

ISSUE NO. 44

MAY 2018

NORTHOLM
GRAMMAR SCHOOL



THE ARCADIAN

AN OFFICIAL PUBLICATION
FOR THE **NORTHOLM GRAMMAR SCHOOL COMMUNITY**



LEARN WITH **PURPOSE** LIVE WITH **PASSION**

WELCOME

CONTENTS

FROM THE CHAIRMAN	3
CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2017	4
STUDENT LEADERSHIP 2018	6
THE SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM	7
TEACHERS	8
NORTHHOLM COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT	12
THE WORLD'S GREATEST SHAVE	14
NORTHHOLM COLOUR RUN	15
SUSTAINABILITY	16
HOUSE SPIRIT	18
YEAR SEVEN CAMP	22
VALE ROBERT BARRY LEAL AM	23
ARCHIVES	24
NOSU	24

COVER

Northern Territory Tour 2017

RIGHT

Parents getting together at the Back to School Cocktail Party February 2018



me

FROM THE CHAIRMAN

I am very pleased with the smooth start to the year and am extremely appreciative of the enormous amount of work carried out over the holiday period which has placed the school in a strong position for an excellent educational program ahead.

Council and the Senior Executive continue to work together, sharing a close partnership in the interests of the whole school. In 2018 it's business as usual.

In our Principal's absence, Council has chosen to appoint staff in an acting capacity to three key positions. Verity Paterson and Jenny Pluss are, in a joint capacity, Acting Principals of the school. More specifically, Verity has responsibility for the Junior School, and Jenny for the Senior School. Cath Manalili has been appointed as Acting Director of Learning and Teaching. In all three cases the appointees are very familiar with the roles in which they are acting. Each brings experience, energy and enthusiasm to their individual and collective positions to form a strong team.

The School Council was delighted to begin the year with excellent 2017 HSC results and heartily congratulate our 2017 Year Twelve students on their achievements and their teachers who have guided them so well. The placement for Northholm in the top 100 NSW schools, the number of individual Band 6 results, most particularly in Drama in which all students gained Band 6, and the students gaining an ATAR above 90 have provided great satisfaction to the school and its staff, and we hope to the community as well.

Our School Senior Executive has been very proactive in securing well qualified and passionate new staff to replace those who have moved elsewhere.

We offer a warm welcome to Karen Bowden in Geography from Loreto, Lorna Brettell in English from Hunter Valley Grammar, Jocelyne Kelshaw in Learning Support from Carlingford High, and two part-time teachers Tamara Perry in PDHPE and Michael Teterin in Music. In Kindergarten we welcome Rosalie Domaschencz from Canberra, in Year Two Lisa Brine from England, in Year Four Cassandra Reid from Windsor, and in Year Five Rob Cottrell from Berowra. We welcome back Corinne Smith from maternity leave and Jo Davey assisting in junior library lessons and in Year Five/Six. In the Canteen we welcome Sally Klintworth and in Reception, Danielle van Middeldyk.

Independent schools must undergo a registration process with authorities every five years. It is our turn this year and work has been well underway to ensure that the school's good record over the years is

maintained. From 2018 the process also involves teacher accreditation requirements for all independent schools. 2018 will certainly be a busy year, but I am confident this process will be well managed along with our other responsibilities.

Northholm is a great school and I feel privileged to be part of it. It has given excellent support and guidance to its students over the years and will continue to do so again this year. Over my long association with the School I have heard substantial and regular praise for it and its staff, and I look forward to us all working together during the year to continue the good work.

JOHN HAYES
Chairman of School Council



*John Hayes (Chairman of School Council) and
Leone Robb (member of School Council)*

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2017



In addition to leading the school through their service and leadership roles and actively participating in the school's Co-Curricular Program, Year Twelve 2017 worked hard to maximise their results and were well rewarded with excellent marks in their HSC studies. Their achievements have resulted in the School being ranked 87 in the Sydney Morning Herald's ranking of NSW Schools for 2017.

As a group they outperformed NSW State results in 73% of subjects. Within the cohort 45% of students have been included on the Distinguished Achievers' List having achieved at least one Band 6 result. 18% of the cohort received ATARs above 90.

SIGNIFICANT ACHIEVEMENTS

While we celebrate each individual's success and that of the School as a whole, we particularly recognise our students and teachers in courses where over 60% of candidates scored in the top two bands (5 or 6) in a 2 unit course, or the top band (E4) in a 1 unit course. This is an amazing achievement.

The following lists the courses and the percent of Northholm students who achieved a top 2 Band result:

Agriculture	67%
Ancient History	70%
Biology	75%
Design and Technology	100%
Drama	100%
English Advanced	60%
English Extension 1	67%
English Extension 2	75%
French Continuers	100%
Geography	100%
Legal Studies	100%
Music 1	100%
Music 2	100%
Society and Culture	77%
Visual Arts	100%

Carina Sirolli is congratulated on being recognised in the All-Round Achievers' list which celebrates students who scored 90 or above in 10 or more units in the HSC.

BAND 6 ACHIEVERS

Lucas Allen for Engineering Studies

Jordan Borg for Ancient History and Mathematics

Madeleine Brown for Ancient History, Drama and English (Advanced)

Harrison Bush for Drama

Marco Carpino for Mathematics

Emily Jamgotchian for Personal Development, Health and Physical Education

Henry Lakin for Society and Culture

Regan Leatch for Design and Technology and Mathematics General 2

Sean Meyer for Society and Culture

Sam Morrison for Drama and Mathematics General 2

Macy Reen for Mathematics

Conor Reynolds for Ancient History, Modern History and Society and Culture

Oscar Saran for Music 1

Carly Saunders for Drama

Charlotte Scholey for Business Studies, Legal Studies and Mathematics

Alicia Scott for Drama

Carina Sirolli for Drama, English (Advanced), Legal Studies and Modern History

EXTENSION BAND 4 ACHIEVERS

Jordan Borg for History Extension

Henry Lakin for English Extension 1

Conor Reynolds for English Extension 2 and History Extension

Carina Sirolli for English Extension 1 and History Extension

90+ ATAR ACHIEVERS

Madeleine Brown 94.25

Marco Carpino 91.25

Macy Reen 90.15

Conor Reynolds 95.05

Charlotte Scholey 93.65

Carina Sirolli 99.1

MAJOR WORK NOMINATIONS

Regan Leatch's Design and Technology major work was nominated for SHAPE 2017.

Sam Morrison's Drama major work was nominated for OnSTAGE 2017.

The Class of 2017 now look forward to making their own mark in the world as they demonstrate what it means to Learn with Purpose: Live with Passion. We wish them the very best in their future pursuits.

CARINA SIROLI – DUX 2017

After completing the HSC, I fulfilled a childhood dream of travelling with my best friend from Northholm since Year Six, Henry Lakin.

In the middle of January 2018, we left for a six week trip around Europe - our first stop England. Highlights in England included attending several live West End theatre shows such as *Wicked* and *Dream Girls* and an incredible performance of *All's Well that Ends Well* at The Globe Theatre, and visiting historic sites such as Stonehenge, Shakespeare's birthplace at Stratford-upon-Avon, Buckingham Palace, The Victoria and Albert Museum, Tate Modern Art Museum and the Tower of London.

From there we headed to Paris, followed by visits to various towns along the French Riviera including Nice, Antibes and Monte Carlo. Henry and I then finished the trip with visits to the French Alps, Geneva and Amsterdam. In Amsterdam, visiting places such as Anne Frank House was eye-opening and viewing timeless art at the Van Gogh Museum and Moco Museum was an experience I'll never forget. One of the most memorable moments of our stay in Geneva was a guided tour of the United Nations Office, which was not only thought-provoking, but relevant to the studies I am currently undertaking at university.

Since returning from Europe, I have fulfilled a long-term goal of studying a Bachelor of combined Law/Arts at the University of Sydney and am majoring in International Relations and Politics with elective units in Philosophy. So far, this has been challenging but incredibly interesting, as I have been engaging with fascinating new ideas, meeting countless like-minded students and have had the unequalled opportunity to learn from academics such as William Gummow, the former Chief of Justice of the High Court of Australia. I selected this particular degree as I have aspirations of becoming either a diplomat or an international corporate lawyer and am excited about working towards this goal!

My advice for current students? Make the most of the opportunities available to you at Northholm. The teachers will go out of their way to support you in helping you to achieve your goals.



LUCAS ALLEN

When I was asked to write about what I am doing now, in my first year out of Northholm, I realised that I needed to go back to the beginning of 2017. With ambition and determination for a successful future it was about finding as many opportunities as possible, in both university and work placement, in order to start building a foundation going forward.

Throughout the year I attended various information nights for universities as well as conferences for accounting cadetships. This gave me a chance to understand all the opportunities available and so began the application process. With a heavy workload from school it was hard at times to fit applications into my schedule, however, I knew that I needed to put in the extra effort, knowing the potential reward in the foreseeable future.

Post HSC I was lucky to secure early entry into the Bachelor of Commerce – Professional Accounting at Macquarie University and attain a cadetship at Nexia Australia in the Business Advisory Division. Since starting at Nexia full time and attending university part time I have had nothing but positive experiences, learning so much about taxation, business analytics and business strategy. Nexia has been perfecting the cadetship program for over 40 years and this has meant that the quality of training, networking opportunities and wide variety of social events has made for a smooth transition into working life.

In being so fortunate to have this opportunity I feel like I have been able to set up a great foundation in my dream job area. In the next few years I will finish university and complete the Chartered Accountant program to become a licensed accountant. I can't wait for what the future holds. With so much to learn and exposure to new experiences, I'm prepared to put everything on the line to achieving my goals.

For the students going through their final years of school, my advice is to work hard, get involved and give the year 100% effort in academics and co-curricular. You don't want to have any regrets once completing the year so if you truly put in 100% effort then it means you can never be disappointed with what you achieve. The support from the teaching staff over Year Twelve was invaluable and I believe that I couldn't have achieved what I have today without their professionalism and commitment to student success.



STUDENT LEADERSHIP 2018

SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM 2018

School Captains:

Eliza Dessen
Jackson Purchase

Piper Parry
Sarah Walker
Danielle Wilson

Patteson House Captains:

Zahra Mfula
Ethan Yin

Drama Captain:

Danielle Wilson

Senior Prefect Co-Curricular:

Laura Johnson

Capell House Captains:

Devlin Greatbatch Murphy
Piper Parry

Patteson House Leaders:

Olivia Jennings
Natasha Toohey

Duke of Edinburgh Captain:

Nathan Blackett

Senior Prefect House:

Daniel Yin

Capell House Leaders:

Andrew Dostine
Alicia Petrie

Rowland House Captains:

Solomon Foo
Lara Nicholson

Music Captain:

Sarah Walker

School Prefects:

Nathan Blackett
Courtney Cameron
Liam Cryan
Cameron Johnston
Charlotte Kohler
Nicholas Mercieca
Zahra Mfula

Lincoln House Captains:

Sophie Myers
Srivaths Narain

Rowland House Leaders:

Rhys Creer
Bryce MacNamara

Sport Captain:

Maddison Nelson

Lincoln House Leaders:

William Bricknell
Kirilee Webber

Agriculture Captain:

Courtney Cameron



YEAR EIGHT LEADERSHIP TEAM 2018

Year Eight Captains

Tate Cotrona
Amber Garth

Caleb Eveniss

Shreya Narain
Sophie Oates
Mason Parle
Rachel Wong

Year Eight Leaders

Holly Behan
Lucy Coad
Jonathan Eggers



LEADERSHIP

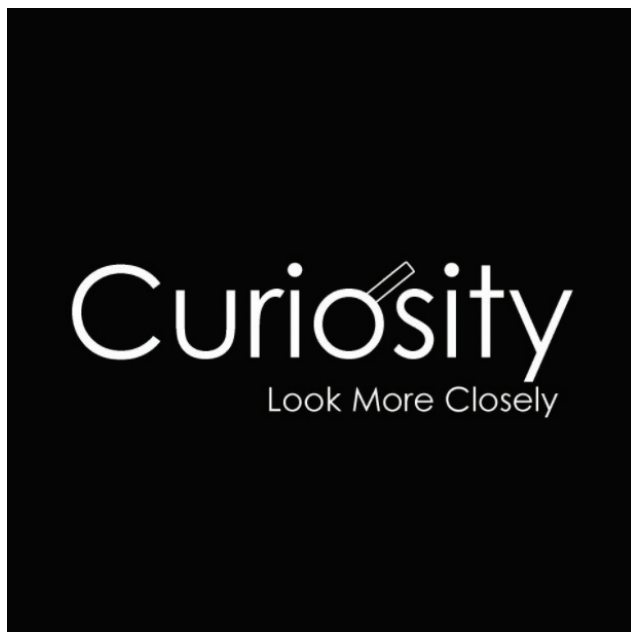
THE SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM

CURIOSITY

The 2018 Leadership Team has invited the Student Body and Staff to join them in taking a closer look at the 'big' issues affecting the everyday lives of teenagers. 'Curiosity' about mental health (bullying, stereotypes, depression), social media (body image, values, perception, cyber bullying, privacy), equality (racism, equality versus equity, gender, education, access to water, opportunities, indigenous) and school life (stress, balance, relationships, co-curricular, safe partying) are some of the topics being explored through open discussion, informative videos and the perspectives of specialist expert guest speakers.

Students and teachers who display inspiring 'curiosity' in school life may be nominated and celebrated through 'Curiosity Awards'. By encouraging personal and collective 'curiosity', the Leadership Team hopes to promote empowerment and engagement.

The Leadership Team is also participating in the annual Relay for Life to be held at Castle Hill Showground in May. The Relay For Life, which raises vital funds for the Cancer Council's research, prevention, information and support services, is a chance for Northholm to celebrate local cancer survivors, patients and their carers, to remember friends and family members lost to cancer and to raise money to help save lives. It is one way that Northholm can give back to the local community.



ELIZA DESSEN AND JACKSON PURCHASE 2018 School Captains

JUNIOR SCHOOL LEADERSHIP TEAM 2018

Junior School Captains

Rosie Kenny
Austin Scaife

Capell Junior School House Captain

Emma Wildes

Lincoln Junior School House Captain

Alyssa Vlouhos

Patteson Junior School House Captain

Sam Shepherd

Rowland Junior School House Captain

Alahna Dimmock

Agriculture Captains

Luca Dalla Fontana
Olivia Lee-Jackson
Isabella Toson

Information Technology Captain

Emma Reiss

Eco Captain

Hannah Cole

Art Captains

Jenihara Adams-Hill
Ethan Moat



Rosie Kenny and Austin Scaife

TEACHERS

A positive relationship between teachers and students is the fundamental aspect of quality teaching and student learning. At Northholm the Teacher/Student relationships have been found to have immeasurable effects on students' learning and their schooling experience. In the next few pages we profile a cross section of teachers at Northholm who are helping our students to develop the intellectual, cultural, creative and spiritual capacities that young people need so they are empowered to embrace the future with confidence and compassion.

MRS JENNY PLÜSS - NURTURING YOUNG PEOPLE FOR OVER 30 YEARS!



Australia's job mobility is a long way from job for life – in fact it's closer to three jobs per decade unless, that is, you happen to be Mrs Jenny Plüss, Director of Student Development.

Jenny was employed by Ron Chambers, who, together with his wife Margaret, had a dream to found a small Christian school offering a level of individual care beyond that available at larger independent schools. At the same time, the Chambers were conscious of the need to maintain high academic standards, and sought to combine these goals in a school which would encompass the needs of the whole child.

"I think I was always going to become a teacher," says Jenny. "My father was a teacher and I was always interested in people and very much enjoyed my own schooling. It was either that or social work that interested me the most." Jenny chose teaching and the rest is history as she has been here pretty much since Northholm opened in 1983, apart from a couple of years absence, when Jenny married Martin Plüss, who has also been a teacher at Northholm, and they moved to Bowral from 1989-1990. Mrs Plüss is a much loved and highly regarded teacher and Northholm is a big part of her life. "My husband worked here, and still helps on special committees, my daughter was educated here and my son was christened in the Music Centre and has worked here. I've met so many wonderful students and families that Northholm is so much a part of my life."

In her time at Northholm, Jenny has taught English and History, which she still does today, but it may surprise some of her students that she also taught Year Six and Seven Maths, and loved it. Jenny was appointed as House Patron for Capell in 1984 as well as the Year Seven Co-ordinator. In 1995 she was promoted to Director of Co-Curricular Activities and then in 2011 to Director of Student Development.

During the past 35 years Jenny has seen a lot of change, obviously in the campus and facilities, but also the processes within which schools now have to work. However she believes that Northholm is still the same place it was all those years ago when she started. "It has remained true to its foundations. The connection between staff and students right from day one continues; it was never us and them," says Jenny. "There is a great sense of working together and genuine respect. I want all Northholm students to grow into decent human beings – resilient, strong and capable in whatever they pursue; I hope they will be good people."

When asked if she has any advice for new teachers starting at Northholm she says, "Make the most of any opportunities you are given – they are not always available at other schools."

VERITY PATERSON

Northholm's tagline Learn with Purpose; Live with Passion was a key factor in attracting Verity Paterson to Northholm. Verity worked in the Catholic System for five years and spent a year working in China and other educational settings prior to starting at Northholm in Term Four 2009. Verity had taken leave from her current position to write picture books and undertake educational research, however, Northholm's amazing setting and possibilities inspired her to be involved in the next stage of the School's development.

In 2010 Verity was instrumental in the introduction of the initial phase of Junior School, developing the Stage Two program for Years Three and Four. As Head of Primary Curriculum, Verity taught the first Year Four class at Northholm. These students are now thriving members of our current Year Twelve cohort. Eliza Dessen, a member of this class, is the current School Captain. Eliza is an example of the success of the young students who were the pioneers of Junior School.

"Year Four was great. It was very hands-on learning – we made pizzas to help us understand fractions and we made dioramas in Geography. While we loved Ms Paterson teaching our class and had our own area at the tennis courts at lunchtime, we were also taught by specialist teachers and were able to interact with older students for activities. Junior School was so much fun!"
Eliza Dessen

In 2015, in the role of Director of Junior School, Verity again embarked on the exciting undertaking of establishing a new area of the school. The introduction of Kindergarten to Year Two enhanced the Junior School by providing students with the opportunity to start in their first year of education and to embark on their learning adventure all the way to Year Twelve. "I truly believe the release of the 'hopes and dreams' balloons on the first day of Kindergarten in 2015 was the beginning of an exceptional educational experience and the foundation of an amazing new chapter for Northholm." The opportunity to be involved in all the elements of the implementation of Junior School meant that Verity had the unique opportunity to explore and contribute to every facet involved in the process, including the development of playgrounds, gardens, programs, co-curricular activities, orientations and employment of exceptional educators.

Verity has a love for education and a passion for Northholm and takes pride in her knowledge of our students and her connection with the community. She describes Northholm as the nursery ground for our future, where minds are fostered and passion grows.



2015 Junior School Students with Verity and their 'hopes and dreams' balloons.

MS LAUREN BARLOW

Many people may not know that Northholm's Visual Arts teacher and current Acting Head of CAPA, Lauren Barlow, is a practising artist, has co-run a gallery, been a full-time graphic designer and still takes on freelance projects.

"Visual Arts aren't just beautiful and separate from the rest of what is going on in society. Learning art isn't just about doing arts and crafts, it's about learning why the world is the way it is," Lauren says. Her Art of the Week Program, featuring a masterpiece, is a chronological and global tour starting from early human civilisation with aboriginal cave paintings and ending with contemporary art. She chooses works from around the world demonstrating that art is not just European.

As well as studying the artist, her students learn why the art was created and is significant. "Chronology is all important to this," Lauren says. "For example with Monet's Water Lilies, a young child might say it looks blurry and he only uses purple and see no reason for its importance but, if they compare this with five artists over the previous 500 years, they will be able to work out its significance for themselves. This leads to deep, inquiry-based learning." In 2017 an NGO, Together for Humanity, funded her Art of the Week Program so that Lauren can carry out further research into diverse art cultures and societies to share with her students.

In Lauren's Visual Arts room, the students learn about the history of different civilisations, both present as well as past. Art for her is a gateway for students to perceive new communities and build their acceptance of diversity. As soon as she started at Northholm, she asked to be Service Learning Coordinator for Years Five and Six. "It's important for students to feel that their learning has purpose. In the Visual Arts room, they are artists and part of a wider artistic world," and she doesn't just mean the wider Australian world; she's talking internationally.

As a professional artist, Lauren has been given the opportunity to explore Cambodia and Thailand in 2015 and 2017 and Papua New Guinea (PNG) in 2016. In 2015 the students created artworks for auction across the Northern Beaches and the money raised went to the Build Your Future Today Foundation which helps the children of

Cambodia. The Head of the Foundation first skyped our students and then visited Northholm, explaining about life in Cambodia including details about the Khmer Rouge.

In 2016, Lauren accompanied ACIAR (Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research) to PNG where she travelled with agricultural scientists and shadowed an educational documentary maker called Cinematic Science. Before she went, she asked students to create a list of what they wanted to know about the PNG people with the aim of revealing the social and economic differences, as well as similarities, between their society and ours. When she returned, she gave them the answers which led the students' inquiry-based learning.

Lauren chose PNG as it is one of Australia's closest neighbours and yet so many Australians have little understanding of PNG society. The students saw similarities in the agricultural practices of their school and those of the PNG community, and differences as Australians use lots of technology whereas a large proportion of Papua New Guineans have no radios, TV or mobile phones. Lauren explored the economic reasons for this difference and also the rich indigenous culture that the PNG people have retained. The epitome of this is the Goroka Highlands Festival, the oldest traditional festival in the world.

Lauren found herself taking photographs alongside a photographer from National Geographic magazine. During the festival, her collaborators, Cinematic Science, set up a virtual reality (VR) camera and the village dancers surrounded it. The company turned this into a VR cultural experience which they are sharing for free with Northholm students due to the relationship Lauren formed with them. Northholm did not have the VR technology to view the experience and so during 2016 Service Learning Week the students wrote to Google about the PNG project and Google funded the VR headgear now belonging to the school.

Lauren is part of an action research project at school where she is focusing on the question, 'What would it look like if my students understood I wasn't just teaching them about the artwork, but using it as a vessel to teach them about the World and all its diversity?' Given the projects described in this article, she's well on course.



MEET AN EX-STUDENT TEACHER

Ask Jason Milner, Junior School class teacher, what he hopes for his students and he calmly says, “I want them to be the best “THEM”. That is, the best academic them, the best sports them, the best problem solving them and I want to help facilitate them getting there.”

Jason left Northholm after gaining his HSC in 2006. He reflects on his time at school with much fondness and a large dose of gratitude. “I had a wonderful time at Northholm and was very much supported by my teachers, but it was a trip in Year Ten that really got me thinking that I’d like to become a teacher myself. We travelled to China and during the trip I had the opportunity to teach English to high school students and I really enjoyed working with these kids. Reflecting on my own journey I knew I wanted to help other students.” It was a chance meeting with one of Jason’s teachers, Leeta Caiger, Head of Science, that led him back to Northholm.

Jason likes the fact that at Northholm he believes he can make a difference saying, “The support I get here from my peers, the passion and leadership Verity Paterson shows – I feel truly supported.” As an Apple Distinguished Educator, Jason is especially keen to help Northholm students feel confident with the skills they will need in the future. “In 20 years, it’s going to be so quick and it will work all the time,” he says referring to digital technology. “Our students are already digitally skilled but they are not digitally literate. They know how to use all the different devices, but give them a project and they don’t necessarily know which technology is the most appropriate to use for the task at hand. Our role will be to teach them which to use. The small class sizes here really help, as does the collaborative nature of the staff who work so well together.”

Northholm is known for its enquiry-based learning and Jason is now incorporating robot and video technology into student exploration, increasing their engagement and deepening their learning.

The Year Six syllabus, for example, requires that students learn Cartesian number planes which concerns the positions of objects in space. The students approach this in a concrete way first by creating their own paper 2D map of the school to scale. They then build 3D paper models of the school buildings and scale up their 2D map until it works. Jason gives them a selection of giant rulers to choose from and the students learn by trial and error - this hands on inquiry helps the concepts and understanding sink in.

Once the 3D map is created, technology makes its entrance with Sphero – a robot ball that the students drive around the 3D model of the school collecting information as it goes. Each student becomes a GPS driving Sphero with an iPad app. This enables them to code their own navigational program. Last year his Year Six students became so savvy with Sphero they became ‘mini educators’ to Year Ten students!

But it’s not just deep mathematical learning and coding that Jason’s technology is inspiring; it’s English and communication skills too. Students produce persuasive texts as video trailers by filming themselves talking to camera then adding other visual elements. As with the 2D-3D project, the start is very simple – a big piece of grass-green cloth or paper is the back drop for filming a student which always works against skin tones. The students film each other with an iPad and then edit the results to make a video trailer using i-movie for a book trailer or documentary.

Jason has used this technology with classes in all years and has trained other teachers as he goes. As these students now understand how to make their own video content, he hopes that they will be less inclined to accept unquestioningly video content from the TV, YouTube and Facebook and will be better at filtering out inappropriate information.



COMMUNITY

NORTHOLM COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT

In December 2017, a group of Northholm students from across the Senior School and three teachers took part in a Central Australia Community Service Project. This seven day immersion program, designed by Remote Tours, is aimed at students looking to make a difference in the local Indigenous community of Lilla. Our students were also introduced to the stunning landscape of Central Australia and were able to visit significant geological and cultural sites such as Uluru, Kata Tjuta, Kings Canyon, Alice Springs and the Western MacDonnell Ranges. Students were fascinated by the sheer size, beautiful rock formations and changing colours of these areas, and also learned the significance these places held for the Aboriginal people. "The best part of the trip was learning about the traditional owners of the area, and the significance of Uluru," Jacob Whicker (Year Eleven) said on his return.

During this trip, students had an opportunity to develop their understanding and appreciation of our unique Indigenous people and their relationship to the land through participation in a community service project in Lilla, which is located in the Watarrka National Park.

In the native tongue of the Luritja country, Lilla means 'sweet water'. Over several days, Northholm students helped out the local primary school by fixing the outside grounds as well as the interior of the school. It was hot and heavy work, however, students persevered through it and gained the opportunity of a lifetime as they had the chance to form relationships with the community, and learn about traditional customs. "Listening to one of the Aboriginal elders, Keith, and his profound words and his unsurpassed intellect regarding Aboriginal culture has left a lasting impact on me. Keith has made me challenge my preconceived notions about current societal issues as well as the underlying fundamental principle of how we interact and treat each other as individuals," said Matthew Gadd (Year Eleven).

Additionally, students increased their understanding of team work and leadership, improved their cultural awareness and gained a greater understanding of nature and the local community. "It was so hot all the time," said Jacqueline Hogarth (Year Twelve), "and it was hard labour, cleaning up the grounds, digging out weeds in 40°C+ temperatures, we couldn't work in the middle of the day. Camping out was amazing – I decided to sleep in the swag one night and falling asleep with no protection as such, feeling and listening to the wind and the sand and being alone – I felt so free."

It seems that all who went on this tour came home with new perceptions of the outback and our indigenous communities. "Having this experience has opened my eyes to so much that I never thought about before," Solomon Foo (Year Twelve) said. "Aside from being involved in helping the community of Lilla, I learnt so much about the indigenous culture that I didn't understand, their absolute connection to country, the fact that they still survive on bush food and rely on waterholes that have existed for centuries has made a lasting impression on me." Jacqueline added, "The community is so isolated geographically, with the nearest community 300km away, yet when we arrived at Lilla most people had left to attend "men's business" and attend a funeral and pay their respects and help mourn. It added to our understanding of how isolated some communities are, yet they all support each other."

Solomon summed up his experience by saying, "What we have all experienced during this has helped us all understand how important this country is to all of us – it is our country and we need to look after it."





NORTHHOLM STUDENTS SUPPORT THE WORLD'S GREATEST SHAVE

Every year, a handful of Northholm students choose to cut or shave their hair as participants in The World's Greatest Shave – but not this year. This year, 13 students and a teacher braved the scissors or clippers for this great cause.

In its 20th year, the World's Greatest Shave raises money for The Leukaemia Foundation. Since 1999, people of all ages have shaved, coloured or waxed, cut pony tails, banished beards and trimmed top knots. Some have a personal connection to blood cancer, while others take part simply to raise money for a good cause.

Joseph Clemmit (Year Nine student) has a particular reason he supports this cause.

“My godmother, Lynette, lost her life to leukaemia when she was only 29 and I want to stop this awful situation from happening to other people. Also, one of my friend's younger brothers was diagnosed with leukaemia when he was just eight years old and went through the process of a bone marrow transplant and several months in isolation due to his weak immune system.

“This year, it was amazing to see so many students from Northholm, shaving and cutting their hair to take part in this great event and raise over \$6,000. Northholm will have helped so many people with this money raised, as well as helping fund research needed for a cancer free world. I'm sure Lynette would be proud.”

Northholm is proud of all its students but in particular, Joseph, who has shaved his head annually for the past six years and has individually raised more than \$7,000 toward this great cause.

The School is also very grateful to Mieka Hynec (Year Twelve 2008), Campaign Co-ordinator for the Leukaemia Foundation, for her address to the Senior School; Radical Hair Design at Round Corner Dural, who very generously supplied three hairdressers to cut and shave our students' hair; and Helen Mercieca and Sarah Gatt who volunteered their time to wax the arms and legs of teachers, Mr Cunningham, Mr Moschione and Mr Turbott. Understandably the purchase of wax strips was very popular!



COLOUR RUN

In the last week of Term One, Mitchell Old and Alannah Trestrail led the Year Eleven Leadership Team in hosting Northholm's very first Colour Run. Raising money for Redkite, an Australian cancer charity providing support for children and young people with cancer and for their family and support network, the event took place at lunchtime for students in the Senior School. Over the two kilometre course 150 participants were sprayed with a variety of colours, the event concluding on the oval where a final burst of colour covered all involved.



SUSTAINABILITY

FROM LITTLE THINGS, BIG THINGS GROW

Northholm is certainly fortunate to be located in such a beautiful semi-rural setting. We are surrounded by hobby farms, intensive agriculture and of course large tracts of Sydney Sandstone bushland. With our lovely setting, however, comes the responsibility of managing the precious bushland and native plant species on the campus.

About ten years ago, Year Seven students were involved in a pilot subject program called Ecostudies. Over the course of two years, the students cleared a significant spread of weeds around the school farm and installed possum boxes in trees. They also built a small pond to encourage frogs to breed. The pressures of a changing curriculum however meant that this subject could not be continued. This caused ex Environmental Scientist and Northholm's Head of Science, Leeta Caiger some consternation.

"Students learn best when they can see meaning," says Leeta. "Furthermore, kids enjoy being outside and being able to move about. We also have a responsibility to show kids examples of good environmental stewardship. What we needed was a way of melding these together."

This led Leeta to start the Bush Regeneration Co-curricular Club, a small but dedicated group of students, who meet on a weekly basis to help manage our bushland on campus. Some of the students come along as part of their community service component to their Duke of Edinburgh scheme. Others simply enjoy working with nature.

"It's great seeing the students work together to solve real problems," says Leeta. "Last term we had several large wild tobacco trees growing around the music dam. Getting to these plants was tricky, as they were on a steep slope and surrounded by scratchy lantana. The kids simply

worked out a strategy, with some of them clearing the undergrowth while others held back branches to allow another student access to chop down the trees. These were students from Year Eight through to Year Ten who would rarely get to interact in a more formal classroom setting, yet here they were engaging happily with each other."

"It's so rewarding seeing these students foster friendships and demonstrate their passion for the environment. It is a living project which allows the kids a chance to shine," says Leeta. "For example, at the end of last term, I was concerned that some saplings we had planted would not be watered while I was away on a school camp. It was very hot – over thirty degrees on both days but I need not have worried. Two Year Ten boys, Kai Behan and Matt Gadd, took it upon themselves to get permission to enter the regeneration area and give the trees a good drink."

Late last year the Bush Regeneration project was given a considerable boost by the generosity of the P & C. "They organised a working bee and what a turn out," said Leeta. "There must have been around 40-50 people! More weeds were cleared, garden beds were made and native saplings planted around the music dam. The P and C also put on a great BBQ and the camaraderie and sense of community was wonderful. It was such a success that we are hoping to run another in 2018, so stay tuned."





ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

SOLAR PROGRAM

The School maintains its commitment to the environment. A School Environmental Management Plan (SEMP) is being developed to provide a framework for more sustainable practices. It is pleasing that there has already been some significant change to our practice as a result of this commitment.

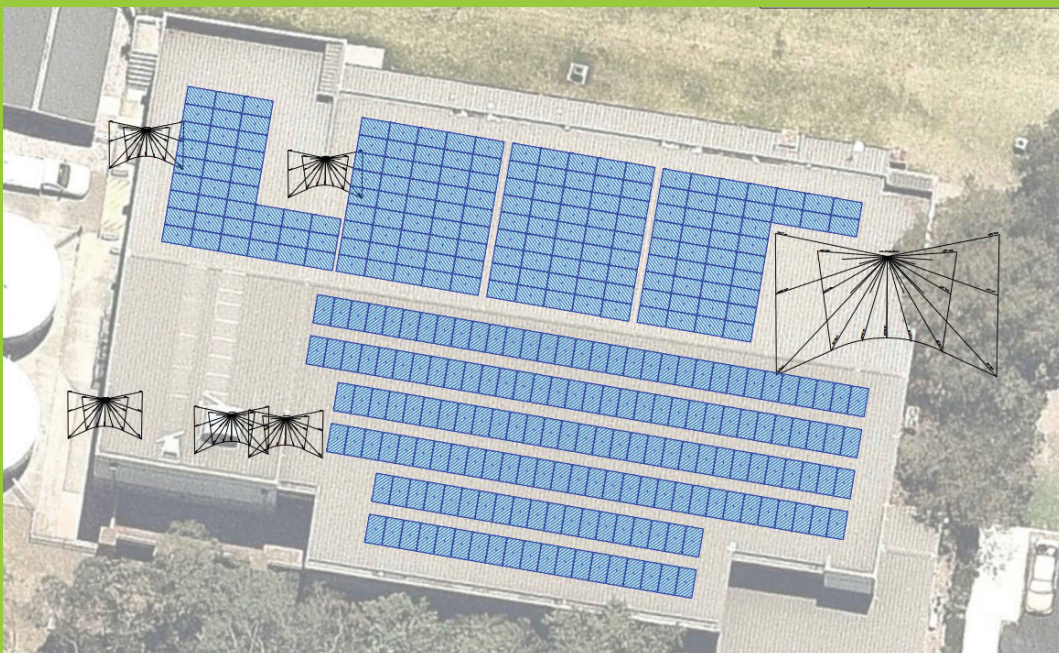
The school has recently installed a 100kW Solar Power PV System. This system will generate approximately 23% of the school's total electricity with an annual saving of approximately \$13,000.

The Carbon Abatement over a 20-year period will be around 2,000 tonnes. This Solar Project forms part of the 2015-2019 Strategic Plan - Sustainable Practice.

Northholm will also take advantage of the Federal Government's Small-scale Renewable Energy Scheme with an upfront saving on this project of around \$70,000. The Solar Project payback period is approximately 7 years.

Northholm is committed to achieve its goal to be recognised as an exemplar of environmental best practices and a sustainable organisation.

Alan Muir
Director of Campus



Aerial view of the solar panels on the Gymnasium roof (The Lincoln Centre)

HOUSE SPIRIT

Northholm prides itself on the quality of personal care offered to individual students through its House system. The School commenced with three Houses in 1983 – Capell, Patteson and Rowland. Lincoln House was established in 1984.

Every student is placed in one of these Houses when they enter Northholm and throughout their journey they will participate in countless events where being a part of a House can mean more than just participating – it's called House spirit and it's highly contagious as you see with these images from the 2018 Northholm Swimming Carnival held early in Term One.

We talked to our House Captains and asked them what they thought about House Spirit and their roles as House Captains.

“House spirit is a combination of a lot of qualities with individuals working together not just as one and it's the role of the House Captains to try to make sure everyone feels involved and special within each house,” says Lara Nicholson, Rowland House Captain.

“The spirit comes from feeling proud,” said Zahra Mfula, Patteson House Captain. “We have the chance to lead our team not only to success but

give everyone a chance to show their talents and guide ambitions however big or small, no matter how long it takes to accomplish. Personally I believe being a Captain isn't about the badge, it is about what you can achieve and inspire your House to do in support for their peers and their own talents. It isn't always about winning within our House as long as you show up, cheer or give it a go. No matter the outcome that's good enough for me.”

Anyone who knows Piper Parry, a proud Capell House Captain, would not be surprised for her to add to what her peers have said, with “The spirit is also about cheering and loving the fun time everyone has in their House at carnivals and in tute. I love being able to help the younger kids have a great time at these events.”

And the last word goes to Srivaths Narain who said, “Even if Lincoln doesn't win either trophy this year, I hope my Co-Captain Sophie and my actions will have inspired students in our House to go to great lengths to keep improving for years to come.”





A WORD FROM OUR JUNIOR SCHOOL HOUSE CAPTAINS

“Being Rowland’s JS House Captain, means a lot to me. I need to set an example for other students in my House, stay positive and keep everyone revved up to sing the House cries.” *Alahna Dimmock*

“I think it’s much more important to encourage everyone in Capell to have a go and try every race you can. Don’t worry about winning or not – just be proud to be part of the event.” *Emma Wildes*

“I was so happy and surprised to become House Captain for Lincoln. It’s a great privilege and I’m very proud of it.” *Alyssa Vloubos*

“I was really overjoyed when I found out I was to be the Patteson House Captain. I have wanted this role since I started in Year Three. I feel so privileged.” *Sam Shepherd*







YEAR 7 CAMP



VALE ROBERT BARRY LEAL AM

9 FEBRUARY 1935 - 20 AUGUST 2017

It was with great sadness that the Northholm community lost Robert Barry Leal AM (Emeritus Professor), a former Chairman of School Council, who passed away on 20 August 2017. Barry Leal played a

significant role in our School's history as both a member of School Council and as Chairman of School Council. In his memory we reproduce an article from the July 1998 Arcadian Issue No.17.

Continuing Commitment to Academic Excellence



Professor Barry Leal

Northholm welcomes the new leadership of Emeritus Professor Barry Leal as Chairman of the School Council. Professor Leal has been associated with Northholm Grammar for eight years and he brings with him a true understanding of the values that are at the heart of Northholm.

Professor Leal holds the award of Officier dans l'Order des Palmes Academiques (France), was Vice-Chancellor of the University of Southern Queensland from 1992 to 1996 when he was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Letters and is Emeritus Professor of Macquarie and Wollongong Universities. In 1997 Professor Leal was awarded the Order of Australia. He now holds a position on the Executive Committee of the Ecumenical Council of New South Wales.

My association with Northholm Grammar School began in 1991 when I was invited to join the School Council. There was a perceived need for someone from a university to make a contribution to Council deliberations and I, as Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) at Macquarie University, was approached. My period on Council at that time was short, since I moved interstate the following year. Nevertheless, I had sufficient opportunity to be impressed by the commitment of Council members, the enthusiasm of Northholm staff, the energy of parents and by the responsiveness of the School's students to the education they were receiving. Consequently, when my wife and I returned to Sydney in 1997, I was happy to rejoin Council and then to succeed Dr. Lincoln as Chairman.

Why is it that some people choose to become teachers and others are prepared to give their time and energy to serve on School Councils? I believe it is almost always because they recognise the importance of education and want to play a role in the education of young people. Certainly that is the case with the staff and Council of Northholm. I look forward to working with a group of people who believe in the School and its ideals and who see it as enhancing the quality of education in this region of Sydney. Established in 1983, Northholm has all the energy and ambition of youth. It does, however, also have a growing reputation as a school with a philosophy of education that stresses both the worth of each individual and the importance of community focus which finely balances the attainment of each student's academic potential. In a world which seems to become increasingly impersonal and in which values of community tend to be submerged, such a reassertion of Christian values may well constitute the best preparation today's young people can have for a productive, satisfying life.

Professor Barry Leal

A Love of Languages, Scholarship and Education

Following an initial experience as a secondary teacher both in Australia and in France, Professor Leal enjoyed ten years with the University of Queensland as Lecturer and then Senior Lecturer in French. His outstanding talents led to his appointment as Professor of French and Chairman, Department of European Languages, at the University of Wollongong from 1974 to 1985. Moving further into tertiary academic leadership, Professor Leal became Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) at Macquarie University from 1986 to 1991. In 1990, he was seconded by the Federal Government to conduct a review of the teaching of modern languages in Australian higher education. More recently, Professor Leal has completed a review of language teaching in New South Wales schools as a consultant for the State Government. Extending his interests to new forms of learning, Professor Leal was the Chair of National Council for Open and Distance Education 1995-1996.

Actively involved in community service, Professor Leal has chaired youth clubs, an international gardens committee and a musical society. He and his wife Roslyn particularly enjoy the warmth of fellowship that the sharing of community promotes, both in a university and in a school such as Northholm Grammar.

As we add to the depth and breadth of the education students experience at the School, we look forward to Professor Leal's guidance and insight in the overall policy-making of Northholm Grammar School Council. I encourage all in the Northholm community to warmly welcome Professor Leal and his wife Roslyn, as they attend our community functions.

Yvonne Smith (Principal)



Three generations of leaders (from left): Kate Rogers (Senior House Prefect), Professor Barry Leal, Mrs Yvonne Smith (Principal), Dr J. Lincoln, Jayne Boland (School Captain), Ben Hogarth (School Captain)



The Arcadian

APRIL 1992

Issue No.6

PERSONALITY - JENNY PLUSS

Mrs. Pluss is one of the two remaining foundation members of staff still at Northholm. Unlike her long serving colleague, Gordon Doyle, her association with the School was broken temporarily upon her marriage to Mr Pluss in 1988. After two years at Chevallier College, she was wooed away from Bowral by the faster pace - and much warmer climate of Sydney! As Miss Emery, she came to Northholm in 1983 to teach English, History and even Mathematics. Everyone was a pioneer in those days and 'Miss Em', as she was affectionately known, was no different. She pioneered history, of the ancient variety, at the Higher School Certificate and introduced the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme to the fledgling school. She supervised the production of the first ILEX, a responsibility she continues to carry.

Jenny Pluss now teaches mostly in the English department, but her interests are wide spread in the School. She takes sport, with a special interest in tennis and is heavily involved with School drama and leadership. A major responsibility is the co-ordination of inter-House activities and her role here is as inspirational as it is organisational.

In her spare moments (!) she can often be found restoring order to the English book room. Mrs. Pluss relaxes on the tennis court where she still plays A Grade competition. Above all, Jenny Pluss is known for her commitment and dedication to the students at Northholm. She has always been one to meet a need and it is her positive and generous outlook that has endeared her to succeeding generations of students.

There could be no better person to lend a guiding hand to the Old Students' Association as it becomes established.



NOSU

Congratulations to Annabel Williams (Year 12, 2016) and Alicia Scott (Year 12, 2017) who have both been awarded International College of Management (ICMS) Professional Scholarships for 2018.

This involved both girls submitting an application (including a written essay, past and present leadership roles, community contributions, other relevant certificates and high school achievements, most recent academic transcripts and curriculum vitae), followed by two panel interviews, the first with the Deputy Vice Chancellor and senior management of the College and the final with the ICMS President & CEO, a Senior Executive or Executives from their Corporate Scholarship Sponsor Partners, and the Chairperson ICMS Professional Scholarships.



Annabel Williams (Year 12, 2016)



Alicia Scott (Year 12, 2017)

ABBY WELLS (YEAR TWELVE, 2009)

Congratulations to Abby Wells (2009) and Michael Bone who were married at The Salvation Army in the City on Saturday, June 17, 2017. The Reception was held at Sydney Dance Lounge, Walsh Bay.



From left to right: Matt Kabler (2006), Alex Staude, Andy Cape, Chris Bone, Michael Bone, Abby Wells (2009), Courtney Wade (2009), Ashleigh McErwen (2009), Libby Peters, Natalie Kavanagh.

JACQUELINE YOUNG (YEAR TWELVE, 2005)

Jacqueline Young (Year 12 2005) married Ian Dyk on 5 November 2016 at St Clement's Anglican Church, Mosman. The ceremony was followed by a Reception at the Public Dining Room, Balmoral Beach. Bridesmaids included Natasha Young (Year 12 2008), Emma Cotterill (Year 12 2005) and Bridesman Barry Schultz (Year 12 2005). The Page Boy was Andy Ward (currently in Year 3) and Flower Girl Grace Ward (currently

in Year 1). Masters of Ceremony were Luke Wagner and Ben Mackay also from Year 12 2005. Other wedding guests included Andrew and Sophie Varvel, Matt Nemes, Russell Farrell, Dean Kretchmer, Adam Bradley and Kimberly Wood.



MORGAN TAYLOR (YEAR TWELVE, 2015)

After completing school, Morgan completed Certificate Two in Racing Stablehand (Thoroughbred) at Richmond College. In 2016 Morgan completed Certificate III in Performance Horse and Certificate III in Horse Breeding.

Morgan and her parents are developing their farm in the Southern Highlands and hope to breed Friesian horses and Morgan will seek work with local studs.



NICK HUTCHINSON (YEAR TEN, 2008)

Nick left Northholm to attend the Flying Fruit Fly Circus School in Albury and on graduation from there joined The Wiggles.

News from his proud mother is that he is performing in the Cirque du Soleil show, La Perle, which opened late in 2017 and is based permanently in Dubai.

GEMMA TINNEY (YEAR TWELVE, 2015)

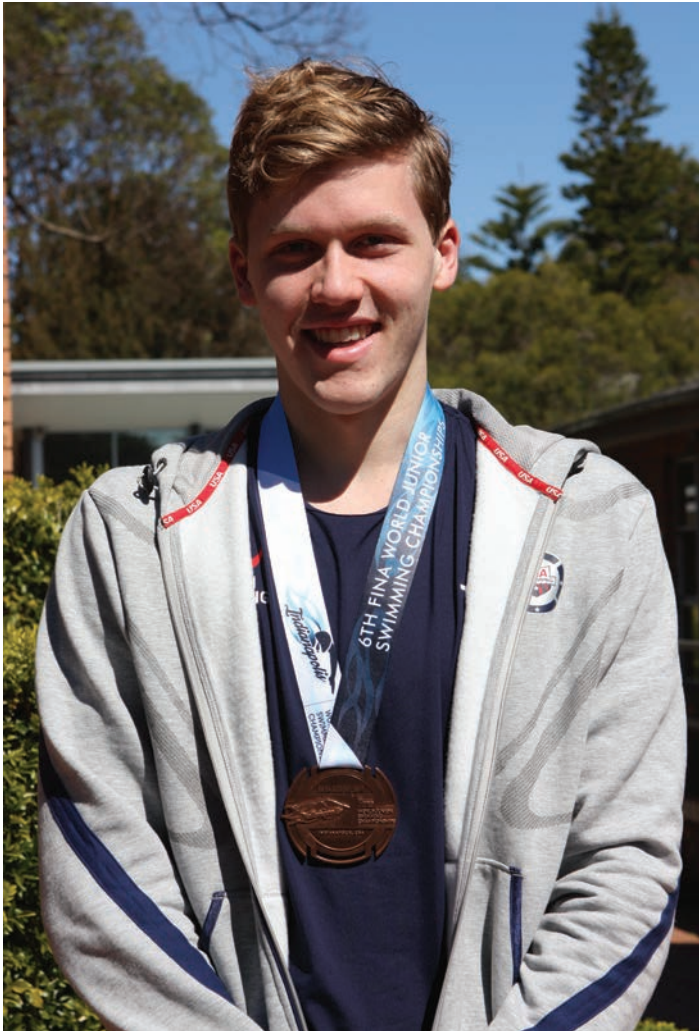
Northholm congratulates Gemma who has been named Young Athlete of the Year in the 2017 Equestrian Australia Awards. Gemma is currently on the Equestrian Australia "Generation Next" squad and looks destined to follow in the footsteps of her Sydney 2000 Olympic gold medal-winning father Stuart.

Gemma began riding when she was five-years-old on a pony called 'Snowy' that she shared with her sister. She says, "What I love about the sport and what got me hooked is the people and the fun of it."

At the age of just 11, she started competing in Eventing and last year represented Australia at the Oceania Championships staged during the Melbourne International Three-Day Event and was on the winning Young Rider team. She said being part of a team and competing for her country for the first time was "an amazing experience."

Another major highlight for her last year was winning the National Eventing Championship at Equestriad on her mare Annapurna. Gemma's future goal is to compete at the at the Olympics and/or the World Equestrian Games in the next few years. We wish her all the best.





ZACHARY ATTARD (YEAR TWELVE, 2016)

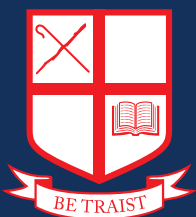
Zachary Attard (Year 12 2016) has continued to pursue his passion of swimming since he left Northholm 18 months ago. His commitment to training and hard work has seen him succeed at all levels. His major achievements since leaving school are:

- Australian Age Nationals held April 2017: 2 bronze and 2 silver medals, 100m free, 200m free, 400m free and 4x200 relay
- Australian Open Age Championships held April 2017: 1 gold and 1 silver medal in the 4x100 and 4x200 relays
- Representing Australia at the FINA Junior World Championships in Indianapolis, USA and picking up 2 bronze medals in August 2017
- Australia Open Short Course Championships held in October 2017: 1 gold in 200m free, 2 silvers and 1 bronze medal
- Swimming in March 2018 at the Australian Commonwealth Trials on the Gold Coast and placing 7th in the 400m freestyle final with a PB - just missing out on the Australian Commonwealth Games Team.

KENNEDY MAEDER (YEAR TWELVE, 2016)

Kennedy Maeder (School Captain 2016) has just started his second year at Western Sydney University studying a Bachelor of Science (Advanced Science). He has been accepted to continuing his studies in his degree, on exchange at the University of North Carolina in the USA for a year, leaving in July 2018. "I'm very happy to have this opportunity as I love the country and the culture over there, especially the sport."

Kennedy told us that he spends the majority of his time outside of university either coaching basketball at Northholm, pursuing his main hobby of photography or spending time with his core friends from Northholm. "I've really found a passion for coaching and enjoy being back at school in this capacity. As for my photography I concentrate mainly on cars and more recently motorbikes, since I purchased one just as I left school. I've found I really enjoy the world of motorbikes, riding a lot, going to races, shows etc. But now I'm just excited and preparing for the next chapter in the USA."



WHERE ARE YOU NOW ?

Weddings? Births? General News? NOSU would love to hear from you!
Email your latest news to Susan Wright (wrights@northholm.nsw.edu.au)

NORTHHOLM
GRAMMAR SCHOOL



LEARN WITH **PURPOSE** LIVE WITH **PASSION**

79 Cobah Road, Arcadia NSW 2159

P 02 9656 2000

F 02 9656 1512

admin@northholm.nsw.edu.au

www.northholm.com.au