



# YASS HIGH SCHOOL

We value respect, responsibility, safety and learning.

Relieving Principal: Louise Pinson BA (Hons) Dip Ed    Relieving Deputy Principal: Dawn Bartlett BSc, Dip Ed

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## Year 12 Farewelled in Style

*From the Principal's Blog*

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November was a big day for the Class of 2011. It began early with a breakfast barbecue which was a chance to catch up with classmates as well as say goodbye to teachers.

The most important event of the day, and for some the year, was the Year 12 Formal which was held this year at the Memorial Hall. Students and their partners gathered at the courthouse for photos in the late afternoon sunshine and then began arriving at the hall. The Comur Street pavement resembled a Hollywood gathering as an appreciative crowd watched glamorous girls in brightly coloured dresses and amazingly high heels emerge from cars, accompanied by well groomed young men, suited up for the occasion.

The hall was beautifully decorated with a starry night theme in black, silver and gold and the young people must have felt like stars as they walked in along the red carpet to their tables. The hard work of the Formal Committee has certainly paid off.



Oct / Nov 2011

After a smorgasbord meal of roasts and salads, Mr Glenn Matthews, their Year Adviser and MC for the night presented each of the students to the audience of parents and guests. Rebecca McLean and Zack Solomons gave a speech recalling fond memories of the school and Talliesin Ryder and Brendan Madden were picked from the hat (or rather box), to cut the cake, made by Margaret Fish, on behalf of their peers. Kira Minary-Bland and Craig Wilkinson gave a Vote of Thanks, particularly to those who had made the night so special. Flowers were presented to Sue Nielson and Cathy Wilkinson who put an enormous amount of time and energy into ensuring the success of the night.

There were further photos in the foyer of the hall taken by Jenene Forlonge before the students said goodbye to parents and headed off for more entertainment.

Year 11 students were busy all night serving soft drinks in long glasses with zany decorations, clearing tables and serving cake. Behind the scenes, Sue was ably assisted by Michele Winter and they kept things running smoothly. Year 11 parents assisted with the enormous job of washing up.

There was general agreement that it had been a lovely night, a fitting celebration to mark the end of 13 years of schooling for these fine young people who now move out into the world beyond school, knowing they will always have the support of their local community.

## **New Principal Sought**

The Merit Selection process to choose a new Principal for Yass High School has begun with the publication of an advertisement on the Department of Education and Community's website [www.jobs@DET](http://www.jobs@DET). Ms Marian Grant, School Education Director, is overseeing the process and the staff and P&C have representatives on the panel.

While I have enjoyed the challenge of being Relieving Principal for the last six months, I will not be applying for the position but look forward to returning to the Deputy's realm in 2012 and welcoming and working with our new Principal from day 1 next year.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Dawn Bartlett, who has done a wonderful job as relieving Deputy Principal and to pass on my sincere thanks to all staff, parents and community members who work so hard together to make Yass High school the wonderful place it is. Best wishes for a happy festive season and relaxing summer holiday.

## Staff Farewells

As this is the last InTouch for the year, I would like to take the opportunity to say goodbye to two popular temporary teachers who have contributed a great deal to our school over the last year or two.

Ms Charmaine Clancy has been teaching LOTE for more than 12 months, sharing her love of both French and Spanish with Year 7 students in 2010 and 2011. She has made learning a second language lots of fun with games and activities to reinforce new vocabulary. Ms Clancy has been keen to integrate technology into her classes wherever possible. She has also been teaching Year 10 English where she readily incorporates students' suggestions into her program and also contributed to the transition program, delivering creative writing lessons in the primary schools. Ms Clancy will be moving interstate with her family. Mrs Margaret Mironov will be teaching French in 2012.



Mr Keiren Brown joined us this year and has appreciated adding a 'country experience' to his resume. He returns to Sydney to teach next year. Mr Brown taught in the science and maths faculties and ensured that students learned new concepts and skills in the most interesting way. When I visited his class recently, students were recording statistics about a card game to learn about probability.

Students and staff will miss Ms Clancy and Mr Brown and wish them all the best in their teaching careers.

## Multi Categorical Class Expands

We have been advised that our application for a second Multi Categorical class for students with specific learning needs was approved for 2012. This means that Year 6 students who have been learning in an MC class at Berinba will be able to continue in an educational environment which best meets their needs.

Approval of the class includes extra staffing and an additional room.

Our current MC staff are delighted that the submission has been successful and look forward to welcoming new students and staff next year.

## HSC Expectations Explained



On Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> November a celebration assembly was held for Year 11 students. Students received their final Preliminary report and other awards acknowledging special effort or achievement.



Before the assembly an information session was held for parents and carers in the school library to ensure that they were familiar with HSC expectations from the Board of Studies and with school practices around assessment and learning in the final year of high school education. The session was repeated in the evening.

I began by stressing the key values of fairness, honesty and equity which underpin both the Board of Studies (BOS) and school processes. Students, parents and carers must speak up at any time if they feel these key values are not being followed.

Schools are responsible for determining a student's school assessment mark (reported to students as a rank) which forms 50% of a student's HSC mark. Students will complete 3 to 5 tasks in each of their courses and the school follows syllabus requirements and BOS best practice in organising assessment schedules and distributing tasks as well as marking and returning them. The schedule for tasks are contained in the green Assessment Booklet issued to students earlier this term.

Key messages for parents and carers include notifying the school by 9am if your student is unable to attend school on the day a task or test is due. A doctor's certificate should be sought if the absence is due to illness. If your student receives a zero notification or a mark they believe is unfair, there is an opportunity to appeal to the assessment panel to explain any extenuating circumstances.

Lack of commitment and application in class and/or failure to submit class activities or assessment tasks will lead to students being given N warnings and putting their HSC in jeopardy.

Parents can help their sons and daughters avoid this by encouraging organisation (through a homework diary or calendar), good attendance and a steady pattern of school work and study. Young people often require help in achieving a balanced life where school, paid work, sport and socialising are all given their due attention.

Helpful websites:

[www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au](http://www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au) is a terrific resource for HSC students and their families. <http://studentsonline.bos.nsw.edu.au/> and <http://hsc.csu.edu.au/> will provide ongoing support to students.

## Pink Day Thank You Speech

As you probably remember we held the Pink Day recently. Firstly we would like to thank everyone who donated money and to everyone who had a cupcake. Teachers and staff thank you for supporting our big breakfast. We hope you all enjoyed it. We know he is not here today but we would like to give a huge thank you to Ian McGrath who donated all the eggs and we are sure Kathleen will pass on the message to him. Big thank you to Alice Crosbie and Brendan Balderston for coming early to help the community studies class with the Big Breakfast. Also a big thank you to Lucy Pack who made some amazing cupcakes to sell on the day.



As you know we had a big breakfast for the teachers and a mufti day for students. Just out of those two fundraisers we raised \$963. We also had two boxes full of merchandise which were sold before the breakfast was even over. Out of that \$210.00 was raised. As for the awesome cupcakes, we raised \$159.65. The total amount of money raised was \$1332.65. All of this money has been sent away to help find a cure for people diagnosed with cancer.

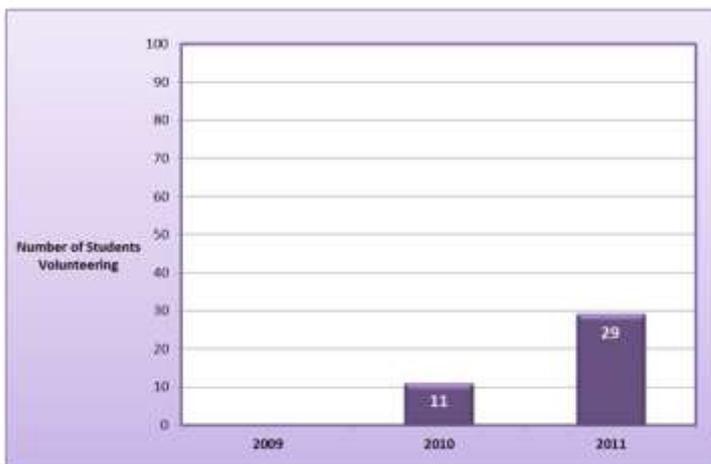


## Student Volunteering Program

Yass High School has been a participant in the NSW Premier's Student Volunteering Awards program for the past 12 months. This program encourages students to undertake a minimum of 20 hours of volunteering. It is open to any students enrolled in Years 9 and 10. In appreciation of this contribution to the community, students receive certificates from the NSW Premier, of either bronze, silver, gold, diamond or black opal respectively for completing 20, 40, 60, 80 and 150 hours of volunteering.

The teaching of volunteering and service to the community encompasses the core school values of Yass High with our students being involved in both extra curricular and in-school activities. Volunteering within our school allows students to demonstrate their understanding of these core values and experience the deeper learning that comes from genuine reflection and analysis of the impact of their altruistic actions. Once the students become involved in the program they gain a great deal of enjoyment out of helping others within their community.

Since the inception of the program at our school the student interest level in volunteering has increased a great deal and we look forward to that trend continuing with the next group of Year 9 students.



2011		No. of Students	
Scholastic Year	Enrolled	Volunteering	
9	88	25	
10	78	4	
2010		No. of Students	
Scholastic Year	Enrolled	Volunteering	
9	80	11	

## Year 8 Girls Shine at YHS

The shine program is a personal development program aimed at Year 8 girls in an attempt to build confidence, self-esteem and self-worth.

Mrs Chaplin is the Shine co-ordinator who works with Helena Painting (school Chaplain) and members of the community. Shine is a 10 week program which takes place during sport afternoons. The program is committed to seeing girls connected to positive pathways in their lives and realising their true value and potential.



It focuses on the three main areas of worth, strength and purpose.

The sessions include- skin care, healthy eating and nutrition, fitness, stress management, conflict resolution, building resilience and etiquette.

We would like to thank the generous contributions of the following members of the Yass community:-  
Liz Gailer, Genieve Blackwell, Mandy Reed, Narelle Blinman, Bimbi Turner, Gus, and Miller's Pharmacy.



### Shine Girls' Quotes:

"Shine has helped me tackle the issues and pressures faced by teenagers. We had so much fun at Mandy's Gym Session" – Jenaya

"It helps with self-esteem and how to control your anger" – Emma

"It's very helpful and a great place to talk about difficult issues" – Susan

"Everyone is friendly and supportive and you can say anything without being judged" – Talia

"I have developed skills to help myself and my friends with stressful situations" - Sevanna



# Brainstorm Productions present -‘CYBERIA’



On Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2011, Year 8 and 9 students had the opportunity to observe a presentation by Brainstorm Productions, *Cyberia*.

Brainstorm Productions have won the NSW Performing Arts Frater Award for ten consecutive years. The show was an action packed play with an important message for students.

Cyberia was a confronting play about cyber behaviour:

- how easily students can google byte-sized chunks of information and memorize it on their hard drive
- how it can create stress, mistakes, misunderstandings, misinformation and isolation
- how students can begin to lose themselves in a sensory laden environment that's devoid of empathy and human contact.

It had cleverly crafted narrative encouraging students to examine these questions AND their own behaviour.



## Police Liaison Visit

There will be a special P&C meeting on Monday night December 5 to introduce the district's new School Police Liaison Officer, Senior Constable Gary Mutton, who will address parents and carers on cyber safety. All parents and carers, including those of students who will join us in Year 7 2012, are encouraged to attend the information session in the school library, starting at 7pm.

## Koori Awareness

On 21<sup>st</sup> October, a small group of Year 9 Koori and non-Koori boys met with Roderick Slockee our local Aboriginal Education Officer. Roderick took the boys through a "hands on", engaging lesson about some of the fascinating aspects of Koori culture. We learnt about the rotational grazing practices of the surrounding Koori Nations and how controlled slow burning



fires were used, as well as the different methods to determine if the conditions were right or not to allow a fire to break its containment.

Roderick explained how the responsibilities for the important tools such as the Mogo (stone axe) and the fire sticks were given to the adolescents' of the family as well as the consequences for not carrying out your responsibility.

At the same time there were people from TAFE to speak with about school based apprenticeships and alternative education pathways to fulltime school.

By the end of the lessons the boys were throwing boomerangs like naturals regardless of being Koori students or not.

In fact the session went so well that Roderick and Karen Coe another Aboriginal Education Officer will be returning on Friday 25th November to provide another lesson to more of our students.

## What's Happening In Textiles

Students in 8 Orange TM Textiles class this term have taken this and turned it into these wonderful creations. After lots of thorough experimentation, students changed the colour of their t-shirts and then cut off necklines, shortened sleeves, shortened the length, cut them up the middle, stencilled designs onto them and stitched embellishments on. I think we might have some budding designers in our midst.



Lara Mitchell & Lucy Bucknell  
learning to tie dye

## Yass High Student Films Feature at the Yass 'In The Bin Film Festival'



Last week 10 people from our school participated in the In The Bin workshop. This was a very interesting and fun experience where we got to learn the basic technical skills to further our film making abilities.

The first day we learnt the technical side of making movies; this was where we were shown about angles, techniques and different shooting styles. We got into our groups and planned out exactly what we were going to do. Our topic was 'Your favourite thing about Yass.'

We were split into two groups

of five, which ended up being year 9's and year 10's. Both groups had very different films and we obviously had different opinions on our favourite things about Yass.

The second day was full of filming and was a long but fun day. We put all the new skills we had learnt into action. We found it very challenging but extreme fun.



The third day we edited our movie. It was quite difficult because we had to concentrate for ages and we had to get it done to a certain length, but with the help of Emma and Trent (the workshop coordinators) we eventually got there. One important thing we learnt in this part of the process was that music takes up 60% of the movie, so that helped with our choices.

Both movies were shown on Saturday night at the Yass In The Bin Short Film Festival. This was a great family affair and not even a short but intense downpour of rain could put a dampener on the excitement we felt as our movies were projected over the big screen for all to see. Both groups got a very good response from the town and everyone enjoyed it a lot.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Emma and Trent and the In The Bin Educational Program for guiding us through the film making process and the Yass Valley Council for organising the whole event.

If we had to give one word to sum up the whole experience it would be: FUN!

By Siobhan and Baith



## Circus Warehouse

Earlier this term some students from our school and Berinba Primary School were lucky enough to watch a performance conducted by Circus Warehouse. This group is based in Canberra and were at Yass High as part of their regional tour to promote circus skills to young people. It was a particularly special show as it featured one of our own students, Dimitri Yialeloglou who was keen to share his skills with the audience.



From sword juggling and hat manipulation to unicycle riding and hula hooping, the show had us mesmerised from the minute it started.



Following the performance we were invited to participate in a workshop in which we got to learn some of the circus skills we had just seen performed. We would like to take

this opportunity to thank Circus

Warehouse and their sponsors for donating a unicycle for our students to use as part of our drama and sport programs.



- It was just awesome! (Baith)
- I got to ride a unicycle and I didn't even fall off. (Brooke)
- I really enjoyed the opportunity to show off some more organised performances to my friends and other members of the school. (Dimitri)
- Learning to ride a unicycle was harder than we thought but it was cool bananas. (Kahlie and Siobhan)
- It was really great that I could do diabolo with other people and learn new tricks. (Abraham)
- GRRREAT!! (Sam)
- I am still doing some of the skills they taught us on the day. (Hayden)
- I loved it so much that I even went out and brought my own unicycle and am learning how to ride it. (Lara)





## **Missing Homework?**

At Yass High we have been trialling a Web site called Maths On Line. This web site, due to generous sponsorship by McDonalds Australia is free to all families and offers the wonderful feature of providing instantaneous feedback to both students and parents.

The way the mathematics faculty is using Maths On Line is that each week/fortnight students are set a task to complete. Students are generally given the opportunity at school to complete some or, the entire task with any remainder to be completed outside class time.

The application provides a demonstration video to students and parents as to how the work is to be completed; fun for the whole family!

For parents to see how their child is performing in maths all they need to do is;

- 1<sup>st</sup> Ask your child for their unique username and log in.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Go to the Parents section of [www.mathsonline.com.au](http://www.mathsonline.com.au)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Enter your child's username and log in.

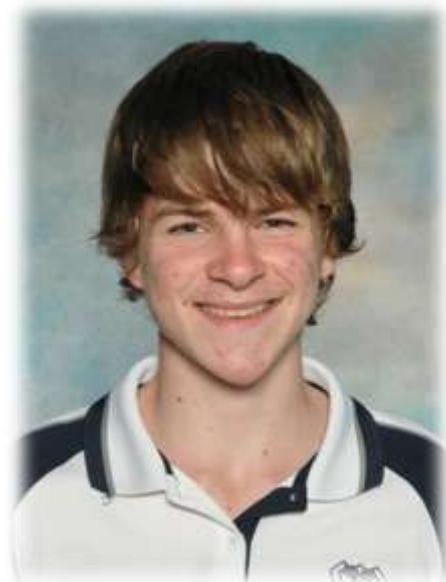
If you have any problems or your child can't remember their user name and log in, please feel free to contact John Duncan, Relieving Head of Mathematics. Also, the maths problems can be printed out and given to students if internet access is a problem.

## Science News

### Competitions

This year Yass High School students have taken part in a number of national competitions and many have had successes.

In the 2011 Rio Tinto Big Science Competition, certificates of Credit were awarded to Edward Hinch, Taylah Wright, Rachel McLucas, James Bull and Thomas Pinson. Distinctions were awarded to Lucy Bucknell, Kate Kelly and Stephen Targett and a High Distinction was awarded to Hayden Starr.



In the Royal Australian Chemical Institute's Australian National Chemistry Quiz, certificates of credit were awarded to Lucy Bucknell and James Bull, while a Distinction was awarded to Thomas Pinson.

In the 2011 Australian Science Olympiads, Jacob McGregor was awarded a credit in the Chemistry National Qualifying Examination.

The Science Department would like to congratulate these students as well as all of the others who participated in the competitions.

### ESSA

On Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November, Year 8 students at Yass High School joined all year 8 students in NSW in taking part in the 2011 Essential Secondary Science Assessment. This interactive, multimedia online test will provide information on what they know and can do in Science. It included:

- Knowledge and understanding of science
- Understanding and skills in the process of scientific investigation, including a simulated experiment
- Ability to evaluate evidence, make judgements and think critically
- Ability to access information and communicate scientific ideas using a variety of strategies

It included video, animations, audio, graphics, text and a variety of test items. The ESSA test took approximately 80 minutes. All three of the school's computer rooms were used with half the students participating during the morning and the other half during the afternoon.

The results of the ESSA test will be available in Term 1 2012. A personal report will be given to each student describing the scientific knowledge and skills demonstrated by the student in the test.

## Careers in Science UTS Excursion

On November 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>, five Year 11 students were able to explore their options in a future career in Science, thanks to the Yass Country Education Foundation, in partnership with the University of Technology, Sydney.

Johnathon Huggard, Jacob McGregor, James Hazell, Abby Cartwright and Brittany Benson spent two days in Sydney as guests of UTS.



They visited the Radiophysics facility of the CSIRO at Marsfield and were privileged to see the construction in progress, of one of the Square Kilometre Array dishes. They heard from members of the SKA development team, building the world's largest radio telescope network.

They also spent a whole day at UTS, participating in four workshops: microbiology (food contamination), forensic science (crime scene interpretation), mathematical patterns (card tricks), and environmental forensics (fish dissection).



The Yass students worked with students from Broken Hill, Temora, Merriwa and Narrabri over the two days and forged new friendships. They also received valuable information on possible courses and careers to pursue at the completion of Year 12.



### **CSIRO Inspiring Science Students**

On Friday November 4<sup>th</sup> Year 9, 10 and 11 science students were treated to an inspirational workshop conducted by a CSIRO scientist. Students were introduced to the world of DNA analysis through two hands-on investigations.

- Extraction of DNA from barley

Students extracted DNA from barley, using university science equipment and techniques.

- Gel Electrophoresis

Using the DNA students extracted from barley, students loaded it into the gel in an electrophoresis machine using a micropipette. This technique is used by forensic scientists to identify criminals. It has many other applications.

These experiments were supported by discussions about recombinant DNA technology, the use of restriction enzymes and the role of DNA in cell development.

Quotes from the students who participated in the investigations: -

“Seeing the DNA was extremely cool and so was the centrifuge and Gel Electrophoresis” Erick.

“I found the process really interesting, it stimulated my interest in DNA technology” Dimitri.

“I thought the experience was great and I enjoyed the practical bits the most. Thank you” Olivia.

“It was great to experience more technical science experiments” Kathleen.

“It was very interesting learning about DNA technology and we had lots of fun.” Dana.

## Careers

### Employment Opportunities

#### Apprentice Baker/Pastry Cook

Tony Hawker of Tank's Bakery is looking for an apprentice Baker/Pastry Cook to start next year. Apply in person at the business or phone 6226 6608 to enquire.

#### Apprentice Roof Plumber

A business in Crookwell is looking for a 1st year apprentice. Call 9715 7344 or email [c.smith@1300apprentice](mailto:c.smith@1300apprentice).

*The following positions are available through STGT. Go to the website [www.stgt.com.au](http://www.stgt.com.au) for more details.*

Civil Construction Trainee at Gunning Council  
Rural Traineeship at Bigga.  
Business Administration  
Building Surveyor

### Work Experience

Last week 13 students made the most of the opportunity to do extra work experience. They had successful placements in Nowra, Yass, Dalton, Bookham and the ACT.

This week 72 students are out at work experience in industries such as Retail, Automotive, Construction, Child and Aged Care, Health, Education, Art, Farming, Fitness, Animal Welfare and Disability Support. They are mostly working in Yass, with several in the surrounding region and 2 as far afield as Sydney.



Lucy Broers at Scissors with Style



Jessica Robertson at YECCA

# Structured Workplace Learning

2011 has seen just over 100 Year 11 and 12 students placed from Yass High School. This has required an enormous amount of support from our local business community. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all these employers for their support and enthusiasm.

## What is Work Place Learning?

Workplace Learning programs are part of the NSW secondary school curriculum. While many students work part-time, these programs encourage young people to widen the practical experience of workplaces and to build their workplace and industry skills as part of their studies. Industry based HSC Vocational Education and Training (VET) courses at school or Tafe require a mandatory work placement for each year of the course studied.

The range of courses offered can include; Automotive, Business Services, **Construction**, Electro technology, Entertainment Industry, **Hospitality**, Human Services, **Information Technology, Metal and Engineering, Primary Industries**, Retail Services and Tourism and Events. (Bold currently offered in Yass)

## How do students benefit from this program?

Work placement can help the student better understand the industry skills and knowledge covered in the classroom and it also gives the student more confidence and a more realistic view of the 'world of work'.

Through work placement the students are given the opportunity to develop realistic career paths, gain knowledge of employer expectations, acquire further skills and attitudes that are relevant to and are valued in the workplace.

Students also receive nationally recognised industry credentials and credit towards further vocational education and training programs, apprenticeships and traineeships.

## How do employers benefit from becoming a part of this program?

Work placement enables employers to provide the dynamic and current industry context for the delivery of vocational training to school students whilst providing your staff with good opportunities to increase their supervisory skills.

Employers benefit by participating in the education, career development and vocational training of young people in the community whilst giving them some input into developing an enthusiastic and skilled workforce with the attitudes they want, especially for their chosen industry.

Work placement also lets employers identify young people with potential that might be interested in joining their industry and raises the profile of their enterprise and develops more links with the local community.

If you would like more information about what Workplace Learning is about, or would be interested in hosting students please contact:

Workplace Learning Coordinator Martha Gray on 0427 036 420 or via email on [swl-queanbeyan@crbec.com.au](mailto:swl-queanbeyan@crbec.com.au).

## Capital Region BEC

Linking Schools with Industry in the Region

1 Farrer Place (PO BOX 530) Queanbeyan NSW 2620  
Phone: (02) 6284 3297 Fax: (02) 6297 8939 Mobile: 0427 036 420  
Email: [swl-queanbeyan@crbec.com.au](mailto:swl-queanbeyan@crbec.com.au) [www.crbec.com.au](http://www.crbec.com.au)

**We would like to express a HUGE thank you to the following businesses that have supported our students in the Yass region in 2011.**

"Lynlee"

Adam Howard's Plastering

Australian Hotel Motel

B & V Engineering

Bill Wheatley Motors

Bobbara Station

Bogo Merino's

Cafe Dolcetto

Canberra Equine Hospital

Can-Do Earthmoving

Capital Region Fences

CB & LM Patmore Carpentry

Complete Civil

Complete Constructions

Dan & Dan Forestry Services

Dean Martin

Deepwater

Doonkuna Estate

Drap'hyd Merinos

ET & JA Gruber Fencing

Foran Building Company

Galutzi Café

Glenryan

GPS Australia Pty Ltd

Horton House

Innovative Carpentry Solutions

J & L Byrne Plumbing

James Alley Carpenter

Jan Spate

Jaspers Catering - Yass Soldiers Club

Jeff Brown Surveys Pty Ltd

Kim Henderson

Kosaris Electrical Services

L R Buckmaster & Co

Landmark Copeland Medway

Lien's Vietnamese Chinese Restaurant

Linton Retirement Village

Luff Motors Pty Limited

Mark McConnell

Michael Woods

Milwalkay's Café

Mohamid Asfour - tiler

Murrumbateman Rural Supplies (CRT)

MW & DG Barrie

Phillip & Karen Chapple

Rob Pollock Concreting Pty Ltd

Rodney Oldfield

RW & RF Corcoran

Shanes Car N Cycle

SMP Auto Electrics

Sophera

Swaggers Restaurant

The Haig Italian Restaurant

Transgrid

Turner's Wholesale Nursery

Waters Bros Concreting

Wright Motorcycles and Bmx

Yass Computers

Yass Country Kitchen

Yass District Hospital - Hotel Services

Yass High School - IT Support

Yass Outdoor Power Centre

Yass Tribune

Yass Valley Council

Yass Veterinary Hospital

## Middle School Visual Arts Camp

On the 15<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> November three of our talented Year 7 art students plus myself went to the Greenshills Conference Centre at the Cotter for a residential art camp. This camp caters for Years 5- 8 students from all over the Illawarra and South East Region and is an intensive art program.

Students attended a different workshop each day. The activities offered were painting on canvas with Shane Hetherington, portrait painting with Cherry Hood, metal shim with Dinah Vandermeys, cartooning with Margaret Cathro and Sculptures, making creatures with recycled industrial materials with Michelle Grimston, which were then used as the characters in a short animated film the following day with Vivienne Lightfoot.



Trae Taylor, Blaze Collier and Jay Vickery at the Sculpture workshop on day two.

It is a unique opportunity for motivated students to extend their artistic skills, meet other students and have fun doing things they really like in a very relaxed environment. The camp runs each year.

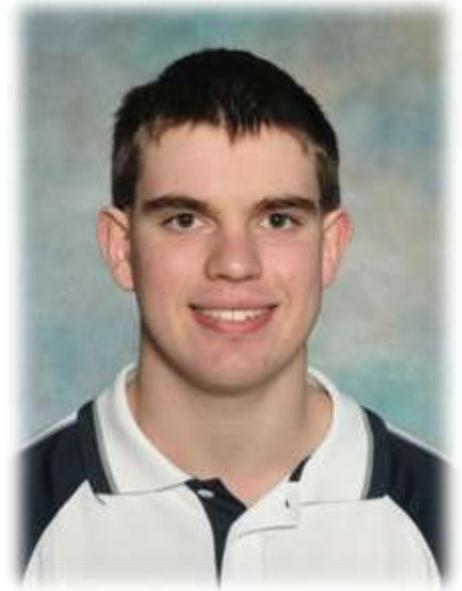
## Lions Youth of the Year Competition

*From the Principal's Blog*



On Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> November I had the pleasure of attending a Lions Club meeting which was addressed by three local students taking part in the annual competition. The students had previously been interviewed by a panel who quizzed them about their academic, sporting, community and leadership experiences. On the night they each responded to two impromptu speech topics and gave a prepared five minute talk on a subject of their own choice.

Jacob McGregor represented Yass High School very well. He was able to suggest a variety of strategies to keep young people in Yass in answer to the first impromptu question and he appeared to relish the chance to talk about whether technology was moving too quickly in the second. Using nuclear technology as an example he talked both about the advantages that could be gained but also the dangers of moving too quickly before the consequences of the technology were fully explored.



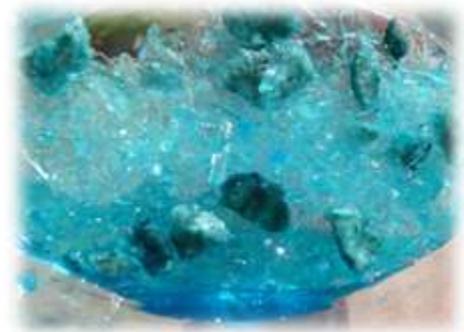
Jacob's passion for history was evident in his prepared speech which was about foreign ownership of a country's resources. He shared some sobering statistics such as the high percentages to be found in the Australian mining sector. He spoke of events in Cuba to warn about the dangers of high amounts of foreign ownership and suggested that Canada was a country with a more balanced policy.

Other contestants were Nicholas Brown, who spoke on taking risks and using your talents to the full and Madeline Kirk who entertained the audience with observations about the peculiar way Australians talk. Madeline won the Public Speaking section of the night and Nicholas took out the overall competition. Judges complimented all three young people for their impressive applications and performances.

## Learning about Crystals in the MC Class

The senior students in the MC class, Daniel Anderson and James DeMestre have been learning about crystals. Here are some photos of the crystals that they took.

### CRYSTALS





## **UN Women**

On Thursday, 15<sup>th</sup> September 2011 ten female students from Year 10 attended The Young Women's Leadership Forum at the Memorial Hall in Yass. Students were lucky to meet and interact with the Vice President of UN Women, Australia Leonie-Ruth Acland for the morning session who spoke about the importance of female leadership and achieving the Millennium Development Goals.

The aim was to promote leadership skills, a sense of community and to provide a safe forum for young women to address key issues, such as gender in the media and the Millennium Development Goals of the United Nations.

In all, these Young Women's Leadership Forums will increase the leadership capacity of over 6,000 young women throughout the country. The Young Women's Leadership Forum is supported by the Australian Government Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations through the Youth Development and Support Program.

Students were provided with some excellent resources to help them to share the knowledge they learnt with others in their school and community.

UN Women is the newly formed United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women. UN Women Australia has a specific interest in increasing the leadership capacity of young women throughout Australia, which has led to the formation of successful Young UN Women Australia Committees in nearly every Capital City.

For more information about *UNWomen*, please visit [www.unwomen.org](http://www.unwomen.org)

## OUTPOST YOUNG ARTIST PROJECT

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20 young artists from across NSW entered the OUTPOST Young Artists Project competition to win a place in a two-day artmaking workshop with OUTPOST artists Miso and Beastman. View the results of their workshop in an exhibition at OUTPOST from 18 November. To see the competition entries, visit the Xbox for Families Facebook page [www.facebook.com/xboxforfamilies](http://www.facebook.com/xboxforfamilies) .

Year 10 Visual Arts student Campbell Chalmers entered some of his Art and won a two day workshop! He went to Sydney for the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> of November and worked with the female artist Miso and the male artist Beastman. At these Cockatoo Island workshops, along with 18 other winners from all over the country, Campbell collaborated on a big mural learning new aerosol techniques and proper paste up methods. Campbell will be heading up a mural at Yass High when he returns from work experience. Here is some background on the artists he worked with for the two days.

### MISO

Miso's practice sways between wheat-pasting hard-drawn portraits in city streets, to intricate drawings and installations in gallery spaces. Her street work becomes scattered around cities as she travels, drawing from one city and pasting it onto the next. Much of her work is concerned with the politics of urban space, and is inspired by folk and utilitarian art. In the last year, she has published a book on Melbourne street art for Thames & Hudson, has had work bought by the National Gallery of Australia, and taught women street art in Saudi Arabia.



### BEASTMAN

Beastman is an artist based in Sydney. Influenced by the beauty and symbolism behind nature's repetitive geometric patterns and organic lines, Beastman's tightly detailed, often symmetrical paintings depict a parallel world of hope and survival inhabited by his beastlike yet beautiful and emotive characters. One of the most distinctive and prolific emerging artists in Australia and founder and editor of the online art publication [weAREtheIMAGEmakers], Beastman has



exhibited extensively throughout Australia and overseas, he also curates art exhibitions and projects and has been commissioned to create artwork for various brands including Element, Huawei, The Art Park, Tiger, Lowlife of London, Hyundai and Smirnoff. Beastman was recently named Best Artist at the 2010 Sydney Music, Arts & Culture (SMAC) Awards and his large public mural aerosol works can be found all over Australia and in London, Berlin and New York.

## 9/10 Touch Team Narrowly Misses NSW All-Schools Final

The Yass High School 9/10 boys touch team narrowly missed making the final of the NSW All-Schools final played in Penrith on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November. It had been a long wait for both our girls and boys team who won the regional final held in Jerrabomberra back in March. Unfortunately the weather intervened twice on the Final 20 fixture but they finally got to play. The boys played four round games in



Penrith with the top 8 teams then going through to the Quarter final stage. With four solid wins over Sylvania High 6-2, Wingham High 4-0, Red Bend College Forbes 4-2 and St Columba's College 3-2 the boys finished 2<sup>nd</sup> overall resulting in them playing Wagga High in the Quarter finals. Wagga were the first to score in this game but our boys brilliantly lead by co-captains Ben Wylie and James Byrne never panicked and clawed their way back to a 2-1 lead with only seconds to go. However, the Wagga side scored right on the bell to send the game into a drop-off.

In a see-sawing 5 minutes that saw both teams get down to 3 players and Yass gallantly defending 3 sets of six on their line our boys were able to maintain their composure and finally, with a bit of light footed brilliance from James Byrne, saw Yass win the game 4-3. This put the boys into the state semi final against St Edwards College Gosford. The other semi final was contested by Illawarra Sports and Hills Sports. This in itself was a remarkable performance from our boys from a small country school to make it this far in a competition that encompasses all high schools throughout NSW.

The boys started the semi confidently scoring after just five minutes but the St Edwards boys ran out 2-1 winners. Our boys were exceptionally gallant in defeat and never gave up to peg back that one try deficit but time beat them. All the boys played exceptionally well and the whole Yass High community should be extremely proud of them and their 3<sup>rd</sup> place finish in such a tough competition.

Our girl's team also performed well throughout the day. Their improvement from the Jerrabomberra tournament was exceptional and a tribute to their continual willingness to train hard to improve their play. They had a narrow loss to Tweed River High 2-1 and lost to St Paul's College 5-1 and Bundarra Central School 2-1. This meant the girls played St Clare's college for 15<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup> place. Unfortunately the St Clare girls ran out 5-1 winners meaning our girls finished 16<sup>th</sup> in the state wide competition which again is a fantastic result given that it was the first time most of the girls had played touch at that level.



A big thank you to all those parents who gave up their time to travel to Sydney and support our students, we couldn't have done it without you. You can take a lot of credit for how well our teams did and your continued support of sport at Yass High School is greatly appreciated by everyone.

### **Transition Sport Afternoon**

Members of the Year 11 Sport and Recreation classes led a sports afternoon for the Year 6 students as part of the Transition program run at Yass High earlier this term. The Year 11 students, as part of their games and Sports Application unit, created a number of Modified games which they then practised with



their peers, then with a Year 7/8 sport group before finally playing them with the Year 6 students. The Primary students were involved in at least two different games during the afternoon and a lot of fun was had by all. The Year 11 students did a wonderful job of running the activities and all the Year 6 students seemed to enjoy the afternoon. Well done to those senior students for your excellent leadership and thoughtful presentations. Yass High is very proud of you.

## Boorowa Public Speaking Competition

On Friday the 18<sup>th</sup> November, four Year 8 students from Yass High School (Eric Miech, Lara Mitchell, Lucy Bucknell and Chelsea Girdler) travelled to Boorowa to compete in the Boorowa Central School Public Speaking Day.

The standard set on the day was extremely high, with our students competing against students from the region including Young, Cowra, Batlow, Braidwood and Boorowa.

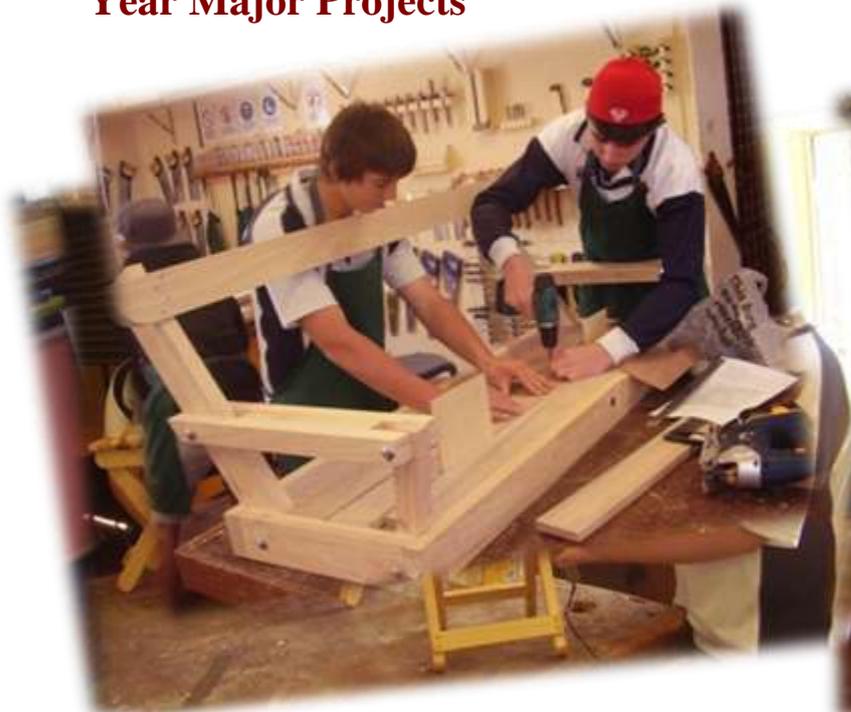


Eric presented a speech on the topic 'worth waiting for', where he compared the benefits and consequences of living in a world that demands instant gratification. He was awarded the silver medal on the day.

All the students who participated had a great day mixing with students from other schools and getting advice on how to improve their public speaking skills.

The Yass High School community should be very proud of the efforts of these four students who represented us so well.

## Year 10 Finishing Their Excellent End Of Year Major Projects



## Year 11's Enter In The Billy Cart Race In The Yass Classic Weekend



Erin Baldwin, Corey Elphick and Hussien Kassouh work to prepare a billy cart



Blake Partridge is getting ready to go on top of Rossi Street



**OUTWARD BOUND**  
Inspiring Australians

### **IN THE NEXT HOLIDAYS**

**Are you ready to take your life to the next level? Looking for something for your teenager to do over the school holidays?**

Outward Bound Australia invites you to challenge and improve yourself with adventurous land and water based activities and leadership development opportunities.

Anyone can enrol in our public courses, which makes them a fantastic way to meet outgoing people and make some great new friends.

The NAVIGATOR course is 12 days of adventure for youth aged 15-17.

- ACT Australian Alps Navigator starts December 4, 2011
- Northern NSW Rainforest Navigator starts January 7, 2012
- ACT Australian Alps Navigator starts January 8, 2012
- VIC Snowy River Navigator starts January 9, 2012

The FAMILY course is a 7 day wilderness experience for youth aged 13-16 with an accompanying parent or caregiver.

- ACT Australian Alps Family starts January 9, 2012

**Get outside, be inspired, develop your full potential!**

To secure your place or to discuss the program further, please contact:

Eleanor Senyard, Public Enrolments on 1800 267 999

Email: [EleanorS@outwardbound.org.au](mailto:EleanorS@outwardbound.org.au)

Website: [www.outwardbound.org.au](http://www.outwardbound.org.au)



**Interested in studying with TAFE Illawarra in Semester 1, 2012?**

Come along to a pre-enrolment information session to help you decide which course is right for you!

Pre-enrolment information sessions will be held on **Monday 5 December\*** and **Wednesday 7 December 2011** between 4.00pm and 7.00pm.

For more information phone Yass Campus on **6226 1556**, visit the Campus at 51 Church Street or go to [www.illawarra.tafensw.edu.au](http://www.illawarra.tafensw.edu.au)

\*Aged Care course only.

Don't forget to enrol online or at your local Campus from 10am on Thursday 12 January 2012!



*Charity Kids Christmas Concert*



**Garry Pollack and Kerry England**

In association with the Yass Music Society

Present

Christmas Carols to delight both young and old!

Yass Memorial Hall  
 Friday 9 December 2011  
 4.30pm

Tickets on sale at the door  
 Adults - \$15  
 Children - \$10  
 Family - \$30



Proceeds from the concert will be donated to the Friedreich Ataxia Research Association

# Christmas Carols At



Presented by

**YASS MINISTERS**



**Sunday 11th DECEMBER**  
**GATES OPEN FROM 6:30PM**  
**CAROLS FROM 8PM**

Featuring Yass High School Concert Band  
& Berinba Primary School Choir

Glowsticks, BBQ & Drinks  
Available to purchase  
FREE Entry  
Bring a seat/rug,  
picnic and torch!

yass valley council  
the country the people

Please note in case of wet weather:  
Relocation to Anglican Church Hall announcements on Yass FM 100.3

## Coming Events

DATE	EVENT
Mon 28 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Religious Seminars
Wed 30 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Rewards Excursion Day 1
Thurs 1 <sup>st</sup> Dec	Rewards Excursion Day 2
Fri 2 <sup>nd</sup> Dec	Rewards Excursion Day 3
Mon 5 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Year 6 Orientation Day 9.00am
Mon 5 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Cyber Safety with Snr Const Gary Mutton 7.00pm
Mon 5 <sup>th</sup> Dec	P&C Meeting 7.30pm in staff common room
5 <sup>th</sup> - 7 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Year 11 Maths Excursion
Thurs 8 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Presentation Night 7.00pm (NB: earlier time than previous yrs)
Fri 9 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Celebration Assemblies Years 7 - 10
Sun 11 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Carols at Cooma Cottage
12 <sup>th</sup> - 15 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Stage Band Tour
Fri 16 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Last Day for students
19 <sup>th</sup> - 20 <sup>th</sup> Dec	School Development Days
2012	
Fri 27 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Staff Development Day
Mon 30 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Years 7, 11, 12 return and all new enrolment students
Tues 31 <sup>st</sup> Jan	Years 8, 9 and 10 students return
Mon 6 <sup>th</sup> Feb	YHS Swimming Carnival
7 <sup>th</sup> - 8 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Uni of Wollongong Discovery Day
<a href="#">Click on the school website for the online calendar</a>	
<a href="#">Remember Assessment tasks are also available on school website calendars</a>	

