Welcome to our autumn edition of Veritas for 2016. In this edition of Veritas you will read of the many and varied ways in which our community comes together to celebrate the life of our School. In particular, there is reference to the 2016 STAGGFair. This event, which was held on 20 March, was an outstanding day for the School and a wonderful example of how a willing group of people can come together to achieve great things. Under the wonderful leadership of Sharee Johnson, the STAGGFair Committee brought together parents, friends, staff members and students to organise a great day that was enjoyed by thousands of members of the Gippsland Grammar and broader Gippsland community. We were treated to delicious foods from around the world, outstanding musical performances, an exhibition of our students' art work and exciting rides for all ages. This event was a huge success financially, raising over $34000 in profit. This money will provide added extras at all three campuses for items outside of our normal working budget. I look forward to reporting on the progress of our 'Wishlist' throughout the year.

An organisation such as Gippsland Grammar is only as strong as its community and the support it receives from our community groups. This day in particular was a clear demonstration of the wonderfully active and engaged community we have. Whilst the organising committee met for many months beforehand, ensuring that everything would be ready on the day, it was great to see so many mothers, fathers, grandparents and friends of the community, jump in to help out on the day.

At Gippsland Grammar we are fortunate to be supported by many community groups that contribute to different aspects of our School. The Old Scholars Association provides links between the past and present, by keeping past students informed as to what is happening at the School and by providing opportunities to maintain friendships. This is done by providing Old Scholars with a section in Veritas. A reunion program operates and various functions are held during the year. Assistance is provided for the organisation of Old Scholars reunions through the Development Office at the School.

Established in 1985, the Gippsland Grammar Foundation raises the funds necessary for much needed projects beyond the reach of the School's financial means. As the fundraising arm of the School, the Foundation is an incorporated separate body and is administered by a voluntary Committee of Management with members made up of parents, former students, staff and friends of Gippsland Grammar. Co-ordinated by a central Executive, the School’s Parents and Friends Association has branches based at each of the three campuses. Parents make a significant contribution to the School income by organising social and fundraising events and the major fundraising event every second year, STAGGFair. In particular, the P&F provide a great avenue for friend raising by organising opportunities for our parents to come together and develop strong friendships.

Money raised by the P & F is spent for the benefit of the students on equipment, activities and projects that would not normally be provided by the School. In recent years, the P & F has funded improvements to the School grounds and purchased educational materials and sporting equipment.

Friends of Performing Arts (FOPA) is a group of parents whose children enjoy participating in the performing arts program. They organise interval refreshments at productions and concerts, and the money raised in this venture helps to fund the purchase of equipment that will enhance the students’ performances. FOPA also assist with sewing of costumes, as well as set construction, and provide meals for students who remain at school before performances. The group was formed in 2003 and continues to provide assistance to the Performing Arts Department.

The McColl family generously contributed and assisted in the early days of rowing at the School. In appreciation, it was decided to name the rowing support group, consisting of parents, old scholars and other interested members of the School community, The McColl Club. The club gives financial, material and practical assistance to support our Rowing Program. It is hoped this assistance will optimise the opportunities for students to participate, enjoy and pursue excellence in rowing. Along with a few fundraising activities throughout the year, the club is able to assist the update and purchase of equipment. The McColl Club provides practical support at the annual Rowing Camp and regattas throughout the season.

As the Principal of our School and also as a parent, I have been privileged to see, first-hand, the efforts of these groups to support our students in pursuit of their learning and also their co-curricular interests. It is a pleasure to work alongside these great people and chip in where I can. I encourage all members of our community to get involved where you can. Details of these groups can be found on our School website.

David Baker
Malmo Scholarship

School Captain, Solomon Jones, is the recipient of the 2016 Malmo Memorial Secondary Scholarship. Awarded for general excellence, the Malmo Scholarship is open to senior school students and is in memory of the late Sigurd Malmo, a local veterinarian, who died in a car accident in 1970. Local students, nominated by their schools, are required to submit a résumé and undergo a lengthy interview process before a panel of officials.

On behalf of the trustees of the Malmo Memorial Scholarship, Margo Carruthers presented the award to Solomon at an assembly at Garnsey campus. She described Solomon as an outstanding student and presented him with a certificate and $1000 to assist with his education expenses.

In Year 11, Solomon received the Subject Prizes for Physics 1/2, English Language 1/2, VET Furnishing 3/4 and a Merit Certificate for Mathematical Methods 1/2. He has previously been awarded the English Department Prize for debating, won a Citizenship Award in Year 8 and also been awarded the Australian Defence Force Long Tan Leadership and Teamwork Award in Year 10. He has also been involved in the school’s Peer Support program and been awarded Half Colours for clay target shooting. Solomon plays the saxophone in the School’s concert band, has a black belt in Taekwondo and earlier this year, represented Australia at the Rotary Youth Science Forum in New Zealand.

Solomon aims to attend University to study engineering, focussing on renewable energy.

ELC celebrates 10 Years

It was party time at the St Anne’s Campus Early Learning Centre (ELC) on Friday 4 March, as students, parents and staff celebrated the 10th anniversary of the School’s purpose built ELC facility. The ELC was officially opened by former Head of St Anne’s, Mrs Elizabeth Board, in March 2006.

To mark the 10th anniversary of the facility, current Year 8s and 9s who had attended the ELC, were invited to come along and celebrate with the current ELC students.

Principal, Mr David Baker, welcomed everyone and congratulated the students and staff on ten wonderful years at the facility. Students, Noah Cantwell and Shanae Holland cut the birthday cake, with current ELC students, Milla Said and Dayne Hughes. It was Noah and Shanae who cut the first cake, ten years ago.

The opening of the delightful ELC has allowed the School to operate separate three and four year old programs, in their own rooms. The program has expanded from catering for about 35 children in the old centre, to its current enrolment of 85. Three year olds can attend for one or two days a week and all children attending the four year old program have three, full school days per week. The playground was designed by a landscape architect and both indoor and outdoor learning environments have a focus on natural and inspiring play materials.
Gippsland Grammar’s 2015 VCE results were our best in recent years. A total of 30 per cent of the cohort obtained an ATAR score above 90, putting those students in the top 10 per cent of the state, while 17 per cent of our students achieved a score above 95 (placing them in the top five per cent of the state).

Dux for 2015 was James Gover, of Maffra. James achieved an ATAR score of 98.75, which included a High Distinction in Monash University Extension Mathematics.

The School’s median ATAR score was 73. A total of 43 per cent obtained an ATAR score in excess of 80, placing them in the top 20 per cent and 88 per cent placed in the top 50 per cent. This year seven of our top 10 ATARs were scored by girls.

Close behind James Gover were Tessa Coy (Sale) 98.45, Jade Simpson-Page (Pearsondale) 97.7, David Ting (Lakes Entrance) 97.65, Brayden Haney, (Traralgon) 97.6, Holly Wilson (Sale) 97.6, Shreya Maheshwari (Traralgon) 96.9, Maddy McKeown (Orbost) 96.6, Lucy Harrison (Sale) 96.4, Eleanor Riggall (Tinamba) 96.1, Suzannah Emonson (Sale) 95.9, Courtney Gallert (Hazelwood North) 95.9, Caitlyn Fischer (Bairnsdale) 95.85, Lloyd Hodge (Valencia Creek) 95.75, Ben McAnulty (Maffra) 95.3, Kat Pickett (Sale) 95.3.

The excellent results in VCE units were enhanced by very strong results in Extension Mathematics through Monash University. Of the three students who completed two first year university Mathematics units, two of them - James Gover and Lloyd Hodge - achieved a High Distinction and David Ting, a Distinction. This result added to these students’ ATAR scores.

Principal David Baker was delighted for the 2015 graduating cohort. “As a school we are thrilled with the outstanding results attained by our students. In particular we are pleased that our Monash University Extension Mathematics results were of a High Distinction average and our VET Furnishing students achieved outstanding results.

These results ensure we continue to be a leading school in regional Victoria.

“We would like to congratulate all of our students who successfully obtained their VCE or VCAL certificates. Each and every one of these students have enjoyed a passion for excellence, and now because of their fantastic results, have opportunities abound. I wish them well in their future endeavours.”
The Class of 2015 has obtained excellent results.

From information available to us, we have compiled a list of courses that have been offered and career paths chosen by the students. If you have additional information regarding 'Destinations', please contact the Development Office on (03) 5143 6315.
Our Student Leaders

Prefects 2016

Standing (L to R): Ms Jan Henry (Deputy Principal), Joshua Buck, Henry Davis (Vice Captain), Samuel Whelan, Kate Lynch, Solomon Jones (School Captain), Kirsten Clamp, William Jones, Abbey Wright, Thomas Brougham, Nilupul Mudunna and Mr David Baker (Principal).

Seated (L to R): Lillie Jago, Jordan Rowand (School Captain), Coco Henry, Emily Vale, Zoe Czempinski (Vice Captain), Damaris De Kock.

2016 School Captains

Photo (L to R): Henry Davis and Zoe Czempinski (Vice Captains) Jordan Rowand and Solomon Jones (School Captains)
St Anne’s Campus

Charlotte Runciman and Brin Yeowell.

St Anne’s House Captains

(L to R): Mr David Baker (Principal), Cranswick Dargo – Sarah Husodo (Captain) and Katie Kerby (Vice Captain), Wellington Binks – Tess Johnson (Captain) and Hamish McLeod (Vice Captain), Tisdall Hotham – James Lowe (Captain) and Grace Smolenaars (Vice Captain), Blundell Bogong – Teagan Harrison (Captain) and Finn Stephenson (Vice Captain), Mr Mark Yeowell (Head of St Anne’s Campus).

Bairnsdale Campus

Pippa Treasure and Tristen Wyld

Bairnsdale Leaders

Back Row (L to R): Solomon Jones (School Captain), Mr David Baker (Principal), Ellie Jarvis, Eloise West, Bryanna Carr, Peggy McDonald, Bethany Hickey, The Hon. Darren Chester MP, Jordan Rowand (School Captain).

Middle Row (L to R): Naomi Sjerp, Thomas Sewell, Will Russell, Arjen Goessens, Liam Carroll, Tristen Wyld, Jake Whelan, Mrs Penny Rankin.

Seated (L to R): Myia Stevenson, Pippa Treasure, Ruby Young, Mia Mackintosh

Absent: Indi Dalton.
The 2016 House Swimming carnivals were highly contested events across all three campuses of the School. The Garnsey Campus carnival was held at the Sale Swimming Complex on Monday 8 February, with Tisdall Hotham coming home with the win, after a day of fierce competition which saw seven records broken.

This year, the results were close again, with only 23 points separating first and second positions. The final scores were: Tisdall Hotham (717), Blundell Bogong (694), Wellington Binks (672) and Cranswick Dargo (606). The Tom Osbourne Trophy for the Medley Relay was won by Wellington Binks, breaking Tisdall’s four year running streak and setting a new record of 4:58.56. The last of the 1980s records was finally broken by Jack Edgar (Year 9), who broke Simon Whitford’s 1983 record of 35.3 in the U15 Boys 50m Breaststroke, with a new record time of 35.02. There are still three swimming records, set by the late Charles Ford in the 1970s, left standing.

Students from Years 1 to 6 participated in the St Anne’s House Swimming Carnival on Wednesday 10 February. After a cold start, it warmed up to be a perfect day and all students showed fantastic sportsmanship and team spirit throughout the day. Congratulations to all participants on their swimming efforts and a huge thank you to all of the parent officials who ensured that the day ran smoothly. The final aggregate scores were: Blundell Bogong (12), Wellington Binks (11.6), Cranswick Dargo (11.25) and Tisdall Hotham (8.1).

Students from the Bairnsdale Campus enjoyed perfect, warm conditions for their House Swimming carnival on Friday 12 February. In the first of the House competitions for the year, students enjoyed dressing in their House colours and cheering on their team mates. It was a show of great sportsmanship and House pride. The final results were: 1st - Tisdall Hotham, 2nd – Cranswick Dargo, 3rd – Blundell Bogong and 4th – Wellington Binks.
Five Year 12 students from Gippsland Grammar attended science forums over the summer holidays.

Zoe Czempinski and Sophie Kase attended the National Biology Olympiad Summer School, hosted by the Research School of Biology (RSB), at ANU in Canberra for two weeks. With 21 students from around Australia, the girls attended lectures and practical lessons, completing the equivalent of a first year university Biology course. They sat formal examinations and will sit for another round in March, with the aim of representing Australia at the International Biology Olympiad in Vietnam later this year.

Caitlin Edgar and Chris Valette attended the National Youth Science Forum (NYSF), hosted by ANU in Canberra. Only four hundred students were selected from Australia, Germany and New Zealand, for the 12-day science experience which presents a program of scientific, formal, personal development and social activities. The NYSF is for those who are passionate about all things science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM). The NYSF aims to show students the wide variety of study and career options that are available in the fields and allow networking opportunities for Australia’s next generation of scientists. Students attended lectures, visited laboratories and were immersed in real-life academic settings.

Solomon Jones travelled to New Zealand during his summer break, as one of only six Australian students, selected from 1200 applicants, to attend the NZ National Science and Technology Forum. The six Aussies joined 168 students from across New Zealand, staying at University Hall at the University of Auckland. The forum highlighted the science and technology employment and research opportunities that are available and students were able to have one on one conversations with several impressive scientists and developers. Some of the highlights were the hands on, practical lab activities and a behind-the-scenes visit of the Air New Zealand Engineering Labs and Hangers. Solomon is now one of three Australians invited to attend the International Science Forum in Germany, in June.

Photo: Caitlin Edgar, Solomon Jones, Chris Valette, Sophie Kase and Zoe Czempinski

Summer Science Forums

Come & Try Year 7

Tuesday, 24 May, 5.30pm - Garnsey Campus - Everyone welcome
RSVP to marji.craven@gippslandgs.vic.edu.au or phone 5143 6318
Scholarship to assist future students

The 2016 STAGGFAIR was the perfect forum for the launch of the Gippsland Grammar Old Scholars Association ‘Be Your Potential’ Scholarship Fund. Old Scholars President, Meredith Johnston (Wright-Smith -1978), said, “I am absolutely delighted to be able to launch this fund. The object of the fund is to provide a scholarship for a student to attend Gippsland Grammar. Our ultimate aim is to cover 100% of fees, uniforms and some extra-curricular activities and perhaps even boarding fees, if the money is there.”

“As old scholars, we are all very grateful for the excellent, all-round education we received at Gippsland Grammar. As a result, most of the Old Scholars Executive Committee have or are currently sending their own children to the school. We feel strongly that having benefitted from this school ourselves that we would love to be able to give someone the same opportunities as we had” she said.

Donations to the ‘Be Your Potential’ Scholarship Fund are tax deductible and may be made by direct deposit, cheque or credit card. Cheques made payable to the ‘Be Your Potential’ Scholarship Fund should be forwarded to: Gippsland Grammar Old Scholars Association, PO Box 465, Sale, Victoria 3853.

1960s Decade Reunion ‘Save the Date’

A ‘1960s Decade Reunion’ is planned for Saturday 15 October, at the Garnsey Campus in Sale. All Old Boys and Girls from the 1960s are invited to attend. The reunion will include a tour of the School at 3:30pm, followed by welcome drinks in the Chapel of St Anne. Following this, a dinner will be arranged at a local venue (details to be advised). We are now seeking interest from Old Scholars from this era, so that we may commence the planning process. The Development Office at the School will coordinate the arrangements. Don McNaught (1966) would like to hear from Old Boys and Girls from the 1960s, who would be interested in attending. Invitations will be sent out, later in the year. We need assistance from those who are in contact with Old Scholars, as this will help us to update contact information. Old Scholars who attended or graduated from Gippsland Grammar School or St Anne’s during the 1960s, are urged to email Don at: mczero@optusnet.com.au or phone Meredith Lynch at Gippsland Grammar on (03) 5143 6315. Please pass on this information to anyone from the 1960s decade. We look forward to seeing you at this reunion event.
Out and About

Ross Anderson (2015) was invited to perform at the Top Class 2016 VCE Season of Excellence Investigation and Music Performance concerts. For VCE Music Style and Composition, Ross performed his own piece entitled, Turning Point. Ross played piano and was accompanied by staff members, Brad Cruickshank, Katrina Chilcott and Dan McKimm and old scholar, Nick Robinson (2012). For his Contemporary Solo performance, Ross played the electric bass, performing Chromatic Fantasy by Bach. Ross has now been invited to perform at the final concert of the series, Top Acts, in May. Ross is currently studying music at the University of Melbourne.

Gabby Heathcote (2015) will be on tour during April with the local Groundwork Youth Theatre group. The group will perform their own, ‘Shakespeare’s Shrew and Other Lies’, in Stratford-upon-Avon, for the 400th anniversary of the untimely death of William Shakespeare. The group first performed the production at the ‘Shakespeare on the River Festival’ in Stratford, Vic and the UK performance will be the first international performance for the group. Groundwork Youth Theatre is a local theatre group which offers training and performance opportunities for young people aged 15 – 25.

Elese Cartledge (2004) married Jack Hill on October 17, 2015. They were married at the Newman College Chapel at the University of Melbourne and then celebrated at The Deck @ Circa in St Kilda. Elese’s attendants included her sister Clare Cartledge (2008) and flower girl, Eve Trethowan, the daughter of former students, Abbey Hughes (2005) and Mark Trethowan (2005). The newlyweds live in Melbourne and work in law firms in the Melbourne CBD.

Memories from our ‘Old Girls’

Nella Bacon (nee Leckey – 1954) is compiling a book of memories from the old days of St Anne’s. She would like to hear from our ‘Old Girls’ who would like to contribute a story, photo or some anecdotes from old school days. Nella has already received some wonderful news, so please write down your memories and be a part of this piece of St Anne’s history. Please email your stories to Nella at: alenel@bigpond.com or handwritten versions may be forwarded to: 7 Babin Place, Cooma North, 2630. Contributions would be appreciated by early June.

VALE

Glenean Bowley (Barratt – 1958) passed away on 18 March 2016, after a brave battle with cancer. Glenean was a proud Old Girl of St Anne’s, who enjoyed attending reunions and especially the Warragul luncheons. Glenean’s funeral was held in Bairnsdale on 29 March. We extend our sincere condolences to her siblings, Maurine, Lesley and Christopher.

Marie Kennedy (McNally – 1968) passed away on 17 September 2015 after a long battle with cancer. She was 65 years old. Marie will be sadly missed by the ‘Old Girls’ of her St Anne’s era. Sincere condolences are extended to Marie’s children, Prue (1998) and Aaron, and her siblings, Libby Anderson (McNally – 1982) and Daniel McNally (1980).

Jane Moore passed away in Bairnsdale on 9 November 2015. Jane was an employee of Gippsland Grammar from 1977 - 1998, working as a shorthand teacher, Principal’s secretary and finally as a member of the Library staff for fourteen years. She was a friend to all and will be sadly missed by those who knew her. Our sincere condolences are extended to Jane’s children, Andrew (1981) and Lyndel (1984).
Rowing Highlights

Much like a crew at full speed, racing towards the finish line, the 2015-2016 rowing season has flown past in a flurry of A Finals, podiums and medals. We travelled across Victoria and NSW in search of challenges to make us better rowers. At the Victorian State Championships, we witnessed the Senior Girls 1st Quad win the State Championship title in the Open School Girls Quadruple Scull, the Senior Boys 1st Quad win Silver in the Open School Boys Quadruple Scull and the Junior/Intermediate Boys 1st Quad win Gold in the Under 17 Men’s Quadruple Scull – these are just three of the seven Victorian State Championship medals won this season! All seven of our target boats reached the A Final in their category, including our intrepid Junior/Intermediate B combination!

In NSW, Tom Stewart (Year 11), in his final race of the season, led the final of the School Boy Single Scull from start to finish, to claim Gold at the School Boy Head of the River (the School State Championships of NSW). Our young and talented double of Campbell Czempinski and Lachlan Wilmot took home Silver in the Year 9 Double Sculls and are now eager to win Gold next year. The Senior Boys 1st, backing up their recent success in Victoria, won Bronze in the NSW School Boys Quadruple Scull.

Our girls finished their season at the Victorian Head of the School Girls. Here, the Junior B crew made the Quarter finals, the Junior A crew reached the Semi Finals and the Senior Girls, fresh from victory at States, reached the A Final.

This season has been one of change, challenge and development. The coaching team has worked well together to teach a culture and standard of performance to all of the athletes, regardless of ability or potential. We actively include everyone who wants to row and teach them that our expectation is that they aim to be the best they can be. We teach them that true success is measured in the standard of our performance, success is realised in aiming to be the best we can be in every training session and in every race. The result will take care of itself if we focus on the process – sometimes, as we’ve discovered, the process leads to Gold.

Students who are interested in our rowing program should contact me at the Rowing Office. We also welcome those who would like to support the program in any way. Here’s to next season!

Peter Campbell
Director of Rowing

Gippsland Grammar
PO Box 465, Sale Victoria 3853
Telephone +61 3 5143 6388 Facsimile +61 3 5143 6347

Above: Tom Stewart (Year 11) won Gold in the Single Scull at the School Boy Head of the River (NSW).

Above: Peter Campbell (Coach) with State U17 Gold Medal winners, Andrew Gray, Lachlan Wilmot, Kate Hamilton (Cox), William Lamb and Campbell Czempinski.

Above: Courtney Edmonds (Coach) with State Quadruple Scull Gold Medal winners, Emerson Lowe, Caitlin Baker, Kate Hamilton (Cox), Tess Maxfield and Jessica Thompson.