UPCOMING EVENTS

5 - 8th March
Camp Hudson Yr 9

5th March
Yr 10 R/U in Wagga

7th March
Yr 11 Science Prac Task

8 - 9th March
Harden Allbreeds Heifer Show

9 - 10th March
Venturers

11th March
Open Day
Yr 11 Bio Prac Task

12th March
LYNKS 2nd training day & interviews

14th March
Selective Schools Test/Yr 11
Chem. Assessment task due

15th March
Beach Carnival
P&C AGM

16th March
Gala Day
School Team Penning

21st March
Royal Sydney Show

23 - 24th March
Shooting @ Bowral

26th March
Yr 11 Sen. Science Prac reports due

27th March
Athletics Carnival

28th March
Students depart for Easter Break

1st April
Students return from Easter Break

3 - 10th April
Yr 12 Exams

Overall success from 240 entrants:

Left to Right: Chantelle Gorman 5th; Jane Goldsworthy 2nd; Sally Smyth 1st; Ashlee Wilke 3rd; Rose Nevinson 4th.

The Sheep team with the Supreme Champion School’s Exhibit at Royal Canberra Show
Congratulations to former Principal, Mr Colin Brown, for the bestowing of an OAM “For service to the community of the Riverina, particularly as an educator.”

Colin’s achievements are:

Principal, Yanco Agricultural High School (YAHS), Yanco, 2002-2009; Guest Lecturer, Charles Sturt University, Wagga Wagga, 2010.

This honour was announced as part of the Australia Day honours list. I have spoken to Col about the award and he is very humbled by such an honour. Very few Principals receive such and award and the staff and students of the school congratulate him on being recognised in such a way.
The swimming carnival at the end of week 2 was an outstanding success and students should be congratulated on a superb effort both in the pool and cheering their teams on. Without the support of staff such a successful carnival would be impossible and their hard work is also recognised. To the very large number of parents who travelled from far and wide to support their sons and daughters and the school was a great sight – doubt there is a carnival like it in any other school. To see several hundred parents present and be aware the cheering for 6 continuous hours was heard over 3 kilometres away was very special. Congratulations to all students, but special recognition goes to the age champions and those students who broke records, some very old records. A full report appears later in this news.

For the first time in many years Breakwell house won the swimming carnival and they have celebrated long and hard after their narrow victory over the powerful Mutch house. 65 students then attended the zone swimming carnival, also in Leeton, and again achieved great success with about 50 students going onto the regional swimming carnival which unfortunately will be held the same day as our Open Day on March 11.

There has been some recent sadness in the school with the loss of both a staff member and an ex-student in the last fortnight. Ray Sutton came to work at the school in 2010 for just a few weeks but stayed on and greatly enjoyed his job as one of the maintenance staff. Ill health last year resulted in him having time away from his position and he only just recently returned to work. His sudden death was a shock to us all and our thoughts have been with his family and we will continue to support them. The school’s fishing club members and Prefects formed a guard honour at the funeral. The family have been most appreciative for the school’s support.

Late last week ex-student from the Year 12 cohort of 1996, Joe Howard, was tragically killed in a water skiing accident at Morundah. Joe was very well known in Wagga as one of the Principals of Rundles Auctions and he played a huge part in many areas of the Wagga community. Over the past couple of years Joe had supported the school in helping us access quality furniture at reasonable rates for the dormitories. He will be sadly missed by all. At the time of writing this his funeral is yet to be held but the school will be represented to acknowledge this fine young man who lost his life at age 34, leaving a wife and 3 young children.

Last week I ventured to Lake Talbot at Narrandera in the evening to visit the Year 7 excursion. With a lead from the Prefects, our new students were taught the ‘war cry’. A competition between various groups then took place and a very close result eventuated. Wonderful to see, after only 30 minutes of tuition from the 2012 Prefects, how the students could display their school pride without any words in front of them.

The school’s sheep, cattle and equine teams have had considerable success already this term with Henty, Gundagai and Canberra being highly successful. Recently I was able to spend some time at the Royal Canberra Show and cheer on our many students competing in many events. The last day, being Sunday, ended up very wet and this made conditions most unpleasant. I had the opportunity to
spend much time with the sheep team who most likely had their most successful show ever. Our sheep and students were very successful but it was in the junior judging where students really excelled, with over 240 competitors from many schools entered. Our students placed 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th in this large field.

Sally Symth winning, with Jane Goldsworthy a close second and Ashlee Wilke in third place. Speaking to the judges afterwards they were very impressed with the handling techniques and processes used by our students to assess the sheep, where all our students excelled and maximised their points. In other highlights former Year 12 student, Jessica Crick, had the opportunity to be the assistant judge in the Whiteface cattle ring judging Hereford and Poll Hereford cattle over the two days. Congratulations to Jessica for her efforts. Many of our cattle team students had the opportunity to lead Hereford heifers in the Grand Parade celebrating 100 years of the establishment of Canberra. In this exercise 110 heifers were led to the main arena and arranged to form the number 100 on the grass - a significant achievement. None of these opportunities are possible without a large commitment from staff and I would both recognise and thank them for their efforts. The equine team is being well supported by a number of parents and without this support the opportunities for students would be greatly diminished. In the equine events at Canberra Sheridan Hammet was highly successful in many of her events. Caitlyn Beer had great success showing a Clydesdale mare owned by Alison Prentice of Borellan.

The next big show event will be the Royal Easter Show in Sydney where the cattle team will be in focus. There are about 30 students who have qualified to contest State Finals of Junior Judging in a varied list of agricultural pursuits. The school wishes these students all the best in these most important events.

The school’s new website is now up and running. Thank you to the parents who have commented and the feedback has been most positive. Your constructive comments are most welcome and we look forward to this asset expanding over time to fulfil a need for our school’s community. Many of the forms and paperwork you require will be placed on this site allowing easier access by parents and reducing all the emailing and faxing of forms home. Some of the most important forms are already on the site.

Year 12 student John Duryea has had the honour of being selected to represent Australia at the Oceanic Games 2013 in Tahiti in late March. He is one of
only two selected in the team for shooting and despite him still being a junior he is representing at the Open level. Immediately after this event he will travel to Perth to compete in the National Championships. John has been working very hard in preparation for these events and we wish him all the best and look forward to great results.

Vanessa Patey (Year 12) and Ellen Shepherd (Year 11) have been selected to represent Yanco, the Riverina and Australia in the Youth Music Festival in Hong Kong in April 2013. This is a fully approved DEC excursion. They will meet for their second intensive rehearsal in Sydney on 9th April and fly to Hong Kong on 11th April, returning on 18th April, 2013. They will be members of a Wind Ensemble consisting of students from the Riverina, Western NSW and New England regions. They spent a week of their vacation in January in intensive rehearsals in Dubbo and are working hard to ensure a successful educational experience in Hong Kong.

In the last half of the term there are several very important events for the school. On March 11th we have our annual Open Day and look forward to many interested families attending to sample the opportunities at Yanco. If you are aware of interested families for the future please encourage them to come along and have a look. In the same week the Selective Schools Test will take place on the 14th.

Finally there will be Beach Carnival and Gala Day – the two most important community events we hold annually. After the wash out of 2012, huge efforts have already taken place to ensure the success of this year’s event. The school will be packed with activities and stalls and there will be much to do. Remember parents we need your support to ensure the success of these days. I encourage you to be part of both these days. There are about 180 students in the school at the moment who have not been part of these events and they will have a very special experience. A reminder to all parents that there will be no leave granted to any students for the Friday night, and all students are expected to be in dormitories on this night.

Also in this week the ICPA Conference will be held in Cooma. There will be several motions pertaining directly to the funding of Yanco, debated on March 13th. I wish to thank those parents who have done much to ensure the ICPA has full knowledge of the need to ensure adequate funding of this school.

I look forward to meeting all families at Beach Carnival and Gala Day where a great time will be had by all.

**HAVE YOU RECEIVED THE SCHOOLKIDS BONUS?**

Do you know about the Schoolkids Bonus? It is a new cash payment to help eligible families and students with the costs of primary and secondary school studies. Around 1.2 million families have already benefitted from the first wave of payments in January 2013 – have you?

If you receive a family or income support payment, including Family Tax Benefit Part A, you could be eligible to receive $410 a year for each primary student and $820 a year for each secondary student, with half paid in January and half paid in July.

The Schoolkids Bonus replaces the Education Tax Refund (ETR) and is a much simpler system. You no longer need to collect receipts and payments are made automatically so you don’t have to wait months to make a claim via your tax return. Unlike the ETR you can choose how you use the payment to best support your children’s education – whether it be school books, stationery, uniforms, school fees or excursions.

Check your eligibility by visiting the website australia.gov.au/schoolkidsbonus and if you think you might have missed out on the January payment, contact Centrelink – either in person at a Centrelink –Medicare office or by calling 132 468.
DORM PREFECTS 2013

MUTCH UPSTAIRS
Melanie Guttler, Ellie Stevens, Zoe Howe, Ashley Pike, Grace Alexander, Mia Schneider, Kiera Sanderson, Emily Head. Absent: Remi Wilton

MUTCH DOWNSTAIRS
Dustin Manwaring, Mitchell White, Brody MacDonald

BREAKWELL

MASON
Hayley Mildren, Chelsea Whytcross, Jess Power, Demi King, Emily Crick, Jacqui Ervin, Ellen Shephard, Tori Romanelli, Brittany Whiteley, Zoe Dunn, Lily Serafin. Absent: Jessica Johnston

GARDINER

VILLAGE
Telia Oliver, Jessica Hanrahan, Beatrice Falconer, Maddy Haddrill, Amy Miller, Amelia Butt.

HINDMARSH
NEW STAFF

Ellie Quinn
I originate from Hay in NSW, where my family are fourth-generation graziers. I completed my degree in Agriculture at Charles Sturt University in Wagga Wagga, and moved across to Western Australia shortly afterwards with my husband and two daughters. In WA, I worked at an Agricultural College in the South West as a Vocational Trainer and Assessor, teaching the Certificate II in Agriculture and Wool Handling to school students. I also managed the school's 2000 head of sheep, including Superfine Merinos, Dohne F1s and Corriedale and Poll Dorset Studs, including the showstock team. During my time here I was fortunate enough to work with many elite stud breeders, and train many students in Junior Judging of Meat Sheep, Wool and Merinos, as well winning the State and National Meat Sheep Judging in Adelaide in 2011. I completed my Graduate Diploma in Education in 2012, whilst teaching Animal and Plant Production Systems at another Agricultural College in the Midwest of WA. I have a passion for sheep breeding, in particular nutrition, management and reproductive technologies; and recognise the importance of young people in sustaining the industry in the future. I returned to NSW at the beginning of 2013 for the fantastic opportunity of teaching at one of the most prestigious Agricultural High Schools in the country, and am thoroughly enjoying my time here.

Mitchell Cross
Having grown up in Wingham, near the Hunter, I undertook my Science teaching degree at the University of Newcastle. I enjoy all areas of Science and a diverse range of sports and hobbies, including rugby, hockey, camping and fishing. I am looking forward to an exciting 2013 with my classes including Year 11 Chemistry, Year 11 Senior Science, Year 9 Science, Year 7 Science and Year 7 Mathematics.

John Hayes
I am very happy and proud to be teaching at Yanco Agricultural High School. My teaching experience is extensive having taught at Catholic, Anglican, Steiner and Jewish schools as well as small rural central schools and larger inner city multicultural High Schools. I taught at Leeton High School for seven years, leaving in 1989. We had a number of epic Rugby League Riverina finals with “The Ag”:

Now I am an Ag supporter.

Sally Cassilles
I grew up in the lower Blue Mountains before moving to Wollongong to study. I managed to get my Bachelor of Education in PD/H/PE, a reflection of my love of all sports, particularly soccer and long-distance running. I spent the next few years teaching in Wollongong; however I have lived and taught in many different regions including a stint in London and Goolgowi. In 2010 I received a scholarship to retrain to undertake a Masters Degree in Education specializing in Mathematics, which led me to gain permanent employment at Yanco Agricultural High School in the Maths faculty. I am looking forward to working here and meeting and teaching current and future Yanconians.
DRUM CORPS AND CHOIR PERFORM AT THE AUSTRALIAN YOUTH OLYMPICS OPENING CEREMONY

In January the Drum Corps and Choir performed at the Australian Youth Olympics Festival Opening Ceremony. With the assistance of Mr Hammond, Miss North, Mr and Mrs Sachs and parent helpers we were able to travel to Sydney. For the first three days we learnt and practiced the pieces of music that we were going to perform in the actual ceremony.

On the second night we took the train and the ferry to Manly for the evening out and to have dinner on the beach, where Miss North was attacked by seagulls.

The Drum Corps had the privilege of performing at a nursing home in a suburb of Sydney, where Mr Sachs attempted playing the drums. Unfortunately, it was an unsuccessful attempt.

We asked him to stop after our ears began to ache.

After the final rehearsal, the Drum Corps stood outside the Entertainment Centre and performed for the athletes as they entered the building. At the ceremony the Drum Corps performed in the first segment, as well as in the finale. The choir sang different pieces throughout the ceremony and also performed on the Arena floor. They were also given the responsibility to hold the Australian flag for the National Anthem. After the conclusion of the Ceremony, Mr Finch generously bought us dinner in a lovely Chinese restaurant in China Town, where Nathan managed to drop his beef in his lemonade. It was a very enjoyable event for everyone who went. We are very thankful for this opportunity and we are all extremely grateful to all the staff and parents who came along and supported us.

Written by Grace Armour, Jasmine Boyland, Montana Hawkins and Nathan Morris.
LAKE TALBOT – YR 7 EXCURSION

On Wednesday 13th of February year 7 packed up our gear and went to Lake Talbot. When we got there, by bus, we unpacked and set up the tents. There were three tents for the girls and two for the boys. Once we were set up, we then chose what tents we wanted to sleep in and we put all our gear in there. We then sat about talking for a while and had morning tea. After some more chat time we then got informed about the rules of the camp and our groups for preparing the meals. We then waited while one of the groups prepared the food so we could make our sandwiches for lunch.

After lunch we got into our swimmers and went down to Lake Talbot pools. The first thing we had to do was to swim a lap of the pool to ensure that we could all swim. We then were given free swimming time and were able to go on the slides. I went on the rampage which is a slide that is way too scary to describe, as it you sit on a board and go down really steep to then end up skidding across the water. There was also a snake slide which is very windy and fun.

Once we had been there for about three hours we went back to camp and we showered. Some of us cooked dinner of rissoles and sausages. We were joined at dinner by the year 12 prefects and some other teachers. After dinner we split into some groups and the Year 12’s taught us the war cry. We had a competition to see which group was the loudest, my team came 3rd. After the yr. 12 left and we went back to our tents and put on our joggers as we were going for a walk.

The next morning after breakfast and packing up the tents, we played some games in our houses. After all the games and the points were tallied Mutch was the overall winner. We then got into our dorm groups and had a fashion parade with an Australian inspired theme. We had to make our outfits purely from newspaper and tape. There were a great range of outfits from Dame Edna to cricket players with the overall winner be an Emu.

We then stayed in our dorm groups and with our prefects in toe we had to go around Narrandera and answer questions. Our team got back around second last but we were in time for lunch. After lunch we headed back to the pool for another swim, but unfortunately no slides today. Once our time was up, we got back on the buses and returned to Yanco where upon arrival we unpacked all the gear and headed up dorms as we were all very tired from the great two days away.

By Heidi Booth
GUNDAGAI SHOW – EQUINE REPORT

On the 16th February Paul Bandy, Tracy Stubberfield, Bobby Hammet, Nicole and Maryanne Paulston and 7 students from Yanco School woke up at 3am and led the horses onto the truck and travelled to Gundagai. We arrived and settled the horses and ate breakfast. We prepared the horses for show and started to compete at 8 am coming back with many ribbons including 7 champion ribbons.

The horses and riders that won these ribbons were:

Jess Afflick: Champion junior working under 17yrs
Courtney Stubberfield: Champion led gelding over 4 yrs.
Patrick: Champion Led colt under 3yrs
Bobbie: Champion led mare over 4yrs, over 15hh
Will Peterson: Champion led riding pony, Champion ridden pony, 1st hack mare under 14.2hh

We had a very successful day and drove off with a grin. We had a great day.

Written by Will Peterson

CHAROLAIS YOUTH STAMPEDE

On the 24th - 27th January, 4 students from Yanco Agricultural High School attended the 2013 Charolais Youth Stampede in Bathurst. While there the students participated in some industry leading demonstrations and a lot of team activities revolving around the beef industry with the focus on artificial breeding. As expected, the Yanco students, even on their holidays, participated well and were very competitive.

In the Paraders Competition both Troy Kylstra and Georgina Murdoch won their respective classes with grace. Troy then went on to be named the Reserve Champion Parader of the show. Good luck didn’t stop there though. In the Junior Judging section Georgina Murdoch won the Intermediate Section and Keiley O’Brien won the Senior Section.

Keiley O’Brien was then named the Grand Champion Junior Judge of the show and receives a scholarship over to QLD to partake in their Charolais youth camp later on in the year.

After a busy four days and a lot of hard work Georgina Murdoch continued her winning streak in the Intermediate Section taking out 1st place in the Herdsman competition. She then went on receive the Reserve Champion Herds person of the show.

Keiley, Troy, Jess and Georgina all had a great few days and encourage many others interested in beef show stock to come along and participate next year.

ANGUS YOUTH ROUNDUP

The 2013 National Angus Youth Round Up was held in Dubbo over the school holidays. Yanco was well represented with students: Keiley O’Brien, Jess Johnston, Inez & Odette Mara and new student Natalie Grylls, all attending.

Apart from the extreme heat and crazy temperatures everybody had a great time and found the show to be very educational. The show, held on the 17th – 21st of January attracted a record breaking 207 kids and cattle.

The students however weren’t the only ones there with a connection to Yanco. Ag teacher and Assistant Show Stock Co-ordinator, Mr Collins, was also at the event. Mr Collins did a great job Associate Judging many classes of cattle all in one day. He also stuck around and was a ‘secret’ herdsman judge excelling in his role.

With so many competitors, competition was tough and placings were hard to come by. Natalie Grylls, who was in the Junior Section, placed 2nd in her respective paraders heats and Jess Johnston gained a 5th place in the Intermediate Division.

After anxiously waiting for two days for the Junior Judging results to be announced, Keiley O’Brien came out on top receiving the title of Champion Intermediate Junior Judge and won a scholarship to attend The Tocal Beef Cattle Live Stock Assessment School later on this year.

Everyone had a great few days in Dubbo and thoroughly enjoyed the show.
**HENTY SHOW REPORT**

On Saturday the 9th of February, as the majority of Yanco slept in and attempted to recover from their efforts of the swimming carnival the evening before. Ten brave students and two dedicated members of staff awoke bright and early to depart the school at 6am to head to the Henty show.

The show had a slow and steady pace to the day but Yanco found many competitions to compete in and both students and staff achieved great results.

In the Beef Cattle Junior Judging Keiley O’Brien was awarded Champion Overall Judge with Brittany Whiteley 2nd and Jessica Power 3rd. As Keiley had already attempted to qualify for Sydney Royal this allowed Brittany and Jessica to move up the placings and be awarded 1st and 2nd in the group final division. They will be then continue on to judge beef cattle at the Royal Easter show later this term.

Inez Mara was lucky enough to borrow an animal at the show and entered herself in the paraders competition where she was placed third, not a bad effort for never leading the animal before.

After the cattle section was over the students then moved onto the fleece and grain pavilion to compete in the qualifying division of the Junior Judging for the Sydney Royal Easter show. Damian Johnston demonstrated his knowledge of wool handling and took out the Overall Fleece Junior Judging title with Andrew Thorn placing 2nd and Inez Mara 3rd. Andrew was the bumped up to place 1st in the group final division and secure a seat in the state finals in Sydney.

Following the fleece junior judging was the Grain division; once again Yanco students came out on top with Keiley O’Brien awarded Overall Champion, Damian Johnston 2nd and Zoe Howe 3rd. This saw Keiley secure her spot at the state finals in Sydney and since Damian and Zoe have both already qualified for Sydney, Brittany Whiteley was placed 3rd in the group qualifiers.

While these events were taking place, and in between breaks, Yanco showed their diversity and entertained not only themselves but the rest of the Henty crowd with Damian Johnston entering, and Mr Collins being forced to enter, the Mr Henty competition. The competition saw both men being judged on their charming abilities and willingness to participate in tasks and answer questions about themselves. Despite accidentally breaking a skipping rope and the vast difference in skipping styles, the
competition came down to a performance of the School’s war cry as one of the over judges was a past Yanconian, this saw Damian take out the Title and can now be known as ‘Mr Henty’ himself.

The Mr Henty competition was followed by a whip cracking competition which saw Jess, Inez and Miss Weller take a crack at competing. Jess was a strong competitor in the under 18 section and made it to the finals, as did Inez and Miss Weller in the 18+ division. The 18+ division saw it come down to Inez and Miss Weller, with Miss Weller taking out first place.

As the Junior Judging events were still going we then moved on to the next event on the Henty show schedule which was the sheaf tossing competition. This saw a large number of us competing, Odette, Zoe, Jess, Inez and Miss Weller in the women’s section and James and Damian stepped up in the novice male division. Unfortunately due to “Stiffness” from his recent participation in the 60 day challenge, Mr Collins couldn’t/wouldn’t compete. Inez Mara ended up winning the novice and open women’s division throwing nearly 20ft, unfortunately the rest of us need to practise our style more.

Overall everyone had a great day at the show, and all were great representatives in the true Yanco spirit of get in and have a go and they all should be proud of their achievements.

**CANBERRA SHOW EQUINE REPORT**

On 18th February twelve students along with six parents and staff travelled to Canberra for the Royal Canberra Show. When we first arrived we set up camp in the caretaker’s cottage and prepared stables, had lunch and made the horses comfortable. Tuesday morning we fed horses, worked them, and then washed them ready for the show the next day.

We started at 5:30 am on Wednesday cleaning out stables and walking the horses. Sheridan Hammet had a very successful day coming away with a first, second and third place. Thursday was very successful with Sheridan Hammet gaining two second places and a third, place and Carrie Hammet scored a second place.

Friday was another early start getting the horses ready for their led and some ridden classes. In the led class Carrie Hammet got a first, Sheridan Hammet was reserve champion in her ridden class. In the ASH hack class Courtney Stubberfield placed 2nd and Jessica Afflick 5th. Grace Armour placed 4th in junior Judging. Friday was a very successful day.

Saturday started out well with Blake Paulston getting a 3rd in his boy rider class. Sheriden Hammet went in her side saddle class getting a 3rd in her junior class and a 1st in the open class. Caitlyn Beer led in Alison Prentice’s Clydesdale getting a 1st in her mare class and a 3rd in her driven class. In the working ASH class Jessica Afflick placed 3rd and Courtney Stubberfield placed 7th.

Sunday was a very wet morning for packing up and getting ready to leave. We all had a great time and would like to thank Paul Bandy, Vicki Bradford and the parents for making the trip possible!! Parents, Louise Armour and Bobbi Hammet, also competed with success.

By Will Peterson, Jessica Afflick, Erika Quinn
CANBERRA SHOW CATTLE REPORT

On Wednesday the 20th February, 17 dedicated cattle students and two teachers woke in the early hours of the morning to load the cattle and hit the road bound for the 2013 Canberra Royal Show.

On arrival we settled the cattle into camp, after a wash, and then weighing them to determine their class divisions.

The afternoon session then saw the students start their competition with Kylie Fairfull and Logan Manwaring competing in the 14yrs and under parader’s competition. The parader’s competition was run a little differently this year with students first competing in a heat, then top competitors selected to compete in the final. After 5 heats with over ten students in them Logan made it through to the finals where he was awarded a very deserving 6th place. This wrapped up the events for Wednesday with the rest of the classes commencing at 8am on Thursday.

It was an early start again on Thursday with the parader’s classes for the other divisions taking place. It was tough competition for the students and over the course of the competition we saw a number of students make it to the finals of their respective age divisions. These being Natalie Grylls, 15yrs, Hayley Fairfull 16yrs, Keiley O’Brien, Inez Mara, Jessica Johnston, Zoe Howe and Brittany Whiteley in the 17 and under 25 section. We also came away with some great results with Natalie and Keiley both placing 2nd in their age group, Jess Johnston placing 6th and Inez, Zoe, and Brit receiving encouragement awards. Once the parader’s were done it was the animals turn to shine with their weight division classes. Yanco was competing with 7 head of cattle, all Murray Grey or Murray Grey cross animals that were bred by the school. Yanco was awarded two 3rd places, one in the school section and one in the open section of competition. After classes it was time for the animals to be sold with the highest selling price being $2.48 per kilo.

Thursday wasn’t over just yet with the students getting the opportunity to be a part of the 100 year celebration of the Canberra Royal Show. Students were given the opportunity to lead a Hereford Heifer out into the main parade where 100 Hereford Heifers formed the number 100. It was a wonderful sight to see from up high and the students did a great job assisting with this celebration.

Friday saw an early start for a couple of our students who were given a wonderful opportunity to assist some breeders with the stud beef cattle showing. During the course of the Show Inez Mara, Brittany Whiteley and Kaitlyn McKay where looking after and showing Murray Greys for Debbie and Bob Travers. The girls did an excellent job and successfully lead the animals to two reserve champions. Toby Commens also got the wonderful opportunity to work for Longreach Limousins and was a part of the team who exhibited the Grand Champion Limousin bull. These opportunities are a great chance for the students to not only continue to develop their skills, but also form network within the industry, and they all represented the school proudly.
Friday afternoon session saw the Beef Junior Judging competition take place. This competition was a tough one for the students with such large number of students all trying to judge the same animals at once, making it hard for everyone to get a good look at the animals. This didn’t stop our students making it to the top of their divisions with a number of them having to give oral presentations on why they had placed the animals in the order they did. Jess Power, Inez Mara and Jessica Johnston all gave their opinions on the Square Meaters class and saw them be awarded second, fourth and fifth in the 17+ division. Hayley Fairfull competed in the 16yrs division and was awarded second prize and Odette Mara placed fifth in the 15yrs division with one of her best oral presentations to date.

Canberra Royal was a great experience for all involved and it is now time to get ready for Sydney Royal which is less than a month away.

SHEEP SHOWSTOCK REPORT

The Sheep Showstock team have had a very successful Term 1 so far. There has been a lot of interest from both previous students and new students, with many people attending the induction and training days. We attended the Gundagai show on the 16th of February, taking sixteen students. Whilst we were the only White Suffolk Exhibitors there, the judge was thoroughly impressed by our sheep. The students performed well in the handling competition, where Jane Goldsworthy was awarded second prize in the Seniors, and Charles Hogan won the Juniors. It was an excellent ‘taster’ show for the new students to get an idea of what the Sheep Showstock Team is all about.

We attended Canberra Royal Show from the 21st to the 24th of February with eighteen students, which was an outstanding success for both the students and the sheep. In the Junior Judging and Handling competition, two hundred students competed from ten different schools in three age groups; thirteen years and under, fourteen to fifteen years and sixteen years and over. Our students were the absolute stand-out amongst this large group, with their presentation, professionalism, handling skills and speaking ability; as commented on by the judges and members of the public. In the sixteen years and over group, out of a field of sixty students, Sally Smyth was awarded first place and Jane Goldsworthy second place in the Junior Judging. In the Handling, during a harrowing final that involved swapping sheep and handlers; the results were hard to split, however Jane Goldsworthy came out on top and was awarded first, Sally Symth second and Jack Moran-Turner fourth. In the fourteen to fifteen year group of the Junior Judging, out of a field of ninety students, Ashlee Wilke placed first, Rose Nevinson second, Kaesha Nijjsen third, Chantelle Gorman fourth and Damian Johnston fifth. Damian and Toby Commens also qualified in the finals of the Handling.
In the thirteen years and under group, out of a field of fifty students, Connor Ricciarelli placed first, Tom Arnold second, Angus Smyth third, Zac Liley fourth and Charles Hogan fifth. In the Handling, Zac Liley placed fourth and Charles Hogan placed sixth.

Overall, out of the two hundred students who competed in the British Breeds Junior Judging, Sally Smyth placed first, Jane Goldsworthy second, Ashlee Wilke third, Rose Nevinson fourth, Kaesha Nijjsen fifth and Damian Johnston sixth.

The sheep did an excellent job also, with one of our rams winning the Supreme Champion School Interbreeds Exhibit, against sheep from ten other schools. This same ram also won the Schools Short Wool Champion and Ram Champion, as well as Reserve Champion White Suffolk ram in the Open classes. He is an outstanding young ram, very correct, with exceptional length and depth, and excellent muscling throughout the whole carcass. He also possesses excellent LAMBPLAN figures. Another of our rams also won the Schools Reserve Champion Ram. The ewes were also successful, winning several classes, with one being awarded the Champion White Suffolk ewe in the Open classes. Our next show is Dubbo, on the 3rd to 5th of May in Term Two.

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2013 SWIMMING CARNIVAL REPORT

One of the unique things about Yanco Agricultural High School is the amount of effort and passion the students display at our school sporting carnivals, and this year’s swimming carnival was no exception. Each group displayed excellent sportsmanship and students from all year groups cheered till they could cheer no more. The day was filled with exciting moments especially when various students throughout the day broke records. These students include:

- Zac Saddler – 14yrs; 50m Breaststroke, 50m Freestyle, 50m Butterfly, & 100m Freestyle

The age champions were:

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<th>Age</th>
<th>Boys</th>
<th>Girls</th>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Jackson Doyle</td>
<td>Annabella Thorpe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Beau Routley</td>
<td>Gemma Fisher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Zac Saddler</td>
<td>Chloe Ward</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Blake Paulston</td>
<td>Meg Potter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Mitchell Ryan</td>
<td>Breanna Carr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snr</td>
<td>Kieran Fair</td>
<td>Melanie Guttler</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The house points at the end of the carnival:

- Breakwell – 1139
- Mutch - 1123
- McCaughey – 933
- Gardiner – 918

It was fantastic to see so many parents at the carnival supporting their children and getting a taste of what Yanco sporting carnivals are all about.

Thank you to all the teaching staff who put in a lot of hard work to make the carnival a success. To the time keepers, marshals, starters, maintenance, kitchen staff and techno whizzes, thank you so much for providing your experience and skills.

Congratulations also go to all the students who swam, screamed, encouraged, motivated and assisted on the day. Without your passion and participation, carnivals like this would not exist.

Miss Alison Giles
Sports Organiser
ZONE SWIMMING CARNIVAL 2013

On Monday 18th of February, 64 students from YAHS represented the school at the Zone Swimming Carnival, which was held in Leeton. The enthusiasm was outstanding from the kids from Yanco and many of them were in the pool for a few early warm up laps. The day proved to be a huge success for the YAHS team, winning the carnival by 400 points.

The following students achieved Age Champions:
- Jackson Doyle
  12yr Boys
- Meg Potter
  15yr Girls
- Breanna Carr
  16yr Girls
- Melanie Guttler
  17+ Girls

Our relay teams were extremely successful with every team but one moving onto the next level. The final events of the day were the 50m Freestyle “All Star” events. This is where the top 8 50m Freestyle swimmers race against each other. In the boys race we had Zac Saddler swimming. He qualified fastest for the day, beating the times of students 4 years older than him. Zac had a fantastic swim, taking out the boys “All Star” event. An outstanding achievement for a 14 year old!

In the Girls “All Star” event we had four YAHS girls swimming; Melanie Guttler – Snr, Breanna Carr – 16yrs, Meg Potter – 15yrs and Chloe Ward – 14yrs. Meg Potter finished a close second place.

All students swam exceptionally well and 55 of the 64 students have made it onto the Riverina Carnival which will be held in Leeton on Monday 11th of March.

A big thank you to Mr Hayes and parents who were there supporting and encouraging the kids throughout the day.

OUT OF HOURS SPORT

Another year at YAHS has begun and the Students have picked up from where they finished last year and are full of enthusiasm and keen to apply themselves into the different activities that are on offer. We have students who are excelling in numerous sports including Alex McMaster who has represented A Grade cricket in the local Leeton team. Cricket has continued from last year and our C-Grade and Junior teams are all in the Finals. Year 7 new students have been playing against the local teams in non-competitive games.

In Rugby League, Tom Webb, Jesse McDonald, Tim Hillam, Kieran Fair and Darcy Booth have all been training and playing for the Rugby League academy which saw them last week beating the Canberra Raiders development squad in Goulbourn. The 1st Grade boys are also in training with the 13/14s teams in preparation for the oncoming season. Touch Football Semi Finals started this week with 2 of our teams making it into the Grand Final. YAHS Knock Out is on the 6th April and we are expecting it to be as big as last year with over 80 teams competing.

The girls have started League tag training each Tuesday. They have a match against Narrandera High School on the 7th April in preparation for the Shelderick Shield later in the term.

Fishing Club will be in full swing on the 8th,9th and 10th March with the Bidgee Classic being held locally.

Army Cadets, Phantoms (Rugby Union), Tae Kwon Do, Music lessons, Dancing, Soccer, Rugby League 13/14/15/16/18’s, Tennis Coaching, Tennis Comp, BasketBall, AFL, Shooting and Squash have all started or about to start after Desi. Netball season is just around the corner and the girls will start training one afternoon a week.

As a morning activity we have started a 60 day fitness challenge which had over 120 students the 1st week and now has a regular 30 attending.

If anyone has any questions or would like your child involved in any of the above please email or call Mr Weir at the school.
GALA DAY UPDATE

Hello Everyone,

We are pleased to be able to send out an update to our big weekend which is just three weeks away. For those of you who are new to the school, the weekend starts the morning of Friday 15th March with our Beach Carnival. This day is full of fun and competition for all. Come prepared with a big picnic basket, seating, shade and a sense of pride of how great our kids are. School does provide lunch for the students but they always find our picnic hampers much more interesting. P & C will have a drinks van on site selling drinks, and this year we will be offering the gala Day ride bands for sale too.

If you want a good spot and not miss out on activities, plan to be down at the beach by 8.00 am (follow the signs from the school).

Beach Carnival is followed by our P&CGSM in the school hall, please come and elect our incoming Executive as well as find out what has been happening around the school. In the evening, a BBQ is planned on the front lawns of McCaughey from 5.30 to 6.00 pm at a cost of $10.00 for adults and older siblings (students and younger siblings free). This year we will have the carnival rides up and running, as well as games between 6.30 – 7.00 pm. For those of us who are a little less adventurous there will be the Amazing Quilt Display open for viewing from 6.00 pm in McCaughey.

Saturday starts off at 8.00am, earlier if you would like to come and give a hand. Cost of entry is $5 per adult with a maximum of $10 per car. At the entry you will be issued with a number of tickets for the continuous raffle that will be drawn every 30 minutes. Please write your name on these and place them in the barrel located at the P&C stall. You will be issued with stickers to put your names on to be eligible to collect your prize. Winners will have 15 minutes to collect their prize otherwise a redraw will occur.

We have lots of activities to keep you and your family entertained including the following: Team Penning, Sheep Shearing Competition, Ram Select Course, Catch a Carp Competition, painted cow competition, carnival rides and market stalls as well as YAHS Historic and Quilt displays upstairs in McCaughey. So that you won’t go hungry and thirsty there will be BBQs, Devonshire Teas, Ice cream Parlour and drink outlets.

Grand Parade and the Official Welcome will start at 11.00am followed by a performance of our own Drum Corp and Choir. There will be a special handing over ceremony of the beef stock that has been generously donated by the Schuller, Spry and Crotty families. The Year 12 fashion parade and giant auction is a must see and get involved in events. Come prepared to spend as we have some fantastic items in our auction thanks to the generosity of parents.

On our first day back to school many of you collected a book of ten raffle tickets for our major raffle please send them back sold or unsold (preferably sold) with your student after DESI to be handed in at the office. Some families missed out on collecting their tickets these will be posted directly to you.

This is an excellent time to get to know more people in our school family by volunteering to do some time on the BBQ, at the gate or in serving Devonshire Teas etc. I would like to take this opportunity to remind you that the best way to volunteer your time is through your Cluster Coordinators. I have listed their contact details below. Remember the cluster you belong to is defined by the sporting house your child/children are in.

Breakwell (Yellow): Kelly and Justin MacKellar (02) 69756015 clanmackellar@gmail.com
Gardiner (Green): Kim King 02 68953885 / 042953885 kim.king@bigpond.com
McCaughey (Red): Kerri & Craig Dunn 02 68671146 / 0427686711 ckdunn3@bigpond.com
Mutch (White): Kay Goldsworthy 02 695245254 skgoldsworthy@gmail.com (a phone call to Kay is the best option) or Robyn Pike 0427 643245 robynpike11@bigpond.com

If any parents have items that they would like to donate to the P&C stall such as crafts, preserves, cakes etc, please feel free to send these items back with your students after DESI and they can hand
them into the Administration office for the staff to hold there.

Finally there was a suggestion that there may be families who live within reasonable distance from the school who might have a spare room, a caravan or a camp site that they could offer to another Yanco family. Please pass this information onto your cluster coordinator and we will try to let the rest of the community know.

Please remember students can be signed out only by their parents for this weekend and they will not be given overnight passes on the Friday night.

Look forward to joining everyone for fun and fellowship at Beach Carnival and Gala Day on the 15th and 16th of March 2013.

Theresa Tagliapietra
Gala Day Co-ordinator
YAHS P&C

MONKEY TOP FIRES

On Monday the 7th of January at around midday we received a call to attend the bush fire that had started on Monkey Top (hills near Naradhan), from a lighting strike. So my father and I drove to the fires at around 4 o’clock Monday afternoon. My family are all members of the Kikoira - Anona rural fire brigade. We were allocated the Anona cat-7 4wd truck. Paul Northey joined us and we set off to fight the fire. We were first sent to the south of the fire to watch over and contain any fire that got away, as other teams were back burning, reducing fuel levels and at the same time producing a fire break.

Next we drove around doing a boarder check, checking for spot fires and trees that were alight and might fall across the fire breaks allowing the fire to get away.

We went back to base to get supplies like water and food for us, fuelled the truck and filled the tank up with water. By now it was midnight. We then went to the north side of the hill and observed the containment lines. We could see sparks flying out of the trees in the breeze during the night. That night we ran into other volunteer crews who were also patrolling the containment lines. One of these other crews included Royce Johnston (our very own 2013 school captain) and his father.

The next day was Tuesday, and our job was to follow the shire grader which was producing fire breaks around the roads and fences. If the blade hits a rock and produces a spark, another fire would start instantly. This is why a fire truck needs to follow the grader.

During the afternoon I was helping Royce’s father, Alan, cut fences for easier access for the graders to keep cutting the fire breaks. At one stage, we hit a huge hole in the long grass in the ute, everything flew off the dash and Alan held his hat and head butted the roof.

This particular day, the temperature was in the high 40’s and the wind kept changing directions, and was blustering between 50 and 70km/h. Had the fire escaped over the fire breaks, it would have covered a large area fast. Thankfully it was able to be contained. We were relieved at 4pm. The fires were observed for the next few days burning in the hills and eventually going out completely. I enjoyed being able to help stop the fire from destroying any of the neighbouring properties and stock. I would encourage everyone to join their local Rural Fire Brigade.

Damian Johnston

TALLMORE FIRES

A JUNIOR MEMBER GIVES HER ALL

An article shared by “Statewide News Viewer”

She might be only 13 years old but Shai-yane Mackellar, Junior Member of the Weethalle Brigade, has been giving her all to the fire effort.

Shai-yane had been assisting with catering at the Monkey Tops fire on Monday 7th January, then went on to join the four person catering crew at the Tallmore fire on Wednesday and Thursday 9th and 10th January. The whole catering crew stayed on site camping in swags ensuring that none of the returning fire-fighters went hungry. Shai-yane helped set up the catering crews and resources, as well as doing the cooking and serving.
RESIDENTIAL NEWS

GREAT OPPORTUNITY!
A great opportunity has been proposed for YAHS students to volunteer as a mentor at the Out of School Care Centre in Leeton.

The centre operates after school during the school term in a demountable building at Parkview Public School for children aged 5-12 years (3.30-6.00pm) Monday to Friday. The purpose of the centre is to provide a safe, caring, fun, inclusive and educational environment where children can freely choose amongst the program of activities. These activities are planned to meet the needs and interests of children and their families and may include craft, cooking, sport, etc.

YAHS students (with parental permission) would attend one or two afternoons and work with the staff to provide the programs offered; interact and develop friendships with children at the centre and develop leadership skills.

Anyone requiring more information please contact Miss O’Brien.

LEAVE AND SIGNING OUT

On the website there are visiting and hosting permission notes. These notes indicate the level of detail that is required on a permission note. Please either use them or provide all the details they do so that leave can be granted.

Written permission is required for students to go on leave.

Please ensure that you sign your child (and anyone you are hosting) out from the duty staff before you leave the school grounds.

MEDICATION AND HEALTH NOTIFICATION

If your child’s health changes, new allergies are diagnosed, medication is changed, etc please contact the Health Centre and provide written confirmation of these changes.

Please do NOT send any medication back with your child to keep up dorms.

ALL medication must be kept at the Health Centre.

If your child comes back with any medication please contact the Matrons to ensure that they have delivered it to the Health Centre.

This includes any pain medication such as Panadol, etc.

Anybody taking too much or the wrong combination may end up with serious health problems or death. It may not be your child but someone else’s who has ‘borrowed’ medication from several people. (Note: 8 Panadol can cause irreparable damage to the liver, more can cause death).

AEROSOLS ARE BANNED

Please do not send or allow your child to bring them back to school. All aerosols will be confiscated and safely disposed.

TRAVEL UNIFORM

Students travelling to and from school on public transport (bus, plane, train, etc) must wear the travel uniform (Plain jeans, school polo shirt, polished leather boots/shoes (black or brown) and plain belt). Please ensure that your child has this when you collect them.

MOBILE PHONES

Check with your provider to ensure that no one can transfer credit from your child’s phone to another. Ensure that the phone is clearly identifiable as your child’s.

Most of us carry our mobile phones with names and numbers stored in its memory but if we were to be involved in an accident or were taken ill, the people attending us would have our mobile phone but wouldn't know who to call. Yes, there are hundreds of numbers stored but which one is the contact person in case of an emergency?
Hence this "ICE" (In Case of Emergency) Campaign.
The concept of "ICE" is catching on quickly. It is a method of contact during emergency situations. As cell phones are carried by the majority of the population, all you need to do is store the number of a contact person or persons who should be contacted during emergency under the name "ICE" (In Case Of Emergency).

In an emergency situation, Emergency Service personnel and hospital Staff would be able to quickly contact the right person by simply dialling the number you have stored as "ICE".

Talk to your child and get them to set up their phone (and yours!) Also get them to store the school’s number in their phone: 02 69 511 500

SHEETS

Many students are claiming they don’t have two sets of sheets. Please ensure that they do as sheets cannot be washed and returned in one day.

Your child will require TWO sets. If you child does not use a top sheet then they will require TWO doona covers to enable one to get washed each week.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

There are a variety of extra-curricular activities in which YAHS students are involved. YAHS staff, do not run all of these activities, and many times there is no direct supervision by the school’s staff.

Consequently there are specific forms and procedures that must be completed and followed for YAHS students to participate in these activities.

Copies of these forms and an outline of these procedures are available from Mr Weir. Please contact him so the appropriate form can be sent to you for completion.

Please complete and return the required forms immediately to enable your child to commence involvement in this activity. (Ensure you fill in the section specifying which activity).

Be aware that the activities offered in town are run by independent organisations (e.g. gymnastics, dance academy, Guides, Cadets, etc) who set their own fees. Any problems you have with their fee structure please contact them directly, that is your responsibility not the schools. Also when permission notes are sent out to you there are contact details on them of which you should keep a record. All payments are to be done directly by you to the specific organisation. The school bears no responsibility and has no involvement in this part of the process.

Please remember that Leeton is a relatively small community so there is not the range of alternatives that are available in larger centres. However our students have a large number of opportunities of which they can avail themselves however there may only be one option for that activity.

Due to the large number of activities students are involved in transport will be orientated towards Leeton. Some days there are over one hundred students going to different activities.

So please keep this logistical nightmare in mind when you request your child to attend a specific activity.

Transport to activities at other centres CANNOT be provided. So please take this into consideration if you wish your child to participate in any activities offered elsewhere.

If they are to be transported by someone else then they will have to take leave and you will be required to provide written permission with all the details included.
GALA DAY WEEKEND

Remember:

All parents and friends are welcome to attend the Beach Carnival (15th March) and Gala Day (16th March).

There is NO overnight leave on the Friday night after Beach Carnival, all students (including weekly boarders) will be expected to attend and assist at Gala Day. (Please Support your P&C).

All students (including weekly boarders) should apply for leave via the normal process using a leave sheet and attached permission notes and submit them by the Wednesday (16th March) prior to Gala Day. This makes it much easier to process the large numbers of students who leave on Saturday afternoon following the conclusion of Gala Day.

We will assume that all students (including weekly boarders) are staying in residence unless they submit a leave sheet. Please assist us by ensuring that these forms are submitted on time to enable accurate catering for the weekend.

Students are only permitted to go on overnight leave with their own parents/caregivers this weekend.

All weekly bus travel on the Friday (15th March) is cancelled but the return buses on Monday will still run.
Swimming Carnival 2013