



# YASS HIGH SCHOOL

We value respect, responsibility, safety and learning.

Principal: Paul F. Bills B.A. Dip. Ed. Deputy Principal: Louise Pinson B.A. (Hons) Dip. Ed.

## Farewell

18th December 2009 marks the last day at school for a number of key staff members who are taking leave pending retirement. Each of these people has made a special contribution to the life of the school and the education of our local community over a considerable period of time. They will be sorely missed. We know that students, ex-students and parents join staff in wishing them well in the future.



David Anderson arrived at Yass High School 1979. As well as being responsible for teaching mathematics to thousands of local children over his career, he is also respected as a coach and supporter of the local basketball competition and honoured as a Weight-Lifting coach who made our students into Champions.



Ray England arrived at Yass High School in 1989. As well as keeping David Anderson in line, he runs the Mathematics Department (and the Time Out Room) like well-oiled machines. For decades, he applied his considerable mathematical skills to the puzzle of the school timetable and he ensured that HSC exams ran like clockwork.



Kerry England started working at Yass High School in 1991. Kerry has made an outstanding contribution to the teaching and enjoyment of music across the school. She worked tirelessly with Bandmaster Geoff Townsend to help create and maintain a very successful school band and now works hard with new Bandmaster David Greenwood to ensure music continues to be an important part of the Yass High experience.



Dee Martin arrived at Yass High in 1986 as a teacher of mathematics and her skills were recognised with an Excellence in Teaching award. In 2002, she became Head Teacher Teaching and Learning which gave her responsibility for overseeing Professional Learning at the school and supervising VET courses. She even taught Business Services for a number of years. Dee has run a very successful School to Work Program for many years and has worked hard to promote girls in maths and science. A highlight of her career was her visit to Miami University to learn about project Discovery, an innovative teacher training program.



Gayle Oberg worked as a casual teacher at Yass High School for many years beginning in 1994, gaining permanency a few years later. Gayle was a vet who retrained and she enjoyed sharing her enthusiasm for science and maths with the students of Yass High. Gayle would provide lunch time tutoring for students who needed extra help with their work. She was able to motivate the students in her roll call group to support any school activity, regularly winning prizes for raising the most money for events such as the Brekky Club Walkathon.

The year is flying by and summer holidays are nearing but the pace of life at school does not slow down.

We have had a few reminders recently of the important contribution parents make to our school. On 19th and 20th November, Narelle Manson took time off work to accompany Year 10 students to the Girls in Science Forum at the University of Technology in Sydney.

Recently Joy Blackman gave up two days to work as a panel member to help choose a candidate for a new HSIE teaching position starting next year and on 24<sup>th</sup> November 60 or more parents attended a meeting about the Year 9 Laptop program, sharing their concerns and excitement about the new direction of education in their children's lives. Yass High School is very lucky to have such active parental support.

As this is the last InTouch for the year, we would like to offer Seasons Greetings and best wishes for the New Year to staff, parents, students and all those community members who support the school in so many ways. We look forward to your continued involvement in 2010.

Paul Bills & Louise Pinson

### **Girls in Science at UTS**

On 19th November, two Year 10 students, Kehani Manson and Natalia Shaw, accompanied by Narelle Manson, travelled to Sydney to take part in a two day 'Girls in Science' forum at the University of Technology in Sydney. The program was organised and paid for by the Country Education Foundation and Jocellin Jansson was the dynamic coordinator. Girls from Temora and Gunnedah also attended.



The girls had a wonderful time, becoming familiar with the university and its facilities, looking around Sydney and talking about the opportunities studying science would give them. Natalia was particularly impressed with the astronomy exhibition at the Powerhouse Museum and Kehani with a night time visit to the Sydney Aquarium. They made new friends, found out lots about uni life and enjoyed some of Sydney's special places, including dining in Chinatown.

Many thanks go to the Yass Education Foundation for offering this wonderful opportunity and paying all expenses, to Jocellin who took a personal interest in the girls, to Carlene Carmody for her local organization and to Narelle Manson who, at short notice, rearranged her week and made it possible for the girls to have this great experience.



Jocellin sent an email to the school after the event saying that, "The girls behaviour was impeccable, so much so that one of the restaurateurs asked me where the girls were from and commented on their great manners. They were a pleasure to host."

We hope that Yass High is considered for such events in the future.

### **Welcome to the (Technology) Revolution**

There was an excited feeling at the Year 9 parent laptop meeting in the library recently. Approximately 60 parents, 50 students, 10 siblings and eight teachers attended the meeting.

Rod Saville addressed the meeting and introduced the Technical Support Officer, Sam Columb. Together they went through the procedures which would be followed as the laptops are 'rolled out'.

Bill Donohue, Jenny Rajchert, John Duncan and Phil Armour spoke with enthusiasm of the opportunities which will be available with the new technology, of the need to balance new and old ways of working and of their own excitement at being a part of this important educational development.

Parents raised some interesting concerns and suggestions such as whether this would increase the workload for students. Many parents expressed an interest in learning about the applications themselves. All left the meeting more knowledgeable about the program and willing to support their students in their new undertakings.



## Why School Uniform?

Thanks to all parents and students who have embraced our new school uniform shirts. The students are looking more and more to be proud members of our learning community. I have been asked to explain the advantages of wearing school uniform and the reasons it is important.

Yass High School, like all organisations, is the sum of its parts, and all those parts make their own contribution to the ethos, the climate and the reputation of our school. The school uniform identifies our students as members of the school who have reached, or are moving towards, a common understanding of the values we endorse.

We give the highest priority to student safety and welfare, and if all students are in school uniform it assists us to identify any intruder on the school premises. Away from school, either on daily excursions or travelling to and from school, the uniform is also a form of child protection.

As part of the process of enrolling at Yass High School, students and their parent/caregivers are made aware that this is a uniform school. We ask students and parents/caregivers to keep faith with that awareness and to support students in wearing the correct school uniform with pride.

The Yass High School community voted for the wearing of uniform by all students at the school for a number of reasons. Among these are the following:

- The wearing of uniform shows a sense of school pride and school spirit.
- If students at school are wearing their uniform, young people who are not enrolled at Yass High School will be more easily identified when on school grounds without permission. Thus undesirable visitors will be evacuated at the earliest opportunity - by staff or the police.
- Uniform is non-discriminatory. Everyone dresses the same so there is no vying for the perceived status of wearing expensive brand name clothing.
- Uniform is the cheapest and simplest alternative for families to dress their children to attend school.
- Uniform is a means of addressing the welfare needs of some families. (Uniforms may be available from the school uniform clothing pool when necessary).
- Students who leave the school without permission will be more easily identified and follow up action will be more immediate.
- A Uniform Code is necessary to ensure that students do not wear inappropriate clothing e.g. that which is immodest, offensive, unsafe, dirty or torn.

By displaying high standards of appearance to the community, the image of Yass High School, Public Education and the teaching profession is promoted.

Mr Paul Bills - Principal



## Where would be without our wonderful helpers?

The Support Unit students have excelled again! All year they have worked consistently in providing important services to the school.

These have been recycling collections, ink cartridge collections, Breakfast Club washing up and recently they have folded and packed over 250 of the new school t-shirts.

While this is a valuable work experience program for the students, it also significantly enhances the daily operation of our school. This is a greatly appreciated service.



James Mather busy at work folding one of the many new school shirts



James de Mestre is very pleased with his folding efforts



Daniel Anderson takes a breather while helping fold over 250 school shirts

*Thank You*

A big Thank You must also go to Sharon Kemp for making time between her **'appointments'** to help with the distribution of the school shirts to our 2010 Year 7 students on Orientation Day.

## Special Examination Provisions 2010

The assessment and application process for Special Exam Provisions for the 2010 HSC and School Certificate exams is now in progress.

These provisions include the use of a reader and/or writer for students with literacy difficulties, as well as other provisions eg for medical conditions such as diabetes.

If you would like more information please contact Ms Penny McGregor

## Mr Barratt goes to Cairo

Craig Barrett our lively PDHPE teacher and Taekwondo expert has left the country!

Craig will be representing Australia at the 4th World Poomsae Championships in Cairo, Egypt. Taekwondo poomsae (pattern) is a combination of techniques of block and attack performed consecutively while moving in certain directions. There are a series of poomsaes designed to correspond with each learning level from beginner to advanced.

After the competition, Craig will be touring Egypt, a country which has fascinated him since he studied 3 Unit Ancient History for the HSC years ago. The tour includes visits to the Pyramids of Giza, the Solar Boat Museum, the Light and Sound Show at the Sphinx, the Luxor Temple, a tour of the Nile, the Colossi of Memnon, the Valley of the Kings (including the tomb of Tutankhamen), the Egyptian Museum and many other temples.



We wish Craig all the best at the competition and look forward to hearing about his adventures when he returns next year.

Postscript:

Craig has reported back that he was appointed Male Team Captain in Melbourne before the team left and that he finished 20th in the world at the end of competition. Congratulations!



## Albury Show

On the 30th October the Show Team travelled to Albury for the annual show. The team of Tom McLucas, Zac Kitson, Kelly Armour and Joe Whiting had been preparing their two Poll Hereford Steers 'Ned' and 'Jake' for four months leading up to the show.

Both steers presented very well with 'Jake' taking 2nd Place in his hoof class. Unfortunately neither steer figured in the placings on the Hook where the carcass was judged. Despite this the steers sold well bringing an average of \$830 per head.

The students also competed in the cattle parading competition against some very strong competition as they also did in the Junior Judging where Tom McLucas gained third place in the 17 years and over class.



Tom McLucas keeps an eye on the judge during the hoof section of the Albury Show while 'Jake' stands patiently in the Heavy Supermarket Class

A highlight for the team at this show is the close contact and friendship that develops between schools at the show, particularly Murrumburrah HS and Yanco Agricultural HS. Many of the students have been to the same shows over a number of years and share common experiences.

Yass and Yanco have shared accommodation on a number of occasions and this trip was no different.

A particular thanks must go to Ms Jenny Rajchert who travels with us as a an invaluable assistant and makes a special point of keeping us all well fed, especially with her very special breakfast burgers.



Ms Rajchert on the job, cooking yet another wonderful breakfast

## Inter Schools Championship Schools Gymkhana

The highlights of the day included Yass High team winning Best School on Parade, Chloe Cartwright Reserve Champion Rider and Kathleen McGrath winning a Supreme Effort Sash. The girls also brought home many first placings.



Chloe Cartwright, Kathleen McGrath and Abby Cartwright with their winning Supreme Effort sash

## Rotary RYPEN Camp



James Hazel recently enjoyed attending a Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment camp



## What did they get up to in the Food and Textiles Department?

### Years 9 & 10 made Gingerbread Houses



Holly Murphy decorating her delicious house



Roast pork and vegetables with apple sauce – ready for Christmas!

### Year 12 Hospitality made roast pork



Janey Chatfield and Madison Josephs carve the roast

### Year 9 made mocktails



Maddi Pointon and Blake Partridge just need a deck chair and a pool!

### Year 8 made cushion covers



Taylor Shaw and his cushion cover

### Year 7 made bags



Olivia Mercieca with her frog bag



Jacob Davison with an aboriginal bag and Erick Barnett with a dragon bag



Amy North and Taylar Gavel display their talent

## Tasmanian Experience

From the 25th - 27th of November, the Year 11 Maths Extension 1 class from Yass High School attended an excursion to Hobart to learn about mathematical careers and applications, and university life.

This exciting excursion began in the very early hours of Wednesday morning to catch our plane from Canberra to Hobart via Melbourne. After we arrived the car was hired and we left to visit the Australian Antarctic Division Centre. However on the way we found the shot tower. The shot

tower was made in 1870 by Joseph Moir, and was used to make lead pellets by dripping molten lead down a 48 metre drop into water. At the Antarctic Centre we learnt about the Australian Antarctic Territory and animals that inhabit that area.



Brett Foran, Matthew Parker, Shane Parker, Tennille Rayner and Thomas Dawes overlooking Hobart



Next we attended the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery for a climate change workshop about Global Warming and the impact of melting ice caps with Richard Hale. He explained to us that all the ice sheets and icebergs floating in the water would not affect the rising sea levels like land ice because water contracts when it melts.

The next day came and we attended a lecture about the Tasmanian devil's face cancer epidemic and how maths is used to calculate the disease's infection area, along with how it spreads. This involved lots and lots of calculus and modelling. Next we hiked to a lecture about getting a PHD in forestry and how it can be applied to different areas of environmental conservation, including stress in animals. Erin, PhD student, presented some of her research findings about possums.

This was followed by a seminar on forestry at the new National Forest Education Centre. This building was located in the centre of the city and included a large dome that housed a sample of the local temperate rainforest. In these Forestry activities we learnt about the diversity of flora and fauna in Tasmanian forests which contains over 1000 different species of beetles. The end of the day was completed when we took the windy road to the top of Mt Wellington, with a spectacular view of Hobart and surrounds.



On Friday, the clouds and rain came down to make a miserable start to the day. However by the time we reached the Tasmanian Devil Conservation Park the weather had cleared. After watching the devils feeding and a bird show, we headed to Port Arthur Historic site. To finish the activities, we had a visit to the Federation Chocolate Factory where we did extensive sampling and purchasing of chocolates.

The 2010 Year 11 Maths Extension 1 class should start thinking about where they want to go for their excursion in November 2010.

Thomas, Brett, Tennille & Matt



Matthew Parker, Tennille Rayner, Brett Foran and Thomas Dawes at Mt Wellington, Hobart



Ms Bartlett, Tennille Rayner, Thomas Dawes, Matthew Parker and Brett Foran at Constitution Dock, Hobart



## **Yass High Participates in Rare Opportunity**

Yass High School's top Year 10 English class recently had the privilege of participating in a video conference with other public schools around the state. The conference featured Li Cunxin who wrote an autobiography of his life called *Mao's Last Dancer* and Jan Sardi, who adapted the autobiography into a film by the same name. Both Cunxin and Sardi were recently recognised for their efforts at the Toronto International Film Festival where they were given the honour of a standing ovation.

As an introduction to the conference, students were shown several scenes from the film featuring some of Cunxin's experiences growing up in Communist China and how he was picked by the government to join the dancing program. After about five minutes of clips, Sardi and Cunxin appeared on the screen and outlined how they had met and how Sardi had been inspired to adapt Cunxin's writing into a film.

Attention then focused on Cunxin who shared with students what the actual process of writing means to him. He believes that writing is about 'freeing your mind' and being able to express your story. That is, going back to those important moments in your life and reliving them in order to take into account every detail you see and writing it down. Cunxin also discussed what had motivated him to write about his life under the oppressive Chinese Government. He said that he feels it is important to always look at the positives in your life no matter how tough things get, as 'forward is your future'. Overall, Cunxin emphasised that he wrote his book to give hope, courage and inspiration to those who need it.

Question time then arrived and Yass High soon received their turn to ask a question. Clare Hanson presented Cunxin and Sardi with this question: "most people tend to value written texts as they feel that they have literary 'merit', but we often think of film as being just a form of entertainment. How did this add to the challenge of creating the film?" Sardi gave a detailed reply and said that when adapting books to film it is important to ensure that script writers find 'the story within the story'. He said that he personally feels that it is important to build on the emotional landscape within the film and to expand the role of the characters so as to allow the viewer to develop a personal sense of emotion towards each individual character and to understand the journey they have taken. Sardi outlined that there had been an additional challenge in adapting this particular text to film and that was maintaining the emotional landscape told within the ballet itself.

At the conclusion of the video conference, students commented that they wished the presentation had gone for longer as everyone was aware of how rare the opportunity was to be able to talk to such inspirational men, particularly Cunxin.

From the desk of Nathan Furry

## **Samoan Tsunami Appeal**

Encouraged by Ms Fiona Wykes, Yass High School students recently held a mufti day to raise funds to build a library at a school in Samoa in memory of the children who died there in the recent tsunami. Students and staff enthusiastically supported the idea and \$1,377.45 was raised in one day. Thanks to all for their generous support of this worthy cause.

## **Year 8 Rock Climbing Excursion**

On Thursday the 3rd December the Year 8 students went to Canberra Rock Climbing Centre in Mitchell. It was a reasonably short bus ride but when we got there we had a short wait then Gordon 'belted us all up' on his own and off we went.

After more staff arrived we were shown how to rock climb properly and partnered up and started climbing. One person climbed the wall while their partner belayed them up the wall. We did this for about two hours until Ms Vandermeys cooked us some yummy hamburgers, cut up watermelon and got us some juice to drink.

After another hour or so of climbing we took off our very 'comfortable' harnesses, released our mega wedgies and got on the bus for the trip back to school. When we got back to school Ms Vandermeys again pulled out the food and gave us some afternoon tea.

It was a very fun, but tiring day, with lots of laughter and the occasional person whacking into the ground.

By Kirsty, Caitlyn and Maddy.



## **Students of the Week**

### **November / December 2009**



**Corey Greene**

**Year 8**

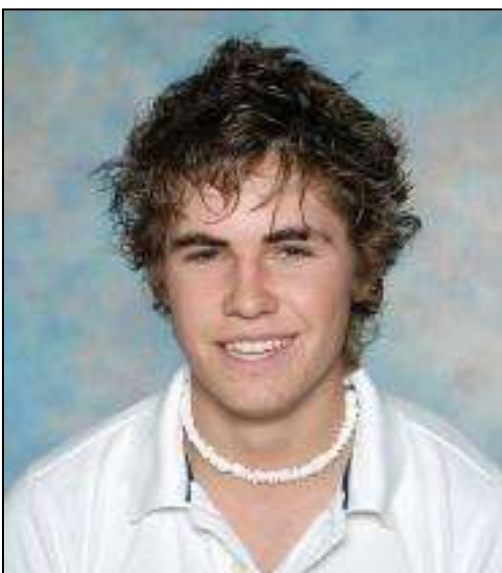
For showing responsibility ensuring the safety of another student



**Matthew Cooke**

**Year 11**

For training, coaching and refereeing at the 7/8 All Schools Touch Finals at Penrith under oppressive conditions



**Tim Barrie**

**Year 11**

For training, coaching and refereeing at the 7/8 All Schools Touch Finals at Penrith under oppressive conditions



## YHS Car Boot Sale P&C Major Fundraiser





# Christmas Carols At



PRESENTED BY



Sunday 13th DECEMBER

GATES OPEN FROM 6:30PM

CAROLS FROM 8PM

Featuring the Yass High School Concert Band

Featuring the Yass High School Band

& Mt Carmel School Choir

Glowsticks

Available to purchase

FREE Entry

Bring a seat/rug,  
picnic and torch!



Please note in case of wet weather:

Relocation to Anglican Church Hall announcements on Yass FM 100.3

# **BUSKERS WANTED**

**THE** **THURSDAY 17TH**  
**BIG NIGHT OUT**

The Yass Valley Visitor Information Centre  
259 Comur Street Yass • 1300 886 014 • [www.yassvalley.com.au](http://www.yassvalley.com.au)

# **CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS**



## Chance to have your say in Australia's 'Next Big Question'



This is your chance to 'Have Your Say' on the next big question facing Australia.

There is not a particular topic which you are being invited to write about. In fact it's the opposite – this is about giving you the chance to have a say about whatever issue matters most to you. Here is your opportunity to think big and be innovative. We want you to tell us what you think is the next big question facing our country.

The AYF (Australian Youth Forum) is hosting this discussion forum in collaboration with Australia21; an independent, non-profit organisation which researches issues of strategic importance to Australians in the 21st century. Australia21 seeks to shape Australia for future generations - through a collaboration of leading and creative thinkers, providing groundbreaking and holistic solutions for Australia's long-term future, well-being and sustainability.

The AYF will provide Australia21 with your 'next big questions' and your posts will feed into their two year project. The trends and underlying themes emerging from your ideas will also be collated in a report which will be sent to the Minister for Early Childhood Education, Child Care and Youth, Kate Ellis, to inform future policy development.

So be innovative, be bold and think big. Your question might relate to a matter concerning health or social justice in our community; or it may relate to the environment, climate change, education or technology and infrastructure. Whatever your area of particular interest, we want to know about it. Tell us...

What you consider to be the NEXT BIG QUESTION?

Why is it important?

What you think the implications might be if we don't ask this question? What might we lose or what might some of the risks be if we don't start exploring and finding answers to this question?

The page is blank. It's up to you to fill it in.

Visit the Australian Youth Forum website now to post your 'Next Big Question' or to vote on ideas. But HURRY! There are only two days left!

<http://www.youth.gov.au/ayf/Ideas/TopicsList.aspx>

## Summer Camps

Summer sports are in full swing and Quality Sports in Orange have organised cricket and swimming camps in early January. Both camps will be over three days on 4th, 5th & 6th. January and there are full residential places available at the Kinross Wolaroi School, or participants can just attend on a "live-out" basis.

Dual Olympian Anna Windsor who represented Australia in Atlanta 1996 and Sydney 2000, will head up the swimming camp while some highly accredited cricket coaches will cover all skills of cricket for beginners or the more advanced players.

Camps are open to Boys and Girls in the age group of 9 to 14 years and the full residential cost is \$315 or for day participants it will be \$260. Day participants have lunch and fruit and drinks provided for all three days.

Further details or an application form can be obtained by phoning Quality Sports on 63629234 or a form can be downloaded at the Kinross Wolaroi Website under Quality Sporting Services.

Carl Sharpe & Beth Norrie

Quality Sports.. Orange

**Elementz**  
**Rhythmic Gymnastics Academy**  
Rhythm and FUNDamentals for life!

**OPEN DAY**

**When:** Saturday 30th January **Time:** 1pm onwards  
**Where:** Yass Memorial Hall, Cornur Street Yass

**What is Rhythmic Gymnastics?**  
A graceful, dynamic form of gymnastics that incorporates hand-held apparatus (including rope, hoop, ball, clubs and ribbon), and is accompanied by music.

Rhythmic Gymnastics promotes...

- Flexibility
- Strength
- Coordination
- Confidence
- Self expression and musical interpretation
- Working in teams
- Self discipline

So come along to our OPEN DAY to see Rhythmic Gymnastics in action – see a display performance and have a go in one of our free trial classes (call to make a booking)

- Girls, 6-9yrs Sat 1:00-2:00pm
- Girls, Ages 10yrs+ Sat 2:00-3:30
- Display 4:15pm

Join us afterwards for a sausage sizzle and plenty of fun. Don't forget to pick up an enrolment form for 2010!

If you wish for your child to take part in the free trial lesson at our OPEN DAY please contact me on **6112 8460**. Hurry, book now as numbers are limited. If you miss out on a place in the free trial lesson please feel free to come along and watch the class or stay for the display and sausage sizzle afterwards.

**Elementz**  
**Rhythmic Gymnastics Academy**  
Rhythm and FUNDamentals for life!

**Give your daughter the opportunity to learn the art of Rhythmic Gymnastics - a graceful and dynamic form of gymnastics that uses ribbons, hoops, balls, clubs and ropes in harmony with music.**

We're currently taking enrolments for 2010. Classes will begin 2<sup>nd</sup> February. Contact us on **6112 8460** for an enrolment package and if you **enrol before the New Year** you'll receive **10% off First term fees.**

Also keep an eye out for our open day flyers or contact us for one. We will be holding an **Open Day** on the **30<sup>th</sup> of January 2010** from 1pm onwards at the Memorial Hall to introduce the community to Rhythmic Gymnastics. There will be free trial classes, a display, showbags, sausage sizzle and plenty of fun.

Head Coach, Celicia McHarg has had over 10 years experience in Rhythmic Gymnastics as a gymnast and coach. Celicia was selected at the age of 15 to train with the NSW Institute of sport and represent Australia at World Championships in Japan 1999. She is also a qualified early childhood teacher and has had much experience in working with children as a coach and teacher.



**Phone:** 6112 8460  
**Email:** celica82@hotmail.com

## **Have You Ever Considered Becoming A Volunteer Host Family?**

World Education Program (WEP) is looking for Volunteer Host Families for International Students arriving in July 2010.



Expand your knowledge of other countries, cultures, languages and cuisines and consider opening your door to an international exchange student. Take some time over the Christmas period to select a student from the photos & letters they send us. If successful – then start communicating with them! Before you know it, July will be here and a great new friend and family member will step off the plane.

Students from Belgium, Italy, Brazil, France, Germany, Argentina, Canada, Holland and Switzerland are looking for families that are prepared to welcome them into their homes.

These young ambassadors are looking for life long friends and a place to call home during their stay. If you would like more information on becoming a Host Family, please contact our National Office.

Full support is provided to all host families and their students!

Nikki Medwell

Inbound Exchange Administrator

World Education Program

Toll Free: 1300 884 733

Email: [wep@wep.org.au](mailto:wep@wep.org.au)

An information pack can be sent on request which includes student photos and profiles.

It's easier than you think & a fantastic experience for all!



**Outbound programs also available**



## **Read on the Wild Side!**

Show your wild side by participating in the Southern Tablelands Regional Library's Summer Reading Club for young people aged 4 to 17 years of age. This year our Summer Reading Club, 'Read on the Wild Side!' has evolved into a bingo card game with fun activities for participants to complete while reading books of their choice.

Joining in the free activities of our Summer Reading Club over the long summer school break can be of great benefit to young people. Summer reading can create excitement in children about reading for leisure; it also assists students to return to school in the New Year ready and eager to learn, having built on their reading fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension.

'Read on the Wild Side!' will run in all branches of the Southern Tablelands Regional Library during the school holidays. To be involved, all children need to do is register at their local branch of the Southern Tablelands Regional Library, be a library member and borrow books from the library to complete the activities on the bingo card.

Participants need to complete one or more activities from the bingo squares each week and return them to the library to be in the running for the weekly prize. To go into the draw for the major mystery prize participants must complete all the activities on the bingo card. All completed activities will be displayed around the library.

When registering at the library loans desk, participants will receive a goodie bag which will include the bingo card to get them starting on their reading adventure.

Throughout the Summer Reading Club, school holiday workshops will be running in January 2010 at your local branch library - stay tuned for details.

'Read on the Wild Side!' will commence at each branch of the Southern Tablelands Regional on Monday 7 December 2009, and finish on Friday 22 January 2010.

## **BookEasy is now LIVE !**

The Yass Valley Development Corporation is pleased to announce that BookEasy is now promoting local business.

BookEasy is an online reservation system that has been specifically designed for regional tourism and brings operators across the area together creating powerful marketing and sales networks for the Yass Valley.

“The Yass Valley Visitor Information Centre is very excited to be online with BookEasy,” said Sheri Norton, Yass Valley Council’s Director of Corporate and Community Services “BookEasy will benefit the whole community by increasing exposure of the area as a tourist destination both domestically and internationally.”

BookEasy is simple to use even for the computer challenged. It provides a one stop shop for operators to upload pictures, information, prices, availability and special offers.

“We are one of a growing number of Visitor Information Centres to have installed BookEasy,”

Sheri said, “The website is a perfect place to promote the facilities and events of Yass Valley. I encourage everyone to log into [www.yassvalley.com.au](http://www.yassvalley.com.au) and have a browse”.

The Yass Valley Visitor Information Centre is keen for feedback and ideas for the use of the system. They also want organisers and operators to keep them up to date with happenings and to take advantage of the opportunities that being a member of the Yass Valley Development Corporation provide.

To provide feedback or for further information please contact the Yass Valley Visitor Information Centre on 02 62262557 or [tourism@yass.nsw.gov.au](mailto:tourism@yass.nsw.gov.au)

## **2010 Term Dates**

Term 1: Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> January – Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2010

Term 2: Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April – Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2010  
*Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April is a Staff Development Day – Pupil Free*

Term 3: Monday 19<sup>th</sup> July – Friday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2010  
*Monday 19<sup>th</sup> July is a Staff Development Day – Pupil Free*

Term 4: Monday 11<sup>th</sup> October – Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2010

## Coming Events

| DATE   | EVENT   |
|--|---|
| 10 <sup>th</sup> Dec   | Yass High School Presentation Evening                 |
| 11 <sup>th</sup> Dec   | Year 10 Final Assembly                                |
| 14 <sup>th</sup> Dec   | Yass Public School Presentation Evening               |
| 16 <sup>th</sup> Dec   | Students' last day                                    |
| 17 <sup>th</sup> & 18 <sup>th</sup> Dec                                    | School Development Days                               |
| <b>2010</b>  |   |
| 27 <sup>th</sup> Jan   | Staff Development Day                                 |
| 28 <sup>th</sup> Jan   | Year 7, Year 11 and Year 12 students return to school |
| 29 <sup>th</sup> Jan   | Year 8, Year 9 and Year 10 students return to school  |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Feb  | P & C Meeting   |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> Feb  | Swimming Carnival                                     |
| 9 <sup>th</sup> Feb  | Welcome BBQ for Year 7 Parents                        |
| 29 <sup>th</sup> March   | Year 12 Half Yearly Exams                             |
|  |   |
| <a href="#"><u>Click on the school website for the online calendar</u></a> |   |

### ALL STUDENTS

Be prepared for school

Bring pens, a ruler and a separate exercise book for each subject.

(Year 10 are still required to have books)



