Fun at ELC
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Gracie and Jessica enjoyed playing with Morris the Bear, at the combined ELC day at St Anne’s Campus.
As the 2013 year comes to a close, we are beginning to turn our attention towards 2014 and, in particular, the celebration of 90 years of excellence in education at St Anne’s and Gippsland Grammar. 2014 marks the 90th year since the opening of the Church of England Girls’ School, Sale. Recently, the main building at St Anne’s celebrated its 100th anniversary.

Within this edition of Veritas, you will have the opportunity to read some of the rich history of our wonderful School and also begin to develop an understanding of the key figures who have worked so hard throughout the School’s history to forge the School culture that permeates our community.

Before I arrived at Gippsland Grammar this year, I was fortunate to read a copy of “Life at St Anne’s, Gippsland Grammar School and STAGGS” by Ann Andrew. This wonderful recounting of the School’s history brings to life the many events and characters that have played a major role in the development of the School.

In the forward, ex Headmaster, Charles Sligo states, “There are many good schools in Australia, but there are only a few great schools. A good school will have fine buildings and facilities, a dedicated staff and excellent academic results, a strong sporting tradition and will hold before its pupils firm ethical principles and engage them in religious experience. All this is true of St Anne’s and Gippsland Grammar School.

However a great school has another element- it is enveloped by deep affection and dedicated commitment. Ann Andrew’s lovingly researched history of St Anne’s and Gippsland Grammar School places our School in the context of dedication and affection which have been the hallmark of private education in Sale over the past eighty years.”

It is a privilege to lead a School with such a rich and courageous history and, with time, I hope to emulate the great feats of the Headmistresses and Headmasters who have gone before me.

Enjoy!

David Baker

Year 12 students enjoyed a farewell BBQ luncheon, held at the Principal’s residence in October. This annual event, hosted by the Old Scholars’ Association, marks the end of School life and welcomes the students into the ranks of the Old Scholars. Old Scholar President, Meredith Johnston (Wright-Smith 1978), welcomed the students and encouraged them to keep in touch with each other and the School, in the years to come.

Old Scholars considering organising a School Reunion should contact Meredith Lynch at the Development Office on (03) 5143 6315.

Photo: Year 12 students enjoyed a farewell BBQ in October.
The Gippsland Grammar Foundation has been supporting the School since its establishment in 1985. The Foundation and its fundraising ventures are critical to the School’s ability to plan for a future that sees Gippsland Grammar at the forefront of educational providers in the greater Gippsland region. The giving ethic and foresight of those before us enable current students to enjoy up to date facilities that are not provided through School fees alone.

Examples of Foundation-assisted facilities include: the Information Services Centre at the Garnsey Campus, the refurbishment of Lorna Sparrow Hall and library at the St Anne’s Campus, the covered basketball court at the Bairnsdale Campus, the Weights Room at the Garnsey Campus and the refurbishment of our Boarding facility, Blackwood House.

How can you assist? The School’s physical facilities continue to grow and be enhanced with the assistance of funds raised through the payment of the Voluntary Contribution with School fees, Annual Giving projects and through the social events hosted by the Foundation.

In 2014, the Foundation will host its biennial ‘M.A.D Night’, (Music.Auction. Dance), on Friday 22 August, with all funds to go towards the Building Fund. In 2012, this event raised $20,000, so the committee will be working towards this target once again. All parents, past and present, and friends of the School, are welcome to attend, with tickets and tables to be booked through the Development Office. If you would like to donate goods or services to the auction, we will be seeking offers in the months leading up to the event. For further details, please contact (03) 5143 6315.

The 2013 J.A.T Beard Travel Scholarship

Each year, the Foundation supports staff professional development and training through the funding of the J.A.T Beard Travel Scholarship. This year the Foundation committee awarded the Scholarship to Deputy Principal - Academic, Mrs Liana Cartledge. Mrs Cartledge travelled to the Harvard Graduate School of Education, where she attended the Professional Learning Course – ‘Future of Learning Institute 2013’.

The week-long course, with 10-hour days, was an intensive discussion of the future of learning. 250 delegates from across the globe attended keynote speeches, plenaries and workshops, focussing on ‘Mind, Brain and Education’, ‘The Digital Revolution’ and ‘Globalisation’. In her report to the Foundation Committee, Mrs Cartledge said, “This experience came on the eve of the challenge to do the future thinking that the Strategic Plan 2014 – 2016 required of the School Executive on my return.” She thanked the Committee for the wonderful opportunity to access such dynamic learning.
The Early Learning Centres (ELC) at both the Bairnsdale and Sale campuses continue to be vibrant and exciting places for our youngest students to begin their education at Gippsland Grammar.

Since assuming the role of Director at both Sale (St Anne’s) and Bairnsdale ELC’s last year, I have enjoyed the increased opportunities to see the rich and diverse learning opportunities that children are having at both centres. Combining the centres has allowed the teaching teams to work more collaboratively, sharing ideas and resources and formulating a shared vision and philosophy about how very young children grow and develop.

One exciting initiative this year was the opportunity for both teams to spend a day visiting ELC’s in similar independent schools in Melbourne. We returned invigorated and full of new ideas but confident that the children at Gippsland Grammar are receiving an educational experience that more than equals that found elsewhere.

With both ELC’s now working more closely together, we are also able to ensure that the children in Bairnsdale and Sale are participating in similar programs, preparing them for our Prep and beyond. To enhance this sense of ‘whole school’, this year the Bairnsdale Pre-Prep group visited their Sale counterparts for a combined sports and games day. This was their first trip on the school bus and imagine their surprise when they discovered children in the same uniform at another Early Learning Centre! This opened a discussion about what ‘whole school’ means. We believe that this is an important and exciting part of the experience offered at Gippsland Grammar – children can begin at 3 and continue through until Year 12.

Another exciting event this year has been the recent news that the Bairnsdale ELC was recently rated ‘Exceeding National Standard’ under the new national Quality Standard Assessment and Rating process. This is a difficult rating to achieve and at the time of writing only a handful of centres in Eastern Victoria have achieved it. Well done to all of the staff members for their hard work and dedication in achieving this result. It really shows the excellence of the service. The staff members at Sale are now awaiting their rating visit.

In Sale, numbers continue to grow and to this end we have again expanded the programs offered, with both rooms operating 5 days next year. Across both centres we are approaching 130 enrolments, with waiting lists in some areas. If you haven’t booked your child in or know someone who is thinking about it, then please encourage them to do so quickly.

There is always something happening in this exciting part of the School but the most important thing for us is to be able to create beautiful and nurturing environments where children and their families feel welcomed and supported. We would like to extend an invitation to all members of the School community to come and visit us to experience a little piece of what makes the Early Learning Centre a special place within the School.

Lisa Burgess
Director of Early Learning Centres
St Anne’s and Bairnsdale Campuses
‘Couch Day’ at Sale Mall

Students from our Year 9 Council staged a ‘Couch Day’ at the Sale Mall on Friday 10 October, to mark World Homeless Day. The purpose of the day was to draw attention to the needs of homeless people in our local area and provide opportunities for the community to get involved in responding to homelessness.

The students took the time to explain to passers-by that homelessness is often thought of as a problem for older people. In fact, there are over 17,000 homeless children in Australia, with many ‘couch surfing’ from place to place in order to find temporary accommodation.

Head of Year 9, Tim Clemens said, “Couch Day was a fantastic way to raise the issue of homelessness and support World Homeless Day. It was a natural progression of our study of homelessness as part of the Year 9 Melbourne Experience and an opportunity to interact with our local community and the support services available in the Wellington Shire. The Year 9 Council did an excellent job of running this day and should be congratulated for their effort and enthusiasm.”

Debaters win top award

Four Gippsland Grammar students have been awarded a prestigious Swannie Award for their success in debating this year. Awarded by the Debating Association of Victoria (DAV), the Swannie Awards go to the speaker in each region and grade who has the highest average speaker score after completing at least three debates during the year. The Swannie is named after Alan Swanwick, a long-time member of the DAV and a pioneer of debating in Victoria.

With over 250 schools and 1400 teams competing, the DAV Schools Competition is the largest English language debating competition in the world. This year, Gippsland Grammar had the largest ever number of students participating, with a total of ten teams entered. The competition consisted of five regional rounds in Berwick, followed by the finals series. This year, six of the ten teams progressed to the finals series, with the other four teams missing out by only one or two debates. The finals series saw three teams continuing to triumph over their competition, winning round after round to progress all the way through to the Quarter finals, putting one of the A Grade teams and both C Grade teams in the top eight teams in the state (in their respective grades).
There was much excitement at the Bairnsdale Campus when it was announced that students would be performing the classic fairy tale, Cinderella, as their School production for 2013. Following auditions in term one, rehearsals commenced in March and many months of planning began.

The play starred Year 6 students, Caitlyn O’Byrne as Cinderella and George Lancaster as Prince Charming and was directed by music co-ordinator, Serena Jefferis, who spent months overseeing rehearsals and the wonderful team effort from the School community.

The show was staged in the James Beard Centre at Bairnsdale Campus in September and included all students from Years 3 – 6, with as many as 68 students on stage at times. The production was absolutely outstanding and our students, staff, musicians and many helpers should be very proud of their efforts.
The School celebrated the 20th anniversary of the Chapel of St Anne at Garnsey Campus on Sunday 1 September. The Chapel was consecrated as a chapel and performing arts centre by the late Bishop Sheumack in September 1993.

A Eucharist Service, conducted by School Chaplain, Reverend Jon Taylor and the Right Reverend John McIntyre, Bishop of Gippsland, was held for members of the School community both past and present.

Past and present members of the School Foundation and School Board were in attendance and the special guest was former Clerk of Works, Stan Doak, who made a speech and read his 1993 poem about the chapel and how it came to be. Also amongst the special guests were former Principals of the School, Charles Sligo, Jim Beard and Campbell Bairstow.
Our Exchange Students

The School continues to foster a strong exchange relationship with its ‘sister’ schools in Japan and France. This year, we welcomed students from Lycée Jeanne d’Arc in Caen, France and also from Hikarigaoka Girls’ High School in Okazaki City, Japan. The Japanese students all enjoyed their five-week homestay with School families and settled quickly into their new surroundings and routine. The eight French exchange students stayed for seven weeks, also enjoying the local hospitality.

The exchange students enjoyed several special activities during their stay, including a Japanese sports day, an ‘Introduction to French’ day at St Anne’s Campus and the ‘Tanabata’ Japanese star festival at Bairnsdale Campus. The French students also enjoyed an excursion to Melbourne with senior students of French.

Celebrating Book Week

Book Week is a major event celebrated across Australia each year and continues to be an important part of our program. In August, this year’s theme, ‘Read across the Universe’, was celebrated across our three campuses.

At Bairnsdale Campus, the students began their week with performer, Dominic Hogan, acting out his book, The Valley of Lavender, for all Prep to Year 5 students and during library sessions, students enjoyed sitting around a camp ‘fire’ listening to stories.

Both junior campuses enjoyed Book Week costume parades, with many wonderful and outrageous characters making appearances.

At the St Anne’s Book Week Fellowship, library monitors reiterated that books require no equipment or power and are portable and user-friendly. Students read poems about reading being a special thing to do and were shown the shortlisted and winning books from the Australian Book Council Awards.

At Garnsey Campus, Mr Baker, Ms Henry and Mrs Arnup visited the Year 7 English classes to talk about their reading habits and the books they have enjoyed reading. Students participated in a quiz to pick their teachers’ favourite books and book trailers, created by our Year 9 students, were shown in the ISC and also in the front window of the Collins Bookstore in Sale.

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Gippsland Grammar has continued to produce outstanding results in Shooting throughout the year, competing in several local and state events. Starting off a busy year of competition, the team competed at the Interschool Full Bore Competition, held at the Rosedale Rifle Club. Battling harsh, windy conditions across the 500m range, the team put in a great effort, taking a commendable second place.

In June, a large team competed against ten other schools in the Howard and Schuback Interschool Clay Target Shoot at the Sale Field and Game facility at Longford. This competition saw our A team, consisting of Indi Gladman (Year 12), Angus Howlett (Year 12), Ryan Clancy (Year 12), Cameron Cleal (Year 10) and David Bishop (Year 12), winning overall and the B team of Christopher Dennis (Year 10), Samuel O’Hara (Year 10), Wilson Pike (Year 12), Solomon Jones (Year 9) and Michael Garbett (Year 9) placing third. Several individual prizes were also won, with Angus Howlett, Indi Gladman and Solomon Jones each winning their divisions.

In July the Gippsland Grammar trap shooting team competed in the Alpine Country Down the Line Clay Target Championship in Morwell. The A team won the day over thirty other teams, with Cameron Cleal declared overall winner of the event. Indi Gladman won the girls’ division and Angus Howlett placed third in the senior boys’ division. Joel Lumsden-Malaschenko (Year 9) won the junior boys’ division, and Emily Marshall (Year 7) placed second in the junior girls’. It was a most successful day, with Gippsland Grammar taking a prize in every division.

In August, the trap shooting team competed in the South East Zone Down the Line Championships in Frankston. Indi Gladman won the senior girls’ division and Ryan Clancy placed second in the senior boys’ division. And after a ‘shoot-off’, Angus Howlett won a place as reserve in the senior team. Following these outstanding results, these three Year 12 students progressed to the State Titles in Bendigo, where they all performed extremely well, with Indi placing third in the senior girls’ division.

At the Wellington Interschool Shoot, our shooters progressed through two rounds of targets shot on simulated field and down the line. Over 110 students from five local schools participated, with twenty-four students representing the School. Again, the students achieved impressive results, with the B team placing first overall and the A team placing third. Individual winners were Solomon Jones, Cameron Cleal, Christopher Dennis, Indi Gladman and Emily Marshall.

Teacher in Charge of Shooting, Nick Kuch, said, “It’s been another outstanding year with some very pleasing results. We proudly retained our three main team shields in Gippsland and were unfortunate not to gain an invitation to the State Titles in the team event. Sincere congratulations must go to Indi Gladman and Ryan Clancy for the amazing efforts and success they’ve both had at Gippsland Grammar and abroad over the years. Ryan topped this off by winning the High Gun (Bryan Smith Memorial Medall) for the fourth consecutive year.”

In the latest news, Indi Gladman, who this year competed for Morwell Shooting Club in the SE Zone, qualified for both the junior and ladies’ team to compete at state level. The ladies’ team of three, placed first in Victoria at the State Titles in Echuca. Indi has now been selected for the Victorian Ladies’ Postal Team, which is a team of five and will be attending the Nationals in 2014.
Commemoration Day is celebrated in August each year and marks the date in 1970 when the councils of St Anne’s Church of England Girls Grammar School and the Gippsland Grammar School agreed to the amalgamation of the two Schools. This year, it was wonderful to welcome back Old Scholar, Dr Hugh Williams, (1986) for the celebrations of this special date in the School calendar.

Hugh, who now lives in California with his wife and family, was guest speaker at the Commemoration Day assembly and also spoke with senior ICT students about his work at Microsoft and eBay.

Hugh studied Computer Science at RMIT, later returning as a lecturer and PhD student and then became Associate Professor in Information Retrieval. In April 2005, Hugh moved to the USA as a Partner at Microsoft, leading a large development team at Microsoft’s Bing. His love of IT search and information retrieval led him to eBay in 2009, where he is now Vice President of eBay Experience, Search and Platforms.

On his first visit to the Garnsey Campus in over twenty years, Hugh noticed some big changes as he toured the new facilities and reminisced about old times. In Garnsey Hall, he stopped to check his name on the Lorna Sparrow Scholarship honour board and was also pleased to see a few familiar faces in the staffroom. After the assembly, Hugh joked with former Principal, Jim Beard, that it was probably their first conversation that didn’t involve Hugh being in some sort of trouble!

We thank Hugh for making time in his busy schedule to visit the School and for being our Guest Speaker this year. We always enjoy hearing news from our Old Scholars and welcome visitors at all times. Please contact Meredith Lynch at the Development Office on (03) 5143 6315 if you wish to arrange a visit or tour of the School.

Photo: Celebrating Commemoration Day (L to R): Jordy McMillan (School Captain), George Lancaster (Year 6), Sophie Sewell (Year 5), Amy Nicholas (Year 6), Dr Hugh Williams, Mr David Baker, Will Johnson (Year 6), Anna Brougham (Year 6), Chloe Manser (Year 6), Mark McAnulty (School Captain).
Megan Gibbs (1998) married Jason Eversteyn at the Portsea Hotel in February. The wedding took place on a beautiful 33 degree day, with 100 family and friends in attendance. Marriage celebrant, Greg Evans (from the television program, Perfect Match), performed the ceremony and Old Scholar, Brooke Bowman (1998), was part of the bridal party. The newlyweds honeymooned in Mexico, LA and Hawaii for 3 weeks and are currently living in their new home in Melbourne. Megan has worked with the Royal District Nursing Service in the bayside area of Melbourne for the last 6 years, after time spent living and working in London. She has also completed her Post Graduate studies in wound management, along with her Bachelor of Nursing.

Cameron Olsen (1992) is Head of Legal at Sports Direct and International Brand Management and Licensing (IBML) in London. Sports Direct is the largest sporting retailer in the UK and IBML is a global brand owner and licence manager for over 300 sport, fashion and lifestyle brands, including Dunlop, Everlast, Lonsdale and Slazenger. This year, Cameron and his team attended the 2013 World Trademark Review Awards in Dallas, where they won Sports, Entertainment and Media Team of the Year, ahead of other big contenders such as the BBC, Electronic Arts and Nike.

Melanie Roach (2008) was selected for Top Arts in 2007 and Top Screen Design in 2008. She has now graduated from RMIT with Distinction in Animation Interactive Media. After graduating, Mel created a series of funny reindeer gifs for Christmas 2011, which went viral and attracted the interest of Frederator Studios. Mel was then invited to produce a four minute cartoon and in May, Mel’s Rocket Dog went live on Cartoon Hangover. Rocket Dog has now received over 900,000 ‘hits’ on YouTube. Mel has been busy working for Frederator, co-producing a new pilot, called Dead End. She is also working on a new short film for Nickelodeon.

The wedding of Jacinta Ray (2007) and Abe Schuback at the Port of Sale on 16 March was a wonderful celebration which included many members of the Gippsland Grammar community. Jacinta’s attendants included old scholars, Tiffany Ray (2009) and Emma Clancy (2008), and pageboy was current student, Baylin Grubb (Prep). Jacinta’s mother, Sheryn, teaches at St Anne’s Campus, and her father, Peter, is a former teacher of the school. The bridal party arrived by speed boat and the reception was held at The Laurels at Sale Race Course. After a honeymoon in Hawaii, the couple have made their home in Sale, where Jacinta is teaching and Abe works as an accountant.

VALE

Elsie Day (nee Hutchinson – 1963) passed away on 25 August 2013. Sincere condolences are extended to Elsie’s family, especially her sister, Rhonda (1966).

Jeanette Mitchell (nee Connelly – 1955) passed away on 13 August 2013. Sincere condolences are extended to Jeanette’s family, especially her siblings Eileen (1953), Helena (1959) and Roger (1964).


Rita Williams (nee Savige – 1936) passed away on 19 January 2011 in Warrnambool, aged 91. In 2006, Rita presented the School with a handmade, gold and silver metal thread embroidered St Anne’s crest, which now hangs in the office at St Anne’s Campus.

If you have any information for Out and About or VALE, please contact the Development Office via email at: meredith.lynch@gippslandgs.vic.edu.au or phone (03) 5143 6315.
The main building at our St Anne’s Campus celebrated its 100th birthday this year. On 27 November 1913, the first Bishop of Gippsland, the Right Reverend Arthur Wellesley Pain, laid the foundation stone at what was then, the Divinity Hostel. Standing on the site of the first Anglican Church, which had been replaced by St Paul’s Cathedral in Cunninghame Street, it became a boys’ hostel, named St Alban’s, in 1924. The hostel provided accommodation for students who lived some distance from Sale but its need was diminished with the introduction of a school bus service in the mid-1930s.

In 1936, the site became the new home of St Anne’s Church of England Girls’ Grammar School. An additional wing, now housing the Japanese rooms and After-School care facility, was completed in 1937. Originally, this area contained dormitories, a dining room and kitchen, the library and other conveniences. At the time, it was one of the most up-to-date schools outside of Melbourne.

Next year, the School celebrates its 90th birthday, with many special events planned. We start the year with Staggfair, on Sunday 23 March, at Garnsey Campus. All Old Scholars, past and present families and friends, are especially invited to come along and enjoy the celebrations. Please see the next issue of Veritas for more celebrations during 2014.