UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday, 20th December 2013
Term 4, Week 11

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2014
29th January
All students return
14th February
Twilight Swimming Carnival, Leeton
3rd March
Open Day
6th March
Students depart for DESI
10th March
Students return from DESI
14th March
Beach Carnival
15th March
Gala Day

Yanco Agricultural High School Newsletter

Yanconian of the Year, April Worland

Merry Christmas

As you sow, so shall you reap
PRINCIPAL’S REPORT 2013

Yanco has had a wonderful year and I have included some of my comments from Presentation Day. Now some 92 years young, YAHS really obtains its uniqueness from the ‘family’ concept and being the largest fully residential coeducational high school in Australia I believe. But I am not sure we are as unique as a new staff member quipped on arrival – “I am now a teacher at Hogwarts and have to sit on the platform for lunch”. The qualities we develop in our students is what sets us apart and that is due to the combination of traditions, expectations, students, staff and families that weld together a well-rounded and positive, very employable young person who can be an asset to any community.

A parent this week has indicated the following – “Yanco had far exceeded our expectations for schooling for our son who is in Year 7. We had chosen the school and were happy with it, but cannot believe the care that he has been shown over the year and the opportunities that he has been given. Having been around public schools (as an ex teacher and a supervisor of SOTA) I am most aware that there are some ‘dysfunctional’ ones out there but Yanco has been exceptional for the needs of our son.

We wanted to thank you and have you pass onto your staff how impressed we have been of their efforts. I know when my son is working hard and really busy that there is a busy teacher behind that. Your young and enthusiastic staff members have been excellent. Our son has been offered some really sound role models within the duty staff and general staff such as the guys from fishing club and we appreciate this.

It was a difficult first term and a half for our boy, having come from an isolated environment and he had to get used to so much but we end the year all happy and adjusted thanks to the school which communicates well, takes responsibility and behaves professionally.”

These comments encapsulate Yanco and there are many similar comments being made and I thank parents for their acknowledgements.

This year school students, staff and parents have been acknowledged with major awards. Year 12 student, Harriet Condon was awarded a Minister’s Award for Excellence in Student Achievement. Long term staff member and highly regarded stalwart and teacher, Mr Greg Press, was recently recognised with the Director General’s Award for Excellent Service to Public Education and Training. Parent Kay Goldsworthy has been awarded a Parent of the Year Award. These members of the Yanco community have made major contributions to the school and it is a pleasure to see them recognised for their efforts and work. It is a shame to see these awards not continue in their present form after this year because they do acknowledge members of the school community and the most powerful words in the English language are ‘Thank you’ and would I hope the DEC does not forget this in the future.

There are now 6 present and former staff members who have been recognised with the Excellent Service Award and it has given me great pleasure to stand beside four of them in Sydney as they received their award. Year 11 student Grace Alexander was successful in the Director General for the Day Award and spent a day in Sydney working with the Director General Michelle Bruniges and Executive Director Mr Brian Smyth King. Miss Elyse North was awarded a Quality Teaching Award for her contribution to the school. She is one of many highly accomplished teachers in the school who support our students.

Year 11 student, Adam Saul, was highly successful in the Australian Mathematics Competition being awarded a High Distinction for being placed in the top 2% of students. This is considered the best result the school has ever achieved in this completion.

Literacy and numeracy remain in the forefront of our work with students especially those in Years 7 and 8. The school was awarded $75,000 in funding earlier this year and this will continue into next year. The major emphasis has been on the up skilling of staff. Several programs have been implemented and already we can see some positive changes taking place. Having our Year 7 come from so many different primary schools presents us with unique challenges and I know we are now more prepared for the future in these areas.
The school has set up two networks which will be of great benefit to all concerned. Firstly our Year 11 students have continued to visit Gralee Special School. This occurs for a couple hours on a weekly basis over 2 terms. Our students read with and play sport with the Gralee students. Both Peter Hingston, Principal of Gralee, and myself agree that the benefits of this association are very positive for both schools and we look forward to a continuation in 2014.

Secondly we have formed an alliance with two Sydney schools, Macquarie Fields and Prairiewood High Schools in South Western Sydney. They are very different schools to us. This is Rural and Remote Education in action and there are enormous opportunities for our staff and students to learn from each other and work together in the common goal of improved learning outcomes for students. Already a group of their staff have visited Yanco and 14 of our staff made visits to their schools. Recently Visual Arts teacher, Mr McGrevy, spent three days working with Macquarie Fields very experienced creative arts staff. To date all schools have heralded the visits as a great success. Much is planned and we are now working on the exchange of students to experience each other’s context. This is most exciting.

I have greatly enjoyed working with the School Captains – Sabrina, Royce, Harriet and Murray and the Prefect group. They continue to be excellent role models for the younger members of the school. The presentations by both Sabrina and Royce were definitely a highlight of Presentation Day last Friday.

Our Fishing Club is organised by members of our maintenance crew and has many students and parents involved. The Shooting Club is now thriving as a school activity and the interest and enthusiasm of staff and parents involved is immense. The Bensley family deserve great thanks for their enormous contribution to the success of the shooting club. A big thank you to all involved, both staff and parents to ensure the success of such ventures. Well done to all involved.

There are many student achievements in a wide range of activities in the school during 2013. There is no doubt the opportunities available to our students are second to none in education at Yanco and our students respond well to being involved. Much of this is due to the good will of staff and all sectors of this school’s community need to appreciate this. I congratulate all studentEXs and compliment them on their successes.

It was again a pleasure this year to support our drum corp at Schools Spectacular as foyer entertainment. Local member, Mr Adrian Piccoli, came over and congratulated the school in Sydney as they performed outside the Entertainment Centre.

The P. & C. remains a very supportive body to the school raising significant funds to support student learning in the school. The events such as Gala Day, McCaughey Ball and Art Show
would not be possible without the concerted efforts of many enthusiastic parents and I encourage all parents to become involved and share the load – remember in the end your students benefit greatly from this support. The contribution of $20000 to various school initiatives is a wonderful effort. This year Mrs Elizabeth Dwyer has taken over as President, Mrs Monique Owen as Secretary with Mrs Ellen McMaster the Treasurer. They are a very passionate group about the school and I thank all parents for their efforts in 2013.

The Year 6 into 7 Transition program and Year 10 leadership camps were again highly successful and acknowledged by all as a very positive aspect of our school. For the first time this year a Transition program for students entering years 8, 9 and 10 was initiated with great success. To Miss O’Brien, Mrs Rolfe, Mr Sachs and other welfare staff thank you for your leadership in making these initiatives highly successful. To the team of staff who support them a huge thanks. The positive response from parents about these programs is most gratifying and gives the school great satisfaction that we are resolving many of the issues parents have and calming their fears in what can be a time of great anxiety.

I am excited by some brief discussions, regarding funding, I had with Mr Piccoli last week and I look forward to some real forward progress in this matter over the next 6 months. I would like to acknowledge and thank our parents for their intense lobbying over the last few weeks. People are listening and that is most welcome. I would like to thank Mr Piccoli for the release of the Pratley Report. There appears plenty in this for our school and the government’s positive response to virtually all the recommendations. It has taken a while but is like an early Christmas present and once again we welcome this release. There is some work for us to do but I am now most optimistic that agricultural learning in now in the forefront of those in Sydney. Minister I am very keen to work with you and the other parties indicated to take this as far forward as possible, as quickly as we can. All parents are encouraged to read carefully so that important decisions to be made in 2014 reflect the views of all stakeholders. We enter 2014 with continued optimism – resources we hope to continue improving and student numbers are increasing with the waiting list of students becoming longer, especially for girls. The increasing level of interest in our school is quite astonishing and all goes well for the future. In 2014 it is anticipated that we will have about 390 students in the school. This is about full.

In staffing the only known loss for 2014 is Mr Shaun Brooker, who after 10 years at Yanco is moving onto other challenges. We thank him for his efforts over the years and wish him well in his future endeavours. Mr Simon Watt will also be moving on and we also thank him for his contribution over the past three years. We have recently commenced a new Support Teacher and I am hopeful that both a permanent Careers Teacher and a new Head Teacher Science will be in place by the beginning of the 2104 school year.

Finally, I really appreciate your support and hard work and may I wish you all a happy, safe and enjoyable holiday season.

Thank you all for your contribution in 2013 and we look forward to another great year in 2014.
STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT 2013

**School Blues**

Ellen Shepherd – Cultural (Music)
Brittany Whiteley – Agriculture (Cattle).
Royce Johnston - Agriculture (sheep):
Vanessa Patey Cultural (Music)
Emily Parker – Sport (Athletics)
Absent: Zac Saddler – Sport (Swimming)
Erin Goldsworthy – Agriculture (Sheep)
Odette Mara – Agriculture (Fruit and Vegetables)

**Dux of Year groups:**
Grace Alexander Year 11, Breanna Carr Year 10,
Loren Gregory Year 8 and Hayley Dowling Year 7

**STOP PRESS - 2013 HSC RESULTS**

The school is very excited about the 2013 HSC results. The schools results continue to see improvement with Band 6 results across a range of subjects including Agriculture, General Maths, Music, Senior Science and Primary Industries.

Highlights were Senior Science achieving six Band 6 results (over 90%) and Vanessa Patey achieving 96 in Music. Both Music students received a Band 6. Overall our top student appears to be Courtney Cheers who has achieved an ATAR in the 90’s.

Congratulations to all students and staff for their hard work in achieving the excellent results.
2013 DIRECTOR GENERALS AWARD FOR EXCELLENT SERVICE TO PUBLIC EDUCATION

Mr Greg Press has made an outstanding contribution to Yanco Agricultural High School and its community over a 20 year period and many students and staff have benefited greatly from his teaching and mentoring.

Mr Press has shown complete dedication to his school and the success of many of its special residential programs can be attributed to his drive, his passion for the school as well as his capacity to innovate, organise, motivate and manage those in his team.

Over his teaching career he has been an outstanding classroom teacher and developed his staff in the area of quality teaching. He possesses highly developed organisational skills and has consistently exhibited leadership in whole school and curriculum development initiatives.

Mr Press has volunteered much of his non-teaching time to the Venturer’s and continually gives them outstanding opportunities to better themselves and foster their leadership capacities. His work in the residential school is to be highly commended and all present and past students speak very highly of the support they have received, especially in difficult times. His people skills are exceptional and he fosters a strong camaraderie amongst all teaching and hostel staff and students in the school. His contribution has been enormous over his teaching career and is well worth recognition.

YEAR 10 FIRST AID TRAINING

Mr Greg Press receiving his Award from Director General Michele Bruniges
PREFECT CAMP REPORT

On the 27th of November the prefect body for 2014, together with Mrs Rolfe, Mr Press and Mr Coelli all travelled up to Sydney to commence part two of their Prefect Camp. We eventually arrived at Bundilla Scout Hall late that night.

The first day consisted of a visit to Saint Mary’s Cathedral, one of Australia’s most historic buildings. The group was taken on a very informative tour around the 19th century cathedral, and were amazed at the breath taking architectural works that lined the famous walls. The group was taken down to the Crypt which contained a series of very sacred displays and “time of creation” themed murals. The tour of the cathedral was a great experience.

After visiting various tourist destinations around Sydney we made our long awaited arrival to Parliament House. Once we made it through security, we met with Niall Blair and his assistant Claire MacDonald who explained the details of the Upper House. We then made our way to the Lower House where Peter, the administrative tour guide explained the leadership roles within that specific department. We were lucky enough to be placed in the Speaker, Clerk of House and Sargent at Arms Chairs where we role played a general sitting of a political meeting. Following our lunch break we were privileged enough to sit in on the Upper House’s Question Time and see the vicious confrontations characterising parliamentary meetings. Although Dustin found this not as thrilling as the rest of us, it was definitely a wonderful experience where the entire prefect body learnt a few things about politicians and the leadership roles they must possess.

Rock climbing was on the agenda for Wednesday evening. After a quick dinner, we headed off to Climb Fit where we climbed up walls, ladders and ropes. After we had a chance to try out a range of different obstacles Pressy gave us a challenge to climb up a set of four horizontal logs attached to a rope hanging from the wall. The challenge was to get all four members of each group to the top, which we all eventually achieved. This was a very enjoyable night.

Thursday morning saw us visiting the Westmead Careflight Centre for their open day. The tour was started by meeting with John Ebbott who is the Community Engagement Coordinator for Careflight NSW. John welcomed us with open arms and to begin the tour we were privileged to watch the arrival of the Agusta A109E Power helicopter upon its return from a mission. The Power Aircraft is primarily used for rapid response to scene aeromedical work. It is crewed by a pilot, air crewman, doctor and paramedic. Once the crew had settled back into the Careflight Centre John gave us the opportunity to speak with the pilot, air crewman, doctor and paramedic for that day. We all valued the advice, honesty and the realistic nature they expressed throughout the conversation. The crew made a huge impression on all of us and gave an insight into the dangers of the reckless teenage behaviour they see every day. During our visit John showed us Careflight’s Pre-Hospital Trauma Course, which is a learning experience for all medical personnel involved in the pre-hospital environment. As a group we treasured our visit to Careflight and all took something away from our time there. It was great to see the hard work that Careflight members put in to saving lives on a daily basis. We’d like to express our many thanks again to John for giving us an insight of what our fundraising efforts go towards.
That afternoon, we visited James Ruse High School where we toured the school and had the chance to discuss agriculture and our goals for the future. It was very interesting to see the facilities and how the school was set out. The students were welcoming and interested to know how our school operated also. They found the student numbers and the size of the Yanco farm fascinating. As a prefect body, I believe we all enjoyed it greatly and got a lot out of the experience.

On our last day in Sydney we got the chance to attend the National Young Leaders Day Conference at Darling Harbour which involved listening to some amazing speakers including: Sarah Wilson (Author), Markus Zusak (Author), Tom Tilley (Triple J), Avril Henry (Corporate Motivator) and Lieutenant General David Morrison (Chief of Army). We also got a chance to meet up with a few Macquarie Fields High School prefects.

Later that evening we experienced the wonderful School Spectacular where we had several students preforming, including: Lindsay Brown in the back up choir, George Calman in the Millennium Band and the School Drum Corp performing as foyer entertainment. We were all amazed by the amount of talent that each act produced; it was a very pleasant way to finish off our prefect trip. A huge thanks to Mrs Rolfe, Mr Press, Mr Coelli and Mr Finch who took the time to take us up to Sydney, we all had a very enjoyable time. We would also like to thank Miss North, Mr Hammond, and the Drum Corp who helped us cook and clean.

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST 2015 OVERSEAS TRIP

Following the success of the USA/Canada trip this year, plans are underway to organise an overseas in the July school holidays in 2015.

This trip will include: London and visits to farms in England. Travel by train to Belgium to visit significant sites relevant to Australia’s involvement in World War I: Agricultural visits in France and a short stay in Paris. Travel to Turkey and visit Gallipoli and agricultural enterprises in Turkey

Further details will be available early next year, and expressions of interest will be for.

Bruce Hammond

SNAP PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

YAHS Student takes out State Wide Photography Competition

We would like to congratulate Caitlyn Beer on winning the NSW Department of Education and Communities SNAP Photography Competition. Caitlyn’s entries competed against a huge field of students state-wide through years 9 and 10. The competition brief was to capture what it meant to live and learn in a rural community. The four images Caitlyn entered are a fitting snap shot of the kind of learning opportunities YAHS students gain in our unique rural school. Caitlyn has earned herself a 32 GB iPad mini as reward for her excellent work courtesy of the NSW DEC – just in time for the Christmas holidays. Congratulations on a job well done Caitlyn!
YEAR 10 LEADERSHIP CAMP AT YAHS

Year 10 has undertaken 9 days of intensive work with the aim of getting them ready for a possible role as a dorm prefect, and as a senior student at YAHS. During the time the group did very well in the teamwork tasks given them. A highlight was the Yanco markets where the groups provided food and activity stalls. The rest of the school were able to buy goods or participate in activities. The markets proved very popular and were thoroughly enjoyed by both students and staff in attendance.

Year 10 also spent time doing “All my own work” course, Apply First Aid, Bronze Medallion, canoeing, many types of team work games and discussions on being prefects and role models in senior school.

A big thankyou is extended to all staff who worked tirelessly day after day and night after night to make the course possible.
JUNEE SHOW – CATTLE REPORT

On Saturday 26th October, 7 students and 6 shorthorn heifers made their way to Junee to compete in a one day show. The day started off with the judging of the heifers. The heifers were placed 1st to 5th, with Floss getting champion Shorthorn heifer. After lunch we had the Paraders event for the students. Here we saw Logan Manwaring win Champion Parader and other students receiving various placings. At the end of the day we finished off with the junior judging, with everyone being able to give comments on their placings of the animals. Our highest point scorer was Rebecca Ritchie, who received second place.

We would to thank Mr Peter Commens for generously allowing Yanco to prepare his cattle and exhibit at the show. We are happy to announce that Yanco is now the proud owner of Floss and Ella, two heifers they have worked with over the past 3 months, after Mr Commens had a complete dispersal sale of his stud. We thank him for his support of the school during the past couple of years and wish him well in his retirement.

By Zoe Howe (Cattle Captain)

WARATAH FENCING SESSION

During week 5 of Term 4 our Certificate II and Certificate III Agriculture students had the opportunity to attend a fencing demonstration session which was hosted by Yenda Producers Leeton and Waratah Fencing Products. Our students witnessed the latest in fencing products and techniques as well as seeing expert fencer Neville Prince give fencing demonstrations. All the students asked questions and benefited from the experience, which forms part of their assessment through undertaking the primary industries course.

The session was followed by a BBQ, where students spoke with ex Yanconian Richard Le Lievre about the career opportunities that exist within the Waratah Company.

A big thank you to Natalie O’Leary, Mr Collins and Ms Edwards for taking the students to this worthwhile event.

By Dustin Manwaring

HOLBROOK SHOW - EQUINE
On Thursday 14th November, thirty two members of the YAHS Fishing Club departed for their final trip of the year to Tuross Heads, about an hour from Batemans Bay. Upon arrival all members assembled for a quick briefing before launching the boats and hitting the water.

Many fish were caught over the four days, with Brayden McMaster landing the biggest flathead at 63cms. What a monster! On Friday morning the first group of kids and adults went out on the charter boats to do some deep sea fishing. Again, many fish were caught and it was an enjoyable experience for all. Back at camp the fishing continued in the estuaries.

On Saturday morning torrential rain and wind lashed the south coast so the charter boat trip was cancelled. Instead many members took the opportunity to go beach fishing even though the miserable conditions meant few fish were caught. Conditions improved in the afternoon and boats were once again out in force in the estuary.

That night special guest Steve Starling gave a presentation to all members regarding fishing in the estuaries and shared some hot tips. Also on Saturday night we had the Fishing Club presentation at which Nicole Fairley was named Club Person of the Year and Thompson Helwig was named Fisherman of the Year, having acquired the most points for fish caught throughout the year.

On Sunday morning the students packed up before commencing the traditional war cry on the beach. The bus was then loaded and all members headed back to school.

Jack Turner & Steven Butler
BRUMBIES REPORT

In June Remi Wilton, Elizabeth Turner and I went to the Brumbies Schoolgirls Rugby Union 15’s try outs and were successful in making the squad. Each weekend after try outs we travelled to Canberra for training. On the 25th of August we had our first game against Western Sydney in Canberra and won 36 - 4.

On September 4th we travelled to Sydney to Merrylands High School to play against the CHS Schoolgirls team. In the end, this team was a lot bigger and more skilled than we were and unfortunately we lost. During these few weeks of training and playing our coaches were looking at the team for the selection of the 7’s squad. On the October 10th the 7’s squad was announced and Remi and I were lucky enough to be selected and were looking forward to playing at the Schoolgirls Rugby Tournament from the 11-13th October on the Gold Coast.

When the selections of this team were announced we trained every weekend and into the holidays. On Friday the 11th October we flew to Brisbane from Canberra and stayed at the Tallebudgera Sport and Recreation Centre with all of the other squads.

The next day was game day and the tournament was held at Bond University. This was one of the craziest days of my life, playing rugby against some of the best U18 athletes in the country. We played 4 games; two against Victoria, one against New South Wales and one against South Australia. We won both games against Victoria and went down against NSW. After the three games we played in the Plate Cup final for 4th position in the tournament but unfortunately lost to South Australia. After a huge day we placed 5th in the tournament, with half of our squad injured and all our mothers grateful we had made it out alive.

That evening we travelled from the Bond University grounds straight to the International Rugby 7’s at Skilled Park. The excitement of these games was more than I could ever imagine, the crowd was full of people dressed up from everywhere and anywhere, including New Zealand, Ireland, America, Fiji, England and Samoa. This tournament was an amazing experience for us. Remi, Belle and I met some amazing people from all over the country during our time with the Brumbies and had a “once in a lifetime” experience on the Gold Coast.

Lilly Serafin

HOLBROOK SHOW - POULTRY REPORT

On the 9th of November the ‘Dixie Chicks’, consisting of Breanna Carr, Hayley Dowling, Emma Cullen and, of course, Dicko set off for the last show of the season at Holbrook.

We were all up at 4.30am, at the poultry shed by 5am where we started loading up the hens and roosters. When we arrived at Holbrook, a few hours later, we unpacked the chooks and cleaned and pampered them until they were in perfect condition for their last show. We did it with more precision than normal, getting baby oil into all the cracks of their combs. We definitely took out the others winning Champion Bird in Show, Champion Softfeather Large Female, Champion Large Fowl, Reserve Champion Bird in Show, Champion Bantam and Champion Softfeather Bantam Male; six 1st places and two 2nd places.

We also gave away our beloved but feral Polish rooster and gained 2 Silkie chicks. By 3.30pm we were on our way back to school. The chicks wouldn’t be quiet until we started pumping some old rock tunes and they definitely enjoyed Dicko’s lovely singing. This was a great way to end the show season. I am sure there is going to be some fundraising in the future to go towards expanding our beloved poultry area.

By Hayley Dowling & Emma Cullen
**GENERATION 2050 PROJECT FEED THE WORLD**

Jack Moran-Turner and Harry Carey earned the selection to represent Yanco at the Generation 2050 Project Feed the World which is an agricultural program that teaches school students about the future of Australian agriculture and is held at the University of New England in Armidale.

On Sunday morning we flew from Wagga to Sydney where we met up with more students from all over NSW and then flew to Armidale where we were taken to the UNE campus. We then had a tour of the campus and after dinner we had a public speaking workshop.

On Monday morning we were up early for a morning dance session travelled out to Petalli Merino and White Suffolk Stud, we then moved off to Talimba feed lot and finally the large cattle operation of Sundown Valley. We then travelled back to UNE and listened to a talk on international development. Then we took part in a trivia night.

On Tuesday we did activities such as wool science, soil science, careers in the grains industry, meat technology, poultry science, biology in agriculture, farm business practical, animal welfare and house, and finally had a careers session. We then had the formal dinner were we listened to Professor David Lamb who is an agronomist from Armidale and Rachelle Hergenhan who taught wool science. The presentations then started with UNE giving seven work experience scholarships were they would fly you anywhere in Australia and they also awarded seven UNE scholarships to study in Environmental and Rural Science sector for $1500. Jack was awarded one of these scholarships.

On Wednesday we travelled out to the UNE smart farm at Kirby were we had a look at Biomass sensing and GPS, Lamb Plan, Spatial monitoring and the GPS tracking of livestock, Radio Frequency Identification and walk over weighing and National Broadband Network Farming. We then travelled back to UNE and took group photos and said goodbye to everyone and flew home.

This was a great educational experience where we made lifelong friends and would do it all over again if we could.

We would to thank the organiser of the event, Amy Cosby, as well as our teacher references Mr Collins and Mr Shady for helping us write our essays to be selected for the program and UNE for fully sponsoring the event.

**SHOW JUMPS**

The Equine students have been busy painting new show jumps to brighten up the jump paddock. The new jumps will assist the students in preparing their horses for jumping events including Coonabarabran Equine Expo. By having a range of bright coloured jumps here at school the horses will be less likely to worry when they encounter new jumps at show. The jump wings are also new this year and were welded together for us by year 12 students in the VET metal classes.
YEAR 9 EXCURSION - TASMANIA

Day 1
On December 1st 2014, Year 9 left school at 8am to travel to Melbourne and board the Spirit of Tasmania for their excursion. We had an early dinner at Universal Pizza, boarded the Spirit of Tasmania at 7pm and then settled into our rooms. At 7:30pm we left the docks to begin our overnight cruise to Devonport. The crossing was a real adventure for some with the lumpy seas causing a few upset stomachs.

Day 2
We were up early on Monday morning to disembark at 6:30am. We boarded the coaches and travelled to The Quality Hotel to have breakfast. We then travelled to Sheffield, the town of murals, on our way to Cradle Mountain National Park. When we arrived at Cradle Mountain we joined a guided tour to learn about the history of the national park. We saw Dove Lake which was a spectacular vista. We got back on the tour buses and travelled to the oldest alpine lodge in Tasmania, which was really pretty.

We arrived at Camp Banksia by mid-afternoon, unpacked our bags and made our beds then we had some free time before dinner. Most of us went down to the beach which was a short walk from the camp and had a swim and a run around. At 5pm we went back to the camp to get ready for dinner. After dinner, we could watch a movie, play outside or stay in our cabins.

Day 3
On Tuesday we got up early and left the camp. Our first stop was Bonorong Wildlife Sanctuary where we got to pat wombats, learn about the Tasmanian Devils, as well as feed and lounge around with the kangaroos, which were roaming freely and weren’t shy around people.

When we finally arrived in Hobart, we went to our assigned rooms, argued over the double beds, then unpacked our bags with relief that we didn’t have to get up in the morning and cart our luggage to another destination.

After dinner, which was served at 6, we played Putt Putt Golf where a competitive streak came out in a lot of the students. However, it all resulted in a fun night filled with laughs, jokes and a little bit of mocking. After all the games were finished we got back onto the bus to head back to the motel for an “early night” - as far as the teachers knew.

Brittany Manwaring

Day 4
We had yet another early start and after breakfast we were yet again on the bus heading towards another full day of activities. Firstly, we went south west from Hobart and went on the Tahune Airwalk, which is a long walkway situated high above the canopy of the forest where the brave stride on, and the ones scared of heights frantically grabbed onto the railing or others, willing themselves not to look down, while everyone else laughed and helped them. Thumbs up for team effort!
We had lunch at the visitor centre then went back to the motel to get ready for dinner and the Battery Point Ghost Tour. We brought our cameras in the hope that we would catch something on them during the ghost tour. Our guides were friendly and all had a good sense of humour. They took us around old Battery Point, telling us all the ghost stories and ghostly experiences of different places in the area. The haunted locations ranged from a household with a scandalous history to a household which was simply occupied by the ghost of a woman who had OCD and a love of cats.

Our group finished with a tunnel underneath the park that had a disturbing history that included witchcraft and the kidnapping of women. A lot of us were entirely ‘creeped out’ whereas others enjoyed the experience a little too much and were enthralled that they were in such a place.

The night ended with lots of laughs and everyone had a lot of fun, but we had to get back onto the bus. We went back to the motel for yet another “early” night, falling asleep to the sound of people talking and sharing pictures they had taken on the tour.

Hannah Williams

Day 5
Thursday morning was a challenge to say the least, with everyone complaining and shuffling like zombies to the bus so early. Port Arthur was our first stop for the day, where we were left to run wild and explore. Between 1830 and 1877, about 12,500 convicts were transported and imprisoned at Port Arthur, many for crimes that would be considered minimal today. Yet punishment was severe and although many tried to escape, few succeeded. The ruins and castle-like structure were beautiful, and many of us spent the majority of the time taking photos or climbing to the tops of buildings. Off the shore of Port Arthur we saw the boy’s prison, Point Puer, as well as the Isle of the Dead, from the safety of a tour boat. The Isle of the Dead is a cemetery for prisoners who died whilst imprisoned. Creepy tours are offered for those willing to tread around the tombstones of the dead.

After this short tour we were let off the small boat to find ourselves being pelted with rain. Everyone ducked for cover and tried to wait it out, and when that was unsuccessful, we all had to sit through a very uncomfortable and cold bus trip to the Tasman Peninsula. From here we joined a world class three hour eco-adventure tour, which took us around the coastline of the Tasman National Park. Our tour guide had a great sense of humour, and although everyone was drenched and shivering, I doubt a single person would say it wasn’t worth it. The giant structures that had been formed over time by erosion were breathtaking, along with the wildlife that inhabited them, such as seals we spotted with their pups. Incredible waterfalls and mysterious large caves caught the attention of almost everyone, but I think the thrill of the speeding boat and rain pelting everyone’s faces was the most entertaining part.

After returning to our motel and having an early dinner, we all took off yet again for a few hours of rock-climbing fun. When we arrived we were split up into three groups, ours taking on the narrow and awkward, pitch black tunnels found in the walls of the basement. Everyone had a go and few got stuck, although by this time with all the tight spaces to squeeze through, everyone’s muscles were already aching. We then got strapped up to harnesses and attempted to reach the top of the rock-climbing obstacle walls, before heading back to the hotel for some well needed sleep.

Day 6
Although it was a slow and cold morning, everyone was definitely pumped for the Cadbury factory, where we were shown the process of making chocolate, moulding it, and packaging it. Afterwards we were all keen to actually eat some chocolate, so we raced to the shop to stock-up on as much sugar as we could, before sitting down and relaxing with our hot beverages and chocolate snacks.

Our next stop was the town of Ross and its enigmatic Herbert Archer Bridge, also stopping at Launceston to see its famous Cataract Gorge which was really stunning. We then crossed its terrifying
suspension bridge before travelling back to the other side of the Gorge via the world’s longest single-span chairlift. In pairs, we were suspended over the Gorge, and even coming from someone with a terrible fear of heights, it was really pretty and fun. On our way to Devonport, we stopped at a cheese factory and watched a video on how they make the cheese and we were then able to taste-test.

After dinner we headed back to The Spirit of Tasmania and relaxed on the boat for a few hours before being sent to bed for an early night. Some people found the harsh rocking of the boat calming, whilst others were kept up all night trying not to fall out of their beds.

**Day 7**

In the morning we were all tired and too exhausted from our trip to do much else than sleep when we departed the boat and reboarded the buses yet again. After a few hours of sleeping, gorging out on chocolate, or watching movies we had a break for lunch. We then continued sleeping on our long journey back to school, all pleased and exhausted form our adventures in Tasmania.

*Liarnah Jones*

**Year Advisor’s Epilogue**

What a fantastic excursion! I was extremely pleased with the behaviour and conduct of the students and the wonderful experiences they were able to share. Many of them will now have a totally new appreciation of the diversity and beauty of the Australian landscape. It was especially pleasing to see the students appreciate the completely different agricultural perspective that life in Tasmania brings. A special thanks to Mr and Mrs Cassilles, Miss Edwards and Mr Brown for their help and support over the excursion. I hope everyone has a great Holiday and I look forward to another brilliant year in 2014.

*David Haskins*

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**YEAR 8 EXCURSION TO MELBOURNE**

On Monday the 2nd of December 46 excited students and 5 nervous staff made the trip down to Melbourne for the 5 Day, Year 8 Excursion. A few students wanted to share their thoughts and stories from particular days of the excursion. Here is what they had to say...

**Day 1 - written by Jaclyn Dwyer, Kyla Walmsley & Madison Gillett.**

On Monday morning we departed school at 7am. We loaded onto the bus, found our seats and got ready for the long trip ahead of us. It took us 6 hours to get to Melbourne, but once there we stopped in the city and had lunch before heading up to Eureka Sky Deck.

The Eureka Sky Deck was amazing. We had to travel 88 floors up in the elevator. Once we got to the top we were shocked at how high we were. Some students got pretty scared but still plucked up the courage to go out on ‘the edge’. Many people bought photos of themselves that were taken during ‘the edge’ experience.

After the Eureka Sky Deck we went to the Aquarium. We saw many animals that live in the water. We were also able to hold a star fish which was pretty cool!!

After the Aquarium we went to our hotel and then went to Three Crowns where we had a delicious
dinner!!! Everyone enjoyed themselves when socialising and tasting great food!
After dinner we went back to the Sky Deck for dusk. The sunset was so beautiful!

Day 2 - written by Matthew Young
On Tuesday morning we went to Cook’s Cottage where we learnt about Captain Cook and his voyages. Tom and Chloe thought it would be fun dressing in the clothing they wore back in the day. We had a great time exploring the park and Seymour obviously didn’t want to leave because he left his bag behind. Thankfully we were able to go back and get it!

After Cook’s Cottage we went to the Shrine of Remembrance where we learnt about symbolism. Pretty much every part of the shrine and gardens had something to do with each of the wars Australians had fought in. It was a very good experience and a crucial learning point for us all.

We then went to the MCG where we got a tour of the grounds and buildings. They didn’t even mind if we “borrowed” a piece of grass! One very interesting thing I learnt is that it can take up to 40 years to become a member of the MCC (Melbourne Cricket Club) once you put your name down.

That night we went for dinner at Universal Pizza on Lygon Street. After dinner we went for a walk along Lygon Street where the girls found a Cotton On shop.

Day 3 - written by Loren Gregory and Abbie Hurst
On Wednesday we went to the National Wool Museum. It was very interesting and we got to see all the steps in the process of making yarn. We also learnt about various breeds of sheep.

After the Wool Museum we drove to Torquay where we went surfing for 2 hours. It was so much fun!! Even though some of us couldn’t stand up it was still a great experience!

That night we were pretty tired! We enjoyed a very tasty dinner back at the hotel. The chicken was amazing and the lamb was delicious. We got to bed early that night.

Day 4 - by Chloe Ward and Madison Horrobin
Thursday was a very busy day! In the morning we went to the Queen Victoria Markets. This was definitely one of the year 8’s all-time favourites!! Money was well spent, or all spent… take Charlotte for example who bought 2 fish (Greg and Doug). They even survived the trip back to school in the bus. The group had lots of fun getting the prices down a little lower and buying Christmas presents!!

We then went to the Old Melbourne Gaol which was very interesting, yet scary. We heard some great stories about the legend Ned Kelly and scary stories about Cell 17. The Old Melbourne Gaol cells really made us appreciate our accommodation at Yanco, with the prisoners only having a sheet with straw, a cup of water and bread, plus their toilet was a bucket they had to empty every morning.

We then went to the Science Works Museum which was very fun! There were so many things to see, do and learn about. Our group’s favourite section was probably the sports part or the tunnel that made our friends disappear. It was a shock when a stranger would come back through and we thought we had killed our friend.

That night we went to La Porcetta for dinner where we ate delicious pizza and pasta. We also had two cakes for Bella’s birthday. Happy 14th birthday Bella!!

After dinner we drove all the way to Luna Park to find out that it was closed for a private function. That was ok, because we ended up going to Galactic Circus at the Crown Complex. It was the biggest indoor gaming arcade we had ever seen!! Most of us won prizes and we then went upstairs and bought McDonalds and ice cream.

Day 5 - written by James Kearines
On Friday 6th December the year 8’s went to the Melbourne Zoo for the last activity of our excursion.
While at the zoo we had two hours of free time to look at the various animals, reptiles, amphibians, sea life and birds that were living at the zoo. Most animals were foreign; some from Africa, America, Europe and even penguins from Antarctica, but some were native, such as the kangaroo, koala, Tasmanian Devils and many birds. We could also buy souvenirs at the gift shop. Some favourites of the Zoo were the monkeys, zebras and giraffes, bears, lions and the meerkats. We saw some amazing animals and all of us had fun.

When we were done at the zoo we went back to the Miami Hotel, where we had been staying for the last four nights, and grabbed our pre-packed bags to store under the bus. Once the bags were stored we all got on the bus and most of us slept on the drive back to YAHS. We stopped briefly for lunch, which was pre-packed from the Miami Hotel or we could buy our own at McDonald’s, KFC or Subway. We also read out the Sheriff’s fine of the day.

Each day the teachers would elect a girl and a boy to be ‘sheriffs’ for the day and these two people would be in charge of fining people for things such as not wearing their seatbelt, swearing, being rude, annoying others and the teachers were to be fined for talking about school.

At the start of the next day one of the Sheriffs would read out the crimes while the other went around the bus to collect them in a big money box. The common fine was 20 cents for students and $1 for teachers. At the end of the excursion we had raised $85.50 and we are still deciding what to do with the money.

Overall we had a brilliant excursion and we would like to thank the teachers and our bus driver, Glen for making it so much fun!

YEAR 7 EXCURSION - SYDNEY

Our week started off with a 6:45 breakfast and we were on the bus by 8:00am. We had a rough start with not having enough seats to fit all 52 kids and 4 teachers. Luckily we were picking up students in Wagga Wagga and we were able to switch buses, then we were on our way to Sydney. We arrived in Sydney at 4:30 in the afternoon. There were numerous highlights throughout the trip and we wish to share ours:

The highlight of the trip for me was surfing because I have never done it before. I also really enjoyed the aquarium where I got see some really cool and weird animals. Grace Hughes

I really enjoyed the Power House Museum. It was very interactive, for example you had to ride a bike to make enough power to make a fire engine go, with all of its lights and sirens. The museum was filled with modern and old historic machines and gadgets. We were all given free time to look around and explore the place and were told to meet up outside in the courtyard, where we got to have a snack before moving on. Max Hatty

Wednesday was my favourite day as we got to head to Bondi Beach for tea. We had two hours to get in a small group and go and get something to eat at Bondi and explore the beach and surrounding area. I was with Bill and Will and we had fish and chips. With many other places to eat, plus ice cream shops for dessert there was a great choice of food. It was a great tea. After finishing tea the boys decided to put money in on a football and play a big game of footy on the beach with Mr Collins and Mr Cross both joining in. Overall the excursion was great and I can’t wait for the year 8 excursion to come. Blake Haddrill
My highlight of the trip was the Sydney Harbour Bridge pylons. I had never been to the pylons before and although I enjoyed it very much, I could not believe how few people died while they were building the bridge. The slide show of the workers building the bridge was very interesting because I couldn’t believe that they could build such a thing that weighs so much. I was very engaged when we went to the top of one of the pylons. When we were up there we could see the Blue Mountains and most of Sydney. The whole trip was amazing and I am looking forward for next year’s excursions.

Georgina Hughes

After three jam packed days in Sydney we left early on Friday morning, stopping for breakfast on the way. On the bus back home there was a quiz on our week in Sydney and about the places we went to. There were also awards given out for some of the funny events, highest points and for the most caring people.

**Following were some of the award winners:**

Max got an award for having to stop the bus twice to go to the toilet.

Zoe got an award for being the kindest and caring person.

Georgina received a years’ worth of detentions with Mr Cross next year, just because she loved not being in his class this year.

Seb won the highest pointer scorer at King Pin Bowling (without bumpers), scoring 125 points.

Overall we had a fantastic time in Sydney and it was a great way to finish off the Excursion. We wish to thank all the teachers who came with us on the trip and made the week such great fun.
NEW ZEALAND YOUNG JUDGES CHAMPIONSHIPS FOR BEEF CATTLE

In early November 2013 I attended the Canterbury A&P Show in Christchurch, on the New Zealand South Island, as a representative at the 2013 New Zealand young judges championships for beef cattle. Not only did I have the experience of international competition I also got to see the agricultural industry of New Zealand.

On November 9th my chaperone Kim Weller and I flew out on a late night flight and landed in Christchurch at 2am to be greeted by our host of the week, Mrs Helen Heddle, the owner of a large Angus Stud, ‘Glen R’. We settled into her house and routine well as we prepared ourselves for the week ahead. On our first day in NZ we took a trip to a Lowline stud to help school students with their junior judging and parading skills. The students were from Rangiora High School where a cattle program ceased to exist. The students take it upon themselves to reach out to studs to get their foot in the door of the industry. Kim gave an excellent lesson in parading, helping the kids with their handling skills. We toured the farm and viewed some fantastic stud stock and viewed the bulls. The setting and location of the farm was incredible with huge mountains just a few kilometres away all still with snow-capped peaks. Following the morning lessons and the fabulous tour we returned to our host family for an afternoon of exploring one of their many small properties.

The next day we spent with a Murray Grey stud owner on the outskirts of Christchurch helping him prepare his cattle for the show. We helped settle the calves into halters and washed the cattle. We discussed the reasons behind Murray Greys and how they handle the NZ country side with the results being fantastic. George, the stud owner, stated that he had sent a bull to the high country to be mixed with a herd of cows and other bulls. The results were fantastic with over 50% of the calves coming from his bull. After this we travelled out to the main property, owned by the Heddle family, nearer to the town of Darfield to see their side of the industry. We were lucky enough to have arrived during their bull fertility testing. The yards were packed full of bulls that had been purchased by surrounding dairy farmers. Within the Stud industry in NZ it is not common to castrate the cull bulls and raise them as steers but more financially beneficial to raise them as bulls and sell them into the dairy industry. We toured the farm and viewed their stud cattle with again stunning views and fantastic cattle.

Tuesday was a relatively quiet day as we took the family’s show sheep and cattle to the A&P showground and settled into our motel. Show day had arrived quite quickly with the cattle filling the yards and everyone eager to hit the ring! We were recruited to show for a family with a stud, Jandock Herefords, much to Kim’s delight! The day ran smoothly yet was jam packed with exciting classes that I had never heard of before. I was placed in charge of the junior bull in our team. We hit the ring, achieving some good results and I was immediately recognised by fellow Australians due to the size and style of my Akubra. The team received some massive awards including Champion...
Hereford Cow and Senior Bull. That afternoon was my main event, the Junior Judging. I was placed in the intermediate class judging Lowline heifers, South Devon bulls and Charolais heifers. I spoke well on the Charolais heifers being placed equal 3rd in my class, which I was thrilled with!

The following day was the major competition of the cattle section called the Meat and Wool Cup. It was an event where the judge from each breed selected which animal they wanted to represent in the cup. With our teams senior bull being selected for this honour in the bull class, after that it was time for the inter-breed for both the senior and yearling animals.

On the last day of the show I was interviewed for Herdsperson and then carried on to prepare my junior bull for Paraders. He was a bull that had been pulled from the paddock a week before the show and had never seen a spray can in his life. But with the help of many of the stud breeders I gave him his first ever full wash, hit him with the blower and made it to the ring with a very stylish young bull. I was placed 5th in the class and was satisfied with my efforts as the judge told me I did very well in a strong class.

Following this the announcement for Supreme Champion Herdsperson was due, so all the young competitors, and I, eagerly gathered in the ring. I was named Supreme Champion Herdsperson of my age group along with the young boy who was equal third to me in the judging. As it was a now a joint award I took home the ribbon and the other competitor took home the plaque and a trip to the Fielding Show on the North Island.

This has been the most incredible experience of my life so far and it will not soon be forgotten. I have made life long contacts and friend-ships through this experience and would like to thank the ASC for all of the support that they have given me in getting to this event. As a result I have decided to return to the A&P Canterbury show in 2014. I was asked by Sarah Heddle, the head of the youth at this show, if I would return to compete and gladly accepted her invitation. I would like to be involved in the youth of shows in New Zealand to assist them in building more interest and acknowledgement for the younger competitors.

Overall I had a thrilling time and I am extremely thankful that I was given this opportunity.

By Brittany Whiteley

FOOD TECHNOLOGY

During Term 4, Year 11 Food Tech class have been studying Food Manufacturing as the first topic in their HSC coursework. The class were able to do a major study on rice; from paddock to plate. There were several excursions to give each student a personal view of industry. Firstly we visited Gogeldrie Rice Shed to see rice receivable, pre-cleaning and storage. Following on from this excursion, the group travelled to see inside the rice mill. They visited the brown and white mills to learn about the hulling of rice, cleaning, sorting and grinding to whiten the rice. The packaging plant was also a highlight where a large variety of sizes and types are packaged for the Australian and overseas markets. The distribution centre and rice cake plant were also on the agenda.

The final excursion allowed the class to learn about quality assurance and marketing of rice. Thanks to the staff at SunRice for making the excursions possible.
A CONTRIBUTION TO THE HISTORY OF YANCO

YAHS – My years from 1931 -1935
By Douglas Johns

First Impressions - in view of coming from my home in Broken Hill.

My early boyhood was full of activities among rocky hills, waterless creeks and gullies, dry saltbush and a mulga covered landscape with its horizon studded with whirlwinds, picking up kerosene and other detritus in its path.

Leaving my father, with tears in my eyes, at the main gate.

Being introduced by the Headmaster to Henry Johnson, who was to show me around the school. He was also a very new boy.

Here around me was an environment I had never seen before in my life. It was water and green trees. Walking over the footbridge to class with water beneath and green willow trees above was an introduction to things growing which I had never seen in my life before. We walked along a brick path to the classrooms passing the blacksmith’s shop, a sports oval, which had green grass and to the right a beautiful row of willows lining the water canal. McCaughey House, the original homestead of Sir Samuel, housed the dormitories for the first year students while the relatively new Mutch House housed the second and third year boys.

As one walked towards the canal, on a dirt road, a building on the right housed the laundry facilities, while further down the road a corrugated iron building housed the horse drawn drag used for carting supplies and personnel to and from Yanco railway station, three miles away.

The drag was replaced by or supplemented by a motor truck with a cover over the seats in the back. Next to this building was a gym with its roped boxing ring and in the same structure a small room called the Prefects Room. Tennis courts and stables filled the area opposite. Turning left at the blacksmiths shop the road led past the School Hall where students gathered for formal addresses, concerts and church services, as well as informal relaxation on Saturday nights. The dust between the floor boards rose when 120 boys thundered and stomped out the school war cry.

A work shop was situated next to the sports ground. Here, under the direction of Willie Bible, one learnt the rudiments of working red hot iron, soldering and drilling holes in various crudely made articles. The interior of this place appeared to have changed little from the original McCaughey structure.

Further down the track towards the Murrumbidgee and on the right was the vegetable garden. Boys who had never before handled a hoe or spade were soon instructed, by a very kind man called Charlie Kenney, how to deal with weeds.

On the bank of the river stood the water supply tank immediately next to Willie Bible’s cottage with its adjacent tuck shop and a little further on was the sandy beach for swimming. It was a delight on summer afternoons to go into the river. How the supervising teacher coped with the various levels of swimming proficiency of the boys must have been nerve racking, but they were only older boys themselves and somehow managed without any accidents.

Swimming provided opportunities for those who needed to improve, or a challenge to swim across the current, or hold their breath while diving for mussels in the deep holes below the opposite bank. Stories told about the boy or boys who swam across and brought back one of ‘Scrubby’ Marshall’s pigs sounded daring but was probably only fantasy. The River Gums provided shade on the very hot afternoons and added to the enjoyment.

The road past the Hall led to the Dairy and Piggery. The former consisted of a herd of Jersey cows and heifers and a bull with the macho name of ‘Achilles’. Management of the dairy was in the hands of ‘Bluey’ McBean, a young man who needed to be tolerant when dealing with boys who had never ever touched a cow in their lives. Boys took it in turns to be “on cows” for a week during which the hand milking procedure resulted in a vast variation in pressures to try and empty the equal variation in the size and flaccidity of the udders. Those who had been involved in milking at home showed their superiority by encompassing the whole teat in their hand and producing an enviable squirt. McBeans calm was tested from time to time when one of the cows reacted to an over-squeeze by
putting its foot in the bucket and chastising the milker with a painful flick of its mud and faeces soaked tail.

It was the duty of the first student to arrive to light the copper for the hot water and thus provide the coals for the piece of toast to be covered with golden syrup and a pile of cream as a reward for finishing ones first cow and weighing and recording the yield, even though it may not have been the most pure product. One boy also turned the separator. Most of the milk went to the kitchen and jugs of the product were placed on the meals tables. “Cows” began at 5:30am and the two boys on duty were to go up to the cow paddock, at times through mist covered and frost crackling pasture, and coax the herd to the dairy.

The Piggery consisted of a herd of mixed Large White and Tamworth sows and their offspring housed in about six very muddy pens each of which had a farrowing or shelter shed at one end.

The river flood plain was covered with River Red Gums, which had resulted in a dense cover of sapling growth known by the boys as “the suckers”. This area was available for after school and weekend recreation which often involved the building “camps” out of scavenged corrugated iron and learning how to twitch chopped down suckers with fencing wire, thus forming a sort of a building with a sort of a fireplace. Toast made from the pieces of bread tucked down their shirts during dining room meals was the main feast, but parcels from home were also a welcome addition.

The horse stables behind the tennis courts and bordering the canal bank housed several Clydesdale draughts and a few horses which were used to pull a dray, a sulky and the drag, which carted goods a distance of three miles from Yanco Railway Station when the motor truck was not in use. The draught horses were also used for farm work. ‘The old grey mare’ harnessed to the sulky made trips with domestic staff to Yanco railway usually with one of the boys as the driver. The teacher in charge of the stables and horse activities, Mr Thomas did not inspire the highest level of horsemanship.

The domestic staff or “maids” quarters were situated in a tree covered area on the river side of the main building.

On Monday mornings a general assembly of staff and pupils took place in front of the main building where the head Master gave out announcements and corrected misbehaviour, either verbally or with the assistance of a cane rod brought down on the open hand of the culprit, thus delivering ‘the cuts’.

On the right hand side of the driveway, after entering the main gates, lived the Head Master with his family and bordering this house was an orchard, the fruit from which must have been consumed by the staff or birds. Stories of raiding the orchard circulated among the boys but these raids did not yield banquets of fruit.

O.T. Gardiner occupied the Head Master position until 1934 when he was superseded by P. Hindmarsh. This was the year that the course lengthened from the three year intermediate level to the five year matriculation.

Teachers and their specific subjects during 1930 – 1939 are listed as follows:

- Buckley: Mathematics
- Woods: English
- Proctor: French
- Smythe: Clarke

One of the Agricultural subjects had its practical test in the final required of the examinee to drive two draught horses hitched to a single furrow plough and plough a prescribed section of one of the small paddocks on the edge of the canal.

Pupils of note consisted of Stan Townsend, a competent sportsman in all fields and a presence which resulted in him being Captain of the school. Ted Young was renowned for his cricket skills and Fred Milthorpe for his academic capabilities. All three continued on when the curriculum was extended to five years.

Pupils who took the Leaving Certificate in 1935 and who were the first to do so when the course was extended to five years were as follows:

- Ackland, Farleigh, Cooper, Menzies, Dempsey, McGeogh, Johns, Young, Moore, Townsend, Milthorpe, Ritchie, and King

My photograph contains sixteen boys and there are three I cannot identify.