



# YASS HIGH SCHOOL

We value respect, responsibility, safety and learning.

Principal: Sandra Hiscock

Deputy Principal: Louise Pinson

## Yass High School Captains 2015



Captains Sam Young, Annie Hill, Ashley Parker and Hayden Starr  
with Principal Sandra Hiscock

## Victor Chang School Science Award

Congratulations to school captain Sam Young on being one of 37 Year 11 students across the state to receive a 2014 Victor Chang School Science Award. Sam was nominated for his academic achievements in physics and biology and his passion for science and discovery. His dedication saw him miss the awards ceremony in Wollongong to participate in a physics assessment task but he was nonetheless amazed to receive the award. He will spend a day at the Victor Chang Institute on the 10<sup>th</sup> December.

Well done Sam!

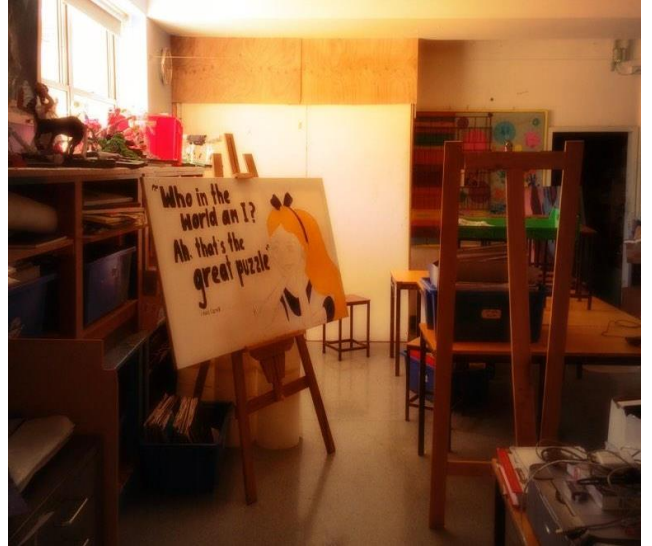


November 2014



## YHS Rebuild News

Excellent progress continues on the new Trade Skills Centre and Interactive Learning Space building work. Planning for industry standard equipment in construction, metals and engineering, hospitality and computing as well as reimagining our new Artspiration Space refit, while the roof is almost completed.



Ground floor roof trusses go up ready for the roof



Work on the screens at the entrance is looking good, thanks to the Construction team.



## Inspirational Success for Tyahn and Ron



Yass High School was well represented and rewarded at last week's 2014 Inspire Succeed Excel, Aboriginal Education Excellence Awards in Batemans Bay.

Congratulations to Year 8 student Tyahn Bell who received her award for Outstanding Literacy and Attendance. Tyahn is an excellent role model for other Aboriginal students and has shown exceptional leadership qualities for someone so young. She is involved in school assemblies, the Yindyamarra Dance group, plays a significant role in the school celebrations and constantly strives to improve her skills.

Ron Simpson received the Aboriginal Education Employee Excellence Award. Ron co-ordinates the school's Aboriginal dance and language group, is a School Learning Support Officer and member of the local AECG. Ron is a wonderful mentor and role model for all students instilling pride and confidence and in return receives the utmost respect.



A big thank you goes to Ms Bills who also works to ensure Aboriginal Education is an important focus at our school.

## Well Done Richard

Congratulation to Richard Alley who has been recognised for his achievements and dedication as a volunteer with the Rural Fire Service in the 2014 NSW and ACT Regional Achievement & Community Awards in regional and rural NSW.



## Down on the Farm – Showtime Edition

The last two months have been hectic on the farm and more to the point, off the farm. The Show Team has been busy since the beginning of September with the first of our spring shows in Murrumburrah.

This is a traditional 'hit-out' for the team as it is the first time that the team gets to show our newest animals. Following that we had the Cowra Show, Cootamundra Show, Upper-Hunter Beef Bonanza in Scone and the Albury Show at the beginning of November.

Our team of 6 animals, 2 home-grown heifers and 4 donated steers, have travelled some 3000 km and in that time competed in 3 Hoof and Hook competitions where each time saw two of their number finish up in the abattoir chillers.

The Cootamundra Show did not produce any major ribbons; mainly because they were our lighter steers but 'YHS Jock' did get a third place on the hook. Scone was a huge learning curve for the team and our two heifers acquitted themselves well with 'YHS Jezebel' gaining a Highly Commended in her class.

The Scone competition is the second biggest in the state behind the Sydney Royal and both heifers scored 80+ points in their classes where all animals were separated by less than 10 points. Especially pleasing was that the heifers were all part of our own crossbreeding program and next year we will have 8 breeding cows to provide steers or heifers for competition.



The team Gemma Lees, Rebekkah Hartwig, Sarah Targett, Brittany Burns, Emily Polsen, Claire Southwell, and Corey Lees at Scone with 'YHS Jezebel', Highly Commended in her class



In the Albury Show, our steer 'YHS Phoenix' was winner of his class of 24 steers and was beaten into Reserve Champion position by one point. This was an excellent result for both the team and Mrs Dorothy Hallam of Yass who bred and donated the Murray-Grey steer.



'YHS Phoenix' pictured in the yards at school early in his preparation towards becoming Reserve Champion carcass at Albury Show

While this year has been a building year for the team we have begun to attract some strong interest from donors who want us to exhibit their animals and Mr McDonald is putting together a strong team of animals for the 2015 Autumn Show circuit.

What can't be understated is the effort that all the show team and the teachers put into feeding and preparing the animals. This team began its feeding program in May this year and already the Autumn Team is on feed preparation for 2015.

As mentioned in a separate article, Rebekkah Hartwig produced the stand-out result for the students this season but it is just one part of an enormous effort and learning curve that began over a year ago at Murrumburrah Show 2013.

The advent of Show Team becoming a part of the regular Wednesday school sport program has been instrumental in boosting the accessibility of showing to all students, especially as lunchtime cattle work is not possible in the newly changed school period timings.

Showing is a complex mix of animal husbandry, personal development and higher level learning skills that include critical thinking, analysis, evaluation and justifying.

Students have to go from the basic assessment and understanding of the animal's strengths and weaknesses, to the preparation of the animal to show its best features in the show-ring and the skills in judging animals, comparing them and ultimately speaking coherently and effectively to an audience to justify their decisions.



Shannon, Sarah, Emily, Corey and Gemma all made the speaking finals of the Junior Cattle judging at Albury

The personal growth and development of all the students in this area is demonstrated by the large number of them reaching finals in both handling competitions and in junior judging. Students now show great confidence when hearing their names called for speaking finals in contrast to previously being terrified of the prospect of standing in front of a crowd and speaking about the judgement they have made.

We look forward to the 2015 season with great anticipation.



Cassie Dowling does an excellent job of working with her steer 'YHS Rambo' at Albury



Meanwhile back at the ranch.....

The year 7/8 agriculture classes have continued with their chicken and vegetable projects with enthusiasm. The spring weather has been favourable for the planting of their gardens and the regular monitoring of the chickens is proceeding apace.



Tim and Harry joining PVC pipe on the new absorption pit below the Rotary Shed

Year 11 has assumed the mantle of chief farm managers

and they have worked in a number of areas especially weed control, irrigation and stock management. Some side jobs include the building of a washing facility at the back of the Rotary Shed and the skills that go with the plumbing trade. We look forward to the shearing of our school flock which numbers nearly 60 adult sheep not including the lambs and most students are also completing their second work placement.



Sarah and Annabelle with friends

Year 9 and 10 agriculture students are finishing off units on beef, cereals, prime lambs and vegetables as well as some of the Year 10 classes doing some introductory fencing, chemical application and tractor work prior to doing Primary Industries next year.



## Look Who's in the News

Former Yass High School student Rachel McLucas in "The Bush Telegraph" doing work placement for her Vet Degree in Queensland.



Brodi draughts the ewes and lambs while Kyle and Monique look on

## **Congratulations Rebekkah!**

### **State Finalist in Cattle Parader's Competition, Royal Easter Show 2015**

At the recent Albury Show, Rebekkah Hartwig achieved the honour of competing in the Cattle Parader's Competition at the 2015 Royal Easter Show in Sydney.

Rebekkah and her steer 'YHS Rambo' won through to the State Finals in Sydney against tough competition from students across the south of the state.

This is a great achievement for a student who has been showing with the team for just over a year and has become one of the leaders of the team especially in the show situation where younger members need the helpful presence of the more experienced cattle handlers.



The hot afternoon and dressed in regulation white coats the competition at Albury was long and intense. Rebekkah had to take Rambo into the ring on three occasions and in the final her steer lay down for a rest just after entering the ring. However, it is at this time that skill and perseverance pay off and both animal and handler were able to regroup and catch the eye of the judge in a favourable way.



Rebekkah and 'YHS Rambo' pause outside the pavilion after the long afternoon of parading.



## Hospitality High

### “Can I help you?”

Year 11 hospitality have been running a Café every fortnight to learn skills in making food and beverage and serving customers. Staff have been coming to DK2 to enjoy an expresso coffee and toasted foccaccias, among other menu items. We are eagerly awaiting our new facilities as these cafés will be a common occurance with our lovely new kitchen and serving facilities.



### Melbourne Cup function

The Year 11 Hospitality class helped out at the Yass Hospital Auxiliary Melbourne Cup function in November. They were a welcome asset in setting up the bowling club for the luncheon and serving customers on the day. They were very professional and gained competencies in their Certificate II in Hospitality in Café skills and Interacting with diverse customers.



Receiving awards from the Yass Hospital Auxiliary for their service



## SRC Planning Day

At the beginning of term 4 the SRC got together at the Yass Tennis Club rooms to plan all the things they could do in the school for 2015.

With the new school captains, and the new co-ordinator Mrs Cassie Blake, who is taking over from Mrs Halley-Barberis, it was a good day to organise the year ahead.



## World Vision Sponsor child

The first event was a mufti day and BBQ on 28-11-14 to raise money to support the Yass High Sponsor child **Anthony Mathushan Roach** who lives in Sri Lanka. Around \$500 a year is raised to support Anthony and goes to help him and his community. World Vision works with the community to set up facilities such as water pumps and tanks so that children don't have to carry water from many kilometres away and miss out on schooling. They also stay healthy and don't die from diseases due to dirty water and lack of hygiene. World Vision helps the community to learn how to grow their own food and sell it as well so that they do not remain in poverty and instead have a future. Anthony is able to go to school and have food. He is 13 years old and wants to be an engineer. Yass High School can help him fulfil his ambitions.



Anthony Mathushan Roach

## Classic Yass Ice cream soda stall

SRC represented Yass High at Classic Yass in November with a stall. In the 1950's theme of the day they sold icecream sodas, (or spiders as Aussies know them), and popcorn to help raise money for Anthony. Mrs Blake got into the theme and entered the fashion parade in the 50's outfit she'd made.





## **‘O’ day – Orientation Day 2015**

The next item SRC are planning is the Orientation Day when school returns next year. This will be a fun day when all the clubs at Yass High showcase what they do and students can learn about the many things they can be involved with and groups they can join. Stay posted for more information.



2014 O day – weights display

Any student wanting to have your say and make a difference at Yass High is welcome to come to the SRC meeting on Monday lunchtimes in room 10.

## **ISER Touring Ensemble Concert**

The Illawarra and South East Region touring ensemble performed a wonderful concert in our school hall, featuring amazing singers, dancers, musicians and Year 7 student Tane Allen on guitar. The group tours around our region, performing at both primary and high schools to awestruck audiences. The musicians were so well rehearsed that the whole show flowed with no apparent instruction from the conductor, the dancers were professional and beautifully



costumed, and the vocalists were fantastic at both harmonising and interacting with the audience. If you are interested in auditioning for ISER next year, applications close soon, so see Mrs Riach now for information.

## **Schools Spectacular**

This Friday, students from years 7 to 11 will catch the train to Sydney to watch School Spectacular at the Qantas Arena. The show promises to be an amazing showcase of Public education at its best, including The Voice singer from this year, Anja Nissen. If you can't see it live watch it on WIN Saturday at 7pm. Thanks to Mr Greenwood for organising the excursion.



<http://www.schoolsspectacular.com.au>



## Community Carols

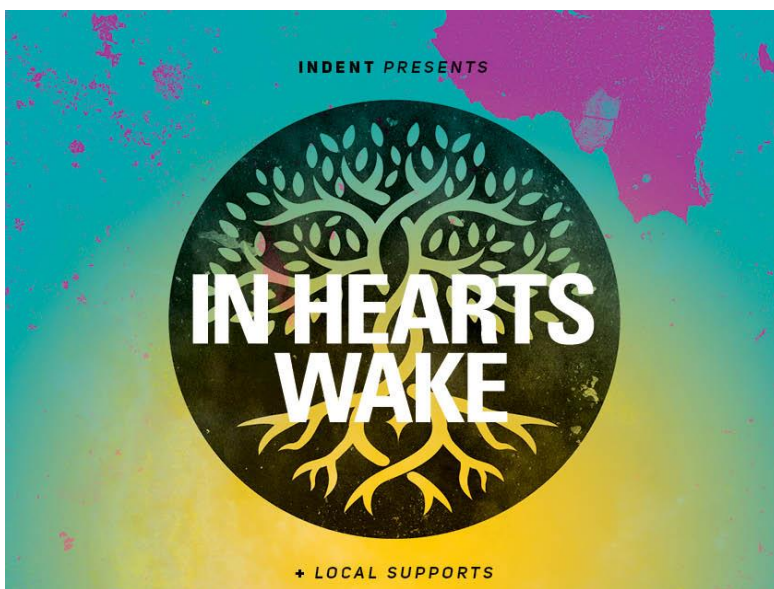
On Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> December at 6pm, join the Yass High School Band and the Vocal Ensemble as they perform with other community groups for the Yass Community Carols at Victoria Park. The vocal ensemble will perform two carols, and would love to see you there.

## In Hearts Wake is coming to Yass



- 3 local support acts from the Yass Region will be accompanying In Hearts Wake.

- Silver Lining
- Day 4
- Siobhan McGrath



When: SATURDAY, 29<sup>th</sup> November  
Doors open at 6:00pm

Where: Yass Memorial Hall

Tickets

\$10 at Yass Newsagency

\$10 + BF at [indent.oztix.com.au](http://indent.oztix.com.au)

\$15 at door



## Cancer Council Accepts Pink Day Fund Raising

Craig Norris from the Cancer Council accepts a cheque for \$1933.15 from Community Studies students Monique Moran, Mia Johnson, Alyssa Wright and Rachel Tilley which was raised from our annual Pink Day.



## Reward for Community Work

On the 25th of November, some Yass High students were lucky enough to go on a trip to the National Zoo & Aquarium in Canberra. These kids (myself being one) were given this excursion as a reward for their hard work on Pink Day 2014. The Year 9 and Year 10 Community Studies classes travelled over to the zoo for a full animal experience, getting the opportunity to feed wild animals like giraffes and even white lions.



We were split into two groups, each group getting an hour long "zoo-venture" experience. We did everything from patting dingoes to holding snakes (which was absolutely horrifying). Each student got a chance to feed either a giraffe or lion, both of which enjoyed the little snacks. The white lion that we fed was a rare male named Jake, and the giraffe was called Hummer. Students also fed an emu by hand and got to take selfies with it.

The group that I was in was lucky enough to meet a young dingo as she was taken for her daily walk. We all got a pat and a cuddle, and she was so friendly. Nara was her name, and she was like a beautifully soft dog. The snake we held, however, was nowhere near as fluffy or as cute. He was a 30cm long Corn Snake, which doesn't sound bad but I personally was petrified.



We danced with monkeys, nodded at iguanas, named a meerkat, and watched two snow leopards sleeping. It was a very suitable reward, and we all had a total blast.

Brooke Hardy

## Year 9 Peer Support Training

On two fun days in November, the Year 9 students visited the Memorial Hall in Yass to complete their Peer Support training for 2014.

Over the course of the two days, students learnt about themselves as they participated in a range of activities. They learnt about how they work within groups and about their own leadership capabilities. Activities included games, creative pursuits and thinking about different situations and scenarios they may experience as Peer Support leaders.

The days were very successful, with all students having fun. Choosing the leaders is going to be a challenge as so many students performed so well. Students chosen to be Peer Support leaders will run activities for next year's Year 7 group as they transition into high school life.



Haydon putting the finishing touches on Simone's newspaper outfit



Claudia and Elle getting good advice from Mrs Aldridge



Josh, Bailey and Andrew listening to another student

## Year 11 Celebration Assembly

Over fifty parents celebrating Year 11 with their children as they receive their reports and awards.





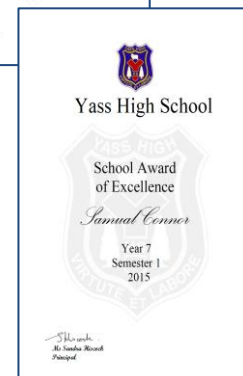
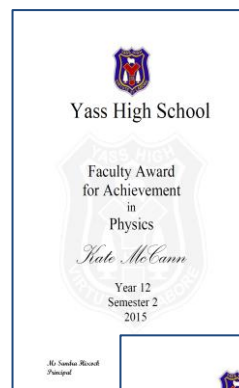
## Student Recognition–Yass High Recognises Excellence

### 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.



## Student of the Week

Yass High School  
Student of the Week  
November 2014



**Harry Morris**  
**Year 12**

For outstanding assistance  
with school beautification

Yass High School  
Student of the Week  
November 2014



**Emma Gerstenberg**  
**Year 12**

For supporting peers  
in time of need

Yass High School  
Student of the Week  
November 2014



**Sarah Targett**  
**Year 10**

For outstanding  
leadership skills

Yass High School  
Student of the Week  
November 2014



**Timothy Farmer**  
**Year 12**

For outstanding assistance  
with school beautification

Yass High School  
Student of the Week  
November 2014



**Mikayla Ede**  
**Year 9**

For Outstanding Presentation  
of Geography Research Task



**Students of the Week  
for  
Excellent Leadership and Service at Peer Support Training**



Catherine Barberis



Logan Davis



Alex Buckmaster



Casey Owen



Caitlyn Douven



Marley Puckett



Rachel Tilley



Daniel Jones



Ellannah Finch



Emily Parker



Samantha Sharpe



Monique Moran



Edward Hinch



Mia Johnson



Ally Thirkettle



Joel Townsend



## **Student Radio turns 5!**

Student Radio remains one of the only programs of its kind in Southern NSW

This week proudly marks the fifth year of Student Radio at Yass High School.

On October 27, 2009, the Yass High School SRC's Student Media Committee (SMC), otherwise internally known as the Badass Committee (credit to Simon Linabury) aired their first show in the Yass High School meeting room.

Initially aired by Caitlin Nelson and Nathan Furry (DJ Furré), the program became a great success, utilising online music streaming as a way of providing hit music to students during their lunchtimes.

Seeing the great benefits provided to the school, outgoing SRC Chairman Daniel Thomas Furry took up the role of broadcasting of the program in 2011, until finally hanging up the microphone earlier this month.

What has made Student Radio unique over these past five years is the fact it still remains one of the only programs of its kind in Southern New South Wales.

Thank you to everyone who has continued to support this program. It's through your support that it has continued throughout these five years, and looks forward to many years on the air to come.

Nathan Furry





## **Master Barrett Referees in Mexico**

### **Honour for Local Yass High School Taekwondo Instructor**

The 2014 WTF World Poomsae Championships are due to be held in Aguascalientes, Mexico, from the 30th October to the 2nd of November. Local Yass High School teacher and Head Instructor of Sipjin Taekwondo Master Craig Barrett recently received notification from the World Taekwondo Federation that he was one of 70 referees selected from around the world to officiate at the annual event. Judges have to arrive a few days in advance to the competition in order to go through an intensive training and update program in order to referee individual, pairs, teams, and freestyle categories. This will be the second time Master Barrett will attend the event as a judge after having the honour last year in Bali and his sixth time attending overall as he has previously been selected to compete and coach for Australia four times.




This continues a busy schedule for Master Barrett who also recently judged at the World Taekwondo Federation's Oceania Championships and Australian Open which was held in August at Sydney's Olympic Park. Master Barrett joined a host of officials from around the world to help referee at these two top ranking events which boasted a competitor list of 134 athletes in the Poomsae competition alone. Competitors from other countries including Tahiti, New Caledonia, the USA, Isle of Man, New Zealand, Korea and Singapore competed over the four days of competition. Master Barrett, as an International Referee, was chosen to judge alongside both Australian and international IRs at the G4 and G2 ranking events.

Anyone interested in training in Taekwondo can contact Master Craig Barrett, 6<sup>th</sup> Dan, on 0407640361 or can check out the new website at [sipjintaekwondo.com](http://sipjintaekwondo.com)



## Coming Events

DATE	EVENT
Mon 1 Dec	P&C Christmas meeting 7.30pm all welcome. Contact the school for details
Tue 2 Dec	Scripture seminars – adversity and resilience
Wed 3 Dec	Orientation Day Year 7 2015
8-11 Dec	Year 10 School and Beyond
Wed 10 Dec	Year 7 to Australian National Museum
Thu 11 Dec	Visit by Michele Bruniges Secretary of the NSW DEC
Thu 11 Dec	Presentation Evening from 7pm
Fri 12 Dec	Celebration Assemblies Years 7-10 Year 7–10am, Year 8–11.30am, Year 9-12pm Year 10–12.30pm
Mon 15 Dec	Years 7 – 9 School values reward excursions
15 - 17 Dec	End of Year Activities for Years 7-11
Tue 16 Dec	Year 10 to Jamberoo Action Park
Wed 17 Dec	Music Excursion to see 'Wicked' in Sydney
Thu 18 Dec	Staff Development Day, focus on school plan, parents welcome
Fri 19 Dec	Executive Planning Day
Tue 27 Jan	School Development Day
Wed 28 Jan	New Students' Orientation 9am -11am
Wed 28 Jan	Years 7,11,12 Return
Thu 29 Jan	Years 8,9,10 Return
	School Website <a href="http://www.yass-h.schools.nsw.edu.au">www.yass-h.schools.nsw.edu.au</a>
	<a href="#">@YassHighSchool on Twitter</a>
<a href="#">Click on the school website for the online calendar</a>	
<a href="#">Remember assessment task information is also available on the school website calendars</a>	