful. She came 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Intermediate Championships.



## WORLD OF MATHS TRAVELLING ROADSHOW



May 2nd saw 30 interested students from Years 7 to 9 involved in the World of Maths travelling roadshow in the MPC. After a quick discussion about how to solve problems and the value of persevering, students took to the activities. Each station was set up with a hands-on problem to be solved. Students saved families from a burning building, released themselves from shackles, calculated the height of a telegraph pole from a stick, and found out the best place to leave a mouse trap. They seem to have a lot of fun, as you can see.

After recess the school made Tinonee Public welcome, and students from Years 4, 5, and 6 also enjoyed solving some real maths. Thanks to Gerry Edwards who brought the roadshow to us, and to Terry and the Extension class who set up the hall for the day.

## MATHS CHALLENGE

Emily Lattimore, Neisha Lowe, Jai Harrison, Sophie Smyth, Brianna Xuereb, Will Messer and Archie Robertson have commenced work on this take home problem solving challenge. We wish them good luck, and look forward to some excellent results in 3 weeks time.



## NATIONAL MATHS DAY

The 18th of May is National Mathematics Day, and the week of NAPLAN is a fitting time to remember how necessary basic skills in Mathematics are to functioning in society. Good luck in your examinations Years 7 and 9, and Happy Maths Day!

Mrs Portelli

## ART EXPRESS EXCURSION



Although the cold was gnawing and most of us were temporarily dressed in nothing more than pyjamas, dozens of Visual Arts students from Years 9 to 12 turned up at 7:00am to travel via bus down to Newcastle to visit various galleries and the university, all in the name of art.

We arrived at Newcastle Art Gallery to see the works of HSC students in Art Express. Through guided tours and a subsequent period to stroll freely between exhibitions, we viewed not only the spectacular works of Year 12 students across the country but an exhibition of remarkable Aboriginal art. Students were awed by the talent and creativity of the artists and impressed by the range of mediums utilised and images through which the artists expressed themselves.



A brief but interesting visit to the Watt Gallery offered some thought-provoking and poignant artworks by very skilled artists. The two hours we were given to wander Newcastle's Darby Street or a local mall flew by, and soon we were standing outside the art block of Newcastle University. We were taken on a tour through some of the studios and saw some intriguing creations, from etching to ceramics, and we were even invited into a photography studio to watch the students inside

compose a striking work involving coloured glow sticks in the shape of clothing. After the tour through the workspaces, we were given the chance to examine the university's gallery, which displayed some fascinating and beautiful artworks.

Despite the early morning cold, the return by the dark of night to Wingham, and the resulting exhaustion from such an eventful day, we were fresh of mind and newly inspired, and every second was very well worth it.

Ailie MacKenzie

#### **Student comments on Macquarie University Excursion**

**April 26-27, 2012**

I found this trip to be very beneficial as it allowed insight into uni life. Being able to stay on campus allowed me to experience uni for real. If Macquarie is able to do this again next year, a suggestion may be to have lectures on specific courses, allowing an introduction to students on their preferred course that they wish to study. I had a great time, and the students and staff were lovely. Thanks you very much for the visit

This trip allowed me to have a sneak peak into uni life at a high quality university. It really opened my eyes to all the options there are available to me in the future. Everyone was so friendly and cooperative, especially the tour guides. Thank you so much for the opportunity. I found the experience very fulfilling and informative. The university is fantastic though I don't think I will consider on campus accommodation. The tour was great as were the guides and the library.

This trip has reaffirmed that I want Macquarie Uni as my first preference. The guides were fun and made very informative presentations. I enjoyed their friendliness. I would rather stay at the Village than RMC. I think that in the future we should also be told more about Dunmore Lange. The trip was very good overall though.

It was a great experience, really worthwhile. It is worth offering it to more people. The tour was interesting. The rooms at the college were a bit too small to have two people in them. There was nothing really bad about the trip, overall it was good.

Overall I found it to be a rewarding experience. It was good to have a look at all the facilities first hand rather than online or just in a brochure. If I were to go on this trip next year or have an input to how it was run, the only change that I would make would be to see a more balanced approach to university life and courses that were offered rather than the focus only on student life.



I have enjoyed seeing the university and feel that was worthwhile in the sense that I would now consider attending it. If I was to give my input I feel that the excursion should be run during the holidays. There would be more accommodation available and no pressure to catch up on missed classes this close to the HSC.

I feel the uni excursion was a good idea. It let me experience what the atmosphere and lifestyle is like at uni. I would have liked to have more freedom to see more lectures. Maybe a tutorial but the lecture we did see was really good. The mentors were very informative and helpful.

The excursion was enjoyable and informative. All hosts were friendly and welcoming. The presentations, particularly the short lectures, were engaging and interesting. Further information on accommodation such as comparison costs of different colleges would have been useful. As I had previously visited the uni, the campus tour was long and slightly unnecessary for me. However the trip, especially staying at RMC was informative and rewarding.

## **P & C NEWS**

Welcome back to Term 2 2012. For Years 7 and 9 NAPLAN is under way this week.

The P & C has nominated Mr Len Lambert as Life Member for the P & C Federation. Len has been a representative for Wingham High School P & C for over 20 years, his knowledge of the Federation and the P & C is invaluable.

The School Anzac Service was very good and well run by our School Leaders, Nick Horgan, Jessica Crowe, Samantha Cassidy and Nathan McMaster. The Anzac Day Service on Anzac Day was well attended by Wingham High Students it is a day that should always be remembered.

Lynda Nash, Louise Smith and myself attended a Canteen Forum on Monday 14 May, held in Taree at Manning Education Centre, there could be a lot of changes to our menus in the future. Lynda is always looking for new volunteers, so if you have a few spare hours, once a month it would be of great help to Lynda and the P & C. You do not have to handle money it is mainly just food preparation. For students and staff lunch orders are welcome, if you order you are able to get the food that you wish.

We have written to Local Members both State and Federal regarding Transgrid and the impact it could have not only on our school but the whole local community.

To all the students who have their P's. Please take care, it is so easy for something to happen. My daughter was one of four students from Wingham High involved in a car accident on Friday afternoon, neither driver of the two vehicles was at fault. This accident was just one of those things and was really no one's fault but as a parent I feel very lucky to still have my daughter here with me. Please take care.

Our next P & C Meeting will be held on Thursday 7 June 2012 at 6pm. All are welcomed to attend, hope to see you there.

Thanks  
Anne Munns  
Wingham High School P & C  
President

## **TOUCH FOOTBALL**

Wingham's proud sporting tradition continues.

"Touch Football Extravaganza"

- Girls Open Touch are off to Newcastle to play in the Hunter Finals after finishing second in our local knockout with a score of 7 – 5.

- Boys Open Touch are going to Newcastle to play in the Hunter Finals on the 10<sup>th</sup> of May after defeating Swansea Belmont 12 – 2 and Francis Greenway 11 – 6.
- Both the girls and boys Year 9/10 teams made the grand finals at Port Macquarie on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of May.

### **GIRLS RESULTS**

- Round 1 - defeated St Columba 6 – 0
- Round 2 - defeated St Josephs (2) 4 – 0
- Round 3 - defeated Dorriggo 9 – 0
- Round 4 - defeated Chatham 8 – 0
- Round 5 - semi-finals – defeated St Josephs (1) 4 – 2
- Round 6 - final – defeated Forster 2 – 1 in a drop off.

### **BOYS RESULTS**

- Round 1 - defeated Dorriggo 5 – 0
- Round 2 - defeated St Josephs (2) 5 – 2
- Round 3 - defeated St Columba 4 – 1
- Round 4 - draw Chatham 3 – 3
- Round 5 - defeated St Pauls (2) 7 – 0
- Round 6 - semi final – defeated St Clares 5 – 3
- Round 7 - final – lost to St Pauls 4 – 2

With regards to Port Macquarie Mrs Ferguson and I would like to thank all students who participated on the day and convey how proud you should be on your wonderful achievements. We would also like to thank Mikaela Coleman, Courtney Morris and Teagan Wenham – it's wonderful to see our senior students assisting with coaching and encouraging our juniors. A special thank you also goes to Reece Slaven who came along as our official referee.

The Year 9 / 10 girls are now off to Penrith for the State Finals on the 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> of May. Good luck in Sydney girls – all in all – DONE GOOD PLAYED STRONG! Wingham kids always give 110% on the sporting field and are always competitive. Great effort all round.

Morgo and Fergo

### **'SO DARN CLOSE'**

- Girls Open travelled to Tomaree for the Hunter Finals. We were beaten by singleton 2 – 1 in our opening game and had 3 disallowed touchdowns. In our next game we won 9 – 0 against Francis Greenway. So close to making the final 16 in the state.
- The Boys Open travelled to Newcastle Touch fields for Hunter Finals. We won our first match 6 – 3 against Tomaree. In our second match we were beaten 2 – 1 against Muswellbrook but we bombed 3 scoring opportunities. Again, so close.
- Girls 9/10 Touch travelled to Penrith for State Finals. Success I believe does not always mean how many games you win. We were a very young side and although we only won 1 game remember we were competing against the 18 best teams in the state We had 4 Year 7 students in our squad, several Year 8 and Year 9's, in fact we only lose 3 members of this squad for next years team. I believe it is building for the future.

Our results were:

v/s	Tweed Heads – Lost	2 – 0
v/s	Wade – Lost	5 – 0
v/s	Picnic Point – Won	5 – 0
v/s	Hill Sports – Lost	3 – 1
v/s	Parkes – Lost	2 – 1



A great effort from all our Touch teams – hopefully things look pretty bright for the future and we still have Year 7/8 Competition in August to look forward to.

### TOUCH THANK-YOUS

- ❖ Mrs Jane Ferguson for doing all the paperwork and organising our accommodation at Penrith. I'm sure all the girls enjoyed the trip, and it's set goals for next year. Also for giving up lunchtimes for training was greatly appreciated.
- ❖ Mr Murray Doust and Mr Terry Broadbent for being our bus drivers who got us safely to our venues and home again.
- ❖ Reece Slaven, Tim Bridge, Fletcher Lewis and Ryan Morris for coming along as our designated referees.
- ❖ Courtney Morris, Teagan Wenham and other senior students who have assisted in training sessions and coaching – great to see them contribute to our juniors development.
- ❖ Mr Jeff Pensini for all the work he does in Primary School which gives our students such a great grounding in touch.
- ❖ A very BIG thank-you to the P & C for your financial support. Some of our students represent Wingham high in more than one sport and the costs of travel and accommodation can be quite a burden and the assistance you give allows students the opportunity to display their skills on the sporting field. Thank you so much for your support.
- ❖ Thank you to the parents who travelled to Penrith to support our Year 9/10 Girls team.

### RYAG SHEEP – Rotary Youth in Agriculture.



The 2012 RYAG Sheep program was held in Walcha from March 20<sup>th</sup> until April 1<sup>st</sup>. Three students, Samantha Deal, Madeline Coomber and Ellana George attended the program. The students were billeted on a working sheep property on the outskirts of Walcha and travelled to various other properties examining both meat and wool production facilities on various New England properties. All students involved had to complete practical and theory based tasks.

Mr and Mrs Hawkins attended a number of workshops with the students and the final Rotary Dinner at the Walcha Golf Club on Saturday March 31<sup>st</sup>. All the students involved participated in a Wool fashion parade as part of this dinner and presentation evening.

Mr Hawkins would like to commend these three students on their maturity and presentation during the program.

Thankyous must go to Wingham Rotary Club who helped sponsor our girls to attend this event and the parents for the transport to the venue.

This was a once in a lifetime experience for theses students to meed kids from all over New South Wales and view some to the top New England sheep producers and industry spokespersons.

Mr Hawkins





## HUNTER REGION REPRESENTATION

After recent sporting selections trials the following students have been successful and will represent the Hunter Region.

- |                    |                         |
|--------------------|-------------------------|
| ➤ Maitlan Brown    | Girls Cricket           |
| ➤ Mikaelay Coleman | Golf                    |
| ➤ Tim Bridge       | Hockey                  |
| ➤ Scott Williams   | Open Touch              |
| ➤ Jannah Gillett   | Open Touch              |
| ➤ Fletcher Lewis   | 16 Years Touch          |
| ➤ Jaime Hemmingway | 16 Years Touch          |
| ➤ Mikaelya Peckett | 1 <sup>st</sup> at Zone |
|                    | 1 <sup>st</sup> at Zone |



## ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

Our school Athletics Carnival was held on May 7<sup>th</sup>. A great day was had by all with fantastic weather for competition. The events run on the day were the 100m, 200m, 800m, Long Jump, High Jump and Shot Put. Events to be concluded are the Javelin, Discus and Triple Jump. As soon as these events are finalised this week we will be able to determine the age champions and champion house. Currently Macquarie lead on 490 points followed by Manning, Parkes and Oxley.

The Zone Athletics Carnival will be held on June 6<sup>th</sup> at Tuncurry. Lunchtime training will be available for those students interested.



## **BUS SAFETY WARNING**

Early in May a young boy was hit by a car soon after alighting from one of our local school buses. A year 2 boy alighted from the bus in Valerie Street, Taree at about 3:35pm and attempted to cross the road in front of the stationary bus, before the bus had left the kerb. He was struck by a passing car travelling at 20-30km/h and luckily only suffered bruising and abrasions.

As a result of this, I am contacting all of the schools who have students travelling on our school bus network to ask them to convey the message to students and parents of the safe procedures in alighting from a school bus. If you could bring the subject up at a school assembly or in a school newsletter or the like or whatever way is appropriate to your school that would be very much appreciated.

*When leaving the bus students should –*

- **Remain behind the driver until the bus has come to complete stop.**
- **Step off carefully and quietly and stand two steps back from the kerb.**
- **Do not push or shove**
- **NEVER walk out in front of or behind the bus.**
- **ALWAYS wait for the bus to move away before choosing the safest place to cross the road.**

Children may not realise that by walking out from in front of or behind the bus makes it harder for the bus driver or for other drivers to see them. Our drivers are all aware of this and do their best to encourage children to alight from the bus in a safe manner but it is important that this message is also conveyed by teachers and parents to reinforce this.

We would also recommend that where possible a parent or responsible person meet younger children at the bus stop and meet them on the correct side of the road, unless the child is accompanied by an older sibling/neighbour etc.

Additional education recourses are available from the Bus NSW website ([www.busnsw.com.au](http://www.busnsw.com.au)) or from NSW Roads and Maritime Services *MyResources* website.

Richard L Eiggins  
Manager School Student Transport  
Eiggins Comfort Coaches





## Parents Victoria Online Conference 2012

**6am Sunday 20 May to midnight Saturday 26 May (Australian time)**

**PARENTS** of primary and secondary students, in all states, territories and countries, are warmly invited to take part in this year's online conference, held by Parents Victoria, in Australia. The conference will be held non-stop on the internet from 6am Sunday 20 May to midnight Saturday 26 May. No special software is needed, other than an internet-connected computer and a browser (speakers are an advantage but are optional). The online discussions will be very easy to join in, online resources will be provided, and guidelines about how to participate will be available. **\*You don't need to be a member of Parents Victoria to take part in discussions.** Join in for all days, just some days, or even a few hours, depending on your lifestyle and other commitments.

### Topics

The conference will feature six 'live' daily online discussions, each of them hosted, for several hours each day, by a member of Parents Victoria or expert commentators from a number of different associations. Each 24-hour period will focus on a different topic that is currently of concern to parents. The seventh day will provide an extra opportunity to have your say on all of the topics discussed earlier in the week. There will also be one continuous online discussion that will last all week. Full topic details are provided on page 3-6 of this flyer. **The exact day-to-day conference program will also be emailed to those who register, shortly before the conference begins.**

### Register online at no cost

The Parents Victoria Online Conference 2012 website will open at exactly 6am on Sunday 20 May at:

<http://www.cybertext.net.au/pv/> **\*Please note: The 'placeholder page' that is currently visible at this website address will automatically redirect to the live conference homepage, at precisely 6am on Sunday 20 May. Please register yourself online, at this website address, before you participate in the online conference.**

### Prizes for participation

**iPad** – The Parents Victoria member school with the greatest number of individual participants over the entire conference.

**Flip Camera** - The school with the most individual participants who comment on the week long question.

**Flip Camera** - The school with the most individual participants who comment on the Celebrating Public Education topic on Sunday 20th May.

**Registration for 2 people to attend the Parents Victoria annual conference August 2012** The Victorian government school with the greatest number of individuals who participate on multiple days of the conference.

**Complimentary year's membership to Parents Victoria** - The non-member Victorian government school with the greatest number of individual participants over the entire conference

\*To be eligible, participants must be correctly registered and leave at least one comment on the discussion boards. Schools are only eligible to win one prize. In the event that a school wins more than one category, the prize in subsequent categories will go to the school with the next highest number of eligible participants. Member schools are defined as schools whose 2012 membership payment was received by 18th May 2012.



*everyone's family*

### ***\$500 to help pay for Education Costs***

**Do you have a child at school and would \$500 help cover your education expenses?**

The Smith Family is running a Taree savings program that can help you save for your children's education.

Saver Plus rewards your saving efforts by matching every dollar you save with another dollar from ANZ, up to \$500.

It also offers 4 FREE Financial Workshops.

**Many Taree families are already taking advantage of the Saver Plus program and are saving for their educational expenses.**

To be eligible you must:

- be a parent or guardian of a student attending school, or be intending to attend accredited vocational training yourself
- have a current health care card or pension card, and
- have some income from work. (even a few hrs will count)

Saver Plus is giving families a brighter future by providing an incentive to save for education.

For more information contact Mark Norris, Saver Plus Coordinator on 65578284 or 0429 820 9744 or email [mark.norris@thesmithfamily.com.au](mailto:mark.norris@thesmithfamily.com.au)



An initiative by ANZ and the Brotherhood of St Laurence,  
with The Smith Family



**Would \$500 help you pay for school uniforms, books or a laptop?**

Match your savings for school costs, dollar for dollar, through Saver Plus.

The Smith Family is looking for new participants in your local area.

You may be eligible if you or your partner have:

- a Health Care or a Pensioner Concession Card
- a child at school or starting next year
- some regular income from work.



*everyone's family*

**Contact Mark Norris, your local Saver Plus Worker: 6557 8284 / 0429 820 974 or [mark.norris@thesmithfamily.com.au](mailto:mark.norris@thesmithfamily.com.au).**

*Saver Plus was developed by ANZ and the Brotherhood of St Laurence and is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government.*

## **Manning Support Services Inc.**

**ABN: 88 845 915 950**



**78 Wynter Street**

**P.O Box 759**

**TAREE NSW 2430**

**Charity Number: 14250**

**Phone: 02 6551 1800**

**Fax: 02 6551 5700**

### **Has your washing machine or fridge broken down and you don't know how you're going to replace it?**

Manning Support Services No Interest Loan Scheme may be able to help you. We are a not for profit organisation which provides interest free loans, from \$100 to \$1000, to people on low incomes and/or Centrelink payments, for:

- new household appliances,
- furniture
- medical equipment or
- some educational expenses,

subject to eligibility criteria. By using these loans, people are able to avoid the interest rates and debt traps of other forms of credit (however, we don't lend for rent arrears, bills, second hand goods or to pay out other loans).

The money for the loans comes from donations and grants. As people repay their loans, the money goes back into the loan pool for other people to borrow. Therefore the local community benefits, as well as local businesses. You can borrow again once you've repaid your previous loan, subject to eligibility criteria.

For further information and to discuss a loan application, please call the Manning Support Services office in Taree on 6551 1800.

June Ryan and Joshua Rogers  
Loans Officers  
Manning No Interest Loans Scheme

Jason McLoughlin  
Team Leader  
Child and Family Team EIS

### **HONOUR AN OUTSTANDING TEACHER**

Call for Nominations for the  
NEiTA 2012 ASG Inspirational Teaching Awards

### **Support Our Inspirational Teachers**

Our school has been invited to submit nominations for the **NEiTA 2012 ASG Inspirational Teaching Awards**. This is an opportunity for our school to publicly recognise and encourage our great teachers and give them a well-deserved pat on the back. NEiTA is the only independent national awards program where individual parents/grandparents,



parent associations, school boards/councils, secondary student councils, and community organisations can nominate teachers and principals who contribute excellence.

Nominated teachers receive a congratulatory *NEiTA Certificate of Nomination* and become eligible for NEiTA State and National Awards. It's easy to nominate. Forms are available from the school office or can be downloaded or completed online at: [www.neita.com.au](http://www.neita.com.au) or requested from the NEiTA Secretariat by phoning free call 1800 624 487.

### **Showing Appreciation to our Teachers**

Parents value teachers' efforts. However, we rarely have the opportunity to publicly express our appreciation. This is our chance to do so by nominating our teachers and leaders for the **NEiTA 2012 ASG Inspirational Teaching Awards**.

It's easy to nominate and show our teachers how much we appreciate and support them. Nomination forms can be collected from the school office or they can be downloaded or completed online at: [www.neita.com.au](http://www.neita.com.au) or requested from the NEiTA Secretariat by phoning free call 1800 624 487. Nominations can be made by individual parents and parent association, school council, secondary student council, and community organisations.

### **Teacher Nominations Due**

The closing date is fast approaching to nominate teachers for the NEiTA 2012 ASG Inspirational Teaching Awards. Be sure to submit your nominations for our school's outstanding teachers and leaders to NEiTA by 31 July 2012. It's easy to nominate. Nomination forms are available from the school office or they can be downloaded or completed online at: [www.neita.com.au](http://www.neita.com.au) or requested from the NEiTA Secretariat by phoning free call 1800 624 487.

### **Anita's "Surprise" Retirement Party**

Come and celebrate Anita's 26 years at Cuddlepie,  
shh... Don't tell.

**Date:** 30<sup>th</sup> June 2012

**Time:** 5pm till 10pm

**Venue:** Wingham town Hall

**Light** refreshments provided.

Bring Your own drinks, stay as little or as long as you like,  
children welcome!

No presents, "Travel wishing well".



# Is your life too plastic?

**The Hunter-Central Rivers Catchment Management Authority invites you to a free screening of the award winning environmental documentary, *Bag It*. The screening will be hosted by Tim Silverwood, environmentalist and co-founder of non-profit organisation Take 3.**

Bag It follows 'everyman' Jeb Berrier as he tries to make sense of our dependence on plastic bags. Jeb soon learns that the problem extends past landfills to oceans, rivers and ultimately human health.

The film explores these issues and identifies how our daily reliance on plastic threatens not only our waterways and marine life but human health too.

In August 2011 Tim returned from a research expedition to the North Pacific Gyre (or the Great Pacific Garbage Patch) with alarming insights into the frightening state of the world's oceans and will talk about his expedition at the screening of Bag It.

Information will also be available at the event through displays from various community groups.

***Free BAG IT screening and marine debris presentation***

**Thursday 24th May**

**from 6.30 pm**

**at Taree High School hall**  
(cnr Albert St and Macquarie St)

Light refreshments will be provided

For more information contact:

Derek Monks

Hunter-Central Rivers Catchment  
Management Authority

[derek.monks@cma.nsw.gov.au](mailto:derek.monks@cma.nsw.gov.au)

02 6551 8994



CARING  
FOR  
OUR  
COUNTRY



Catchment Management  
Authority  
Hunter-Central Rivers

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