I do hope you enjoy reading this latest edition of Tartan Ties - I do like that name!

As you will now know I will be retiring at the end of this year. It has been a wonderful privilege being Head of Macarthur for such a long time. During that time the students, staff and I have been able to establish many of what are now Macarthur traditions and culture. Of course there are all types of leadership styles and, while the Macarthur Family have grown used to mine, no doubt the new Head will bring his or her unique and valuable style which I am sure will enhance the Macarthur way of doing things. This next stage in the School’s development will bring blessings to our boys and girls and to the School’s community.

Some of you will know that before coming to Macarthur I served as Headmaster at Lae International School in Papua New Guinea. I have continued to take an interest in Papua New Guinea and was recently elected to the committee of the Papua New Guinea Association of Australia. I discovered a website with the names of many of my former students and really had a good time reading about them and what they are doing all over the world. Next year will be the 50th anniversary of my old high school. Just recently I heard of a reunion planned for next year and looked up the website. While the school no longer exists, that does not deter the enthusiasm of many of the old boys and girls to meet up and reminisce.

I know how much people like to hear about their old school, its teachers and former students and that is why Tartan Ties has proven so popular. It allows the Family of Macarthur to keep in touch with each other and to hear about the School’s latest news and achievements - of which there are always many.

Riley Warren AM
Headmaster

Cover Photo: Students and staff on the Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award Adventure in the Abel Tasman National Park, New Zealand

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From the Chaplain: Keeping the Big Picture in Mind

A road with several hairpin bends makes it very difficult to see what is around the corner. Sometimes those bends come when they are not expected and the challenge is to negotiate them as best we can. Life is often like this. Only this month did such a hairpin come along. A death in my extended family reminded me again that as followers of Jesus Christ none of us are immune from the pain of living in a fallen world.

Having God’s big picture clear in our mind helps us to view life’s hairpins with a right perspective. It is the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ that helps us to deal with the issues of life and those challenging hairpins.

And what is the big picture that we are to keep clear in our minds?

God is the Creator of everything: We were made to belong to God and to worship Him because He created everything.

God wants us to become close to Him: Sin, our rebellion against God, stops us becoming His friend. Our world is a sinful place.

Jesus Christ is our way to connect with God: Through Jesus we are able to approach God. The person who is ‘in Christ’ can worship God truly and rightly.

God’s plan is to unite all things ‘in Christ’: This is the destiny of everything.

As you encounter life’s many hairpins, remember to keep the big picture in mind. This is a big picture that is worth sharing with others.

Steven Davis
Chaplain

Mrs Annabel Michie joined the Macarthur School Council in September, 2006. She was elected by the Synod of the Diocese of Sydney to this position, one she values for the insights it provides into independent schooling. This year she has served on the Selection Committee for the Appointment of a New Head.

Mrs Michie has a background in hospitality and training and has worked in administration and management. She has recently attained an Arts degree from Macquarie University, majoring in Linguistics.

Mrs Michie and her husband and three children live in Bowral and they are actively involved in St Judes’ Anglican Church. She is involved in the Children’s ministry of her church, where she holds the position of Children’s Ministry Co-ordinator, overseeing Sunday School, the school religious education programme in the local primary school and organising various children’s clubs.

Mrs Michie is enjoying learning more about Macarthur Anglican School and has taken the opportunity to get to know some of the school community by attending various events since her appointment.

Business Owners … Don’t Miss out this time!

Macarthur Anglican School
Community Business Directory
“Supporting those who support us”

Bookings now open for the 2009 edition

Download an Information Pack and Booking Form from the Supporting Macarthur page of our website www.macarthur.nsw.edu.au or call the Office of Advancement on 02 4647 5333.
There is always much suspense and excitement about the announcement of the School Captain and Vice Captain at Speech Night. These appointments bring with them responsibility for leading the student body through the coming year and being the conduit for information between the staff and students.

Joshua Fleming and Alexandra Cook were appointed as School Captain and Vice Captain respectively at Speech Night 2007. Since then they have begun to carry out their roles with great enthusiasm. So, what is it that the School Captain and Vice Captain do?

Joshua and Alexandra serve the School through their leadership of the student body. Their official roles often include participating in school events like the School Ball and in community events like the Anzac Day service in Camden. They work with the Prefect Master, Mr Hordern, in organising rosters for Prefects to help in the Canteen, check uniforms, assist at concerts and events, and provide leadership at Assemblies and special events. These responsibilities require them to demonstrate leadership, initiative and good communication skills, which they are both able to do well.

Congratulations go to Joshua and Alexandra for their appointment to these positions of responsibility.

In the last edition of Tartan Ties we reported on Joshua Fleming’s involvement in the Global Young Leaders Conference held in Vienna. When Joshua commented that this conference had provided him with insight into how he could impact on the future he had no idea how soon his opportunity would come!

Recently, Joshua received an invitation to become an Inaugural Scholar and join the University Presidential Inaugural Conference to be held in Washington DC in January 2009. This honour, afforded to a small number of young people from across the globe, means that Joshua will be present in Washington during the inauguration of the new US President and Vice President. More than that, he will be present on the National Mall on the morning of the Inauguration as the President is sworn in to office.

Over the five days of his visit to Washington DC Joshua will be involved in conference sessions which will include presentations by prominent American political leaders, political analysts and business and community leaders. He will have the opportunity to meet members of Congress, White House officials and political experts who shape and implement the policies of the United States. Joshua will also attend the Inaugural Ball held to mark the swearing in of the new President.

“This is a once in a lifetime experience offered to only a handful of people my age across the world. I am so grateful to the Headmaster for my initial nomination for the Global Young Leaders Conference and the many other opportunities it has brought.”

What an opportunity!
Science Project

During Speech Night last year the Headmaster announced that the next building project to take place would be the construction of the second stage of the Science wing.

The first stage was constructed in 1997 when the Middle School and Senior School moved to the Cobbitty Campus from Narellan. Since that time there has been considerable investment in purpose-built permanent buildings and facilities catering for music, general learning areas and sporting facilities across the campus, including the entire relocation of the Infants School and Junior School in 2005.

Science is an important element of the curriculum at Macarthur. Children begin to learn about simple science in Transition and by Year 3 classes are able to make use of the laboratories under the guidance of Mrs Glover, whose role includes assisting with Junior School Science. With HSC Biology, Chemistry, Earth and Environmental Science and Physics on offer for Senior School students, the pressure upon existing facilities is increasing.

It is envisaged that construction, which will involve replacement of two demountable science laboratories and a preparation room, should begin in the near future. The new permanent building will contain four science learning areas including a seminar demonstration room and a science display area, two laboratories and one science preparation room.

Modern design principles have been applied to the project in order to promote greater safety for students and to utilise passive energy, with particular emphasis on heating and water storage tanks.

The new buildings will provide a learning environment conducive to group work and experiential learning for students. In addition the new facilities will allow science staff to better cater for individual learning needs.

Over the next twelve to eighteen months, all members of our school community will be invited to contribute to the provision of this outstanding facility.

Astronomical Opportunity to Link to UWS

The University of Western Sydney has recently received a Regional and Community Engagement Grant which will bring an outstanding opportunity to Macarthur students. The grant will enable the development and evaluation of web based motion control software which will permit student to view areas of the night sky through their computer.

The research and development for this project will be carried out by a team of students under the guidance of Associate Professor Frank Stootman PhD from the Computing and Mathematics faculty of the University. The project will provide both remote control observing and a web presence for the UWS astronomical facilities in Penrith and Campbelltown.

Macarthur students will provide feedback on the software and ultimately the software developed will be available for use on the telescope to be built at Macarthur in the future.

“This is a very exciting project for our students. Their knowledge of Astronomy will be enhanced through the project, as will their appreciation of the scope of use of the world-wide web. Building their enthusiasm for exploring the universe will provide motivation for their studies and for careers they could pursue in Science in the future,” said Paul Looyen, Head of Science at Macarthur.


History Students See The World Across The Centuries

A group of Year 11 and Year 12 students had the experience of a lifetime when they travelled to Europe on the European History Field and Site study earlier this year. They visited some of the most amazing cities and sites in Europe and walked in the footsteps of those who have shaped history both in the ancient and modern era.

This excursion helped to bring alive both the Ancient and Modern History curriculum. Examining antiquities from the time when the Roman Empire covered the known world and studying the lifestyle and artworks of this era has helped to build both the knowledge and understanding of the students. History comes to life before their eyes!

The tour group also visited a number of sites of significance for Modern History, including the site of the failed 1924 Beer Hall Putsch in Munich and the former concentration camp at Dachau where thousands lost their lives during Hitler’s reign of terror. The group also toured France, visiting many historical landmarks in and around Paris, and passing through the town of Villiers Bretonneux, which this year marked the ninetieth anniversary of its liberation by Australian soldiers during the First World War.

The visit to London provided the opportunity to view the ancient and modern as the tour group viewed museums, visited major landmarks including Buckingham Palace and the Tower of London and tried out the London Eye.

This truly was a walk through the centuries!

A Performance By A Very Special Maestro

It is an amazing opportunity to hear a world-renowned pianist. It is an even more incredible experience to appreciate just how outstanding his talent is by watching a man like David Helfgott pour out the beautiful music of Liszt, Chopin and Rachmaninov despite the disabling effect of the schizoaffective disorder from which he has suffered all his life. Mr Helfgott’s life and work was immortalised in the movie Shine which was produced in the mid 1990’s.

It was a great privilege for Macarthur to host a visit from this wonderfully talented musician and his wife Gillian. Elective Music students from Year 5 to Year 12 were enthralled as Mr Helfgott performed several complex compositions completely from memory. They were able to witness for themselves the speed and agility of his hands and the power he brought to the performance.

Elliot Ku, a talented pianist currently preparing to sit for his AMus examinations was especially taken with Mr Helfgott’s performance. “He has amazing hands. He can reach more than an octave and is able to use the same power on the keys with his thumb and fifth finger as with each of the other fingers on his hands.”

Gillian Helfgott spoke to the students of the importance of music to her husband. “David believes music is the greatest companion in the world. You are never lonely when you have music.” She commented that Mr Helfgott was thrilled to be in a school like Macarthur that is filled with music.
The Macarthur Outdoor Education programme is an integral element of the education of every student from Year 3 to Year 12. Each year students learn new skills and build their self confidence as they confront new challenges and overcome them.

In 2008 the Macarthur camping programme was very successful, with both staff and students enjoying the activities completed and with the sequential programme operating effectively. Across all camps the activities enhanced the development of Group Skills, Bush Skills, Hiking, Canoeing and Abseiling/Rock Climbing skills. All camps included Christian input and students of all ages spoke positively about this aspect of the programme.

Among the highlights of the programme in 2008 were the excellent efforts of the Peer Support leaders in assisting Year 7 during their camp, the first out trip experience for Year 8, the success of the Duke of Edinburgh’s Award component of the Year 9 Camp and the use of Glengarry for the Year 11 Camp. The benefit of the Year 3 Campout at Cobbitty just prior to the Year 3 and 4 Camp was also evident with the children showing a pleasing level of confidence during their time away from home.

Planning for 2009 has already commenced. The most significant difference next year will be the division of Year 5 and Year 6 into two separate camps, allowing these two groups to have quite distinctive camp experiences.
Swimming Carnivals

Junior School

The Junior School Swimming Carnival was held on Tuesday 19 February. It was a wonderful day and all students were keen to participate and earn their house some house points. The competition itself was tight, with Marsh house eventually coming out in front with 491 points.

Several records were broken on the day:

**Joshua Simat**
11yr 50m Butterfly - 39.76s
11yr 50m Backstroke - 40.12s
11yr 50m Breaststroke - 44.76s

**Thomas van der Velde**
Snr 50m Backstroke - 41.64s

**Marsh**
Snr Boys 4x50m Freestyle Relay - 2:45.81min.

Congratulations to these record breakers and to all competitors for striving to do their best.

Age Champions were:

**Juniors**
Victoria Buda
Austen Perich

11 years
Katrina Azzopardi
Joshua Simat

**Seniors**
Emma Houghton
Thomas van der Velde

Middle School and Senior School

The Middle School and Senior School Swimming Carnival was held on 23 February, 2008. The day was marked by excellent house spirit, particularly from Heber, who won the Cheering Competition. The overall result for the day was very close, coming down to the relays, and Broughton took the trophy by 1 point from Barker.

12 Years Boys
Tynan Williams

12 Years Girls
Kaylie Ekinci

13 Years Boys
Alexander Borojevic

13 Years Girls
Jessica McGuinness

14 Years Boys
Mark Borojevic

14 Years Girls
Amanda Zenkis

15 Years Boys
Adrian Wosik

15 Years Girls
Courtney Alchin

16 Years Boys
Nathaniel Oliver

16 Years Girls
Laura Page

17 Years Boys
Joel Geist

17 Years Girls
Alana Drew

18 Years Boys
Justin Holbeck

18 Years Girls
Rosalie Baldwin

Thomas Hazlett and Ante Kolonovic representing Heber

Ellie Beggs, Chloe Maric, Amy Bartlett and Jessica Dali

Off to a start in the backstroke
Cross Country Carnival

Infants School and Junior School Cross Country

The Cross Country Carnival, held on Wednesday April 30, was an impressive event, with many participating and others cheering their classmates as they came to the finish line.

The day featured close finishes, last lap sprints and early charges and sportsmanship was obvious throughout the day. The honours of the day belonged to Heber House.

Age Champions were:

Trans/Kind.
- Tamika Mansell
- Jonah Veckranges

Year 1
- Crystal Elliott
- Liam Wright

Year 2
- Emma Taylor
- Samuel Nockles

8/9's
- Matilda Offord
- Samuel McGill

10's
- Cailin Pascoe
- Braylin Altobelli

11's
- Bessie-Lucille Platt
- Lachlan Roberts

12/13's
- Abbey Bamford
- Jeremy Watson

Congratulations to all participants on a very exciting carnival.

Middle School and Senior School

The Middle School and Senior School Cross Country was held in Thursday 1 May, 2008. This is a competitors only event and students sign up before the day. This year the top six runners from each group went through to the NASSA Cross Country.

Congratulations to our 2008 Cross Country Age Champions. They will be awarded a trophy at our annual Sports Dinner.

12 Years Boys - Tynan Williams
12 Years Girls - Kaylie Ekinci
13 Years Boys - Teo Markou
13 Years Girls - Shannon Lillis
14 Years Boys - Gareth Mumby
14 Years Girls - Laura Seeney
15 Years Boys - Michael van den Heuvel
15 Years Girls - Hillary Buckler
16 Years Boys - Benjamin Stirling
16 Years Girls - Kasey Mumby
17 Years Boys - Justin Dixon
17 Years Girls - Tessa Stovell
18 Years Boys - Joshua Fleming

Year 3 boys get a start

Middle School and Senior School

Year 3 girls striding out

Year 1 warm up for a run
Dads and Daughters Camp, 2008 was marked by fun, friendship and family rivalry as dads and their daughters took the time to build some special memories. The camp, held at Chaldercot, Port Hacking, provided an opportunity to pull away from the stresses of everyday and for dads and daughters to focus just on one another.

During the weekend dads and daughters were led through a number of sessions by Mr Rex Harris, Camp Convenor, who challenged the younger and older representatives of these families to discuss what they want for themselves and their community in the future, to consider the impact they can have on their world and to remember God’s wonderful provision of life, love, joy and forgiveness.

There were plenty of activities to challenge the body but probably the most memorable part of the weekend was the opportunity each dad had to take his daughter on a date on Saturday night – either in Cronulla or on the campsite itself. Saturday evening ended with a trip across Port Hacking on the punt, a very enjoyable and special way to conclude a special evening.
A New Window on Learning for the Children of the Infants School

Parents at Macarthur are always keen to provide their children with a broad range of learning opportunities. Instrumental music is one tool in providing a new learning experience, but is it the right thing for every child and when is the time right to begin?

The Discovery Strings Programme, available to children from Year 1 and Year 2, aims to assist parents to answer these questions.

Discovery Strings is a peripatetic music programme which provides introductory lessons to small children on stringed instruments. Developed and conducted by two of our visiting strings teachers, Ms Samantha Boston and Ms Joanne Touli, the programme runs for eight weeks and aims to provide an introductory string experience.

Coming together in small groups, the children learn about the parts of the violin, the posture and stance required for playing and when the instrument is at rest and the discipline of practice. Following the eight week course, the teachers provide written feedback to parents regarding both the level of enjoyment the children have found in the programme and the promise they have shown, allowing parents to make an informed decision about committing to individual peripatetic lessons.

“This programme is providing our Infants School children and their families with a taste of learning an instrument and already many parents have found it helpful in making a decision about pursuing further lessons.” Further information about this programme is available from Mrs Marrable, Head of Music.

Macarthur Academy Of Music

Over many year the families of Macarthur have enjoyed the opportunity for their children to learn an instrument on the School Campus. This year the Macarthur Academy of Music is making this same learning opportunity available to those beyond the school community.

Operating from 2.30pm to 5.30pm Monday to Friday, our visiting music tutors use the Macarthur facilities to teach instrumental music to girls and boys, from Macarthur and other schools. The level of interest shown by families outside the School is evidence of the high regard in which the music programme offered at Macarthur is held.

The students can study a broad range of instruments and they are encouraged to enhance both their technical and performance skills through the regular concerts held at Cobbitty.

“The Macarthur Academy of Music is allowing our visiting music tutors to provide learning opportunities to increasing numbers of students from across this region. The Academy is building upon the reputation Macarthur already has as a centre of excellence for Music in the region and is allowing the community to gain benefit from the outstanding facilities we have available on this site,” said the Headmaster, Riley Warren.
What is outreach? It is serving others in a way that brings the love of God to them in a relevant and practical way – this is what the Thailand Outreach programme is all about!

The Thailand Outreach is the culmination of a programme of training and personal development which begins months before the students board the plane.

Each year a team from Macarthur joins with a group from Pacific Academy, Vancouver to bring the message of God’s love to people in Thailand. This year our students worked on a project at the McKeane Leprosy Hospital, taught English at the E Camp at Varee Chiang-Mai School and visited the Hill Tribe Villages in northern Thailand to deliver gifts and teach children about dental hygiene. This programme allows our students to follow the example of Jesus, meeting people at their point of need, and offering both physical and spiritual support to them.

St Michael Secondary School Student Sponsorship Programme

In 2008, the Macarthur community is sponsoring twenty students from St Michael School in Forms II to IV. Day students receive sponsorship which pays their school fees. Students who live in the girls or boys hostel have their accommodation costs covered as well as their school fees.

Each Macarthur student contributes to the sponsorship of a student. In the Middle School and Senior School, each House is raising money to sponsor a student. In the Junior School, each grade sponsors a student. All the students of the Infants School work together to sponsor a student. In addition, some of the St Michael students are personally sponsored by a staff member. Already many of these groups have raised enough money to cover the entire year’s sponsorship!

During May we received a packet of letters from the students being sponsored expressing their gratitude for this support. Many of the students commented that previously when they returned home during each holiday period they did not know whether they would be able to find the money to pay the fees for the next term. All that has changed for each student receiving our sponsorship.

Adelia Gwimile, who is sponsored by Barker House, writes, “I thank God that he is helping me in my studies and ……I thank you. Without your consideration I would not have been here.”
Scott Bedingfield

Mr Scott Bedingfield joined the staff of Macarthur in January, 2005. His quirky sense of humour, his passion for Mathematics and his love of the outdoors are all greatly appreciated by students and staff alike.

Coming to Macarthur with several years teaching experience, Mr Bedingfield was seeking the opportunity to challenge and extend himself, and has found just the environment he wanted. Since his arrival he has launched the Macarthur Snowsports Programme through which many students have had their first skiing experience and others have completed in national titles in skiing and snowboarding.

In 2006 Mr Bedingfield was appointed Outdoor Education Co-ordinator, a position which allows him to encourage students to develop their love of our environment. He also co-ordinates the Duke of Edinburgh’s Award Scheme.

Mr Bedingfield loves Mathematics. During 2007 Mr Bedingfield was recognised with the award of Classroom Professional Excellence by the Independent Schools Teacher Accreditation Authority. He has also been instrumental in establishing MathNET, the Mathematics Faculty Intranet site.

What kind of things keep this dedicated teacher going outside school? He loves watching The Amazing Race on television, going to the movies, travelling and supporting West Tigers!

Susan Byers

Mrs Susan Byers joined the staff of Macarthur in 2006, teaching Year 2. Since then Mrs Byers has taken over as Learning Support Co-ordinator, a role that has a special place in her heart. She has a masters degree in Special Education.

The last six months have been a very busy time for Mrs Byers who attended the Australian Government Summer School for Teachers of Numeracy and Literacy, a two week residential conference which examined the latest educational research and its impact on teaching practice. As a result of this course she is now working on Macarthur’s Comprehension and Spelling programmes to ensure that we are applying best practice to our teaching.

Mrs Byers has also been recognised for her Classroom Professional Excellence by the Independent Schools Teacher Accreditation Authority this year. There are currently less that fifty teachers in NSW who hold this award.

Mrs Byers enjoys working with children and is always keen to see them achieve their best. She particularly enjoys her time with children who need assistance with their learning – both the challenge of finding the best way to assist them and the joy of watching the improvement in their learning. One of the special things about working at Macarthur for Mrs Byers is the opportunity to work alongside teachers who genuinely care about their students.

Steven Webster

Have you ever wondered who makes sure that things are set up for big events? Have you ever considered who does all those repair jobs around the School? Meet Mr Steven Webster, Maintenance Supervisor.

Mr Webster joined the staff of Macarthur in 2006. Since then he has made a significant contribution to the life of Macarthur through his work. Mr Webster enjoys the Christian environment of the School and appreciates working alongside others committed to doing their best in their work.

Mr Webster is married and has two sons, Mitchell and Jarrod who are both students of Macarthur. He and his family are members of an Anglican church near their home in Wattle Grove.

Spending time with family is very important to Mr Webster. He enjoys going camping with them and visiting a family farm where he and the boys have the opportunity to ride motor bikes and enjoy a relaxed life style.
1998 Reunion
This year marked the tenth anniversary of the completion of their studies for the students of Year 12, 1998 and the Reunion held in March brought together many of those who studied in this cohort in Year 10, 11 and 12.

The Reunion provided an excellent opportunity to catch up on news of what others were doing and it was wonderful to have nearly half of those who were part of the year group attend.

One of the highlights of the evening was the arrival of Shivaun Bromley, Phillipa Sanders and Kelly

1988 Reunion
This year Macarthur reached a new milestone, with its first Twenty Year Reunion which brought together students from the 1988 cohort. These former students came from throughout NSW to attend the Reunion. They were at different stages in their lives: some have families and several have children currently enrolled at Macarthur, others are studying, some are operating their own businesses and many have travelled extensively.

Since they last came together in 1998 much has changed in their lives and in the life of the School. During this visit they were able to view the Infants School and Junior School classrooms and were amazed at the ongoing growth of the School. As part of the Reunion celebrations this year a booklet of information was prepared about those who attended the reunion and some who were unable to be there. Many were able to learn more about classmates they had not seen since leaving School.

There was much laughter over the old photos and memorabilia on display at the Reunion and some of the staff present came in for a ribbing over their style of dress and changes in hair fashions.

Mr David Lloyd, Foundation Headmaster of Macarthur attended this reunion and he too enjoyed reminiscing. He was also full of praise for the work done by the current Headmaster, Mr Riley Warren AM in building up the School and providing such wonderful facilities for the current students.
Alyssa Dunn (née Watson, Year 10, 1996) completed a Diploma in Retail Management and a Certificate 4 in Human Resources after leaving school. She married Shane in 2006 and has a daughter Jasmyne, who is six months old.

Carolyn Samsa (née Fisher, Year 12, 1998) completed a Bachelor of Psychology (Honours) at the University of Western Sydney in 2002. She worked for the Roads and Traffic Authority for several years and is now employed as Senior Policy Officer for the Outdoor Media Association. She married Alan in 2007. Together they have carried out volunteer work in Bhutan.

Kelly Taraborelli (Year 12, 1998) completed her degree in 2001 and is employed with Ernst and Young. She has travelled extensively in Hong Kong, New Zealand, Europe, Vietnam, Singapore and USA.

Fahri Fahri (Year 12, 1998) completed his Agricultural Science degree with Honours at the La Trobe University. He has been working with the Victorian Department of Primary Industries and is currently completing his PhD through the sheep CRC at Murdoch University in Western Australia. You may see him featured on a television game show during 2008.

Phillipa Sanders (Year 12, 1998) gained her Bachelor of Science in Geography and Environmental Analysis in the USA where she lived for 4.5 years. In 2004 she returned to Australia and began work as a Town Planner. She has just completed a Masters of Urban and Regional Planning at the University of Sydney. Phillipa still plays hockey and has recently been selected for the Australian Indoor Hockey team to tour England and Scotland in December.

Dearne Wardell (Year 12, 1989) has taken on many challenges since leaving school – training in floristry, as a legal secretary and in architectural drafting. She has suffered several setbacks with her health but remains positive about the future. She is currently working as a share trader from her home in North Queensland and loves to spend time with her son, Jake.

Kelly Lindsell (née Weymouth, Year 12, 1984) is married to Darren and has two children, Connor and Mackenzie. She completed a Bachelor of Commerce in Economics and Finance and a Graduate Diploma in Financial Management. She is part owner of a financial planning business in Parramatta. She is still a keen waterskier.

Leigh Dornan (née Murray, Year 12, 1984) trained as a nurse when she left school and has recently completed a Bachelor of Education. She is now teaching at Blairmont Public School. Leigh and her husband Mark have three children, Emily, James and Rachel.

Jodie Stucki (née Wells, Year 12, 1984) is married to Andrew and they have three children, Ellen, Fletcher and Harvey. She is currently working part time in the field of finance, in which she is well qualified. She has also completed a post graduate Diploma of Teaching.

Lisa Dooley (née McCully, Year 12, 1984) married her husband Scott in 2007. She is working as a Civil Engineer in the construction industry.

Lauren Marsh (née Watkins, Year 10 1996) is married and has two children, Ashton and Kyan. She is working as a Project Officer at the University of Western Sydney.

Alison Barrett (Year 12, 1998) completed her Bachelor of Teaching in 2001 and has taught at several schools, including Beverley Park in Campbelltown. She is currently teaching at Peterborough in Wollongong. Alison has travelled in Europe, Vietnam, Bali and South America. She and her partner Nathan are currently renovating their home.

Rebecca Shepherd (Year 12, 1998) in currently completing her PhD in Musicology at Macquarie University and teaching in the Department of Contemporary Music Studies at Macquarie.

Kelly Houghton (née Sherrard, Year 12 1998) is working as a corporate travel consultant. She married Shaun in 2004. Kelly has travelled extensively to places like China, Europe, the United Kingdom, New Zealand and Tanzania.

Sarah Dalton (née Johnson, Year 12 1998) completed a course at art school after finishing at Macathur. She is married to Mark and is expecting their first child later this year. Sarah and Mark love to travel in Australia.

Gavin Butler (Year 12, 1998) graduated from the University of NSW in 2002 with a Bachelor of Science (Computer Science) degree. He has worked in web development and is currently employed as a database administrator. He enjoys travelling and has visited the USA, Canada, New Zealand and in Europe later in the year.


Danielle Johnson (Year 12, 2002) is engaged to be married to David Cooper. After completing a Bachelor of Business Management in Employment Relations and Equine Studies degree at the University of Western Sydney, Danielle has taken a graduate position with the Office of State Revenue. Danielle and David have recently purchased a property in Hartley where they are to build a house. She is also
a committed member of Horse Rescue Australia.

**Camille Rosella** (Year 12, 2003) is currently completing an Honours degree at the University of NSW and hopes to begin her PhD in 2009.

**Peter Baldwin** (Year 10, 2005) is in his final year of an apprenticeship, training as a shop fitter.

**Aaron Brodie** (Year 12, 1998) has completed a Bachelor of Criminology degree since leaving school.

**Joshua Mackney** (Year 10, 2004) is completing an Aviation degree at Avondale College and hopes to become a charter pilot or instructor.

**Kevin Yeoh** (Year 12, 1996) was among those who attended the recent 2020 Summit and recently had an article published in the Age in which he reminded readers of the importance of Asia to Australia’s future and encouraged Australians to develop a greater cultural understanding of Asia. He is engaged to Catherine.

**Benjamin Lloyd** (Year 12, 1998) is operating his own business, BML Group, providing plumbing and excavation services and installs rainwater tanks in the Macarthur region. He married Melanie in 2001.

**Suzanne Gill** (Year 12, 1984) studied Nursing at UWS after leaving school. She works at Camden Hospital in the Admissions Clinic and in Pre-Operative Care. Suzanne has two sons, Blake and Shaun.

**Justine Morrison** (née Weekes, Year 12, 1984) and her husband Paul operate a recruitment business in Campbelltown. She has two children who are currently attending Macarthur, Eleanor (Year 11) and Reid (Year 8).

**Tammy Newell** (née Batten, Year 12, 1984) is working in the public service in Canberra. She loves music and is dedicated to improving the environment and animal rights.

**David Bugden** (Year 12, 1984) joined the Navy after leaving school. He has since completed a Diploma of Business Management and is employed in sales in the trucking industry. David is married to Carlene.

**Debbie Palazzi** (née Saunders, Year 12, 1984) is married to Bill and they have four children – Hannah, Rachel, Isaac and Miriam. Debbie trained in Accountancy after leaving school and now operates a bookkeeping business near her home in the Hunter Valley.

**Daniel Doherty** (Year 12, 1984) operates his own web design business, Merlin-FX. He is very involved in the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce and supports many local associations.

**Adrian Berehulak** (Year 12, 1984) completed a Bachelor of Economics at Sydney University. He is employed by a major shopping centre provider and based in Queensland. He is married to Fiona and they have two children, Marcus and Charlotte.

**Brigitte** (née Gulyias, Year 12, 1984) and **Matthew Rogan** (Year 12, 1984) have four boys, Jack, Harrison, James and Lachlan. Three currently attend Macarthur. They have a business in Camden.

**Tracey Bavington** (Year 12, 1984) is a professional photographer specialising in horse events. She lives in Queensland.

**Glen Toovey** (Year 12, 1998) is a Marketing and Communications Manager of a technology firm. He also has a small web design and graphic company which allows him to follow his passion for interactive design. He still enjoys his music, playing guitar and saxophone and is actively involved in his church.

**Shivaun Bromley** (Year 12, 1998) has worked in Human Resource Management since completing her Honours degree at the University of NSW. She has now returned to this field after a twelve month leave of absence to establish her own business, Melt Gourmet Pizza Bar in Gladesville.

**Sophie D’Hyon** (née Little, Year 12, 1998) recently married Craig. She is employed as a Human Resource Manager. Sophie and Craig travelled in France and Thailand during their honeymoon.

**Dion Tsoukalas** (Year 12, 1998) trained as an Occupational Therapist at university and has since completed post graduate study in Occupational Health and Safety. She is now a national Health, Safety and Property consultant for a major communications company.

**Lucas Hayden** (Year 10, 1996) has a busy life teaching his class of Year 6 children and managing the Under 11 Sydney South West Rugby League team. He is a keen scuba diver and is carrying out research on the impact of the Kurnell Desalination Plant on marine life in Botany Bay.

**Linden** (née Bishop, Year 12 1998) and **Daniel Webber** (Year 12, 1998) married in 2003. Linden trained as a teacher and has taught Primary aged students for seven years. Daniel has his own business. This year their family has increased with the arrival of Dillan, who is now three months old.

**Elissa Gale** (née White, Year 12 1998) She holds several tertiary qualifications including an Honours degree in Commerce and a post graduate qualification in Philanthropy. She is employed as Fundraising Manager at the University of Wollongong. Earlier this year she was married to Justin and her brother **Timothy** (Year 12, 2000) and friend **Shivaun Bromley** (Year 12 1998) were members of the bridal party. Several people connected to Macarthur attended the wedding.

**Jayne Weller** (Year 12, 1999) studied a Science degree with a Zoology major and an Arts degree at UNSW and became a senior keeper at Mogo Zoo. Last year she returned to Sydney to start a Veterinary Science degree at Sydney University. She is co-founder of a charity called **Survive**, an organisation committed to assisting the survival of endangered species. To learn more of the work of this organisation please contact: **survive.au@gmail.com**
Alumni News

Ellen Pacelli (née Karavelatzis, Year 10, 2000) has pursued many directions since leaving school. After completing her HSC she trained in Floristry, and then completed a Legal Services course, which led her into paralegal work. She is completing a Diploma in Conveyancing. Ellen is married to Flavio and this year they have celebrated the arrival of their son, Remo Sebastian.

Bethuen Grady (née Haviland, Year 12 2004) was married to Andrew in January this year. She is a teacher at Sadlier Primary School.

Clint Johnson (Year 12, 2000) is a serving member of the Australian Army, in the 2nd Cavalry Regiment which is part of the 1st Brigade located in Darwin. He is the Crew Commander of an ASLAV Armoured Fighting Vehicle. Clint has completed two tours of duty in Iraq.

Alexandra Hansen (Year 12, 1999) has completed a Bachelor of Health Sciences (Speech Pathology) and a Graduate Certificate in Health Services Management since leaving Macarthur. She is working as a Speech Pathology manager in Gippsland, Victoria.

Rachel Darvey (Year 12, 2000) has been working as a corporate lawyer in Sydney since completing her studies. She has recently relocated to Singapore where she will be working as an Equity Capital Markets, Mergers and Acquisitions lawyer.

Mark Bromley (Year 12, 1996) married Olivia earlier this year. Their bridal party included his sister Shivaun (Year 12, 1998) and groomsmen Boyd Bateup (Year 12, 1998), Peter Tan (Year 12, 1996) and Gavin Clarke (Year 8, 1992).

Laura Watts (Year 10, 2002) completed her Bachelor of Speech and Hearing Studies at the University of Sydney and is currently working to complete her Master of Clinical Audiology at Macquarie University.

Melissa Ford (née Richardson, Year 10, 1999) is married to Stephen. They live in the Macarthur area and own their own business. They have a son, Lachlan, born in 2007.

Daniel Duffield (Year 12, 2002) and his wife Melissa have five children, Jayden, Chloe, Cameron, Lochlon and Gemma. Daniel has his own pressure cleaning and graffiti removal business, Masterblaster.

Kevin Smith (Year 11, 1999) has a passion for modified vehicles and is a freelance photographer for several car magazines. He is employed in the Customer Relations field for Apple Computers.

Hannah Chambers (Year 12, 2006) has completed a Diploma of Children’s Services and is currently in the second year of a Bachelor of Early Childhood degree at the University of Western Sydney.

Heather Milburn (Year 12, 2004) completed her Bachelor of Applied Science (Leisure & Health) at University of Sydney in 2007, and is now working with the Crusader Union of Australia on the Summit Educational Camps and is involved in running various outdoor activities, as well as Christian studies. She began her involvement with Crusaders while at Macarthur as an “Oasis” leader, and attended several January Leadership Camps. She now has the pleasure of leading on camps Macarthur students are attending.

John Milburn (Year 12, 2001) graduated from the University of Sydney in 2005 with a Bachelor of Land and Water Science, Honours. In 2006 he began working for an international company dedicated to waste reduction and resource recovery, and which is based at Eastern Creek.

Jason Crowle (Year 12, 1994) worked with Soccer Australia for three years, then with Harness Racing NSW as Communications Manager before being headhunted to work with the Sydney Kings as Media and Communications Manager. Jason spent three seasons with the Kings, which included winning three straight Media/Communications Manager of the Year Awards, before moving to Melbourne to do contract PR and Event work. He returned to Sydney in January 2006 to start up the Sydney operations for Octopus Promotions, before moving back to Melbourne as a Director/General Manager of this company in April 2008.

Ashley Smith (Year 12, 2006) was recently presented with his Duke of Edinburgh’s Award Gold Award by the Governor of NSW, Her Excellency Professor Marie AM, AC, CVO Governor of NSW at a ceremony at NSW Government House.

On the same day Nicholas Mark (Year 12, 2006) also received his Duke of Edinburgh’s Award Gold Award, acknowledging the completion of all requirements for this prestigious award.

Julia Doriguzzi (Year 12, 2003) completed Diploma of Graphic Design and is working at Demo Design, a graphic design agency and with FMCG (Fast Moving Consumer Good) packaging goods. She works on the packaging you see on your supermarket shelves.

Alexander Palmer (Year 12, 2003) spoke at the recent ANZAC Day service at Macarthur.

We remember Andrew Fielding (Year 10, 1998) who died earlier this year.
Returning to Serve

It has become something of a tradition for former students of Macarthur to return to work and serve others in this community. Currently there are several members of staff who are former students and the profiles below tell just a little of their contribution to the lives of the students and of what keeps them at Macarthur.

Kylie Elling
(née Pascoe, Year 12, 1993) began at Macarthur in Year 7, 1988. She returned to Macarthur as a teacher in 2002. What brought her back? “I have many memories of my time as a student of Macarthur including camps, fun with friends and special events. I wanted to be part of offering others the wonderful educational opportunities I enjoyed.

Initially, it was strange coming back to teach at the School. What was really weird was that there were teachers still there that had taught me. It took me quite a while to have the confidence to call them by their Christian names rather than Mr Toovey, Mrs White or Mr Shuter.”

Kylie is currently teaching Year 6. She is proud of her work as a teacher and loves teaching at Macarthur. “This is a wonderful place to work. The staff are very supportive and the students are terrific!”

Her daughter Mikayla is following in mum’s footsteps, having commenced in Transition this year.

Having just left Macarthur, Kent Palmer (Year 12, 2003) decided to return to work in Information Technology support for one year – and is still here five years later! He not only supports the work going on in classrooms, but is involved in development of logos such as the Alumni crest, providing technical support for the annual musical, preparing videos and DVDs and a range of other activities.

One of the special things about working at Macarthur for Kent is the variety of work available. “Everyday brings something new – a new problem to solve, a new challenge to meet. I also get to work with great people and I have learned a great deal from them.”

Rachel Freestone (née Ash, Year 12, 2002) is now in her second year of teaching at Macarthur. Her qualifications in Early Childhood Education make her well suited to work in the Infants School where she currently teaches Year 1.

“I have always wanted to work with young children and Macarthur has provided me with the opportunity to do that. It is wonderful to see the children learn and grow in confidence in their own ability. At Macarthur I have the opportunity to provide children with new and exciting learning experiences and can instill in my students a love of learning - all things I enjoyed as a student here. It has been excellent to begin my teaching career in this school, in a supportive and encouraging work environment.”

In addition to teaching her class, Rachel is using her other skills to great effect in the Infants School, teaching the Infants School Dance Group and leading the Infants School String Ensemble.

Erica Looyen
(née Stootman, Year 12, 1991) returned to Macarthur after several years teaching in schools elsewhere in NSW and in the United States. During her career she has taught several subjects but is now focussed in teaching History and Physical Education, her two great loves. “As Sport Co-ordinator and a teacher in the Middle School I get to see students achieve both in the classroom and on the sporting field. My role in sport is often the busiest part of my work.”

“When I left school I wanted to train as an Occupational Therapist, but God had different plans and I was led into teaching.

I have always wanted to teach at Macarthur because I enjoyed my time here as a student so much. When the History position was advertised I was very excited. The timing was right for me to return to working full time and it has been wonderful to have colleagues who were some of my teachers.”

In 2006, Daniel Ash (Year 12, 1999) returned to Macarthur in the role of Network supervisor. His work involves keeping the 350 computers in the school up and running. Coming from employment in the IT industry where he was
contracted to school to repair and maintain Apple computers, Daniel was attracted to Macarthur by the opportunity to put his skills to good use in a familiar environment.

“Macarthur has proven to be an great place to work. I have been able to work with great people and use my talents to help those around me. I have also learned a great deal from those with whom I work closely.”

Matthew Perry (Year 12, 2003) has pursued several career directions since leaving Macarthur: working in IT, serving in the police force and operating his own business. In 2005 he took the decision to enter teaching and Macarthur provided the opportunity to take on the new challenges this career presents.

“Returning to Macarthur has been great for me. Those who I remember as teachers have made me very welcome and have supported me. There are some lessons that are hard to shake though, like not swinging on my chair whenever Mrs Low is in sight.”

There are other former students employed ay Macarthur including Timothy Clarke (Year 12, 2000) who teaches English and Mathew Turnbull (Year 12, 1993) who teaches Biblical Studies.

Others serve here as peripatetic music teachers, including Yvette Siladyi (Year 12, 2000), Jonathan Stootman (Year 12, 2006), Kristen Grant (Year 12, 2007) and Mark Ranftl (Year 11, 2001). For each of these people this has proven to be a great environment in which to serve and learn.
Executive Staff:

Headmaster: Mr Riley Warren AM
Deputy Headmaster: Mr David Nockles
Director of Studies: Mr Andrew Kokic
Director of Support Services: Mr Jonathan Oliver
Registrar: Mr Robert Sim
Chaplain: Reverend Steven Davis
Head of Libraries: Mrs Patricia Low
Head of Infants School: Mrs Susan Ash
Head of Junior School: Mr William Wallace
Head of Middle School: Mr Timothy Cartwright
Head of Senior School: Mrs Melissa Gould-Drakeley