UPCOMING EVENTS

2013

30th January
ALL students return

8th February
Twilight Swimming Carnival at Leeton

28th February
Students depart for Designated Leave

4th March
Students return from Designated Leave

5-8th March
Camp Hudson Yr 9

11th March
Open Day

15th March
Beach Carnival

16th March
Gala Day

28th March
Students depart for Designated Leave

1st April
Students return from Designated Leave

UPCOMING EVENTS

YANCONIANS OF THE YEAR 2012 - School Captains Clare Bolam and Scott Gill

This is the first time this award has been shared and congratulations to both students for their efforts throughout the year.
Local Member and Minister for Education, Adrian Piccoli congratulates Scott on placing equal first in Business Services Examination

YANCO AGRICULTURAL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT ACHIEVES HSC FIRST IN COURSE

A student from Yanco Agricultural High School was among 65 NSW secondary public school students who have achieved ‘Firsts in Course’ in the 2012 Higher School Certificate.

Scott Gill topped the state in the Business Services Examination.

The Business Services Examination is one of the popular Vocational Education and Training (VET) courses offered for the HSC that provide students with dual accreditation of their HSC result and an industry-accepted qualification.

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT 2012

For our last news of the year I have included some of my comments from my Speech Day presentation. This has been an outstanding year for the school.

The next 12 months will bring about the most change in education in this State in a generation. We will have the Australian Curriculum in English, History, Science and Mathematics which will commence in 2014 and much preparation is yet to be completed; the way we support our students with learning disabilities has already changed and there is enormous focus to ensure these children are well supported and finally the funding of schools still has not been confirmed and much of the information still remains unknown. Yanco, being such a unique school is very much in the too hard basket for Sydney and I remain fearful they we will be very under resourced in the future. Yanco has close to 200 of the most isolated students in the state and yet the department appears determined to reduce our funding but we must remain viable as a school. I remain most concerned and would request parents take a voice in this matter.

Yanco is part of the network of comprehensive public schools throughout the State that depend on substantial government funding to survive. Yanco is proudly comprehensive. Walk around our playground and into our classrooms or onto our sporting fields. In the decisions that we make about your education we do not take into account what your religious beliefs are or how much money your parents earn. We all wear the same uniform and everyone is treated the same and given the same opportunities. That is what a comprehensive school is all about. Yanco proves it every year with our results. HSC scores though, are not the only indication of what you have achieved and what you will take away. I firmly believe that because you have attended this comprehensive school in a supportive community you will take away much more than high marks. It is my view that you will be far more equipped to deal with what life has to offer and the people you will meet because you have lived with and accepted that cross-section of society that we have here at this school. Sadly the comprehensive model of education is being lost in this state. Yes, the debate about school funding rages on. Yes, as a society, we should have that debate. Yes, all of our schools could be better funded. The dollars are important and we should all be accountable for them.

But, they are not the most important. You cannot buy a good education. Instead the formula looks like this - You get it by establishing a positive relationship with high quality teachers in a positive school climate, with parental and community support and with everyone, students included, working as hard as they can. Money is very important, but it is not the driving force in that agenda. You have been successful because Yanco has managed to get the right mix to that formula and allowed your hard work to shine through.

The thing that annoys me most about the debate on education funding is that it is always so terribly one sided. It is always about costs and of course by their very nature, costs are always unpleasant and too high.

Go through the debate that has occurred recently over school funding. You will see Costs, you will
see Liabilities and you will see Expenditure repeated over and over again. But you will not see the words Benefits, Assets or Revenue.

Students - You are the Revenue, Benefits and most certainly the Assets. Yes, we spend a lot of money on education. But look at the result. The money is worth every cent. You are this country’s future and you deserve the best you can get.

If Yanco is a factory or a production line, then we turn out each year well educated, well-adjusted young adults, filled with the values and attitudes required to make a successful contribution to society for the next 70 years. Remember that learning is our core business and despite the setbacks, this school will continue to offer the best education possible to your children.

I can quite confidently say that your children receive an excellent, well rounded education in this proudly comprehensive public school. The context of this school is very, very unique and Yanco Agricultural High School continues to stand proud among agricultural high schools in Australia. We encourage students to strive for their best in all endeavours. Our school not only offers students agricultural opportunities, but academic, cultural, sporting, community and social opportunities.

This year will always be remembered for the big flood that struck in early March and left us a little soggy around the edges. For the first time in the school’s history evacuation was required with all two and four footed animals being removed to higher ground. The school was closed for a couple of days but due to bus companies and roads being an issue students were away from the school for almost three weeks which was quite a learning interruption. A large amount of damage was done to many parts of the school but particular thanks must go to the Maintenance team who kept the water supply and filtration plant going despite operating in knee deep water. We were very lucky that students had travelled home on the midterm desi as the floods approached and rain was falling. According to all figures this was the highest floodwaters that had ever been recorded at the school and a repeat is not something we desire.

The most unfortunate part of all this was that Beach Carnival, Gala Day and the celebrations for the ninetieth year were cancelled. We did run a ‘fun day’ in September but it is never the same. The P. & C. had undertaken many months of preparation all to no avail. This was a great shame.

The school has come a long way since those early years and when you consider that the first students, 90 years ago, had to wash themselves and their clothes in the river, hurricane lamps provided glimmers of light and meals were cooked on an open fire in the yard. This year 365 students were enrolled at Yanco and they have come from all states of Australia except Western Australia. In 2013 I expect between 380 and 385 students will commence the year.

This year school students, staff and parents have received major awards. Year 12 student, Celina Delaney, was awarded The Minister’s Award for Excellence in Student Achievement. Long term staff member and contributor, Shirley Worley, has been justly recognised with a Director-General’s Award for Excellent Service to Public Education and Training. Parent, Stacey Lugsdin, has been awarded a Parent of the Year Award. All three have made major contributions to Yanco and it is great to see them recognised for this. Congratulations to each one of you, all richly deserved.

Mr Ray Gough hung up his chalk stick at the end of term 3. Ray is a quiet man who has contributed enormously to this school over almost 37 years of teaching. He has a great sense of fun and we will all miss his expertise and experience in our school. We thank him for his efforts and contribution over many years and wish him all the best in retirement. Other teaching staff not returning in 2013 are Dr Anthony Langdon, Mr Tim Rolls and Mr Richard Valler.

This year has seen many building projects around the school to improve our facilities. They now have all been completed and the students are now benefiting. They include a Trade Training Centre for Hospitality and Engineering (Federal funding of $1.4M), Toilet block at Pool (P. & C. funding of $150 000), Automotive classroom ($60 000 with $25 000 from the State Government, new plumbing under the medical centre ($30 000 from State
maintenance), brick paths around Hindmarsh have been replaced by concrete (State maintenance), upgrade of showers in Breakwell ($80,000 from school finance) and Gardiner ($150,000 from State maintenance) and building the new shed for Fishing Club, Scouts and associated areas ($14,000 from Federal Funding, $40,000 from school finance). In addition the bore was finally drilled to obtain a permanent water supply for the school ($12,000 from P. & C. and $30,000 from School finance). This has been three years in the planning and it is great to see it completed but we did need to go to 70 metres, more than we anticipated, to find quality water. We have a 200 mg license but will need to purchase 180 mg as only 20 mg came with the permissions to drill; this will be expensive and may take some time. These facilities greatly enhance the infrastructure of the school but there is still much to do to ensure we offer the best to our students.

A very special day this year was ANZAC Day which fell during the term. To see all 360 students marching was a special sight and the school received many very positive comments from the locals on our efforts. Our entire senior group undertook four ceremonies on this day – march and dawn service, church service, march and morning service and another service at the school cenotaph. I was very proud to march with the students on this day and thank you to all the parents and staff who also participated on this very special day.

A delight for me this year has been the efforts of our students with community projects. Firstly the Year 12 groups have raised over $5000 to donate to their nominated charities - $2200 was given each to Luro and Careflight. Both were very appreciative and most thankful. In my time at the school this has been the most by far the Prefect group have raised and when you consider that it is really raised from within the school itself it is a wonderful achievement. The other success was a new initiative from the SRC but definitely led by Ryan Robinson and Harriet Condon. An association was formed between our students and those of Gralee Special School in Leeton where our students would spend some time with their students and also support them when they attended Yanco for various activities. Congratulations to all involved - a wonderful program for all.

I have enjoyed working with our Captains, Clare, Scott, Celina and Chris and with the Prefects and I feel privileged to work with such a quality group. They have set the bar high for the next group but they in turn have hit the ground running and I look forward to working with them in 2013.

Two leisure activities which have shown increased capacity have been the fishing and shooting clubs. Both are very popular with students and many parents also participate to support the staff. Many thanks to the staff involved, your efforts are greatly appreciated. In Shooting Year 11 student John Duryea was selected in the National Down the Line team and travelled to Wales in July to compete for Australia – an outstanding effort from John and congratulations.

The showstock programs continued to thrive and with much larger numbers of students involved. This year saw the equine program expand, with students competing at Canberra, Sydney and Melbourne Royal Shows for the first time with great success. Students achieved massive accolades and the beef cattle, sheep, equine and poultry teams can be congratulated on their many successes. Without the hard work and commitment of many staff these opportunities would be lost to our students. Some highlights included at Melbourne our first ever Champion ewe ribbon at a major show and winning the most successful school team in both the sheep and steer sections. In Sydney a steer bred at the school was judged Champion School’s Carcase exhibit. Brittany Whiteley was NSW State Champion in Boer Goat Junior Judging and Keiley O’Brien was Reserve Champion in grain judging. At the North West Equestrian Expo at Coonabarabran, where over 500 riders and horses competed, our team were judged best presented large school team which is a marvellous achievement and Blake Paulston was awarded Champion 13 year old boy.

In further Agriculture news two of our Year 12 students, Xenii Newnham-Kell and Jonathon Murdoch, competed in the Worldskills NSW State final for Primary Industries with Jonathon placed fourth and Xenii placed seventh from the 12 competitors. At night many of our students attend TAFE and complete courses on welding and wool classing. It is great to report that six of our Year 11 students have graduated from the wool classing and
received their qualifications to work in sheds. Both TAFE and the school are very proud of these students as we believe they are the youngest ever to attain these qualifications in the State.

Sport remains an integral component to education at Yanco; it is part of their psyche. Sport is an important part of the school culture and does improve the fitness of all involved and provide that team experience crucial for students to succeed at the school. Highlights this year included the Rugby League University Shield team going all the way to the State semi-finals to be beaten by the eventual winner, Farrer. They also won the Dave Sheldrick Shield in the local competition. When you consider the youth of this year’s team all looks good for 2013. Year 8 student Sophie Eaton continued her prowess in athletics being placed second, for the second year, in the State 100 metres for her age group at Homebush. The four carnivals – swimming, athletics, cross country and gate run, were huge successes and thanks to the many parents who attended. The House Captains did a great job marshalling the troupes and are to be commended on their efforts. The House competition for the Doubleday Shield is something that the school is working towards a much higher profile in 2013.

The creative arts, especially Music, continues to grow and Elyse North deserves special mention for her efforts in this area. This year the school produced its first ever HSC class in Music, something we are very proud of. Year 11 students Emma Carmichael (Core Choir for School’s Spectacular) and Vanessa Patey and Ellen Shepherd from Year 10 (State Wind band, West of the Divide Band and selected to tour to Singapore in 2013) have continued to excel. Emily Pike has been most successful with her country signing exploits. Cameron Read and George Calman are members of the Millennium Marching band and Montana Hawkins and Sally McNiff have been selected in State Choir. The school’s Drum Corp continues to impress at every event. They travel extensively and are always welcome and applauded. They have been selected with the school choir to be part of the Opening Ceremony for the Youth Olympics being held in Sydney in mid January 2013.

Yanco is a busy school and there are many successful events held during the year. Art Show and the Junior Rugby League are typical of events that bring many visitors to the school. The P. & C. lead these events and the school is most thankful to the many parents who support these events. Without your support they just would not happen so please continue to support us so we may support each of your children. Although P. & C. funds to the school are diminished this year, due to the cancelled events earlier in the year, we thank you for your donation and I am sure it will be put to good use in the school. Your support is greatly appreciated and acknowledged.

To all staff, teaching, support and hostel I thank you enormously for your efforts in 2012. Without your considerable efforts the school would not be the school it is. Your contribution to the Yanco family can never be underestimated in the care for these students in their home away from home. In particular I would like to thank my deputies, Denis Benjamin and Lisa O’Brien, and Business Services Manager, Bruce Hammond, for their support and efforts during the year. When you count the number of permanent, temporary and casual staff who work at the school you have almost 200 in number, the largest employer in the district but without the considerable contribution by all these staff then the school would not be what it is today. To each of you I thank you for your efforts and know this will continue in 2013.

It gives me great pleasure to announce the McCaughey Scholarship awardees for 2013. These are students the school selects to receive $1000 reduction in fees for the ensuing year. They have been selected for academic performance, attitude, work ethic and their general contribution to the school. To be eligible students cannot receive funding support from other sources.

The awardees for 2013 are

Year 8  Alison Treloar
Year 9  Grace Armour
Year 10  Jane Arndt
Year 11  Steven Butler
Year 12  Grace Cornish

To all our school community I wish you the compliments of the season and hope you have a safe and enjoyable break until we come back and do it all again in 2013.
DICK CONDON/MILTHORPE FAMILY SCHOLARSHIPS

On Presentation day we were able to announce a very exciting initiative to the school which will benefit students. Mr David Milthorpe and his family have generously donated $250,000 for academic scholarships over the next ten years at $25,000 per year to provide one full scholarship, three half scholarships and Maths tutoring for senior students.

At the request of David Milthorpe the scholarships will be known as the Dick Condon/Milthorpe family scholarships. They will be awarded annually at Presentation Day for the next year and will be academically based. We were a little late this year but information will come out early in the new year for applications and I hope to announce the 2013 awardees at Gala Day.

Mr David Joseph Milthorpe: was born in Narrandera on 12th September 1924 and is now 88 years old. He attended Narrandera Public School until he was 11 years old and then did one year of correspondence school before attending Yanco Agricultural High School for three years in 1937, 1938, 1939. He did the Intermediate Certificate in 1939 at Yanco Agricultural High School and gained 5A + 5B and a pass in practical agriculture. He was awarded a year free attendance for 1940 but did not accept as he always wanted to be a sheepman so came home. At YAHS in 1939 he was top of the class in agriculture, science and maths and overall second in the class.

At 18 in 1943 (World War II), he applied to be an aeroplane pilot but did not pass medical tests but his brother, also a YAHS boy, was killed in the war just before it ended.

After leaving YAHS he came home and like others battled droughts etc. He had a living area purchased from a big station owned by people in England for a very low deposit…and was treated very well.

After World War II he exhibited Somerset Stud Merino Sheep at Sydney Sheep Show for 60 years with great success. He pays great credit to what he was taught at YAHS. In 1937 when in Year 1 at YAHS, and only 12 years old he remembers Mr Hindmarsh, School Principal, telling students at an information meeting, that the boys coming into YAHS had primary school results no better than other schools but when the boys finished at YAHS their results were among the best in the state.

His own three boys went to YAHS. The second son David, when only 16 went to Sydney Royal Show and was third in Merino Sheep Judging and won the beef cattle judging for juniors. It brought credit to YAHS and himself.

His cousin Fred Milthorpe, a YAHS boy, was Professor of Agriculture at Macquarie University. He came from outback Hillston, and did his leaving certificate in 1935.

So where does the Dick Condon come into this? David Milthorpe has enormous respect for his fellow Yanco student and wishes to have his name acknowledged in this scholarship. Dick Condon’s family are most grateful with the generosity of the Milthorpe family to recognise their father.

Dick Condon is remembered with enormous admiration and affection by the landholders of Western NSW for his devotion to the land and to those on it.

Richard Walter Condon was born in 1924 and spent the five years of his secondary schooling at Yanco Agricultural High School from 1937 to 1941. He excelled at Yanco, being the champion athlete, and an outstanding player and Captain in each of the first teams of cricket, football and tennis, and a finalist in the heavyweight boxing. He was House
Captain, School Captain and Dux of the school and his name features on many honour boards around the school. He graduated with honours in 1941.

He came from just outside Yenda where his father, who had survived three years in the trenches in northern France in the First World War, had set up a farm.

As a result of his fine Leaving Certificate pass at Yanco, Dick won a Murphy bursary which enabled him to study and graduate in Agricultural Science at Sydney University where he was highly regarded by his professors and lecturers. After another year of practical experience on the family farm at Yenda, during which time he also captained-coached Yenda to its very first Rugby League premiership in 1946, he joined the Soil Conservation Service at Condobolin as a botanist and scientific research officer. He was transferred to head Office in Sydney in 1958 where his responsibilities came to include the conservation of sand-dunes of the NSW coastline, the conservation of soil in the Snowy Mountains, in western NSW and in central Australia. As a result of his report on the Northern Territory, he became an internationally recognised authority on arid and semi-arid land management, assessment and administration.

In 1968 he joined the Western Lands Commission as deputy commissioner, and went on to be appointed Commissioner of Western Lands in 1974. During his ten years in that top position he became a catalyst for bringing together research and practical government action to benefit the landholder. He saw his principle task as enabling Western division graziers to continue to make a living from the land, while ensuring the conservation and the recovery of the environment. The contrast between the west of the pre-1950s and that of the 1980s is one of a marvellous improvement in the land condition as well as an increase in the stock numbers and productivity.

After his retirement from the public service in 1984 he went into agricultural consultancy, mostly in western NSW but also in the Northern Territory and China.

And he researched and wrote his monumental book, “Out of the West”, the history of the western division, a book described by The Land newspaper as “the definitive study of the physical and social condition of the Western Division from pre-settlement to the present day. In the long and chequered history of Australian land use, it is unlikely there has been, or will be, a more painstaking observer and chronicler of the processes of change than Dick Condon. His lifetime of interest and close involvement in the fortunes of western NSW has left for posterity a rich fund of specialised knowledge.

And finally he wrote the story of his father’s Farm 393 on Condon Road, Yenda, a farm now run by old Yanconian, Jon Condon, and his father Tom.

Dick was an active old Yanconian: he regularly attended the meetings in Sydney of former students, and on at least one occasion gave the speech at Presentation Day.

Dick Condon was a man who loved the land and the people on it. He died in 2010 aged 85.

He was a great Australian, devoted to his country; a man better acquainted with his own country than the vast majority of Australians. He was awarded the medal of the Order of Australia in June 1984 for his services to conservation, a citation of which he was particularly proud.

He was highly respected, indeed treasured, by the people of the western division. He took a lasting and personal interest in them and in the challenges facing them, using his vast knowledge and experience that they might thrive.

Dick Condon was an inspirational man, a man who made a difference to so many people in all parts of the state. As a former landholder from Ivanhoe said, Dick Condon was “a great man who did so much good for so many people. If he had not put in so much hard work out there, life would have been a hell of a lot worse for so many of us.” He was a man of the land and a man for the land.

Let us hope the recipients of these scholarships in future years can go onto making the same positive contribution to Australia’s rural success as both Dick Condon and David Milthorpe have.

Thank you again David for your contribution to students learning at Yanco over the next 10 years. Mr David Milthorpe and his lovely wife plus three members, Peter, Jane and Louise attended Presentation Day to allow the school to recognise such a wonderful moment.
YEAR 9 TASMANIAN EXCURSION

On Sunday, 2nd December, we boarded two Allen’s coaches and were on our way. Along with Miss North, Miss Kearney, Mr Hill, Mr Gifford, Miss Weller and Mr Rolls, we were all excited to hit the road and get to the spirit of Tasmania. We made a stop in Melbourne at Lygon Street where we had an early dinner of pizza and pasta.

Day 1 - 3rd December. After an early wakeup, we disembarked the ship and had breakfast at a motel in Devonport. Then we were on our way to Cradle Mountain. Along the way we stopped a Sheffield - the town had over 50 murals thoughtout the town. When we reached Cradle Mountain it was very cold and raining, so the kind guides at the park took us by bus to see Dove Lake and Waldheim’s Chalet. After our tour, we travelled to Port Sorell for the night. We stayed at Camp Banksia, and Mr Fulljames met us for dinner. We went for a walk along the beach to look for penguins, but we didn’t see any.

Day 2 - 4th December. Another early morning with morning tea at Campbell Town. Then we stopped and saw the famous Tassie devils at Bonorong Wildlife Park, and also got to see some kangaroos and feed them. We had lunch at Hobart’s water front, and then we got two hours free time to explore Hobart a little. That night after tea we went to putt putt golf where we had a bit of fun and relaxation time.

Day 3 - 5th December. We drove throughout the Huon Peninsula and through the fruit growing region that was rich with apple trees. Then we went on a walk through the tree canopy at Tahune National Park. At the highest point we were 50 metres off the ground! There were some nervous hands holding on to the railing! After dinner we went on the ghost tour and we heard some ghostly stories around Battery Point in Hobart.

Day 4 - 6th December. We split into two groups today and went to Port Arthur and on an Eco Cruise. One group was lucky enough to see whales and dolphins, but we all got to see seals, birds and amazing views of the coast line. Port Arthur was very peaceful and we had the opportunity to cruise around the Island of the Dead, where the convict and settlers bodies were buried, and see churches and many of the original buildings of the convict settlement.

Day 5 - 7th December. We got up early and went to the Cadbury chocolate factory and had a tour followed by the Cadbury chocolate shop. We then boarded the buses again and stopped at Ross where the first bridge was built in Australia, then named the Herbert Arthur Bridge. After that we went onto Cataract Gorge, where we had a trip on the world's longest single spaned chairlift with a beautiful view. We went back to Devonport and had tea before we boarded to ship.

Day 6 - 8th December. We reached Port Melbourne, and were on our way - we had breakfast one hour out of Melbourne. We reached school at 3pm in the afternoon and had to unpack our bags. We gave the bus drivers and teachers a big clap for coming, and gave them a block of chocolate that all students put in for. It was a great week!

Jock McPherson

A big thankyou needs to go to all the students and staff that made this excursion so enjoyable. Students were given compliments from the public on their behaviour on the entire trip and all students were a pleasure to take on excursion. Thanks are also extended to our lovely bus drivers, Ross and Glen, as well as Allen’s Coaches, who navigated their way through Tasmania and were excellent company on the entire trip. Elyse North
YEAR 8 MELBOURNE EXCURSION

Monday - Day 1. At 7am we left YAHS for Melbourne, everyone was excited to get there and look around. Our first stop was the Eureka Sky Deck. We went in groups of 14-15 kids per elevator up to the 88th floor where the sky deck and lookout was situated. Most of us brought tickets to go out onto The Edge lookout, which is a steel frame box which is completely glassed that protrudes out of the edge of the Eureka building. Next was the aquarium where we were separated into two groups for our tour around the aquarium. We saw many different species of fish and other aquatic animals. After dinner we went back to the sky deck to enjoy a dusk view of Melbourne.

Tuesday - Day 2. After breakfast we headed off to look around Captain Cooks Cottage. We then went to the Old Melbourne Gaol which was made famous by the criminal Ned Kelly who was hung there on 11th November 1880 aged 25. Next was the DFO to do a bit of shopping, then onto the MCG where we took a tour in our groups around the grounds and we actually got to see Shane Warne practicing on the cricket pitch. Dinner was at the Universal Pizza in Lygon Street.

Wednesday - Day 3. This morning we had a hour and a half drive to Geelong to see the Wool Museum. At the museum we got to see how wool was processed into clothing and how sheep farming started in Australia. After the Wool Museum we went to a surf school in Torquay to get our wetsuits and headed to Addis point for an afternoon of surfing. We got changed and headed to Maccas for a feed because we were all starving. After dinner we played some trivia games.

Thursday - Day 4. We went shopping for two hours at the Queen Victoria markets where there was a wide variety of things to buy from clothing to the most delicious fruit and veg. We then departed for the Shrine of Remembrance via our coach where we were again split into our groups with two tour guides, where we got to try on old military uniforms from the First World War. We were taught the differences between World War One and World War Two; we also had a small service and a moment of silence in the Sanctuary. After lunch we went to Science Works for an hour. It was interesting and fun and we saw some very intelligent and educational exhibits. After dinner we went to Luna Park for two hours of fun and scary rides.

Friday - Day 5. This was our last day and everyone didn’t want Melbourne to end. We headed off to the Melbourne Zoo where we spent about four hours looking at all of the friendly animals from all over the world. When our time was up we had lunch at the zoo and then it was time to head back to school. Thanks to our bus driver, Dean, for driving us all around Melbourne and putting up with us for the duration of the trip.

Highlights:

- Jakeb Curran walking around the surf academy in a wet suit wearing socks and his Ariat boots.
- Connie getting smacked in the face with everyone’s boards the whole time we were surfing.
- Everyone getting their lasers taken off them by Hasko after getting them at the markets on Thursday.
- Hasko tricking us into thinking Luna Park was closed when we arrived there.
- Gus Wilton taking hat off only once during the excursion.

Sharalee Blair and Michael Hoskinson
YEAR 7 SYDNEY EXCURSION

Various students in Year 7 were selected to write a report on a particular day of our excursion. Here are their recounts.

Day 1 - 3rd December.
We boarded our bus at 8am and after arriving in Sydney we got settled into our rooms, got changed and we headed down to Darling Harbour for dinner and then headed to the World’s largest IMAX theatre where we watched “Skyfall” the sequel to James Bond. It was a really great movie. Annalise Potts

Day 2 - 4th December.
On Tuesday morning we caught the ferry to Taronga Zoo and went on the sky safari. We then went and saw an educational presentation about animals and life in the area many years ago. We then got to walk around the zoo looking at animals from all around the world. After the zoo we went to Long Reef Beach for our surfing lesson. We got into our wetsuits and rashies and went down to the beach. The surf instructors showed us how to surf and the rules on the sand before we hit the waves on surf boards and body boards. In the evening we had dinner at the Emperor’s Garden Chinese Restaurant. Codie DeCaux and James Kearines

Day 3 - 5th December.
On Wednesday morning we walked down to Pitt Street Mall where we went off in groups of four to go shopping. We then walked around to The Rocks and went to ‘The Big Dig’. It was very interesting and educational. After the ‘Big Dig’ we walked to the Aquarium which was amazing! We got to go in the tunnel and all the fish and sharks swam over the top of us. They had lots of different smaller tanks with lots of different types of fish. For dinner we went to Bondi Beach. After we had dinner we played in the park because we weren’t allowed on the beach. Mitchell Cattle and Loren Gregory

Day 4 - 6th December.
On Thursday we had the opportunity to experience a 4D movie at the Sydney Tower, which took us on a virtual trip around some of the sites of Australia. This movie was a first and new kind of experience for all of us. After the movie we travelled up to the observation deck of the Sydney Tower and got a first-hand look of Sydney. After the Sydney Tower we walked to the Power House Museum. We had a great experience of zero gravity in the museum. There were all types of gadgets like a chocolate machine and a dancing robot. We then walked to the Opera House and before our tour we had some lunch. Our tour guide took us to into some of the theatres and in one we saw the Australian Ballet practicing for “Swan Lake.” During the tour we watched two movies informing us of the history of the Opera House. After the Opera House we went to Paddy’s Markets and got to explore and buy Christmas presents. For dinner we headed to George Street for an all you can eat meal at Pizza Hut. After dinner we walked down to a park at Darling Harbour for some free time which was enjoyed by all. Dylan Whiley and Jaclyn Dwyer

Thanks so much to Year 7 for being such a fantastic group of students to take away. Thank you also to Mr Sachs, Mrs Thurgood and Mr McGrevy for their assistance and support throughout the excursion. We had a such a brilliant week! Miss Alison Giles
ALBURY SHOW

On Friday, 2nd November, Yanco’s Cattle Showstock team set off for their final show of the year. We loaded up the bus and truck with 15 students, two steers for the hoof and hook section, and six shorthorn heifers for the heifer judging classes and for the students to use in the paraders qualifying competition.

Upon arrival we set about washing all the animals and fixing up the school display before giving all a rest before our hectic afternoon. All animals competed in their respective categories with the shorthorn heifers winning four of the six classes. The two heifers on loan from Sprys Shorthorns took out the Champion and Reserve Champion awards.

The students then got to test their own Judging knowledge when they competed in the Junior Judging competition. Many of our students were in the top placings, of their age group with over half of the students having to speak on the microphone and justify their reasons of why they placed them in that particular order. All students spoke well, even those that have had very little practise. In the under 15 section first place went to Logan Manwaring, in the over 15 and under 25 Keiley O’Brien placed first, Brittany Whiteley second and Breanna Carr third. Keiley and Brittany were awarded Champion and Reserve Champion Junior Judge.

As the afternoon ticked by and headed into evening the events were not over with the paraders competition to take place. Albury had received record numbers this year and tough competition was in place as competitors competed for a placing in the state finals for Sydney next year. Yanco competed well and qualified through four more students, Toby Commens, Zoe Howe, Jessica Power, Keiley O’Brien and Odette Mara was selected as a reserve.

On Saturday we loaded up the heifers so they could return to their owners and placed the steers in the unled section of the show to be judged and then sold. Breanna stayed behind with Mr Dixon to show her birds in the poultry section. She had a great day out as her parents visited and collected the birds which had taken out four first places and one second.

The Yanco cattle team was given an amazing opportunity after our endeavours at the Albury show and we were able to visit and tour two prestigious shorthorn studs and the Ashleigh Park feedlot. At the Ashleigh Park Feedlot we learned about the cattle and different specifications needed for their shipment to Japan, their feeding and general living and about the finances needed to feed and supply the cattle to the specific market. It gave us as young cattle enthusiasts the chance to see the feedlot industry in its finest form.

As the Ashleigh Park Feedlot is on the same property as Outback Shorthorns we took the opportunity to select some new shorthorn and shorthorn cross steers to be fed and shown by the school, we also had a tour around the property to see the various paddocks of cows, calves, bulls and heifers.

We then visited Sprys Shorthorns where we got to see some of the best shorthorn stud cattle in the country. Gerald gave us a great tour through their stud cattle and we got to see the mother and sisters of the heifers that we had just been showing. We
were also able to check out his sale set up and the bulls that are available next year.

The trip was very worthwhile as it enabled us to gain a better understanding of the beef industry and a great knowledge of the breeders who have been supporting our school over the last few years. Yanco would like to thank the Schuller and Spry families for giving up their time to show us around their properties and for the donations of their heifers and steers.

On Tuesday some of the students got to return to Albury to view the carcass of the steers that we showed at Albury. This was a very worthwhile exercise as it was the first time seeing a carcass for many of the students. This allowed students to gain a great knowledge of the requirement of carcass judging and the meat industry. Yanco’s Shorthorns Yolo, placed second with a score of 91.5 out of 100.

Likewise as the heifers were, the students shone in their respective paraders classes with Toby Commens winning the under 14’s section and Odette Mara coming in second to him. The two youngsters were then trialled in the 15’s and over class with Toby Commens coming out on top and being named the Champion Parader of the show.

Keiley O’Brien, who placed third in the Junior Judging Competition, was lucky enough to be offered, by Judge Peter Kylstra, the opportunity to act as the associate over judge for the day. She says that it was a great experience that she is very thankful for and gained a lot from the opportunity.

Breanna Carr not only competed with the cattle but also took along her Poultry to exhibit. She did very well collecting two first places, one second and a third place with her Hamburg and Sebright birds.

Junee Show is Jack Moran-Turner’s local show and he came along for the day to compete in the junior judging events. This proved to be worthwhile with Jack being awarded top price in the Fleece section.

**JUNEE SHOW REPORT**

On Saturday, 27th October a small section of our cattle team, accompanied by Miss Weller, awoke bright and early to attend Junee Show. Here the school exhibited six fantastic shorthorn heifers on behalf of both “Outback Shorthorns” Culcairn, and “Sprys Shorthorns” Wagga Wagga.

The heifers were all very competitive and placed well in their classes with the two Sprys exhibits going on to take out both the Champion and Reserve Champion Shorthorn female positions. The good luck didn’t stop there though, with the champion heifer continuing on to win not only the Female Interbreed Section, but also the Champion Exhibit of the Show.

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**TUMUT TEAM PENNING**

On 3rd November a team of eight students travelled to Tumut for the annual team penning. The two teams were made up of Carrie Hammet, Tom Gilvary, Amellia Butt, Erika Quinn, Will Peterson, Emily Belling, Courtney Stubberfield and Charlotte Butt. Carrie, Erika and Amellia came away with third place.

The Tumut team penning community put on a great day with 140 open runs and 28 junior runs.

Charlotte Butt
SRC CAMP

Last Wednesday six students who are a part of the 2013 SRC body attended the regional conference at Lake Hume Resort near Albury. Deanna Johnston, Brydie Mannion, Kathy Mara, Tom Arnold, Jesse McDonald and Cambell McMaster all volunteered to participate in a range of seminars and activities spread across two and a half days. Schools from all over the region attended. These schools included Albury, Murray, Tumut, Murrumburrah, Hay, Cootamundra, Griffith, Narrandra, Wagga and of course Yanco Ag. There was a range of seminars held, all of which allowed the students to learn new skills and take in some interesting information. Some of the seminars included speeches from Refugees, How to be effective SRC’s, a look into an aboriginal program currently being held at Mount Austin High, and Rising Generations was one of the most popular seminars conducted at the camp. We also had the pleasure of hearing a few words from the well-known “Limping Poet”.

The students all had fun and found the days enjoyable. An activity that was a highlight was the disco held on the last night where the students had to dress up as anything starting with the letters S, R or C. We had a varying selection from Superheroes’ to Cowboys/girls.

We received some great ideas to bring to our own SRC and are hoping to implement them in the next year. Thanks to Miss Mercuri for escorting us and supervising us while we were on the trip.

Jesse McDonald

DISABILITY PROVISIONS FOR THE 2013 HIGHER SCHOOL CERTIFICATE EXAMINATIONS

Disability provisions in the HSC are practical arrangements designed to help students who couldn't otherwise make a fair attempt to show what they know in an exam room.

The application is submitted by the school and requires specific information about the difficulties the student may experience in a classroom or examination situation.

The definition of ‘disability’ includes:

- physical
- intellectual
- psychiatric
- sensory
- neurological
- learning disabilities

The provisions granted are solely determined by how the student’s exam performance is affected. Provisions may include coloured papers, use of a reader and/or writer, extra time or rest breaks. Note that the disability provisions apply only where the disability is such that a practical arrangement is required to reduce disadvantage in an exam situation.

Disability provisions also apply to temporary and emergency-related disabilities. A typical example of an ‘emergency’ is where a student breaks their writing arm a week before an examination.

Mrs Maskus has already spoken to some Year 12 students who may be eligible for special examination provisions. If you feel your child might be eligible for special provisions, please ring Mrs Maskus (STLA) Monday to Thursday.

DEADLINE - March 2013

For further information go to: http://www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/disability-provisions/
REGISTRARS/TRAVEL OFFICE

The Registrars Office now has a separate email address. Please ensure you send all finance related matters to yancoagh.finance@det.nsw.edu.au

Fees are now well overdue. If you still have anything outstanding please ensure payment is received in full to ensure position for 2013.

Please ensure all PVC claims are submitted by end of Year. These will be processed during January and late submissions cannot be accepted.

2012 DIRECTOR-GENERAL’S AWARD FOR EXCELLENT SERVICE TO PUBLIC EDUCATION

Shirley has provided a high level of support to students to maintain a harmonious environment across the school’s residential campus. As Catering Manager, Girls’ House Mother and Residential Duty member, she has worked to ensure that Yanco is a “home away from home”. Mrs Worley’s 22 years of outstanding service has encouraged many members of the school community to thrive.

2012 PUBLIC SCHOOL PARENT OF THE YEAR AWARD

Stacey has spent the last 25 years supporting her six children and the schools they attended in many capacities. Stacey was an active member of the Hay School Council and P & C, holding the positions of President and Secretary. Over the past eight years Stacey has been an active member of the YAHS P & C and has just completed her third year as Treasurer. During this time she has overseen the raising of just under $100 000 which has been injected into the school on many initiatives. She has been a constant member of the McCaughey Ball Committee and her input has been acknowledged as being instrumental in making this event successful.

CADETS

Cameron Read received the Commandant Riverina Army Cadet Scholarship presented by Colonel David Hay, Commandant of Kapooka Army Recruit Training Centre. Cameron received a $500 cheque and special coin medal and lapel pins for his essay about the Hellfire Pass and how the prisoners of war demonstrated the army’s three core values of courage, initiative and teamwork.

Cameron and Matthew Owen were both promoted and presented with their bars by Colonel David Hay. Austin Flamisch and Michael Hoskinson also graduated. Tyrone Lelea was given a very fond farewell by the group.

The school choir performed and were requested by Colonel David Hay to perform with the Kapooka Army Band next year at the Wagga Civic Theatre.

EMMA CARMICHAEL

Emma performed as a member of the Core Choir at the 2012 School Spectacular.
SANTA VISITS YANCO

In late November, Santa made a quick trip to Yanco to wish all the girls a Happy Christmas. There was lots of screaming as Santa arrived in the Hall, and the girls waited patiently for their turn to be given some of the gifts that Santa brought with him. It was a great evening and Santa wants to thank all the girls for their good manners and wishes everyone a safe and Happy Christmas.

FLOWERS FOR SPEECH DAY 2012