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Anne White - Editor/Typesetting
Tim Hughes, Anne White - Editorial
James White - School Photographer
Shout Graphics - Printer
Contributions for inclusion, enquiries or letters to the editor are welcome.
Anne White
The Armidale School,
Locked Bag 3003,
Ardimale NSW 2350

Tel (02) 6776 5851
binghi@as.edu.au
www.as.edu.au

Cover: From the production of Les Miserables: both Connor Ward-Kenway and Matilda Hughes as the innkeeper Thenardier and his wife captured the comic essence of their roles to perfection.

from the Headmaster
"Changes to senior leadership roles reflect our direction and commitment to key priorities"

The strategic planning process is always an exciting time for any school. The opportunity to research stakeholder views and then gather teams who are keen to envision the future and set direction toward new aspirations is a highly energising experience. Maintaining that energy and continuing to build momentum after the strategic plan has been bedded down is often far more difficult though and tales of strategic plans gathering dust on shelves are common.

In our efforts to further develop the TAS experience beyond the classroom, our former Sportsmaster, Jason Lincoln, has been appointed Director of Co-curricular Activities. This gives Jason responsibility for co-ordinating the experiences of our students in the creative and performing arts, sport, debating and public speaking, clubs and all inter-house competition. This position reflects our goal to provide balance, breadth and engagement in a rich school and developments under Jason's leadership have us tightly aligned with this vision.

The goal of continued development of academic culture and individual academic focus has been supported in younger years with the appointment of Veronica Waters as Curriculum Co-ordinator in Middle School and Cindy Barnsley as Curriculum Co-ordinator in Middle School. These new positions reflect the understanding that academic success at the HSC relies on a culture of effort and achievement being embedded much earlier and this is the single ambition of our new curriculum co-ordinators.

Finally, Cressida Mort has expanded her position with the TAS Foundation to become Director of Development and Marketing, giving her responsibility for oversight of not only fundraising for the Foundation, but all marketing and communication matters. This has been a natural step for Cressida and follows her successful leadership of our stakeholder survey and the 'look and feel' of our publications. Her latest project, the rejuvenation of the TAS website, is well underway and I have every confidence that it will be very well received.

I am pleased to report that the TAS Vision 2025, now in its second year, is thus far maintaining a healthy vitality through the good work of those leading its key components. Changes made this year to several senior leadership roles are helping to drive that and they reflect our direction and the commitment to key priorities.

To support our commitment to student wellbeing, Barney Buntine has taken up the newly created position of Director of Pastoral Care and he has brought a clear vision to it. The purpose of this new leadership position is to put in place structures and processes that purposefully promote the wellbeing of our whole community. Most significant in this is the integration of elements of positive psychology into all that we do. This involves the conscious and planned fostering of positive emotion, engagement and meaning in life, and the valuing of accomplishment.

Our relatively small size, location outside the city and the breadth of the TAS experience, including our adventure, service and co-curricular programs, make us ideally suited to this approach to wellbeing.

Not all schools have such an abundance of staff so willing to take on additional responsibilities and show such clear and defined leadership. I believe that we are fortunate to be in such a position and I look forward to the developments to come.

Murray Guest
Academic Focus - effort and engagement

THE SCHOOL’S BIRTHDAY

From cadets and surf lifesaving to kayaking and the Rural Fire Service, The Armidale School’s long tradition of outdoor education was commemorated at the school's Founders Day.

The Activities program at TAS began in 1897 with the establishment of the school cadet unit – now the second oldest in Australia. Surf Lifesaving was introduced when the school introduced the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme in 1967; bush fire brigade, and other outdoor programs including Pioneers, followed.

Senior Prefect Darcy James (seen left) recounted tales about his own gorge trek last year to qualify for his Gold Duke of Edinburgh award.

“I regard it as one of the most challenging things I have done. I look back on it with my mates and every time we share a laugh about Mr Derrin’s hallucinations, our soupy pancakes, and even the possum that ate our flour. Without that trek, and without that experience, I wouldn’t be able to talk about the fun I had, about our less than average navigation, about how far we trekked, or even about how good you feel when it’s over,” Darcy said.

The freedom to choose what you want to do is something that makes this program a continual success. If you wanted to, you could do a bike ride as your expedition, or a kayak, or even climb Mt Kosciusko. The joy of doing the Duke of Edinburgh Award is that it is all about you, and for that reason, it is entirely suited to your preferences, to your dislikes, and to your aspirations.”

SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING CHALLENGE

Teamwork and logic combined to help Year 10 TAS students win the Highlands Science and Engineering Challenge against schools from across the region.

Activities included making a model hovercraft that had to be fast and manoeuvrable, an ecologically sound model house, and an accurate and powerful catapult. Another involved the construction of a bridge that was as light as possible but could withstand as much weight as possible.

Science teacher Tim Wheaton said the Challenge was a great opportunity for students to test their skills and learn new ones.

“The day gives our more able students a look into an interesting, challenging and rewarding career that it is otherwise difficult to direct students into,” he said.

Amongst the students who won the Challenge were (standing) Eric Chung, Michael Klepeig, William Raleigh, Hadrian Wright, Lachlan Apps, Felix Gifford, Robert Butcher, Samuel Redhead, Duncan Quast, Nicholas Finney, Tim Mailler, William Waterson, Liam Kennedy, Ali Ahsan, Joshua Stevenson, Bradley Doak, (front) KB Ferguson, Charlie Bailey, Liam Cooper, James Gilson and David Williams
What makes people ‘laugh out loud’ should be their own condition and actions, according to Darcy James, who was named as the Regional Lions Youth of the Year quest winner at a function at Inverell.

Darcy represented the Armidale Dumaresq Lions Club in the regional level of the quest, and took out both the public speaking section and the overall judging, ahead of three other contestants.

The judges interviewed each candidate on their academic, cultural, sporting and community achievements for 80 per cent of the overall marks.

Darcy then went on to the District final (the highest level before the State finals) where he acquitted himself exceptionally well winning the public speaking section but not the overall title.

Mixing with other scientific minds at a national youth forum has made Cameron O’Keefe, Year 12, all the more determined to have a career in medicine. Cameron gained an insight into the world of biomedicine at the National Youth Science Forum held in Perth as he visited several biomedical research laboratories and medical schools, including the University of Western Australia’s Clinical Training and Evaluation Centre (CTEC), a leading medical simulation training centre.

There, the group performed a simulated appendectomy on a prosthetic patient, with Cameron winning a certificate and mug for having ‘the most refined surgical skills’.

“Overall it was just an amazing experience, and the only real way I have been able to gain some practical reassurance that medicine really is a career I want to pursue after Year 12 – particularly as a heart surgeon,” he said.

Classmate Alex Wright attended the other national forum, in Canberra, which he said inspired him to appreciate “the beauty and complexity of biology”.

The forums are co-ordinated by Rotary International, through its 23 districts across the country. Above Alex Wright and Cameron O’Keefe are seen with Tony Marjoram

“It didn’t just cover the methodology of science, but how to be a good scientist, including managing ethics within the environment of scientific research,” Alex said.

“It was also a wonderful opportunity to be with like-minded people who also had a diversity of interests beyond science in areas like languages and music.”

Jack Tearle, Year 12, said witnessing the upheaval in the Federal leadership on Friday afternoon, March 22, just added to the excitement of attending the 18th National Schools Constitutional Convention. Jack was one of 124 students from across Australia selected to attend the convention, which gives senior students the chance to better understand the Constitution and the operation of government.

“The political hype in Canberra was an incomparable bonus to the trip. We watched on as the tensions heightened and while were all slightly disappointed as the dissenters stepped down one by one, the experience was still exhilarating,” he said.

Delegates visited both houses of parliament and the National Archives, where they were given the rare privilege of viewing the original constitutional document. Jack, who wants to pursue a career in law or politics, also met the Governor General Quentin Bryce, and High Court judge, Justice Stephen Gageler.

The forums are co-ordinated by Rotary International, through its 23 districts across the country. Above Alex Wright and Cameron O’Keefe are seen with Tony Marjoram

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Jack Tearle, constitutional convention delegate

SCIENTIFIC INSIGHT

POLITICAL STORM
"We competed in four competitions within a twelve day period to bag a combined total of eight medals."  Nick Allen

The National Kayaking titles were held this year at Lake Eildon in Victoria. TAS was represented by four kayakers; Tiernan May, Nick Allen, Alex Crees and David Williams. The competition yielded great results medal wise but was also a great learning curve for all paddlers with a massive improvement and skill development across the board in every class and event.

A standout moment during the competition was David William’s Bronze medal in the Downriver K1. This was a huge achievement for his first nationals and a great reward for all the hard work he put into his training.

SCHOLARSHIP

Congratulations to Tiernan May who has received an Australian Institute of Personal Trainers and NIAS (Northern Inland Academy of Sport) scholarship to cover the costs of a Certificate IV in Fitness.

The $5000 will enable him to take classes in Tamworth twice a week with the Institute of Personal Trainers.

NATIONALS IN ATHLETICS

Huw Knox had an outstanding season of athletics in 2012 which included:
- NSW Junior Championships: 1st u/15 400m, 1st u/15 800m.
- Australian Junior Championships: 3rd u/15 400m, 2nd u/15 800m.
- GPS: 1st u/14 800m, 1st u/14 1500, 2nd u/14 400.
- CIS: 3rd u/14 200m, 1st u/14 400m (new record, 52.50)
- NSW All Schools: 1st u/14 800m.
- Australian All Schools: 2nd u/15 800m.

In term 1, 2013 Huw has competed at the NSW Junior Championships in February where he placed 2nd in the 800m. He then contested the Australian Junior Championships in Perth where he finished 10th, again in the 800m.

At the start of next term Huw competes in the 400 metres at GPS having won the event at the pre GPS meet.
It was a tremendous day at the Sydney International Regatta Centre when TAS fielded two crews in the 116th AAGPS Head of the River following our debut appearance last year.

This year was a step up for TAS, competing in the First IV and Second IV events.

Race day started with a talk from the Patrons of TAS Rowing, Old Boys John Childs and Bob Crossman, who last year donated a training eight to the school, and an inspiring letter of good wishes from the parents of Luke Brown, after whom our racing ‘four’ is named.

Calm waters and sunny weather made for ideal racing conditions. The TAS 2nd IV, Charlie Scott, Ben Broster, Angus Clift, Lachlan McCormick and cox Sam Carmichael came seventh of eight schools, in a time of 7:34:46, more than half a minute ahead of the next team that finished.

The First IV race was an historic one for the GPS association, being the first time all nine NSW GPS schools competed alongside each other in an event at the Head of the River.

The TAS crew of Tiernan May, Tom Gordon, Harry Lloyd, Ben Mulligan and cox Sam Jackson-Bolton (seen below with Murray Guest and coach Will Crawford) maintained a strong pace to finish in 7:18:37 and crossed the line in seventh place.

“The boys dug deep for a great result. If we are to measure our success in terms of our relative experience, the boys exceeded all expectations. For a diverse group of tennis players, rugby players, and kayakers to pull together to create two competitive crews is a great achievement.

Our results certainly dispelled any doubts as to whether we can be competitive at the Head of the River and it is hoped that we can further build on rowing at TAS,” said coach of the teams, Will Caldwell.

Perhaps the last words should go to Peter and Fayette Brown whose son Luke lost his battle with cancer at the end of Year 12.

“As was the case of Luke’s battle, not all races can be won, but what is important is how that race is run.”
TYRRELL WINS WAR CRY COMPETITION

MIDDLE & SENIOR SWIMMING CHAMPIONS

The usually peaceful TAS pool was transformed into a loud, testosterone filled cauldron.

I am confident in saying that all war cry aficionados there that evening would agree that the 2013 competition set a new benchmark for mass participation, originality and entertainment. Particular congratulations go to Tyrrell House who rebounded from their disappointment in 2012 to win the event and each of the day houses who came together so well with only limited rehearsal time (the Thor theme from Green House was a particular favourite).

New benchmarks for participation were set in the pool too as 2013 saw the highest number of entries in the history of the competition. For the first time, limits had to be put on numbers from each House for the 200m events and this, I think, is a measure of the spirit that our Houses brought to the carnival.

Congratulations to our winners, all those who lifted themselves beyond their expectations and, especially, to Jay Kennedy who broke no less than five records.

Murray Guest

Champions
13 years champion: Jack Kaynes
14 years champion: Liam Donaldson
15 years champion: Harry Wright
16 years champion: William Raleigh
17 years champion: Jay Kennedy
18 and over champion: Angus Brunsdon

Sub-junior champion: Jack Kaynes
Junior champion: Harry Wright
Senior champion: Jay Kennedy

New Records for 2013
Jay Kennedy 17 years 200m freestyle 2:01:97 (2:04:54, Jay Kennedy, 2012)
Jay Kennedy 17 years 50m backstroke 30:65 (30:66, Timothy Pearson, 2010)
Jay Kennedy 17 years 50m butterfly 29:14 (29:17, Timothy Pearson, 2010)
Jay Kennedy 17 years 100m freestyle 56:36 (58:17, Timothy Pearson, 2010)

House Trophies
‘Tooth-n-Nail’ relay trophy won by Broughton
Champion House trophy won by Broughton 14,779; followed by Tyrrell 12, 368; Ross 10,641; Abbott 9,661; Green 7,860; Croft 6,870

JAY KENNEDY BREAKS FIVE RECORDS

Jay Kennedy proved that his talent in the pool transferred to the saltwater in his first ever open water swim at Coffs Harbour, coming fifth from 230 competitors. Finishing the 2km event in a time of 27:09, he was the only male in the first 15 home that didn’t live on the coast, and said he was happy with his efforts. Jay was one of 47 boys and four staff from TAS who took part in the Coffs Harbour Ocean Swims, with 30 completing the 2km event – just under a fifth of the total entries.
The TAS 1st XI finished their season with a win in the final of the TOAD Cup. This is a twenty 20 competition between TAS, O’Connor Catholic College, Armidale High and Duval High. TAS is to be congratulated on this win and in particular Will Archer, who was named Golden Toad (man of the match) after his six wicket haul. The Headmaster is seen above receiving the unique trophy from the Captain of Cricket, Sam Hutton.

The TOAD CUP

TAS carried a high profile into the 2013 Campus City Canter with over 100 of our students participating in the 4.5km event. The best of our runners featured strongly in the overall results and we congratulate Will Claridge (10th), Sam Johnston (5th) and Cameron Shannon (4th) on their success. Special congratulations to Joe Makeham (seen below) who won the event for the third consecutive year, in a time of 15 minutes and 3 seconds. The combined performance of these boys resulted in TAS winning the schools’ competition.

Photos courtesy of The Armidale Express

ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIPS

A perfect autumn day gave parents and competitors alike the opportunity to enjoy a fantastic day of field and track events. Congratulations to Tyrrell House who were on a roll after winning the swimming championships. They were the winners of the Champion House (the House which scored the most number of points per student enrolled in that House) while Broughton won the Arcdale Cup for the total athletics championships points.

The Age Champions were:

12 years Charlie Radford (Braund Cup)
13 years Lachlan Knowles (AC Hall Cup)
14 years Percy Duncan (Sandilands Cup)
15 years Huw Knox (U15 Championship Cup)
16 years Jonathon Hunt (Belfield Cup)

17 years Ben Broster (RJ Magoffin Cup)
Open Champion Tom Scotton (Robert Horner Fletcher Cup) and
Open Hurdles (Warren Pengilley Cup)
Open 1500 metres Jackson Gilbey (Swinton Cup)
3000 metres Joe Makeham (JC Bucknell Trophy)

Well done to all participants on a great display of camaraderie and sportsmanship.
Leadership, Service & Adventure

ROUND SQUARE EXCHANGE

Round Square is a global educational organisation that embraces the positive impact of a quality international exchange program between its 130 member schools.

Boys benefit from Gordonstoun exchange

Year 10 boys Wayne ‘Buddy’ Mumbulla and Max Alcorn, said their term at Gordonstoun School in Scotland had opened their eyes to a wider world of opportunity.

The pair spent Term 1 at the famous school as part of the exchange program offered by Round Square, the association of some 130 international schools which is named after the unique doughnut-shaped, 17th century stone building originally constructed as stables on the estate that now forms the school.

“It’s a pretty awesome building. There’s a legend that it was designed that way so the devil couldn’t get in,” said Buddy, who saw snow for the first time while he was there.

The boys said learning to sail on small cutters on Lossiemouth and meeting students from all over the world were major highlights.

Some of the differences were that Gordonstoun is co-ed and the classes are smaller. But the biggest one was being able to meet so many students from all over the world, heaps from Russia and Germany, and actually not that many from Scotland,” Max said. Three generations of the Royal family attended Gordonstoun, including Zara Phillips, who visited her old school while the boys were there.

“It certainly made us more aware of the wider world, and that Australia isn’t the centre of the earth,” Max said.

Buddy’s visit was made possible by the Schwinghammer Foundation and the TAS Indigenous Student Support Fund.

Leadership, Learning, Lifelong Skills

Leadership skills can be learnt the hard way and for some 50 TAS boys this was certainly the case. While 250mm of rain fell around them they were involved in problem solving, public speaking, navigation, communication and learning how to take responsibility for others.

Held over five days, the course was run by the TAS Cadet Unit for boys who volunteered to gain important leadership skills. Scenarios were designed to be realistic in order to test their logic, leadership and resourcefulness. In one of the junior scenarios cadets had to boil a billy in a swamp, by first building a platform and keeping their fuel dry – a challenge in the wet conditions. Another mock scenario had them working out how to retrieve a bogged ute from a toxic swamp.

Headmaster Mr Murray Guest said while leadership was valued and celebrated at every level of education, the deliberate development of leadership skills is less common.

“What makes our cadet leadership training special is that it is linked to real responsibility for the activities and wellbeing of others”

“Our cadet leaders are not figureheads. They serve and take responsibility for the cadets they are placed in charge of and their performance is actively assessed, just as it will be in later life. Ten inches of rain at Jeogla Station through Friday night may have dampened bodies, but spirits remained high and the determination of these young men to push on with their training was clearly quite inspiring.”
The haunting tale of idealism, redemption and loss in revolutionary France may have been one of the hottest films of the year, but it also proved to be a triumph for a talented group of Armidale students who brought the musical to life on the stage of the Hoskins Centre.

Beginning in 1815 and culminating in the 1832 June Rebellion in Paris, the production – a condensed version of the musical adaptation of Victor Hugo’s novel - follows the lives of several characters, focusing on the struggles of ex-convict Jean Valjean and his experience of redemption.

“It is a very moving story that is not surprisingly a favourite of many people,” director Ms Emma Buzo said.

“The tragedy and beauty of the sacrifice the young revolutionaries make for what they believe in resonates with this cast, who have developed a strong sense of empathy while gaining a lesson in political and social history. But the over-riding message is how a kind deed given by someone, can effect your whole life.”

Above left to right:  Harrison Abey defined the role of Javert with great drama and musicality. Tom Henderson was a superb Jean Valjean - with a strong voice he was able to imbue the role with great theatricality. Meg Fairbairn as Cosette was vocally exquisite and Duncan Carmichael as Marius was excellent. Jess Wright made ‘the flowers grow’ with a very polished performance as Eponine - a lovely voice and great stage presence.

Above left to right: Congratulations to those who manned the barricades, this was undoubtedly the dramatic highlight and it was wonderfully well portrayed. Mollie Galvin as Fantine had an amazingly mature voice and was a pleasure to listen to. The role of Gavroche was shared by Albie Woodhouse and Nicholas Moar (seen above centre on the shoulders of Duncan Carmichael) and both displayed dramatic ability well beyond their years.
Emma,
I must write immediately to tell you how much I enjoyed last night’s production of Les Miserables. Congratulations many times over. I will not go into the details about the merits of the production — there are so many, it would take too long. But let me say that you assembled a large number of extremely talented young people, you gave them a well controlled and expertly managed environment in which to perform, you used your own skills to extract the best results from them and consequently took them to a level of performance that was a triumph for them and a wonderfully satisfying experience for an audience.

The cast gave their all to the performance. Your preparation gave them the confidence to push their talents to the limit and by so doing grow in stature and self-confidence. Every boy in the audience must have been jealous of those performing on the stage, and wishing he were up there too. None of this would have been possible without your skills and your talent.

Thank you for spending so much time with me — I know you must have had a zillion other things to do. I enjoyed catching up with you. Thank you again Emma — it was a magnificent night.

Jim Graham, former TAS teacher and producer of musicals for over forty years

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The color of the world
Is changing
Day by day...
Red - the blood of angry men!
Black - the dark of ages past!
Red - a world about to dawn!
Black - the night that ends at last!

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Accolades for the Barricades...

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Jim Graham, former TAS teacher and producer of musicals for over forty years

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Last night we were all left with the feeling that we had shared something very special.

Had you been there tonight
You might also have known
How the world may be changed
In just one burst of light!

---

Murray Guest, TAS Headmaster

My simple critic’s report is that I thought it was the single best school production I have ever seen. It seems that there is a deep pool of musical and dramatic talent across TAS, NEGS and PLC at the moment and I congratulate those who worked so hard to bring it out on stage; director Emma Buzo, musical directors Nik Glass and Amy Walsh along with Leanne Roobol and the very talented Warrick Dunham. It really was something to remember!

I would like to thank those who so generously donated their time behind the scenes as well as the brilliant musicians in the orchestra who gave the production such a thrilling edge.

I had the privilege of working with an incredibly skilled and dedicated team whose expertise and positive attitude constantly humbled me. TAS Director of Music Nik Glass and PLC’s Amy Walsh worked tirelessly to bring a very complex and challenging score together. Pat Bradley and former staff member Sarah Watson were instrumental in the creation of the set and Kye Hardingham worked day and night on just about everything else. Luke Polson and his nerves of steel lead the charge with eternally tricky sound equipment. Finally, I would like to thank technical genius Anthony Carlon who worked for months not only on the production’s stunning lighting design but to keep all manner of wheels turning at the Hoskins Centre. He is truly an extraordinary talent and we are very lucky to have him at our school.

Emma Buzo, Director

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Andrew Knight played the role of the student leader - Enjolras
Wellbeing - forging bonds

Teenagers and their parents often share a communication divide

A group of Year 11 boys and their mothers came to understand one another a little better at the annual Mother and Son weekend. Held at Mulligan's Hut, Gibraltar Range National Park east of Glen Innes, the boys, their mothers and TAS staff enjoyed each other’s company as they competed in games, conversed over meals, and learnt more about each other’s values and expectations in sessions led by TAS Counsellor Mr Rob Hadfield and TAS Director of Pastoral Care Mr Barney Buntine.

“At sixteen to seventeen, boys are moving out of middle adolescence and wanting to know more about building relationships, so it’s an opportunity to help start a conversation between boys and their mothers at this important transitional stage in their lives,” said Mr Buntine.

For Michael O’Sullivan’ mother Trish, even heavy rain on Saturday night did not dampen the spirits.

“Right from the start when many of the boys were driving there on their Learner permits, it was an opportunity to spend some special time together. We all talked about where we are now, our relationships with each other over the next few years, and covered many of the issues parents and their sons face in today’s world, such as unsupervised parties, driving with young friends, the role of alcohol in their lives and sexual relationships,” she said.

“Many of the questions remained unanswered but opened up conversations with each other.”

A few weeks later the father and son weekend for Year 9 boys provided rich fodder for reinvigorating relationships between boys and their fathers at an important stage in their lives.

School Counsellor Rob Hadfield led some interesting activities for the boys and their fathers to get to know one another better—essentially conversation starters between the ‘old guys’ and the ‘young guys’.

“We covered a lot of territory in our sessions and some good things were opened up in conversation. Laying foundations for the mid-adolescent transition makes this weekend an important event each year,” Mr Hadfield said.

"As parents, we have such a short time with our children in their developing years and the opportunity to deliberately explore and deepen that relationship is to be treasured."

Murray Guest
YEAR 7 DINING IN THE LODGE

The Headmaster and Mrs Guest have spent this term hosting Year 7 students to lunch in the Lodge.

Ten at a time, the boys have been treated to an array of mouth-watering home-made goodies and encouraged to make conversation with their hosts, and each other.

The boys had to RSVP in proper fashion, wear their formal uniform, and over quiches, sandwiches, gourmet sausages and pies, learnt that good manners are essentially about being considerate and polite to other people.

The luncheons reflect the strong focus on wellbeing at TAS.

SISTER KALO - WELCOME TO TAS

TAS welcomed Sister Kalo from St Christopher’s Orphanage, where students from TAS NEGS and PLC last year installed a solar hot water system. At left Sister Kalo is sent talking to Adam Jenkyn and Sam Danke who went on the trip to Fiji in 2012. All students who had been part of the St Christopher’s experience over the past few years caught up with her at a wonderful reunion.

BONDING AT THE BEACH

The annual coast weekend was a very successful one for the TAS boys who were spread up and down the coast.

The weather was mostly kind to our boarders and senior day boys as they enjoyed surfing lessons, go-karting, fishing, body surfing, movies, a bit of golf and simply relaxing with their houses. The Middle School boys may not have been successful in drowning all their staff, but their attempts showed good spirit and highlighted the camaraderie that is the central aim of the weekend.

This time away, just two weeks into the school year, is important in establishing positive and supportive relationships within and between year groups.
VISITING TEZUKAYAMA IN JAPAN

The link between TAS in Armidale, Australia and Tezukayama in Osaka, Japan, was strengthened during a cross-cultural visit during the December holidays. During their eight-day visit the TAS students were billeted with host families. While some spoke very little English, they accompanied their young guests on various adventures including visits to Osaka Castle, Kyoto Studio Park, Kayakuan Aquarium, Universal Studios, a baseball game, Kobe Maritime Museum and Kawasaki World, as well as participating in a range of shared classroom activities. The visitors also took in impressive world heritage cultural sites at Kyoto including the Kiyomizudera (Pure Water Temple).

"Without exception the boys relished both the school based activities and sight seeing opportunities, and one could see that the Japanese ethos of putting others first definitely forged its way into the way our boys interacted with both their peers and the locals they encountered," said teacher Mr Alex Portell. "It was truly impressive to witness the enthusiasm and heartfelt effort they all showed in engaging with the Tezukayama community and the activities they experienced. The cultural differences they overcame and embraced and the new friends they made are sure to be engrained in their memories forever."

SWIMMERS DIVE INTO SUCCESS

The Armidale School Junior School students thoroughly enjoyed their annual swimming carnival earlier this month, where records were broken and participation was king.

The large number of those who entered the 100m freestyle, and 100m and 200m individual medley events was outstanding. Tom Ball broke two records on the day, both set by Nicholas Moar in 2007. The 7 year boys 50m backstroke in a time of 1.08.50, nine seconds faster than the previous record. Tom also took more than nine seconds off the time for the 7 year boys 25m butterfly, swimming 34.69 sec. Nicholas O'Neil matched the record for the 10 year boys 25m butterfly in 27.32 seconds. It was not just the boys breaking the record books; in the 7 year girls, Erinn Alford set a new record for the 25m butterfly, in 35.32, breaking Mia Emmanuel's 2008 record of 37.47 seconds.

The McCready Cup for the highest pointscore was awarded to Olivia Strelitz and Angus Alford.

There was plenty of spirit with students decked out in the colour of their sporting houses. Congratulations to Ross House which took the carnival on the day. Congratulations and thanks are also due to the leadership of the Year 5 boys who came up with a new range of novelties that were enjoyed by all.

"A highlight was the fantastic sportsmanship that is evident in our school as witnessed by many incidences of handshaking after races, senior students helping staff and younger students, and general helpfulness," Junior School sport MIC Mrs Kirsty Brunsdon said.

Sub-junior champions: Erinn Alford, Tom Ball; runners up Catherine Alcorn, Banjo Lawrence.
Junior champions: Olivia Strelitz, Hamish Chalmers; runners up Sofia Rutledge, Joseph Anderson.
Senior champions: Nicola Simmons, Angus Alford; runner-up Oscar Henzell.
A beautiful autumn day, the athletes keen, Minimbah was present, the parents massed; a recipe for success. Dillon Hill gave a “Welcome to Country” and the competition was underway. It was again very successful having Minimbah students competing with TAS. The interaction between the two schools contributed greatly to the atmosphere of the day. Well done to all the athletes for their terrific spirit, sportsmanship and friendship towards each other and the Minimbah children.

We had five records broken this year.

The junior girls 400m record was broken by Poppy Broun in a time of 1.34.57secs – the old record was held by Chloe Moore, 1.38.72 (2012). Similarly the junior boys 400m record was broken by Sam Meehan in a time of 1.24.94 – the old record held by Asher Game-Lopata 1.29.40 (2012).

The intermediate high jump was won by Olivia Strelitz in a height of 1.10m – joint record holder with Lucy Fenwicke.

Chloe Lincoln threw the discus 11.2m breaking the old record held by Adelaide Sherriff of 9.78m (2003).

Chloe also broke the high jump record jumping 0.96m – the old record was held by Annabel Paull 0.92.5m (2004).

The Age Champions

4 years girl    Penny Pezzutti
4 years boy   Zac Macfarlane
5 years girl    Angela Cal
5 years boy   Blake Whitehill
6 years girl    Mia Lincoln
6 years boy   Lachlan Litchfield
7 years girl    Erinn Alford
7 years boy    Jasper O’Neil
8 years girl    Ruby Straker
8 years boy    Sam Meehan
9 years girl    Sophia Rutledge
9 years boy    Asher Game-Lopata
10 yrs girl    Olivia Strelitz
10 yrs boy    Nicholas O’Neil
11 yrs girl    Nicola Simmons
11 yrs boy    Oscar Henzell
12 yrs boy    Dillon Hill

Division Champions

Sub-Junior    Mia Lincoln
Sub-Junior    Lachlan Litchfield
Junior    Ruby Straker
Junior    Sam Meehan
Intermediate    Olivia Strelitz
Intermediate    Nicholas O’Neil
Senior    Nicola Simmons
Senior    Dillon Hill

Highest pointscorer    Nicola Simmons
Highest pointscorer    Sam Meehan

House Points

1st; Ross - 2124
2nd; Broughton - 2100
3rd; Green - 1734
ALL WORK AND NO FOWL PLAY MAKES A CHAMPION
- that is, champion chooks

Forget the Easter Bunny, the true champion egg providers this Easter were three prize-winning Light Sussex hens from The Armidale School.

A plan for Royal Easter Show success was literally hatched in the classroom last September, when chicks emerged from eggs incubated under the care of Agriculture students.

Winning a blue ribbon when judged the best presented purebred layers, the 28-week-old point-of-lay pullets then went to work and laid 27 eggs over 10 days, to be named Champion Purebred Layers in the School Egg Laying competition.

The hens were prepared for competition by Year 10 Agriculture students studying a unit on Poultry, and fed a standard commercial poultry feed mix.

“It was a great result for the fledgling poultry program, which started when we bought purebred Light Sussex hens last year,” said TAS Agriculture teacher Mr Mike Ball.

A team of Hy-Line hens came sixth in the commercial layers competition, and a Light Sussex rooster and hen both came third in the Standard Soft Feather Heavy Breed classes.

As a result, the school was also named most successful school exhibitor in the poultry section.

The chooks were not the only livestock to be exhibited by the school. Bulls from the TAS Poll Hereford Stud came away with a first, two thirds and a fourth in the stud cattle competition, with TAS the only school to compete in the Hereford section alongside professional stud producers. Year 11 student Harry Jarratt came third in the junior heifer show paraders’ competition.

TAS FOUNDATION CELEBRATES 30 YEARS

This year the Foundation celebrates it 30th anniversary and the school community celebrated this important milestone at the first fundraising cocktail party. Since it inception 30 years ago, the TAS Foundation has helped shape the magnificent school we have today and is responsible for ensuring its future for generations to come. Lead by a committed community of Old Boys, past parents and staff members the Building Trust and Scholarship Fund were established as the vital fundraising sources for the school to use in its continual development.

The upgrading of our wonderful heritage buildings we are so proud of is ongoing and the demand for scholarships and bursaries from our rural and regional families has never been higher as they battle changing economic conditions and environmental changes.

We are so grateful to all who have given to the Foundation and its causes in the past and encourage others to join. Together we can make such a difference to the futures of our students.

2013 ANNUAL GIVING PROJECTS

Building Trust
Gifts to the TAS Building Trust help ensure TAS can continue to provide state of the art facilities. *

Scholarship Fund
Our Scholarship Fund currently offers financial assistance to more than 75 families through partial scholarships and bursaries. *

A Racing ‘Four’
The growth of rowing as sport means it is now an ideal time for us to have our own boat.

Indigenous Student Support Fund
This fund ensure the school’s indigenous students have access to the breadth of opportunities TAS offers.*

Chapel Organ Repair Fund
Custom built for the Chapel in 1965, the organ is now in need of urgent restoration work. *

Jim Graham Scholarship Fund
The appeal for funds for a scholarship in Jim Graham’s name continues through 2013. *

Sporting Facilities Fund
There is a tremendous scope for the school’s sporting facilities to be further improved to reflect the energy, enthusiasm and passion for this area of school life. *

* indicates Tax Deductibility
**Obituaries**

The School extends its sympathy to the family and friends of those deceased.

**Surgeon Rear-Admiral Brian Tremayne Treloar AO**

Brian Treloar (43-45) came to TAS from Inverell. In his first year at school he won the Montgomery Prize for the Best All-Rounder in his form, and went on to become a school Monitor, a member of the 1st XI and tennis team as well as joint Captain of the School (with Nigel Seton 41-45) in 1945, winning honours in Maths I and II in his Leaving Certificate.

Studying Medicine at the University of Sydney, Brian resided in Wesley College. He married Constance Chappell while still studying, and upon graduation in 1954, joined the Navy, first being posted as a Surgeon Lieutenant to HMAS Penguin (Balmoral) and seeing his first sea service on board HMAS Vengeance; he was posted in 1955 to HMAS Melbourne as part of her commissioning crew, thus beginning a life-long association with the Fleet Air Arm. In 1964, when the collision occurred between HMAS Melbourne and HMAS Voyager in which 82 perished; Brian was on board the Melbourne and a colleague later remarked on how his medical professionalism and leadership during this time had given ‘strength to the medical team throughout that unforgettable night and the days that followed.’ As well as his designated postings, he was at this time also appointed an Honorary Physician to HM Queen Elizabeth, in which capacity he and Connie were several times guests on the Royal Yacht Britannia.

Further promotions to Command Medical Officer roles necessitated moves for Brian, Connie and their four children back to Sydney, then to Melbourne and eventually, in 1982, to Canberra, where, upon promotion to Rear-Admiral, he was for five years Director-General, Naval Health Services. In 1985 he was made an Officer of the Order of Australia (AO) for his distinguished work in this post and for his Chairmanship of the Services Health Policy Committee.

In his retirement Brian was able to enjoy his passions: his family (which had grown to include great-grandchildren), his golf and his involvement with the Fleet Air Arm Association, of which he was at different times Secretary, Treasurer and President. He was also a member of Canberra Legacy and of the Federal Golf Club. On the golf course he made many friends and was well-known for putting at ease the many junior officers who found themselves paired with ‘the Admiral’.

Brian remained keenly interested in TAS and its development: he and Connie chose the school for their elder son Cliff (64-69) and in 1995, half a century after his Leaving year, they returned, having accepted the school’s invitation to review the Passing Out Parade.

His funeral was held on 14 December 2012, at the Anzac Memorial Chapel RMC Duntroon, was conducted with full Naval Honours and attended by his senior leadership group, including the Chief of Navy, Vice-Admiral Griggs. With thanks to Cliff Treloar (64-69) and Rob Busby (63-68)

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**Peter Brownie (Staff 52-68)**

Peter was born in May 1928 in Kiama, NSW. His father died when he was four and his earliest memories were of itinerant poverty during the Great Depression. Perhaps it was this experience of severe financial hardship that influenced Peter’s subsequent view of the economy and how it worked – and why there were times when it failed so to do – known today as “market failure”.

Peter began his schooling at a small primary near Port Macquarie. and showed early promise. There was no High School in Port Macquarie so he went on to Newcastle Boys High as a weekly boarder and later his mother moved there. Peter gained a much-prized Commonwealth Scholarship in 1945 which enabled him to attend Sydney University to study economics, geography, and history. At this time he became a duty master at Knox Grammar School, a post that helped pay for his board and lodgings.

Peter met and fell for a petite, blonde, vivacious New Zealander – Patricia – who was then visiting friends in Sydney while on her way by ship to the UK. The couple married on 19 March 1952.
After graduating from the university Peter had a chance meeting with the son of the Headmaster of The Armidale School – a meeting that led to his being offered a job in Armidale.

Headmaster Gordon Fisher told Peter that, should he accept the position at TAS, there was no way the school could afford to pay adequate salaries but held out the prospect that should Peter accept the post all his sons would have free education. The Brownie family proved to be at a gross disadvantage in the Gordon Fisher incentive scheme; Pete’s marriage to Pat resulted in the birth of four daughters – Anne in May 1953, Jane in March 1955, Helen in April 1958, and Catherine in October 1959.

Peter began teaching economics and geography at TAS in 1952. He and Pat lived at “Wakefield” – an historic residence in the school grounds that then possessed plumbing, wiring, and heating of decidedly pre-historic vintage.

Peter made an immediate impact at TAS. The war years had deprived schools like TAS of quality staff and they were in short supply afterwards. The staffroom was thereby inhabited by an eclectic mix of individuals – newly-arrived war refugees from Europe among them – whose dedication to teaching was universally sincere but who often lacked basic skills in classroom discipline.

Peter was the ultimate professional educator and saw teaching as a noble art. He abhorred the ossified “chalk & talk” method and introduced teaching aids such as slides and overhead projectors, tape recorders, and team teaching. He was never pedantic or didactic. He would tempt classes into debate about economic issues of the day – wool subsidies, marketing schemes, exchange rate controls and the like. Perhaps the pinnacle of his teaching at TAS came in 1959 when one of his students, John Raymond, topped the state in Economics. It showed what could be achieved in a non-selective country school with limited resources.

In 1964 Peter was appointed the inaugural Housemaster of White House that was then the envy of all the other boarding houses with its brand new building. The Brownies moved into an adjacent residence and over the next five years a bond was forged between Peter, Pat, their girls, and White House that reflected how much the boys relished the sense of belonging to an extended family.

Peter went on to serve as the Headmaster of Wolaroi College from 1969 - 1972. He then decided to go back to the classroom as a Lecturer at Sydney Teacher’s College and remained there until his retirement in 1993. Peter passed away after a long illness on 26 February, 2013.

(This eulogy was given by Philip Bailey (51-53) at Peter’s funeral at Lake Macquarie Memorial Park on 1 March this year. A complete version can be found on the TAS website at http://www.as.edu.au/community/Alumni/obituaries.php)

Alistair David Mitchell (96-01)

A school is built on many foundations. Religious, academic, artistic, sporting – there are many avenues from which to brag. However the most significant cultural mortar that binds any school are the characters that wear the uniform.

Alistair David Mitchell (96-01) was a leader, a sportsman, an engineer and a gentleman. He was one such character who defined a school.

Standing upright and robust, just like the thousands of eucalypt that dot the landscape of ‘Strathroy’, the Kingstown property upon which he was raised, “Mitch” was outstanding in the eyes of all who met him and reliable to all in return.

In a world pressured by an unyielding push for what is faster and bigger, he was a necessary constancy. He lived at a measured pace, defined by wisdom, patience, hard work and appreciation. Reality was his master and he stood to remind everyone to get real, not be selfish and live with respect.

Recently, a crowd some 600-strong gathered at ‘Strathroy’ to farewell the man whom many would have regarded as their best mate. This and no better example represents the importance that Mitch held to so many lives. He was my best mate, and also to so many others, and no better example represents the importance that Mitch held to so many lives. He was my best mate, and also to so many others, and in typically Australian poignant simplicity, there can be no greater admiration than to be referred to in such a way.

This quality in him did come at a personal inconvenience however. Never one to relish the limelight, Mitch was a groomsman at every wedding of a friend to which he was invited. He confessed that while the honour was...
pleasing, the nervousness, celebrity and sobriety that came with the role was not!
Born to David and Anne Mitchell on Valentines Day in 1984, his first 12 years were spent growing up on the farm, riding horses and being a nuisance to his elder sister Camilla and intimidating his younger brother Oscar. He arrived at TAS in 1996 to begin year 7 and his personality became respected very quickly within the year group and across the school.
In his valedictory year Mitch was awarded a prefecture and was the captain of Green House. He would also captain the tennis team and the athletics team. He was a charismatic leader who exhibited a strong moral conviction charmed by a unique laconic wit. Like many great leaders of men, he was not instructive, preferring to lead by example and inspiring others to follow.
He would spend the majority of his professional life beyond TAS in the skies above properties in Western Australia where he worked extensively as a helicopter pilot mustering cattle and transporting mining executives. He would return to Kingstown in recent years and establish a contract cotton-picking business with his brother.
While the cancer that he lived with for some two and a half years would deteriorate his physical body, he remained mentally constant. His optimism was unflappable and he would calm everyone’s concerns and sorrows with a classic dry comment.
Our year group has once again, so cruelly suffered a premature loss. Our great fortune is to have lived with him, a man that with regards to characters defining a school, he was certainly one of the best.

(Atribute to Alistair Mitchell was given by Gareth Rickards (96-01) and Casey McDonald at the Memorial Service of Thanksgiving, held at ‘Strathroy’, the Mitchell’s property following Al’s death on 27 February, 2013. This extract was beautifully complied by Gareth Richards and I thank him for it - Ed)

Additional Obituary Notes
Keith Ashley Anderson (29-34) former Abbott House Captain, Prefect, athlete, cricketer and shooter passed away on 1 August, 2012 aged 96. Thanks to his son John (67-74) for passing this onto us.
We have been advised that Christopher Niven Cuthbert (45-50) passed away on 31 January 2013. Christopher was Captain of the School in 1950.
George McDonagh (43-44) a grazier from Gunnedah passed away in February 2013. With thanks to Don McDonagh (46-51) (cousin of George) for this information.
Earlier in the year we received a note to say that Mark Gregory Thomas (81-83) had passed away.
Sadly, Douglas Hunter Moffatt (54-60) of Invergowrie Station passed away peacefully on Friday 12 April after a long battle with cancer. Doug was a good friend sharing a passion for gardens. He will be missed -Ed.

Congratulations to Angus Grigg (87-93) on being a recipient of a Walkley Award - the media world’s equivalent of an Oscar. Angus and fellow The Australian Financial Review journalist Hannah Low won the Walkley for Newspaper Feature Writing for their piece “The Punters Club – tax, totes and the boys from Tassie”. The reports covered how an ex-wife bent on revenge became the catalyst for an Australian Taxation Office investigation into Australia’s most successful gambling syndicate, linked with a secretive international group that gambled more than $2 billion a year. It was the second Walkley for Angus, who in 2011 jointly took out one for business reporting, for a series articles exposing corruption within the NSW Labor government.
On 9 December, 2012 Adam Foot (94-98) and wife Bobbie welcomed Isabelle Claire and Elizabeth Grace Foot to the world. Both babies are doing well. Adam is a very proud father and Ben O’Sullivan (93-98) and Chris Marshall (93-98) are the godfathers.

Blake Lawson Knapman (02-04) from Gunnedah graduated with a Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery from the University of Notre Dame in December 2012. Blake completed his undergraduate degree in Diagnostic Radiography from the University of Sydney in 2007. He commenced his Masters Degree in Reproductive Medicine from the UNSW in January 2012 and will complete this in the later part of this year. He has taken up an internship at Prince of Wales Hospital Randwick and hopes to gain eventual qualification as an obstetrician and gynaecologist.

Joe Radford (03-07) has been invited to present his Masters thesis in Biomedical Engineering at the International Symposium of Biomedical Imagery in San Francisco on April 10. Joe graduated in December, 2012 with a Bachelor of Electrical engineering and a Masters in Biomedical engineering from UNSW (five years of study finally completed!).

Congratulations to Tim Williamson (05-09), 2011 School Dux, who has been offered a place in the highly selective Bachelor of Philosophy (Honours) in Science degree at the Australian National University (ANU). This degree is only open to students achieving an ATAR of over 99.0 and requires a rigorous interview process and support from referees.

Sam Payne (01-06) starred in Opera New England’s production of Mozart’s The Marriage of Figaro at the Hoskins Centre. Sam played the role of Don Curzio with great aplomb. Well done to Opera New England for opening up opportunities for young performers.

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Here and There

Stephen Bennet (77-82) a Construction Manager with Leighton Construction, has been transferred from Abu Dhabi to Manila, Philippines where he is involved in the building of the new ‘Belle Grande’ casino for Melco, a company half owned by James Packer.

Stephen’s son Nicholas started at TAS this year (Year 9) and continues the family tradition in Tyrrell House.

We received a note from Namon Timon Mawason (69-72) who is still living in Lae, PNG.

Tim Hollingworth (88-93) is still living in Biloela but has changed jobs and is now working for Think Water Beyond Irrigation. Fantastic Tim, great website and interesting company –Ed.

Great to hear from Paul Gossip (91-94) who lets us know that after finishing his degree at UNE he moved back to the UK in 1998 and has been working in the banking industry since then. Currently Paul is working in London as an “administer for one of the unfortunate big investment banks”. He is still very active within club rugby and spends his weekends refereeing all over the southeast of England.

Nicholas Marlor (93-01) has moved to Darwin to work in the food and beverage area at the Mantra Pandanas Hotel. He caught up with Chris Warfield (95-00) in Darwin on New Year’s Eve.

Jim Lavis-Cash (99-01) is studying for a Bachelor of Aviation Technology at Central Queensland University. Great news Jim.