



NSW Department of Education and Training

GLOUCESTER HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

CONGRATULATIONS BEAU !



You can't keep Beau quiet!

Beau Hebblewhite won the second round of the Rotary Public Speaking competition held at Club Forster on Monday, 14 November 2011.

Beau became the Gloucester Rotary Club's representative after winning the first round at Gloucester. In this first round Beau was successful against two other Gloucester High students, Rick Williams and Luke Grey. Beau's winning speech was a humorous take on the Rotary four-way test, related to something he knows and loves, Hebby's pies.

In the recent second round Beau competed against students from five other high schools, in front of the three judges from Toastmasters and with an audience comprising Rotarians, family members supporting the students. He excelled at the impromptu question given to each contestant "What global event in the last year has had the greatest effect on you?" Beau spoke about Armistice Day and the remembering of the lives lost during the world wars.

Beau now competes at Walcha on 25 February 2012 in the Semi Finals for the District 9650 competition.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT



I write today with a feeling close to elation at the events of the past week or so. Our annual visit from students from the Intensive Language Unit of Miller High School in Sydney has left all involved with many emotions. Listening to the stories (many of which were close to unbelievable) of the Miller students was a remarkable thing. How lucky we are to live in a country where persecution, torture, kidnapping and state sponsored abuse are not the norm. How resilient, appreciative and warm the Miller kids were, and what a huge thing it must have been to bear their respective souls

to strangers! It never ceases to amaze me how the human heart can accept people for who they really are, irrespective of their background, culture, language or skin colour. And this is exactly what the students of Gloucester High demonstrated last week, forging strong friendships over a matter of days. My thanks are extended to all the families who welcomed students into their homes. A large number of schools across the state have had to forget about such visits, because of an unwillingness of families to take billets. Not so, Gloucester! Such a preparedness to take others in is a real indicator of the calibre of this town and the people in it. Thanks also go to Scott Davis, the organiser of the week's activities, and fellow intrepid bush-walker! And a huge "thank you" must go to Leisa Moar for her hard work over several weeks preparing the fantastic array of interesting dishes for the Multi-Cultural Food Festival held on Friday. What a feast!

In closing, please take the time to fill in and return the survey regarding the School Chaplaincy and Social Worker Program which appears elsewhere in this newsletter. Your input will be very useful to us.

A reminder to any Year 12 students who were awarded goblets that you can bring them in to school so that we can get them engraved. Cheers



MILLER VISIT

For six years, students from Miller Intensive English Centre have been coming to Gloucester High School for four days in term four.

This Visit is long awaited by both groups and has a profound effect on everyone.

I have had a Miller student stay at our house since Year seven, and each year has been equally fun and educational.

This year Tugwa Elnor stayed with me. She is a 16 year old Sudanese Muslim, extremely friendly and generous.

Over the four days, which included walking through Copeland, the Beach themed social, music and drama night and the multicultural festival, Tugwa and I became close, as did the other Miller students and their billets.

When the visit came to an end, everyone was emotional as we waved goodbye. However, we can still look forward to next year when the Miller students come again.

By Lilly Burrows



WHERE WERE YOU AT 11:11 ON 11.11.2011?

The Open Program, as part of www.abc.net.au put out a call for people all over Australia to capture what they were doing at 11.11 am on 11.11.2011.

The Year 11 PDHPE answered the challenge and took a photo to capture this 'once in a century' moment. We had 11 people in the Year 11 class (2 students were away) who had their photo taken at 11:11 am on November 11, 2011. This photo was forwarded to the organisers and was one of 1300 pictures submitted on the day.

Some of the pictures have been collated into a video time capsule, while others have been archived as part of a record of life around Australia on November 11, 2011.



Kloe Hutchen, Beau Hebblewhite, Alex Bratfield, Mikaela White, Brittani MacKenzie, Danielle Butler, Jack Redman, Clair Deen, Sue Keirstead, Rick Williams and Matt Yates

YEAR 10 REMINDERS

Post School Certificate Examination Attendance Requirements

Students are required to attend school for the rest of the term. Learning is ongoing and it is important that students recognize the importance of maintaining a satisfactory attendance record.

Much of the work being carried out in the classroom during this period is project-based, which enables students to continue building both academic and practical skills. There are also several extra-curricular activities offered, providing students an opportunity to explore new skills and experiences (see below for 'HSC: All My Own Work').

Students who have been offered full-time employment for the rest of the term are able to sign out if they are able to provide a confirmation letter from their employer stating the nature of work undertaken and the period in which it will take place.

Year 10 Assembly

Parents and family members are invited to attend the final Year 10 Assembly, which will be held on **Thursday 8 December in the School Hall from 11:15am to 12:50pm**. At this time, students will be awarded their School Certificates (if they have arrived by then) and generally celebrate the conclusion of their studies in the junior school.

At the conclusion of the assembly, there will be some time to mingle. Students are encouraged to bring a **plate or some snacks** to share with their peers (and parents!).

Textbooks

Students will need to return all School Certificate textbooks by the end of term.

Jindabyne 2012

The Year 11 Jindabyne Excursion has been a mainstay at Gloucester High School for many years and 2012 will be no different. Students, both beginners and experienced, will have the opportunity to test their skiing abilities when they hit the slopes at the beginning of Term 3 next year. Due to the obvious expense of this trip, families/carers will have the opportunity to pay for the excursion in scheduled payments. Again, more information will be forthcoming in the near future.

Senior Jersey

I will shortly be making an order for the Year 11 senior jumpers. These will be Canterbury, rugby style jerseys, and will cost \$80.90. To make an order, can return the form to the office along with a \$50 deposit. Orders and deposits must be in by **25 February 2012**. The jumpers will then be ordered from Canterbury.

Year 10 Excursion

An excursion is being planned for **Wednesday 14 December** as a means of celebrating student achievement in the School Certificate. It is anticipated that students will board a bus bound for Newcastle in the morning and return to the high school in the late evening following a day of activities, including laser tag, a movie, some shopping and a meal. Anticipated cost per student will be in the vicinity of \$60 (includes everything BUT lunch and the shopping!)

Mr Davis
Year 10 Advisor

FIRST PRIZE IN OUR REGION

Samantha Harris

Year 10 Photographic and Digital Media Student

Title of work: Walking the Dog

Samantha was given the brief to compose a photograph using multiple images of a person doing something in a given location. The technique for this exercise is called 'Multiples'. Samantha managed to get her younger brother Peter to pose for her in three different locations to construct her highly successful photographs. Samantha had one of her photos selected to be a part of the Manning Express exhibition/competition at the Manning Regional Art Gallery. Samantha's photo won the Year 10 section of the competition. Attached is the winning photo, which looks even better in real life.

Congratulations Samantha on an excellent photo, being selected for the exhibition and ultimately winning first prize in our Region!



NATIONAL CHAPLAINCY AND STUDENT WELFARE PROGRAM

The school has come to the end of its three year Chaplaincy Program, and would like to apply for funding to support the *National Chaplaincy and Student Welfare Program* for 2012 to 2014. Over the past three years, the program has helped to enhance our student wellbeing delivery by providing a person available to students on those days when our School Counsellor is working in other local schools. The Chaplain's role has been to organise or assist with programs such as *Breakfast Club, Knitting Club, Seasons for Growth* and so on, with close liaison with our Student Wellbeing Team. The role of Chaplain is **NOT** to provide religious education at the school. Under the requirements of their employment, Chaplains are **NOT** allowed to coerce students towards a particular view or religious belief or initiate discussions concerning faith. The Chaplain is available if students want to speak with them about matters of **their own** faith, ethics, and general wellbeing. The Chaplain, like anyone working on the school site, is governed by both the strict guidelines of the *National Chaplaincy and Student Welfare Program* and the DEC's *Code of Conduct* requirements. The funding body for the Chaplaincy has been the GHS Parents and Citizens Association, with the Principal being accountable for the workplace requirements of the Chaplain (including role statement, events organisation, demarcation of duties and so on).

As part of the process for renewing our commitment to the National Chaplaincy and Student Welfare Program, we seek the input of the school community into what you see as advantages of such a system and any disadvantages you perceive. Your input will help us greatly with our planning and decision making. Please "have your say" in the space below, and return this sheet to the front office at school before Wednesday 7 December 2011.

Thank you for your assistance.

Have your say ...

Name (optional): _____

CHANGE OF SCHOOL ROUTINE ON FRIDAY 2 DECEMBER 2011

Year 10 Drama will be presenting their end of year production, *House on Fire*, in the school hall on **Friday December 2nd at 1:30pm**. Your child is invited to attend this performance and admission will be by gold coin donation.

House on Fire is a farcical tragi-comedy that exemplifies the burgeoning dramas of high school life. It tells the story of three teen sisters grappling with the difficulties of growing up, and the moments of chaos which arise when we sometimes just can't find a rock to stand on. Playwright Debra Oswald, the writer of television's *Offspring*, has come up with a fantastic script which deals with issues that we all have experienced at some stage in our pubescent years of feeling outcast; the pressures of HSC; and the existential crisis of not knowing where your life is heading.

A realistic take on growing up from Australia's master of teen theatre, *House on Fire* is guaranteed to put a smile on your lips and light a small flame in your heart.



MOVING FORWARD

Gloucester Gallery recently hosted “Falls of the Blanket”, a thought-provoking mixed-media exhibition by talented local artist Kimberley Eveleigh. The works explore history from a range of Aboriginal perspectives, raise awareness about violence committed against Aboriginal peoples in the past, celebrate the diversity and richness of Aboriginal



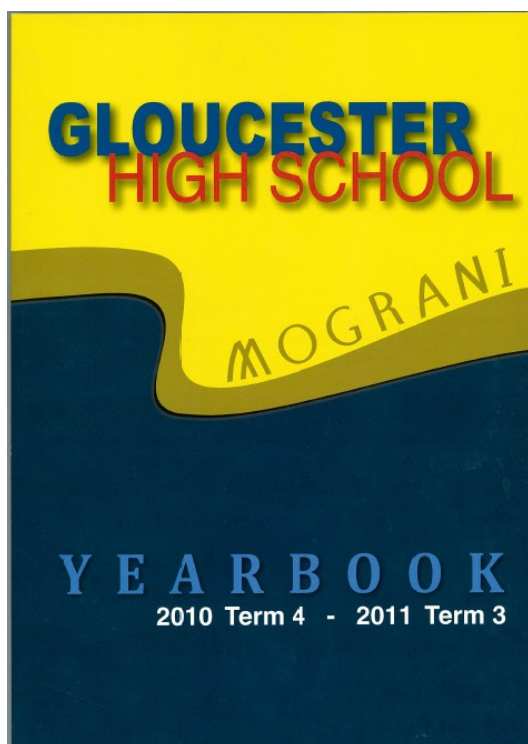
cultures and highlight the view that knowing your past can move you forward.

Year 8 Aboriginal Studies visitors to “Falls of the Blanket” were treated to a fascinating introductory talk presented by Kimberley before enjoying a leisurely walk through the Gallery. Year 8 wish to thank Kimberley for sharing her knowledge, stories and experiences in her wonderful exhibition. Year 8’s understanding of Aboriginal history and heritage definitely moved forward during their visit to Gloucester Gallery.



SCHOOL CALENDAR—TERM 4

Thursday	01 December	Year 11 Food Tech— Sydney
Friday	2 December	Year 10 Drama Production - Yr 7 to Yr11
Saturday	3 December	Year 10 Drama Production
Monday	5 December	Year 6 Orientation Day
Monday	5 December	Presentation Night
Thursday	8 December	Year 10 Formal Assembly
Monday	12 December	Yr 10 Excursion to Newcastle University
Wednesday	14 December	Year 10 Excursion to Newcastle
Friday	16 December	Last Day of School
Monday - Tuesday	19-20 December	Staff Development Day



**AVAILABLE
AT THE
SCHOOL OFFICE!
ONLY \$33.00**

GHS Year 10 Drama presents

HOUSE ON FIRE

By Debra Oswald

Fri Dec 2nd-7.30 PM
Sat Dec 3rd-2.00 PM
7.30 PM

Gloucester High School Hall

Tickets
Adults: \$6
Concession: \$4
Families (2 adults,
2 children): \$16
Enquires: 6558 1605

Directed by Scott Davis
Stage-managed by Rhiannon Jaeger-Michael
Starring: Holly Borham, Will Feeney, Tori Grady, Caitlin Johnson, Brodie Preston, Kate Radford,
Holly Reay, Kane Snow, Madeline Stokes, Caitlin Tonelli, Alex Wilson and Hannah Yattes.
This play is suitable for audiences 12 years and over,
as it contains mild coarse language.

If anyone has a cast iron bath tub that the school Ag Farm could use as a watering trough could you please contact Mal Graham or Dave Garland on 6558 1650.



CANTEEN—TERM 4



Thursday	1 December	Val R
Friday	2 December	Elona
Monday	5 December	Elona
Tuesday	6 December	Lyndell
Wednesday	7 December	Paula
Thursday	8 December	Vicki S
Friday	9 December	Elona
Monday	12 December	Elona
Tuesday	13 December	Kate
Wednesday	14 December	Jennie S
Thursday	15 December	Alison W
Friday	16 December	Elona

SCHOOL UNIFORM PRICES

JUNIOR (YEAR7-10)

Sky blue polo shirt	\$20:00	in stock
Navy shorts	\$15:00	pre-pay order
Navy hooded jacket	\$32	pre-pay order
Spray jacket	\$54:00	in stock
Pattern for skirt	\$3:00	in stock
Navy polo sport shirt	\$20:00	pre-pay order

SENIOR (YEAR 11-12)

White Senior Polo Shirt	\$23:00	in stock
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FORMAL

School Tie	\$20:00	in stock
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DUKE OF EDINBURGH EXPEDITION

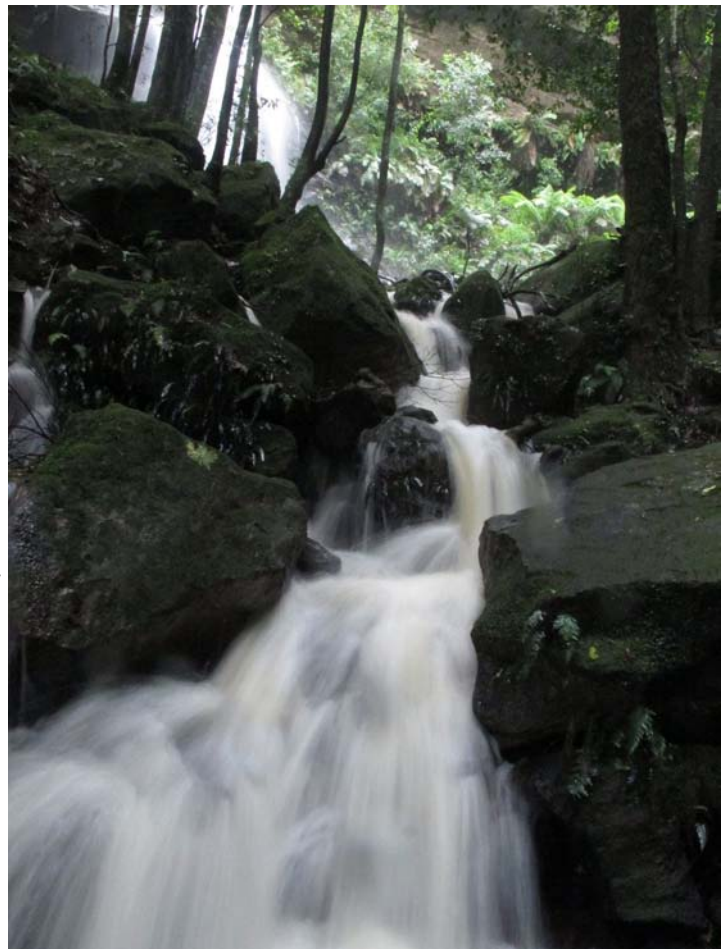
Duke of Edinburgh Blue Mountains expedition

On Friday 25 November – yes, that’s right, that really wet Friday – 11 students plus Mr Kingston tramped out of the school grounds to begin another successful Duke of Edinburgh expedition. Travelling on the same train as the returning Miller students, we journeyed via Strathfield to Katoomba, linked-up with Mr and Mrs Costa, and headed off in the rain to our Friday night destination – the relatively luxurious but waterlogged Katoomba caravan park.

Up bright and early – or maybe wet and early – we trekked into the National Park, with the three sisters to our left, past a full-flowing Katoomba falls, walking (or if your name is Matt Wise, falling) down stairs, and then onto the floor of the Jamison Valley. Fortunately, the weather quickly cleared into a beautiful sunny day, enabling us to enjoy the panoramic views from the top of Mount Solitary on Saturday afternoon. Another walk to the Ruined Castle, a Saturday night feast and joke session – some of which were even funny - by the fire, rounded off a full but enjoyable day.

Sunday morning, another early start, a climb up the Golden Stairs (plenty of stairs, but alas, no Gold), a return walk into Katoomba, and after lunch in Strathfield, back on the XPT for some mingling with other passengers and the return journey home.

All the Silver-level students successfully completed their Assessment Expedition, while Gold students now look forward to their forthcoming expedition to Cradle Mountain in Tasmania in January.





CHAPLAIN'S CHAT

Yesterday I saw a little dog and a tiny hand - fed Magpie waiting at my screen door. The little dog was wagging her tail and looking expectantly into the kitchen. The little magpie that we saved as a tiny baby after it fell out of its nest was making tiny bird sounds as it also looked with its black eyes into the kitchen. These two had become very best friends. The little dog had taken the role of champion and protector. The magpie followed her everywhere and slept beside her in her bed on the veranda. They were waiting to be fed, and knew that I would be out with food shortly. I marvelled at their patience and at the way in which each felt safe and comfortable. They trusted that there would be food and kindness.

Waiting is something that is familiar to everyone. We wait for a bus, for special events, to see special people we love, for something to begin and for many things to end. In fact, if you think about it, waiting is something that we do a lot of every day. I am sure that many students wait impatiently for recess, lunch time and end of day to arrive. At lunch time some wait for someone to ask them to join in. Waiting can be a painful time of loneliness and isolation. It can be a time of apprehension and anxiety.

What do you do when you are waiting? It can seem like a time of great inactivity and nothingness, but in reality it is a time of intense activity. Lots of decisions are made when we are waiting around. I invite you to think about ways in which your waiting time can be a time of being awake and alert to what is going on around you. You may find someone who has no one to talk to or someone who needs a friend. You may find that instead of worrying and being anxious you can still your mind and make a prayer or think of something good and beautiful in your life. We all need some kind of nourishment and kindness. Waiting is never ever a nothing time. It can also be a time of dreaming for something better. It can be a time of hope and planning. It can be a time when you notice others who are also waiting.

Eulalie O'Keefe

 <p>Enrol Now for 2012</p> <p>4 Macquarie Street Taree NSW 2430 p 6551 3332 e jayemne@bigpond.com</p>	<p>Tutoring for all ages</p> <p>Preschool Kinder - Yr 6 Yr 7 - Yr10 Yr 11 - Yr 12 University</p> <p>Specialising in one on one</p> <p>Irlen Screening by Certified Screeners</p> <p> www.tutoringtaree.com.au</p>
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BMX STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS



In September-
competed in

ber Jack Skelton
the NSW BMX

State Championships for 16 year boys & ranked 3rd (20inch). He also raced in the Cruiser category (24inch), and ranked 2nd.

This month he competed in the Victorian State Championships for 16 year boys & ranked 2nd, and in the Cruiser category where he ranked 5th.

Jack has been offered a position in the NSW Talent ID Squad for 2012 and is likely to compete

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Year 12 Formal

The Year 12 Formal was held on Saturday 12 November 2011. With the Golf Club as the venue, the night was a huge success with everybody from the students to the teachers and parents enjoying the final farewell to Year 12. All the girls arrived in a sea of sparkles; after spending obvious hours on their hair and make-up and the boys, as to be expected, arrived in fast cars and clouds of smoke (obviously still not having learnt how to impress). Although threatened by a thunderstorm earlier that afternoon, everyone gathered on the green for photos by Ben Howland. After mingling and socialising, the night formally began. Following a lovely meal, speeches were given by those who knew Year 12 best - the Principal and our Year Advisor. It was then Year 12 turn to say goodbye to each other - for most had shared thirteen years of schooling. This was done by the 'Most Likely Awards', which ranged from 'most likely to become a stunt woman' and 'most likely to become lead Nun'. The star attraction was definitely the croquembouche, which was delicately served for dessert. The night was a beautiful event and wouldn't have been made possible without the contributions of Indigo and Sharon Rosenblatt, Emily Hamilton, Regan Garner, Bek Hardes, Karly Hawkins, Erin Wilson, Ms Patterson and many others who contributed in making this night such a special one for Year 12.



SCHOOL VISION STATEMENT

Gloucester High School aims to develop a supportive learning environment that engages all students, teachers and community in the pursuit of excellence.



**Education
& Training**
North Coast

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