SPECTACULAR JUNIOR MUSICAL
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PAGE 5 NORTH QUEENSLAND OUTREACH

PAGE 9 LEARNING INDONESIAN AT MACARTHUR
A revolution in teaching and learning is unfolding as computer technology is adopted more widely in classrooms.

DR DAVID NOCKLES
Headmaster

The latest manifestation of this evolution is the tablet computer, or in the Apple Computer world, the iPad. iPads occupy a space in the computer world between hand-held devices and laptop computers, what UK researcher Ian Wilson calls ‘the Agile Space’, for its flexibility in being small enough to carry and pass between users, while big enough to view comfortably.

Our traditional perception of teaching as a one-way knowledge transfer has changed forever. Classroom computers make it possible for students to learn more actively, by finding information for themselves. While the ability to use a computer is essential, the impact of computers in teaching is limited so far to facilitating the traditional teaching method. However, tablet computers such as the iPad have a different and greater potential.

The size and portability of tablet computers makes it possible for them to be located on a desk beside other learning materials, without creating a barrier between teacher and learner as the screen of a laptop may. They can be used inside, outside, and on the way to and from school. Young learners have grown up with the touch and slide interface found on phones and iPod-type devices, which Wilson says, “adds to the individual, informal and personal relationship many have with technology.” An iPad gives the student instant access to existing research and knowledge. Using tablet computers in teaching, we harness the preference of young people to operate in the electronic sphere; we engage the student within the world which is their ‘comfort zone’.

Using programmes and apps already available, such as Educreations and iBook Author, a teacher can create work specifically tailored to the class or to an individual in the class. Students can add notes and highlight sections for future reference. Text can be illustrated or amplified with a related video. Content can be emailed between the teacher and student and between students themselves. Teaching is more interactive and engaging, allowing students to easily accelerate their learning rather than marking time while others reach their level. The potential for differentiated learning throughout a class group is astounding.

Apart from the potential in learning, iPads have many practical features that will make them more adaptable to classroom use. With no boot-up time when they are opened, the ease of loading educational apps, automatic saving of notes and enough battery life for a full school day’s use, loss of data and technical support issues are greatly reduced.

At Macarthur, we are determined to stay at the forefront of this new aspect of pedagogy. This term, I had the pleasure of announcing to school families that in 2013, the rollout of Apple iPads to Years 7 and 8 will commence and continue into 2014, by which time all secondary students will take an iPad to class as naturally as they now take a textbook and exercise book. Each iPad will be configured to support the teaching of school subjects with pre-installed apps. There is the potential for eBooks to be downloaded and easily updated when necessary, in place of more expensive and cumbersome textbooks. The school diary may become an app that is no longer issued in its present form. Communication between the school and home could be reliably and conveniently carried out through the iPad.

We are about to embark upon a new and exciting era in teaching, one that will be as exciting for parents and former students to watch as it will be for the teachers and students who are engaged in it in the classroom.
COUNCIL MEMBER PROFILE: TIM MACKIE

Mr Tim Mackie is a relatively new member of the Council of Macarthur Anglican School, having joined the Council in early 2012. However, his involvement with Macarthur is more longstanding.

Mr Mackie and his wife Kylie, are the parents of three Macarthur students, Emily in Year 12, Elise in Year 9 and Thomas in Year 4, with Emily the first to enrol in 2008.

Mr and Mrs Mackie are committed to independent school education. Mrs Mackie taught at St Peter’s Anglican Primary School and Emily, Elise and Thomas all attended St Peter’s before enrolling at Macarthur. “We are impressed by the dedication of the teachers at Macarthur and the commitment they have to running out-of-school activities in their own time,” Mr Mackie says.

Mr Mackie holds a Bachelor of Engineering degree in Civil Engineering from the University of New Wales. Together with his brother David, he now manages his family business, Kirrapak Pty Ltd, manufacturing precision sheet metal products at premises located in Braemar near Mittagong.

As a way of promoting the business, Kirrapak runs a two-car team of Lotus Elise sports cars, one driven by Mr Mackie, who was the CAMS NSW Production Sports Car Champion in 2009. Car racing is obviously “in the blood”. Mr Mackie’s father Greg raced Volkswagens at Mount Panorama in the seventies and eighties.

The Mackie family are members of St Thomas’ Anglican Church Narellan, where Mr Mackie was a warden for two years and has been a member of Parish Council for six years. For relaxation, Mr Mackie and his son Thomas race BMX bikes, and Emily and Elise play Netball, while the passion for motor racing takes the family all over Australia.

They were a bit awkward and maybe even shy under their ‘bravado front’ but this group of boys had come to my office. Some time later, after chatting about a range of topics, I’m still not exactly sure why they were here, but what I am sure of is that I have begun to know them and they me and that we will be together in this place for a number of years.

Such is the nature of chaplaincy; it is a Christ centred, people business.

I am now coming to the end of my first full term at Macarthur. There have been many challenges and even more rewards. Working with children, young people, staff, parents and families takes energy but usually (and sometimes at the same time!) it is energy giving. So I thank the Lord for the opportunity to serve Him here!

Lively and heartfelt worship incorporates students and staff; various small groups meet for voluntary Christian fellowship, bible study, devotions and prayer and on Sundays the small, but refocussed, Macarthur Family Chapel looks to engage, in Christ’s name, in service to the Macarthur family and beyond.

Perhaps the greatest impression of my first term was in the context of the Year 6 Queensland Outreach. In Yarrabah, an aboriginal community near Cairns, we had been listening to the elderly Aboriginal bishop, Arthur Malcolm, tell us his experiences as a Christian leader. “Were there any difficulties working in a predominately white Australia?” asked one of our students; “No not really,” came the reply, “as long as you respect the other person, then usually they respect you.” And then Year 6 prayed for the bishop and for the Yarrabah community.

We played games with Aboriginal children and engaged with them in classrooms but it was a blessing to witness the students ‘reaching out’ in prayer.

THE REVEREND DAVID HAYMAN
Chaplain
MR NORIO SUZUKI

“G’day mate,” Mr Norio Suzuki always says as he arrives with another group of Japanese students visiting Macarthur Anglican School. You could be forgiven for thinking that Mr Suzuki is a member of staff at Macarthur. Altogether he has made eighteen visits to the school, seven between 1992 and 2000 with groups of students from the Showa Dai-Ichi School in central Tokyo, and eleven more visits since 2001 with students of the Nihon University Third High School in outer Tokyo.

Mr Suzuki was born in Shizuoka Prefecture, about one hundred and fifty kilometres south-west of Tokyo. He attended Mishima High School and then Nihon University, the largest university in Japan, where he qualified to teach English. Mr Suzuki then spent eleven years at Showa Dai-Ichi School before moving to Nihon University Third High School. At home, Mr Suzuki enjoys cooking and watching sports.

In teaching English, Mr Suzuki likes describing the cultures of other nations and then taking groups of students to those places. He is well qualified to describe other cultures, having visited Australia eighteen times, the United States and Canada nine times, with several other trips to Korea, China, Hong Kong and Taiwan. “I am interested in showing students foreign cultures all over the world,” Mr Suzuki says. “And I hope Macarthur Anglican School and Nihon University Third High School will grow closer even more.”

HUNGARIAN TEACHERS VISIT MACARTHUR ANGLICAN SCHOOL

Rated an outstanding success, the link between Macarthur Anglican School and the Lévay József Református Gimnázium in Miskolc, Hungary, is strengthened each year with student and teacher exchanges.

In August, Macarthur hosted a visit by Marika Boda and her husband Jozsef. Marika has been teaching English at Lévay József for five years, while Jozsef has been the House Leader of the boys’ wing of the Internatus (dormitory) for eight years. Marika was raised in Debrecen, about one hundred kilometres south east of Miskolc, while Jozsef has spent all his life in Miskolc.

Mrs Boda is also introducing to the school a programme called ‘Theolingua’, which as the name implies, has to do with the language of theology. The programme, run by the Károly Gáspár University of the Reformed Church in Budapest, involves courses and examinations designed to expand biblical vocabulary used in reading, writing, speaking and listening. Marika’s work has led to Lévay József School becoming a recognised examination centre. The course helps students who may want to translate books and other textual material from English into Hungarian with an accurate rendition of the original English meaning.

Asked about the benefits of her visit to Macarthur, Mrs Boda said: “I often have a Macarthur student in one of my classes when they attend Lévay József as an exchange student, so it has been good to speak to teachers here to find out what they want the Macarthur student to learn while they are in Hungary. It has also been valuable to observe lessons and see how English is taught here and to share my own experience of teaching.”

As well as the Lévay József students in the Internatus, Mr Boda has responsibility for some twenty more students who attend other schools in Miskolc. Some of the students’ homes are up to three or four hours travel from Miskolc, allowing them to go home only on weekends. Mr Boda’s role involves the organisation of co-curricular activities students can participate in during the afternoons after school, and the supervision of homework in the evenings.

Each term, Mr Boda organises a weekend programme, involving a student concert or play attended by parents, or an excursion or theatre visit. Some excursions may take the students further afield to Budapest or to neighbouring Slovakia where several million people also speak Hungarian from when the borders of Hungary bound a much larger area.

“I love the English language”, Mrs Boda said during her visit. “It is so good to be in a place where English is the first language. We never imagined we would have the chance to come here – it’s a miracle! We practise our faith daily and we’re so happy to meet so many other teachers and students with Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour.”

Two Lévay József students, Gabriella Bordás and Angelika Nagy, completed their exchange in June, while two more students, Fonni Farkosh and Nándor Babina commenced in October. Two Macarthur students, Amy Cooper and Tabetha Lane, have returned from their exchange to Hungary.
The group travelled to Cairns, then further north to Cooktown, then twenty kilometres inland to the aboriginal community at Hope Vale, where they enjoyed meeting and competing in games with the children of the school.

Mr Harris instigated the first Year 6 North Queensland Outreach seven years ago and has been on all but one trip since then. “The value of this experience” Mr Harris says, “is that our youngsters see at first hand another culture and the problems the aboriginal people face. They see some of the conditions in which indigenous people live, the state of their housing and the lack of basic necessities that we regard as normal in our lives.”

“At the end of each day, we debrief the students,” Mr Harris says. “In answer to the question ‘what would you do if you were Prime Minister’, one student said, ‘I would put in an industry, so that people could work and be proud of who they are.’ So you see it makes them think about what needs to be done. It gets them thinking about how they could serve others less fortunate than themselves.”

Comments by students demonstrate that they were deeply touched by the experience of visiting the community at Hope Vale.

Meeting the aboriginal kids was special, because even though they are so disadvantaged and don’t have as many opportunities as we do, they are the same as us, they still have friends and go to school. – Sophie Frankum

They were so energetic and we had so much fun. Saying good-bye was the hardest part of the day. – Katelyn Biggart

The best thing was seeing the way the people live and how different it is to us. It was so different to Camden, so remote... – Annabelle Gemmell

Parents also hear about the impression the visit made on their child. Mrs Sandra Pash says her daughter Simone was really animated when she returned. She was struck with how little the aboriginal children have: no school uniforms, no shoes, playing soccer in bare feet, and yet how respectful the children are towards adults. Mrs Pash says that she had some misgivings before the trip and wondered if they were doing the right thing letting Simone go. But now she can see it was a wonderful experience and is glad they made the decision allowing Simone to take part. “Clearly the children learned how well off they are and how much help other people need. They also saw how playing sport and having fun together can break down the barriers.”

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MACARTHUR
WINTER SPORTS

ATHLETICS

There was plenty of enthusiasm among competitors at the Junior and Senior Carnivals held during the winter months. Marsh and Heber swept the field, coming first and second respectively in both competitions.

Age champions were reported in The Bulletin, but outstanding achievements at higher levels more recently include:

**NASSA Athletics**
- Bessie-Lucile Platt First in the 15 Years Girls Championship
- Emma Houghton First in the 16 Years Girls Championship
- Zachary Clinton First in the 17 Years Boys Championship
- Matilda Offord set new records in the 13 Years Girls 800m, 1500m and Junior 3000m
- Bessie-Lucile Platt set a new record in the 15 Years Girls 400m

**AICES Athletics**
- Matilda Offord set new records and won gold medals in the 13 Years 800m, 1500m and 3000m races.
- Gold medals were also won by Kathryn Rankin (High Jump), Teo Markou (800m) and Daniel Ingram (High Jump).
MACARTHUR
WINTER SPORTS

SNOWSPORTS

Involvement and enthusiasm for Snowsports has grown among Macarthur students since the first handful of students took part in 2006. This year, a group of thirty-six students headed to the snowfields to be involved with the Macarthur Snowsports Programme and Northern Region Interschool’s Snowsports Championships.

“The competition emphasises the importance of fun, participation and being part of a team, with a number of the students taking part in the competition for the first time,” the Snowsports Co-ordinator, Mr Scott Bedingfield said. “Students can get started by attending the Snowsports Camp at the start of the season, which gives all students from Year 3 to Year 12 an opportunity to learn or develop their skiing or snowboarding skills. Students across all ability levels are catered for from first timers to competition racers.”

As the season progresses, competition between schools becomes more intense. Twenty-six students competed in the Regional Interschools Competition following the camp, competing in Alpine, Skiercross, Moguls, Snowboard and Snowboard Cross competitions. Macarthur was successful in gaining nineteen top ten places in team and individual events.

Fourteen students then progressed to the State Snowsports Championships and four students: Montana Byers, Emma Cosier, Tegan Bremner and Bessie-Lucile Platt (all of Year 10) won places in the Australian Interschools Snowsports Competition. This competition is for the best of the best with very restricted numbers in the individual and team events. Montana finished seventh in Australia in Giant Slalom and ninth in Skier Cross. Emma, Tegan and Bessie-Lucile finished ninth in Australia as a team in Snowboard Cross. These achievements were truly outstanding at this level of competition.
CAFÉ MACARTHUR

A unique feature of Macarthur Anglican School is Café Macarthur. Housed in a building that came with the purchase of an adjacent property some years ago, the Café is open to members of the school community, primarily as a facility for staff and parents, just as the Junior Canteen and Senior Cafeteria operate as facilities for the students.

Currently, the Café is run by Mrs Anna Fiumara with the help of her son and daughter, Joshua and Rebecca. Anna has more than fifteen years experience working in cafés and catering, most recently teaching hygiene and cooking as part of a community help project for people undergoing retraining.

“It’s a great experience running Café Macarthur” Anna says. “I really enjoy getting to know the parents and teachers who come in. It gives me an appreciation of the time and effort teachers put in and how much they want to help the students. It’s something I didn’t realize so much as a parent when Joshua and Rebecca attended the school some years ago.”

Parents who pop in after dropping off their children or just before home time enjoy the home-made cakes and other fare available, with a range of quality beverages – cappuccinos, lattés, hot chocolates, teas, smoothies, milk shakes and cold drinks. Anna says that many parents love the relaxed atmosphere and like to just unwind after a busy morning getting ready for the day.

At certain times, senior students also have permission to call in at the Café. “Hot chocolates are a firm favourite with the students”, Anna says, “I love having chats with them and witnessing how they grow and mature as they progress through the school.”

Teachers themselves have a lot of input in the preparation for events, but could not manage without the help of a hard-working and dedicated crew known as the Maintenance Staff. On top of these duties, the Maintenance Staff keep the grounds looking beautiful, carry out essential repairs, arrange and direct outside contractors, operate the school’s buses and make sure that the school continues to be a place where people can work in a safe and healthy environment.

Led by Mr Steve Webster, the school is blessed with the range of skills the team can draw on. Mr Webster was formerly a fitter and turner by trade and looks after most repairs to school equipment and buildings. Mr Matthew Kelly is a horticulturalist, with an endless knowledge of plants and their needs to survive in the Cobbitty environment. Mr Larry Turner was a boilermaker and can fabricate almost anything with his skill in welding. His pride and joy is a 1967 Chevrolet Impala he fully restored. (See photo and also the website: impala67.com) Mr Bruce Manning is an electrician but spent much of his career as the pastor of a church. Together, this group works tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure the smooth running of school events and the effective maintenance of the school property. Macarthur is indeed blessed to have such a talented (and playful) maintenance team!
According to the media, relations with Indonesia at the government level fluctuate considerably. However the friendliness of ordinary Indonesian people and the commitment of Macarthur to engage with them by teaching Indonesian language and culture, has never changed.

So what happens in the classrooms where Indonesian has been taught at Macarthur for more than twenty years? Foreign language teaching has changed significantly, as the world becomes more interconnected. “It is now possible to interact with people of many different backgrounds, within and well beyond our society,” Miss Joanne Fenton, Head of Foreign Languages says. “Learning Indonesian is more than just learning words and phrases for business or travel. Students have to become intercultural learners to communicate with people of other cultures.”

Communicating with Indonesians is critical in learning their language. This year, Macarthur students participated in the BRIDGE Project with a partner school in Jakarta, using Skype to talk to Indonesian students who are just as keen to learn English. In November, a visit by eleven Indonesian students gave further opportunity for interaction.

At the formal level of competitions and examinations, Macarthur has succeeded remarkably. When the school took part in the Language Perfect World Championships, Macarthur students came first in Indonesian in New South Wales with Robert Archer of Year 10, coming first internationally! Several students have achieved high placings in HSC Indonesian, leading to further study in Australia and in Indonesia itself. (See inset on Nicholas Mark)

Students themselves also value connecting with another culture through their language. In June, Elias Hordern and Elizabeth Stone, spoke at the Asia Education Foundation National Forum in Melbourne. “The world is changing and Australia needs new skills, knowledge and understanding related to the Asia region,” Elias said in his presentation. In her talk, Elizabeth said “we are geographically part of Asia and Indonesia is one of our closest neighbours [with whom] we will be interacting more than almost any other nation through trade and business”. There is little doubt that Indonesia will be a very important neighbour in Australia’s future. Macarthur students are learning to connect with this intriguing nation in a significant way.

NICHOLAS MARK: AUTHOR

Nicholas Mark completed his Higher School Certificate at Macarthur in 2006. Among the subjects he studied was Indonesian. He continued his studies at Sydney University and in 2010, traveled to Yogyakarta in central Java to expand his knowledge of Indonesian language and culture. Nicholas lived there for six months as part of his university programme, supported by the Australian Consortium for In-Country Indonesian Studies.

During the course, Nicholas wrote a children’s book in Indonesian about a boy in the Monkey Forest of Bali. Publishers Galang Press were so impressed with it that Nicholas was asked to make it part a series of three exciting stories for children eight to twelve years old. Nicholas has plans for writing more stories based in Indonesia.
Macarthur Junior Musical

Beauty and the Beast

“I was not certain what to expect – but it was delightful – a smile from beginning to end. A great night’s entertainment!” That’s how former Headmaster, Mr Riley Warren, described the Junior Musical held at the beginning of Winter Term.

Beauty and the Beast Jr is a timeless story of Maurice’s daughter, Belle, giving up her freedom to save her father’s life, only to tame the unfortunate Beast and see his ultimate transformation back into a handsome prince. It is a beloved fairy tale about very different people finding strength in one another and learning how to love.

“I was delighted with the way the students from Year 3 to Year 6 went about their rehearsals.” The Headmaster said. “They should take great pride in the way they helped each other along, learnt their respective lines, songs and choreography and together created a show that we all thoroughly enjoyed.”

The musical was directed by Miss Fiona Coleman, supported by a vast number of volunteer helpers from the Middle and Senior Schools, the teaching staff and parents, designing, constructing and supporting all aspects of the production.

“Beauty and the Beast Jr featured substantial amounts of dialogue and some very challenging musical numbers,” Miss Coleman said. “The students did a remarkable job in bringing the performance to life with their enthusiasm and talent. It was a great joy working with everyone who was involved in the production.”

Beauty and the Beast Jr
CAST

Belle            Paris Houghton
A beautiful and intelligent young woman
Beast/Prince    Ryan Kennedy
Lumiere          Jack Burns
A French maison d’, who has become a candelabra
Cogsworth       Harrison Barrett
An English major-domo, who has become a clock
Mrs. Potts       Katelyn Biggart
A maid, who has become a teapot
Madame de la Grande Bouche Amera Sarkis
An opera singer, who has become a wardrobe
Babette          Claudia Petrin
A maid, who has become a feather duster
Chip             Olivia James
Mrs. Potts’s daughter, who has become a teacup
Gaston           Samuel Nockles
A handsome brute
Lefou             Issac Smith
Gaston’s sidekick
Silly Girls      Djannie Platt
Alana Kolanovic  Sanya Mann
Narrators        Samuel Egan
Caitlin Sendt
Monsieur D’Arque Jarrod Webster
Proprietor of the Lunatic Asylum
VILLAGERS
Bookseller      Samuel Egan
Baker           Bayley Gandy
Aristocratic Lady Natalie Ristancevski
Fisher Woman    Renee Scheffer
Egg Lady        Lauren Brinkworth
Sausage Curl Girl Jessica Turner
Lady with Baby  Isabella Eltisa
Lady with Cane  Caitlin Sendt
Hat Seller      Cameron Simmons
Milkmaid        Amelia Patterson
Shepherd Boy    Elijah Gray
Candle Man      Joshua Sendt
Village Chorus  Jessica Coman
Cory Butlin
Kyah Fuller
Jarrod Webster
Servants/Flatware Grace Ames
Chelsea Bromley
Mikayla Elling
Page Medich
Sophie Patterson
Paris Pripic
Jasmine Sherrell
Elyssa Stevens
Grace Tyson
Lauren Ward
Laura Whitelaw
Wolves          Lauren Brinkworth
Cory Butlin
Renee Scheffer

TARTAN TIES – SPRING 2012 11
ROBOTICS FOR EVERYONE
As reported in the last issue of Tartan Ties, robotics has caught the imagination of a small but enthusiastic group of students who took part in a competition in the United States in April. Now the group is seeking to expand the number of students involved. Another type of robotics system, called Lego Mindstorms, and new software for controlling robots, which is more accessible to students of a younger age, has been introduced. Slowly, numbers are building with the group now numbering ten students. The robotics group meets every Tuesday afternoon in the Technology Centre.

OUTSTANDING SOFTWARE ACHIEVEMENT
Four more students with a keen interest in computer technology entered the Young ICT Explorers Competition run by the University of New South Wales and SAP (a multinational software corporation). Stuart McIntosh, Daniel Tanios, David Fyvie and Tobias Morgan put together an ‘augmented reality product’ based on a language called ‘bliss symbols’. Bliss symbols are a simplified representation of an idea or object, just as printed words can represent the same thing. People may use this language to understand communication if they have a learning difficulty. The boys created computer software that interprets a bliss symbol and then displays on the computer screen an equivalent image or photo. The software was judged to be a remarkable aid in training a person in the meaning of bliss symbols. Out of more than sixty schools across Sydney and NSW, the Macarthur boys took second place! An outstanding achievement.

ANNUAL BENEFIT CONCERT A GREAT SUCCESS
More than $2500 was raised for the African Aids Foundation at the Macarthur Anglican School Annual Benefit Concert, attended by almost four hundred people at the Camden Civic Centre in August. The concert featured student performers from the very young in the Junior Choir and instrumental groups, to senior student members of the School Band and Orchestra, plus several soloist and singers.

The African Aids Foundation was established by Dr John Schwarz and Mrs Rosalie Schwarz, the parents of former students John and Michael Schwarz and Sarah Bayley. John and Rosalie are passionate about helping the people of Africa who have been affected by the HIV/AIDS pandemic. This is done by providing financial support for projects based in South Africa and Kenya that focus on bringing change to the lives of children who would otherwise face a bleak future.

Macarthur Anglican School is proud to join a number of organisations in the Camden area who support the African Aids Foundation by contributing funds. For more information on the work of the African Aids Foundation, go to: www.africanaidsfoundation.org.au
MACARTHUR STUDENTS PERFORM FOR ST JUDE’S MUSIC ASSOCIATION

Two current students and one former student of Macarthur presented the entire afternoon programme at a recent concert recital for the St Jude’s Music Association at St Jude’s Anglican Church, Bowral. Benjamin McKenzie (Year 12 – Organ), Angus Key (Year 8 – Saxophone) and Lloyd Grant (2008 – Piano) performed a number of pieces to an appreciative lunchtime audience of Bowral people. Former Headmaster, Mr Riley Warren and the Chairman of Council Dr Allan Beavis who were present at the concert were full of praise for the students following their performance.

Items on the programme included Chorale Prelude (Buxtehude), Prelude and Fugue in E Minor “Cathedral” (J S Bach), Andante Tranquillo (Mendelssohn), Tableau de Provence (Paul Maurice), Trio on a Chorale (Pachelbel), Intermezzo from Sonata Nº 8 (Rheinberger) and Elegy (Thalben-Ball).

DANCE TEAM SUCCESS

Miss Nikki Raeburn, who was featured in the last issue of Tartan Ties has made sure that her skill in dancing will benefit the students of Macarthur. Under her expert guidance, the Macarthur Dance Team was established this year and coached by Miss Raeburn. After rehearsing for two terms the group is competing in a series of eisteddfods, most recently at The Hills Dance Spectacular. The team was placed fourth in their section of thirteen schools, a very creditable result for such a young group. Out of thirty-seven high school groups, the Macarthur Dance Team was named ‘Most Entertaining School Group’ – a wonderful achievement.

FORMER STAFF NEWS

One may believe that teachers are limited in what they can do but that’s not the case. Former Science teacher Mr David Ash (at Macarthur 1990 to 2010) is now working in the mining industry in Queensland as a geologist for Salva Resources, an exploration company with offices in India, Indonesia, London, Mongolia and Mozambique. Most of the company’s geologists are from overseas, so David is valued for his knowledge of the outback environment.

David’s SES background came to the fore early this year as he helped the residents of Alpha prepare and then recover from a major flood that came through in February. When contacted recently, David was working in the company’s Brisbane office on exploration proposals for new projects in Mongolia. David and his wife Sue now live in the Brisbane suburb of Wakerley and attend St Andrews Anglican Church, South Brisbane. Sue is leading a busy life, keeping up with the family still located in the Macarthur region.
Mr Peter Groves commenced at Macarthur as a primary teacher in 2010. Mr Groves says he wants to build rapport with the students, his colleagues and the school community by being actively involved in a range of school activities (such as training the Junior Rugby Union team). “I think we have a fantastic start here at Macarthur,” Mr Groves says. “I really enjoy developing relationships with the students and working within the wonderful facilities the school has.”

Mr Groves has a lot of experience of living and working in overseas destinations that will interest and benefit the school and its students. He lived in Nigeria for three years while attending primary school and later lived in Thailand while he took part in a missionary project at a refugee camp on the Thai/Myanmar border. “I love being involved in overseas aid projects,” Mr Groves says.

After qualifying as a teacher, Mr Groves spent six months living and teaching in London and then travelled throughout Europe. One of the highlights of this period was visiting France and as a keen cyclist himself, following the Tour de France. Mr Groves likes to set himself a challenge in cycling and each holiday plans full day rides to remote places.

As well as an interest in all these things, Mr Groves likes meeting famous people and getting his photo taken with them. He has photos taken with former Prime Minister John Howard, Jamaican sprinter Usain Bolt and last year’s Tour de France winner, Cadel Evans. What an amazing number of experiences he can share with our students!

Mrs Karen Spires joined the Macarthur staff at the beginning of 2012. She was raised in Somerset, England, learning French and German at school. She is now fluent in French and can ’get by’ in German.

Mrs Spires studied at the University of Essex, gaining a Bachelor of Arts degree in English Language and Linguistics. After working for Marks and Spencer in personnel management, Mrs Spires found that she really enjoyed the training side of her work and decided to return to university to become a teacher. She then studied at Bath University, gaining a Post Graduate Certificate of Education (PGCE).

When her husband, a member of the British Army, was appointed to a base in Hampshire, Mrs Spires taught in that county while living in Portsmouth. On coming to Australia, she initially worked outside of teaching for the Benevolent Society.

At Macarthur, Mrs Spires is enjoying the development of a friendship circle among her colleagues and working with the International Students. “I want to engage students in a love of literature and see them increase their level of attainment. I also want to promote a Christian perspective in the study of English,” she says.

At home, Mrs Spires divides her time between family commitments and reading. She has two children attending Macarthur – Lauren in Year 8 and Reuben in Year 2. Her reading includes poetry, especially the Irish and Welsh poets, and other English literature. Recently, she set out to read all of the Booker Prize* winning novels – a daunting task for anyone!

* The Booker Prize for Fiction is a literary prize awarded each year for the best original full-length novel, written in the English language.

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Mr Groves has a lot of experience of living and working in overseas destinations that will interest and benefit the school and its students. He lived in Nigeria for three years while attending primary school and later lived in Thailand while he took part in a missionary project at a refugee camp on the Thai/Myanmar border. “I love being involved in overseas aid projects,” Mr Groves says.

After qualifying as a teacher, Mr Groves spent six months living and teaching in London and then travelled throughout Europe. One of the highlights of this period was visiting France and as a keen cyclist himself, following the Tour de France. Mr Groves likes to set himself a challenge in cycling and each holiday plans full day rides to remote places.

As well as an interest in all these things, Mr Groves likes meeting famous people and getting his photo taken with them. He has photos taken with former Prime Minister John Howard, Jamaican sprinter Usain Bolt and last year’s Tour de France winner, Cadel Evans. What an amazing number of experiences he can share with our students!

Mrs Karen Spires joined the Macarthur staff at the beginning of 2012. She was raised in Somerset, England, learning French and German at school. She is now fluent in French and can ‘get by’ in German.

Mrs Spires studied at the University of Essex, gaining a Bachelor of Arts degree in English Language and Linguistics. After working for Marks and Spencer in personnel management, Mrs Spires found that she really enjoyed the training side of her work and decided to return to university to become a teacher. She then studied at Bath University, gaining a Post Graduate Certificate of Education (PGCE).

When her husband, a member of the British Army, was appointed to a base in Hampshire, Mrs Spires taught in that county while living in Portsmouth. On coming to Australia, she initially worked outside of teaching for the Benevolent Society.

At Macarthur, Mrs Spires is enjoying the development of a friendship circle among her colleagues and working with the International Students. “I want to engage students in a love of literature and see them increase their level of attainment. I also want to promote a Christian perspective in the study of English,” she says.

At home, Mrs Spires divides her time between family commitments and reading. She has two children attending Macarthur – Lauren in Year 8 and Reuben in Year 2. Her reading includes poetry, especially the Irish and Welsh poets, and other English literature. Recently, she set out to read all of the Booker Prize* winning novels – a daunting task for anyone!

* The Booker Prize for Fiction is a literary prize awarded each year for the best original full-length novel, written in the English language.
OUR COMMUNITY

“Someone is sitting in the shade today because someone planted a tree a long time ago”
MR WARREN BUFFETT

The students of the Macarthur Anglican School enjoy benefits that were left by those who went before them. Thank you all donors, past and present, financial and in kind. Macarthur continues to develop during these challenging times because of your support.

Our Community Partners Programme continues through the support of Chisholm and Turner Travel Associates, M.A.D Excavations and Landscaping and Handprint Photography. If you would like to partner with Macarthur in this way, please don’t hesitate to contact me. This Partnership programme offers benefits for both the school and your business.

If you are interested in supporting the 2013 Annual Calendar by advertising your business please contact me.

On Friday 24 August The Annual Benefit Concert, in support of The African AIDS Foundation (AAF), was held in the Camden Civic Centre. Music students from Junior, Middle and Senior Schools presented a night of quality entertainment. Guest speakers representing the Foundation were Miss Bongi Mchunu and Mrs Jennifer Hooper. Miss Mchunu, a school teacher, gave an insight into the challenges faced by children growing up in South Africa. Approximately 370 people of school families and African AIDS supporters attended, raising $2,500 for grass root projects supported by AAF in South Africa and Kenya. Macarthur will continue to support the Foundation, hosting a new fundraising initiative for AAF in 2012 – a Braai (an African BBQ) for Junior School children.

Macarthur Anglican School recently participated in The Rotary Relay for Life. Our team raised $2,500 toward this worthy course. It was great to mix with our community while raising funds to help the fight against cancer.

Macarthur is partnering with Camden Historical Society to restore the old wagon previously displayed outside the council chambers in John Street, Camden. Mr Timothy Cartwright will oversee a group of students and community members who will help in the restoration process. The school succeeded in securing a $5,000 community grant to commence this project. Wider community involvement in this project is encouraged, so if this project interests you, please contact me.

The Annual Fundraising Dinner, Emerald Elegance, held on Saturday 16 June raised $18,000 with one hundred and fifty attending. Our thanks to sponsors of the event, Plus Fitness and eXalt Group and to all who donated time and auction items to this event. Funds raised from the evening will be directed toward a digital information and communications network throughout the School.

The 2012 Annual Appeal was launched early June this year. So far a total of $9,200 has been raised for a variety of projects, such as outdoor seating and Chapel refurbishment. Donations to this appeal can still be made via the school website. Alternatively, contact Sharon Pascoe-Thomas.

SCHOOL COMMUNITY

THIS TERM

Friday morning monthly M@M barbecues recommenced after the winter break.

The Butchers Workshop, featuring butcher Pete of Select Wholesale Meats Narellan was entertaining and educating. Thanks to Pete and the Glover family for donating the lambs for this event.

Father’s Day stall was once again coordinated by Mrs Sandra Pash. Thank you Sandra and all ladies who helped to make this event a special one for the younger students.

Talk Back Thursday experienced exceptional growth in numbers last term. Our thanks to Mrs Fiona Perich for coordinating a TBT visit to the Lepington Pastoral Company Dairy. The group also had the pleasure of hearing author Mrs Naomi Reed at a TBT session recently. Naomi worked previously as a missionary in Nepal.
OUR COMMUNITY

It was with great sadness that we bid farewell to Jane Gray last term after thanking her for her commitment in leading TBT over the past three years. We wish her success in other Christian outreach activities she has planned. Under the new leadership of Mrs Debbie Bannister, TBT is now held on a Wednesday and is known as WOW, Women on Wednesdays. Venue and time remain unchanged.

All who donate financially or in kind are truly valued at Macarthur. We especially thank our Community Partners. It is through the generosity of all of you that Macarthur continues to offer students the highest quality education in academics and extra curricular activities. To learn more about how you can support or connect with Macarthur Anglican School please contact me.

Sharon Pascoe-Thomas
Community Relations Manager
P: (02) 4629 6207
E: spascoethomas@macarthur.nsw.edu.au

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

In addition to the list of donors to the Building Fund acknowledged in the Autumn issue of Tartan Ties, we would like to thank the following donors:

- Mr N and Mrs C Alexander
- Mr C and Mrs K Biggart
- Dr M and Mrs A Booy
- Mr L and Mrs F Borojevic
- Mr J and Mrs K Buda
- Mr G and Mrs J S Cameron
- Mr P Durman and Mrs M Janosik-Durman
- Ms J Edigbami
- Mr I Favretti and Mrs N Gava-Favretti
- Mr M and Mrs K V Grant
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- Mrs N James
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- Mr J D and Mrs J Oliver
- Mr W and Mrs K Perich
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- Mr M and Mrs H Perich
- Mr P and Mrs S Raymond
- Mr J and Mrs R J Relyea
- Mr J Rogan
- Mr D J and Mrs S Stewart
- Dr R and Mrs J A Urquhart
- We also thank a number of donors who have asked to remain anonymous.

ANNUAL APPEAL

- Mr D Acres and Ms K Bosward
- Mr S Bedingfield
- Mr J and Mrs K Buda
- Mr P Butlin and Mrs M Perduv-Butlin
- Mr S and Mrs J Cane
- Mr T and Mrs P Cartwright
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- Mr B Robinson and Mrs J Meadows
- Mr T and Mrs L Moore
- Dr D and Mrs R Nockles
- Mr P and Mrs S Pascoe-Thomas
- Mr M and Mrs H Perich
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- Mr T and Mrs A Hadiwibawa
- The Venerable P Smart
- Mr N and Dr A Stone
- Mr M and Mrs K Tisdale
- Mr B and Mrs D Watts

IN-KIND DONATIONS

- Mr R and Mrs M Masjuk
- Mr C and Mrs K Jackson
- Mr P and Mrs V Kubik
- Mr A and Mrs H Glover
- Mr W McCormack
- CPE Tree Services
- MAD Excavations and Landscaping

PLEDGES

- Dr A and Mrs R Beavis
- Mr G and Mrs S Medich
- Mr R and Mrs P Sim
- Ms A Watson
MACARTHUR ARCHIVES

IN THE BEGINNING...

Macarthur Anglican School has been operating for almost twenty-nine years. This page lets us look back on how it all started with future issues focussing on how the school developed.

The long awaited beginning of the Macarthur Anglican School commenced in memorable circumstance on Monday night, February 6th, 8p.m. in St. John’s Church Camden.

A service of praise and thanksgiving to God, the installation of the Headmaster, and the dedication of the staff and pupils was conducted by Canon Alan Patrick, Chairman of the Council Executive and Rural Dean of Macarthur.

CAMDEN CRIER NEWSPAPER, 15 FEBRUARY 1984.

While this report announced the commencement of Macarthur Anglican School, much had happened beforehand. A Council of dedicated men and women worked for several years to establish an Anglican School in the Macarthur region. When the decision was finally made to proceed on 20 June 1983 (now known as the school’s Foundation Day) there was no money for building or to pay salaries. Indeed, the approval for funding assistance from the Commonwealth Government came so late, that parents of prospective students were asked to sign guarantees of $5,000 each, to ensure the school could start if Commonwealth funding failed to arrive in time.

Fortunately, funds arrived just before the commencement of the first term in 1984, but not in time to purchase buildings that were intended to house the three classes that comprised the first intake of students – two Year 7 classes and one Year 8. Accommodation had to be found somewhere. St David’s Presbyterian Church Campbelltown came to the rescue in allowing the school to use its facilities until buildings could be erected on the site donated by St Thomas’ Church, Narellan.

Many working bees by parents installed paths and prepared the rooms for use as the first Macarthur classrooms. When school commenced under Mr David Lloyd, BA, Dip Ed, FACE as Headmaster, school uniforms had not arrived and students attended in smart, but varied clothing. Several months were to pass before the school’s own site at the corner of Richardson Road and Camden Valley Way (now owned by the Department of Education) was ready for occupation. More working bees were held to lay turf, plant trees and establish gardens.

By this time, things were settling down, with students in uniform, rules set and school policies formulated. As there were no senior students from whom prefects could be selected, the Headmaster established a system of ‘monitors’ to help with oversight of the student body. By the end of 1984, Macarthur Anglican School was developing its reputation for a high standard of education and was well established and ready to embark on a rapid expansion in student numbers during the following years.
Adriana Molumby (née Mihajlovic, 2004) and her husband Mark were married on 4 August at Inch House in Thurles County, Tipperary in Ireland. The manor house in which the wedding took place, belonged to Adriana’s ancestors on her mothers’ side. Adriana is a teacher and has been seen frequently around Macarthur working as a casual teacher.

John Bevitt (2006) is a Market Research Professional with Millward Brown, a global research agency specialising in advertising, marketing communications, media and brand equity research. Millward Brown offices are located in North Sydney.

Sharelle Bell (née Sharp) is married to Warren and works as a nurse at Liverpool Hospital.

Lisa Ellis has worked for seven years in the not for profit sector. Currently she is working for a disability organisation in the Sutherland Shire as the Quality and Business Improvement Manager. She manages the compliance programmes including Work Health and Safety and the quality management system.

Daniel Greaves has worked in Canberra and overseas for several years since leaving Macarthur. On returning to Australia he has resumed study at the University of Western Sydney, carrying out research into IT systems that can be used in health care.

Pamela Huynh (née Lei, 1999) married James Huynh in March 2011 on Hamilton Island. After honeymooning in the Hawaiian Islands, Pamela and James travelled with a church team on a mission trip to Jakarta and also visited a child they sponsor in Surabaya, Indonesia. In January 2012, Pamela and James welcomed their beautiful daughter Abigail.

Debbie Slater (1992) married Jason White and has a son Hamish, born 27 August 2011. Debbie is the Area Manager for Wild Republic, a multi national Toy and Plush company. Deb and Jason live in Brighton in Queensland, along with their 10 year old golden retriever, Charlotte Strawberry.

Dr Joseph Bevitt (1997) is a Scientific Coordinator, for the Bragg Institute at ANSTO (the Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation) at Lucas Heights.

Harry Bevitt (1999) and his wife Iris are the proud parents of two beautiful children, Anastasia and Niko. Harry and Iris run “Fresh Break”, a retail outlet in the Westpoint Shopping Centre, Blacktown.

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Kent Palmer (2003) married Lee-Michelle Rowe on 5 May 2012, in the National Park on the Central Coast. Lee-Michelle is a wedding and events manager at Camden Valley Inn while Kent is a member of the IT staff at Macarthur Anglican School.

Kara-Joy Pearson lives in London. In 2005, she graduated from the University of Sydney with a BA in English and Management, which led her into a career in advertising. Kara-Joy worked on advertising campaigns for a number of organisations including Telstra, the Salvation Army, Fred Hollows Foundation, Legacy Australia, Revlon, Energy Australia and the A.J.C. In 2011, she moved to London and lives in Notting Hill with her partner Nick. Kara-Joy has almost completed a Masters degree in Marketing and spends most of her spare time travelling around the UK and Europe.

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Jay Seeney (2009): Jay’s musical experience was outlined in the last issue. His band Forever Road has released an album called Glass Promise including the song You’re a Soldier Too — a tribute to the families of armed services personnel. The band does a number of charity gigs in the local area to help raise funds for children with cancer.

Laura Seeney (2011) is attending the University of Western Sydney, enrolled in a Sports and Exercise Science Degree.

She recently took part in a forty kilometre charity pushbike ride to raise funds for a little 4 year old girl with Neuroblastoma cancer, raising almost $2000 by August. Further donations may be made by contacting Laura, via Facebook.

Gold Duke of Edinburgh Awards

Former students Felicity Regan (2007), Blair Cameron (2007) and Hannah Greve (2011) have completed their Gold level Duke of Edinburgh Awards and will receive their award from the Governor of New South Wales, Professor Marie Bashir AC, CVO.

Former Students Contest Local Elections

Former students Peter and Linda McLean (1998) and Elyse Glynn (2009) were on the ballot paper standing for election at the recent Camden Council elections. It’s encouraging to see these young people taking an interest in how they can serve the community through representation in local government.

An enjoyable evening of sharing memories took place when a group of students of the Class of 1992 got together on 1 September. Here’s some more Alumni information about members of this group:

Grant Hittman attended the University of Wollongong, majoring in Accountancy and "surfing". While working in London, Grant and some friends swam the English Channel, which Grant says fewer people have swum than have climbed Mount Everest. In Brazil, he met his wife Sue Affleck. Grant and Sue have two children, eight and five years old. Grant is now an accountant for Jeroi Lease in Sydney.

Samantha Gasson (née Harrison) settled into childcare for five years before training as a teacher at UWS and has worked at Narellan Vale Public School for eleven years. Samantha has three children, Emily 11, Abigail, 9 and Isaac 6.

Ashleigh Hobbs (née Oxenham) worked in office administration before marrying David. She has two step children and since marrying, two more children, Taylah 6 and Hunter 4. Ashleigh and her family live near Molong in Central NSW, where they raise sheep and cattle on their farm.

Jarrod Driver has a long-term interest in aircraft and flying and now works for Virgin Airways. Jarrod is married to Gillian Fellows (Tilbury) and Jarrod Driver. Also present, but not in the photo, Chris and Renée Golding, and Kevin Oats.

Hittman, Jodie Langston (Grice), Samantha Gasson (Harrison), Cameron Sim, Simone Bennetts (Wilson), Belinda Page, 6 years old, who are so alike and have identical twin daughters, Bronte and Page, 8 years old, who are so alike that Brooke says she sometimes can only tell them apart when they speak. Brooke has taught at Currans Hill Public School for eleven years.

Rachel Heriot (née Pataky) studied Creative Arts at Wollongong University and worked in various Sydney design studios. Rachel and husband Mark have two children, Isabella 7 and Reuben 2. Rachel continues work in design, art direction and photographic styling. She and Mark are active members of St. Andrews Anglican Church, Lindfield.

Brad Slater studied Science majoring in Human Physiology at the University of Wollongong. Then he trained at Duntroon and served in the Army as a medical officer. After deployments to New Guinea, East Timor, and for humanitarian relief operations in the Solomon Islands and Bougainville, he continued on the active Reserve. Brad now runs his own risk consultancy business. In July, Brad and his wife Deanna welcomed their first child, Audrey.

Jodie Langston (née Grice) married Clay and has two children, Abbie 7 and Oliver 5. She worked in Customer Service for several years and travelled throughout Europe. Jodie is a Learning Support Assistant but is working on a teaching degree at the University of New England.

Simone Bennettts (née Wilson) is married to Clayton. They have two children, Jack 9 and Hannah 6. Simone worked in hospitality and then at a recruitment agency. Now she works in Human Resources at Campbelltown Hospital. Simone and Clayton will soon travel to the US, when Jack will be participating in a Little League Baseball competition.

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20 YEAR REUNION – CLASS OF 1992

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Macarthur Show Team enjoyed their best day ever at the Central Coast Steer Show, gaining two first placings, a third and a fifth place.

Numerous Tanzanian flags were in evidence at the Tanzanian Trek in support of St Michael’s School, Tanzania.

Junior School students sing with enthusiasm at the Benefit Concert.

Well-known author, Morris Gleitzman signs a book for Lachlan Hey (Year 3) after his talk with our young readers.

Paris Kellner (Year 4) tries her hand at a Japanese co-ordination game, watched by Nihon student Nozomi Igarashi.

Year 7 students enjoy their study day at Taronga Zoo.

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