



ISSUE THREE, 2019

veritas



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Compassion | Leadership | Excellence | Respect | Responsibility

INSIDE
THIS
ISSUE

From the Principal	2
ELC news	4
St Anne's news	5
Legally Blonde	6-7
Garnsey news	8
Bairnsdale news	9
Celebrating Excellence	10-11
St Anne's Day	12

Cover image:
Year 6 service captain Tilly Fox serves scones to the 'Green Grubs' during the St Anne's Day lunch.
Picture: Lisa Baker

Photos:
To purchase photos from many Gippsland Grammar events, please email school photographer Lisa Baker on lisa.baker@gippslandgs.vic.edu.au or visit lbphotos.com.au to view the online albums.

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From The Principal



One of the many highlights of my year is the opportunity to connect with and spend time with our Old Scholars. Earlier this term Gippsland Grammar celebrated St Anne's Day when I enjoyed a beautiful lunch with many of the 'Green Grubs,' which is what we affectionately call the ladies who attended St Anne's when it was a girls-only school. The Green Grubs are an incredibly proud and loyal group of women who meet regularly and continue to keep strong ties with the current school community. And it is at these events that I often hear the stories about the past and, in particular, the strong

characters of the past who had such a positive and profound effect on these past students. Miss Lorna Sparrow's portrait watches over us during the lunch and I often hear Green Grubs refer to their former principal's wise words of wisdom and her firm-yet-fair approach to discipline. Hearing these anecdotes made me reflect on our School's 90th anniversary in 2014 when I had the opportunity to interview our oldest living Old Scholar Bev Cook; Bev's reflections about St Anne's during the Second World War were priceless.

I also feel privileged to attend both our Old Scholars meetings as well as our annual reunions, which allow me to connect with students from the '60s, '70s, '80s, '90s and '00s. And while the stories from each generation may be different and the staff may have changed, the overriding culture of respect, opportunity and excellence remain strong and visible throughout each stage of the School's history. Our Old Scholars

represent all areas of society yet they all have an underlying sense of respect and 'doing the right thing'.

Throughout this edition of Veritas you will read about many of the School's recent activities, from big events such as our production of *Legally Blonde The Musical* to smaller events such as our Early Learning Centre's 'Need to Read' reading program. Each is important and provides opportunities for our students to find their passion and their own personal level of excellence. It is through these events that our students connect with the School and develop a sense of belonging.

From my contact with our students and our Old Scholars, it is clear Gippsland Grammar offers many opportunities for our community to connect and to feel a sense of belonging. It is our aim that every student at our School will flourish.

David Baker
Principal

J.A.T. Beard Travel Scholarship

Each year the Gippsland Grammar Foundation awards the J.A.T. Beard Travel Scholarship to a member of staff to undertake travel which allows them to further their education in a way that will be beneficial to both the staff member and the School. This year the scholarship was awarded to Geography teacher Mark Dolbel, who travelled to New Zealand in June and July on a quest to expand his geographic knowledge of the country,

which he has since applied to his teachings in his Geography classes at our Garnsey Campus. Mark shares his thoughts on the experience:

"Geography is a subject which is brought to life through evidence from places and events and during my trip I was able to actively collect evidence from a range of locations across both islands of New Zealand. Highlights included gaining a deeper understanding of the rain-shadow effect created by the enormous Southern Alps, which I can use to help Year 7 students to understand 'Water in the World'; exploring various sites of tectonic activity such as Whakaari, which I can use to help Year 8 with 'Landforms and Landscapes'; and learning

about Maori customs and traditions, which will help with inter-cultural understanding.

The heart of the trip was to further my knowledge and gather evidence for teaching VCE Hazards and Disasters and Tourism. I used Instagram to document much of the detail and establish a virtual field trip for my students. I visited several locations impacted by earthquakes and gathered first-hand (primary) data on the impacts on people and the environment. I will be able to use this data to help students compare locations such as Kaikoura and Christchurch to evaluate the significance of the respective disasters. I also built an appreciation of New Zealand's tourism characteristics to share with

students in-line with the use of categories provided by the VCE study design. I also built relationships with experts, who I will be able to Skype with during classes. I look forward to sharing my learning as the curriculum unfolds."

- Follow Mark's geography adventures at [instagram.com/virtual_geography](https://www.instagram.com/virtual_geography)



Mark Dolbel enjoys the view of Queenstown from the Skyline Gondola and (inset) hiking through a formation of Franz Joseph Glacier.

Early Learning Centre News . . .

Collect-A-Can

Throughout July, children at the St Anne's and Bairnsdale ELCs collected more than 300 cans for Anglicare Emergency Pantry Fund's Collect-a-Can challenge. ELC Director Lisa Burgess said it was important to instil in children from an early age an awareness of the wider community. "The collection allowed both educators and families an opportunity to talk to the children about why the food was being collected," Mrs Burgess said. "Children are naturally curious about the world around them and we purposefully plan experiences to further the children's understanding of the need to 'care, be fair and share'."



Murray Armstrong with the collection of cans for the Anglicare Pantry Fund.

Learning to Stay Safe

Reception (3-year-old kindergarten) students at both ELC campuses have been learning about 'Community Members Who Help Others'. A variety of incursions have enriched the program, including visits from paramedics, police, a sustainability officer and firefighters. During each visit the children were able to participate in a variety of hands-on activities designed to teach valuable lessons, such as how to stay safe in a fire and dialing 000.



Reception students Annie Van Berkel (top) and Alby Bramich (below).

Need to Read

In August the St Anne's ELC launched a new program designed to support Reception families to enhance their child's first steps into literacy. Using a State Government grant, the ELC purchased books and library bags with customised notes to guide parents and carers on the specific language and literacy concepts when reading each story to their child. At the official launch of the program, Gippsland Grammar's speech pathologist Michelle Sands outlined research on why and how purposeful reading can enhance literacy readiness in early childhood, as well as highlighting the importance of speech and language in this process.



Reception students Rosie Storer and Iris Fyfe with the new Need to Read books.

St Anne's News

100 Days Smarter

On August 7 Foundation students at both junior campuses celebrated a significant milestone in completing their 100th day at School. St Anne's Foundation teachers Rebekah Tayler and Bree Alexander incorporated key learning opportunities in the lead-up, such as counting the number of days at school, patterns within the 100 chart and counting while exercising or dancing. On the day, students celebrated by wearing headwear featuring stickers that count by 10s to 100, by writing their names as many times as they could in 100 seconds and writing about what they would love to buy if they had \$100.



St Anne's Foundation students celebrate their first 100 days of school.

Winter Concert

The St Anne's community came together on a cold winter's evening in late August to watch and celebrate its students' musical talent at the St Anne's Winter Concert at The Wedge. Comperes for the Foundation to Year 3 concert Lachlan McCole and Jessica Martin introduced the Mozart Strings, Junior Choir, Year 2 Strings and each Year level item while Year 4 to Year 6 comperes Teddy Ripper and Logan Mills introduced the St Anne's Choir, Flute Ensemble, Jazz band, Rock band, Year 4 Training Band, Concert Band and individual Year level items.

Sustainability Focus

A small and dedicated group of Year 3 and 4 students have been striving to create a sustainability space at St Anne's, which features vegetable gardens, compost bins, a dry creek bed, fire pit and bridge. It may even eventually be home to some chickens! With some help from St Anne's groundsman Mr Mark, the students designed the space and then set about building the garden, which is currently a work-in-progress. St Anne's Year 3 and 4 teachers have also been exploring ways to embed sustainability into the curriculum to make the most of this newly created area.



Year 3 student Dillon Meredith and Year 4 student Vida Yanez working in the garden.

Legally Blonde. ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

In August more than 60 Garnsey senior students took Sale's The Wedge stage by pink storm for the School's production of *Legally Blonde The Musical*. With two sell-out shows and a total audience of more than 1100 people, Gippsland Grammar's Director of Performing Arts Matthew Goss said the production was an incredible learning experience for the students.

"Experiences such as this provide students with an opportunity to discover something about themselves through creative expression and better equip them for the challenges of life," Mr Goss said.

The Plot

Legally Blonde The Musical follows the story of Elle, who appears to have it all but whose life is turned upside down when her boyfriend Warner dumps her so he can attend Harvard Law. Determined to get him back, Elle charms her way into the prestigious law school where she struggles with peers, professors and, of course, her ex. But with the support of some new friends Elle quickly realises her own potential and sets out to prove herself to the world.



Year 10 student Ashton Hicks reflects on playing the lead role of Elle Woods in *Legally Blonde The Musical*.

The Auditions

"I'd never seen or heard of *Legally Blonde* so when I heard it would be this year's musical I watched the movie and I knew straight away I wanted to audition for the main role. I researched various versions of the audition scene and song and I memorised the audition script and song lyrics and roped my brother into reading the opposite part. I also had a fairly firm American accent going which gave me more confidence. I was walking into my sister's flute soiree when I heard that I'd landed the lead and I was so ecstatic I jumped for joy into my mum's arms."

The Rehearsal

"We started rehearsals in the last week of Term 4 last year and there's been a lot involved in this show as we've had to rehearse acting, singing and dancing. The rehearsals got more intense as we got closer to opening night but because I have one of the main roles it's been fun to be involved and to do more. I admit I have struggled a bit juggling my school workload with the rehearsals but I got used to it. Two weeks before the show we started rehearsing with the band and we also sang one of the songs on ABC radio, which made things a bit more real and that's when I started getting into my character more. I had quite a few family members coming to the show, including some travelling from Mornington and Melbourne. The second last full dress rehearsal was chaos but by our final rehearsal I could see everything come together and I started being less nervous and more excited."

The Performance

"I just loved our performances! It was stress, stress, stress before the curtains opened on the first night but things got more fun as it went along and I just relaxed into it. I had 11 costume changes and they had to be incredibly fast so that was hardest bit for me. The standing ovations felt so good and at the end when I went out and did my bow, it was epic. I got lots of whistles and I felt like all my hard work paid off. The next day I couldn't even walk because I had blisters on my feet from the heels I had to wear and I had blisters the whole next week. We had more than six months of rehearsals and then just like that it was over, which was really sad. The whole process was a lot more enjoyable than I expected and I really enjoyed meeting other kids in the cast from other year levels. I made a lot of new friends and for that I will be forever grateful."

Garnsey News - ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Commemoration Day

On August 5 Gippsland Grammar celebrated Commemoration Day, which marks the decision in 1970 to join St Anne's Church of England Girls Grammar School with the boys Gippsland Grammar School. More than 800 students, staff and guests from all three campuses gathered in Garnsey's Laurie Payne Gymnasium where students from each campus performed a musical act, including the *Electricity* from Billy Elliot (St Anne's), *Yellow Submarine* (Bairnsdale) and *O My Children, My Poor Children* (Gippsland Grammar combined choir and orchestra). Mayor of East Gippsland Shire and Old Scholar (2003) Cr Natalie O'Connell was guest speaker and she spoke of her pride in being a Gippsland Grammar student.



Principal David Baker with Bishop of Gippsland Richard Treloar, Mayor of East Gippsland Natalie O'Connell, Board chairman Vicki McLeod and the School captians.

Cross Country

Gippsland Grammar's cross country runners enjoyed an incredibly successful season this year, culminating at the SEISA Cross Country at Phillip Island where the team won 10 out of 14 age divisions and took out the overall trophy for the seventh consecutive year. Only a few days after the SEISA event, the team competed at the ICCES competition at Bundoora where it placed second overall behind Ballarat Grammar. The team's top performing age division was the Year 11/12 girls (pictured) and the individual highlight was Year 11 student Sam Dunnett who won the Year 11/12 boys event. Teacher in charge of athletics Jenny Dyke said she was incredibly proud of all the runners and noted "it takes a special breed of inner toughness to succeed in what is always a challenging event".



The Year 11/12 girls at the ICCES Cross Country at Bundoora. Back Row (l-r): Ella Clydesdale, Ellen O'Brien, Hannah Husodo. Front row: Ailish McGrath, Erika Allen, Amber MacManus, Georgia Finch, Mackenzie Traill.

Year 9 Alpine Program

Each year, Gippsland Grammar's Year 9 students head to the High Country for the Alpine Camp. Students spend two nights camping in sub-zero temperatures at JB Plain and one night in chalet accommodation about 2km away at Dinner Plain, near Mt Hotham. This year's camps saw a mix of blue skies and extreme weather warnings, so the students experienced the whole gamut of life in the wilderness, including building igloos, cross country skiing and snow-shoeing local trails. Head of Outdoor Education Cass Booth said the Alpine Camp was a highlight of the Year 9 curriculum. "For some students it was the first time they had even seen snow," Ms Booth said. "It's a privilege to witness the growth and development of our students through these outdoor experiences."



Year 9 students camped in plenty of fresh snow during their Alpine Camp near Dinner Plain.

Bairnsdale News - ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Raymond Island

Bairnsdale's Year 6 students have been involved in a biological study at the Raymond Island Abbey with Reverend Edie Ashley. Reverend Edie has noticed a change in the bushland during her time at The Abbey and there has been a reduction of vegetation between the shore-line and the lake. Over three visits throughout the year, students will be involved in recording data that can be used to help preserve the ecology of the area, such as observations about the water conditions, bushland, bird and animal life and the effect of the waves from boats.



Year 6 students conducting a biological study at Raymond Island.

Tournament of Minds

Four Tournament of Minds teams from Gippsland Grammar's two junior campuses competed in the regional final at Churchill in late August with one team from each junior campus progressing to the State final in Melbourne on September 8. Teacher Penny Rankin said the Bairnsdale STEM team performed admirably in their 'silent flight' challenge at the State final and Head of Campus Virginia Evans described the students as "innovative, energetic, inquiring, spontaneous and collaborative".



Bairnsdale's Tournament of Minds teams at the State Final in Melbourne.

Soccer State Champs

Everyone at Bairnsdale was thrilled when the boys' soccer team made it through to State level in soccer in early September, which is the first time a Gippsland Grammar junior team has made it to that level. Team manager Todd Cook and coach Javier Rodriguez praised them for their efforts. The team included (below) Jacob Veldhuizen, Sam Ditchburn, Jadah Frith, Samuel Reynolds, Lagan Joshi, Chidi Otuonye, Henry Knight, Aiden Rodriguez, Noah Johns, Malachi Courtier, Kael Frith, Joshua Newstead, Rafael Rodriguez and Joel Rawlings.



Bairnsdale's soccer team competed at state level for the first time.

The Beatles

Throughout Term 3 music teacher Brett Glover has been teaching Bairnsdale's students all about the music of the Beatles, which has resulted in the students performing a number of iconic tunes including *Ob-La-Di* at a Fellowship and *Yellow Submarine* at Commemoration Day. Bairnsdale Head of Campus Virginia Evans said the spirited performances have been a highlight of the term. "It's marvellous to have parents and staff singing along with us," she said. "Much to the surprise of our students."



Bairnsdale students perform *Ob-La-Di* at Fellowship.

Celebrating Excellence ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Year 12 students **Ben Harms** and **Kali Irvine-Nagle** have both received prestigious university scholarships for 2020. Ben has received the \$125,000 Tuckwell Scholarship to attend Canberra's Australian National University for five years while Kali has been selected in the first intake of Hansen Scholars to study at the University of Melbourne, which includes support for a three-year bachelor degree of up to \$108,000. Ben hopes to study politics, philosophy and economics while Kali is working towards a biomedicine degree.



Year 4 student **Louis Lazzaro** won bronze at the Australian Interschools Snowsports Championships at Mt Buller in early September. The St Anne's student was the top qualifier for Victoria in the Snowboard Cross event and came third in the National final with a time of 42.75 seconds. Louis also represented Gippsland Grammar at the Australian Interschools in the Snowboard Giant Slalom event.



Year 10 student **Harry Davis** received a CFA award for bravery in July after he was first on the scene of an arsonist attack on his 8ha family property at Cowwarr earlier this year. Harry's bravery was featured in *The Weekly Times* where he said: "The fire was so close to home that it was lucky by chance I was in that exact area at that exact time. Given the weather conditions on the day it could have turned a lot worse than it was."



Three Gippsland Grammar equestrian riders will compete at this year's Australian Interschool Championships to be held at Sydney International Equestrian Centre from September 29 to October 2. **Charlee Latham** (Year 4), **Will Murray** (Year 6) and **Alice Murray** (Year 9) have all qualified and will form part of the Victorian team for the national event.

Old Scholars



Ryan Boulton (2010) has recently received significant international acclaim for Paperbark, a smartphone and computer game that tells the story of a wombat which spends its day exploring the Victorian bush. Last year Paperbark received the Grand Prize at Tokyo University's Digital Ehon Awards and was a gold prize nominee for illustration at Spain's Indigo Design Awards. *More: paperbarkgame.com*



Oakley Henry (2018) has won a scholarship with Holstein Australia Youth Exchange to travel and learn from the best of the best in the UK. Oakley is a fourth generation dairy farmer who is completing a Certificate III in Agriculture (Dairy Production) and works full time on the family farm at Tinamba.

Vale

Wendy MacDonald was a teacher at St Anne's from 1988 to 1995 and then returned as an integration aid from 2000-2001. Colleagues remembered how Wendy sought to understand the outliers in her classes and how she would share stories of empowering the naughty boys with empathy and the gentle students with self-belief. Wendy died in Bendigo on July 1 after suffering from dementia.



Ross Day lived at Wurruk and attended Gippsland Grammar from 1961-63 and was #48 on the student register.

Kathleen Grabenweger (nee McKelvey) was a member of the 'Green Grubs' and attended St Anne's from 1959-1963. More recently she has been the proud grandmother of current students Peggy (Year 9) and Matthew (Year 7) McDonald and Ashleigh Corpe (Year 5).

Engagements

Russell Long (2012) and **Elizabeth Newton** (2011)
Nick Robinson (2012) and **Jordy McMillan** (2013)

Green Grubs

The next meeting of the 'Green Grubs' (St Anne's Old Girls) will be held at the Warragul Country Club at noon on Thursday October 31. For details, please contact Joy Brand on 0407 289 652 or email pjbrand@bigpond.com or June Jackson on 0417 380 820 or junejack1@hotmail.com. RSVPs essential for catering purposes.

Reunions

Class of 2014 / 5 Years

Sat Nov 16 (Melbourne)
Contact: Amelia Vuillermin on
ameliavuillermin@icloud.com or
0429 771 974.

Class of 2009 / 10 Years

Sat Oct 19 (Sale)
From 4pm at the Chapel of
St Anne at Garnsey Campus
followed by dinner at The
Criterion. Contact Laura Evans
on ggs2009reunion@gmail.com

Class of 1999 / 20 Years

Sat Nov 16 (St Kilda)
From 7pm at the Pharmacy
Room of The Espy, St Kilda.
Contact Justin Andrews on
justin.andrews@bayer.com or
0419 661 166 or Louise Laing
(Bland) on louise.laing4@gmail.
com or 0413 818 285.

Class of 1989 / 30 Years

Sat Nov 9 (Sale)
From 4pm at the Chapel of
St Anne at Garnsey Campus
followed by dinner at The
Criterion. Contact Sophie Davis
(Derham) on jasozowi2014@
gmail.com or 0429 695 862.

Class of 1979 / 40 Years

Sat Oct 26 (Sale)
From 4pm at the Chapel of
St Anne at Garnsey Campus
followed by dinner at The
Criterion. Contact Helen Drew
(Jenkin) on helen.drew61@
gmail.com or Susan Murphy
(Campbell) on pmu14109@
bigpond.net.au

Class of 1969 / 50 Years

Mon Oct 21 (Sale)
From noon at The Criterion Hotel
for students of both St Anne's
and Gippsland Grammar School.
Contact Gippsland Grammar
Development Co-Ordinator
Sarah Guinness on 5152 3366 or
sarah.guinness@gippslandgs.
vic.edu.au

St Anne's Day ~ ~ ~ ~ ~



On July 25 Gippsland Grammar celebrated St Anne's Day, which is the School's annual celebration of the history of St Anne's. Past St Anne's students, affectionately known as 'Green Grubs' were invited to a Fellowship in Lorna Sparrow Hall followed by lunch in the St Anne's Library, which just happened to be the dining hall during the time when many of the Old Scholars attended the School.

1. The 'Green Grubs' always enjoy St Anne's Day. Back row (l-r): Gwen Dyer (nee Derham), Rosie Borthwick, Ann Andrew (Gooch), Barbie Roche (Kent), Anne Parker (Woodtli), Anne Archbold (Mackinnon), St Anne's Head of Campus Jie Van Berkel. Middle row: Marion Hector (Traill), Deirdre Crawley (Edwards), Helen Wegener (Scott), Judy Short (Westcott), Barbara Fulton (Ferres), Joy Brand (Saxton), Julie Stothers (Hine), Hilary Rash (Richards). Front row: Margaret Mynard (Davis), Marion Atherstone (Cross), Judy Tulip (nee Anderson), Jenny MacLeod (Simpson), Elspeth Stevens (Matthies).

2. Principal David Baker welcomes the St Anne's Old Scholars to the St Anne's Day Fellowship.

3. St Anne's staff member Ann Young with student leaders Tilly Fox, Mahdi Uddin, Dru Davidson, Matilda Charlie and Avery Grewar serve lunch to the 'Green Grubs'.

4. 'Green Grubs' Marion Hector, Gwen Dyer and Ann Andrew enjoy lunch in the St Anne's library.

5. Principal David Baker with Joy Brand, St Anne's Campus Captain Regan Leeson and Hilary Rash.