

veritas

PREFECTS 2012



Back Row (L to R): Elliot Shaw, Mr Mike Clapper, Chelsea Fernandez, Ben Emonson, Maddie Crombie, Jake Lauria, Lydia Evans, Ben Lawless, Cara Penton, Riley McLaren, Indiarna Ellis and Ms Jan Henry.

Front Row (L to R): Tom Johnston, Anna Bourke (Vice Captain), Jack Dawson (School Captain), Laura McConville (School Captain), Nick Robinson (Vice Captain) and Stephanie Barnett.



DUX 2011
Lachlan Evans
P4



New Head
of Bairnsdale
Campus **P6**



Rwandan
Experience
P8



From the Head of School

Embracing Technology and Social Media



> Jan Henry

Welcome to the first edition of Veritas in 2012. We start the year with an enrolment of 1014 in Years Prep to 12 and healthy enrolments in the Early Learning Centres at Sale and Bairnsdale. We also start the year having achieved a 1:1 computer and student ratio. Thirty years ago there were 2 computers at Gippsland Grammar and only a privileged few students ever saw them. Supported by a netbook program in Years 9-11 and the explosion in smartphone technology, Gippsland Grammar now supports student use of technology in many ways.

I understand the nature of the changes which technology brings. In the last year I've created and published a voki or virtual character, I learned to make a prezzi, a type of online canvas presentation, asked Year 8 for advice on my Facebook dilemma, I've blogged and read blogs, joined the twitter universe and found it a great source of professional reading, become dependent on a smartphone, searched and tried new apps, read books on my kindle, and subscribed to a daily newspaper on a popular brand of tablet. More recently, we have seen the power of social media in the 'Kony 2012' campaign which has gained traction with our student body and millions of others worldwide. Of course, it is appropriate to urge caution and safety as we embrace technology, but embrace it we must.

As a community, we rely on face to face conversations and engagement with others, but technology provides some different ways to engage with each other. Gippsland Grammar has recently launched our smartphone app and I encourage members of the School community to avail themselves of this. Available via the School website, it is a web-based application suitable for use on any smartphone. Up to date alerts, events, news and information can be accessed using this application. The official Gippsland Grammar Facebook page will be launched shortly, and will serve as an additional marketing and communication forum. Of course, more traditional publications such as the electronic newsletter, annual report and Veritas remain essential parts of our engagement with the School community.

The Class of 2011 are our newest Old Scholars and I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate them on their achievements last year. You will read of their individual achievements in this issue and they are impressive. The School's mean ATAR score was 77.8. 25% of students obtained an ATAR score of over 90, putting them in the top 10% of the state, whilst 71% obtained an ATAR score in excess of 70, placing them in the top 30%. In terms of study scores in individual subjects, we were delighted that 71% of the scores

were above the state average of 30, whilst 13 % of the scores were over 40. These excellent results in VCE courses were backed up by some very strong results in university enhancement courses in Mathematics, Biology and Media/Communication. The Dux of the School was Lachie Evans from Bairnsdale, with an ATAR of 99.45. University offers were again very encouraging with 93 out of 95 students gaining first round offers. Details of the results and offers, as well as those who have commenced employment and apprenticeships have been included in this issue. I congratulate all those in the Class of 2011.

Of course, we have never been a School which celebrates academic achievements alone and I hope you enjoy reading of the richness of the School curriculum beyond the classroom and the achievements of students in sporting and cultural activities highlighted in this issue. Of particular note, I draw your attention to the reports on the Rwandan tour, an alternative to the more traditional Schoolies experience, undertaken in 2011; we hope to welcome a tour group from Rwanda to Gippsland Grammar mid-year and will have another group visit Rwanda in November this year. These tours have broadened our sense of community at Gippsland Grammar and I look forward to the further development of this relationship with the Gahini diocese in Rwanda.

Jan Henry



> **Above:** 2012 Student Leaders (L to R): Nick Robinson (Vice Captain), Anna Bourke (Vice Captain), Laura McConville (School Captain), Jack Dawson (School Captain).

J.A.T Beard Travel Scholarship



> *The Midwest Clinic*

The Gippsland Grammar Foundation continues to support the School and its staff with a number of financial assistance programs each year. Gippsland Grammar's Head of Music, Mr Colin Iversen, travelled to Chicago last December to attend the Midwest Clinic, held at the McCormick Place West Conference Centre. The successful trip was partially funded by the Foundation's J.A.T Beard Travel Scholarship for staff. Mr Iversen said, "My attendance at the Midwest Clinic was a fascinating and inspiring experience. It was extraordinary to hear a range of superb performances, mostly presented by music students in Years 5 to 12, from across the United States."

There was also a wide range of clinics, lectures and presentations throughout each day and an accompanying trade show with products, music, software, touring organisations and college opportunities on display. A feature of the programming for all concerts and performances was the inclusion of recently composed works and having the composers on hand in the audience. "It was a wonderful opportunity to meet composers new to me and recognise the potential for their music to be used at Gippsland Grammar this year and into the future. I would like to thank the Gippsland Grammar Foundation for giving me the opportunity to attend the clinic," Mr Iversen said.

The M.A.D August Night

Don't miss the Gippsland Grammar Foundation's M.A.D August Night on Friday 3 August. All members of the School community are welcome to attend and help support the Foundation's fundraising efforts in support of the Building Fund. Guests will have the chance to bid on some terrific items and later enjoy dancing to live music. Supper will again be provided by our outstanding VET Hospitality students and all members of the wider School community are invited to get involved.

Donate to the Auction and promote your business

The success of our Auction depends upon the generosity of our

School community, as all goods and services are donated to the Foundation. You can donate a week-end at your holiday home, an afternoon on your boat, a dinner voucher, a case of wine, a flower arrangement or a beauty treatment. The list of ideas is endless and it's a great opportunity to promote your business throughout the School community. Donations from Old Scholars are also gratefully received, with all items and businesses promoted in our Auction catalogue.

For further details, please contact Meredith Lynch at the Development Office on (03) 5143 6315.

Students travel to France

Four Year 12 students spent seven weeks in France over the Christmas holidays, and the experience has been a rewarding one for all. Anna Bourke, Jack Dawson, Julia Despard and Laura McConville commenced their journey in early December and are now tackling their Year 12 French classes with renewed vigour and enthusiasm.

Laura McConville said, "Situated in Caen, Normandy, we were given two host families each and went to school at *Lycée Jeanne D'Arc*. We were lucky enough to visit places such as Mont Saint Michel, Honfleur, Paris, the Bayeux Tapestry, the D-Day landing beaches, the palace of Versailles and Julia even visited Disneyland. The students at school were very welcoming and we have all become very close to our hosts, who will be coming to Australia in June. While school is a lot stricter and more difficult in France,



> **Photo (L to R):** Laura McConville, Jack Dawson, Julia Despard and Anna Bourke enjoyed their time in France.

our French eventually improved enough so we could understand what everyone was saying with help from our classmates. The unforgettable experiences and the treasured memories of our time in France will not soon be forgotten."

VCE Results

This year's results are another strong performance for the School. The School's mean ATAR score was 77.8, well up with the average over the last 10 years. 25% of students obtained an ATAR score of over 90, putting them in the top 10% of the state, whilst 71% obtained an ATAR score in excess of 70, placing them in the top 30%. 96% of the students placed in the top 50%. Boys and girls were equally represented in the top six places.

The Dux of the School was Lachie Evans from Bairnsdale, with an ATAR of 99.45. Close behind were Jakob Malouf from Maffra (99.15), Rachael Davis from Heyfield (98.85) and Elizabeth Newton from Bairnsdale (98.65). Other very high achievers included Britt Jeffs (98.2), William McCall (98.1), Lauren Lowe (96.2), Jemma Stewart (95.1), all from Sale, Emma Waite from Traralgon (95.8)

and Meg Hinkley from Granite Rock (95.5). Lachie Evans obtained a perfect 50 in English. Very close behind with scores of 49 were Jakob Malouf (also in English) and Elizabeth Newton in English Language. Jack Anderson, a Year 11 student, scored an impressive 48 in Legal Studies.

These excellent results in VCE courses were backed up by some very strong results in university enhancement courses in Mathematics, Biology and Media/Communication. William McCall obtained a High Distinction in Mathematics, whilst Sam Vuillermin obtained a Distinction. Ella Worboys obtained a Distinction in Biology. Four students also took the Media/Communication exam, with one achieving a High Distinction, two obtaining a Distinctions and one a Credit.

Scholarship News

Britt Jeffs has received a Monash University Scholarship for Excellence and Equity. This scholarship will provide \$6000 per year for five years. Eligible Year 12 students must have achieved an ATAR score of at least 95. Britt also received \$1000 in the Vice Chancellor's Access Monash Scholars program.

Students over 90 for ATAR



DUX Lachlan Evans 99.45



Jakob Malouf 99.15



Rachael Davis 98.85



Elizabeth Newton 98.65



Brittany Jeffs 98.20



William McCall 98.10



Lauren Lowe 96.20



Jemma Stewart 96.10



Emma Waite 95.80



Meg Hinkley 95.50

| | | | |
|----------------|-------|-----------------|-------|
| Sam Vuillermin | 94.30 | Rhys Kelly | 92.05 |
| Ella Worboys | 94.05 | Bonnie Anderson | 91.70 |
| Anna Dyer | 93.85 | Nichola Waite | 91.00 |
| Hannah Drew | 93.65 | Nicholas Ellen | 90.85 |
| Hannah Hobson | 92.45 | Alexander Brown | 90.50 |
| Asad Khan | 92.45 | Mihar Nandha | 90.20 |
| Jackson Lamin | 92.40 | Emma Zagami | 90.00 |
| Sarah Luke | 92.40 | | |

Destinations

Bonnie Anderson
Arts
Deakin University Geelong

Jane Anderson
Resort Management
(Water Recreation)
William Angliss City

Zoe Ashworth
Science
Monash University Gippsland

Mitchell Bennett
Primary Education
Monash University Gippsland

Philippa Bennett
Hotel Management
International College of Hotel
Management Adelaide

Amelia Bourke
Exercise and Sport
Science
Deakin University Geelong

Jaimee Britton
Science (Deferred)
Deakin University Melbourne

Alexander Brown
Science
University of Melbourne
Parkville

Kaila Brown-Toogood
Diploma of Tertiary
Studies
Monash University Gippsland

Monique Burns
Physiotherapy
Charles Sturt University
Albury-Wodonga

Jenessa Carvolth
Arts and Social
Sciences/Business and
Commerce
Monash University Gippsland

Jarred Ciavarella
Musculoskeletal Therapy
Endeavour College of Natural
Health City

Madeleine Clark
Drama
Deakin University Melbourne

Rachel Cole
Science
University of Melbourne
Parkville

Olivia Collenette
Science
University of Melbourne
Parkville

Sophie Crooke
Science
Monash University Gippsland

Chelsea Davies
Fashion Design
Whitehouse City

Rachael Davis
Biomedical Science
University of Newcastle NSW

Robin Dawson
GAP year
Travelling

Simon Deery
Criminal Justice
Navitas College of Public
Safety City

Thomas Dilks
Biomedical Science
Deakin University Melbourne

Hannah Drew
Science
University of Melbourne
Parkville

James Driscoll-Jury
Design –
Communication Design
Swinburne University Prahra

Thomas Dunkley
Engineering/Science
Deakin University Geelong

Ashleigh Dunnett
Psychology/Community
Welfare and Counselling
Monash University Gippsland

Anna Dyer
Music University Of
Melbourne
Parkville

Nicholas Ellen
Commerce
University of Melbourne
Parkville

Zachary Elliman
Engineering
Deakin University Geelong

Jake Evans
Law
Victoria University City/
Footscray

Lachlan Evans
Medicine/Surgery
Monash University Clayton

Jayde Evison-Rose
Arts/International
Studies
University of Melbourne
Parkville

Brad Fleay
Apprenticeship
Cabinet Connections Wurruk

Adam Gilding
Media and
Communication
Deakin University Melbourne

Caitlyn Hack
Food and Nutrition
Deakin University Melbourne

Amy Harrison
Osteopathy
Victoria University City
Flinders

Joshua Heilbuth
Design – Digital Media
Design
Swinburne University Prahra

Ashleigh Herbert
Psychology
Deakin University Melbourne

Meg Hinkley
Arts
University of Melbourne
Parkville

Hannah Hobson
Science/Education
(Secondary)
Monash University Clayton

Thomas Hughes
Diploma of Justice
Systems
TAFE QLD

Ryan Hurrell
Nursing Practice
Monash University Gippsland

Melissa Irving
Occupational Therapy
Deakin University Geelong

Megan Jackson
Journalism
Swinburne University
Hawthorn

Claire Jarvis
Health Sciences
La Trobe University Bundoora

Brittany Jeffs
Arts/Law
Monash University Clayton

Johannah Keily
Psychology (Hons)
Monash University Clayton

Rhys Kelly
Biomedical Science
Deakin University Geelong

Brady Kelly
Zoology and Animal
Science
Deakin University Geelong

Louise Kemsley
Arts
Monash University Clayton

Kate Kennedy-Ripon
Arts
University of Melbourne
Parkville

Asad Khan
Arts
University of Melbourne
Parkville

Jordan King
Drama
Deakin University Melbourne

Jayden Knowles
Outdoor Recreation
Education
La Trobe University Bendigo

Brittney Kuch
Diploma of Tertiary
Studies
Monash University Gippsland

Angus Lade
Arts
University of Melbourne
Parkville

Jackson Lamin
Marine Biology
James Cook University
Townsville

Samuel Latham
Resort Management
(Water Recreation)
William Angliss Institute City

Lauren Lowe
Public Health and Health
Promotion
Deakin University Melbourne

Sarah Luke
Media and
Communication
Deakin University Melbourne

Sean Lynn
Biological Sciences
(Advanced Science)
La Trobe University Bundoora

Kirk Mackintosh
Arts and Social
Sciences/Education
(Primary)
Monash University Gippsland

Jakob Malouf
Medicine/Surgery
Monash University Clayton

Michael Masin
Civil and Environmental
Engineering
Monash University Gippsland

William Mawley-Mills
Creative Industries
(Diploma)
Victoria University City
Flinders

William McCall
Science/Engineering
Monash University Clayton

Connor McIndoe
GAP Year
Working UK

Heather McIntosh
Event Management/
Tourism Management
La Trobe University Bundoora

Lachlan Meredith
Health Sciences
La Trobe University Bendigo

Elli Minter
Nursing
Deakin University Geelong

Hannah Muldoon
Psychological Science
La Trobe University Albury-
Wodonga

Fiona Munson
Exercise Science &
Human Movement/Sport
and Rec. M'ment
Victoria University Footscray

Tsubasa Nakagiri
Studying in Japan
University Japan

Mihar Nandha
Dentistry
James Cook University
Townsville

Jordan Nankervis
Commerce
Deakin University Melbourne

Elizabeth Newton
Science
University of Melbourne
Parkville

Christopher Prendergast
Engineering
Monash University Clayton

Anna Ripper
GAP Year
Working

Ellen Robinson
Nursing Practice/
Midwifery
Monash University Gippsland

Rebecca Ross
Criminal Justice
Navitas College of Public
Safety City

Samantha Rossetti
Emergency Health
(Paramedic)
Monash University Peninsula

Jemma Stewart
Journalism
RMIT University City

Thomas Sutherland
Agricultural Science
La Trobe University Bundoora

Kathryn Taylor
Teaching–Primary
Deakin University Melbourne

Alexandra Tonkin
Commerce
Deakin University Geelong

Hayley Tuckett
Teaching–Primary
Deakin University Melbourne

Hannah Vaux
Forensic Science
Deakin University Geelong

Samuel Vuillermin
Science
University of Melbourne
Parkville

Emma Waite
Psychology (with
Honours)
Monash University Clayton

Nichola Waite
Health Sciences in
Dentistry/Dentistry
La Trobe University Bendigo

Maddison Walker
Clinical Exercise Science
Victoria University Footscray

Lachlan Walker
Biomedical Science
Deakin University Geelong

Renae Walker
Nursing (Practice
Leadership)
Australian Catholic University
Melbourne

Rhomi Webb
Health Sciences
MIBT Burwood

Paul White
Psychology
University of Ballarat Mount
Helen

Daniel Wigney
Osteopathy
RMIT University Bundoora

Arabella Williams
Health Sciences
La Trobe University Bundoora

Ella Worboys
Medicine/Surgery (CSP
Extended Rural Cohort)
Monash University Clayton

Prudence Wyndham-Martin
Commerce
Swinburne University
Hawthorn

Steve Zaal
Chiropractic
RMIT University Bundoora

Emma Zagami
Arts
University of Melbourne
Parkville

Bairnsdale Campus

New Head of Campus

It is with great pleasure that we introduce Miss Amanda Virgo as the new Head of Junior School (Bairnsdale Campus). Amanda joined our staff at the beginning of 2011 and took on the role of Professional Learning Coach in addition to her classroom responsibilities. She has done an outstanding job in both roles, winning the respect of her colleagues and her class parents and providing strong leadership in developing innovative teaching practices. Whilst interviewing for the position, Amanda demonstrated a deep understanding of educational issues and the passion and dedication to provide outstanding leadership for the Bairnsdale Campus.

Amanda grew up in Bairnsdale and completed her tertiary education in Ballarat. Her career has spanned fifteen years, teaching in Melbourne and in the country. She has always been heavily involved in school life and enjoys building on relationships in the school community. Amanda enjoys spending time with her large family, where she is the eldest of twelve children. She is also



busy with the building of her first house and looks forward to the prospect of moving in by mid-year.

Amanda said, "My new role at Bairnsdale brings many new challenges and is an exciting new path in my career. The staff, students and families have been very supportive and I am glad to be involved with this wonderful community."

Campus Captains



House Captains



> **Above:** Taylah Hill and Aylin Rutherford (Tisdall Hotham), Brad Carroll and Ella Bilney (Blundell Bogong), Tom Supplitt (Cranswick Dargo), Darcy Whelan and Rhiannon Sadler (Wellington Binks)

Music News



> **Above:** School music captains, Nick Robinson and Maddie Crombie look over the new musical instruments bound for Bairnsdale Campus.

Potential young musicians at our Bairnsdale Campus were excited by the arrival of 25 brand new band instruments which will be used to inaugurate a Year 5 Band Programme similar to that at our St Anne's Campus. Staff members, Carryn Caithness and Sarah Caddie, who will lead the program, are delighted by the arrival of 6 flutes, 6 clarinets, 5 alto saxophones, 4 trumpets and 4 trombones.

Director of Music, Colin Iversen, said, "We look forward to students at our Bairnsdale Campus becoming as excited by making music in a band as their Sale peers. The addition of these new instruments will see the Gippsland Grammar music base broadening, with some exciting times ahead."

St Anne's Campus

The 'Green' Team

Students and staff at our St Anne's Campus are working on sustainable projects and initiatives that will lessen the impact on and help create a 'greener' environment. In 2011 the campus commenced work on the ResourceSmart Australian Sustainable Schools Initiative Victoria (AuSSI Vic). The project is sponsored by Sustainability Victoria and has the assistance of Centre for Education and Research in Environmental Strategies (CERES).

The program is designed to include all year levels and aims to introduce studies which will increase the number of sustainable topics covered across the campus. Students from each year level have formed a 'Green Team' that assists with ideas such as the weekly 'Rubbish Free Lunch', paper recycling, composting, worm farming and the herb and vegetable garden program.

Students are looking at ways to reduce waste, conserve energy, save water and participate in activities which include the wider School community. Initiatives include dressing appropriately for changing weather conditions instead of always using heaters and air-conditioning, creating water-wise gardens to attract native birds, having outdoor furniture built using recycled timber and ensuring all electrical equipment and lights are switched off when not in use. Parents and friends have been encouraged to purchase fresh produce from the weekly green grocery stall and have assisted the project with the donation of seedlings and horse manure. In connecting with the wider community, students assist the Wellington Shire's tree planting scheme and recently participated in the annual 'Clean up Australia Day' along the Sale Canal and Lake Guthridge.



> **Above (L to R):** Year 5 gardeners Jack White, Toby Allen, Anabelle Stewart, Claire Harrison.



> **Above (L to R):** Keely Robertson and Brodie Kennedy clean up at Lake Guthridge.

House Captains



> **Back Row (L to R):** Zoe Tacey (VC) and Jess Lang (C) of Wellington Binks, Laura McConville (School Captain), Jack Dawson (School Captain).
Front Row (L to R): Mr Greg Thomson, Millie Dunnett (VC) and Ellie Taylor (C) of Cranswick Dargo, Elliott Shaw (Prefect), Taylor Stephenson (VC) and Filly Lang (C) of Blundell Bogong, Anna Bourke (School Vice-Captain), Hannah Conway (VC) and Sam Davis (C) of Tisdall Hotham, (C) House Captain, (VC) Vice-Captain

Cultural Trips

Rwandan experience for 'Schoolies'

"Hey, Mzungu, how are you?" is what you are likely to hear called out to you as you stroll around the villages and towns of Rwanda. "Mzungu" is an east African name for a person of foreign descent. The 2011 *Alternative Schoolies Group* travelled to Rwanda in late November and consisted of Britt Jeffs, Ella Worboys, Melissa Irving and Jayde Evison-Rose from Gippsland Grammar and Toni Muston and Aiden Hopkins from St Paul's Anglican Grammar School. The students were accompanied by Mike Clapper, Jo Cockwill, Sarah Gover, Dave Gover and me. The *Alternative Schoolies* idea emerged in late 2009 from conversations between the Anglican schools and the Anglican Diocese of Gippsland. The vision was to provide something for Year 12 students in the *Schoolies* period that offered adventure, challenge and service. The relationship that already existed between the Anglican Diocese of Gippsland and the Anglican Diocese of Gahini, Rwanda was considered an excellent starting point to explore this idea.

What did we do there? We helped in various ways in the local hospital, conducted seminars and workshops for primary and secondary teachers and ran children's programs. Most importantly, we were exposed to the welcome, life, faith and hospitality of the Rwandan people. We also spent a very sombre morning at the Genocide Memorial in the Rwandan capital, Kigali. The last 3 days of our trip were spent enjoying the spectacular scenery and wildlife at a Game reserve in Kenya.

Mrs Sarah Gover, the Community Development Worker with Anglicare Gippsland, was the team leader and used her African experience to navigate us through this amazing time. It was incredible to be part of Rwandan life and be in such a different environment – a real privilege.

Many thanks to Sarah, the students, their families and the Schools for supporting such a worthwhile initiative.

Reverend Jon Taylor
Chaplain



> Above: A community celebration.

"The poverty was more evident in the car ride, as you see children no older than 6 carrying jerry cans, bananas or tending to crops. It makes me never want to say no to mum's request to empty the dishwasher ever again!"

Britt Jeffs



> Above: Mike Clapper and some of the local children.



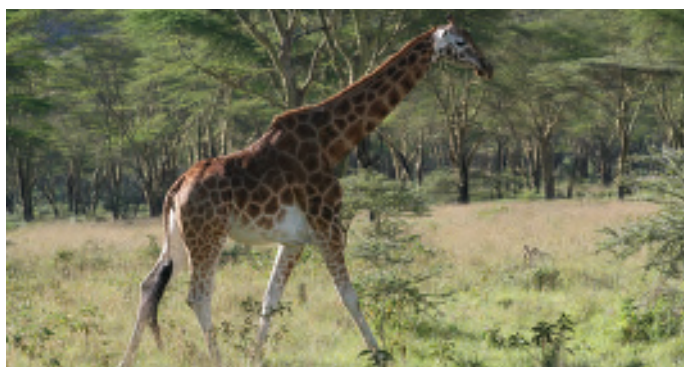
> Above: Britt Jeffs, Jayde Evison-Rose and Toni Muston chat with Sam, the son of the local Bishop.



> **Above:** Jon Taylor and Toni Muston with students at a local Summer School.

"In theatre, I witnessed a sterilisation operation and then I witnessed my first caesarean. It was so amazing! That experience was followed by a group of children coming up to us on our way home and showering us with hugs and high-fives; quite a few of us were contemplating taking the children home."

Ella Worboys



> **Above:** Wildlife in Kenya.

"Over the next two days, we had three extensive trips into the park, seeing white rhino, impala, giraffes, water buffalo, ostriches, baboons, lions and many more amazing wild animals and birds. It was a great way to unwind from the incredible Rwandan experience which has changed all of our lives."

Jayde Evison- Rose



> **Above:** Mike Clapper speaks with local School teachers.



> **Above:** Jon Taylor speaks with a Maasai man in Kenya.



> **Above:** A local market place.

"After lunch, we took a taxi bus to Kayunza to explore the markets. It was really fun; we had a group of kids follow us around the market. When we got home, we went for a swim and a kayak down at the lake – very peaceful!"

Melissa Irving



> Jordy McMillan



> Georgia Rose

Success at Tamworth

School musicians, **Jordy McMillan** and **Georgia Rose**, have achieved outstanding success at the 2012 Tamworth Country Music Festival, held in January.

Jordy (Year 11) won the Yamaha Battle of the 'Youngstars' of Country, competing over five days and against 100 performers from all over Australia and New Zealand. She won a Yamaha guitar worth \$1200 and a \$200 cash prize. As a triple winner of the ACMF national songwriting award, Jordy was also invited to perform at the Capitol Theatre in the 'Carter and Carter' showcase of Australia's award winning emerging young talent. She also performed at the 'Carter and Carter' gospel show and was a finalist at the Country Capitol Music Association (CCMA).

Georgia (Year 10) is a talented fiddle player, performing regularly with the Briagolong Bush Band. This year at Tamworth, she was invited to perform at the Capitol Theatre with popular country vocalist, Felicity Urquhart. Georgia had a busy schedule, performing at Andrew Clermonts 'Supper Club', 'Richo's HotClub' and at the 'Fiddlers' Feast'. Georgia was runner-up in the Under 25 'Golden Fiddle Awards' and on the last day of the festival, entered and won an all-age competition at the Locomotion Hotel. She also performed on the Coke and Telstra stages with her father, Garry, who accompanied her on guitar and vocals. To top off their fantastic trip to the country music capital, both Jordy and Georgia had the honour of performing on the 'Bluegrass Breakfast Show' with the multi-award winning Davidson Brothers, who hail from Yinnar.

Exchange News

In 2010, I was lucky enough to be chosen for the Rotary Youth Exchange program. In January 2011, I left Australia to spend one year in French-speaking Switzerland. While there, I stayed with two host families in a little village called Belfaux, which is ten minutes from Fribourg, where I attended school. Through my host families, I was fortunate to visit London, Vienna, Lisbon, the north of Italy and Barcelona.



> Emily Lade

The Rotary Club in Switzerland also organised trips for the exchange students to Paris, Rome and Venice. This incredible experience has given me the opportunity to vastly improve my language skills and immerse myself in another culture. The time I spent in Switzerland was by far the best and most beneficial experience of my life.

Emily Lade

Year 11

Cadet Training

Year 9 student **Samuel O'Hara** is a member of the Australian Air Force Cadets, attached to the Sale Squadron (409 Sqn of East Sale).

In 2011 he applied and was selected for attendance at a Promotions Course which took place at RAAF Base Williams during the Christmas holidays.



> Samuel O'Hara

The course included Service Knowledge, Field Craft Theory and Practical, Leadership, Instructional Technique, as well as Drill and Ceremonial. Over 200 cadets from Victoria, Tasmania and South Australia were assessed over a variety of tests and team-based challenges.

Samuel learned skills that will be most valuable back at his home Squadron and was also promoted to the rank of Corporal. Samuel said, "I thoroughly enjoyed the course and highly recommend the Australian Air Force Cadets to anyone interested in a career in the Defence Force or for those looking to challenge themselves beyond their basic daily life."

Iron and Clay



We were pleased to welcome Christian vocal group, 'Iron and Clay', to the School during February. The group performed during Chapel lessons and gave a lunchtime concert at Garnsey Campus. They also entertained our younger students during Fellowship at St Anne's Campus and spent time with boarding students. The members of the group drew from their own experiences and sung songs about acceptance, fitting in and relevant issues such as bullying.

'Iron and Clay' has been performing and touring since 1992 and to date has had over 170 members. The group believes that music is the perfect way to speak to young people and deliver a positive message in a way they can appreciate.

School Chaplain, Reverend Jon Taylor said, "Having young people share with our students in a relevant way, about finding hope, faith and love in their lives was a great thing to see. Many thanks to the Boarding House and the Bullers family who assisted with billeting members of the Band".

Whilst in Gippsland, the group performed at local schools and churches, before continuing on to Melbourne and other regional areas.

Sharell Cook

(1991) worked as an accountant for ten years before venturing to India to do some community work. Six years later, Sharell has remarried and lives in Mumbai, where she has exchanged accounting for writing. She now writes and manages About.com's India Travel website (About.com is part of the New York Times Company). Sharell's first book, *Henna for the Broken Hearted*, is the story of how she reinvented her life and found true happiness in India.



Sharell Cook in India.

Angus Friend (1996) married Martine Boot in the beautiful gardens of Kilmany Park last December. They wed in front of 140 family and friends, with guests travelling from as far as Europe for the occasion. Angus is the son of David Friend and Old Scholar, Sally Friend (nee Bowman 1967). The newlyweds enjoyed a 'mini-moon' in Inverloch and plan to honeymoon in Hawaii later this year. They are currently building a new home in Footscray West. Angus works as an Engineering Surveyor with South Melbourne firm, Absolute Surveying.

Rob Scrivenor (2004) was a crew member on the celebrity-laden super maxi, Investec Loyal, which won line honours in the 2011 Sydney to Hobart Yacht race. The race saw the closest finish in 38 years, with Loyal winning by just 3 minutes. Celebrities on board Loyal were helping to promote and raise funds for the Humpty Dumpty Foundation. Once the boat was returned to Sydney, Rob travelled to Malaysia where he sailed in a week-long regatta off Langkawi. With his two apprenticeships now completed, Rob intends to travel to Europe at the end of March.

Beth Sunnucks (2002) is doing an MSc in Molecular Microbiology, specialising in infectious diseases at Griffith University. Her project this year, through the Queensland Health & Forensic Science Services Department of Public Health Microbiology, is a broad molecular epidemiological survey of strains of *Vibrio cholerae* isolated in Australia between 1977 and now. Beth was awarded a Griffith University Award for Academic Excellence for her first year of study. This acknowledges her coming first in her course,

but also her being in the top 5% of all under and post graduate students in all five Griffith campuses.

Jackson Zaal (2004)

works as an engineer with Traralgon firm Beveridge & Williams. Jackson married Kelli Dwyer (teacher) at the 'Docklands Harbourside' on 6 January. Jackson was attended by Old Scholars Matt Jackson (2004) and Javiera Drew (1999) and one of Kelli's attendants was Shauna Drew (Zaal - 2002).



Jackson and Kelli Zaal

Jackson's brother Steve (2011) spoke and Brendan Walker (2004) was Master of Ceremonies. The reception at 'Sketch' Docklands was attended by 190 guests and the happy couple enjoyed a relaxing honeymoon in Vanuatu.

Daniel Ziffer (1995) was our guest speaker at the 2011 Valedictory Dinner. He gave an entertaining and engaging address, sharing an important message about the many doors and opportunities which lie ahead for the Class of 2011. Dan completed a Master's degree in Communications at RMIT while working as a



Dan Ziffer

freelance writer, radio producer and an aide to an Upper House member. Beating thousands of others, Dan landed a cadetship at The Age and became the paper's entertainment reporter - interviewing movie stars, attending parties and gigs - while filling in as a gossip columnist and a general reporter. In 2008 he moved to New York to cover the US election and the global financial crisis, working for himself, the Sydney Morning Herald, Canberra Times, 3AW and at the New York Post. Dan is now the producer for Mornings with John Faine on 774 ABC Melbourne and works as a freelance writer for The Age. He and his wife Asha are expecting their first child in May.

Reunion News

10 Year Reunion – Class of 2002

Plans have commenced for a reunion of the Class of 2002. Former School Captain, John Hewitt has indicated that a reunion will be held in Sale in mid-November (date to be confirmed). Former classmates are invited to email: john_hewitt_1@yahoo.com.au or watch for details in the next edition of Veritas.

20 Year Reunion – Class of 1992

Former School Captain, Sharon Olivier would like to hear from former classmates who are interested in attending a reunion later

this year. Please email the Development Office at Gippsland Grammar to register your interest at: meredith.lynn@gippslandgs.vic.edu.au

30 Year Reunion – Class of 1982

Following on from a successful reunion held five years ago, the Class of 1982 is planning a reunion in Melbourne during August this year. The date and venue are still to be confirmed but classmates are urged to email Diane van Doeselaar to register their interest. Email: dianevandoeselaar@yahoo.com.au

Japanese Doll Display



In Japan, the Doll Festival (Hinamatsuri) or Girls' Day is held on March 3. On this special day, parents pray for the health and happiness of their daughters and decorate their homes with beautiful displays of dolls. Students at St Anne's Campus had the chance to view a delightful array of dolls, kindly on loan from our new teacher of Japanese, Ms Eri Shinagawa. The dolls show the ancient court, with the emperor and empress on the top row, followed by ladies-in-waiting, musicians, guards and gardeners!

Students have enjoyed looking at the intricate dolls.

We welcome Ms Eri Shinagawa to Gippsland Grammar. She is teaching at both the Garnsey and St Anne's campuses. Ms Shinagawa is an experienced teacher of Japanese, having taught for eight years at Schools in the Bairnsdale area.

> **Above:** Year 5 girls at St Anne's Campus view the colourful doll display in the Japanese classroom.

History made at Swimming Carnival

For the first time in swimming history at Gippsland Grammar, the Inter House carnival was a draw between **Tisdall Hotham** and **Cranswick Dargo**. The final point scores were: **Cranswick Dargo** 702, **Tisdall Hotham** 702, **Blundell Bogong** 513 and **Wellington Binks** 494

The Tom Osbourne Trophy for the Medley Relay was also won by **Tisdall Hotham**.

Age Champions were:

Under 13 Jasmine Doultree and Fergus Hamilton
Under 14 Stephanie Poland and Lachlan Shepherd
Under 15 Hannah Goodison and Sam May
Under 16 Kate Marshall and William Lee
Under 17 Olivia Ferretti and David Commins
Under 21 Shae Haney and Elliot Shaw

The House Spirit Shield, which is awarded at all carnivals to the House with the greatest participation and encouragement, was won by Tisdall Hotham.



> **Above:** Tisdall Hotham and Cranswick Dargo House officials, celebrate their historic result.



curious . committed . creative . challenged . independent . inspired . passionate

www.gippslandgs.vic.edu.au

Gippsland Grammar

PO Box 465, Sale Victoria 3853

Telephone +61 3 5143 6388 Facsimile +61 3 5143 6347