



veritas

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STAGGfair a hit, again

The annual STAGGfair just keeps on exceeding all expectations, with another great day raising in excess of \$36,000 for the School.

The event was very well patronised, thanks in part to the excellent weather and also due to the dedicated effort put in by STAGGfair co-ordinator Margaret Tilleard and the organising committee.

The committee is considering the purchase of items which are not

covered by the School budget, from a wish list put together by the School staff.

Special thanks go to Margaret Tilleard, who is retiring from her position as STAGGfair co-ordinator after a number of years. During her time, STAGGfair has gone ahead in leaps and bounds and she has set a high standard for others to follow.

The pictures tell the story of another great success.



More STAGGfair photographs on page four

From the Principal

I assume that all members of the community will be aware that this is my last Principal's Article for Veritas as I leave to take up my role as Headmaster of The Illawarra Grammar School (TIGS) as soon as Term 2 concludes.

You will understand, therefore, that I am completing a number of 'lasts': last Veritas, last Scholarship Day, last Athletics season, last GIS Meeting, last Synod, last...

Each Veritas Article has been a difficult assignment for me because I am conscious of its wider audience. I wanted always to bring a message of inspiration to the whole school community that will be seen as encouraging and enlightening.

The successes and activities of the School need to be highlighted and the sense of grateful appreciation to those who work tirelessly for it must be acknowledged. Veritas is the document that keeps the tradition of the School alive in the hearts and minds of its Old Scholars and their families, and it is the connection between the present and the past.

So in writing my last article let me attempt to cover all of these aspects if I can. I have thoroughly enjoyed my tenure as Principal of Gippsland Grammar. I have been thrilled at its growth and development and I have been honoured to be part of that. Thank you to all who have contributed to this success and may it long continue.

Recently I watched the third movie of "The Lord of the Rings" series. This episode entitled "The Return of the King" was for me inspirational as the ultimate struggle between the forces of good and the forces of evil came to a climax.

Good is triumphant but not before those in the battle face overwhelming odds and unlikely prospects. There is a sense of inevitable defeat but this is not to be. The strength of the spirit of those involved is not overwhelmed and peace and freedom are granted to the inhabitants of "middle earth".

I see our struggle as a School, particularly an Anglican and therefore Christian School, in the same context. There are forces out there that want to see schools such as ours fail.

They see us as anathema to social justice, they see us as a bastion of privilege and wealth and, therefore, an agent for separating the rich from the poor.



Our mission is far from those descriptions and our School has actively pursued the welfare of its students and families so that they will be a blessing to the local and wider communities.

This is a School where leaders are trained. This is an institution where young people are taught by work and action to care for others and to use the gifts they have for the benefit of others.

The School is run efficiently and well so that young people have the opportunity to realize their potentials.

The jealousy that is expressed in advertising campaigns, full of untruths and misinformation, shows that we successfully achieve what we set out to do. It is assumed in a very simplistic way that money is the difference but I would contend it is ethos, faith, belief and attitude that are the real differences.

Money helps and we must not forget that. Nevertheless, the independent spirit to chart our own destiny is the context which enables us to have such belief and commitment.

Our privilege requires us to act responsibly and that has been one of my goals for all members of the school community. Let us never forget that our achievements stem from God's blessing to us and let us never fail to use them to bring blessing to others.

In closing this final message, let me highlight two aspects of school life that exemplify the spirit of the school.

The first is the debating team. It has worked hard to achieve an incredibly high standard and its successes are testimony to hard work.

The debating team members have been inspired by a teacher of high standard and commitment in Ms Helen Dosser and they have flourished because of their own commitment to excellence.

Secondly the Athletics team has again excelled itself with three wins from three inter-school carnivals. As with the debating team, this has been built on dedicated training and team spirit along with an excellent member of staff in Miss Jenny Dyke who ensures that the students do their best.

She enlisted the help of Mr Joe Camody, well known in Gippsland and beyond in Athletics, to provide expert advice to the squad and they have not disappointed us or themselves.

It is an inspiring story and we are all very proud of their achievements. In this vein, I am especially looking forward to the School play night which as usual is being overseen by the dedicated Mrs Esther Cribbes.

All of the above are examples of the nature of Gippsland Grammar and its community: excellent students, excellent staff and excellent people.

God has blessed my time at this school and I thank you all and wish you God's richest blessings for the future.

Tony Horsley
Principal



Tony Horsley is pictured with Chairman of the School Board of Directors, Dr Martin Kent, at the Principal's farewell after nine and a half years at the School.

Farewell, Mr Horsley

A large number of friends, staff and supporters of the School turned out to farewell Principal Tony Horsley at a special send off held at the Princeton in Sale.

Tony and his wife Jenny are heading to Wollongong for the second half of the year, where Tony will take up the position of Headmaster at The Illawarra Grammar School.

Nearly 200 people attended the Horsleys' farewell dinner, with the highlights including a humorous poetic history of Tony's time at the School by former Clerk of Works, Stan Doak.

In an, at times, emotional farewell speech, Tony thanked everyone who had been involved in the School and had supported him, Jenny and their family.

He described his time at Gippsland Grammar as a 'labour of love' and an experience that he would always cherish. Jenny too thanked the School and local community for the support given to the family during the last nine and a half years.

The new principal, Mr Michael Clapper, will start in 2005, with the current Head of Senior School, Martin Oates, Acting Principal for the remainder of this year. Mr Clapper is currently Principal of Hunter Valley Grammar School in Maitland, NSW, a position he has held since 1998.

Prior to that, he was Director of Curriculum at St Leonard's College in Melbourne for ten years, and earlier a teacher of mathematics and computer science in Australia and England.

Mr Clapper studied mathematics at Oxford and completed his Diploma of Education at Monash University. In addition to being a passionate mathematician and educator, he has a keen interest in choral music, piano, athletics, rowing, literature and philosophy, including values education.

He is looking forward to his new position. "Whilst I have thoroughly enjoyed my seven years in the Hunter Valley, we have strong family roots in Victoria and the Gippsland region and I look forward to returning," he said.

"Gippsland Grammar is a School which emanates a warm sense of community and has a deservedly strong reputation. It will be a privilege to be a part of the School's development over the coming years."



- Above, Jenny and Tony Horsley enjoyed their farewell dinner, particularly the ARH 'numberplates' for each table. Naturally, the Horsleys were on table one.
- Below, Pictured sharing a story with Tony and the Bishop, The Right Reverend Jeff Driver, is Tony's son, Tim.



Auction Dinner held soon

Gippsland Grammar Foundation will host an Auction Dinner on Friday 6 August at Garnsey Hall. All proceeds from the auction will go towards the Building Fund, which is raising money to build a new Library Resource Centre at Junior School as well as re-develop the Science Wing at Senior School. Members of the Gippsland Grammar community are invited to book a table and come along for a great night. As in past years, we are also now looking for donated goods and services for our fundraising Auction. What can you contribute? The Auction Dinner is an opportunity to promote your business by donating goods or services.

We are also keen to see people offer holiday homes or boats for a weekend's accommodation, items for hampers, works of art, gardening, bottles of wine, computer lessons, babysitting, golf or tennis lessons, flowers, dancing lessons, handmade craft items and even catering for a dinner party, a great attraction for busy families wishing to hold a 'worry free' party in their own home.

Do you have a contact for sporting memorabilia? The list of ideas is endless.

If you can support our Auction, or would like to book a table, contact Meredith Lynch at the Development Office on (03) 5143 6388 or email the details to meredith.lynch@gippslandgs.vic.edu.au

Every little - or big - bit helps and it is always a fun night out as well.

Science student earns Moscow trip

Marianne McCormack is one of a handful of students selected to attend a Youth Science Forum in Moscow this year, following the National Youth Science Forum in Canberra.

The Year 12 student was selected from 2000 Australian applicants to take part in the two-week residential program over summer and has now gone one better, earning a place at the Moscow forum.

She is one of six Australian students selected to make the journey to Moscow, for three weeks and including a two-day stopover in London. Three other groups of six students selected at the national forum will travel to other areas of the world, such as South Africa.

For Marianne, the trip to Russia is a great opportunity to broaden her scientific and cultural knowledge. The Forum group will spend a lot of time looking at the Russian aerospace program, balanced with exposure to Russian art, drama and history.

It will be a big change of atmosphere from the family's farm at Tinamba.

"I'm really looking forward to it," Marianne said. "All of the aerospace activities will be great to see, but the best thing I think will be experiencing the culture."

The group will undertake the All Russian Youth Aerospace Society tour, a special science tour that includes meeting with Russian cosmonauts and space designers, tours of the mission control centre and the Star City cosmonaut training centre and a visit to the Scientific and Spacecraft exhibition. The group will also travel to a range of space and aviation museums including the Memorial Space Museum and the Moscow National Aerospace Museum.

The cultural aspects of the tour will include visits to Red Square and the Kremlin, Russian cathedrals, and art centres such as the Tretyakov Gallery and Pushkin Fine Arts Museum.

They will also have a choice of attending performances of the Moscow Circus, Russian Ballet or Theatre.

Marianne earned her place at the two-week National Youth Science Forum over summer by going through selection

rounds at local, regional and state levels. Nominated by the Maffra Rotary Club, she was one of 288 students from around Australia to take part.

The Forum, and the opportunity to travel to Russia, has convinced Marianne of one thing – it is worth making an effort.

"It has given me more inspiration to work harder and that will enable me to decide what I want later," she said. "I have always been tossing up between

vet science and environmental engineering, but I haven't really been able to decide yet. The forum showed me, though, that there will be opportunities if I work at it."

Marianne is also sure to take note of all aspects of life in a foreign country. A Sports Captain of her house at Gippsland Grammar, Marianne is a keen cross country runner and the vice captain of rowing, competing in the Senior Firsts Quad Scull team.

All the fun of the STAGGfair



■ One of features of any event at Gippsland Grammar is the music provided by our students. STAGGfair was no exception, with one of the ensembles pictured above.

■ Below, the organising committee again did an outstanding job – and enjoyed the day as well. Pictured are Marg Tilleard, Alison Jessup, Sandy Alexander, Head of Senior School Martin Oates, Carol Fay, Head of Junior School Garry Gray and Pam Scrivenor.



Babies' Prom in the swing



The annual Babies' Prom held in the Lorna Sparrow Hall at Junior School was again a very successful event, thanks to the efforts of Director of Music Colin Iversen and the Music Support Group.

Youngsters and their families enjoyed an array of musical performance as well as the chance to take an active part in the concert.

Aimed at children aged from two to six years old, the Prom is a dynamic, entertaining and interactive concert that introduces young children to music and the instruments of the orchestra. The music is performed by the Grammar Sinfonia, an orchestra of 50 players.

A number of families also took the opportunity to have a look around the Early Learning Centre and Junior School following the Babies' Prom.

■ Above, Director of Music Colin Iversen demonstrates his abilities as a conductor with the Grammar Sinfonia

■ Below, young Andrew Campbell looks a little tentative in his first efforts with a violin, although it was not long before he grasped the concept!



Webster House refurbished

There was a significant moment for one of the great School families, the Websters, with the official opening of the recently refurbished Webster House.

Mr Peter Webster, his wife Pat and their grandson Patrick were guests of honour for the occasion, with Webster House now an integral part of the Year 9 Centre.

The Webster family has been instrumental in the School over a long period of time, in fund raising and other capacities.

The Bishop, The Right Reverend Jeff Driver, dedicated the building and pronounced a blessing on all those who use the facility.

Following the ceremony all the guests enjoyed a wonderful afternoon tea, prepared by the Year 9 'Food for Life' class under the guidance of Mrs Kirsten Mackintosh and Mrs Lyn Smith.

■ Pictured at the official opening are, from left, Bishop Jeff Driver, Principal Tony Horsley and Peter Webster.



Swimming for charity

Local non-profit community groups Kilmany Uniting Care and the Sale Salvation Army have received a cheque for \$1000 each from the Junior School.

More than \$2500 was raised during the School's swimathon last year, which was the Junior School's major fundraising event and social service work project for the year.

Teacher earns scholarship



Gippsland Grammar teacher Kirsten Mackintosh has earned one of a handful of scholarships made available through the Victorian Home Economics and Textile Teachers' Association.

The 'Further Study' Scholarship will assist the Home Economics teacher as she undertakes a Graduate Diploma of Health Promotion.

Mrs Mackintosh's scholarship was presented as part of World Economics Day, held at the Hotel Sofitel in Melbourne.

She was delighted with the scholarship, as it will help defray some of the costs associated with working towards her diploma.

"There is a great deal of time and quite substantial expenses associated with my study, so the scholarship has come at the right time," she said.

■ Above, Kirsten Mackintosh, second from right, is pictured with other VHETTA scholarship winners (from left) Jane Norton and Louise Gunther, and VHETTA President Sandra Fordyce-Voorham (far right).

Staff earn scholarships

Three staff are recipients of this year's J.A.T. Beard scholarship, established by the Gippsland Grammar Foundation in honour of the contribution by former Principal Jim Beard.

The scholarship will help fund a trip by the Registrar and Director of Development, Jenni Demarte, to the Association of Development and Alumni Professionals in Education biennial conference in Perth in October, while Rob Smith and Gordon Cowling will also gain support for their trip to Denmark in July, where they will attend the International Conference for Mathematics Educators (ICME).

Teachers present at international conference

Two Gippsland Grammar teachers will present at a major international mathematical education conference in Denmark this year, on the strength of an educational tool called the hexaflexagon.

Head of Science Rob Smith (pictured below) and Head of Mathematics Gordon Cowling have been invited to jointly present a workshop at the International Conference for Mathematics Educators (ICME) in Copenhagen, Denmark in July.

It is the tenth annual conference, with between 3000 and 4000 people from all walks of mathematical life expected to attend over a week.

Mr Smith and Mr Cowling will jointly present a workshop on the mathematical puzzle of hexaflexagons – paper model hexagons constructed from a template that is essentially a string of triangles, which, when 'flexed' reveal many curious properties.

Mr Smith, who has been at the school since 1997, was first introduced to the hexaflexagons during the 1970s, but it wasn't until many years later that they became a real fascination for the maths/science teacher.

"I reacquainted myself with them in 1995 and decided to use them as the Maths Week activity for that year. I was

reminded, by watching the children, just how much fun they were."

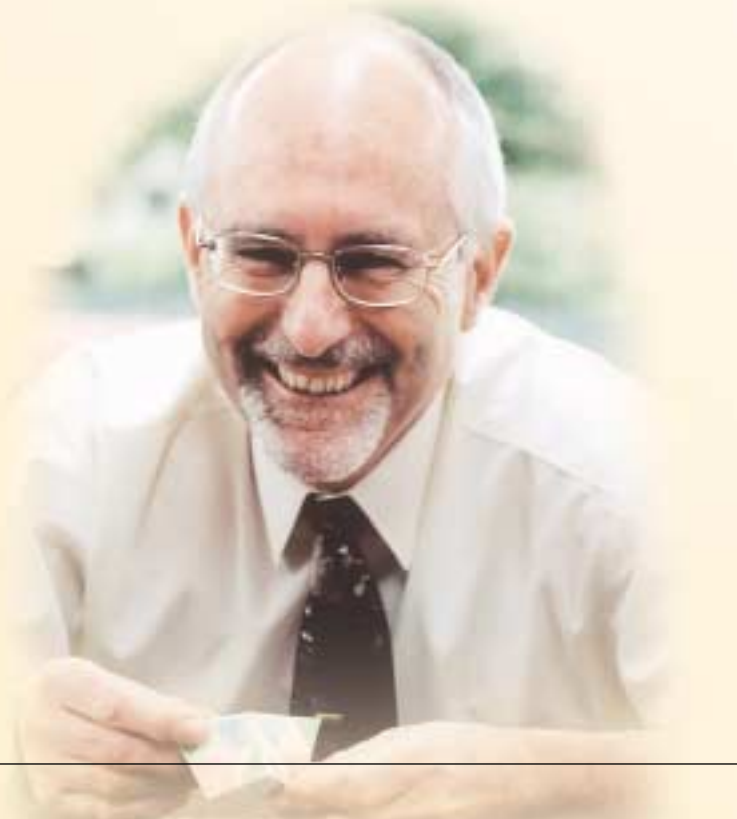
"Then I taught them at a series of Maths Camps for VCE students and the response from these older students encouraged me to do them as a workshop at the MAV (Maths Association of Victoria) conference held annually in December for Maths teachers. I think the adults found them even more fascinating than the children."

Mr Smith has compiled and just released a book about hexaflexagons, which is aimed to help teachers to add variety in their classrooms.

The book took Mr Smith several years to complete. "It started as a book about the hexahexaflexagon (a hexaflexagon with six different faces), but as insights occurred about the other members of the family of hexaflexagons, the book just grew."

Presentation of the workshop will draw international attention to the hexaflexagon, while also enabling the Gippsland Grammar teachers to see first hand what is happening in mathematics around the world.

Mr Smith's book is now for sale and can be purchased from the Mathematics Association of Victoria, 61 Blyth Street Brunswick, Victoria, 3056 at a cost of \$45 or \$35 for Maths Association members.



Students make the most of China trip

The opportunity to travel to China was snapped up by a group of 15 students this year, with the trip including a six day visit to our 'sister school' at Weifang.

The group, along with teachers Peter Ries and Jan Henry, spent 18 days in total in China, visiting a variety of areas, including Beijing, Xian, Shanghai and Weifang.

It was a great learning experience for the Year 9, 10 and 11 students, with the opportunity to learn about another culture regarded by all as invaluable.



■ The China trip was about seeing places and meeting people. At top, Peter Ries (left) and Jan Henry (centre) are farewelled by some of the Weifang staff.

■ Right, Grammar students are pictured with their Weifang Foreign Language School 'buddies' at the gardens in Weifang, and below Clay Tuckett, Hugh Gooding and Kevin Hua take in the sights on the Great Wall.



New program steps up a gear



A pilot program started last year has stepped up a gear, with the first group of participants now in their second year and another group also now involved.

The 'GEAR UP' program involves kinesthetic learners who spend time at the Fulham campus of East Gippsland Institute of TAFE, learning how to build machinery as part of a Vocational Education and Training (VET) program.

The 11 students who started the course last year are continuing in their second year and are accumulating modules towards their VET course.

As well, a new batch of six Year 8 students has jumped at the opportunity to take part in the program.

Many of the students in the GEAR UP project want to pursue apprenticeships when they leave school, and this project creates a viable pathway to help them achieve that aim.

■ Louise Heilbuth tries out one of the vehicles constructed by the 'GEAR UP' program, under the watchful eye of the group.

Junior School leaders



A special event was held at the Junior School, with the induction of the House Captains, made all the more special by the involvement of the Senior School House Captains.

Pictured at the induction ceremony are, in the back row from left, Elizabeth Cameron (Wellington Binks), Luke Smith (Wellington Binks), Harrison Wraight (Cranswick Dargo), Michael Walsh (Cranswick Dargo), Camaro Ridgeway (Cranswick Dargo), Ashley Kerr (Blundell Bogong), Lisa Scott (Cranswick Dargo).

In the front row, also from left, are Tess McLaren (Wellington Binks), Mr Tony Horsley (Principal), Rob Tilleard (Wellington Binks), Mr Garry Gray (Head of Junior School), Sophie Morelli (Tisdall Hotham), Peter Johnston (Tisdall Hotham), Isobelle Hanger (Tisdall Hotham), Stuart Kent (Tisdall Hotham), Elese Cartledge (Blundell Bogong), Amelia Douglas (Blundell Bogong), Harrison Savage (Blundell Bogong), Mr Martin Oates (Head of Senior School).

Grandparents' Day great fun

Grandparents' Day is a welcome opportunity for relatives and friends of our Junior School students to have a close look at the day to day activities of the School.

The event is always a success and this year was no exception, with many grandparents attending, to the delight of them and their young relatives.

For Year 6 student Kaleb Sclater, top right, Grandparents' Day was a chance to take his grandmother Lynne Gieschen (left) and great-grandmother Iris Marshall on a tour of the School grounds.

Year 1 student James Dawson, right, enjoyed the company of not one, but two grandmothers, with Dorothy Dawson at left and Cecily Green at right.



CORRECTION

Lauren Zwierlein's ENTER Score listed in the VCE brochure distributed with the first edition of Veritas was incorrect. Her actual score was 96.65, not 95.95 as listed. Her score was upgraded by the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority after a review of scores.

Lunch a cultural experience



did it! Year 3 student William Ingrouille, right, was delighted to have mastered the art of using chopsticks at a special luncheon held for Year 3 and 4 students at the Junior School.

The occasion was a Japanese luncheon as part of the students' Japanese classes.

The children have been studying a unit called lunchbox as part of their classes, which included the opportunity of tasting a real Japanese-style lunchbox, prepared by Nagano Restaurant in Maffra.

Mrs Jan Chalmer, their Japanese teacher, applied successfully for Commonwealth funding for the project and it's obvious from these photos that that students enjoyed the experience and the taste.

■ At left, Year 3 student Kayla Cowell and Japanese assistant Ms Tomoko Ishibashi are both a picture of concentration while Kayla masters the art of lunch, Japanese-style.



All the fun of the (science) fair



■ The Science Fair in the Lorna Sparrow Hall at Junior School again proved a great hit with students and parents alike. Above, Geoff Horstman is working with his son, Year 3/4 Barton student Jake, to solve a problem.



■ Above, facilitator Royce Moncur enlists the aid of Ameila Vuillemin, of Year 2 Bradman, and another helper, with one of the displays.

From the archives



Is this the Debutant Ball of 1967? That's the question School archivist Tim Gibson is asking.

Mr Gibson believes this photograph was taken in 1967; however, because of the names penned on the back he is not certain.

He says Lorna Sparrow wrote the names. They read Sue Stephens, Gail Abbot, Kay Graham, Cheryl Morley, Lynette Symons, Louella Nolan, Val Forbes, Helen Colquhan, Bev Kondatory, Iva Rowell, Val Price, Joy Byatt, Anne Joshua, Pam Rule, Deidre McI???, Mary Cox, Mrs Carter, Deidre McCabe, Zeta Mowat, Julie Linney and Jill Riley.

Obviously there are lots of gaps, so if anyone recognises any of these people Mr Gibson would love to hear from you.

Mr Gibson can be reached at the School on 5143 6388.

Heywire winner speaks from the heart

A heartfelt narrative about growing up in Woodside was Alice Irving's ticket to Canberra as one of ABC Radio's six Victorian Heywire competition winners.

The 20 year old Melbourne University student spent a week during February in the nation's capital with 37 other young Heywire winners from country Victoria. Part of the aim of the exercise was to discuss rural youth issues and present solutions to the government.

Designed to give young people a voice, Heywire allowed Alice to express her feelings about growing up in Woodside and her opinions on rural issues.

"One of the criteria was that our pieces had to stem from life experiences, so everything I wrote was naturally a part of me," she said.

"Home means so much to me that I didn't have to think a lot about what I was going to write."

Titled 'Simply Home' the emotive piece focused on growing up in a rural area, the transition from country to city life and the changes that come with it.

Aiming for a career in rural journalism, Alice said her time in Canberra helped her learn more about rural issues and how to overcome them.

Alice is now in her second year at Melbourne University studying agricultural science with some journalism subjects.

Anyone can access Alice's story on the web at www.abc.net.au/heywire/default.htm



Old Scholar weds teacher

A recent wedding party had a double involvement with the School, with the marriage of Year 9 teacher Michelle Richards and Old Scholar Denis Reynolds (1988).

The couple was married in the rotunda in the historic gold mining town of Walhalla, where Denis has family ties.

The Gippsland Grammar connection extended beyond the newlyweds, with School Chaplain David Jones conducting the service and music provided by our students. Hannah Moore accompanied Daniel Moore and the Black Ribbon String Trio of Lucy Rash, Laura Moore and Annabelle Davis.

Presentation Ball



The annual Presentation Ball was again a success with the evening enjoyed by all of the participants. Thirty-eight debutantes and their partners were presented to the official party, including the Bishop of Gippsland, The Right Reverend Jeffrey Driver and Mrs Lindy Driver, Chairman of the School Board Dr Martin Kent, and School Principal Mr Tony Horsley and his wife Jenny Horsley.

The debutantes, their partners and the official party are pictured.

BACK ROW: (Left to right) Thomas Morrison, Anthony Drew, Brandon Morley, Grant Munson, Stuart Malady, David Ellers, Samuel Crawford, Mitchell Barnett, Henry Renou, Timothy Whelan, Brae Jessup, Tom Carr, Pedro Sousa, Dale Bennie.

FIFTH ROW: Leigh Ting, Penelope Thomas, Tahnee Pape, Lorraine Sellings, Chloe Baker, Kirsty Melville, Danielle Mowat, Kylie Lilburne, Tess Kelsey, Megan Kenny, Phoebe Smith, Carly Minter, Emily Rawlings, Katie Butcher.

FOURTH ROW: Jack Frew, Andrew Hua, Christopher Monash, Benjamin Sargood, Robert Chapman, Benjamin Sellen,

Beau Guest, Richard McKimm, Leigh McLeod, Samuel Harrison, Zachary Smith, James Cristofaro, Andrew O'Connor, Kristofer Dickson, Tyson Popplestone, Timothy Langford.

THIRD ROW: Miranda Friend, Philippa Mowat, Sarah Rijs, Cornelia Foda, Elise Cusick, Abbey Hughes, Adele Beasley, Tansy Goldsmith, Hannah Tracey, Taigan Potter, Louise Hellenen, Elisha Brooks, Mandy Hooper, Danielle Herbert, Georgina Plunkett, Jayne Dickinson.

SECOND ROW: Robert Flanagan, Taylor Kendall-Grumley, Daniel Liu, Shaun Trewin, School Captain Tess McLaren, School Captain Robert Tilleard, Mrs Jenni Demarte, Mrs Sue Kennedy, Damien Gibson, Charles Falconer-Pritchard, Daniel Moore, Richard Lawless.

FRONT ROW: Alice Connor, Alice Tovey, Macy Xu, Ainsleigh Skeels, Mrs Sandra Kent, Mrs Jenny Horsley, School Principal Mr Tony Horsley, The Rt Rev'd Jeffrey Driver, Mrs Lindy Driver, Chairman of School Board Dr Martin Kent, Amanda Scrivenor, Milly Hams, Anna Steer, Aleah Connley, Flowergirl Tessa Coy, Pageboy Lloyd Hodge.



Mountain wedding

The Gippsland high plains provided a stunning backdrop for the wedding of Old Scholar Heather Burston and Stephen Earl early this year.

The couple's wedding took place at Weeping Rocks, between Dinner Plain and Mount Hotham, with former Gippsland Grammar Chaplain Caroline Nancarrow performing the service.

For Heather, from Benambra, and Stephen, from Lakes Entrance, the setting made a memorable day even more memorable. A reception was held at the High Plains Lodge at Dinner Plain.

Loch Ness Nuptials

The mystical atmosphere of Scotland's Loch Ness created a romantic setting, right, for Old Scholar Leanne Morrissey's wedding to Andrew Stables in January.

Leanne, the daughter of Leo and Shirley Morrissey of Sale, was at Gippsland Grammar from 1984 until 1989.

Leanne has been working as a nurse for the past five years in London, while Andrew is also a nurse. The couple plans to return to Australia to live this



year. Many local friends and family members travelled to the small Scottish farming community for the wedding, as well as guests from Australia, South Africa, the United Kingdom, Germany and Sri Lanka.

The reception was held in the Craigdorroch House Hotel, which overlooks Loch Ness.

The location had special significance for Leanne because it was home to her great-great grandfather before he migrated to Australia in 1880.

Another ICCES athletics success

Exremely strong performances in the relay events have seen Gippsland Grammar again win the ICCES Athletics Championships, held at Olympic Park in Melbourne.

Our relay teams won eight of the ten relay events, proving the benefits of teamwork on the athletics field.

The quality of competition provided the team with its greatest challenge for the season and it responded strongly, earning its third victory for this year, a wonderful effort.

The Year 7 girls 4x100 relay team set the only Gippsland Grammar record for

the day, although the Year 8 girls, Year 9 boys and Year 11/12 boys only just missed out on setting records.

The girls' relay teams won all of their races and are to be congratulated, especially the girls who anchored each team and ran outstanding legs.

Jacinta Christiansen and Megan Kenny were age champions.

Competing against seven other schools, Goulburn Valley, the Scots School, Hamilton College, Girton Grammar, Mowbray College and Bayview College as well as our 'cousins' from West Gippsland, St Paul's,

the Grammar team performed exceptionally well in the track events, finishing first overall. The field team also performed very well, scoring the third highest number of points, which when combined with the track points, saw our School the clear winner with St Paul's second.

It was a great success for the team, Teacher in Charge of Athletics Jenny Dyke and coach Joe Carmody.



Aussie champs on the ball

Two of our students have enjoyed the sweet taste of sporting success at a national level, after leading the winning team in the under 19 All Men's Netball championships.

Jackson Zaal from Sale, the Victorian captain, and Jon Knight of Bairnsdale celebrated with their team-mates after scoring a nail biting, two goal win in the final played in Melbourne.

Jon had a further reason to celebrate when he was selected in the All Australian team following the championships.

The State team played 12 gruelling games in a Round Robin event against all other states to make the Grand Final. When it came to the crunch against New South Wales, the Victorians held their nerve to hang on for a two-goal win.

Presentation of the awards was held at Rydges Motel in Melbourne.

Netball has already taken Jackson and Jon further than they anticipated when they started playing for a "bit of fun" with Gippsland Grammar's all men's team.

The pair was selected to try out for the State netball team following fine

performances in the All School's Men's Netball Competition last year.

"We really started to get stuck into the sport once we were selected to try out for the state team," Jackson said. "It has been really great to play in the national titles and to win the event was just fantastic. It's been a lot more exciting than we realised when we first started playing around at School with netball."

Jon said: "Everyone takes it pretty seriously when you play for your state, but we also had a lot of fun, especially after we won!"

Building a 'Wild' winner

The Sydney to Hobart yacht race, held annually between Christmas and New Year, held more than a passing interest for Old Scholars Campbell McMillan and Julian Cox in 2003.

Campbell and Julian followed the fortunes of eventual winner *Skandia Wild Thing* very closely indeed, after they played a major role in the team that built the super maxi yacht.

They were in the team of 17 that spent an estimated 30,000 people hours constructing the huge yacht over 18 months.

All the sweat and tears came to fruition for Campbell, Julian and the other members of the team at 4.14 am on Monday 29 December, when *Wild Thing* crossed the line at Hobart's Battery Point to take line honours, the first Victorian boat to do so in more than 40 years.

Campbell, the son of John and Kaye McMillan of Metung, and Julian, from Sale, work at Hart Marine on the Mornington Peninsula, which constructed the boat for owner Grant Wharington. Grant also has a Gippsland connection, as his parents live on Raymond Island.

It was one of the bigger tasks undertaken by Hart Marine. *Wild Thing* is 30 metres in length and capable of speeds up to 35-40 knots in the right conditions.

A special feature of the design, which was credited with giving *Wild Thing* the edge over second place getter, New Zealand yacht *Zana*, was a revolutionary canting keel. Hydraulics move the 17 tonnes of lead in the keel from side to side as required, which gives the carbon fibre hull exceptional stability.

It was a tremendous moment in Campbell and Julian's careers to date.

After undertaking his schooling at Gippsland Grammar and then Melbourne Grammar, Campbell completed his shipwright apprenticeship with Mal Hart several years ago and is now a key member of the small permanent team at Hart Marine.

■ Campbell McMillan is pictured aboard *Wild Thing* before the Sydney to Hobart.

Newcomer wins major equestrian award

Year 7 student Kahli Higgins has made an impressive start to her inter-school equestrian career, taking out one of the top awards in the 2004 Mitsubishi Equestrian Federation of Australia Interschool Championships.

Kahli and her 17-year-old thoroughbred, Zantec, were awarded the Best All Round Horse at the event, competing in a field of 500 riders.

The State-wide event was held at Werribee Park and for Kahli, it was a big moment.

Her mother, Shelley Higgins, said Kahli was delighted with the win. "There were so many horses and riders there from all around the state, we didn't expect Kahli and Zantec to go so well," she said.

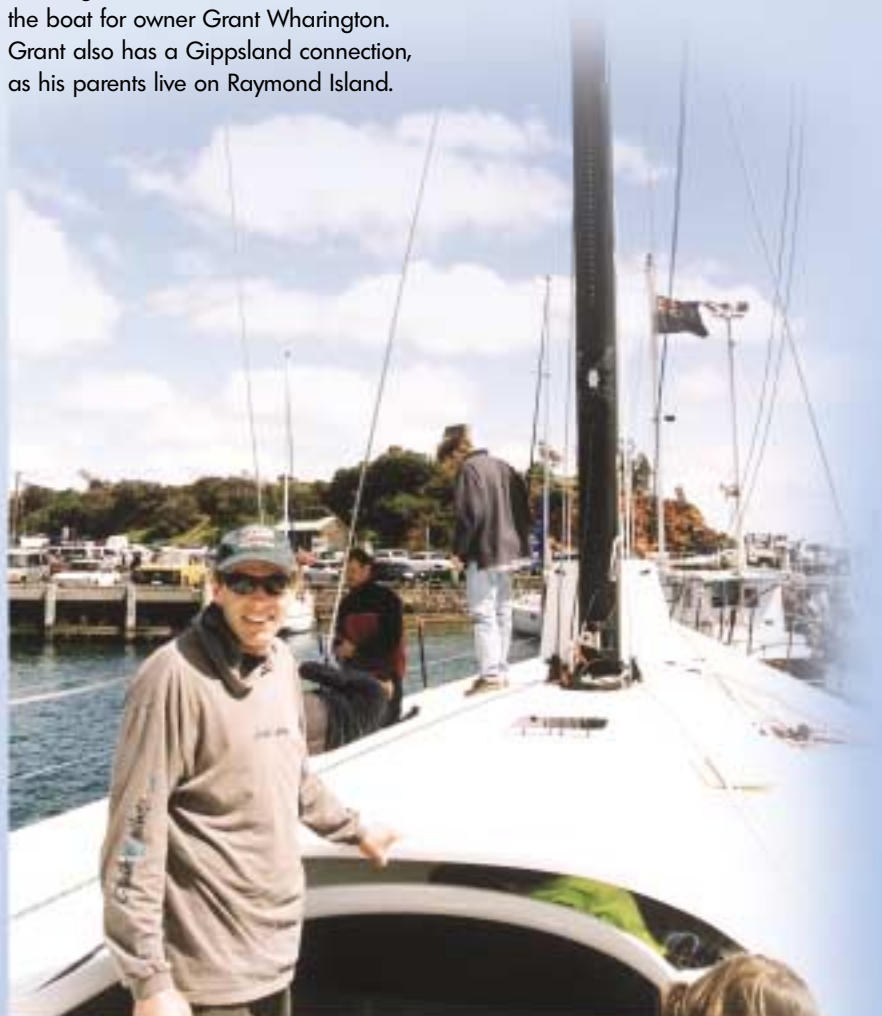
The teams' competition includes a number of individual awards, such as Best All Round Horse.

Each rider has to nominate four of the seven events on the program, with points accumulated adding up to calculate the winner of the all round award.

Kahli and Zantec performed consistently in their chosen events, coming first in their Handy Mount section, second in their Dressage section, and fifth in the Best Rider section. They were unplaced in the Show Jumping section, but still managed to achieve the top award.

The Gippsland Grammar teams performed well overall, with the best team result an overall fifth – an excellent effort against 112 other teams from all parts of Victoria.

The team included Sarah O'Connor, Olivia O'Connor, Emma Gooding and Kylie Lilburne.



Rowers aspire to higher levels

The School's rowing crews will be inspired to reach higher levels next year, if the feeling at the annual rowing dinner was anything to go by.

A big part of the inspiration will come from the address by guest speaker, Jill Burston (1994), Old Scholar and Australian Rowing representative.

Jill, who started her rowing career at the School as a Year 9 student, went on to represent Australia at the Under 23 World Championships in Switzerland and again in the World Championships in Greece in the lightweight double.

She told the new crop of rowers about the highs and lows of the sport, including success at the World Championships and then two years of battling the bane of many women lightweight rowers, stress fractures of the ribs.

The injury eventually forced Jill to give rowing away; and then she took up marathon running and triathlon competition.

Now studying anatomy and physiology at Latrobe University, Jill's message to the rowing dinner was simple – enjoy the journey.

"You can set goals for the future but don't forget to enjoy the path that gets you there, as it is by far the longer timeframe," she said.



■ Recreating a rowing tradition at the rowing dinner are, from left, Sam Crawford, Rob Scrivenor, Ben Sellen and Anthony Drew, giving a lift to Edward Bowring.

The journey for the next season of rowing begins with an off season training regime and another rowing camp, from 19 to 25 January 2005, on the Nicholson River near Bairnsdale.

Last season was regarded as something of a rebuilding exercise, although there were a number of successes.

A highlight included the sheer number of people who took part,

with more than 45 rowers participating on a regular basis.

The season climaxed for the seniors with the Australian National Championships held at Nagambie Lakes, where the senior boys finished third in their schoolboy coxed four final, while the senior girls' first crew won their section of the coxed squad final, accomplishing the ninth fastest time in Australia.

Boats named in honour of supporters

A number of important contributors to the School's rowing program have been honoured in a special 'naming of the boats' ceremony.

Former head coach, Mr Alan Berger, together with his wife, former teacher Cate, and their three children were guests of honour and guest speaker.

One of the quad sculls was named after Alan in appreciation of the work he has done over the years in a voluntary capacity.

Other people to be honoured by having boats named after them included Jim Kent, Roger MacLaurin, Norman Gooch and the late Harry T. Wraight.

Jim and Roger have long been involved with Gippsland Grammar and rowing in Sale, while Mr Gooch is the

father of Geoff Gooch and grandfather of former students Daniel and Edward and current student John.

Mr Wraight is the late father of Mr Ian Wraight, parent of current student Harrison and former student Jessica (2002).

Both the Wraight and Gooch families have contributed to the Boat Club through their generous donations.

Mr Wraight honoured his father, a distinguished war veteran, by naming a scull the Harry T Wraight DCM MM.

Norman R. Gooch, was one of the people instrumental in establishing Gippsland Grammar in 1960 and was also a founding member of the Gippsland Grammar Foundation.

The Parents and Friends Association also named a boat that it purchased for

the School after the Nicholson River, which our rowing team uses for the annual rowing camp.

■ Pictured are Ian Wraight and his step sister, Dorothea Campbell, from Blackburn South, with the boat named after Harry T. Wraight.



Music student amongst VCE best



Former student Hannah Moore has played at a prestigious music concert in Melbourne showcasing Victoria's best VCE students of last year.

Hannah, playing the flute, was one of a handful chosen to perform at the concert following her outstanding VCE recital in October.

The concert, titled VCE Season of Excellence, was held at Iwaki Auditorium in March.

Now in her first year at the Victorian College of Arts in Melbourne, Hannah completed her secondary school years at Gippsland Grammar taking full advantage of the School's superb music program.

The young musician, who also plays the piano, sings and last year directed the School Choir, was recently the principal flautist in the Senior Orchestra at the Melbourne Youth Music Summer School.

Being invited to play at Iwaki Auditorium is a particular honour because only a selected few are invited to perform. Even an A+ grading is no guarantee of a place on the program.

Last year Hannah, together with fellow student Anna Melville, supervised and helped record the School's music CD for the year and successfully ran the GippsKids Appeal Christmas Concert, raising substantial funds for needy children.

Hannah is studying for her Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery/ Bachelor of Medical Science at the University of Melbourne.

Old Scholars' Bursary

The Old Scholars' Association is again offering a bursary to assist the children of former students. The bursary is being offered to children of Old Scholars who are not currently enrolled at the School and are entering Years 10, 11 or 12 in 2005.

For further information contact our Registrar, Mrs Jenni Demarte at the Senior School, 5143 6388.

Derek Leon scholar

Former Gippsland Grammar student Hannah Shoemaker had been awarded the 2004 Derek Leon Scholarship.

The perpetual scholarship has been awarded annually to a year 12 student within the East Gippsland Division of General Practice, since Dr Leon passed away in 1998.

Dr Leon was a radiologist at the CGHS and was greatly respected in his field as a result of his dedication and achievements. The prize is intended to assist the student during the first year of medical school.

Studying bridges at Cambridge

Old Scholar Bianca Thimm (1997) has settled into study in England after being awarded a Commonwealth Scholarship to study for her Master of Engineering at Cambridge University.

Her study at Cambridge will involve the aerodynamic wind analysis of long span suspension bridges. The first major project for Bianca, the only female in her year at Cambridge, will be on the new 'Messina Bridge', a soon to be constructed three kilometre bridge linking Sicily to mainland Italy.

Bianca applied to study at Cambridge last year after completing her double degree Bachelor of Engineering and Bachelor of Business at RMIT, receiving first class honours and the scholarship.

When she received an acceptance notice in October she applied to the Federal Government for a Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship plan, with success. She will be officially awarded the scholarship in October this year by Prince Charles.

"When I first found out that I had been accepted (to Cambridge) I couldn't believe it," she told a local newspaper by email. "I had been checking the website nearly every day to see if there was any news on my application and when it was finally posted I was still sceptical until I finally got the letter in my hands. Then the great relief to get my funding was overwhelming."

Bianca started at Cambridge in April and says it is an amazing place.

"I think it is extremely valuable for Australian students to have the opportunity to study abroad. In an isolated country we rarely get the opportunity to access global information and technologies.

"Grants that allow us to tap into this and bring it back to Australia help increase the community pool of knowledge, not just that of the individual."

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Independent schools must actively seek independent support as government grants decrease, but the need to provide excellent facilities and services for our students continues.

One way members of the School family can help is by joining the Pledge 10 Club, so named because participants pledge \$10 per school term week for the duration of the three year campaign, which equates to \$100 per term and \$400 per year.

The good news is that with the taxation benefit accumulated from donations, the net contribution per financial year is only \$212, based on a marginal tax rate of 47 per cent and a 1.5 per cent Medicare levy.

If each school family joined the Pledge 10 Club, the tax deductible amount of \$1,200 spread over three years would ensure an immediate start to the re-development of the Senior School Science Wing and building the Junior School Library Resource Centre.

All gifts will be individually acknowledged with tax deductible receipts and the names of all donors will be proudly published in Veritas, unless otherwise requested.

Each member of the Gippsland Grammar Family is invited to join and make a difference to the quality of their child's educational experience.

The foundation is committed to raising \$500,000 and whilst support to date has been tremendous, we are still short of the target.

For information about the Pledge 10 Club, please contact the School on 5143 6388.

Fine food, fine music equals fine fundraiser



A near full house, fine food and an excellent concert performance all added up to a successful fund raising event for the Gippsland Grammar Foundation.

The event was a concert at the Esso BHP Billiton Wellington Entertainment Centre by the Concertino Trio and Guests, which includes renowned violinist and Gippsland Grammar tutor, Igor Oskolkov.

The talented ensemble included Igor, cellist Alex Begelfor and pianists Vitaly Barishnikov and Anatoly Gelback.

But it was Igor's award-winning granddaughter, Dasha Moloksher, along with Gippsland Grammar Old Scholars Alex and Julian Hua, who almost stole the show.

The dinner and concert raised some \$8,500 for the capital works

fundraising campaign, which is seeking funds to build a new Library Resource Centre at the Junior School and re-develop the Science Wing at Senior School.

About 100 people took advantage of the generous offer by Harry and Anh Hua from the Gippsland Palace, who donated dinner as part of the fundraiser.

Above, enjoying the show at the John Leslie Theatre are, from left, Harry Hua from the Gippsland Palace, Peter Coleman, production operations manager with Esso, Debbie Coleman, Principal Tony Horsley and Gippsland Province MLC Philip Davis, who is chair of Gippsland Grammar Foundation.

Below, enjoying the dinner provided by the Gippsland Palace are, from left, Roger Malouf, Lynne Patten-Malouf, Greg Blakey and Karen Blakey.



Passing of Old Scholar

The School community is mourning the death of Old Scholar Damien Oliver (2002), who died in a motor vehicle accident near Sale.

Damien was a quiet student who thrived in the School environment and who was well respected by students and staff alike.

His death is being felt especially by the Year 12 students as his sister Chelsea is currently in that year. The condolences of the whole School community go to Chelsea and his parents Barry and Janice.