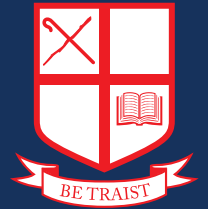


ISSUE NO. 41
SEMESTER ONE 2014

NORTHHOLM
GRAMMAR SCHOOL



THE ARCADIAN

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



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

SEMESTER TWO 2013 POCKETS

ATHLETICS

Karla Samuels

CHOIR

Isaac Powell

CONCERT BAND

Patrick Meyer

Lachlan Moore

Alex Patterson

EQUESTRIAN

Sarah Bourne

CROSS COUNTRY

Morgan Kingham

Emily Daniel

Rohana King

Patrick Meyer

Anthony Powell

SAXOPHONE ENSEMBLE

Alex Patterson

STAGE BAND

Patrick Meyer

Alex Patterson

SEMESTER ONE 2014 POCKETS

BASKETBALL

Samantha Nelson

Ashleigh Tregoning

CATTLE SHOW TEAM

Annalise Davy

Lachlan Moore

Regan Parle

CHOIR

Anthony Powell

Isaac Powell

CONCERT BAND

Patrick Meyer

Alex Patterson

CROSS COUNTRY

Ishka Bless

Robert Dix

Morgan Kingham

DRAMA

Benjamin Basclain

Sarah Bourne

Claire Ferguson

Amy Korompay

Nicholas Luca-Hancock

Luisa Manosa

Tara Morrison

Lucas Pearce

Kate Smith

RUGBY

Christopher Kirkby

Timothy Taylor

SCIENCE CLUB

Isabella Edwards

STAGE BAND

Patrick Meyer

Alex Patterson

SWIMMING

Zachary Attard

Anthony Powell

Emily Steer

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Front Cover: Year Ten French students enjoying the art of cooking.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL



As you read the following pages of this 'bumper' edition of the Arcadian, the School's commitment to the well-being of young people will no doubt be evident in both the range of activities we offer and the level of care we provide.

Although a small school, Northholm has always emphasised the importance of students experiencing a well-rounded education. The benefits of students participating in a diverse range of activities together with opportunities to develop relationships based on mutual respect remain fundamental to our sense of what is important in ensuring young people develop a strong sense of self and a positive outlook on life.

Our teachers are very aware of the challenges our students face each day and there is a genuine commitment to ensuring they have as many opportunities as possible to make wise choices. Whether it is an opportunity to engage in a service program that will make a difference in the lives of others, a chance to master a musical instrument or the prospect of increasing sporting prowess, they know young people hunger for new challenges and relish new found skills.

They are also very conscious of the need to encourage young people to step outside their known world. Young people gain tremendous benefit from sharing their diverse experiences and knowledge with others, not only in their immediate world but also in the world at large. The life our students will inherit is brimming with opportunities for each of them to share in the wonder of different cultures, values and lifestyles. What better way to prepare them for this future than a vibrant co-curricular program and the opportunity for international travel and service to others?

Too often we hear of young people being lost to a virtual world, a fact that is reinforced by statistics that confirm many young people are falling victim to more sedentary lifestyles and the associated issues of adolescent obesity and depression. For these young people outdoor pursuits are quickly becoming a thing of the past. Travel, sport, relationships and music can easily become passive forms of recreation undertaken in the comfort of an armchair.

How fortunate then are the young people reported on in this publication?

The accounts of many activities reported in this publication are a resounding testament to the enthusiasm of our students and staff who eagerly seek out and embrace new and very 'real' opportunities. Whether it is competing with other sporting teams, forging links with other communities (both local and global), building partnerships with other organisations or, as in recent times, collaborating with other performance groups, our students' physical and mental wellbeing are well served by the array of opportunities on offer.

In a networked society our students are still actively encouraged to embrace life, to seize opportunities and to 'run with the ball' so that they are better able to stay connected with their community, their families, their friends and themselves. As a school community we believe that this ability to embrace life, to stay involved in 'real-time' and maintain a sense of connectedness is critical to maintaining our students' ongoing wellbeing. Together with the sense of safety offered by our beautiful rural setting, the ability to engage with others in meaningful ways has never been more critical for young people than it is now.

Enjoy the pages that follow. They pay tribute to the quality of our staff and the energy and enthusiasm of our wonderful students. It has been a wonderful year thus far!

LYNNE GUTHRIDGE
Principal



THE CLASS OF 2013

As a non-selective high school, Northholm is very proud of the Year Twelve cohort's results in the 2013 Higher School Certificate.

The Class of 2013 are to be congratulated on the excellent results achieved in their HSC exams and also for the creative and involving leadership program they orchestrated and delivered throughout our 30th Anniversary year.

SIGNIFICANT ACHIEVEMENTS

School Captain, Sam Dessen, is to be congratulated on being recognised in the Premier's List for All-Round Achievers. This prestigious award celebrates students who scored 90 or above in 10 or more units in the HSC results.

We also recognise the following students who achieved an ATAR score of over 90 (listed alphabetically). An ATAR score of 90 indicates that a student's overall mark places them in the top ten percent of results for Australia.

Nathan Albertini	91.9
Samuel Dessen	97.95
Sam Howard	90.8
Sam Kwon	92.6
Harrison Leonard	96.85
Annabel Redman	95.8
Rebecca Richards-Hill	90.95
Thomas Steer	90.75

These students represent 14% of Northholm's 2013 cohort.

In addition to this, 72% of students achieved a Band 5 or Band 6 result and 59% of the 29 subjects on offer at Northholm had results that were above state average. Most notable of these results were in Business Studies, Chemistry, Drama and General Mathematics.

Congratulations to Sam Howard whose major work in Design and Technology was nominated for DesignTECH. Sam designed and built a system of hanging racks for school bags that eliminated all sharp and protruding features. We also congratulate Will Edwards, Mark Ollis, Annabel Redman and Rebecca Richards-Hill who were nominated for the Annual OnStage Performances as part of their major works in Drama with their Group Performance of "*Long Way to the Top*". And finally we congratulate Sam Dessen whose Core composition for Music 2 was nominated for Encore. His piece was written for vocal and body percussion and consisted of complex polyrhythms and layers. It was quite an amazing piece of music.

The Class of 2013 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.

2014 STUDENT LEADERS



School Captains:	Morgan Kingham	Patrick Meyer
Senior House Prefects:	Laura Kiss	Robert Dix
Senior Co-Curricular Prefects	Sarah Bourne	Alex Patterson

School Prefects:	Isobelle Allan	James Clarke	Emily Daniel	Annaleise Davy
	Jade Driver	Claire Ferguson	Tahlia Hurley	Heather Little
	Anthony Powell	Koral Tolver-Banks		

Capell House Captains:	Jade Driver	Christopher Kirkby		
Lincoln House Captains:	Claire Ferguson	Lachlan Moore		
Patteson House Captains:	Samantha Nelson	Christopher Wood		
Rowland House Captains:	Heather Little	Anthony Powell		
Capell House Leaders:	Isobelle Allan	Timothy Taylor	Evan Jacobsen	Ashleigh Tregoning
Rowland House Leaders:	Tahlia Hurley	Alexander Powys		

Agriculture Captains:	Annaleise Davy	Regan Parle
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Sports Captains:	Ashleigh Tregoning	James Clarke
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Our 2014 School Leaders were invited to attend the Annual Secondary School Leaders lunch with Matt Kean, Member for Hornsby, held at Parliament House on Thursday 29 May, 2014. School Captains, Morgan Kingham and Patrick Meyer, and Senior House Prefect, Laura Kiss, made their way into Parliament House where they were given a guided tour before sitting down to lunch in the Presidential Dining Room. During lunch, there was open discussion with Matt and other schools' leaders about issues relevant to their generation and specific to our community. Following lunch the students had the opportunity to hear parliamentary Question Time.

"This was definitely worth the trip into the city," recalled Patrick. "The building is very historical and seeing Parliament in action was quite eye opening."



School Captains, Patrick Meyer and Morgan Kingham, with Member for Hornsby, Matt Kean and Laura Kiss, Senior House Prefect, outside Parliament House.

2014 MIDDLE SCHOOL LEADERS



Middle School Captains:

Eliza Dessen

Devlin Greatbatch Murphy

Middle School Music Captains:

Charlotte Kohler

Alfie Stratton

Sarah Walker

Capell Middle School House Captains:

Annabelle Leonard

Sam Charlton

Lincoln Middle School House Captains:

Courtney Cameron

Jackson Purchase

Patteson Middle School House Captains:

Zahra Mfula

Troy Altiparmak

Rowland Middle School House Captains:

Laura Johnson

Bryce MacNamara



2013 SPEECH NIGHT AWARDS

The inaugural Junior Years Speech Day and the 31st Annual Speech Night and Presentation of Prizes were held for the first time in the Lincoln Centre at Northholm Grammar School on Wednesday 4 December 2013. The hall looked splendid thanks to the generosity of the Northholm Association who funded the upgrade which included a new data projector, drop down screen and stage curtains.

The following students should be especially proud of themselves for their achievements.

LINCOLN PRIZE FOR

Dux of the School - Year Twelve

Samuel Dessen

Dux of Year Eleven

Alex Patterson

Dux of Year Ten

Amelia Lee

Dux of Year Nine

Hannah Kohler

Dux of Year Eight

Carina Sirolli

Dux of Year Seven

Eliza Dessen

The Louise Lennon Prize

Annabel Redman

The Ronald Chambers' Award

Alissa Plüss

The Caltex Medal for All Round Excellence

Samuel Dessen

The Spirit Cup

Lincoln House

Lincoln House Captains

Jeffery Burcham, Rebecca Richards-Hill

The Joncour Shield

Rowland House

Rowland House Captains

Alexander Pappalardo, Caitlin Paterson

The Catriona Little Award

Ishka Bless

NORTHHOLM GRAMMAR MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS VISIT THE TOP END: JUNE 2013

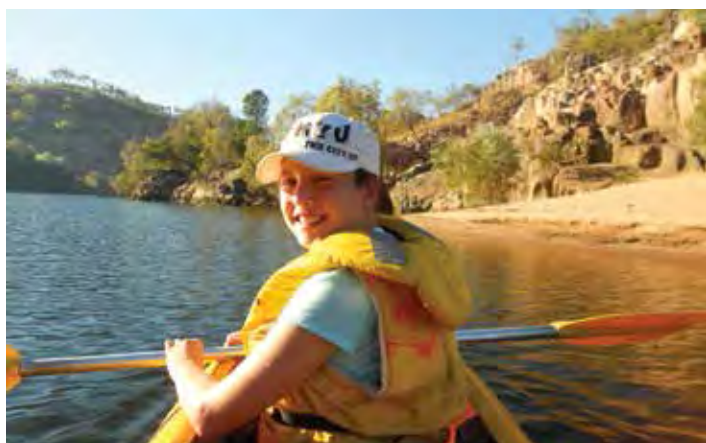
In a busy world where the constant call of technology can limit real connections with others and with the environment, it is rare that students can break free and experience a new way to relate to each other. Yet for 18 Year Seven and Eight students a ten day trip to the Northern Territory provided exactly this opportunity.

Accompanied by three teachers and two tour guides, friendships deepened as the students swam in crystal clear pools beneath towering waterfalls, explored Aboriginal art and culture together, marvelled at the size and strength of saltwater crocodiles and canoed through the magnificent Katherine Gorge. Watching the vivid landscape from four wheel drive mini buses and viewing the endless blue skies

day and a multitude of stars by night was a world away from everyday experiences.

“It was like having 17 brothers and sisters,” said one student when asked about the trip. This was no five star holiday but every day brought new adventure. Students assisted with meal preparation at the campsites, and a mixture of camping in swags and permanent unpowered huts gave the students the opportunity of engaging with the rhythm of Top End life.

Younger students are already excited and looking forward to the next opportunity to join this tour in coming years.



JUNIOR YEARS

In 2014 we have been extremely fortunate to welcome three new Primary School teachers: Miss Corinne Hastie, Miss Kellie Smith and Mrs Rachel Sommer, who, together with Mrs Emma Hooper and Miss Verity Paterson (Head of Primary Curriculum), have a passion for teaching and a commitment to their students which is truly evident in the diverse range of activities experienced by students this semester.

Meet our JUNIOR YEARS Teachers:



Miss Hastie, Mrs Hooper, Miss Paterson, Mrs Sommer, Miss Smith

YEAR THREE - MISS VERITY PATERSON

Over the last two terms, Year Three have embarked on an adventure full of wonder and discovery.

Students have slipped into the role of architects and created amazing buildings and cities to consolidate their understanding of angles and lines. Whilst not structurally sound, these creations came from the minds of our future engineers, scientists and designers!

In English, students have discovered the art of amazing alliteration, adding colour and complexity to their writing. The sentences curled off Year Three's twisting tongues:

"Cadence kisses curly cats" and "Julian juggles jukeboxes in January" is all happening while "Declan dabs damp dirt on his dancing shoes" and "Mason puts messy meat on massive melons".

As part of their persuasive texts unit, students created expositions to convince Ms Paterson to buy hermit crabs. They must have done a fantastic job as the hermit crabs have arrived and are now an important part of Year Three. The little crawling critters have inspired sensational information reports, descriptive narratives and developed Year Three's research skills.



YEAR FOUR – MRS RACHEL SOMMER

In the Year Four classroom we have completed a Biological Sciences Inquiry unit titled 'How does biodiversity face adversity?' in which we developed a sense of wonder and appreciation of plants. The students had the opportunity to investigate the processes of pollination and germination, the stages in the plant life cycle and environmental conditions that plants need for growth.

Mrs Trestrail and the Year Twelve Agriculture Team assisted Year Four to replant their seedlings in the Agriculture plots. Year Four savoured the opportunity to work alongside their senior peers and to ask questions to enhance their knowledge of this fascinating process.



YEAR FIVE/SIX – MISS CORINNE HASTIE

In class we have been investigating how, as humans, we affect our environment and how we can live more sustainably. In HSIE and Library, we have researched the destruction of the world's rainforests for farming non-sustainable products such as palm oil. We have used this knowledge to discuss how our purchasing choices can make a difference to the supply and demand of more sustainable and local products. In Science, we have experimented with a range of packaging materials to develop strong packaging that we could use to send scientific equipment to the Eco Warriors in Borneo, without creating non-biodegradable waste issues. Materials were tested and evaluated according to whether they were strong, biodegradable or reusable and waterproof. Each package was rigorously tested and evaluated!

In Mathematics, we have analysed graphs of global waste production. We surveyed and collated data relating to waste management at our school. By classifying our waste and examining how much was recyclable, compostable or avoidable, we aim to improve the school's waste management strategies in the future.



YEAR FIVE – MISS KELLIE SMITH

It has been exciting to see students that are new to Northholm settling in well to the routines of school and to watch new friendships blossom. In class students have participated in a number of exciting and engaging activities. As Mathematicians, students have been busy designing their own miniature golf courses while closely looking at angles; playing the classic arcade game Tetris with a focus on area and perimeter; and achieving their personal best with their mathematics challenge every day. In English students have been writing persuasive arguments and fractured fairy tales. They have also enjoyed designing and creating their very own 'Wacky Gadget' made out of recycled items.



YEAR SIX – MRS EMMA HOOPER

It has been a pleasure to watch students engaging in a range of hands-on and innovative learning experiences this semester. We have grown vegetables in the Permaculture Garden, explored chemical reactions, created Year Six Parliament (including portfolios for areas such as Education, Finance, Technology and Arts) and focused on the meaning of knowledge, wisdom and power in Philosophy classes. Students then undertook a History project where they researched a significant person encompassing their chosen inspirational word. We are all looking forward to building on this knowledge further in Semester Two.



PROMOTING HEALTH AND FITNESS

A SPORTING NATION

Australia is a sporting nation and while sport continues to be an integral part of our national identity there are some worrying trends. Participation rates in organised sport over the past 40 years have typically increased, yet other forms of physical activity that contribute to physical activity levels are low and declining. Screen time and other sedentary behaviours are increasing and this can and does adversely affect health, growth and development in children and young people.

The recent 2014 Active Healthy Australia Report Card on Physical Activity is a new initiative that will be released annually to keep people informed about physical activity and sedentary behaviours of children and young people. On a rating scale of A – F, Australia rated a D- for overall physical activity levels. This means that less than half of children and young people in Australia meet the recommended guidelines of accumulating at least 60 minutes of moderate to vigorous physical activity every day of the week.



A number of excursions and school visits also took place during this time to support learning. For example, Year Eleven students headed off to Resolutions Gym in Dural. Here they took part in spin and Pilates classes to support their studies in the PDHPE Preliminary course. In contrast, students in Year Three – Six were visited by Health Harold and the Life Education Van where they learnt about important issues such as Body Systems and Medicines.

Meanwhile, the Sport Department has maintained its typically frenetic pace, regularly creating opportunities for our students to move and participate in a wide range of events. All three major carnivals have now been held, with the whole School taking part in Swimming, Cross Country and Athletics events. Representative teams were chosen and a number of our athletes went on to fly the Northholm colours at Zone level and above. Additionally, Hills Zone Sport has continued to see strong support, with the School fielding teams in a range of both summer and winter sports, for boys and for girls. Another important



In a multi layered approach to educating our students about the importance and benefits of physical activity, Northholm takes pride in the programs delivered by both the PDHPE and Sport Departments. In keeping true to the supportive nature of the School, both Departments strive to offer a cohesive approach to our students overall health and physical activity requirements, whilst delivering very different programs. To this end each week students get the opportunity to engage in a wide range of sporting and physical activity pursuits. These are based not only on interest, but also on varied and dynamic curriculum programming.

As an example of this approach, Semester One has seen a number of exciting undertakings by Northholm students in relation to health and physical activity opportunities. The PDHPE Department has engaged our students across all year levels in theory topics such as Nutrition, Substances that Affect our Bodies, Healthy Lifestyles and Lifelong Activity. Practical classes have similarly been diverse with students engaged in all manner of physical activity from Ball Skills and Team Sports to Factors that Affect Performance.





program delivered by the Sport Department is that of Timetabled Sport. Here, all students in Years Three to Ten undertake an additional two lessons in sport every fortnight.

All of these fantastic opportunities present Northholm students with the time to move and increase their physical activity levels. Whilst the Active

Australia Healthy Report Card rates Australia an INC (Inconclusive) for Physical Education and Physical Activity Participation in Schools, you can be guaranteed that by attending Northholm, the School and the dedicated staff who help to deliver both the PDHPE and Sport programs are ensuring that Northholm students are afforded the best available prospects for the foundations of an active and healthy life.

NORTHHOLM GOES FOR GOLD!



Tom Payton, Morgan Kingham and Edward Pym

Wednesday 25th June saw three Gold Duke of Edinburgh awards for Northholm Grammar School students. Edward Pym and Tom Payton (Year 12, 2013) and Morgan Kingham, current School Captain, were presented with their awards by Her Excellency Professor The Honourable Dame Marie Bashir AC CVO at St Stephen's Uniting Church, Sydney.

These fine young recipients achieved the highest and hardest level for their on-going commitment to a wide range of activities including Air Force Cadets and Community Aid in Borneo and Kokoda.

"The Duke of Edinburgh Scheme is booming here at Northholm," says Ms Jen Woods, Duke of Edinburgh Coordinator. "In the past four years, it has grown from 30 students to over 60.

It's great to see the students grow in confidence and leadership skills. The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme gives our students a broader perspective on life – it's not all about them but what they can do for others."

Ms Woods encourages students to be involved: "Duke of Edinburgh appeals to many interests and students can use current participation in sport, drama, music and so on as part of their award."

We look forward to seeing more students engaged in this internationally recognised program in years to come.

DRAMA

GROWING IN STRENGTH

Given the range of activities and opportunities available to students, it is perhaps no surprise that Northholm's Drama Department continues to grow both in and out of the classroom. Many students, across a range of year levels, have joined one or more of the different clubs available and students enrol eagerly in elective courses. Pleasingly this passion for performance translates into the Drama Department achieving some of the strongest HSC results in the school. Over the last three years almost 80% of all Year Twelve Drama students have achieved Bands 5 and 6. In 2013 this increased to 94%. It is notable that for 70% of these students Drama was their highest scoring subject.

YOU'RE A GOOD MAN, CHARLIE BROWN

Last year the Middle School Drama Production staged the musical, *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*, showcasing some very talented, up and coming students. The show, which chronicles a day in the life of Charlie Brown, Snoopy and the Peanuts gang in a series of comic inspired vignettes, premiered in 1967 with a Broadway revival in 1999 and was adapted into a cartoon feature film in 1985.

With bright cardboard cut-outs and an energetic score, this production proved to be a lot of fun for cast and crew. With sweetness promoting the power of friendship, the show's inherent charm and joy made working with such talented, committed young people all the more enjoyable for the staff involved and behind the scenes, the consistent enthusiasm and worth ethic of the cast and crew were admirable.

Special mention must be made of the core cast. Warm-up games of Killer will never be the same after facing Chantal 'The Shark' Parle. The constant giggles of Courtney Cameron were matched with the physical humour of Josh Wilson, finding new ways to slide and fall over at each rehearsal. Watching the ever calm Charlotte Kohler try to get angry as Sally was matched by Alannah Trestrail, who brought lungs to Schroeder's outbursts at the prospect of a poor rehearsal for Beethoven's birthday performance. A big congratulations to Annabelle Leonard who somehow managed to keep her cool in the thick furs of her Snoopy costume.

Special thanks to director Brad Horsburgh, musical director Andrew McWade, producer Brad Turbott and assistant director, Helaina Alati, for their ongoing support and dedication to the success of the show.



MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING WAS CERTAINLY SOMETHING

The fact that all four shows held at the school were sold out was a fitting tribute to the huge amount of talent and effort that went into this year's Senior Drama Production *Much Ado About Nothing*. It was a wonderful show that once again demonstrated the depth of talent and commitment of our students and staff, especially Mr Turbott.

For the fifth consecutive year, the Drama Production toured to Kangaroo Valley on June 13 and 14. After years of fantastic performances, 2014's production of *Much Ado About Nothing* shattered all the records set before. This year's production saw the biggest audiences in Northholm's history with the Valley, the Saturday night show packing out the Kangaroo Valley Community Hall.

The show, which took Shakespeare's classic romantic comedy and flooded it with 80s film and music references was a hit with the audience. This was no more evident than at the end of the show when a full standing ovation just kept going until the cast had to silence the audience as there was still more dialogue to go!

It is fantastic to see so many in the Valley support these shows, which seem to keep growing not only in popularity, but in quality as the years go by. It is also a superb weekend for Northholm parents. The show has become a tradition for many who come down year after year, with 2014 boasting the largest number of Northholm parents (over 60) not only watching the show but staying in town for the weekend.



"The Valley means a great deal to me, and I feel a great sense of pride in bringing these shows here," said Director, Brad Turbott. "It's wonderful to not only see the kids band together and work like professionals to put on fantastic productions, but also to be able to support all the local businesses in the Valley without which these shows wouldn't happen. I'm also very happy to see so many Northholm parents come down for the weekend to experience all that Kangaroo Valley has to offer."

As well as the local businesses, the Kangaroo Valley Pre-School has been an invaluable partner in putting these shows on, with the parents running the front of house stalls as well as Northholm students visiting the Pre-School children for Drama activities. Along with the proceeds from Front of House sales, Northholm was able to (combined with last year's show *Cosi*) donate \$1000 to the Pre-School.

SERVICE LEARNING AT NORTHHOLM

One of the school's goals documented in the 2010-2014 Strategic Plan, was to broaden our students' concept of and involvement in local and global communities.

In this age of digital closeness, we may think that the immediacy and profusion of global information make this an easy task. However, it is becoming increasingly obvious that the time young people devote to the many digital opportunities on offer (such as electronic games and social media) is leaving young people short of time to reflect deeply on the many issues facing our immediate community or the broader world.

For educators, this lack of opportunity for reflection becomes particularly problematic when they observe students failing to develop their capacity to empathise. We know from experience that some young people are born with an innate sense of selflessness, others develop it at different stages of their life and, sadly, many never understand the concept of acting with less concern for oneself than for the welfare of others or the joint activity.

Two years ago staff at Northholm Grammar School decided to address this concern by dedicating one week a year to "Service Learning" in areas that would broaden students' social and global awareness. This week has now become an important part of school life: a time in which students from Year Three to Year Ten participate in projects that address human and community needs as well as structured opportunities for reflection that help them achieve a number of formal and informal learning outcomes.

An example of this learning was the project undertaken by Year Five and Six students in 2012. During 2013 these students were privileged to hear back from some of the children's groups in Windhoek, the capital city of Namibia, who were the recipients of a total of 18 boxes of toys, clothes, books, stationery items and soccer balls that were shipped over to Namibia, arriving at their destination almost six months later.

The feedback our students received from these groups was amazing, with many of the Namibian children sending letters thanking Northholm for their gifts. Knowing that someone has taken the effort to care for them is a great boost to these children's morale and encourages them to keep on with their studies.

This is what Service Learning Week is about: appreciating what we have and learning to be generous and outward looking. Thank you to all those involved with this project for Namibia; to the staff, families and children of Years Five and Six (2012). Your work and generosity has made a huge difference in so many children's lives.



SCHOOL SERVICE LEARNING WEEK 2013

Late last year students from Years Three to Ten spent their time on the following projects:

- Years Three and Four (co-ordinated by Ms Paterson): Project Smile - to bring happiness to elderly residents who suffer from dementia and raise awareness about the disease
- Years Five and Six (co-ordinated by Mrs Hooper): Support for socio-economically disadvantaged primary school students in Sydney and Samaritan's Purse
- Year Seven (co-ordinated by Mrs Hill): World Vision - poverty awareness
- Year Eight (co-ordinated by Mrs Turbott): Animal welfare issues (both local and global)
- Year Nine (co-ordinated by Mme Calleya-Jones): Individual and small group projects involving charities and schools. They were present in more than 15 locations from the City to Galston via Blacktown
- Year Ten (co-ordinated by Mr McMillan): Indigenous Australian culture and the issues faced by this population.

Service Learning Week is held at the end of the year so that our teachers and students can dedicate the time and focus required for each project in order to gain the desired outcome.

The effort and time required by all teaching staff cannot be overstated and we are privileged to have so many staff committed to this form of learning. For students, it is a week dedicated to helping them understand the meaning of selflessness. Their involvement in the different projects allows them to develop a broader sense of the lives of people who are less fortunate than themselves and to build on their own values year after year.





FRANCE 2014

On 12 April, 21 students, three teachers and two parents assembled at Charles Kingsford Smith Airport to wave their families goodbye and embark on a new, exciting adventure.

After the long-haul flight with a short stopover in Singapore, this group of the Northholm community planted a foot on French soil and the real fun began. The trip began in Paris, where all the main sites and attractions were thoroughly explored: by bike, foot and metro. Every day held unexpected surprises, such as a temporarily lost member of the group who went for some personal exploring or the discovery of an exciting new restaurant that has become a part of every group member's heart, Flunch. It would be nice to say we made a little mark on Paris and we did so, due to some not-so-perfect bike riding skills resulting in a crash against the sandstone of the Louvre. There were many stressful situations in which it was up to the genius and problem solving of the incredible teachers that saved the students' backs many times, including Mrs McKenzie's persuasive smooth talking to ensure that all students got on the Seine River Cruise.

After the busy and lively experiences of Paris, many expected our next stop, Tours, to be somewhat disappointing. It was, of course anything but as we cruised through the gorgeous, historically-rich Loire Valley and explored this small town with such rich French culture. The main highlights included Amboise, Chenonceau and Clos Luce, where we found Leonardo Da Vinci's final resting place.

All too soon it was time to move on to Amiens. This bustling city-like town was heavily contrasted with what we had just seen in Tours, but proved brilliant all the same. The highlight of our stay in Amiens was the tour of the battlefields of the Somme. The graves upon graves of fallen soldiers from World War I struck a chord with many tour members and we were all deeply honoured to be able to pay our respects to a relative of one of our own Northholm students in Villiers-Bretteneux. It was an incredible experience for all.

We departed Amiens and returned to Paris, where we continued to tick off many bucket list to-dos: taking selfies with the Mona Lisa and countless other incredible artworks, eating true French cuisine and experiencing the taste of Orangina. We spent an entire day of our trip at Disneyland, going on Space Mountain too many times, as well as meeting some of our greatest heroines, the Disney princesses. The Disney Castle Light Show was a spectacular extravaganza which all members would agree, is an absolute must-see.

The next day we reminded ourselves of the purpose of the history trip, with a decadent trip to Versailles. After wandering through the stunning Hall of Mirrors, we made our way through the endless gardens, which proved to be a fatal mistake, as the heavens opened and everyone experienced the floods of Versailles while running across the cobblestones. Needless to say it was a damp metro ride back to the Hostel. We spent our last night in Paris at Flunch, before saying goodnight to the streets of Paris in a long walk.

Heather Pym (Year Ten)





AGRICULTURE

2014 SEMESTER ONE

This semester our Cattle Show Team lovingly prepared our cattle for the Castle Hill and Royal Easter Shows and were rewarded with considerable success at both events.

At the Castle Hill Show Haley, a Belted Galloway, placed second while June and Lolita finished second and third in their respective categories. At the Royal Easter Show our Minto, Angus, led by our Primary Industries students, placed fourth in the ring and second in the carcass competition, while Haley made us proud by placing third in the stud competition. We even slotted in a spot in the Grand Parade giving us yet another outstanding show result in our pocket.



Back at school for Term Two, the excitement continued when we welcomed the newest member of our Northholm family, Jazz, a gorgeous Belted Galloway Heifer, who comes from Sassafras Belted Galloways, and was Junior Champion at the Royal Easter Show. We look forward to working with Jazz as she is a wonderful addition to our cattle team and a key part of our future plans.



The school also increased its stock with the arrival of two miniature pigs who have already won the hearts of students and teachers. Purchased as part of the Year Eleven Agriculture curriculum relating to animal welfare, Kevin and Peppa will also be an integral part of the Junior years Agriculture program. Finally we can report that, as we go to press, Natasha, our new alpaca, has given birth to a very healthy male cria (macho) called Boris.



Further to these exciting achievements at the shows, some major re-development has been completed in the school's farm area. This recently completed work will give the School a far more competitive edge for Cattle Show team activities. Work already completed in this re-development, including a fully functional show preparation area, enclosed grooming area, cattle yard matting, automatic water troughs and crush, will allow students to train and prepare cattle in environments similar to those they experience at Agricultural Shows.

Buoyed with all of these improvements is it any wonder that the Agriculture Department is benefiting from an increase in student participation across all age groups. Creating an interest or passion in Agriculture from an early age broadens our students' outlook and offers greater scope of subject choice in Senior Years.

YEAR ELEVEN 2013 AGRICULTURE CAMP

"Ag camp was a very enjoyable and interesting experience. Visiting the various farms provided a good insight into how different kinds of farms were run and managed. It was a very good experience to see how each product was grown, processed and sold. My personal favourite was the olive farm. Learning about the production line of olives from the growing to the creation of olive oil was very interesting and being able to taste the difference between the different types of olive oil produced was a bonus. Overall, Ag camp was a great two days and I believe everyone who went learnt a lot from it." Regan Parle

"Agriculture camp was completely intriguing! It was so interesting to see the day to day running of each of the farms. It was interesting to see how, you, as the consumer, drive the decisions that each of the farms make to provide a product that you want. By far my favourite was the winery- Cutting Hill Estate. Walking into the warehouse you stepped into the most beautiful aroma of fermenting wine and opera music being played as the workers got on with each of their jobs." Annalise Davey



MUSIC



Semester One, 2014 was a busy period for Co-curricular Music. With the departure from Northholm of a large cohort of 14 Year Twelve students, we entered an exciting phase of re-building our Ensembles. This was helped by the arrival of a number of talented new students to Northholm. Music Camp provided a great kick-start to Term One with new music introduced for the bands and choirs to build on as they worked towards events and competitions later in the year. There were a series of excellent master classes and workshops conducted with our regular tutors and special guest expert tutors to inspire our young musicians.

Term Two carried on the good work and culminated in Music Showcase at Hornsby RSL mid-term, where the many Northholm Ensembles had an opportunity to demonstrate their progress to family and friends. It was evident the re-building had progressed considerably with many cohesive and confident performances. Term Two concluded with a high profile opportunity for some of our students who participated in International Music Day on 21 June. Percussion Ensemble One performed with Taiko drums outside the Museum of Contemporary Art at Circular Quay where the nationally broadcast Channel 7 Sunrise program crossed several times to capture their performance. Buskers Club performed in Pitt St Mall, at the Queen Victoria Building, on the Manly Ferry and finished a huge day by busking outside the Manly Ferry wharf.



HSC MUSIC

The Music Department was delighted with the outstanding HSC results received by the class of 2013. Seventeen students sat the HSC in Music 1, Music 2 and Music Extension and their results were a credit to the students, their private tutors and, of course, the classroom teachers who supported them over their years of studying Music at Northholm Grammar School. There were some outstanding results for the Music Extension students. Nathan Albertini and Nicholas Leonard, both performance majors, received 47/50, Band 4 while the other three students received Band 3. Of the seven students who completed the Music Two course, two gained Band 6, four Band 5 and one Band 4. This means 86% of students gained a Band 5 or higher. Of the ten students who completed the Music Once course, three gained Band 6, four Band 5 and three Band 4.



This year, there are two students studying Music 1, a very different cohort but just as talented and capable. We expect to see results in keeping with the history of HSC music students at Northholm as these students have already performed commendably at Music Showcase and the International Music Day in the city. We look forward to them presenting their full repertoire at the HSC Recital Night in August, just before their practical HSC examinations in September.



JUNIOR SCHOOL BAND AND STRING PROGRAMS

As part of our ongoing development of the Music Program the Music Department restructured the Junior School Band and String Programs for 2014. Previously students learnt violin in Years Three and Four and then progressed to a concert band instrument for Years Five and Six. Based on a Musical Instrument Timbre Preference Test students will now have the opportunity to commence learning a concert band instrument earlier. This change to our program is based on recent research that demonstrates the optimal age for students to begin learning a Band instrument (for example flute, saxophone, trumpet etc) is around the age of eight years old.

All students in the Junior School receive group lessons during class time with a specialist String, Flute, Reed, Brass or Percussion Teacher. They also learn valuable ensemble skills by participating in a class Band or String Ensemble. In 2015 this program will be expanded to include our Kindergarten-Year Two students. These young learners will be given a range of musical activities, including singing, moving and playing.



P&C NEWS

The Northholm Association (P&C) has donated a number of items to the school this year including the curtains, projector and screen in the Lincoln Centre, additional tools for the Design and Technology Department, initial funding for the high speed broadband connection for the school and a trailer for transporting livestock. Our main fundraising project for 2014 is the building of a COLA over the basketball court next to the bus bay. An amount of \$59,000 is being raised by the Northholm Association to pay for this project. We hope to have the funds raised by the end of the year and the students will have a shaded/covered area to wait for the buses.

To achieve the fundraising necessary for the Association to make these donations, a tremendous amount of work is undertaken by our Fundraising Committee, Canteen volunteers and the Second-Hand Uniform Shop.

Fundraising activities this year have included the phone collection, Back to School BBQ, Mother's Day Breakfast and Mother's Day Stall, Entertainment Books and the chocolate drive, just to name a few.

Our Social Committee co-ordinates a range of activities for all years with the help of the class parents, starting with the First Morning of School Morning Tea and others such as a visit by Years Five and Six families to Boing Central, various dinners and a movie night for all years. These events build and enhance relationships between students and their families. Try and come along to at least one if you can!

The Northholm Association is currently busy creating a Northholm Business Directory and preparing for its first "Car Boot Sale". I would like to ask everyone in the Northholm community to support both of these activities as the money raised benefits all the students at Northholm.

Bruce Parker
President

GORDON DOYLE

There are times in the life of a school that deserve special mention. Gordon Doyle's resignation from Northholm at the end of Term Two this year, after 31 years of loyal and committed service, is one of those times.

Few of us will ever be able to claim such an achievement. The general pattern of employment in contemporary times is for people to move from position to position. While arguably this movement is often due to family commitments or extenuating circumstances, many times it is due to our own innate restlessness or ambition.

It is humbling then to reflect on Gordon's service record, on the memories he has forged and the lives he has influenced. Whether in his role as a teacher or later a Careers' Adviser, Gordon has played the role of a 'significant other' to many students. He has always been a valued member of staff and there can be no doubt that he has made a wonderful contribution to the lives of many students and the history of the School.

While I am challenged by the task of replacing such an experienced Careers Adviser and well-regarded member of the Northholm Community, I recognise that Gordon's future plans provide a wonderful opportunity for him to further develop his professional skills in 'other spaces'.

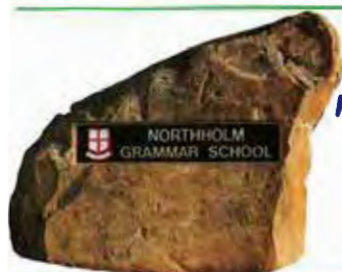


Gordon will be missed by the Northholm Community, particularly the many students he has assisted over the years. I wish him well in his future endeavours, knowing that for him the decision to resign is the embodiment of the school motto 'Be Traist'.

Lynne Guthridge
Principal

ARCHIVES

Back in September 1990 the Arcadian's front page heralded the fact that Gordon Doyle was the last of the first set of teachers left at Northholm since its beginnings in 1983. It seems fitting with Gordon's resignation this year to feature this front cover in the Archives section. Again, we wish Gordon the very best for his future endeavours.



The Arcadian

SEPTEMBER 1990

Issue No. 3

THE LAST OF THE FIRST



Following the departure of Mrs. Pattison this year, Gordon Doyle remains the only foundation member of the School community still at Northholm.

Gordon has a varied and interesting educational and professional background. After secondary education at Newington College, he studied at Port Moresby Teachers' College and worked for three years in primary schools in New Ireland, PNG. He returned to Australia to complete a Bachelor's degree at the University of New England whilst working at The Armidale School and PLC, Armidale. A Diploma in Education followed at Sydney University after which the call of the Pacific drew Gordon Doyle back to Papua New Guinea, to the University of Technology, Lae. Later, he returned to UNE to undertake post-graduate work in curriculum studies whilst lecturing at the then Armidale CAE. Gordon's work at Northholm has enabled him to embrace his interests in Pacific and Asian cultures. Alongside his English teaching, he introduced the Asian Studies course and initiated the now regular Asian Field Study tours to Ubud, Bali and,

this year, his knowledge of PNG culture added a richness to the Kokoda Trail expedition.

"Mr. D", as he is known by many students, epitomises Northholm's approach to education. He abhors mediocrity in academic effort, yet takes a deep and personal interest in the progress of individuals, an interest which provides many former Northholm studies with exceptional 'after-sales service!' His outside interests reflect his faith and his concern for the well-being of others. He is a member of the state committee of Australian Freedom from Hunger and is on the management committee of the Healing Ministry based at St. Andrew's Cathedral, where he is a regular worshipper. He enjoys the outdoors, in particular the national park adjacent to his home on the central coast, where he likes to retreat with his marking!

Despite the frustrations which we all experience, Gordon Doyle identifies strongly with Northholm's vision, which, after all, is not really surprising. He has been living with it since the School's very first day in February 1983.

Rebecca Dawborn (Year 12, 2008) married Luke Isaacson on May 10, 2014. Luke is a youth pastor in Omaha, Nebraska. Rebecca and Luke will be living in Australia while her green card is being processed, but are hoping to set up house in America in early 2015.



Rebecca with her two brothers: Benjamin (Year 12, 2011) and Timothy (Year 12, 2005).



Congratulations to John Doutry, pictured here in a photograph sent by the CEO of Basair College of Aviation along with this note - "John is doing extremely well. He has moved from the GFPT Unit of Study into the Private Pilot Licence Unit of Study. The photograph was taken following John's first solo flight."

5 YEAR REUNION - CLASS OF 2008



STAFF NEWS

BABY NEWS:

Congratulations to five Northholm families who welcomed new babies into their family.



Sharon Coutts with Emerson Grace



Miguel Grifa's daughter, Gabriela



Tanya Choucair with Rafi Jake Mather



The Johnston Twins



Eleni Chaillinor and Baby Abigail Kathleen

A SPORTING COUPLE:

Margaret and Craig Dodd are to be congratulated on their success with their hobby and passion outside of Northholm – Kayaking. Last year both were successful in the Veteran's Kayak Marathon with Marg winning the State 15km Women's Veteran 55 TK1 singles event and Craig the National 20km Men's Veteran 55 Long Recreational event. Craig was successful this year when he won at the National Marathon Championships.



ROAD SAFETY

In 1990, Northholm was one of three independent schools in NSW taking part in a pilot Driver Induction Program sponsored by Hornsby/Kuring-Gai Police, the RTA and the Australian Transport Safety Bureau, Canberra.

Mrs Sonja Bryson (Laboratory Manager, Science Department) was on the initial steering committee in 1990 and so it was fitting that she accept, on behalf of the school, an award from Road Safety Education Limited in recognition of the school's commitment to youth road safety education through the RYDA Program late last year.

"I felt privileged to be part of the initial steering committee and proud to see the progression of the RYDA – U Turn the Wheel Program go to all States of Australia and then to New Zealand. It was really exciting for me, to see something the school had developed, move to a National Program" recalls Sonja who attended the Award Lunch on 4 December 2013 and met up with people she had not seen for 12 years.

Northholm Grammar School still offers students the opportunity to attend this course in school time coinciding with the time they are on their Learners Licence.



HOUSE PRIDE



As part of the 30th Anniversary year celebrations held last year, each of the four Houses, Capell, Lincoln, Patteson and Rowland designed crests to represent their House. This project was undertaken with considerable enthusiasm by students in each House who first determined what would best represent the 'spirit' of their House.

After this was decided students submitted a range of designs that they believed represented that spirit. The final selections for each crest were then refined by the School's Advertising Agency, SALT Advertising

Group. Once the final designs were approved, two Senior students - Nathan Albertini and Mark Ollis (Year Twelve, 2013) - assisted our Marketing Manager, Susan Wright, with the development of House banners that would hang either side of the stage in the Lincoln Centre.

The banners were first hung at the end of 2013 as part of the upgrade to the Lincoln Centre. This upgrade including a new data projector, drop down screen, stage curtains, fittings and electrical work was funded through the generosity of the Northholm Association at a cost of \$54,000.

FAREWELL



It was with considerable sadness that we farewelled Graeme Phillips at the end of 2013. Graeme left Northholm to take up the position of Deputy Principal at Norwest Christian College.

In his fourteen years as part of the Northholm Community Graeme loyally supported two Principals giving both practical support and wise counsel. As a teacher and a member of the Senior Executive team Graeme inspired young minds to a love of learning and academic excellence. He also encouraged youthful endeavour through participation in leadership initiatives such as 'Max Potential' and was unfailing in his promotion sporting greatness on anything that even mildly resembled a cricket pitch.

As a devout Christian Graeme always lives his faith through his actions and his words. Few of the many people whose lives Graeme touched, will forget his mastery of the rhetoric necessary to make everyone feel welcome at any event no matter whether it was the Weekly Chapel Service, the Year Twelve Formal or most notably perhaps, Grandparents

Day. In each of these roles and many others, Graeme has been respected for his compassion and warmth towards others. He has also been valued for his interest in each person as an individual and for his generosity to all. I have no doubt that Graeme will demonstrate these same qualities in his new role along with his passions for teaching (particularly Mathematics) and his well-known love of cricket and his family.

On behalf of the Northholm Community I thank Graeme sincerely for his contribution over so many years.

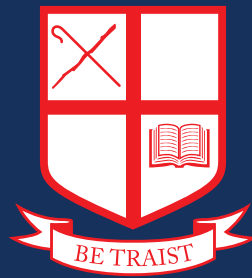
Lynne Guthridge
Principal



SAM DESSEN

School Captain and Dux of the School 2013: Special congratulations are due to Sam Dessen who has been awarded a highly prized Vice Chancellor's Leadership Scholarship for study at the University of Western Sydney. Of the many benefits this Scholarship offers, one is that Sam will be part of the Aspire Future Leaders Program and another is that he will be an inaugural member of The Academy at the University of Western Sydney. The Academy is described as "an exciting new initiative aimed at re-shaping the concept of leadership and equipping a new generation of leaders for future challenges. The program brings together students from different disciplinary backgrounds to undertake a number of specifically designed academic subjects, professional development workshops and a range of engagement and volunteering opportunities." As a result of his efforts, commitment and initiative, Sam begins this new stage of his life in an exceptional way and deserves our heartfelt congratulations.

NORTHHOLM
GRAMMAR SCHOOL



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

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