



*As you sow, so  
shall you reap*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**29<sup>th</sup> June -14<sup>th</sup> July**

Canada Trip

**14<sup>th</sup> July**

Students return

**18<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> July**

Bendigo Sheep &  
Wool Show

**26<sup>th</sup> July**

Brainstorm

Productions 7-10

**26<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> July**

Fishing Club to  
Condobolin

**1<sup>st</sup> August**

Aust. Maths Comp

**3<sup>rd</sup> August**

P&C Meeting.

Ian Francis Equine.

**3<sup>rd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> August**

Shooting @ Leeton

**6<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> August**

Year 12 Trial HSC

**15<sup>th</sup> August**

Students leave for  
DESI

**18<sup>th</sup> August**

Weethalle Show

**19<sup>th</sup> August**

Students return from  
DESI

**22<sup>nd</sup> August**

Gate Run

**23<sup>rd</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> August**

Condobolin Show

Ganmain Show

**23<sup>rd</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> August**

Hook, Line & Sinker  
@ Hillston

**29<sup>th</sup> August**

Supplementary

Photo Day

# YANCO AGRICULTURAL HIGH SCHOOL

# Newsletter

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June, 2013  
Term 2, Week 9

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The State Presentation of John Duryea receiving the 2013 Pierre de Coubertin Award. Pictured with Fiona de Jong, Director of Sport and Acting Secretary General of the AOC and James Chapman, Silver Medallist in Rowing, London 2012.



Successful Holbrook Sheep Show team proudly displaying their ribbons and highly successful exhibits.

## JOHN DURYEA - AT THE HALL OF LEGENDS IN THE OLYMPIC PRECINCT IN HOMEBUSH



Last week I was fortunate enough to travel to Sydney to attend the NSW presentation of the 2013 Pierre de Coubertin Awards. The day was organised by the Australian Olympic Committee and focused on aspects of the Olympic dream

such as resilience, determination and attitude towards sport and everyday life in general. I believe the day was quite beneficial as I attended four motivational workshops and presentations, which were led by current Olympians. It was an honour to attend such an event and I would like to thank all the staff who were involved with my nomination, as well as organising my father and I to attend the event.

*John Duryea*



Year 12 student, John Duryea, was nominated by the school to receive a Pierre de Coubertin Award in recognition of his success in the area of Shooting. He has now represented Australia on three occasions and competed very successfully at National Championships over the last two years. He has



immense talent in this area and the school wishes him every success in the future and we will all follow his results with great interest in the years to come. John was accompanied to Sydney by his

father, John Duryea and Warren Weir. About 100 high school students from throughout NSW received this award on the day from Government, Catholic and Independent schools.

Congratulations to John.

## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Term 2 has been a very short term of only 9 weeks but the school has packed much into those weeks.

There will be some staff changes commencing at the beginning of next term. Mr Jamie Thomas has retired at the end of this term after contributing three years to Yanco and over thirty years to teaching the youth of our State. We thank him greatly for his efforts at Yanco where he has led a very inexperienced team of teachers to some outstanding results in the various agricultural subjects. In 2012 Yanco's HSC results in Agriculture and Primary Industries were outstanding. Due to circumstances Jamie's position will not be filled until at least the beginning of Term 4. Mr Matt Shady will take Mr Thomas' teaching position in Term 3 and the acting Head Teacher in the Agriculture/TAS faculty will be Mr Rob Hall.

Mrs Trish Kirk has taken a transfer to Bellingen High School and will be replaced by Mr Nathan Cassillis for Terms 3 and 4. We thank her for her work in the school over the past 16 years and wish her the best for her future on the coast. The permanent Careers position will be filled during Term 4.

Mr Denis Benjamin will return from Hay at the beginning of Term 3. I would like to thank Mr Shaun Brooker and Mrs Megan Thurgood for stepping up to higher positions in Mr Benjamin's absence. They have all done a wonderful job during the last 5 weeks.

The process for Year 7 2014 has now been completed and almost 60 offers will be made from the Selective Schools Unit during the holidays. I look forward to meeting these students and their families later in the year.

Yanco has been most fortunate to receive funding for a series of initiative, mostly focused on the improvement of learning outcomes in Literacy and Numeracy. Firstly through National Partnerships initiatives the school has received \$70000 to be used to improve learning outcomes in literacy and numeracy for students in Years 7 and 8 mainly. This funding is targeted to expand the knowledge and skills of our teaching staff. The school has elected to concentrate on literacy and model a program that can be then transferred to numeracy in the future. This funding will be used for programs until the end of 2014 and it is hoped that the programs implemented during this time will have positive learning outcomes for our students for the next 5 to 10 years.

Yanco has formed a network with two schools in western Sydney – Macquarie Fields and Prairiewood High Schools. Joint submissions have achieved funding for two projects. The funding totals almost \$45000 and this is an exciting time working with schools who are also partially selective, have very experienced teaching staff and students very different to our own. Staff from these schools will visit in the middle of term 3 and some of our staff will travel to Sydney in term 4 as the starting point of the network.

The beginning of Term 3 will see the new DEC structure nearly fully in place. As I indicated in the last news the Executive Director for our area is Ms Dail McGilchrist who will have an office in Dubbo, Wagga and Warilla. The new Directors, who replace the current School Education Directors, will be announced during the holidays. At this stage we have no idea if our current SED, Mr Peter McLean, will retain his position. He has been very supportive of this school and we appreciate his input over the past 3 years.

The school now eagerly awaits the report from Professor Jim Pratley on Agricultural Education in NSW. Part of his brief is the future funding and directions of the Agricultural High Schools. This report will make essential reading when available. Another funding review that has been undertaken was by our SED, Mr Peter McLean, who was requested by the DEC to investigate our history of funding. I am not privy to these findings but due to

the thoroughness that was undertaken I am sure this would make good reading for all our parents.

The school has been successful in obtaining some supplementary funding re the increased cost of electricity. The educational component of our school has received \$80,000 but there has been no supplementation for the hostel costs. I am most thankful for this but our costs in 2013 will be just under \$500,000, an increase of about \$150,000 from the previous year.

Each year all our schools receive funding for maintenance on our buildings. In the next financial year the school will receive a little over \$50,000 for school maintenance, about 50% of the funding received in the previous year. Considering the needs of the school this will result in little change to our school over the next 12 months. The school is part of a current review of funding long term maintenance for the DEC and the assessment has recently been undertaken. The assessment reviewed over 970 rooms on the school site, much larger than the assessors had undertaken at any other school on their list. I eagerly await this review which will include the whole of the school including the hostel and teacher housing on site.

One of the most pleasing aspects in our school has been the success our students have achieved in both athletics and cross country over the last term. The numbers on previous years are greatly increased and over 40 students will travel to Albury early next term to compete in the regional athletics carnival. I believe we have seven relay teams competing and the P.E. staff are most excited about our potential for the future.

Congratulations to all involved in the recent McCaughey Ball with well over 300 students, parents and staff spending a most enjoyable evening together. Our students enjoy the opportunity to dress up and both the girls and boys looked splendid in their finery. A big thank you to Mr Scott McGrevy who donated his time on the night to take family photos.

Recently the HSC Day for Science was held at the school with 250 students from regional high schools spending the day being given advice and hints about bettering their marks in the HSC. Specialists in Physics, Chemistry, Biology and Senior Science were present as well as the Board of Studies from Wagga and our own Mrs Megan Thurgood also spoke to students. The day was very successful and feedback from visiting lecturers, staff and students was most positive. Congratulations to our Science faculty for taking this initiative and making a success of it.



Over the July holidays 65 students, family and staff will travel to Canada and the USA for 14 days with the highlight being the Calgary Stampede. Let's hope the present flooding is long gone prior to our arrival. A huge thank you to Mr Bruce Hammond who has co-ordinated this trip on behalf of the school. I look forward to a special two weeks with lots to see. Arriving back the day before school recommences will be our greatest challenge.

By the time you receive this news both the Parent/Teacher days and Performance Night will have concluded. I would like to thank all parents who have taken the time to speak with teachers regarding the progress of their children. These conversations are most important and with many of our parents living so far away from the school this is a great opportunity not to be missed if you wish to support your child's learning. This week I have read all reports and most students will be pleased on their performance but some require reassessing their efforts and priorities. Something for all parents to look at is the activities your child is involved in at school. If this is blank on the front cover I would encourage you to discuss this over the holidays and support your child in becoming more involved. This increased involvement helps develop our students, access the many opportunities and make their life at Yanco much more fulfilling. In most cases you only get out of the school what you put into it.

Performance Night will again highlight the cultural talent in the school. This night led by Miss Elyse North and supported by many other staff is a real highlight on the school's calendar. New talent will be discovered and Year 12 students will have their last opportunity to entertain you. Rehearsals this week indicates this night will again be very special and parents are encouraged to be there.

With the holidays now here may I wish all our school community a safe and enjoyable break and look forward to working with you again in Term 3.

## LETTER FROM AN OLD YANCONIAN

Recently we had the pleasure of a surprise visit from an Old Yanconian. Henry was in the area and wanted to come and see his "old school". It was a pleasure to meet him and listen to the stories he had to tell. For a ninety-four year old his memories were still very clear. He sent the following letter on his return home.

*Dear Daryl*

*Firstly let me apologise for this "magnificent" letterhead because I can't find my writing pad. Secondly, because I do not possess a computer. Thirdly because my writing will develop into scribble because my Arthritis gives me a kick in the arm just to let me know it is alive and well.*

*My trip to the school on Friday 10th May was an absolute plus in my life. I was astounded with the expansion that has taken place since my days in 1931 -1934, which of course was during the great depression when the agricultural portion of the teaching was a tad restricted by having two clapped out draught horses, one single furrowed plough, an old bull which seemed to be quite content to stand and stare at the cows, and a piggery which was the recipient of the separated milk from the dairy. The vegetable garden in those days was situated quite close to the river at which there were a number of unemployed men living in tents and fishing for their living. Tethering their catch in the river pending the arrival of Friday when they took them into Yanco to sell them door to door.*

*These poor chaps waited until dusk or later to pay a visit to Charley Kenney's vegetable garden with one of them keeping watch and in this way managing to live another day. Ollie Gardiner reported these raids to the one and only policeman in Yanco and in response the "river men" were questioned; "On the night of such and such did you steal vegetables from the school's garden?" Reply; "No sir." The constable's report to Mr Gardener was of course, "No it was none of them!!!" Personally I think the school was a great help to those poor river chaps.*

*"Charley Kenny*

*When the homestead and lands were left to the Education Department the bequest included that the subject of Agriculture must be taught and Charley Kenny must be employed."*

*You asked me during my visit whether I could supply any details of pranks or other unusual things that happened during my time at Yanco. I have given a lot of thought to your request but unfortunately I am unable to do so but if it would help in any way I am enclosing a very true story of an old Yanconian's experience which occurred on the night of 11/11/1943, while I was in England's War Service. I think it would be far too lengthy for the school's publication but should you not agree, I expect that your waste paper basket is as good as mine.*

*In closing I want to thank you so much for your precious time and attention and for the gifts you gave me.*

*Sincerely*

*Henry Johnson*

*PS. I may not have been much of a scholar at Yanco but I caught up later on in banking where I had 43 years, 10 of which I was in Branch Management and 13 as a Sub Inspector.*

|            |      |       |
|------------|------|-------|
| JACKA      | S.   | 28    |
| † JAMIESON | R.   | 28-29 |
| JOHNS      | R.T. | 30-31 |
| JOHNSON    | D.   | 31-35 |
| JOHNSTON   | H.M. | 31-34 |
| JONES      | L.   | 27-28 |
| JOYCE      | L.F. | 38-41 |
|            | D.M. | 36-37 |
|            | D.C. | 31-35 |



Henry Johnson 1931-1934

## ***A STORY FROM THE PAST – FROM AN OLD YANCONIAN***

The Ditching of Vickers Wellington  
Mk 1.C No 9103, 11th November 1943  
Pilot: Flt Sgt H C M Johnson RAAF

*By Henry Johnson F/O*

This is a story about one particular aeroplane which, like so many of its ilk during WW2, came to a sad end by plunging into a watery grave in the Bristol Channel on the evening of Armistice Day 1943, at approximately 20.35 hrs., about two and half to three miles off Morte Point in the County of Devon. It all began by my being posted to No. 21 O.T.U. (Operations Training Unit), Moreton in Marsh, Oxfordshire, on 31st August 1943, from Little Rissington in the neighbouring County of Gloucestershire and where my transition from Airspeed Oxfords to Vickers Wellingtons took place. I remember it was quite different from what I had been used to; i.e. Flying with a crew with the realisation that they depended upon my skills as a “driver” for the preservation of their necks as it were, rather than having one’s own neck as a single responsibility. I also remember quite distinctly that I wasn’t too impressed with the old “Wimpey” in the early hours of my conversion. I didn’t care much for the delay in response to the operation of the throttles, especially in taxiing – also there was that cylinder of compressed air which operated the wheel brakes which seemed constantly to be running out of pressure (much to the annoyance of my instructor). However, the later mark Wellingtons, especially the MkX’s, I found more to my liking. These I regarded as being very fine aircraft and I was much attracted to them in my later service. But to return to the subject of this article:

I point out here that the details used for writing this article were taken from my Log Book, from my memory (quite hazy on some aspects after 51 years) and correspondence from two crew members written over a period of 17 years; the first of these letters on the subject being written in April 1972 – almost twenty eight and a half years after the fateful event.

By the time November 1943 had arrived we were fully crewed up, a process which I found to be rather difficult but later events proved that we were

a good and reliable team. Laurie, from Victoria and trained as an Observer, was Bomb-aimer and Front Gunner. Being an Observer he was also relief Navigator and Pilot should the need ever arise. “Shorty” from South Australia was Wireless Operator, whilst George from Northumberland and Frank from Suffolk were the two Englishmen of the crew, they being navigator and Rear Gunner respectively. As George had also trained as an Observer, I felt it a real luxury having two Observers in the crew. As pilot and Skipper of the crew, I felt that I had no special skills or attributes other than the fact that I happened to be older than the others, which, I suppose, may have been appropriate. None of us at that stage held His Majesty’s Commission. Our training had reached the stage where we had done some cross country flights, some practice bombing and some gun firing on the respective practice ranges and we were beginning to work well together. I felt that all we needed was some more practice as we were the making of a good team.

As Pilot and Skipper I had amassed a total of 40 hours and 10 minutes of 1st Pilot time on “Wimpeys” including the princely number of 10 hours 55 mins. of night flying and so it was that we attended briefing on 11th November 1943. The weather, I think, was cold because I can remember being fairly well rugged up. At briefing we were instructed as to what to do on this our first (and only) Bulls Eye cross country training flight. I’ve forgotten now just what the take-off time was as I have no record but we were to fly to a point over the sea west of the Bristol Channel, then turn onto a north-easterly course to a place named Fishguard in Wales with further routes back to base. Along the way we were expected to drop our load of practice bombs on a target in the bombing range and fire our guns at targets on the firing range. I’ve also no record of how long the trip was expected to last. However, at the pre-arranged time we were loaded into the transport with crew and gear, in addition to which we were allotted a F/Sgt Pilot passenger “Odd Bod” who was to act as second pilot for the trip. The purpose of the journey for him, I understood, was for him to gain some experience!! Unfortunately the identity of “Odd Bod” is not known as his name was not recorded in any of our log books. However I feel that he came from

somewhere in South Australia. He definitely was an Aussie and in the RAAF.

Trouble started for us when we were some distance out over the water and rather than try to relate all details of the ditching it is suffice to say that the facts were:

At about 11,000 feet the motor failed. The starboard engine was opened up in an attempt to compensate. Mayday was signalled.

The course was changed back towards the coast.

We continued to lose height.

While still over the water but not far from the coast the temperature of the good motor rose alarmingly and the engine had to be throttled back.

We learnt that the airfield for which we were making was u/s because of heavy rain damage (Chivenor).

After re-crossing the coast, there was no response to our "Darky" calls.

There were areas of high ground which now came into contention and had to be avoided and we were still losing height.

The question was, whether to bail out or ditch.

I chose the latter as being the safest.

It was decided we should ditch as close to the coast as possible and the crew were alerted. I manoeuvred the aircraft into a suitable position, just out to sea and, with the assistance of the starboard motor and obtained a good approach parallel to the coast. With full flaps and starboard motor cut off and both propellers windmilling, we gently sank onto the water. We were very lucky that the ditching turned out so well because the aircraft floated with only its nose underwater. All on board were able to evacuate successfully. The dinghy release mechanism operated like a dream and was a text-book job. The dinghy manned and the necessary checking carried out on personnel, emergency rations, wireless and first aid kit, the painter was cut and we were free of our machine.

We paddled a short distance for safety but as the aeroplane continued to float we threw out the sea anchor but as we were drifting quite rapidly in the direction of the shore line, the sea anchor was retrieved and our progress became faster. Other details of our trip in the dinghy are now a bit hazy for me to relate with accuracy, but nearing the shore we could see a beach so we all took turns at trying

to paddle towards it but the current we were in had other ideas and we were taken onto the rocks at the foot of Morte Point. This is where our waterproof torch became really valuable. The dinghy, of course, was well and truly punctured and was abandoned where wrecked. I have no record as to what time of night it was when we were thrown onto the rocks or indeed just when the rescue occurred but it was well into the night as the ditching was recorded as 8.35pm 11/11/43.

Our rescuers turned out to be American soldiers together with civilians. The Americans told us it was as well we were on the rocks because the beach was fully barb-wired and mined. Then we began the long haul up the cliff with ropes and many helpers. The Americans were camped in the vicinity and were there as part of the D-Day preparations. This camp incorporated a pre-war holiday hotel called the "Pandora" which they had converted to use as their hospital.

Having been rescued and hauled to the top of a cliff, we were taken to this hospital, given hot cocoa and examined by an American Medical Officer who confirmed that medically nothing serious had been sustained. Next day, still being at "Pandora" (and enjoying the American hospitality) I was interviewed by an American Officer. I related what had happened and he said they had had reports that an airplane seemed to be in trouble and sentries had reported seeing navigation lights and a landing light and when these lights suddenly vanished they assumed that the machine had gone down in the sea. The American Officer then told me he would make arrangements for us to go to the nearest RAF station, which was Chivenor. He also said that our own Station at Moreton would be informed.

While we were waiting to be taken to Chivenor a local police officer from neighbouring Mortehoe, (by the name of Fred Copp - would you believe!?), arrived and armed with note book at the ready, wanted to know full details of the incident. He produced his credentials and I had no reason to doubt his position. He wanted to know the type of aircraft, how many were in the crew, injuries or fatalities (if any) what guns and ammunition were carried and whether or not any bombs were aboard and generally what dangers the aircraft presented. In those days when most folk were very security conscious I can remember saying that I doubted

that I was authorised to supply him with all the information he wanted but I did tell him where we were from and suggested that he contact the station Commanding Officer if his questions were really essential.

As soon as we arrived at Chivenor I was debriefed by the Intelligence Officer and this culminated in my being asked to write a comprehensive report on the whole matter. Before I began this task we were all issued with a complete change of clothing which was not before time even though at "Pandora" the night before our own clothes had dried, apart from our flying boots. After spending that night at Chivenor we were then driven back to Moreton in Marsh by a glamorous WAAF in a Hillman Van, where we arrived after a full day's travel.

Back at Moreton, we were granted "survivors" leave, from memory, of about a week's duration, but my leave was deferred and cut short by one day because apparently there was someone from Training Command in London who had been detailed to investigate the circumstances of the ditching. He arrived and in company with the Station Commander, I was interrogated by this H.Q "wallah" who seemed to be upset that, according to him, it would cost about £130,000 to get a new aeroplane!! At the end of the interview I was dismissed feeling more than a little peeved. I must have shown this in some way because the C.O. in the presence of the Officer from London offered me his congratulations on carrying out a successful ditching at night with no casualties other than a well-worn aeroplane. I made haste to collect my leave pass and some things and set off for London.

The next part of this true story concerns the aircraft itself:

I feel that I am one of the more fortunate airmen of WW2 vintage in that I have been able to keep more or less in close contact with my aircrew with whom I carried out the majority of tasks allotted to us, even though the team was a mixture of RAF and RAAF members. It is now many years since the end of the hostilities in that great conflict but the bonds and comradeship formed all those years ago have never weakened.

George, (Navigator) sadly now deceased, wrote to me in 1972 saying he had, after many years investigations, located the exact position of the

Vickers Wellington Mk 1C No. 9103 and he had obtained some souvenirs from it. He said that he had received much help in his quest from a motor mechanic in Woolacombe, who, as a school boy there in 1943, witnessed the rescue of the six crew members from the base of very steep and rugged cliffs on the night of 11th November. This motor mechanic was, at that time (1973), also a diver and said that the wreck of this Wellington was jammed in a wedge shaped gully, the surrounding rock of which were littered with bits and pieces, which through sea action over many years can be found in many rock crevices. The aircraft remains were located quite by accident when diving for other purposes. In his garage there was, amongst other things from the wreck, an off-set cog wheel which he dismantled from one of the two engines (Bristol "Peggies") and for some time had served in his place of business as a door stop. Frank (Rear Gunner) while on holiday in Woolacombe, subsequently made himself known to the mechanic and identified himself as one of the crew of that aeroplane on that fateful night. As a result of this meeting, Frank was presented with this cogwheel because that generous mechanic said that as Frank was a member of the aircrew who manned that aircraft on its last flight he considered Frank had more right to it than he did!!

To conclude this true epistle, Frank took the cog wheel home, had it sand blasted and rustproofed and mounted on a beautifully polished piece of grained timber. He inserted a stainless steel plate with the following inscription engraved:

**WELLINGTON 9103**

**DITCHED \*\* 11.11.43**

**PILOT F/SGT H.C.M. JOHNSON R.A.A.F.**

On the occasion of a Squadron reunion in 1986 and held in Victoria, Frank came to Australia and made me a presentation of this priceless souvenir - a gift which I feel really belongs to the crew of that night, but one which I shall treasure for the rest of my days.

H.C.M. Johnson F.O

5th March 1994

## YAHS SHEARING COMPETITION P&C REPORT

The inaugural Shearing Competition held on Gala Day at Yanco Agricultural High School was hailed a complete success in every way by not only the competitors, but by spectators and organisers alike. A total of twenty seven participants competed on the day with the vast majority being students from Yanco Agricultural High School itself. This can be further broken down to fifteen Learner competitors, six Intermediate competitors and six Open competitors. Also, it can be noted, that there were sixteen students and eleven adults consisting of five females and 22 males over all sections.

The day began with Peter Artridge, a former national champion for speed shearing, conducting a Judging Workshop for all competitors and other interested members of the public as most of the competitors, whilst they had previous shearing experience, had never competed in a shearing competition.

The competition then began with the heats of the Learners, Intermediate and Open sections of the competition which was then followed by the finals for each section. The winners and prize money allocation are listed below:



*Peter Artridge*

| Section      | 1st Place         | 2nd Place             | 3rd Place           |
|--------------|-------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Learners     | John Polsen \$170 | Damien Johnston \$140 | Rowan Horne \$90    |
| Intermediate | Glenn Young \$140 | David Thomas \$ 90    | Royce Johnston \$70 |
| Open         | John Evans \$140  | David McCallum \$ 90  | Paul Bandy \$70     |

David Thomas, the father of Zoe in Yr 7, from Lake Cargelligo generously donated his prize money back to the P&C. The final event for the day was the Lachlan Sutton Team Shearing Competition which saw five teams of three compete, including an all-girls team. Each member of the teams that placed



*Zoe Thomas with her dad David Thomas and Kerrie Johnston*

1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Team Shearing competition received a printed sash using funds donated by an ex-Yanconian, Lachlan Sutton. Each competitor was given a printed shearing singlet donated by a local wool buyer, Brendan Proud & Co from Griffith to be worn whilst competing. These were extremely popular with the students and, if available, could have sold them several times over!

To finalise a great day of participation, Peter Artridge then gave a blade shearing demonstration, including a commentary on the history of blade shearing and was then followed by an amazing exhibition of shearing a sheep blindfolded by Peter which left the crowd in awe! Opportunity was then given for anyone who may not have even held a handpiece before to come forward and simply 'have a go'. Several young people seized this opportunity and it was very rewarding to see the smile on their faces as they left the board. On behalf of our son Royce, who masterminded this competition, and my husband Alan, I would like to sincerely



*Royce Johnston, David Thomas and Glenn Young*



*David Thomas*

thank AWI for the enormous contribution of making available the prize money for this competition and for paying the Learners entry fees which enabled so many to participate and created a valuable experience in the lives of these



*Deanna & Bryce Johnston, brother/sister rivalry*

young people. We would also like to thank the YAHS P&C Association for allowing us the opportunity to be able to positively promote the shearing industry via this competition and thank you also, to all the students who helped on the day with wool handling and recording the scores of the competitors – we couldn't have managed without such a great band of helpers.

*Kerrie Johnston*



*The "Go Girls" team  
L-R: Helen Guttler,  
Cherice and  
Deanna Johnston*

## HOLBROOK SHEEP AND WOOL FAIR

It all started on a rainy day, but the rain and cold didn't stop our sheep and handlers from winning. The first day was the school's interbreeds and we



went pretty well, winning the group and two tooth ewe. We placed in all sections with our sheep. After the end of judging day we fed up the sheep and headed on to Mr Dixons for the night.

The next day we rose at about 6:30am and had breakfast, got dressed and arrived at the showgrounds at about 8:30. The show kicked off with showing the sheep and taking



out the most successful White Suffolk exhibitor title and Yanco taking out the Junior judging awards. We won Supreme Champion group with the sheep and taking out 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> in the Junior Merino Judging. Tom Arnold won both Junior Merino Judging and Meatbreeds competitions. Will McLean won the senior Merino Judging at his first ever show and first time he had ever judged! It was an amazing effort from both boys. In the meatbreeds there were up to 90 competitors so congratulations to all who went into the competitions and had a good crack at judging and handling. We left the showgrounds about 6pm and headed off into the dark, cold and drizzly night.

On Friday morning we had an early start. Up at around 6am, we had breakfast, got dressed and cleaned Dicko's house for him. We fed up the sheep as soon as we got to the showgrounds to be ready for the 8.30 start. We showed a group of sheep in the inter-breeds first off but were unsuccessful. The competition was tough. The people who were in the final for fleece judging spoke soon after.

Deanna Johnston came 1<sup>st</sup> in the fleece Judging and took out the Senior Fleece Judge title. Soon after the qualifying group final for meat judging was on. Jane Goldsworthy did exceptionally well placing 3<sup>rd</sup>. After it was all over we loaded up our sheep and ribbons, packed up other pens and went to the Holbrook bakery as we had



been so well behaved on the trip. We then headed back to school feeling pretty happy with a swag of ribbons, prizes and a bucket load of knowledge!

*Deanna Johnston*

## **RUGBY UNION REPORT**

### **Buchan Shield**

YAHS Buchan Shield under 16s Rugby Union team that defeated Koorungal High School at Conolly Rugby Park in Wagga on Tuesday. The score was 24 to 15. We progress to play Young High School in the next round of the CHS competition.



*Buchan Shield Team*

## **RUGBY LEAGUE REPORT**

### **University Shield**

After emerging from the Dave Sheldrick Shield victorious the YAHS school first grade side tackled Griffith HS at Yanco. The game was an entertaining one with Griffith proving a more than formidable opponent.

YAHS skipped out to an early 16-0 lead however a lack of ball control and discipline from the YAHS boys saw Griffith score three quick tries late in the first half to head into the halftime break only two points behind 16-14. With greater ball control and structure the YAHS boys took control of the game in the second half to extend their lead out to the final score line of 36 – 20. Best players on the day were Tim Hillam, Jesse McDonald and Toby Serafin. YAHS now progress into the Riverina final against Wagga Wagga HS.

### **Buckley Shield**

On the 27th of May YAHS played host to Narrandera HS, Leeton HS and Wagga HS for a Buckley Shield Gala day. The YAHS boys were the

most prepared they have been in many years for this match thanks to the unity formed through playing in the local Group 20 competition every weekend.

YAHS played their first game against Narrandera HS and were comprehensive victors 40-6. Match highlights were Dylan Whiley's missing of a goal from directly in front and the slicing runs made by Sebastian Webb from fullback. This victory saw YAHS progress through to the final against Wagga High, who were too strong for a game Leeton High outfit.

The match against Wagga proved to be a much closer affair, however, YAHS were still too strong emerging victorious 34 – 20. Best players on the day for YAHS were Clay McKenzie and Angus Wilton. The side were then required to travel to Griffith to take on a strong Griffith HS outfit on the 17th of June. YAHS were down several key players due to disciplinary reasons however the boys put in a game effort to go down by 36 points to 20. Best players in this match were Jack Simmonds and Cameron Hall. This has eliminated YAHS from the Buckley shield for season 2013.

## GIRLS RUGBY REPORT



After months of training and learning the skills of rugby, the Girls' Rugby Union team left Yanco at 8:30am with Miss Weller for the trip to Wagga with a strong 30 side squad. The Under 15's got geared up to confront the Wagga team putting in a last few minutes of training. Marnie kicked off the match, giving ball possession to the WWHS side that hit up the ball and was met by solid defence. The first 5 minutes Yanco was in good field position and had Wagga on the back burner. Some hard hits from each team were made, with Kaitlyn McKay doing some great one on one tackles. Unfortunately Wagga Wagga had a lot more experience and got around us a few too many times. Captain Marnie Whytcross had the girls organised on the field and they played a good game, scoring two tries in the second half but time was our enemy and Yanco where defeated by WWHS 24 points to 10. Tries were scored by Marnie Whytcross and Brydie Mannion, players player was awarded to Kaitlyn McKay

After supporting the Under 15's, our open girls were in the sheds, music on and jerseys handed out.

Once again, the last minute training was put in, finishing minutes before hitting the field. Yanco being given the option to kick, set up and chased the ball off April's boot. The girls put in the hard yards and gave the Wagga open side a good run. Some big hit-ups were made by Jess Power, Zoe Howe, Belle Turner and Bec Ritchie. Captain Remi

Wilton kept the girls heads up and the girls made a lot of great tackles and runs. With Marnie

Whytcross scoring a try for the open's girls team, again Yanco where beaten by Wagga. Even though we didn't win, going down 19 to 7 the girls displayed great skills and walked away smiling and heads up. Player's Player was awarded to Lilly Serafin, who

played a great game making excellent runs and defensive tackles, displaying natural skills for someone who has never played before.

Under 15's: Deanna Johnston, Kym Brain, Kirsty Clark, Kaitlyn McKay, Brydie Mannion, Rose Nevinson, Marnie Whytcross, Nat Grylls, Odette Mara, Montana Hawkins, Shayla Mulholland, Chantelle Gorman and Kaylee Radburn.



*Captain Remi Wilton, Bec Ritchie and VC Belle Turner*

Opens: Breanna Carr, Harriet Lugsdin, Remi Wilton, Erika Quinn, Bec Ritchie, Lilly Serafin, April Harvey, Amy Miller, Chelsea Whytcross, Emily Crick, Kristen Polimeni, Inez Mara, Jessica Power, Zoe Howe, Belle Turner, Laura Harris, Ashley Pike and Kiera Sanderson.

## HOSPITALITY HSC ENRICHMENT DAY 2013

On the 29th May Yr12 Hospitality students attended a regional HSC Enrichment Day in Wagga Wagga which was held at the Australian Rules Club. The speaker was Sonya Ankerolz-Potts who is a Senior HSC Marker and the Co-author of the Excel Study Hospitality Book. The sessions were interactive and helped students understand how to prepare for the Board of Study HSC exam. Later they went via Cold Rock to see another Hospitality business and sampled some of their range. It was a very worthwhile day and the students appreciated the opportunity to be part of it.



## McCAUGHEY BALL REPORT

The annual McCaughey Ball for Years 11 & 12 was held on Saturday 15th June at the Leeton Soldiers Club. A very enjoyable evening was had by all, with 335 students, parents, friends and teachers being treated to a scrumptious sit down two course meal. A hardworking working committee of mothers decorated the room in black & gold and speeches were given by Elizabeth Dwyer P&C President and our Principal Mr Finch. Parents were treated to dancing the Pride of Erin with their sons and daughters and following this the evening moved to a more modern beat with music supplied by DJ.G and the kids danced the night away until about 11pm. Mr Scott McGreavy very generously donated his time to take photos of the evening and these will be available through the P&C early in Term 3.



## HOSPITALITY FUNCTION – REGIONAL PRINCIPALS LUNCHEON 2013

On 23<sup>rd</sup> May the Year 12 Hospitality Class and three Year 11 Food and Beverage students catered and served a two course lunch, plus espresso coffee for 35 Principals visiting the school. It was a great experience to plan the menu, catering for special dietary allowances and then to prepare and cook the food. The front of house team served the two dishes for main course, and then brought out the two choices for dessert. They finally cleaned up after a very successful day. It was a great team effort and a wonderful opportunity to showcase their skills.



*This article written by student who hopes to come to YAHS.*

## EMILY ON SONG

On the long weekend in June Emily Pike travelled to Dubbo to appear in a Bush Fire Appeal Fundraiser at the Dubbo RSL club, to help struggling families in the Coonabarabran district. This was a successful event, raising in excess of \$1200 for the appeal. Emily performed alongside other prominent local performers and with a local band. She had them toe tapping and participating in her two sets on stage.



*Emily Pike Year 12, singing at the Bushfire Appeal*

On Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> June Emily participated in the 20th Annual Leeton Country Music Talent quest at the Stan Axtill centre. There were over 100 entries in various sections. Emily won a trophy in every section she entered.



## BANGARRA DANCE WORKSHOP



*Janaia Booth and Annie James attended the Bangarra Dance Workshop*



## GRALEE VISIT REPORT

This term has been very successful and exciting for year 11. Over 40 students put their names forward to take part in a visit to Gralee every Friday. A different group of 6 students have visited the school each week along with Mr. Coelli to spend an hour with the students. This activity has been a splendid and very worth-while experience. Each student has been enthusiastic and eager to spend time with the Gralee students.

At Gralee we've had the opportunity to spend time with students from ages of 6 years to 18 years old and take part in outside games and spend lunch time with the kids. Each week we've been welcomed with open arms and have had a really enjoyable time.



*Lilly Serafin*

## COONABARABRAN SHOW REPORTS

Coona Expo 2013 was a great week, I was glad to be representing YAHS along with our other team riders who were all very successful. I competed in C grade eventing and the hack day. On the hack day I got champion pony. Will, Erika, Brad and I competed in the team of fours where we came 5th. Congratulations to everyone and thank you to Vicki Bradford, Paul Bandy, Mr Finch and all the other parents and helpers for making this trip possible.

*Sheridan Hammet*

Coonabarabran horse expo was a great week. There was a great team of Yanco riders representing the school. I competed in most of the events placing 8th in the team penning with Joanna Graetz and Will Hall (Kings School) and a 4<sup>th</sup> place in my 75cm jump round. Well done to all of the other competitors. I would like to thank Paul Bandy, Vicki Bradford, Mr Finch and all the parents for making the Coona trip possible.

*Jessica Afflick*

Coona was a great experience and I'm glad I got to represent YAHS in B grade eventing. After dressage I came 4th with a percentage of 67.3 which I was pleased with. Although overall I came 15th I was happy with how my horse performed. Well done to everyone on their success and thank you to Paul, Vicki, Mr Finch and all the other helpers.

*Karley Clissold*

Coona Expo 2013 was a great experience for me, and I was very happy to represent YAHS for the second year in a row. I had a great week riding and competing with all of the Yanco Ag team. My results in the c grade ODE was 12th overall which I was very happy with, on Tuesday in the open hack I received a 3rd in the open hack class. I would also like to congratulate the rest of the Yanco Ag team on the efforts.

*Courtney Stubberfield*

On May 30th, in the early hours of the morning, we left in convoy and headed for Coonabarabran to compete in the NWEA 2013. We were lucky with the weather and had very little rain over the competition. Over the five days I competed in the B

grade eventing, Polocrosse, team penning, Sporting, 90cm show jumping, Stockman's Challenge and the Warrumbungle Way. In Warrumbungle Way I placed first in the 17yrs and over. The Warrumbungle Way consists of lots of stockmen like obstacles. All up I think everyone had a great weekend and showed great team work while representing Yanco Agricultural High School.

*Jess Power*



## COONA PHOTOS



## LIMOUSIN YOUTH SHOW REPORT

On a cold and dreary Friday morning after two students went down due to illness, nine dedicated youngsters boarded the bus with Miss Weller bound for the Limousin Youth Show in Albury. Upon arrival we set up in the wet weather.

We then went to meet our heifers` that we borrowed from various studs. After meeting our heifers we went on with the rest of the day. That afternoon we attended some demonstrations which were very educational. These demonstrations included practical halter making, lectures about worms in cattle, artificial insemination, clipping and cattle nutrition. After these demonstrations we set off to feed and water our heifers. After doing that, we had 'Team Olympics,' which everyone happily participated in.

On day two, we woke to the rain pouring on the tin roof, some of us had to move our swags due to roof leaks. After breakfast, we all had to get dressed and look our best for Junior Judging. After overseeing 3 classes of animals, we then had to speak on one. James Littlehales won Reserve Intermediate Champion. The Yanco team had surprise guests, Mr and Mrs Littlehales who came in from South Australia to see James. We then started washing our animals to get ready for their judging classes. Results in this event where: Kylie Fairfull receiving Grand Champion Steer with 'Progress Had Balls,' Andrew Thorn receiving 2nd place with his heifer 'Birubi Homepage,' Rebecca Ritchie receiving 3rd place with her heifer 'Kia Ora Hayley.'

That night we had a dress up dinner with the theme of dressing up as something starting with your initials, unfortunately we did not know about the theme until we got there so those who wanted to dress up had to improvise. After the dinner a trivia

competition was held and two teams tied for equal first.

The next morning we woke up earlier to a nice sunny day. We fed our animals and started to get them prepared for junior paraders. Once they were ready, the first class of paraders commenced. But Yanco students didn't start until the 3rd class. The results of the paraders competition is as follows: - Rebecca Ritchie and Kylie Fairfull placing 2nd, James Littlehales placed 3rd, Mitchel Cattle placed 4th in his first show, Andrew Thorn, Hayley Fairfull and Laandi Holland, also her first show, placed 5th. Troy Kylstra got 1st in his class and received Reserve Junior Champion.

After paraders was the presentation. We found out who won the group junior judging. A team of Yanco students got 2nd receiving straws of

semen. Those members were – Matthew Young, Laandi Holland and Hayley Fairfull. A big thankyou goes out to Birubi Limousins, Kyanne Limousins, Kia Ora Limousins, Flemington Limousins and Progress Limousins. Once the presentations were over we set off on a road trip back to school, which most of us were looking forward to after a long, cold, wet, windy, tiring weekend.

*By Rebecca Ritchie and Team*



*Limousin Youth Competitors*

## ZONE ATHLETICS CARNIVAL



On the 31st May, 78 enthusiastic students travelled to Griffith for the Zone Athletics Carnival. Although it had rained all night the night before the carnival, we were very fortunate to have a beautiful sunny day. The students had an extremely successful

day, with quite a few students winning their events and making it onto the Riverina Carnival. Some of the outstanding achievements of the day were;

**Mitchell Pippin**(15 yrs) – won the 100m, 200m, 800m and 1500m events.

**Olivia Reid** (12 yrs) – won the 200m and Shot Put and finished second in Long Jump and Discus.

**Remi Wilton** (16yrs) – won the High Jump, 400m, 800m, 1500m and Long Jump and finished second in the 100m and 200m.

We also had a lot of success with the relay teams. The following teams made it on to the Riverina Carnival;

|              |              |
|--------------|--------------|
| 13 yrs Boys  | 12 yrs Girls |
| 15 yrs Boys  | 13 yrs Girls |
| 16 yrs Boys  | 14 yrs Girls |
| 16 yrs Girls |              |

The following students were the age champions in their division;

|                         |              |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| <b>Mitchell Pippin</b>  | 15 yrs Boys  |
| <b>Marnie Whytcross</b> | 15 yrs Girls |
| <b>Remi Wilton</b>      | 16 yrs Girls |

We then had two students achieve the Runners-Up title in their division;

**Olivia Reid** – 12 yr Girls  
**Zoe Potter** – 13 yr Girls

Overall, on the day Yanco Agricultural High School came second behind Leeton High School. Forty three students were successful in making it onto the Riverina Carnival which will be held in Albury on

Friday 26th July (Week 2, Term 3). Well done to all students who participated and encouraged their fellow peers. Thank you also to Mr Press and Mr Coelli for their support during the day.

*Alison Giles*

## RIVERINA CROSS COUNTRY

Riverina Cross Country was held around the flat Gundagai race course on Friday the 14th of June. The day was a great success with everyone running strongly on the day. We have five students progressing to State Cross Country which will be held in Eastern Creek in the first week of term 3. The students progressing are Carrie Hammet, Mel Guttler, Jess Power, Ellen Shepherd and Reid Burley. On top of this, we have a further 5 students on the waiting list as they only narrowly missed out. A big thankyou to Alanna Rolfe, who helped out on the day, and congratulations to the five students who will represent their region at state level.

*Mr Watt*

## HIGHLAND DANCING EISTEDDFOD

The Climate Technologies Leeton Eisteddfod Highland Dancing sub-committee would like to say a huge thank you to Mrs Alana Rolfe and the five helpers who ran the canteen at the Highland Dancing competition on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> June. You all did a wonderful job and made a huge contribution to the smooth running of the day. The band of helpers were; Emily Kearines, Liyu Coss, Tarhlia Claydon, Isla Hughes and Lauren Hughes. You did yourselves and your school proud. Thank you.

Arnah Garwood did well at the competition coming away with two 1<sup>st</sup> places and two 2<sup>nd</sup> places. Arnah also won the W E Cotton Memorial Trophy dance on the day.

## AGRICULTURE

### Out and About on the Yanco Farm

It's been a lovely wet month, with some much needed rain. The cows have finished calving, the sheep have started lambing and the crops and pastures are growing splendidly! The Year 7 students have been working on 'My Farm', with some very interesting reading and well-presented tasks and tending their vegetable gardens.

Year 8 students have been working on their market gardens.

Year 9 students have been conducting plant density trials on oat and wheat crops.

Year 10 students have been weighing steers and learning about beef marketing, pasture production and sampling pastures to determine herbage mass.

Year 11 students have been learning about Plant Production and observing the Brassica and Cereal crops.

Year 12 students have been working on Animal Production and visited Riverina Beef Feedlot as part of their Farm Product Study.

Stage 5 Primary Industries have been learning about livestock behaviour and handling, through analysing our sheep and cattle yard design, drafting and moving sheep, and weighing the feedlot steers and pigs. Mrs Quinn's Primaries class performed ear marking and vaccination of newborn piglets.

Stage 6 Primary Industries went across to Wagga TAFE and completed the ATV four and two wheel motorbike course.

All Primary Industries classes have been involved in the weighing, ear tagging and branding of lambs at birth, for the data to be entered into LAMBPLAN

All year groups have been involved in the re-potting, planting and maintenance of native trees for the establishment of windbreaks and wildlife corridors.

Coming up in Term 3, students will begin to see the fruits of their labour in their vegetable gardens, and the horticulture area will be getting a makeover with the installation of new greenhouse covering, propagation heat bed and new irrigation system, in order to begin propagating local native plants for revegetation.

Lambing will have finished and the Primaries students will be marking the lambs and calves.



## BEECHWORTH REPORT

At 8:30 Thursday morning this group of Advanced English students left the gates headed south for Beechworth, Victoria in order to learn about Ned Kelly. After a long trip involving Pitch Perfect inspired sing-alongs, we arrived in good time for a feed at the Beechworth Bakery before receiving a tour from an eccentric Beechworth local with a rather impressive scarf, who showed us all the key places in which Ned Kelly was involved. After the tour we visited the Beechworth museum where we came across Ned Kelly's death mask, replicas of the Kelly gang armour and some dead animals, of which most were extinct.

We then went to the courthouse where we were greeted by a man with a fetching beard which he enjoyed stroking whilst we re-enacted Kelly's trial, where the finest of acting skills emerged. We then checked into the 'Old Priory', shortly after we went out for dinner at 1 of the remaining 61 local pubs which were present in the Kelly era. With a doll we found on the street attached to the bull-bar of the bus we made our way to the old Lunatic Asylum for a ghost tour. Yet another Beechworth eccentric walked us through the mad house, sadly we didn't meet any ghosts, however Jock was often found creeping around in the shadows, which was scary enough for some.

Upon returning to our accommodation we were treated to Tim Tams and a scary movie before heading off to bed. Friday saw us to Glenrowan where we were treated to a very interesting theme park owned by yet another eccentric local re-enacting the Kelly gang's last days. Looking past the cheesy effects and stuffed animals which made noises, we learned some interesting information. After meeting yet another interesting local who introduced us to 'Jessie' and 'Bessie' his horse and dog we decided it was time to head home, which of course involved Pitch Perfect inspired sing-alongs. We would like to give a huge thankyou to Miss Dolstra for organising the trip and taking us and Jock Hamilton for his hilarious contribution and driving the bus, it can be safely said that all involved had a good time and that we have learned a lot.

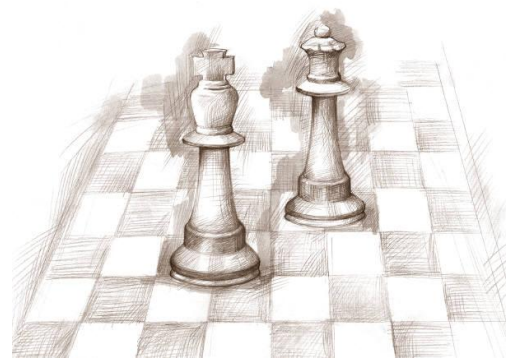
## CHESS REPORT

On Tuesday 18th June Yanco Ag Chess Club travelled to Ariaiah Park to compete against Ariaiah Park Central School in The NSW Schools Chess Championships. Although, regular members James Wade and Jack Semmler were missing, the squad was confident rookies Jack Webster and Adam Saul would be capable of combining successfully with Grandmaster Breanna Carr and Jeremy Hillam.

The games commenced at 10:50am and the last game finished just shy of midday. The previously undefeated Jeremy was the first to exit the competition, in a hard fought match against a younger opponent. Jack Webster was the next Yanconian to lose, in tough a tussle against an experienced player. Our hopes now rested with our number one player Breanna Carr, and number three player Adam Saul. Breanna, with a terrific end game, which was very similar to the 1972 Fischer vs Spassky game 6, defeated her worthy opponent. That result made the score 2 – 1 in favour of Ariaiah Park, but a win by Adam would secure Yanco's place in the next round of the championship. In a crueiling battle of the minds, Adam traded piece for piece with his opponent. Unfortunately, an uncharacteristic move by Adam saw his and Yanco's hope crumble.

Although the overall result, 3 – 1, was disappointing the effort by our players on the day was fantastic. The hospitality shown by Ariaiah Park Central School was brilliant, and the skill displayed by their players was an invaluable experience for our Chess Club members.

*Tony Dale.*



## FROM THE WELFARE AREA

### *Highland Dancing – Leeton Eisteddfod*

On the 15th June, five students helped out at the Highland Dancing at the Leeton Eisteddfod. They made sandwiches and sold food and drinks on the day. The group enjoyed running the canteen as they also got to eat any of the food they were serving. The cakes and sausage rolls were favourites. The students were sincerely thanked by the Highland committee for giving up a Saturday and providing service to the gathering. The students are Liyu Coss, Tarhlia Claydon, Emily Kearines, Lauren Hughes and Isla Hughes.

### *Mandarin Picking in Griffith*

Emily Kearines, Grace Hughes, Joel Jenkins, Hannah Kolve, Grace Kalinin, Emma Cullen, Abby Curran and Kaylee Radburn along with Mr Rolfe went picking mandarins on Saturday 22nd June.



The group headed to Griffith early to help pick a few crates as an aid to the Food Bank charity. The mandarins were then sent to Sydney to help charities who make and distribute over 70,000 meals a day to the needy and homeless. The



students were able to bring a bag full of the biggest mandarins (they looked like large oranges) back to school to eat up dorms. Before coming home, they had some fun time at the large playground in Griffith.

### *Our Future Teachers*

Eight students have put their names forward to do some work experience next term at Good Start Child Care Centre. They had the chance to apply for an assistant position. The job is for approximately 6 weeks and runs for 3 hours each session. Near the end of the job the student will do a presentation that they create with the little kids at the centre. Each student has made a resume and had a full interview for the job. There were many nerves on interview day, but each girl was very happy with her interview. The centre co-ordinator will let the girls know this week if they have been successful in gaining a place for work. The students are Hayley Smith, Liyu Coss, Darcy Cromack, Cody Brown, Odette Mara, Kaitlyn McKay, Erika Lucas, Liarnah Jones. Many thanks to Sam at Good Start and Janene at Get Set for taking the time to run this program.

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## FROM THE CANTEEN

### **CLEARANCE SALE**

White Shorts \$5

Older Style Spray Jackets - \$30

Oil Skins - \$140 (these are accepted as school uniform and allowed to be worn in class time)

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## FROM THE REGISTRA'S OFFICE

### **SCHOOL FEES**

Term 2 fees are now well in arrears. Please ensure this is paid in full unless you have an approved payment plan in place by the end of this term to ensure your place in Term 3

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