

veritas



Bairnsdale Celebration Day P4



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From the Principal

In the last edition, I mentioned the important work done by various organisations connected with the School, focusing in particular on the contribution made by the School Board. Another group which is of great importance to the life of our School community is the Old Scholars' Association.

Their contribution is made in many ways. They do raise some funds and made a significant contribution to the Building Fund recently which has assisted in our ongoing capital development, including the recently opened Year 12 Centre, which you can read more about elsewhere in this issue. They also support the current students in a variety of ways and host an annual Old Scholars' Association barbecue for the Year 12s before they commence their final examinations.

Any Old Scholar is welcome to become involved with the Old Scholars' Association, which meets once a month to co-ordinate the organisation's activities, including the all-important reunions. In this, they are supported by the School's Development Office which also co-ordinates news of past students for inclusion in Veritas and elsewhere.



There is also a position for one of our Old Scholars on the School Board. This position has been filled for the last nine years by Scott Rossetti (Class of '81) who has made an excellent contribution to the Board over that time, including work on our Audit Committee. This year, Scott stepped down from his position and we are delighted that Steven Scott (also Class of '81) has stepped into the breach. Steven is currently secretary of the Old Scholars' Association and played a major part in redeveloping the organisation's constitution last year.

One of the delights which I have found working at Gippsland Grammar is the real interest which many Old Scholars take in the ongoing life of the School. We regularly enrol students who are the children or grandchildren of Old Scholars. There are groups of Old Scholars who continue to meet regularly and have developed lifelong connections with each other and the School. One of these groups, the 'Green Grubs', consists of women who were at St Anne's in the 1940s and 1950s.

We live in a world in which community values continue to be eroded and young people are in danger of becoming disconnected from the world as a result. The ongoing good health of the Old Scholars is a sign that, at Gippsland Grammar, we retain our strong sense of community and I urge you to remain connected with the School and with your peers from School. We continue to be interested in the unfolding lives of our ex-students and take great pride in hearing of your achievements. We hope that Old Scholars also enjoy hearing of our current achievements and plans. Veritas is a vehicle through which much of this information can be shared and I hope that you enjoy this edition.

Mike Clapper



Background: Lloyd Hodge and William Manson

Front (L to R): Lauren Horton, Anna Champion, Nikki Duncan, Jack Champion, Ashley Singer and Sophie Pearce at a special Fellowship at the Chapel of St Anne.

Operation Christmas Child

Students from our Junior School recently participated in Operation Christmas Child, an initiative of the Samaritan's Purse. Eighty-two shoe boxes were filled with special treats which will bring delight to children in the Solomon Islands and Cambodia this Christmas. Our students contributed items such as new clothing and toys, lollipops, soap, toothpaste, thongs, sunglasses and treats which were then placed in boxes with other age appropriate treasures for boys and girls in need. A casual day held in September raised \$200 to assist with freight charges for the gifts. Since its beginning in 1993, Operation Christmas Child has delivered more than 38 million shoe box gifts to children in over 90 countries.



Author and publisher Paul Collins takes a closer look at one of his books with Year 7 student Tim Norden.

Lorna Sparrow Fellow-In-Residence Program

During Term 3 we were pleased to welcome highly regarded author and publisher, Paul Collins to the school. As a visiting fellow-in-residence, Paul ran writers' workshops for all students in Year 7.

Best known for his fantasy and science fiction novels, Paul is currently in the process of compiling an anthology featuring a multitude of other well known authors.

Each year, the Gippsland Grammar Foundation funds this wonderful program which allows visiting specialists to come into the school, and spend time with students and staff alike.

'The will to show you care'

leaving a bequest to Gippsland Grammar

The School that did so much for you or a member of your family by providing both education and lasting friendship will benefit from your gift. Your thoughtfulness now will ensure that future students will be able to share the advantages of being part of the Gippsland Grammar community.

If you are interested in The Bequest Program and would like to know more, please contact the Development Office on 5143 6315. If you have already made a bequest, please let us know so we can thank you personally, and ensure your wishes are carried out.

All correspondence is completely confidential.



Bairnsdale Celebration Day

October 15 is now a permanent date of celebration in our School Calendar. This date commemorates the turning of the first sod at our new site in Bairnsdale. Two years on and with enrolments growing steadily, our students enjoyed a day of celebration and fun.

RIGHT: Alexis Miller (Year 1) enjoyed a slice of Celebration Day cake

FAR RIGHT: Rebekah Tayler and Hannah Rooke (Prep) got their hands dirty planting a tree

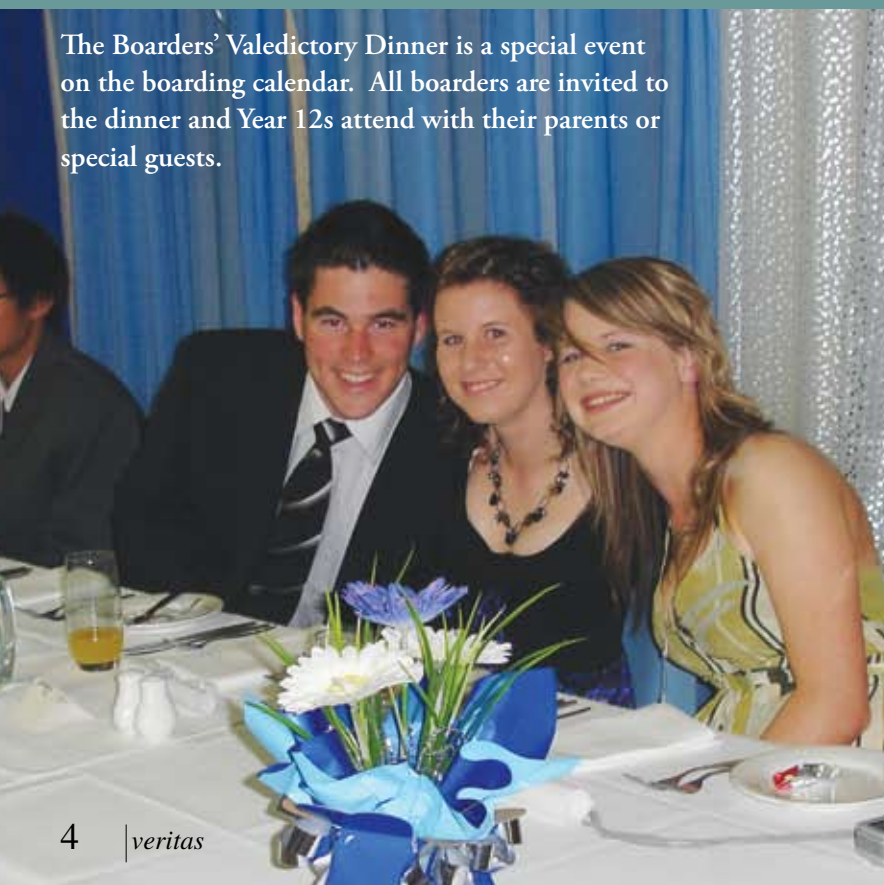
TOP RIGHT: Serena Carter (Year 6) read the prayer with Bairnsdale Chaplain Edie Ashley

BOTTOM RIGHT: Celebrations included a flute recital by Demi Redenbach (Year 5) and Jaklan Watts (Year 6)



Blackwood House Valedictory Dinner

The Boarders' Valedictory Dinner is a special event on the boarding calendar. All boarders are invited to the dinner and Year 12s attend with their parents or special guests.



ABOVE: Girls Boarding Captain, Kate Dennis with her mother, Di.
LEFT: Mathew Dick, Emma Shoemaker and Bethany Hull.

Dear God

We thank you for all those who make up our School. We know that you care for us, believe in us and will always be with us. We ask that you help us care for one another and look after our environment and its resources.

Thank you that our School is a place of learning and fun: a place where we feel safe and respected. Help us to respect each other, to show friendship to everyone, to enjoy learning and to pursue the truth in all things.

We ask that you will be with us in all our daily activities as we make our School a place of excellence through learning, truth, trust, courage, friendship and respect.

In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen



Old Scholars Barbecue



The annual Year 12 BBQ was held at the Principal's home on Wednesday 24 October. Hosted by the Old Scholars Association, the

BBQ marks the commencement of the final VCE exams and welcomes the students as new members of the 'Old Scholars'

(L to R): Jack Roberts, Dwayne McAlpine, Christopher Connley and Andrew Larcombe



VET Hospitality students

ABOVE: (L to R) Amy Seton, Carly Woods, Cory Somerville and Matt Raidal are cooking up a storm in the new kitchen.

BELOW: Year 11 VET Hospitality student, Matt Raidal.



At the official opening are Dr Martin Kent, JJAJJGAN members Ailsa Dawkins, Jill McKinnon, Val MacLachlan, Maxine Mathieson, Caroline Kininmonth, Jo Kent, Principal Mike Clapper, Sally Baird, Val Morrison and Judy Dennis.

HI-TECH BUILDING HONOURS GENERATIONS OF FUNDRAISERS

The capital works program at Gippsland Grammar continues, with a new \$1.6 million multi-level wing at Garnsey Campus the latest project to be completed.

Featuring additional Year 12 classrooms with large plasma screens, an advanced food technology facility, 155-seat lecture theatre and state-of-the-art canteen, the new wing was officially opened in Term 3 this year.

Dr Martin Kent, who has enjoyed a long association with the school as a parent and board member, including a five year stint as Board Chair, had the privilege of opening the building and publicly naming the lecture theatre, The JJAJJGAN Theatre.

It was named The JJAJJGAN Theatre after the group of women who have worked tirelessly over nearly 40 years fundraising for the school.

The JJAJJGAN group was formed in June 1968 by a group of school mothers who were finding it difficult to attend evening meetings and began gathering during school hours to raise money and collect resources for the school.

The first initial of the eight original members created the name JJAJJGAN.

They were Mesdames Jean Ashton, Jill McKinnon, Ailsa Dawkins, Jo Chomley, Jo Kent, Gwen Dumaresq, the late Audrey Davis and Nan Sargood.

Throughout generations the JJAJJGAN group has had many members and today still meets frequently and continues to donate to the school.

Tess Morrison, a current student and granddaughter of JJAJJGAN member Val Morrison, read at the opening before the Bishop of Gippsland, John McIntyre, blessed the building.

The new lecture theatre boasts a fully integrated multimedia system with podium controls, has tiered, ergonomic seating and is used for small group tutorials as well as larger year level presentations and drama and music performances.

The new commercial kitchen is fitted with self-contained kitchen work stations and a large screen connected to overhead video offering close up views of tasks being demonstrated.

The cafeteria has a healthy choice menu encouraging students to maintain a healthy and active lifestyle. It operates using a unique cashless payment system, like a debit ID card, and is able to store special dietary requirements and allergy information for individual students.

Principal Mike Clapper said the entire school community was excited about the completion of these most recent capital works.

"In the past three years Gippsland Grammar has undergone significant changes," he explained.

"We established a new junior campus in Bairnsdale, constructed a fantastic new facility for our pre-schoolers (three to five years) in Sale at the Junior School, extended and upgraded assembly halls, renovated the senior science wing and now completion of this latest project has students, teachers and parents alike buzzing with excitement."

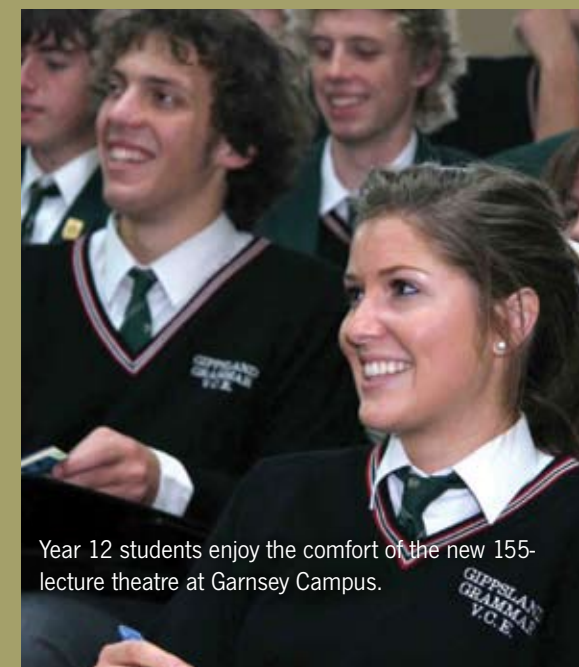
Because of this most recent upgrade the school now offers an even wider range of courses.

VET (Vocational Education and Training) subjects in Multimedia, Music Industry Skills, Hospitality and Information Technology/Software Applications are now components in the curriculum.

Future plans include construction of an Early Learning Centre in Bairnsdale by the end of this school year as well as additional classrooms.

Boarding facilities are also scheduled for a major revamp.

"Life at Gippsland Grammar is about reaching your potential and finding what you're good at, and being able to offer a broad range of courses in a well resourced environment, certainly helps achieve that," Mr Clapper said.



Year 12 students enjoy the comfort of the new 155-lecture theatre at Garnsey Campus.

Take your seat please!



Members of the School community are invited to buy a seat in the new JJAJJGAN Theatre at Garnsey Campus. JJAJJGAN members took the opportunity to admire the wonderful new facility named in their honour.



Iconic former staff member Laurie Payne and past-parent Henry Klopper enjoyed a chat at the opening of the new theatre.

The Gippsland Grammar Foundation invites members of the School community to 'Buy A Seat' in the new JJAJJGAN Theatre at Garnsey Campus.

An honour board will be on display in the theatre and 'seat owners' may choose to have their name, alumni details or family name included on the board.

Supporting this fundraising initiative will assist Gippsland Grammar to provide the best in education for our students of today and tomorrow.

Seats in the theatre cost \$300 each and are fully tax-deductible.

Please contact Meredith Lynch in the Development Office for further details.

Phone: (03) 5143 6315 or Email meredith.lynch@gippslandgs.vic.edu.au



SPORTING ACHIEVEMENTS



TOP: (L to R) Gordon Cowling, Andrew Tovey (Year 12), Dan O'Connor (Year 7), Leigh Crawford (Year 12) and Viv Cooper following the assembly to present the 2007 shooting awards. Leigh won the Bryan Smith medal for Best Shooter 2007. Dan won the Inaugural Viv Cooper Award for Best New Shooter in the areas of safety, skill and dedication. Andrew, representing Wellington Binks, won the House Clay Target, House Skeet and House Small-bore competitions.

LEFT: (L to R): Members of the School shooting team Kim Speechley (Year 11), Christian Boyle (Year 12), Sharnie Paterson (Year 8), Lachlan McMahon (Year 11), Leigh Crawford (Year 12) with team coach Gordon Cowling. The School 'A' team won the zone championships, qualifying to compete at the State Championships held in Bendigo this year.



Gippsland Grammar won the 2007 ICCES Athletics Carnival by an amazing 203 points. Held at Olympic Park on May 17, the team outshone their competition, producing 6 out of 10 age champions. We congratulate the team on this outstanding result and thank all the coaches for their dedication and support throughout the year.



(L to R): These young athletes achieved outstanding results, competing against much older competitors. Rio Wakasugi (Year 10), Maddie Walker (Year 8), Mia Ross (Year 6) and Tess Morrison (Year 7) finished third in the Under 21 Victorian All-Schools road relay and cross-country relay.



Bairnsdale Campus

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Class of Year 7 - 1962 Alumni 1967

Saturday 8 December 2007

at "Relish @ The Gallery" 70 Foster Street, Sale from 12.00pm (noon)

For further information Please call Sally Friend (Bowman) Phone 0430 088 443

The Class of 1986 - 20 Years on

Over 70 graduates from the Class of '86 gathered at the Prince Alfred Hotel in Port Melbourne to celebrate 20 years since leaving STAGGS.

Many friendships were rekindled and everyone enjoyed sharing stories from the past and acknowledged that the school had been a supportive springboard to launching careers in investment banking, communications, law, theatre, hairdressing, health care and education, not to mention the many families raised along the way.

Looking back, all agreed that their time at STAGGS was a special period in their life.

Despite less hair, grey hair and the wrinkles, time had been generally kind and it felt like only yesterday that we were donning the uniform!

Phillip Mayer
Class of '86

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(L to R): Phil Mayer, Geoff Brown and Ross Dobson (1986).

Out and About

Martin Bean (1982)

is the World-Wide General Manager of Education Strategy, Products and Solutions for Microsoft. He looks after strategies for how technology can help advance learning outcomes in primary, secondary and tertiary education. Martin spends a lot of time in schools all over the world and says he would enjoy the chance to re-visit Gippsland Grammar.

Kathy Bernardi (Dethridge – 1995)

completed degrees in Electrical Engineering and Commerce in 2000 and works in the telecommunications industry. She is currently completing a Graduate Diploma of Education and will be starting a new career as a secondary school Maths and Physics teacher in 2008. Kathy married Nick Bernardi in 2004 and currently lives in Melbourne.

John Dethridge (1996)

completed studies in Mathematics and Computer Science at Melbourne University and now works as a computer programmer at Google in Mountain View, California. He is a top-ranked competitor in international computer programming competitions and also commentates for these events on live webcasts.

Angus Friend (1996)

studied Geomatic Engineering at Melbourne University and now works at Absolute Engineering in Melbourne. Angus recently competed in the 2007 Victorian Jiu-Jitsu Championships. In the Men's Blue-belt, Angus

was the stand-out competitor, winning his weight category (78kg) and the Open-weight division. Angus was also awarded the Most Technical Senior award by the referees.

Sally McColl (1987)

is an art teacher at Penleigh and Essendon Grammar. Recently, Sally entered a national art competition, entitled "Drawing Together", which explored reconciliation and marked the 40th anniversary of the 1967 referendum. Sally's work was one of only 40 pieces chosen from almost 600 entries. The exhibition was held at the National Archives during July.

Stephen Thomas (1995)

completed his Bachelor of Business (Property Valuation) at RMIT in 1998. He worked at Urbis for eight years and then commenced work with CB Richard Ellis as Senior Associate Director. In August this year, Stephen won the Australian Property Institute "Young Achiever of the Year" award for Victoria. He specializes in the valuation of high value retail assets, shopping centres and homemaker centres. Stephen and his wife Jacki are expecting their first child in December.

Matt Tilleard (1999)

is part of small Melbourne based team, who recently launched Ripple, a website which gives internet users the chance to help combat poverty without even trying. Matt, an associate at the Boston Consulting Group is hoping that internet users will use Ripple

as their default search tool, knowing that with every 'click' of the mouse, they are giving money to charity. Ripple's beneficiaries are Oxfam Foundation, Oaktree Australia, WaterAid Australia and the Grameen Foundation Australia.

Kaori Torralva (Yamazaki – 1991)

spent an exchange year at Gippsland Grammar and then graduated from Hikarigaoka High School. During her third year of study at Nanzan University, she accepted a position as a wardrobe consultant for Disney on Ice, which became her career. Kaori toured with the show for six years, revisiting Australia twice and enjoying the opportunity to invite her host family and friends to the show. Kaori is now married with two sons and lives in Florida, USA. Kaori would like to re-connect with her Australian friends and family (via the Development Office ph: (03) 5143 6315).

Harrison Wraight (2004)

is studying Architecture at Melbourne University but has also been working hard as a model. Chosen as one of three new faces for the 2007 Abercrombie and Fitch campaign, Harrison recently traveled to the USA for the photo shoot and also featured in an exclusive campaign for Vogue Men.

If you have some news for Out and About, please email:

**meredith.lynych@gippslandgs.vic.edu.au
or send details to the Development Office
PO Box 465 Sale 3853.**

VALE

Pam Seidel

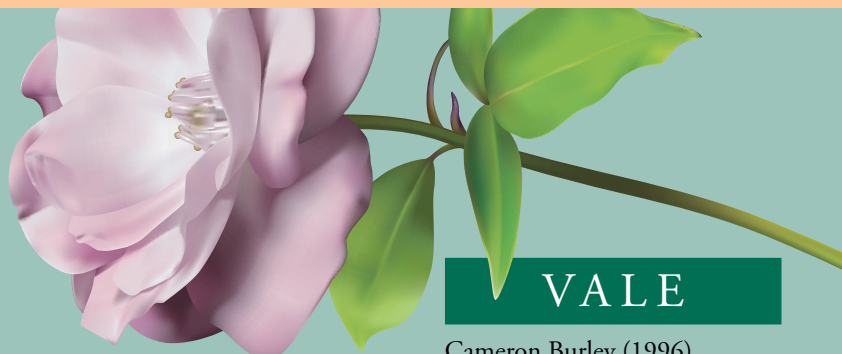
Former staff member, Pam Seidel passed away on 17 March 2007. Students from the 1970s and early 1980s would certainly remember Mrs Seidel as a teacher of Science and Biology. Pam was co-author of *Science to Sixteen*, which was published by Oxford Univeristy Press (Australia) in 1980. These texts were used by STAGGS for science theory and practical work.

In the 1980s, Pam organised annual science excursions to numerous academic and



industrial sites in Melbourne. These two-day trips involved many of her Year 11 students.

Pam was ahead of her time and was known for her innovative ideas on conservation. She lived at Calulu near Bairnsdale in a home fully powered by 32 volts from solar panels and a wind generator, built by her husband



VALE

Cameron Burley (1996)

Margaret Hamilton (Smith – 1947)

Peter Rogan (1986)

Val Willington (Scheldt - 1949) left a legacy to the school as the composer of the tune for the St. Anne's hymn, "Bless Our School". Val was well known for her philanthropic and community work in the district.

Warren. Ironing was only done on very windy days!

Pam left STAGGS in 1983 to become Senior Mistress and Head of Science at Nagle College in Bairnsdale.

Fondly remembered.

Viv Cooper
October 2007



AUSTRALIAN MATHEMATICS COMPETITION

Front Row (L to R): Dan Candy, Jamie Dawkins, Matisse Leja-Valette and Westpac's Oliver Richards (Sale Branch).

Middle Row (L to R): Rhys Kelly, Tim Stokoe, James Driscoll-Jury, Shaun Haney and Sarah Christie.

Back Row: (L to R): Gordon Meredith, Wayne Madden and Rachael Davis

At a recent School assembly, the top performers in the Westpac Australian Mathematics Competition were presented with their awards by Oliver Richards from the Sale Westpac Branch.

Dan Candy of Year 11 and Jamie Dawkins of Year 10 each received a cash prize for their outstanding effort in the competition. Matisse Leja-Valette of Year 7 was awarded the Prudence Certificate for having the correct answer to each of the first 17 questions. Certificates were also presented to the top performers at each Year Level. At year 12, Wayne Madden received a High Distinction as did Gordon Meredith of Year 11. At Year 9, Sarah Christie was awarded a Distiction, whilst Rhys Kelly and James Driscoll-Jury of Year 8 received High Distinctions. Rachael Davis, also of year 8, received a Distinction.

At Year 7, Matisse Leja-Valette, Tim Stokoe, and Shaun Haney all received High Distinctions. Congratulations to all these students on their fine effort.

Overall, Gippsland Grammar achieved better than the State averages with about 16% of students receiving a Distinction or better.



Talented science students (L to R): Sam Fink, Head of Science Rob Smith, Emma Waite, Elizabeth Newton and Ferlein Fawcett.

Heating up Antarctic Science

The Science Talent Search is an annual competition run by the Science Teachers Association of Victoria. Now in its 56th year, the theme for this year's competition was 'Antarctic Science'. In 2007 Gippsland Grammar submitted thirteen entries with some excellent results.

Three students, Bonnie Anderson (Year 8), Sam Fink (Year 9) and Ferlein Fawcett (Year 8) gained Minor Bursaries valued at \$45 and Elizabeth Newton and Emma Waite (Year 8) gained Major Bursaries valued at \$65.



Gippsland Grammar

PO Box 465, Sale Victoria 3853 Telephone (03) 5143 6388
Facsimile (03) 5143 6347 Website www.gippslandgs.vic.edu.au