



YASS HIGH SCHOOL

We value respect, responsibility, safety and learning.

Principal: Sandra Hiscock

Deputy Principal: Louise Pinson

Phenomenal Fundraiser Boosts High School

Over 180 locals and visitors were treated to a night of fun, laughter and inspiration while digging deep to support the Community Fundraiser, "Out of the Ashes" for Yass High School at the Soldiers' Club Saturday night 9th November. Volunteer auctioneer, Dan McAlpine used every entertaining trick in his book, including "last person standing" bidding, to ensure that the best prices were received for the signed sport shirts, art works and other items which had all been generously donated to help the school. A range of smaller items were competitively bid for and sold through a silent auction and the night culminated in the drawing of a major raffle for which tickets had been sold around town over the previous six months by parents, students, friends and staff.

Along with well-received musical and comedy items showcasing student talent, the highlight of the night was inspiring guest speaker Jane Caro's powerful defence of public education. She humorously drew on personal school experiences from her own family to underline that effective coeducational comprehensive local high schools are essential for social stability and we let our local schools run down at our peril. Apart from citing increasing evidence that students perform as well if not better in public education, she stressed that only state schools truly reflect their local communities and cater for the full range of students and their educational, personal and social needs as they grow up.



Phenomenal Fundraiser Boosts High School (continued)

While the event was primarily to raise funds to help replace equipment and personal effects that were lost to fire at the school just over a year ago, it was also conceived as part of some very intensive lobbying to make sure the fire rebuild marked the beginning of a whole school upgrade so that the educational needs of our expanding community are met well into the future. The school and community are indebted to the amazing dedication, determination and sheer energy of parent Gillian Bucknell who began that lobbying process before the fire and who, along with others, has continued with an avalanche of letters, emails, phone calls, media appearances and meetings, resulting in a planned additional second storey for the new building.

It was also Gillian who conceived of the fundraiser, who has been the driving force behind its organisation, and who sourced many of the major prizes and auction items from various extremely generous local businesses and individuals, notably Michael and Lorraine Gray of Yass Real Estate, who not only sponsored Jane Caro's visit, but also contributed to the flights as part of the raffle's first prize and were prolific bidders and buyers at the auction. Gillian was ably backed by volunteer parents, students and staff from the school and, as always, Yass Rotarians ensured the success of the night by assisting with and participating in the auction and the overall event.

Total funds raised are in the order of \$37,000, with the auctions contributing to just over \$8,000, the raffle, dinner ticket sales and donations yielding a net \$19,000 and the minister for education providing a much appreciated \$10,000. Sincere thanks must go to all who participated on the night, to the very generous donors and sponsors, and to those who bought raffle tickets and supported the event and the school in other respects. The funds will be employed wisely to support student learning and improve the school.



NSW Education Minister Adrian Piccoli Visits Yass High

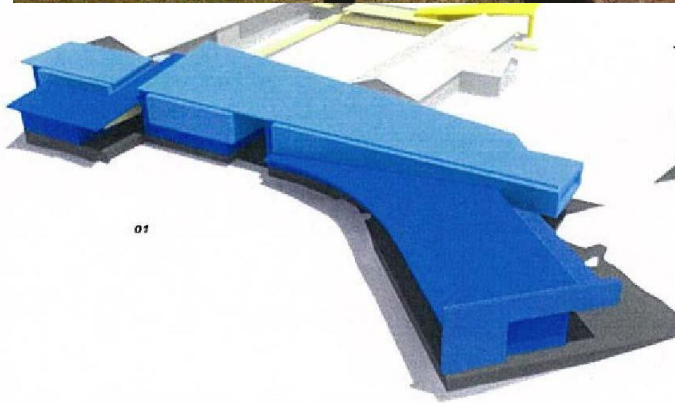
The school was privileged to welcome the NSW Minister for Education, Mr. Adrian Piccoli, accompanied by our local member, Katrina Hodgkinson, for a brief visit on Friday 1st November. The visit had been promised at a Parliament House meeting with the principal in February when the fire rebuild and ongoing planning needs of the community and the school were discussed.

Mr. Piccoli and Ms Hodgkinson were greeted by the school captains and enjoyed a delicious light lunch prepared by Year 10 Food Technology and their teacher Ms Kelly Armour. With parent, teacher and community representatives, a tour of the school, including the fire site, the new Rotary shed, the library and the older established as well as the temporary demountables, enabled the minister to see first hand and respond sympathetically to existing facilities in relation to future plans and needs.

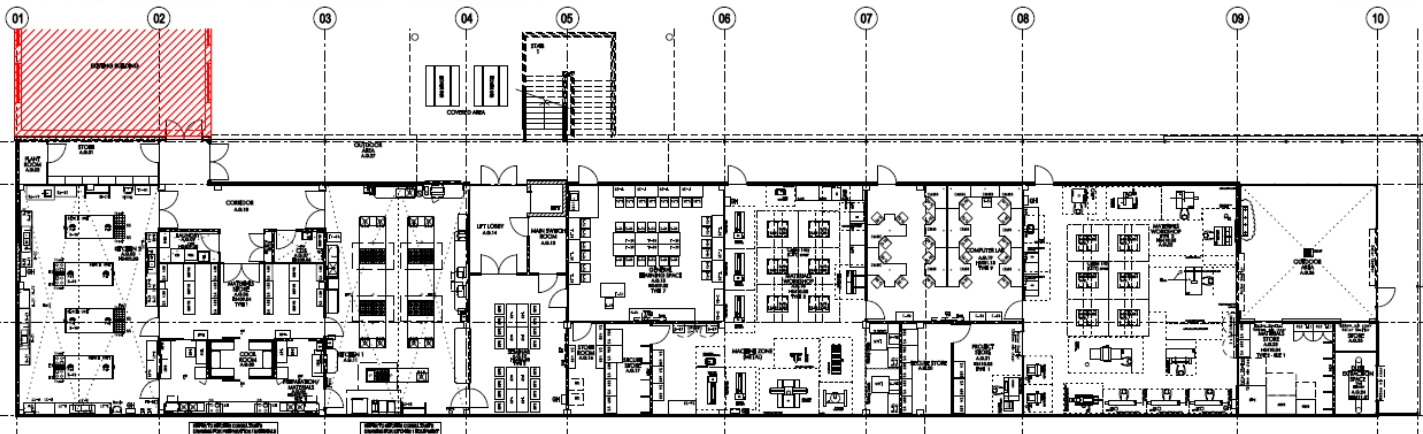
Before responding to questions at a brief congenial staff meeting, Mr. Piccoli outlined the phased implementation of the Resource Allocation Model (RAM), resulting from new federal/state funding arrangements. In 2014 Yass High School will benefit from approximately \$46,000 additional funding based on the Family Occupation and Education Index which identifies our student population's socio-economic makeup.

As he left the school the minister indicated that he intended to return to inspect and perhaps open the new building on its completion, hopefully for the beginning of the 2015 school year. It is good to know that future discussions with the minister will be based on his direct insights into our facilities and needs. His time and interest were greatly appreciated.





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Out of the Ashes- One Year On!

November 24 2012: Disaster! T Block and precious equipment and personal effects lost to fire.
December: Asbestos found. School “as usual” in various Yass venues, thanks to schools, churches and council.
January 2013: Site cleaned up. Six replacement demountables installed, “ready” for the new school year.
February: Lobbying results in the principal’s Sydney visit with the Minister for Education to argue for upgrading.
March: Three Stage Plan for fully-entitled whole school upgrade developed and published. Hope and excitement!
April: Disappointment! No Three Stage Plan. Only a single storey T Block replacement to be funded.
May: Rotary organised and funded five bay shed officially opened. Thanks to Nic Mironov and local tradies!
June: After heavy lobbying from Gillian Bucknell, Jasmin Jones et al, the chance for a second storey emerges.
July: Meetings with architects and planners refine second storey projections within insurance payout budget.
August: Final plans reviewed and approved: full trade training status, link to Art block, 6 additional classrooms.
September: Contracts put out to tender with completion planned for early 2015.
October: Minister for Education visits and inspects the school. Now has firsthand knowledge for future discussions.
November: Fabulous Fundraiser with guest Jane Caro raises \$38,000 including \$10,000 from the minister.

Many Thanks to all those who have contributed in so many ways over the last year. From raffle ticket sellers, auction and prize donors, lobbyists, and Rotarians to students, parents and staff, you’ve all put so much into keeping us on track for better facilities and a brighter future “out of the ashes”!

Term 4 Continues.....

It may be the second half of term 4, but there is plenty happening at Yass High School.

On Thursday 28th and Friday 29th November, the Year 7 camp was held at Mountain Trails near Wee Jasper, which offers an excellent outdoor education program including high ropes and archery. Students were accompanied by Year Adviser Nick Biddle and Maths/PE teacher Deanne Young.

Wednesday 4th December is Orientation Day for Year 7 2014 across the state and we will be welcoming students from the local area including Berinba Public, Yass Public, Bowning, Rye Park, Gunning and Dalton schools. Year Adviser Phillipa Swinbourn will be on hand to direct activities and ensure that the Year 6 students have an enjoyable experience. Parents will have a chance to hear about school procedures and expectations at a parent meeting in the morning.

Year 10 teachers are continuing to provide meaningful learning activities designed to ensure a smooth transition to senior studies but there will be some time for relaxation as well. Students have the chance to enjoy a day together at Jamberoo on Friday 6th December.

Put Tuesday evening 10th December in the calendar as this will be our Presentation Night when student achievements in academic, sporting and cultural arenas are acknowledged.

Friday 13th December is the day on which junior students will receive their end of year reports at Celebration Assemblies, where special achievements will also be recognised. Who will receive school awards and principal's awards in each year?

Fun local excursions to acknowledge students who follow school values will be held from Monday 16th December and school finishes for students on Wednesday 18th December.

Teachers will continue at school for a planning day on Thursday 19th. Staff from local schools will work through the final three modules of the regional initiative 'No Gaps, No Excuses' on Friday 20th December, raising awareness of Aboriginal culture and experiences.

School resumes for teachers on Tuesday 28 January 2014, for Years 7, 11 and 12 on Wednesday 29 January and for Years 8, 9 and 10 on Thursday 30 January. New students should attend on Wednesday 29 January from 9-11am.

How will 2014 be Organised at Yass High School?

Staff changes for 2014 include the return of Dr Ray Stanton to the HSIE faculty and the departure of Mr Peter Massey who has transferred to Moruya High School and Mr Simon Bath to the same destination for a one year secondment.

Teachers who have recently gained permanency include Ms Teresa Baines and Ms Sanae Panton in the English faculty, Mr James Harding in PE and Ms Cassandra Blake in Mathematics.

2014 will see the return of Ms Kristy Robinson who will work in the mathematics faculty and join the Learning and Support team.

What does the Timetable next year look like?

Next year, Yass High will be implementing a new timetable structure. In an effort to increase the depth of learning that can occur in a classroom, we will reduce the number of periods in each day by extending the length of each individual class. Thus, Yass High will operate on a five period day, while retaining the same regular school hours from 9:00 AM to 3:25 PM.

Period 1	9:00 – 10:00
Period 2	10:00 – 11:00
Recess	11:00 – 11:25
Period 3	11:25 – 12:25
Period 4	12:25 – 1:25
Lunch	1:25 – 2:05
Reading / Sport	2:05 – 2:25
Period 5 / Sport	2:25 – 3:25

Additionally, a new session each day will be incorporated with a specific focus on silent reading. Students will split into designated groups and be encouraged to engage in a story of their choice for twenty minutes each afternoon. The whole school assembly is also no longer fixed, and will rotate between days on an as needed basis.

The structure of sport will also be altered next year to better suit the learning needs of students. Senior sport is now years 11 and 12 only, and will be taken by sport teachers on Thursday afternoons. This will enable the lifestyle and wellbeing course to be taught to students on wet weather days. Junior sport is now grades 7 to 10, and will occur on Wednesday afternoons.

We look forward to welcoming students and staff back to school after a refreshing summer break.

Final Celebrations for Year 12

With their exams all behind them and their wait for results on hold, Yass High's Year 12 of 2013 celebrated in style when their Farewell Formal was held at the Soldiers Club last Friday 22nd November.

Decked out in their full finery the young adults were presented individually to the auditorium packed with family, friends and teachers before all enjoyed a three course meal followed by speeches and dancing. Year Adviser Dinah Vandermeys chaired proceedings, introducing the captains who made a presentation to the principal on behalf of their cohort. Vice-captain Stephen Targett, absent on a cycling trip in Victoria, appeared by video in which he called on his friends to consider good citizenship and community leadership as priorities. The group's idiosyncrasies as students were then highlighted through humorous presentations to each student by their peers.

Ms Vandermeys and her helpers are to be congratulated on their impressive efforts in decorating the venue and organising such a great night.



Student Medical Forms

- During Term 4 we will be updating our medical records systems to ensure we have the most up-to-date information on your child's health.
- If you have a child with a medical condition you will have received a copy of the new forms in the mail and will need to fill them out and return them to us as soon as you can.
- The good news is we have already started collecting some of this information, which means less for you to do.
- The new forms will help us collect your child's important medical information and the introduction of new systems will mean we'll be able to better manage the daily and emergency health needs of your child.
- We appreciate your support as we start collecting the information, and if you have any questions please call us on 62261711.

Lions Youth of the Year

Matthew Pilbrow and Siobhan McGrath were excellent representatives at the Lions Youth of the Year competition held recently. Students took part in a detailed interview which included testing their knowledge of current affairs (in particular, the diplomatic stand-off between Australia and Indonesia) before joining Lions members for their special meeting.

On the evening, they had to respond to two impromptu topics (describing the most memorable event in their lives and discussing the effect of social media on world affairs) and both spoke for the maximum two minutes. They then delivered their prepared speeches. Matthew spoke of the value and power of sport and its ability to bring people together, quoting from Nelson Mandela in his five minute speech. Siobhan focused on how music can comfort and express emotions, breaking into song at key moments in her talk.

Patrick Dodds of Mount Carmel School was the eventual winner on the night but the three judges congratulated all contestants for their fine contributions, saying it had been a very close result.

Black Dog Presentations

On Tuesday 29 October, Angela, a young woman who works with the Black Dog Institute delivered two presentations at school. In the afternoon she addressed students from across the school, giving insight into living with a mood disorder. Angela explained her own experiences with depression as a teenager and young adult including spending time in hospital when her condition deteriorated. Some of her messages included:

- The importance of exercise to lift a low mood;
- How vital it is to have a professional to talk through issues with and
- How mindfulness and meditation can assist and support a person suffering from a mood disorder such as depression.

Students appreciated hearing about depression from someone with personal experience and many spoke to her afterwards.

Angela was delighted with our students, saying that she had received more thank you's here than at any previous presentation.

After school, Angela spoke to teachers, parents and community members about how to navigate teenage depression.

The Black Dog Institute has some excellent resources for students and their families.

See www.blackdoginstitute.org.au

Cyber Safety

Our Police Liaison Officer, Senior Constable Gary Mutton joined with Police Youth Liaison Officer Barbara Beard to present a seminar on Cyber Safety to Year 9 and other interested students on Tuesday 26 November.

Senior Constable Mutton was invited to speak to students following concerns about a fairly new social networking site called Ask.Fm. This site allows users to post questions anonymously. Once the person answers the question, the query and response are visible to all. Some students reported that crude and harassing questions were being asked. Tips to remain safe while enjoying social media sites include:

- Ignoring any questions you find offensive
- Not asking any questions on line you wouldn't be comfortable asking in person
- Telling parents if anything offensive is posted
- Keeping your own personal details private

Check out the Parent Guide on Webwise:

<http://www.webwise.ie/AskfmGuide.shtm>



Peer Support Training

Peer support is a programme running for its second year at Yass High. It is aimed at making links between older students in year 10 and the year 7's with the aim of making them feel welcome at high school and to develop skills to deal proactively with life experiences. It encourages positive relationships, connectedness and a sense of responsibility.

2013 Peer Leader Training

Tuesday 19th November saw all the Year 9's assembled in the quad ready for two days of Peer Support Training.

After strolling down to the Yass Baptist Hall, the year 9s were divided into 6 groups with a teacher and some Year 10 leaders assigned to take them through a range of games and activities that built skills in relationships, decision making, empathy, problem solving, creative thinking, facilitating and being mentors to Year 7 next year.

The two days were busy with active games interspersed with reflective items and breaks for delicious cakes and slices cooked by Year 12 Hospitality and a BBQ lunch each day cooked by Year 10 leaders.

At the end, students applied to become Peer Support leaders for 2014. A selection process will occur and orientation day will see their first role as they get to know our new students and help them get to know Yass High. In term 1, 2014, Year 10 leaders will take a group of Year 7's for 8 weeks of games and activities designed to enhance mental, social and emotional wellbeing.



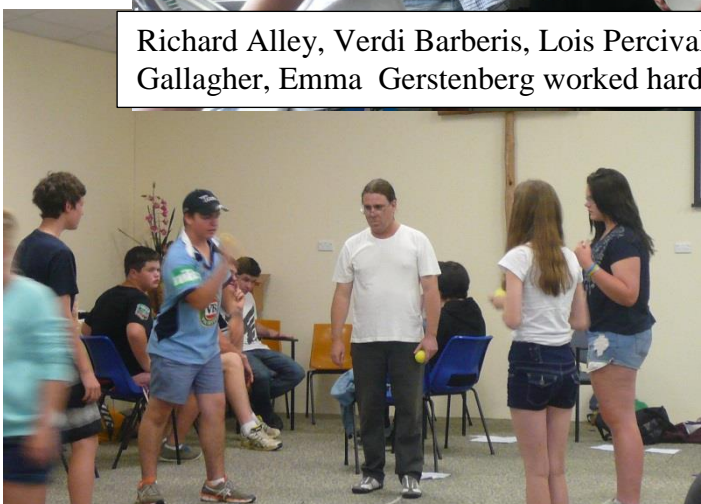
Richard Alley, Verdi Barberis, Lois Percival, Rebekah Gallagher, Emma Gerstenberg worked hard to feed everyone



Who can build the tallest tower out of newspaper and tape?



Year 10 leaders helped out



Mr Bath helped admirably



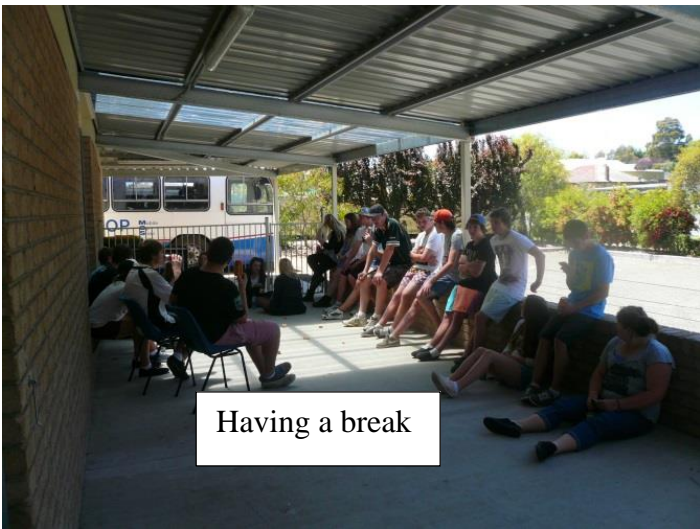
Thinking things through



Lunch cooking



Playing games



Having a break

Ms Swinbourn , Ms Fountain, and Mr Ingles have a cuppa between sessions



Metalwork Excursion to Port Kembla Steelworks

With assignments and assessment tasks out of the way, a group of Year 9 and 10 Metalwork students, Mr. Derronne and Mr. Ingles travelled to Port Kembla for a tour of the Bluescope steelworks. The plant produces approximately 2.2 million tonnes of steel per year from which flat products such as flat sheet and Colourbond are manufactured. During a 2.5 hour tour students were given an overview of the facility at the visitors centre before travelling around the site and viewing the port, ore stockpiles, blast furnaces, coke ovens, the BOS plant (unfortunately not operating), the slab caster and a rolling mill. The boys were able to see a giant slab being cut by large oxy torches as it came from the continuous caster. The caster has replaced the production of ingots at the works.

All students were impressed by the sheer magnitude of the works and the processing of slabs into coils of red hot steel. The coils were strapped and stamped with identifying numbers in an automated process before being sent off to cool.

Following an uneventful meander up through the Macquarie Pass, the local knowledge of one student enabled the group to consider a pie shop at Robertson as another highlight of the trip. Excellent food here resulted in contented students sitting back and enjoying the return journey to Yass.



Woodwork Projects Show Student Skill



Reece Brooks' toolbox with draws



Victoria Olson's TARDIS trinket box (it's bigger on the inside)



Lachlan O'Mara's combined folding chair/step ladder



Construction Students Learn Building Skills



Year 11 Construction students pouring a slab in the Agriculture area



Year 11 Construction students creating much needed shelves in the wood room



Nick Whiting being very content with his garden chairs. One of which he donated to the school.

Construction Excursion to Majura Parkway Construction Zone



Year 11 Yass construction students enjoying a site tour of Majura Parkway Project Canberra

Down on the Farm - Summer Edition

OK, it is not quite summer yet but it's going to have to do. The season is shaping up in unusual ways with a sprinkling of hot days, a lot of dry days with cool winds and then 80mm of rain. Fortunately we have been able to irrigate to keep some green coming for the ewes and lambs.



It is a lot of work to irrigate but it makes a nice green paddock and a good backdrop to the Year 9 girls (Brittany, Rebekah and Logan) who were working the steers one last time before Albury Show.



The Show is written up elsewhere in this magazine but here is a photo of the show team in the sheds at the Albury Show where we were very successful this year. Pictured from left to right are Brittany, Gemma, Rebekkah, Isobel, Emily, Lara and Jeremy posing with the cattle at Albury.

The recent rain allowed us to contemplate sowing a summer fodder crop and the Year 11 PI students, plus some of the Stage 5 classes, were involved in ploughing up the old oat crop in readiness for the millet crop to come.



Braidyn looks the part on the tractor ploughing the ground for the millet crop.

As the ewes and lambs get into the third month since lambing we are beginning to get the lambs used to handling in the yards. In the picture, Tim Farmer is draughting the lambs off the ewes so that the lambs can be weighed.

In the second week of December, the school's sheep will be shorn and not long after that we will be weaning the lambs.



On another note, the students from the Primary Schools had a transition lesson in agriculture a few weeks ago and during that time two classes each from Berinba and Yass PS along with Bowning, Dalton, Gunning and Rye Park students got to handle young chickens and ducklings. Some boys from Yass PS are seen weighing their duckling in the picture.

We will finish this report with a picture from the Albury show with Jeremy Bush 'celebrating' the win by "Mickey" in the Middleweight steer Hoof section at Albury.

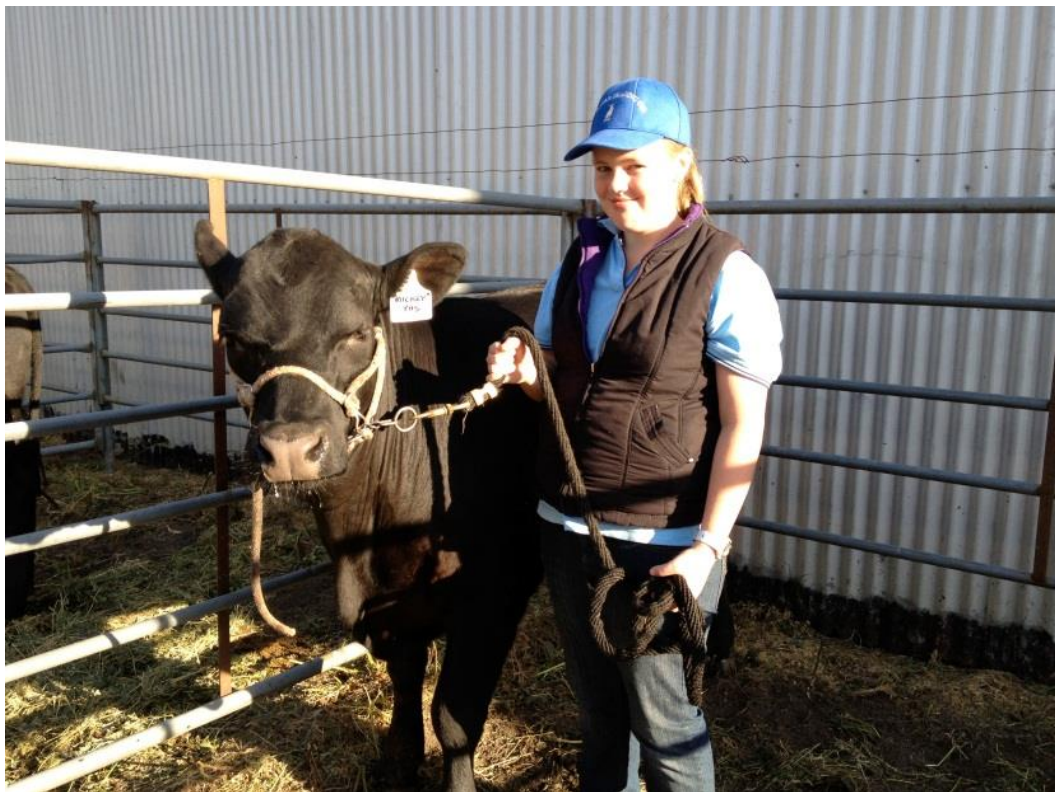


YHS Show Team Success at Albury Show

At the beginning of November the Show Team's biggest contingent of students in some years headed for Albury and the Hoof and Hook competition for steers. We took 8 students, two teachers, one Mum and three steers this year in what turned out to be a very good outing for the fledgling members of the team.

Two angus steers from Mr Renato Gaspari at Hall and a square meater steer from Bob and Su McClusky of Yass were fed at school for 130 days and prepared for showing by the team during sport afternoons and lunchtimes.

Arriving at Albury the steers were bedded down after feeding and watering in preparation for the days showing ahead.



Gemma Lees settles 'Mickey' into his pen on arrival at Albury

Judging day saw our young team competing in the Junior Beef Cattle Judging Competition and students, Gemma Lees, Isobel Kelly, and Rebekkah Hartwig did well enough in the general placing of their cattle to make the speaking finals.

Great work girls, it takes a lot of effort to get up in front of people and put your decisions into words.

Next came the Parader Competition where the students show their skill parading the steer in the ring.



Jeremy Bush who came fifth in the Senior Division waits with 'Norris' for the judge to look at his steer.

The highlights of the show were to unfold over the following days when the steers were judged on the hoof. Our Angus steers performed best with 'Mickey' winning the Middleweight division and 'Norris' coming fifth. We were very pleased with this effort and the judge was particularly impressed with 'Mickey' making comments about the excellent preparation and presentation of the steer and his great attributes in the area of muscling and fat cover.

The following Tuesday however, saw a bit of an upset when the Hook (Carcass) results arrived at school. The two steers swapped places with 'Norris' gaining 91.5 points out of 100 and first place, while 'Mickey' on 87 points came fifth. These two steers had outperformed any previous steers from 'Coots Creek Angus' and certainly demonstrated the development of cattle from Renato's property.

Pleasingly we also gained a fourth place with the 'Thor' the Square Meater steer despite being a much smaller steer in the lightweight category, he beat a large number of heavier steers. Credit must go to the McCluskys on the quality of their stock.

In all a very successful show and many thanks to our generous supporters without whom we would not be able to undertake such a rewarding activity.



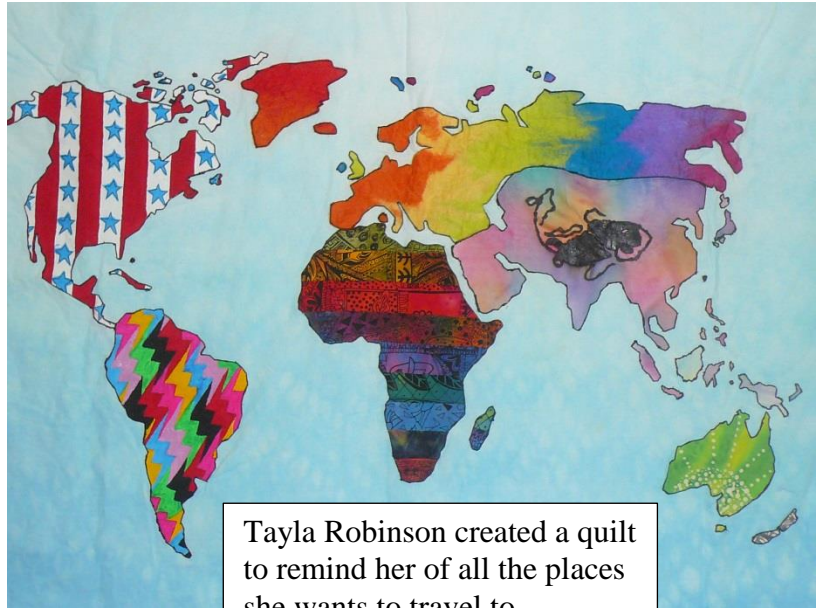
The team of Emily Polsen, Isobel Kelly, Lara Mitchell, Brittany Burns, Rebekkah Hartwig, Gemma Lees and Jeremy Bush celebrate the first place for "Mickey" on the hoof.

What's happening in Textiles?

The Year 12 Textile students completed some stunning pieces of work this year for their HSC. Students select what they want to make at the end of Year 11 and have their final year to complete the major textile project which consists of a practical textile work and a portfolio.



Abbie Medway's art quilt was based on her favourite movie 'The Sound of Music'



Tayla Robinson created a quilt to remind her of all the places she wants to travel to



Tayla Montgomery created a quilt based on her life. 'Time is not a line it's a circle'



Ruby Foxlewin made accessories of shoes, hats and scarves out of silk and felt for two race outfits – one for winter and one for spring



Science Stuff

ESSA Online: Yr8 students at Yass High did the ESSA Online science test on Monday 11th November. This is a NSW Department of Education and Communities administered assessment that is done in all NSW state schools. The results will be available as a written report addressed to parent/carers in March 2014. The purpose of the test is to assess what students have learnt in science in Years 7 & 8. The ESSA test was 80mins duration and it had a mix of multiple choice and written response questions. When the results arrive at Yass High they will be given to students to give to their parent/carers.

Year 10 Science Activities: Year 10 science students will be working on science skills for the remainder of the year. These activities will form an important basis for senior science and other senior courses.

Last week students were designing safety capsules for eggs that were dropped from the second floor window of the B block. No eggs survived the first generation of safety capsules. The next generation of safety capsules was more successful. Several eggs survived the 10 metre fall.

This week, students will be making “mousetrap” racers – vehicles powered by the spring energy of a mousetrap. Students will compete to see who can make their racer go the greatest distance.

These challenges are part of the unit of work called Traffic Science.

CEFA Excursion

The UTS excursion was great! We started with an early morning drive to Canberra where we boarded our flight to Sydney and then bussed to the YHA (Youth Hostel where we were staying). This was less than a block’s walk away from Paddy’s Markets. The hostel had a breakfast/dinner room and a gaming/computer room and 2 cinemas. We were able to shop and explore Sydney until 12 o’clock when we would meet all the other participating schools back at the YHA.

When we arrived at the CSIRO we all sat down and introduced ourselves with a descriptive word that starts with the same letter as our name for a good ice breaker. 😊 After that we played a fun game to get to know each other and then had lunch – which was delicious! It consisted of heaps of fruit, drinks and sandwiches.

During this visit we learned about DNA, its importance in cells and its function, followed by a practical component that involved separating DNA from the rest of the cell, using various chemicals and a centrifuge, and then further breaking it down into manageable strands. We then separated the strands into a rough size order using a thick gel and

electrical energy, producing a DNA fingerprint. This enables the DNA to be observed more efficiently under a microscope.

Later in the afternoon we caught a bus into the city and were free to roam around and shop for a few hours before we went to an already paid for, fancy Malaysian restaurant. Dinner was another great chance to socialise and get to know the other students, it was the first time some of us had Malaysian food and it was surprisingly good.

We had an amazing view of the city at night when we walked back to the YHA, and an even better view from the roof of the YHA (Where the pool and spa were located.) When we got back it was about 9 o'clock so we missed the start of the free movie playing in the Hostel's cinema. We got settled into our hotel rooms; each room had about 4 students in them-all from a different school.

The next day was a lot busier. We got up at 6 and were down for a yummy breakfast by 7 then departed by 8:30. On Thursday we were lucky enough to be invited to attend a number of workshops at the University of Sydney. We did a number of courses centred on the topics of Forensic Science, Biology, Physics and Micro-Biology.

Our Micro-Biology workshop looked at bacteria. For the theory side of the workshop, we looked at different sorts of bacteria, what they were and where they could be found. It was incredibly fascinating and we learned a lot of new things. For the practical part of the workshop we looked at the bacteria that grow on raw chicken wings. Using a number of chemicals and dyes, we stained the glass slides and when they dried we looked at them under a microscope. It was really amazing to see these microscopic organisms close up.

The physics class at the UTS was also very interesting. We had to make power in the form of electricity by heating one side of a plate called a TEG and cooling the other. We used a light to heat one side of the plate and a fan to cool the other. Using this method my group got a potential difference of 0.062 Volts. Later the lady teaching us used liquid nitrogen to cool the underside and a light to heat the top. She also used many more plates than we did. Using this method she was able to make just over 1 volt of electricity.

During our UTS experience we were able to experience the basics of forensic science, this included learning about fingerprint analysis, lip print analysis on glassware, crime scene investigation and how to use blood to tell how high a wound was and whether the wounded person was walking, running or crawling. We were split into groups of 5 or 6 with at least 1 person from each school in every group we then had about 5 minutes to have a go at each of the things on offer.

The final workshop was on marine biology. First we had some theory on how to work out if a fish is a herbivore or a carnivore based on their body shape and teeth. Then we got to do a dissection to confirm our decision. We started by measuring our selected fish from head to tail. After that we got our scissors and cut it from anus all the way up to its head, then carefully pulled out the fishes intestines. We stretched these out and measured them. By comparing the length of the intestines to the length of the fish we were able to determine whether or not the fish was a herbivore or a carnivore. Plants take much longer than meat to digest, so herbivores have intestines longer than their body length.

Lunch was another chance to meet up with new friends that you met; there was a pretty good variety of food to choose from salad rolls, pizza, cakes, fruit and more.

Saying goodbye was not fun. ☹️ But I was able to meet back up with a few of my new friends at the airport and spend another hour shopping and eating Krispy Kreme donuts with them before we flew back to Canberra.

Comments

Overall it was an amazing trip and so much fun and I would definitely go again given the chance! Alex Buckmaster

Overall, it was a great learning experience and a great chance to meet new people. I hope it runs again in the future. Casey Owen

I made a great new friend Layla; we still keep in touch and are meeting up in the school holidays. (Can't wait!) Ally Thurkettle



Student Recognition

Award Scheme

Faculty Award

- These awards are nominated by classroom teachers in recognition of an individual student's effort or achievement. Parents are encouraged to attend Celebration Assemblies where reports and awards are presented.
- They are distributed with reports at the end of each semester.

School Award of Excellence

- Students who receive a significant number of Faculty Awards are eligible for a School Award of Excellence.
- These awards are presented at Celebration Assemblies at the end of each semester.

Principal's Award of Excellence

- The Principal selects a number of students from each Year to receive the Principal's Award of Excellence.
- These awards are presented at Celebration Assemblies at the end of each semester.

Principal's Award for Academic Achievement

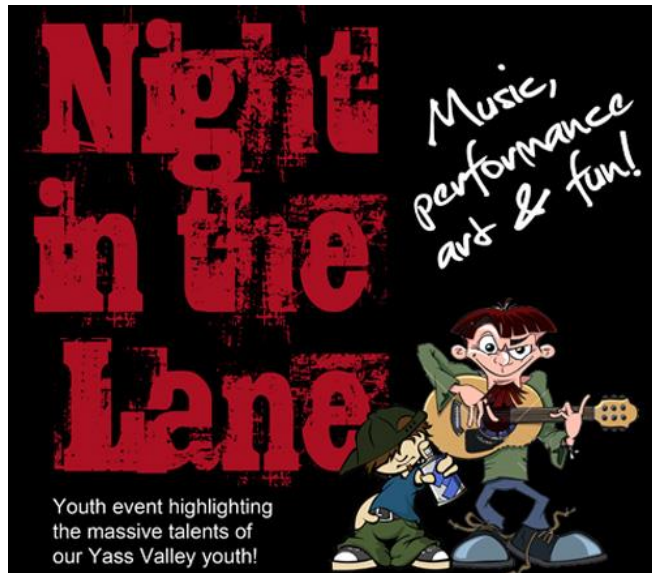
- The Principal selects at least one student from each Year to receive the Principal's Award for Academic Achievement.
- These awards are presented at the end of year Presentation Evening.

Principal's Award for Exceptional Effort

- The Principal selects at least one student from each year in recognition of their positive effort, attitude and commitment to the values of Yass High School.
- These awards are presented at the end of year Presentation Evening.

The New Curriculum and Your Child

- How do teachers decide what your child will study each term at school? How do composite or combined classes work?
- Why do students at different schools seem to be studying entirely different things, despite being in the same year?
- And what will happen next year, when the new Australian curriculum starts in NSW for both primary and secondary schools?
- Understanding how the curriculum relates to the real world of the classroom and to your child's daily lessons can help you better support them with their homework and study.
- Find out more about what your child will learn in the new curriculum on the [School A to Z](#) website



We saw and heard some of our most talented performers performing as part of the Classic Yass Weekend at "Night in the Lane". See <http://www.classicyass.com/classicyouth.html>



Yass High School Fundraising Dinner



Who Won The Raffle?

- 1st - Hamilton Island Escape - Talei Sherratt a former YHS student
- 2nd - Diamond & Amethyst Ring with matching Pendant - Diane Ponton
- 3rd - Quilt - Denise Smith
- 4th - Ipad2 - Judy Shannon
- 5th - Ragan Rosewarne

Congratulations and thank you for supporting the Fund Raising Raffle.



Laptop Maintenance

With the Digital Education Revolution Laptop Program ending, students in Year 9 2014 will no longer be loaned DER laptops.

All other students' existing laptops will be collected, inspected, maintained and updated over the Christmas holidays so that they provide the best learning platform for students in Years 10-12. Collection of the laptops will begin next week so that any maintenance work can commence and they will be returned in the first week of next year. Warranty and non-warranty repairs that require sending away must be notified and submitted before 6 December. If in doubt please see the TSO.



Students are advised to remove any non-educational material such as music, games and videos. As maintenance could involve reimaging the laptop all important school files should be backed up before the laptop is handed in. As each laptop was supplied with a case and charger, these should be handed in with the laptop. Students who do not hand in a case will be required to purchase one to protect the laptop.

P&C News

It has been a big year for the school and the P&C, culminating in the sensational fundraising dinner on 9 November. One of our parents, Gillian Bucknell, was the driving force behind this event and the outstanding fundraising outcome – Gillian spent all year planning, preparing and networking to make the dinner a reality and was supported by many parents and staff selling raffle tickets and bringing people along to the dinner. Thank you Gillian!

Speaking of fantastic parents, we are coming to the end of another year when we lose some of our wonderful parent helpers whose children are leaving the school. One parent, in particular, who will be missed is Lisa Wylie. Lisa has been active on the P&C for many years and has been P&C President and almost every other position on the P&C. Lisa has also supported the school and its students in many other ways, such as school sporting carnivals. Thank you Lisa.

With some parents leaving, there is an opportunity for other parents to get involved in 2014. In particular, the Canteen is saying goodbye to some stalwart parent volunteers – please have a think about how you can get involved in helping the school next year. Even volunteering in the Canteen once a month would be a great help to the school, and a great way to get to know others in the school community.

Careers

This term some Year 9 and 10 students have taken advantage of the opportunity to do work experience at various businesses around town.



Hannah Cole writing an article during her work experience at Yass Tribune.



Robbie Alexander at work experience at Yass Outdoor Power Centre.



Teesha Coot is a hit with the children at YECCA.



Jowil Al-Samara's help is greatly appreciated by the staff at Linton.



Dillan Phillips is leading a game of bingo for the residents at Horton House

Medical Students Experiment with Science Students

On Monday 18th November, Year 11 Biology and Year 10 science students were very fortunate to attend workshops presented by 5 first year Medical students from The University of Notre Dame, Sydney.

The students presented creative and engaging workshops to affirm positive lifestyle choices, raise student awareness of careers in health, provide information on access to university and scholarship information.

Some of the fun and educational activities in the workshop included:

- Dressing up in surgical gowns and “Scrubbing up” for surgery.
- Using X-rays, MRI’s, ultrasounds and CT scans to identify internal organs and injuries.
- Using stethoscopes, sphygmomanometers and tendon hammers to check pulse, blood pressure and reflexes.



Hayden, Lachlan, Adam, Jason and Liam scrubbing up for surgery.

Yass High School is proud of several students who are currently being trained in medicine at universities around Australia. We hope the Notre Dame students have inspired our students to continue the trend to study medicine.



Joanie, Ashley and Laura say, “It’s a wrap”



Molly saving a life.

Liam acting the role of victim in a First Aid scenario



Structured Workplace Learning

2013 has seen almost 130 Year 11 and 12 students placed from Yass High School. This has required an enormous amount of support from the 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 in 2014 please contact:

Workplace Learning Coordinator Martha Gray on 0427 036 420 or via email on swl-queanbeyan@sebec.com.au.

"Ellenden"
"Lynlee"
"Oak Retreat"
Australian Hotel Motel 'Terracotta on Fire'
Bailey's Garage Pty Ltd
Banjo's @ The Club - Yass Soldiers Club
BlazeAid Inc
Canberra Theatre Centre
CB & LM Patmore Carpentry
Complete Civil
Connect Carpentry
David Cleary Electrical Pty Ltd
Deanes Buslines
Delta Agribusiness
Drap'hyd Merinos
Dunshaw Electrical Services Pty Ltd
ET & JA Gruber Fencing
Foran Building Company
Galutzi Café
George Harcourt Inn
George IV Inn
Gibbs Kitchens & Joinery Pty Ltd
Glover Built Projects
Gunning Ag & Water Solutions
Horton House
IDP Nursery
James Alley Carpenter
James Shepherd
JB's Auto Electrical Service
Kaffeine 2582
Kelly Dowling
Landmark Copeland Medway
Lou Dowling
Luff Motors Pty Limited
M & E Quality Tiling
Maher Automotives
Martins Fertilizer
Medways Garage
Merino Café
Murrumbateman Rural Supplies (CRT)
MW & DG Barrie
Nancy's Kitchen
Natalie Blundell Equestrian Centre

We would like to express a HUGE thank you to the following businesses that have supported our students in the Yass region in 2013.

NICTA (National ICT Australia)
OM & KM Kimpton
Picton Hotel
Rocksalt
Rollonin Café
Shane Doggett Building Services
Shanes Car N Cycle
Southern Innovations
Springers Rest Café / Restaurant
Stainless Steel Fabrications
Steve Bugden Plumbing & Drainage
Swaggers Restaurant
The Old Hume Café Gunning
Think Technology
Turner's Wholesale Nursery
Wilson Electrical
Wright Motorcycles and Bmx
Yass Country Kitchen
Yass Earth Movers
Yass High School - IT Support
Yass High School Agricultural Unit Show Team
Yass Mufflers & Radiators
Yass Valley Automotive & Offroad
Yass Valley Council
Yass Veterinary Hospital

Coming Events

DATE	EVENT
Mon 2 Dec	Year 11 Sport and Rec visiting AIS
Mon 2 Dec	P & C Final meeting & dinner 6.30pm
Wed 4 Dec	Year 7 2014 Orientation Day
Thu 5 Dec	Yass Youth Services Mini Expo for Year Advisers
Fri 6 Dec	Proposed Year 10 excursion to Jamberoo
Mon 9 Dec	Final scripture seminars - panel sessions 
Tue 10 Dec	School Assembly run by CAPA
Tue 10 Dec	MCC to movies
Tue 10 Dec	Presentation Night starts 7pm
Wed 11 Dec	TAFE Presentation Evening
Wed 11 Dec	Berinba PS Presentation Evening - 7pm
Thurs 12 Dec	Fund-raising day for Phillipines Disaster 
Fri 13 Dec	Celebration Assemblies 7-10
Mon 16 Dec	Yass PS Presentation Night - 7pm
16-18 Dec	School values reward activities
Wed 18 Dec	Students' Last Day 2013
19-20 Dec	School Development Days 2013
Tue 28 Jan 2014	School Development Day 2014
Wed 29 Jan 2014	Year 7,11,12 return and new students 9-11am
Thu 30 Jan 2014	Year 8-10 return
Click on the school website for the online calendar	
Remember Assessment tasks dates due are available on school website assessment calendars	