

## School Calendar 2013 TERM 4

### Saturday 16 November

Year 12 Formal 6.30pm

### Monday 18 November

Year 9 Examinations

Year 10 RFS Practical Assessment

### Wednesday 20 November

Year 8 Examinations

Year 9 Try-a-Trade

Year 11 Drama Excursion

### Monday 21 November

Peer Support Training -Year 10

### Monday 25 November

Year 7 Examinations

### Wednesday 27 November

Year 6 Orientation

### Thursday 28 November

P&C Meeting

### Tuesday 3 to Friday 6 December

Multicultural Week

### Monday 9 December

Presentation Night

### Tuesday 10 December

Year 10 Drama "The Formal"

Year 10 Leadership Training

### Wednesday 18 December

Last Day of School for Students

### Thursday 19 December

School Development Day

### Friday 20 December

School Development Day

## CANTEEN

Phone 65589963

### Monday 18 November

Elona

### Tuesday 19 November

Maryanne

### Wednesday 20 November

Jennie

### Thursday 21 November

Alison

### Friday 22 November

Elona

### Monday 25 November

Elona

### Tuesday 26 November

No Volunteer

### Wednesday 27 November

Nikki

### Thursday 28 November

Reena

### Friday 29 November

Elona

NEWSLETTER 15 November 2013



## DUKE'S SILVER EXPEDITION

Who? Us? Worried about a few weather reports? Never!

"Make sure you bring your sun hat, plenty of water and some electrolyte to replenish your salts" I warned.

"Oh, and make sure you bring your thermals and a beanie because there was a heavy frost up there last week!" I added.

"And you'll need your rain jacket and pack liner, because they reckon it's going to pour" I continued.

All bases covered, I thought. Well, after all, that's the beauty of walking in the bush.

It's a bit like Forrest Gump's chocolates – "you never know what you're gonna get".

So off we set, into the Barrington Tops for 3 days and 3 nights of adventure and self-

realisation. Half the group had done all this

before (let's call them the "oldies"), while the

other half were embarking on their maiden trip

– a daunting proposition indeed! We'll call these folk the "newbies".

The relative ease of the first evening's six

or seven kilometre stroll into Little Murray

Campsite saw spirits at a high. What's so hard

about this, they thought. The next day began

early with the girls thinking that 4:00 am was

a great time to start their cackling. We began

our traverse along the Polblue Trail, past a



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## DUKE'S SILVER EXPEDITION CONTINUED ...

sleepy tiger snake (well spotted, Chloe!), and through the wilds of Stewarts Brook State Forest leading us, eventually, to our second camp at Horse Swamp. The heat, sweat and dust of the day were quickly expunged by a quick paddle in the cool (cold?) waters below Polblue Falls. Great White Hunters tried in vain to catch elusive trout with bare hands, all overseen by a curious wombat. An evening spent playing “tongues” and eating cake (thanks Mr & Mrs Doust) preceded a windy night of fitful sleep. Day 3 saw the “oldies” in charge of all aspects of navigation and group cohesion and, considering this was a new track for all of them, they did a fine job! A bit cloudier but still quite warm, the changeable wind we noticed at morning tea made us think about the possibility of an afternoon thunderstorm. Surely not!?

Upon arrival at Gummi Falls, and after sharing the river bank with another (bigger!) tiger snake, the group set about pitching camp, when the skies opened up! After the rain and hail (!!) we all dried out as best we could. Undaunted by the storms, hearty meals were eaten and games of cards played. Then we retired to ponder the cryptic place name that had been plaguing most of the group all afternoon: “Concern? Why? Have your say!” Thick fog and mist greeted us on Sunday morning and made for a cool and quietly beautiful last leg back to the cars.

We couldn't have wished for a more diverse trip in terms of weather! But everyone coped very well and showed the true Duke of Ed tenacity that we have become accustomed to. Well done to all, and many thanks to Deb and John Hogan, to special guest walker, Mr Murray Doust from Wingham High, and to Mr & Mrs Williams and Mr Davis for providing transport.

Mr Pat Cavanagh



## THE FORMAL By Sue Murray

Year 10 Drama will be presenting their end of year production, *The Formal*, by Sue Murray, in the school hall on Friday 13 December at 7:00pm and Saturday 14 December at 2:00pm and 7:00pm. Tickets will be available at the door for \$4 per person.

The Formal is a comedy in two acts - fast, furious and full of shocks and frocks. This modern rite of passage is also a competition, a life's dream, a nightmare and much more. The stress, the dress, dreams and schemes, boys as handbags - will it all be worth it on the night?

The Formal features Drama students Amy Andrews, Lauren Cameron, Bronte Davis, Chloe Haynes, Jaimi White and Rose Windred as the girls preparing for the big night while Danni Adams, Hayley Dobson, Hannah Feeney and Erin Maslen try to cope with the adolescent angst as their poor suffering mothers. Overseeing all the action is master of ceremonies fairy Glam, played by Jalil Virzi-Hartigan, and his two mischievous assistants, Glitter and Tizz (Matt Ryan and Bailey Tollis). The production is directed by Drama teacher Mr Scott Davis.



# PRINCIPAL'S REPORT



I would like to reflect for a while on a couple of events that may seem at first to be unrelated: Spirit Day, the Duke of Ed Silver trip and Remembrance Day.

Congratulations to Mrs Sorrensen and the SRC for another successful Spirit Day. You will read more about the detail of the day elsewhere in this newsletter (including the inspiring work of Sam Cawthorn), so I'll focus on a couple of aspects: self-expression and creativity. It was great to see the creative juices flow throughout the day, whether in the form of cake decorating, singing, game playing or construction. Students were given a real opportunity to have a go at things they might not have before. All in their own way and with their own personal flair. Great to see!

Well done, also, to the Silver level Duke of Ed students who completed a Silver level expedition into (and out of!) the Barrington Tops last weekend. The teamwork shown was tremendous, as was the capacity of individuals to push themselves through discomfort (and sometimes pain) to reach their goals.

On Monday, we commemorated Remembrance Day with a moment's silence at our assembly. The absolute silence reinforced to me the respect our students and staff have for what our countrymen and women have done for us in more troubled times. During this time, I thought about how lucky we are to live in a country where self-expression and creativity are highly praised and encouraged, rather than brutally extinguished. A country renowned for its teamwork and the capacity of its people to excel in whatever field they choose. A country where the stoic "get on with it" of the individual is beautifully balanced by the collective support of the group. But, no, luck has not a great deal to do with it. Our freedom has been guaranteed by those whose sacrifice has been ultimate – those whom we remember on 25 April and 11 November every year. Their gift to us is an enduring legacy – the right to have our say, the comfort of knowing we can lead our own lives, the inspiration that comes with choosing our dreams and being able to reach our goals. All this and more. Our country salutes you.

Lest We Forget



Mr Pat Cavanagh

## LIONS YOUTH OF THE YEAR

The Lions Youth of the Year is an annual competition, held to improve young people's ability to undergo an interview process before entering the workplace. The program aids with other important qualities such as leadership and citizenship and aims to select an outstanding youth to become the ambassador for Australia. The Lions Youth of the Year process includes an interview in front of a board composing of community members during which you are quizzed on political, social and cultural matters affecting Australia, then after a dinner at the Lions meeting, the public speaking component of the competition. Speeches on any topic are presented; there are two impromptu speeches, and both go for two minutes and can address ANY recent issues. The competitors also need to have a prepared speech, which goes for five minutes and highlights either an issue or occurrence of your own choosing. The Gloucester Lions Youth of the Year competition was held on Monday 11 November and this year only two Gloucester High School students entered: Daniel Hughes and Sophie Kingston. Both presented good speeches and had successful interviews and Sophie, who won the speaking and interview awards, will be continuing onto the regional competition soon. Both Daniel and Sophie would like to thank all involved, as the night was a great success, which would not have occurred without the support of Gloucester High School teachers Mrs Ingram and Mrs Sorrensen.

Sophie Kingston

# BRING YOUR OWN DEVICE (BYOD) 2014

As the DER laptop program has been discontinued, our school is embarking on a BYOD program, in which families purchase devices for their children to use at school and at home. Below are some tips and a checklist, so that parents can be well-informed about what a purchased device should have. These details have also been published on our website. Our current thinking is that Year 9 students **will** need a device. Parents may also choose to purchase devices for students in Years 7 and 8. While the school encourages this, we realise that the expense maybe prohibitive and, therefore, won't be making this compulsory.

## TIPS WHEN PURCHASING A NOTEBOOK For Students at Gloucester High School

### Size

Weight and size of the screen should be a high priority when purchasing a notebook, considering that it will be carried daily in the students' school bag and that it needs to use the least amount of battery power. Although 15" screens tend to be cheaper, they usually are heavier and the bigger the screen, the more power hungry it is. The 10"-13" notebooks are a better design for the students' school bag, usually weighing less and using less power than the bigger screens.

### Design

Try for a design that is tough and sturdy that will help protect the display and resist wear and tear. Another tip: if you press down on the lid or keyboard and see lots of flex, maybe look at another model.

### Specification

**CPU:** The Central Processing Unit (CPU) can make a big difference. For instance, Intel's 4<sup>th</sup> generation core processor uses less power than previous generation processors. This means you get more battery power. A 3<sup>rd</sup> generation core processor will still be sufficient.

**PROCESSOR:** 64-bit device. Most devices are 64-bit and this will ensure that the notebook can run software such as Adobe Creative Suite (32-bit will not be able to run this software)

**MEMORY:** 4GB RAM is sufficient. However, if you are a Photography & Digital Media student, Mr Steele recommends at least 8GB RAM.










**STORAGE:** A notebook's storage has almost as much impact on its performance as its CPU. A Solid State Drive (SSD) {whilst more expensive and lower in capacity than Hard Drives (HDD)} dramatically improves performance of the entire system and jeopardy of failure (ie fewer moving parts). However, although HDD are not as fast as SSD they have superior re-write cycles and are less prone to fail over long-term.

**WIRELESS:** 5GHz or 802.11 a/b/g/n wireless card is essential to connect to our school's Wi-Fi. However it would be an advantage if the wireless card could support dual band 2.4GHz and 5GHz. Commonly the home Wi-Fi supports only 2.4GHz band. Not all notebooks come with a 5GHz wireless card (look for the 'a' and 'n' after the 802.11) but it may be possible to order the notebook with a dual band wireless card. It is an interchangeable part but it is recommended that it is changed by the manufacturer so that warranty is not voided. There are USB adapters on the market that can convert the frequency also.

**OPERATING SYSTEM:** To ensure the latest programs and software are compatible, we recommend the current or previous version of any operating system. (e.g. Windows 7 or Windows 8)

<b>Touch Screen</b>	Windows 8 supports an interface that is fully functional on a touch screen. It is not necessary but is a consideration.
<b>Battery Life</b>	It is not possible for students to plug-in to charge the battery whilst in class due to the hazards and accidents that this would cause. So it is extremely important that the notebook is able to keep battery life for the day. Although students may only have the laptop on for 6 hours of the day, Wi-Fi connection and display, zap the notebook's battery at different rates therefore it is recommended that a battery with minimum of 8 hours is required to last the 5 hours in class time.
<b>Keyboard &amp; Touchpad</b>	Students will be doing lots of typing. Try the keyboard out. Make sure there's enough travel and springy feedback instead of a cramped, mushy keyboard. The touchpad is just as important. Make sure navigating the desktop is smooth instead of jerky and that multi-touch gestures like 2 finger scrolls are responsive. If the buttons are integrated into the pad, make sure it is easy to press and not too stiff.
<b>Camera &amp; Microphone</b>	These hardware features are necessary for the students to participate in 21 <sup>st</sup> century learning activities. Most notebooks come with this as a standard feature.
<b>Warranty and Insurance</b>	It is important to consider warranty. The life of a notebook cannot be expected to last beyond 3 to 4 years. The reality is with technology advancements occurring virtually every day (outdating the notebook as soon as you purchase it) and deterioration of the notebook being carried at school each day it is highly unlikely the notebook will survive beyond the 3 to 4 years. Therefore it may be a consideration to have warranty cover for this period. Some providers offer on-site warranty which may also be a consideration. But beware, warranty does not cover for accidental breakages or misuse. However you may be able to insure the item under your home contents insurance. Consult your insurance provider for more details.
<b>Software</b>	The device must have Microsoft Office (including Onenote) and Adobe Creative Suite. Please check that your device is capable of installing these products. The good news is the software that will be required for use on the notebook will be available for free. NSW Department of Education and Communities has negotiated with Microsoft an agreement. From 2014 school students will be able to install selected software for free on their BYOD device which includes Microsoft Office. A contract has also been signed with Adobe, for Students BYOD software. Clarification of whether this free software is available to Apple notebooks is unavailable at this stage.
<b>Photography Digital Media</b>	Mr Steele recommends at least 8GB of RAM for Photography & Digital Media students.

# BYOD Requirements Checklist

	Minimum and Essential	Recommendation
 <b>Wireless</b>	<b>5GHz Wireless Card</b> <b>802.11 a/b/g/n</b>	Wireless connectivity is key to BYOD in schools! Dual support Wi-Fi card 802.11 a/b/g/n. Make sure it supports both 'a' and 'n' <i>(5GHz essential at school, 2.4GHz usually for home Wi-Fi)</i>
 <b>Screen Size</b>	<b>10" screen</b>	<b>10" to a maximum 13"</b> <i>(Allow for portability and battery consumption but ensure it is of a reasonable size to enable ease of use.)</i>
 <b>Processor</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Generation Core Processor</b> <b>64Bit</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Generation Core Processor</b> <i>(32bit devices cannot run all software requirements.)</i>
 <b>Memory</b>	<b>4GB RAM</b>	<b>Minimum 8GB RAM for Photography &amp; Digital Media Students</b>
 <b>Battery</b>	<b>8 hours</b>	
 <b>Storage</b>	<b>128GB</b>	<b>Solid State Drive (SSD) or Hard Disk Drive (HDD)</b> <i>(Both drives have flaws and pros- see tips for further information.)</i>
 <b>Operating System</b>	<b>Windows 7, 8 or 8.1</b> <b>iOS 6 or 5</b> <b>Android 4</b>	<b>The current or previous version of any operating system.</b>
<b>USB Ports</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3 USB ports</b>
<b>Other Essential Considerations</b>		
<b>Casing</b>	Needs have a tough and sturdy outer shell. Can it be dropped without breaking?	Look for sturdy casing 
<b>Weight</b>	Is the notebook light enough for your child to carry each day? Recommend less than 1.8 kg for ease and portability in school bag	Look for springy keyboard & smooth touchpad 
<b>Carry Case</b>	A carry case or skin is essential in protecting the notebook in the school bag.	
<b>DVD Drive</b>	Not recommended. Not required for school.	



# YEAR 6 ORIENTATION DAY

Along with the PtoH (Primary to High School) program currently running, Gloucester High School invites all students enrolled to attend Gloucester High School in 2014, to our school on Wednesday 27 November for a formal orientation program. Parents are not required to attend this day.

This day aims to further provide the Year 6 students with knowledge and confidence to ready them for the exciting year ahead.

Year 6 will work directly with Year 10 Peer Support leaders and teachers as well as participating in a variety of games and activities that will enable students to navigate the school and its systems.

We look forward to an exciting day and encourage all students to attend.

We ask that students make their own way to and from school. All students need to arrive by 9.00am and will stay until the end of the regular school day at 3.15pm.

## Students need to:

- bring recess or money for recess
- wear their sport uniform and enclosed sport shoes
- have a hat and sunscreen
- bring a water bottle

Please contact your Primary School or the High School for more information or assistance.

Below are the scheduled events for the day.

Time	Activity	Who/Where
9.00	Meeting in Year 7 area with Year Adviser	
9.20	Introduction to School Peer Support Leaders	
10.50	Recess In Year 7 Area	
11.10	Sport Activities	Peer Support Leaders/Teachers
12.50	BBQ Lunch	SRC - Year 7 Area
1.30	PtoH Program Final Session	GHS Teachers
3.15	School Finishes	Students/Parents

Ms Toni Corbett and Mr Mik Wisely



## ALL SET FOR MULTICULTURAL VISIT!

This year's Multicultural Festival will take place from Tuesday 3 December to Friday 6 December. The festival will culminate in our Multicultural Day on Friday with a range of cultural food, music and events taking place in the school and will also include a Social and a Music and Drama Night on the Thursday night.

However, none of this can transpire unless we as a school community are willing to open up our homes to these people. Thank you to those families who have offered to billet these visitors. Students who have participated in this program in the past have raved about the experience. Many are still in touch with the Miller kids they hosted and more remember well the unique experience they shared.



Mr Scott Davis

## YEAR 12 YEARBOOKS HAVE ARRIVED

The Year Book features profiles of every Year 12 student as well as numerous photos and recaps of each year of their high school lives. There are also pages for students to sign and/or write messages to their peers. This is a must-have keepsake for graduating students. Year 12, there are still a few left so please come and collect yours or you can purchase one for \$40.

Mr Davis

## EDALIVE SOFTWARE

Complete learning initiative - Huge savings on EdAlive software bundles

EdAlive has announced the new Complete Learning Initiative (CLI) to give families the opportunity to use our software at home that we have for licensed schools.

- 46 titles up to 95% off
- Incredible value bundles from \$19.95
- Complete, consolidate or update your collection
- Fun learning for your child
- Free 3 month ZooWhiz Premium subscription for each child

The leaflets are available in the library for you to pick up from Monday 11 November 2013.

## 4GB THUMB DRIVES

4GB THUMB DRIVES are for sale at the School Office.

Gloucester High School 4GB Thumb Drives are \$10.00 each





# CAREERS NEWS

## Try-a-Trade

All Year 9 students will participate in Try-a-Trade Day on Wednesday 20 November. Students will be attending 3 sessions of their choice conducted by local businesses who have volunteered to support this program. In these sessions, students will be visiting work environments to get a taste of how the business operates and functions. They will also have the opportunity to obtain information and make enquiries with employees and employers within the industry. Students have been given a Session Selection Form in their English class on Monday 11 November and this form needs to be returned to the Front Office! It's important that students choose sessions that they are genuinely interested in, rather than making selections similar to their friends. **Students will have to adhere to Workplace Health and Safety requirements. They will need to dress in full uniform and ensure they are wearing appropriate footwear.**

Gloucester High School greatly appreciates the amount of effort put into this program and would like to thank the Bucketts Way Neighbourhood Group and Tahlea Haywood, as well as all the local businesses and individuals who make this day possible.

## Work Experience Handbooks

All Year 9 students should have received their Year 10 Work Experience Handbooks. Although Work Experience will take place during Weeks 10 and 11 Term 1 2014 (March 31 – April 11), it is important that students begin trying to find a placement. To secure a Work Experience placement on its own is a valuable endeavour for all students. They will need to utilise their communication skills in order to 'sell themselves' in order to acquire a position. It is noteworthy that students use this opportunity to identify placements that are relevant to their particular interests. It's a wonderful opportunity to experience and 'trial' a job and test whether or not it may be a possibility for a career in their future. Work Placement Forms (The form that needs to be signed by parents and employers) will be handed out to students before the end of Term. Good luck!

## Interviews

Individual Interviews were conducted by Mr De Angelis with all Year 12 students as part of their School to Work Transition plan. The interview promotes awareness regarding future career pathways and post school options as well as ensures students are meeting the Board of Studies and/or ATAR requirements.

Mr De Angelis

# RESILIENCE FOR LEARNING HUB PILOT PROGRAM BEGINS

It is with great pleasure that I announce the launch of a five week pilot for the GHS Resilience for Learning Hub. The Hub has been several months in the planning stages and, through the high-level organisational and communication skills of all involved, is finally a reality. The five week pilot program has been generously supported by AGL, who have provided funding to buy resources, support the breakfast program and to employ the staff required. I thank Therese Ryan and Geoff Marshall for their input into securing this funding. The school's P&C have funded the rental of the premises, for which I am also grateful. The pilot has been running now for two weeks and, although we are fine tuning its operation as we proceed, a full evaluation with recommendations for the future will take place in Weeks 10 and 11, with feedback coming from students, parents and staff. It is envisaged that the Hub will operate throughout 2014, and will provide a positive alternative for students who have difficulties at school. Again, I thank Mr David Garland, Mr Adam Cameron, Mr Mik Wisely, Mr Michael De Angelis, Mrs Anne Martin and Mrs Janelle Davis for providing tuition to our Hub students, and also Mr Mike King, Mrs Margo Cameron and Mrs Lorraine Forbes for their continuing input and support. Finally, I thank Mrs Trudi Edman, whose leadership and hard work surrounding this initiative have been outstanding.

Mr Pat Cavanagh

## SCIENCE AND REPTILE SHOW

On Tuesday students from Year 7 to Year 11 attended an informative reptile show from the largest retail snake seller in Australia, homing over 600 Snakes. At the show we were lucky to see in the 'scales' four of the worlds most venomous snakes. Including the Fierce snake (which has venom 50 times as strong as the Indian Cobra), the Tiger snake, the Red-Belly Black and the Brown Snake all of which are native to Australia. While we couldn't touch these snakes, we did get the opportunity to hold a large python and other (non deadly) reptiles. Thanks for organising this show Ms Pickett.

Sarah Moore and Hannah West



## RICARDOES TOMATOES

On Tuesday 12 November, seven students from Year 11 went on an exciting trip to the Ricardoes Tomatoes. We learnt about the Australian Food Industry and how it works. We also took a tour around the tomato and strawberry sheds. We had the opportunity to pick a bucket full of strawberries and bought chocolate and caramel to go with it. Thanks to Mrs Harri. It was an educational but fun experience .

Food Technology Students





## SPIRIT DAY

Games were played, flower boxes were built and cheer leading routines were choreographed on Tuesday 5 November to celebrate Gloucester High's annual Spirit Day. This event, run by the SRC was designed to increase school event participation amongst those of us who aren't quite as athletically inclined as others and everyone who attended participated with enthusiasm and thoroughly enjoyed the day.

Several activities were run throughout the day where competitors participated in games and activities in order to win points for their houses (Belbora, Mograni, Kurricar and Tibbuc). The students could choose from a very different range of activities designed to cater for all of the different talents and interests. But for some, the most exciting part of the day was an inspirational talk by Sam Cawthorn. Sam's great story of survival against all odds and of resilience despite how bad his situation was, proved to be extremely inspiring and motivational for everyone that listened in. His use of humorous and entertaining language in his talk helped to engage the audience in a positive way while also being able to address a serious issue. Sam discussed with us the most serious and common issues affecting teenagers today and ways of dealing with them so that we are still able to meet our full potential without losing motivation or confidence in what we have always dreamed of achieving. This also included stories about several other famous characters that have failed countless times in their lives, only to pick themselves back up and keep trying.

Overall, it was a wonderful day for everyone, and I can't wait to see what next year's Spirit Day will have to offer.

Shannon Baker



## SPIRIT DAY

Spirit Day was last Wednesday! We listened to Sam Cawthorne do a really inspirational speech. He was really, really funny. He had had an accident and lost one of his arms. Now he has a fake arm, the most expensive fake arm in Australia and he controls it with his iPhone5!! He was a great guy. Also on Spirit Day, there were activities to do. They ranged from cupcake decorating, Gloucester games, scavenger hunt, theatre, sports, angry nerds to casino royal and many more. These activities were run by the SRC. Thank you to the SRC for a fantastic day!

Abbie Windred and Jenna Davis



# LIBRARY NEWS

## Book Review

Series: Skulduggery Pleasant by L. Pichon

### #5 Absolutely Fantastic

I read No 5 first because No 1 had already been borrowed, and now I can't wait to read the rest of the series. Absolutely Fantastic was Absolutely Fantastic! I liked the book because it was a comic sort of story but an actual book at the same time which is what I like in a book. Also, it has cartoon style drawings so it helps me understand the book more than others. The story is about a kid by the name of Tom Gates who wishes he was out of school until he discovers the school Activity Trip that he had totally forgotten about until he looked in his Oakfield School Planner. And you'll have to read the book to find out what happens next. I give it four out of five stars.

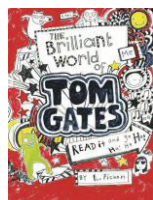
Reviewer: Cody Smith, Year 7



## NEW BOOKS

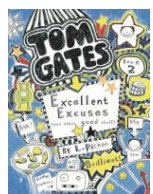
Blurbs and cover images courtesy of Booktopia: <http://www.booktopia.com.au>

### NEW SERIES – TOM GATES by L. Pichon



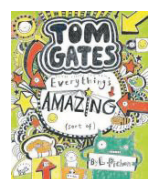
#### The Brilliant world of Tom Gates (#1)

"When my teacher, Mr Fullerman, doesn't have his BEADY EYES on me, I like to draw pictures and write stories about stuff, like when we had the worst holiday ever (camping sucks), and when my parents came to school for parents' evening (groan). And about how Marcus Meldrew is the most annoying boy in the world and how I don't want to sit next to him in class. All I want to do is get tickets to see the best band ever, DUDE3, when they come to town. It's not easy when I'm up against Delia, my weirdo big sister, and all my plans seem to get me into MAJOR TROUBLE . . . again."



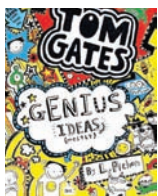
#### Excellent Excuses (and other good stuff) (#2)

"No school for two whole weeks! (Yeah!) I can forget ALL about lessons (and irritating things like Marcus Meldrew). And concentrate on good stuff like: inventing new ways to annoy my sister Delia. (So many). Band practice for DOGZOMBIES (with my mate Derek). Watching TV and eating caramel wafers. Eating caramel wafers and watching TV. Excellent. Unfortunately a couple of small problems called the dentist and my big weirdo sister, Delia, seem to be getting in the way of my BRILLIANT plans ..."



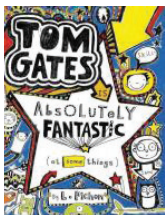
#### Everything's Amazing (#3)

"Back to school, but it's not all bad. We're entering Rooster in a dog show, the School Disco and my birthday are coming up so this term's going to be amazing! Mostly because Delia's not invited to any of these. There's only one small problem with my birthday, Granny Mavis says she's going to cook ...uh oh!"



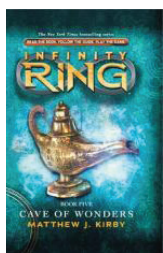
#### Genius Ideas (mostly) (#4)

Seeing Delia without her sunglasses on is a BIG shock, but that's nothing compared with the surprise Dad has in store for me with his new-found fitness regime. Meanwhile, Derek and I keep practising in DOGZOMBIES--you never know, we might even get to play another gig? But right now, I'm still wondering how Amy Porter managed to talk me into auditioning for the SCHOOL PLAY. While Marcus Meldrew is being extra smug because he's only gone and got the lead role . . ."



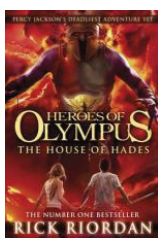
#### Tom Gates is Absolutely Fantastic (#5)

This takes the form of Tom's battered homework diary - crammed with his doodles and stories. "Exciting News! Mr Fullerman announces that class 5F are going on an 'Activity Break'! Which should be fun. As long as I don't get stuck in a group with anyone who snores or worse still with ...Marcus Meldrew. Delia is already threatening to paint my room funny colours while I'm away. Which is annoying. I just hope the only surprise I have when I get home is the new pet that I hear Mum and Dad talking about. Because I've always wanted a pet!"



#### SERIES – INFINITY RING by Matthew J. Kirby

Cave of Wonders (#5): Fix the past. Save the future. Europe is in the grip of the Dark Ages, but there is a light in the dark: Baghdad. The great city has become a centre of learning, populated by scholars, merchants, and explorers from all across the known world. But danger lurks in the desert... and Dak, Sera, and Riq must act fast to save the world's greatest library from utter destruction.



#### SERIES – HEROES OF OLYMPUS by Rick Riordan

##### The House of Hades (#4)

The stakes are higher than ever in this adventure that dives into the depths of Tartarus. If the demigods can fight their way through the Gaea's forces, and Percy and Annabeth can survive the House of Hades, then the Seven will be able to seal the Doors both sides and prevent the giants from raising Gaea. But, Leo wonders, if the Doors are sealed, how will Percy and Annabeth be able to escape? They have no choice. If the demigods don't succeed, Gaea's armies will never die.



#### NEW SERIES – CHASING THE VALLEY by Skye Melki-Wegner

Chasing the Valley (#1): Danika is used to struggling for survival in a land where magic can be terrifying. But when the tyrannous king launches an attack to punish her city she risks her life in a daring escape over the city's walls. Danika joins a crew of desperate refugees who seek Magnetic Valley, a legendary safe haven. But when she accidentally destroys a palace biplane, suddenly Danika Glynn becomes the most wanted fugitive in Taladia. Chasing the Valley is the first book in an epic trilogy of magic, treachery and survival.

Blurb and cover image courtesy of Many Hager: <http://www.mandyhager.com/>



#### SERIES – BLOOD OF THE LAMB TRILOGY by Mandy Hager

Resurrection (#3): When Maryam arrives back at Onewēre and tries to loosen the Apostles' religious stranglehold by sharing the miraculous remedy for Te Matee lai, she finds herself captured once again — prey to the Apostles' deadly game. Somehow Maryam must get the islanders to listen to her plea that they start thinking for themselves — hoping to stir the independence in their hearts, even as she finds herself on the brink of death...

## PARENTING IDEAS

For some great ideas please click on the following link <http://www.parentingideas.com.au/Parents/Parenting-Magazine> or parents can join the live Parenting ideas discussions on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/parentingideas.com.au>



# 2013 Christmas Hampers

Donations for the 2013 Christmas and Swimming hamper drive are needed. Donations assist in extending the hampers to many families who are experiencing hardships at this time. Please leave your donations at the school front office. With much appreciation....

Non Perishable  
goods  
i.e. Puddings

Books

Gloucester  
Charities

Gift Vouchers  
From local businesses

Swimming hamper items

Thankyou



## Santa Comes To Gloucester

Hi Everyone,

If you haven't already heard, - "Santa is coming back to Gloucester!"

Santa will be in Gloucester from Saturday 30 November to Saturday 14 December 2013 to have photo sessions with you. Santa's House will be at the old NRMA Building opposite the Roundabout where the Christmas Tree will be.

Hurry book your photo session with Santa by phoning & prepaying at Harvey World Travel Gloucester (36 Church Street) - phone 6558 1055 or email [gloucester@harveyworld.com.au](mailto:gloucester@harveyworld.com.au).

This is a Fund raising project so all Businesses, Clubs, Sporting Groups, Schools, Churches, Charities and Adults are encouraged to participate. Christmas is FUN!

### Photo Packages:

Combo 1 Cost \$25.00  
1 x Half A4 size  
1 x Postcard size  
2 x Mini size

Combo 2 Cost \$25.00  
2 x Postcard size  
4 x Mini Size

Combo 3 Cost \$20.00  
1 x A4 Print

Combo 4 Cost \$12.00  
1 x Half A4 Print

Session Times: Saturdays 10:00am to 3:00pm  
Thursday 5:00pm to 7:00pm  
(Apex Christmas Carnival)



Profits will be donated to various Gloucester Charities.

\$1000.00 was donated to 5 Gloucester Charities in 2012.

Cash Payments would be appreciated to reduce administration costs.

Credit card transactions will attract a Credit card fee of 2% (MasterCard & Visa Only)

Santa in Gloucester has been brought to you by: Gloucester Advocate, Garners Home Timber & Hardware, Gloucester Variety Store, National Australia Bank, Shojon, and Harvey World Travel.  
Special Thanks to: Santa, Gloucester Business Chamber, Gloucester Men's Shed, Wendy Fraser, Jeff De Witte,

## THE CAREERS ADVISORY SERVICE

offers professional,  
friendly and impartial  
advice following the  
release of your HSC results.

This free service is available by phone or through the **Careers Advisory Service** website [www.cas.det.nsw.edu.au](http://www.cas.det.nsw.edu.au). From **Thursday 19 December to Tuesday 24 December 2013** careers advisers will be available on **1300 300 687** or via **email** to answer your enquiries. Parents and carers may also use this service if they are seeking advice on your behalf.

The Careers Advisory Service website also contains helpful information to assist you in clarifying course choices, employment opportunities, career pathways and training options.



Education & Communities





# Australian Government Mobile Service Centre



**centrelink**

**medicare**

**child support**

## Serving Regional Australia

Visit the Mobile Service Centre to find out about Australian Government payments and services for rural families, older Australians, students, job seekers, people with disability, carers, farmers and self-employed people.

Billabong Native Garden Car Park, Denison Street

GLOUCESTER

Monday, 2 December 2013

9.30 am to 3.00 pm

For more information, go to **[humanservices.gov.au](http://humanservices.gov.au)** and search for Mobile Service Centre or call **132 316**.



Australian Government  
Department of Human Services

[humanservices.gov.au](http://humanservices.gov.au)

# BUSHFIRE FUNDRAISER CONCERT



## ZARB BROTHERS IN ARMS



A FUNDRAISING CONCERT FOR OUR  
BROTHER ANTHONY AND HIS FAMILY  
AFTER LOSING EVERYTHING IN THE  
RECENT BLUE MOUNTAINS BUSHFIRES

COME AND SUPPORT THIS AFTERNOON OF  
MUSIC TO HELP ANT, ANNIE AND THE KIDS  
GET BACK ON THEIR FEET.



**24TH NOV  
3PM**



**TALLWOODS GOLF CLUB**

RAFFLES, AUCTIONS, COMPETITIONS

FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

All the money raised goes to Anthony Zarb  
and his family

**[www.mattzarb.com](http://www.mattzarb.com)**

### 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 &  
Communities

Principal  
Deputy Principal  
Address:  
Telephone:  
Email:

Mr Pat Cavanagh  
Mr Mike King  
129 Ravenshaw Street, Gloucester NSW 2422  
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