making very worthwhile contributions to our nation as tradesmen, professionals, parents and volunteers who have ‘gone out to serve’. Those currently enrolled, will in a manner of speaking, stand on the shoulders of those who have preceded them, and have much to live up to when they graduate and move on to the next phase of their lives.

At Macarthur, we are constantly looking to the future, seeking ways to improve the experience of being educated at this fine institution – seeking ways to provide students with the skills and knowledge they need to be effective members of the community as the Twenty-first Century unfolds. In the last issue of Tartan Ties, I wrote about the wonderful range of innovations that marked these thirty years as Macarthur Anglican School served its surrounding community and how the process of innovating continues. However, when we reach a milestone like the completion of thirty years, it’s also a good time to take stock, by looking back to see what has been achieved.

As I come into contact with the parents of former students and former students themselves who are expanding their relationships, raising families and building careers, I always feel proud to be associated with the school. There is no doubt that Macarthur has made a significant contribution to thousands of young people, nurturing interests that develop into careers, providing academic rigour that prepares for tertiary study and providing opportunities to develop talents, whether they be in music, acting, writing, technology or sport.

But is that all that the school has achieved? I would like to focus on three more very important benefits that accrue to students as a result of their attendance at Macarthur. The first is the development of worthwhile and lasting relationships, which seem to flourish in the friendly, settled environment of the school. We know for a fact that many former students maintain friendships that began at Macarthur and have lasted for more than twenty years. These relationships are enormously significant in the happiness and wellbeing of people in day-to-day living. Furthermore, our graduating class each year always identifies their friendships as one of the most important things they gained during their time at Macarthur.

Secondly, the experiences students accumulate at Macarthur create vivid memories that cause them to reflect on their school years with fondness rather than regret. I would never suggest that all memories are happy memories, but we are sure that the overwhelming impression among students recalling excursions, camps, lessons and extra-curricular activities is one of fun and pleasure among their friends and teachers.

Finally, and most importantly, every single student who has enrolled in the school has been made aware of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the saving grace that flows from God’s love for each one of us. More than anything I have mentioned above, this is the greatest gift that the school has passed to its students. Some may push this aspect to the back of their minds and perhaps never or only later in life give further thought to Christ as their Saviour. But we know that the seed is there and we rejoice in hearing of students who have committed their lives to Christ at some time beyond school. We also rejoice that many students exercise the freedom to develop and express their faith while they are still at school. This is a freedom that is not found in every school.

As we once again look to the future, my prayer is that the school will continue to faithfully carry out this mission to make the Gospel of Christ known to all students, just as it has for the last thirty years.

DR DAVID NOCKLES
Two Macarthur teachers, Mrs Melissa Gould-Drakeley, and Miss Joanne Fenton, have published a series of textbooks and workbooks, to support the teaching of Indonesian.

The series of books, known as *Saling Silang* (meaning ‘interwoven’) focus on intercultural language learning and provide the most up-to-date introductory course for students of Indonesian. *Saling Silang* was shortlisted for the Best Australian Textbook of the Year Award.

“The principles of intercultural language learning involve noticing, making connections, reflecting and interacting as students explore Indonesian language and various aspects of Indonesian life”, Mrs Gould-Drakeley says. “Joanne and I felt there was a need for a series of books featuring carefully sequenced speaking activities, up-to-date photographs shot on location and culturally rich illustrations to enable deep engagement and reflection”.

Activity books allow consolidation of language structures and vocabulary covered in the student book. An e-Book version of the series is also available. An audio CD containing high-quality recordings by native Indonesian speakers provides clear, accurate and authentic modelling of the spoken language.

“Governments now expect schools to focus on the teaching of Asian languages, so it’s important for teachers and students to have appropriate resources to support this goal”, Miss Fenton says. “The importance of Indonesia as a trading partner will grow. For instance, Mr Geoff Coates, of the Commonwealth Bank recently informed our students that he expects their bank staff in Indonesia to triple in the next ten years. These books will serve what we expect to be an increasing number of students seeking to learn Indonesian”.

**IT SUPPORT TEAM**

With so many computers and personal iPads now in use around the school, it’s easy to imagine the magnitude of the task of keeping so much IT equipment functioning efficiently. Macarthur is fortunate in having a dedicated team providing technical support and help in a wide range of areas. The team consists of Technical Support Officers, Mr Kent Palmer and Mr Daniel Ash (both former students of Macarthur), and Help Desk Operator, Mr Simon Joel.

If you thought that the work of the team is exclusively concerned with fixing computers and providing resolutions for various computer problems, then take a look at this sample of tasks carried out by the team. They implement new software systems, maintain the school’s fibre-optic network and computer servers for staff and student use, allocate student and staff email accounts, set up and maintain audio-visual equipment, such as sound systems, printers and digital projectors, configure and maintain the school’s firewall, maintain the school’s internal phone system, purchase new equipment and provide for distribution, manage lease turnovers, maintain the hardware and software asset databases, oversee software license arrangements, supervise external IT contractors, and handle emergency responses to server shutdowns, power outages and phone problems.

If that’s not enough, the team now attends to repairs where possible when iPads have been dropped or bumped in school bags. The team maintains a job log for worked carried out so that patterns of use, requests, repairs and other problems can be discerned. Clearly, there is wide support for the use of technology to encourage autonomous learning and creativity and ultimately to keep our students at the forefront of technology to encourage autonomous learning and creativity and ultimately to keep our students at the forefront of
Why do we enrol International Students?

Students from other lands bring their culture and experience into the lives of our Australian students. Rather than a limited understanding of the lives and challenges of people in other lands, Macarthur students can meet and come to know people from other cultures through daily contact over several years.

In many countries, education systems are rigid, with large class sizes and extraordinary competition for university entry. Parents believe an education in Australia gives their son or daughter an advantage over their peers. As well, the ability to speak English is highly regarded when seeking employment.

Most of our students come from hard-working middle class families, not the super rich, but families who make extraordinary personal and financial sacrifices to send their child abroad to school or university.

During the last two decades, students have enrolled at Macarthur from China, Hong Kong, Macau, Taiwan, Japan, Korea, Indonesia, Brunei, Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, Laos and Myanmar. A few develop the intention to seek permanent residency and continue living in Australia, but most complete university and return to their families and work in their own countries, in careers as varied as one could imagine.

Unlike the majority of International Students in Australia who attend tertiary institutions, those who enrol in schools are under eighteen years of age at the time of enrolment. Therefore the school must accept responsibility for the welfare and accommodation of these students unless they have family member in Australia to act as their guardian. Macarthur only allows International Students to live in homestay accommodation, unless they live with a relative who is an Australian citizen. Families interested in the unique opportunity of hosting an International Student, should contact Mr Jonathan Oliver or Mrs Trish Cartwright at the school. It’s a very rewarding experience.
During 2012, Macarthur students embarked on a valuable community service project involving the restoration of a horse-drawn wagon that was seen around the Macarthur district more than one hundred years ago. The wagon will be especially familiar to Camden residents, as it was on display for many years in front of the Council of Camden offices in John Street.

When it was in service, the wagon was used to cart wool and hay from Appin and the Burragorang Valley. It survives today as an important part of the district’s heritage. Unfortunately, the outdoor display of the wagon has led to serious deterioration of the timbers used in its construction, such that almost all of the timbers including the wheels will have to be replaced.

Mr Timothy Cartwright, Macarthur’s Dean of Students, is guiding the students through the project. “This is slow and careful work,” Mr Cartwright says, “as great care is taken to ensure the original design of the wagon is replicated to the exact dimensions and the timber work is finished with the same detail applied by the early craftsmen. This is a wonderful opportunity for students to learn carpentry skills and gain an appreciation for the skill of the original builders who worked without the benefit of portable power tools in use today.”

In conjunction with members of the Historical Society of Camden, and with the help of a Camden Council community grant, the Macarthur students expect to be working on the wagon for up to three years. After completion of the restoration, the wagon will be returned to the Historical Society and will be seen again in displays, community events, parades and shows.

For now, the students of Macarthur have the satisfaction of knowing they are performing a valuable community service in working towards the preservation of a piece of history. Of equal importance is the range of skills the students are acquiring in planning their work, using tools and finishing components that will extend the life of this important mode of transport from bygone days.

The wagon immediately before its relocation to the school for renovation.

Mitchell Robinson and Edward Oliver at work dismantling part of the wagon.

This photo shows the extent of deterioration in the wagon timbers.

Some of the new components constructed by Macarthur students.
GATEway 8

A very successful innovation of Macarthur Anglican School is the GATEway 8 competition, which has now been running for several years.

This inter-school competition, hosted annually by and at Macarthur Anglican School, is designed to challenge and enthuse gifted students in creative academic pursuits. Teams are made up of eight students who compete on eight tasks designed to stimulate the eight ‘multiple intelligences’ outlined by Howard Gardner, a developmental psychologist at Harvard University.

Gardner claims that human beings have several information processing capacities. That is, we have several different ways of learning and processing information, but these methods are relatively independent of one another, leading to his theory of multiple intelligences as opposed to the concept of general intelligence. His theory suggests eight types of intelligence, namely linguistic, logic-mathematical, musical, spatial, bodily/kinesthetic, interpersonal, intrapersonal and naturalistic.

This year, fourteen schools participated in the competition over three days in August, travelling from as far away as Bowral and Wollongong in the south to Dee Why in the north. Of these, all but two schools entered teams at more than one level, with a total of one hundred and twelve Year 5/6 students involved, one hundred and sixty-eight Year 7/8 students and one hundred and sixty Year 9/10 students. Many schools had more than one team at each level. The theme of this year’s challenges was the 2013 International Year of Statistics, which sought to dispel the associations we usually have with statistics concerning manipulation and distortion of numerical data.

Competition between the school teams is always very keen and the outcomes never fail to impress any observer. “I am amazed at what these students manage to create in such a short time frame”, says the Head of the Middle School, Mr Neil Davies, who co-ordinated this year’s GATEway 8 programmes. “I was really impressed with the teamwork of the students and the vigour with which every member of each team sought to make a contribution to their team’s solution to various problems. It was an amazing experience for the students, and a programme that underlines the innovative approach taken by Macarthur in extending students with significant talent.”
iPAD ROLLOUT CONTINUES

In the last issue of Tartan Ties, we reported the first stage of the iPad rollout consisting of the issue of personal iPads early in the year to all students in Years 7 and 8. Three teachers gave their opinions on iPads to the classroom in the Winter 2013 issue. The Year 7 and 8 students have now progressed to Years 8 and 9 and in this issue, we ask four students who have used their iPad for almost a full year, to give their views on iPads in class.

Katelyn Biggart – Year 8
The iPad makes it much easier to take notes when you need to get things down quickly. There are apps that display your timetable so if you have your iPad out, you can check your timetable without dragging your diary out of your bag. It’s also good for giving reminders of when homework and assignments are due. There are note-making apps that are helpful in setting out notes to make it easier for study. For instance, you can highlight a section of text and add notes to it or get the iPad to make a study card. You can submit homework to the teacher electronically instead of printing it. The only downside is that they are fragile if you happen to drop it!

Jacob Elliott – Year 8
iPads open a lot of possibilities for learning because they are such an advanced piece of technology. They are especially good in interactive learning with other students. This makes learning more interesting and it’s a style of learning that’s makes it easier to remember what you need to know. Another great advantage now is that we don’t have to carry so much in our backpacks. We already have eBooks in place of textbooks in Mathematics and History. This is a big saving in weight every day. The only problem I can think of is that there is so much that can catch your attention that there have been some cases of students wandering off task rather than sticking to the content of the lesson. However, teachers quickly see that students are back on task.

Sarah McDonald – Year 9
They certainly mean that our bags are much lighter, not having to carry so many textbooks each day. They give you the opportunity to explore a topic more widely and there are so many games and quizzes to help you instead of mere worksheets. The way they can generate study cards to help with exam preparation is really useful. When they were first introduced, the iPads were a bit of a distraction from what we were supposed to studying in class. Everyone wanted to go off exploring side issues, but once the novelty wore off that wasn’t a problem. Teachers must find them really useful, as they don’t have to spend so much time issuing textbooks and counting them when returned. One thing irritates me a bit and that’s to see groups of students sitting together at Recess and Lunchtime, still on their iPads, texting one another when they could speak face to face! It seems a bit unsociable, but I think they will get over it. A lot of students like typing their notes, but I still like handwriting things – ideas seem to register in my mind more when I am writing. Overall, I think iPads are really useful in class.

Andrew Simmons – Year 9
Everything can be done so quickly with an iPad. You can rapidly look up definitions of words. You can do a find to easily locate a piece of text among several pages of notes. When you work with the Maths eBook, you just slide the page out of the way to access the calculator app and get the answer you need far more quickly. You can download apps on just about every subject we learn. If you missed receiving a task or assessment it can be emailed to you. I find typing notes is faster than writing them by hand. You can communicate easily with teachers and other students out of hours and with eBooks now, our bags are much lighter which is better for our backs. In English they still emphasise that is important to maintain handwriting skills as most exams are still handwritten. Breakages have been the main problem. When you become so reliant on the iPad, it can be very difficult doing without it while waiting for it to be repaired.
Is your understanding of Geography limited to thinking about landforms and types of vegetation? Actually, Geography is defined as a study of the physical features of the earth and its atmosphere, and of human activity as it affects and is affected by these, including the distribution of populations and resources and political and economic activities. A very broad study indeed!

Geography is a compulsory subject for Year 7 and 8 students and an elective subject taken by many students as far as the Higher School Certificate. Macarthur has an enviable record of achievement in this subject, under the leadership of the Head of Social Science, Mr Peter Toovey, with HSC results consistently well above the state average.

After developing an understanding of the breadth and depth of the study of Geography, Year 7 students begin to learn about natural environments and make a visit to the Minnamurra Rainforest near Jamberoo south of Wollongong. In Year 8, the emphasis moves to a study of cultural environments, or how people interact with local and global environments – their effect on the environment and how the environment shapes their lives.

In Years 9 and 10, there are a number of electives depending upon student interests. These include Oceanography, Primary Production, Tourism and Political Geography, which examines the various regimes operating in countries around the globe – their positive and negative features, political hotspots, wars and regions of tension. Part of the study this year included a visit to the Gold Coast to study the impact of tourism and urban development in southeast Queensland and their effects on the coastal environment. Year 11 contains a physical strand focussing among other things on coastal processes and biophysical interactions, with students visiting the Shoalhaven region. A human strand focusses on cultural integration or multiculturalism, particularly in areas of urban renewal such as Port Botany, Sydney Airport, Maroubra, Barangaroo and Green Square in Sydney. Finally in Year 12, deeper studies of urban development, including world cities and megacities in the developing world, ecosystems and tourism involve student visits to areas of Sydney such as Oran Park, Leichhardt, Pyrmont, the Parramatta River, Manly, the Homebush Bay wetlands and Jamberoo Action Park.

Clearly the emphasis in Geography has shifted towards giving students a solid understanding of the physical and cultural environments they are most likely to experience, to enable them to become fully informed and active citizens in today’s world.
Books and Bibles

Spring Term is eagerly anticipated each year as the time to bring out the costumes and dress up for Book Week. This year, Book Week took on a new flavour, literally, as it was embellished with a new activity – ‘Bake a Book’.

In speaking at the Book Week Parade, the Head of the Junior School, Mrs Kylie Elling said, “I encourage you all as families to take some time out to read to your children. Today the riches of parents reading aloud to children have been quantified and recognised as among the most important activities for children from birth. As the famous author Mem Fox says, ‘Children can learn to read by being read to, by playing games with words and falling head over heals in love with books.’”

With the school making increasing use of iPads in learning, promoting a love of books and reading now embraces the use of technology in classrooms. Following the Book Week Parade of book characters, parents, grandparents and students returned to the classrooms to take part in a number of literacy activities.

It was interesting to see some of the children showing the adults how they use technology for reading.

There is no doubt that Book Week is a lot of fun, but at Macarthur, the focus on books does not end there. More recently, Year 4 and Kindergarten students continued their focus on books through the Skip-for-Bibles programme. Firstly, Year 4 took part in a Skip-a-thon, raising over one thousand dollars, or more than fifty dollars per student, to purchase bibles. Then on 1 November at the Skip-for-Bibles Presentation, Year 4 students presented the bibles they purchased to the Kindergarten children. What an amazing gift for these young children! All that remains is for the Year 4 students to decide how they will put to best use their surplus funds after such a successful skip-a-thon.

A selection of the outstanding entries in the Bake-a-Book competition.

Paris Newman, Kindergarten, as Mary Poppins.

Joel Orford, Year 2, as the Mad Hatter.

Year 4 skipping to raise money for Kindergarten’s bibles.
THE SOUND OF MUSIC

Under the direction of Mrs Nadine James (see profile Page 13), this year’s school musical, *The Sound of Music*, brought a night of memories to audiences familiar with the 1965 Academy Award winning film starring Julie Andrews and Christopher Plummer, at the time the highest grossing film of all time.

Although many of today’s students were unfamiliar with the story and songs, they took to learning their parts with enthusiasm. The result was an evening of fine entertainment as well as an evening of resurging memories for those old enough to remember the story and music.


Supporting the performers were a very professional student orchestra, conducted by Mr Richard Coward (also profiled on Page 13) and a dedicated team of students and parents providing costumes, set design and construction, hair and makeup, sound and lighting, and backstage support. No performance is possible without their input. The cast and crew of the 2013 musical, *The Sound of Music*, can be very proud of their achievement in staging this wonderful performance.
CAST

Maria Rainer  Emma Nockles
A beautiful and intelligent young woman

The Mother Abbess  Justice Massaad

Sister Berthe  Emma Houghton

Sister Margareta  Renee Cowper
Mistress of Postulants

Sister Sophia  Danielle Glynn

Captain Georg von Trapp  Trent Sierra

Franz  William Rogan-Johnstone

The butler

Frau Schmidt  Daisy Morphew

The housekeeper

Liesl von Trapp  Lily Margin

Age 16

Friedrich von Trapp  Jayden Houghton

Age 14

Louisa von Trapp  Julia Kokic

Age 13

Kurt von Trapp  Noah Gray

Age 10

Brigitta von Trapp  Cory Butlin

Age 9

Marta von Trapp  Indigo Margin

Age 7

Gretl von Trapp  Julia Fernandez

The youngest

Rolf Gruber  Charles Wearn

Elsa von Schraeder  Abbey Bamford

Max Detweiler  Samuel Watson

Herr Zeller  Thomas Wood

Baron Elberfeld  Joshua Condello

Baroness Elberfeld  Amy Cooper

A New Postulant  Laura Penich

Admiral von Schreiber  Andrew Simmons

Nuns
Laureen Albarouki,
Katrina Azzopardi,
Madison Brinkworth,
Sophie Heap,
Ellen House,
Kayla King,
Tayler Raymond,
Emma Whitelaw

Chorus
Grace Barrett,
Brooke Duncan,
Tracy Gidless,
Jonah Gray,
Elise Mackie,
Samuel Nockles,
Andre Ponniah,
Brittany Young

A full list of Cast, Crew and Credits will be published in the 2013 Yearbook.

TARTAN TIES – SPRING 2013 11
MACARTHUR NEWS

30 YEARS OF MACARTHUR ANGLICAN SCHOOL

Macarthur Anglican School completes thirty years of continuous operation as an independent Anglican School at the end of 2013. During that time, the school has had just three Headmasters, the late Mr David Lloyd, Mr Riley Warren AM and the current Headmaster, Dr David Nockles. Today the school looks back with pride on its achievements, not just in the academic domain, but also upon its record of upholding Christian values and of nurturing young lives. Records show that over this time, more than four thousand students have enrolled and experienced the wonderful opportunities available at Macarthur. This includes about one hundred and fifty International Students (see Page 4). For more information on the development of Macarthur Anglican School, follow the Macarthur Archives articles in each issue of Tartan Ties, commencing from Spring 2012.

MUSIC AND PERFORMANCE STUDY TOUR

Macarthur students will have an amazing opportunity to take part in an international music and performance tour during the Spring Vacation in September/October 2014. The tour will take in the great centres of musical creativity to be found in eastern and southern USA. Commencing in New York, the tour moves on to Nashville, then Memphis in Tennessee, New Orleans in Louisiana and Orlando Florida, the home of Walt Disney World. In New York the students will visit Times Square, Greenwich Village and Carnegie Hall, attend a Broadway workshop and go to a Broadway show. They will also visit the Metropolitan Opera, the David Koch Theatre and the Julliard School of Music to name a few of the exciting activities on the schedule.

In Nashville and Memphis the group will visit the Country Music Hall of Fame, visit RCA Recording Studio B where Elvis Pressley recorded, visit the Stax Museum of American Soul Music and Graceland and attend an evening show. In New Orleans, they will visit the French Quarter, Jackson Square and Pirate’s Alley, the New Orleans Jazz National Historical Park and see two more shows. Finally, the group will travel to Orlando and visit Universal Studios, rounding off the tour with a day at Walt Disney World. What an experience!

OUTSTANDING DEBATING RECORD

Macarthur debating teams have had an outstanding year. Two Macarthur teams were runners-up, sweeping all before them only to lose narrowly in the finals. The Senior HICES debating team defeated Wollondilly Anglican College, The Illawarra Grammar School, Nowra Anglican College, Chevalier College A, Georges River Grammar B, Oxley College, Blue Mountains Grammar School and Georges River Grammar A, only to lose to Central Coast Grammar in the Final.

It was a similar story for the Year 8 team competing in the MISA competition, defeating John Therry Catholic High School, St Patrick’s College, Wollondilly Anglican College, Magdalene Catholic High School and Broughton Anglican College, only to lose to Georges River Grammar in the Final.

Sarah Stone was named Best Speaker in the HICES Finals Series and Liam Wright was named Best Speaker in his division for the preliminary rounds of the Year 5/6 competition. Well done Macarthur debating teams.

TOURS TO INDONESIA RESUME

For the first time in more than ten years, a group of students have visited the main island of Java in Indonesia. Following the very first tour to Indonesia in 1991 and several in succeeding years, it was not possible for school groups to visit Indonesia while the Australian government maintained travel warnings following the Bali bombings. Now, once again, it is possible for students to put their Indonesian language skills to the test by mixing with the Indonesian people. The tour included visits to Jakarta, the national capital and to Yogyakarta, an important cultural centre in Java. By studying Indonesian, Macarthur students are well equipped to fulfil the national strategic priority for learning Asian languages.

ALWAYS REMEMBERED

Mr David Lloyd, Foundation Headmaster

It was with sadness that the school community heard the news that the Foundation Headmaster, Mr David Lloyd, passed away during August 2013. Mr Lloyd was predeceased by his wife Mrs Lorna Lloyd, who died in 2012. The funeral for Mr Lloyd was held at St Swithuns Anglican Church, Pymble and was attended by several current and former members of the school staff.

Mr Kevin Bevitt

The school community was also advised of the passing of Mr Kevin Bevitt, former President of the Parents and Friends Association, who died in October. Mr Bevitt was a highly respected member of the Macarthur Family and will be remembered for his valuable contribution to the school through the PFA. Our thoughts and prayers are with Mrs Bevitt and also Joseph, Harry, John and Christos, who all attended Macarthur.

A recent photo of Macarthur Anglican School from the air.
“We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give”
Winston Churchill

Thank you to all of you who continue to give generously, whether financially or in kind. The 2013 Annual Appeal has had ongoing support from parents, alumni and friends. The amount raised by the end of October was $31,200 allowing for ongoing improvement and refurbishment of the Chapel. During the last vacation, the Chapel seats were reupholstered, and the stairs re-carpeted and completed with safe stair nosings. Also, new footpaths were added to the campus making for easier movements around the school. And the Middle School and Senior School change rooms were refurbished.

The Annual Fundraising Dinner was a great success. Thank you to all who supported this in attendance, donation or sponsorship and to our Gold Sponsor: Marsden’s Law Group, Silver Sponsors: Plus Fitness Health Clubs and BTF Projects, and our Bronze Sponsors: Runnymede Technologies, Solutions Outsourced, Grimes Finance and Mortgages (GFM), Callebaut, Adtrans Hino and Next Logistics and Next Freight. Total funds raised at this event were $32,350!

Our Community Partners are very important to us and we thank them for their support. Thank you M.A.D. Excavations and Landscaping, Chisholm and Turner Travel Associates, Handprint Photography, Kaczanowski and Co and Mercedes Benz Macarthur Automotives for your ongoing support. Mercedes Benz have pledged $1,000 back to the school for every car sold to school families or staff members. Please remember to tell the staff at Mercedes that you are a school family or staff member on your first visit.

I would like to acknowledge members of the past Rock Eisteddfod fundraising group for recently donating surplus funds to the school. These funds were raised over many years and used for the many elaborate costumes and props when the school participated in the Rock Eisteddfod. Funds donated, along with a donation from Mr R and Mrs D Heap were used to upgrade the sound and lighting system in the Rehearsal Hall. Our thanks to all involved with this donation.

Fathers Day stalls and Fathers Day Breakfast proved to be very special events in the lives of our students and their dads. Thank you Sandra Pash, Kylie Lyons and the many other helpers for making these events memorable.

The school continues to seek opportunities to connect with our wider Macarthur community. Since the last edition of Tartan Ties, a team from Macarthur entered the Rotary Relay for Life. They came second in total funds raised in the Macarthur area. A special thank you goes to Alumni dad, Hans Ede for his amazing efforts in raising funds. Macarthur students were asked to participate in the candlelight service at this event – a fantastic opportunity to showcase our choir. Thank you to all who participated in this event.

In late October, Men and Machines came to Macarthur! Approximately three thousand people passed through the gates to enjoy over two hundred exhibitors. The Men and Women @ Macarthur team ran a Devonshire Tea marquee, with Devonshire Tea providing a nice change of pace during the day. Thank you Kaczanowski and Co for providing the smallgoods for the plated sandwiches. Thank you Leppington Pastoral Company for donating the A2 milk for more than two hundred coffees we made.

W@M recently hosted the Pink Ribbon Luncheon at Bistro Calavia. Fifty-five women attended to support the National Breast Cancer Foundation. Dr Jane Gray was the guest speaker at the event.

Camden Civic Centre decorated in a Carnivale style for the Annual Dinner.

With grateful thanks to our Annual Community Partners

[Image of community partners logos]
Playgroup finished the winter term with a party. The children’s highlight was the icing and dipping of biscuits, with more icing ending up on their faces than the biscuits! Playgroup moved recently and is now located next to the Kindergarten rooms (St Paul 3). Playgroup is held every Monday morning from 9.00am.

Thank you to Kareena Newman for co-ordinating this fantastic group and also Amanda Dobson, Robyn Haoui and Fiona Jones for their support.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all who support Macarthur. The annual Volunteers Morning Tea held Tuesday 19 November was one small way we can show our appreciation. Whilst I try to invite all who have helped in some way throughout the year sometimes a name is not passed my way. If you have assisted in some way we thank you as well.

If you would like to be involved in any of the school groups or would like to consider a partnership or sponsorship opportunity, please contact me.

Sharon Pascoe-Thomas
Community Relations Manager
P: (02) 4629 6207
E: spascoethomas@macarthur.nsw.edu.au
In the presence of the Middle School and Senior School students, Year 12 student, Maire Playford, has just been awarded an Australia Indonesia Association Commonwealth Bank Scholarship. The scholarship covers all costs for travel, accommodation and tuition while Maire spends two weeks in Yogyakarta in central Java, for intensive study of Indonesian language. As well, the scholarship means that the school will enter a partnership with the Australia Indonesia Association leading to ongoing support for the teaching of Indonesian at Macarthur, a benefit that will flow to all students studying the language.

The Scholarship was presented jointly by Ms Miriam Tulevski of the Australia Indonesia Association and Mr Geoff Coates, Executive General Manager for International Financial Services of the Commonwealth Bank. Also attending the presentation were Mr Michael Kramer and Ms Sylvia Sidharta of the Australia Indonesia Association.

In addressing the students, Ms Tulevski, who is also the Director of Business Development for Asia Pacific Market Development Pty Ltd, outlined her own experience of working in Indonesia and the importance of understanding the Indonesian culture. Mr Coates spoke of the importance of Indonesia to Australia’s future and how the Commonwealth Bank is significantly increasing its involvement in this country.

The Scholarship represents a fine achievement by Maire who is to be congratulated for her outstanding ability, as heard by the students when she responded in a speech spoken entirely in Indonesian and translated by Mrs Gould-Drakeley.

The Headmaster, Ms Tulevski of the Australia Indonesia Association, Maire Playford and Mr Geoff Coates of the Commonwealth Bank.

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In the presence of the Middle School and Senior School students, Year 12 student, Maire Playford, has just been awarded an Australia Indonesia Association Commonwealth Bank Scholarship. The scholarship covers all costs for travel, accommodation and tuition while Maire spends two weeks in Yogyakarta in central Java, for intensive study of Indonesian language. As well, the scholarship means that the school will enter a partnership with the Australia Indonesia Association leading to ongoing support for the teaching of Indonesian at Macarthur, a benefit that will flow to all students studying the language.

The Scholarship was presented jointly by Ms Miriam Tulevski of the Australia Indonesia Association and Mr Geoff Coates, Executive General Manager for International Financial Services of the Commonwealth Bank. Also attending the presentation were Mr Michael Kramer and Mrs Sylvia Sidharta of the Australia Indonesia Association.

In addressing the students, Ms Tulevski, who is also the Director of Business Development for Asia Pacific Market Development Pty Ltd, outlined her own experience of working in Indonesia and the importance of understanding the Indonesian culture. Mr Coates spoke of the importance of Indonesia to Australia’s future and how the Commonwealth Bank is significantly increasing its involvement in this country.

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The Headmaster, Ms Tulevski of the Australia Indonesia Association, Maire Playford and Mr Geoff Coates of the Commonwealth Bank.
ADRIENNE NEAVES

Before commencing at Macarthur, Mrs Neaves, completed teacher training at Mitchell College of Advanced Education (now Charles Sturt University) and taught at Bradbury, then various schools in the Wollongong area. She commenced at Macarthur in 2005, just after the Transition to Year 6 classes had moved to Cobbitty from the old Narellan campus.

Mrs Neaves, her husband Edwin, and children William and Alice live in a beachside suburb near Wollongong, but Mrs Neaves confesses a love for the Macarthur district with its generous and hospitable people. “On coming to Macarthur, I wanted to serve God and share deeply in the lives of others,” Mrs Neaves says. “I love learning and accepting challenges.”

“Here at Macarthur, my life has been touched by many ‘oasis’ people and it has been wonderful to see God working in their lives and seeing God’s kingdom grow. A personal highlight has been the practical and prayerful support that allowed Alice to complete her senior years of education at Macarthur.” Mrs Neaves says that her time at Macarthur has been exciting and challenging. “It has stretched me academically and personally. The laughter and strong relationships here cannot be surpassed.”

In her spare time, Mrs Neaves enjoys swimming, reading and hunting for treasures in second-hand shops. Mr and Mrs Neaves also share a love of what she calls “our beautiful country” and go off-road whenever possible to enjoy the great outdoors and reflect on how great God is.

RICHARD COWARD

Mr Coward was a student of Chevalier College, Bowral, before training as a Music teacher at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music. He is a versatile musician with trumpet and guitar as his main instruments, but can also play drums, bass guitar, piano, clarinet – almost anything. He commenced teaching at Macarthur in 2007 after appointments to schools in Strathfield and Fairfield. Mr Coward says that at Macarthur he aims to continue developing student performance skills to the highest level. “I want to encourage students to strive for their potential and to show them the world of music that they don’t normally see and hear,” Mr Coward says. “I strive to develop the skills and musicality of the concert and stage bands, to stage the highest quality musical productions with students playing all the music and to achieve the best HSC results possible.”

Mr Coward grew up in Mittagong, spending a great deal of time in the surrounding bush land and developing a love for the outdoors. Highlights of Mr Coward’s time at Macarthur include taking a large group of students through the Duke of Edinburgh Awards programme from Bronze all the way to Gold, being involved in a variety of school musicals, taking students on band tours to New Zealand and the Gold Coast and having an entire Year 12 class gain Band 6 results in the HSC.

Mr Coward is very well travelled. He spent a year in 1999 backpacking around the world, including twenty-two days hiking to the Mount Everest Base Camp, working at Harrods Department store, the Alexander Palace Hotel and at the Lords Cricket Ground in London. He also trekked the Inca trail to Machu Picchu in Peru and toured the United States playing trumpet in the Australian Youth Wind Orchestra. Mr Coward has also played trumpet at Carols in the Domain with the SBS Orchestra.

NADINE JAMES

Mrs James was raised in Sydney, attending Santa Sabina College in Strathfield. She trained as a teacher at the University of Sydney before teaching for eleven years at two Hunter Valley schools, then at Dundas before coming to Macarthur in 2005. She is a member of the Social Science faculty currently teaching junior courses in Geography and Commerce, and senior Business Studies and Legal Studies. Mrs James describes herself as a perfectionist and this is apparent in her approach to teaching. “I want to work with a very professional staff, to improve my teaching methods and to strive for excellence in my teaching”, Mrs James says. “I want to always be a teacher, because I enjoy it and I am passionate about the profession”.

However, Mrs James makes a very active contribution to the school in several other ways. She is the Head of Marsh House, a position requiring much enthusiasm to achieve maximum participation by students in school carnivals and other house competitions. It’s also an important responsibility in providing pastoral care for the students of Marsh House.

Mrs James’ other passion has been her involvement in school musical productions. She has directed no fewer than six musical productions since she arrived in the school. She directed South Pacific, Oliver, Annie Get Your Gun, The Boyfriend, The Wizard of Oz and this year, The Sound of Music. She also assisted with the junior musicals, Seussical and Beauty and the Beast. “I love working with students on musical productions”, Mrs James says. “If I ever had no need to work, I would still come back to Macarthur to direct school musicals!”

Mrs James is a member of Narellan Anglican Church and has one child who attends Macarthur. She enjoys reading, attending the ballet and, unsurprisingly, attending musical theatre productions.
1989 – 1992

We continue our series from the Macarthur Archives, and move on to the era from 1989 with the appointment of a new Headmaster, Mr Riley Warren, AM. It’s important to remember that at this time, Macarthur was still a secondary school only, enrolling children from Year 7 to Year 12 and was located on the two and a half hectare campus on the corner of Richardson Road and Camden Valley Way in Narellan.

Mr Warren trained with the Commonwealth Teaching Service and the University of Canberra, and came to Macarthur after filling positions in Alice Springs, Darwin and Port Moresby (when Papua New Guinea was a territory of Australia). Immediately before his appointment to Macarthur, Mr Warren was the Headmaster of Lae International High School on the north coast of Papua New Guinea.

Everyone expected changes under a new Headmaster, but the extent of those changes came as a surprise. The first thing Mr Warren set out to do was strengthen the academic standing of the school. He believed parents were looking for more in an Anglican school than a school just like any other, but with a Christian veneer. He felt strongly that Macarthur needed to position itself as distinct from surrounding schools, and conforming to the strong academic tradition of Sydney Anglican schools. This is his legacy that continues to this day.

At the same time, Mr Warren encouraged the School Council to consider the establishment of a Junior School, catering for children from Kindergarten to Year 6. This happened with the establishment of the Junior School in 1993, but that’s a matter for the next installment. The addition of K-6 classes implied that the school would be much larger than envisaged by its founders. So Mr Warren suggested that a larger site should be found to cater for growth into the following century. This came to fruition in 1997 when lessons commenced at today’s Cobbitty campus, but is also a matter for a future installment.

There were two other initiatives that Mr Warren brought to the school. Firstly, he promulgated his belief that Australia’s future lay in the Asia-Pacific region and that we need to educate and prepare young people with the skills and attitudes that will enable them to engage with the nations closest to us.

At the time, the foreign language taught at Macarthur was French. To this was added Indonesian language when the first teacher of Indonesian was engaged in 1991. The teaching of French continued, but over time, the preference of students in choosing electives was clearly in favour of Indonesian leading to the demise of French. To this day, Indonesian remains a popular subject among students and one they see as highly relevant to the future well-being of Australia’s relationship with this highly populated neighbour.

Secondly, Mr Warren raised the awareness of students to Australia’s place in the world and began to encourage overseas visits by groups of students. He believed it was important to raise the horizons of students beyond southwest Sydney to an understanding of the people from other lands. In 1991, the first international tours took place, with two groups visiting Indonesia and Nepal. In 1992, the first five international students from Hong Kong were enrolled. To this day Macarthur is well known throughout the Asian region as a destination for aspiring international students.

As these changes took place, the school grew rapidly, increasing from two to three classes per grade and from around three to five hundred students in total enrolment. The campus at Narellan was showing its limitations for the number of students enrolled and for any future expansion. New subjects were added to the curriculum and the building programme only just kept pace with the growth in enrolments.

At the end of 1992, five cohorts of students had completed the Higher School Certificate. Academic standards were strengthening and the school was making a name for itself as the leading independent school in the region. But also most importantly, planning was now in place for the commencement of the first Junior School classes in 1993.

To be continued...
CLASS OF 1993 – A twenty-year reunion was held for this cohort on 12 October 2013

Natalie Fox (née Great) completed a Bachelor of Medical Science with First Class Honours and was awarded the University Medal from the University of Sydney in 1998. She went on to study postgraduate medicine at the University of Sydney, graduating with a Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery with Honours in 2002, then completed an internship and resident year at Nepean Hospital before moving on to Westmead Hospital for basic Physician Training. Natalie completed specialist exams in 2007 and then completed advanced training in Geriatric Medicine at Westmead, Blacktown and Nepean Hospitals. She was awarded specialist recognition in Geriatric Medicine by the Royal College of Physicians in 2011. Natalie is now working part time as a Geriatrician at Nepean Hospital and does some private consulting work in Richmond. She has also almost completed a Master of Medicine (Clinical Epidemiology). Natalie married Ben in 2001 and they now have a six-month old daughter, Kiella. Emma says that Natalie and Ben live in the lower Blue Mountains but were spared any losses during the October bushfires.

Adam Matuzelis has a lust for life. He says exploration was his favourite school days subject, even though it was not part of the curriculum. Adam has worked and travelled throughout Australia and the world. Currently he is working as a National Parks tour guide at Uluru Kata Tjuta National Park (Ayers Rock) in Central Australia, where he met up with Mr Ian McKenzie of the school’s Accounts Department. Adam’s next challenge is to work in Antarctica during 2014. He’s calculated he will settle down some time before his 91st birthday.

Vanessa Gordon completed a Bachelor of Teaching at the University of Western Sydney and is currently a Deputy Principal at a large government school at The Entrance. She says she remembers Mr George Shuter, her PE teacher, very fondly and says she passes on the life wisdom she learned from him to her students and to student teachers she helps in their training. Alex Palmer is a member of the Australian Army and has had various postings around the country and overseas. He is about to take up a new posting with the Army in Malaysia.

Kristy Tolley completed a Bachelor of Science at Macquarie University and the University of Western Sydney. Commencing as a checkout operator while studying, she eventually became a manager of several large Franklins grocery stores. When a South African firm bought out the company, she travelled to Johannesburg and made several subsequent trips throughout Africa during her holidays. Thus a passion for the African environment and wildlife was ignited. She resigned as a store manager and has been a tour guide based in Nairobi, Kenya for four years, learning Swahili language along the way. Kristy has enjoyed amazing experiences leading tour groups to see animal migrations, Victoria Falls and silverback gorillas at close hand. She has travelled through Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda, Tanzania, Malawi, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Mozambique and South Africa.

Karen Williams (née Redman) and Kylie Elling (née Pascoe) are both teachers at Macarthur. Karen was recently appointed to a full-time position, while Kylie has worked in the school for several years and is the Head of the Junior School.

Rebecca Servina (née Oxlade, 2005) married Hudson Servina on 27 April 2013 at St Luke’s Anglican Church, Liverpool. Two of Rebecca’s bridesmaids were Macarthur former students from the same cohort as Rebecca, her twin sister Ruth Oxlade and Natalie Lim. At the start of 2013, Rebecca and Hudson moved from Kalgoorlie where they had worked at Goldfields Baptist College (cf. Tartan Ties Autumn 2012), to Perth where both teach secondary classes at Austin Cove Baptist College. Rebecca is a teacher of Health and Physical Education, while Hudson teaches Science.

Emma Brown (née Kefford, 2006) has worked in the childcare area for several years, but is now training through the Open University to become a Primary teacher. Emma married Luke Brown (2003) and they now have a six-month old daughter, Kiella. Emma says that Open University courses allow her to continue her studies, even while she is at home following Kiella’s birth.

Rebecca Thomson (2006) completed a Bachelor of Arts and Master of Teaching at the University of Western Sydney. After teaching in Sydney for a year she travelled to the UK where she is working as part of a Reintegration to Education Team at Newham in south east London. Her work involves teaching students who have a record of anti-social or violent behaviour and for her own safety, must be accompanied by a male teacher’s aide.
CLASS OF 2003 – This cohort of students recently enjoyed their Ten Year Reunion, on 2 November 2013

Luke Brown is working as a supervisor at Sloanebuilt Trailers in Narellan. He married Emma (née Kefford, 2006 – see below) and they now have a six-month old child.

Tristan Clarke works as a Sales and Service Officer with Total Eden, in Richmond NSW, a company involved in irrigation and water management.

Benjamin Davis was unable to attend the reunion as he lives with his wife Michelle in Jakarta where he works in an international development office. His experiences of living in Jakarta were recently reported in the Virgin Australia in-flight magazine. Ben is fluent in Indonesian and further at Sydney University. He says working in Indonesia is very casual, but living in Jakarta is a reminder of how fortunate we are in Australia.

Lisa Kavanagh completed a Bachelor of Arts at the University of Western Sydney, majoring in Psychology. She worked for several years in the areas of rehabilitation and occupational health, but is now an account manager in the insurance industry. She is currently studying to become an insurance broker through the National Insurance Brokers Association.

Tamryn Kyselev (née Anderson) completed a Bachelor of Creative Arts at the Wesley Institute and now works as a freelance interior designer. Tamryn has two little girls aged two years and four months.

Daniel Lauric manages an IT team for the ANZ Bank. He completed a Bachelor of Computer Science degree at the University of Wollongong. He has also done some international travelling to Europe and Asia.

James Mackay works for the NSW Government. He completed a Bachelor of Social and Economic Science degree, a Master of International Studies, a Master of Professional Accounting and has now completed the Chartered Accountancy Programme. James studied Indonesian at Macarthur and was first in the State in the 2003 HSC. His interest in Indonesia continues and he recently spent some time with Ben Davis in Jakarta.

Rachel Morris attended the University of Sydney and completed a Bachelor of Arts majoring in Psychology and Sociology. She then worked in this field for several years before changing roles to now work as an account manager for Hasbro, a company specialising in toys and games. Rachel’s work involves annual visits to the United States and Hong Kong and she has also travelled extensively in Europe.

Adam Payne completed a law degree at the University of Sydney and now works as a lawyer for Price Waterhouse Coopers in Sydney. He is married to Kaley (née Harris) of the same cohort.

Nicholas Thompson is a serving officer in the Australian Army and recently completed a three-month deployment in Papua New Guinea and a further three months away on exercises. He was promoted to the rank of Captain in December 2012 and is currently the Acting Commanding Officer of the ship’s Army Department on HMAS Choules, an Australian Navy landing ship. Nicholas’s command consists of twenty-two soldiers but can expand to one hundred and twenty depending on circumstances. Nicholas will marry Sylvia in the school grounds on 30 November 2013.

Hayley Williams has worked with the Department of Attorney General and Justice for five years as a Case Manager for family members of homicide victims. She is also studying at the University of Western Sydney to complete a Bachelor of Social Science majoring in Criminology and Criminal Justice.

Sofie will be fully qualified. Since leaving Macarthur, Sofie has revisited Australia in 2011 and has received visits from her former host family in 2008 and again this year. Friends of Sofie can make contact with her on soro88@hotmail.com

Recently, the school enjoyed the pleasure of a visit by Marius and Sofie’s parents, André and Lotti Röesti, accompanied by Dr Ross and Mrs Sonya Mackay – who hosted Sofie during her stay in Australia. Andre and Lotti were shown around the school and could see for themselves the school their two children look back on so fondly.

Sofie’s brother, also attended Macarthur four years beforehand in 2003. Marius has almost completed a PhD in Marine Biology at Basel University, north west Switzerland, where he has carried out research into stickleback fish, which are found in the waterways of Europe.

Gold Duke of Edinburgh Awards

Former students James Murdoch, Matthew Cowper, Ryan Tegel, Michael van den Heuvel, Hannah Greve, Gareth Mumby (2011), Benjamin McKenzie, Jackson Bartlett, Katie Parker, Joshua Sawyer, Nicole Smith, Ethan Sykes, James Sawyer, Roseanna Raymond, Elizabeth Morgan (2012) plus Amy Bartlett, Anna Clinch, Lawson Grant, Katherine Harris, Chloe Maric and Daniel Robinson (2013) have all qualified now for the Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award, to be presented by the Governor of New South Wales, Professor Marie Bashir, AC, CVO.
Located in a semi-rural area, Macarthur has no shortage of students with a keen interest in horses and riding. Several equestrian training and competition days have been held for interested students through the year. While the majority of students with equestrian dreams are girls, several boys are also involved. Macarthur’s extensive grounds provide a beautiful setting for riding and dressage events. In June a gymkhana was held with students competing in the Macarthur Equestrian uniform. (Photos 2, 4, 6 and 7) In October, an Equestrian House Competition took place, with students dressed in their House colour shirts. (Photos 1, 3, 5 and 8) Students from Kindergarten to the Senior School are involved in these events and also achieved wonderful results in interschool equestrian competitions at Armell and Tara Anglican Colleges and in Camden.