



# Grafton High School

## Achieving Excellence

Wednesday, 27 November  
2013

### In this Issue:

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### Principal's Report

#### Sheila Mears Award

I had the privilege last Thursday afternoon of attending the presentation of the Sheila Mears Award for Art and Literature at the Grafton Regional Gallery. This year the awards were for Literature and we were privileged to hear readings from some outstanding stories written by our students. Dr Peter Mears judged and presented the awards with first place going to Georgia Patterson. The afternoon was supported by performances from our school band and choir. I would again like to thank the Mears family for their kind sponsorship of this award and their ongoing support for literature and the arts at Grafton High School.



Winner - Georgia Patterson and Dr Mears

In addition to the presentation, the afternoon also marked the official opening of an exhibition of Grafton and South Grafton High Schools student HSC major works in Visual Arts, Textiles and Industrial Technology – Timber. The standard of work was outstanding and covered a broad range of topics and media. It is a fantastic opportunity to be able to display student work in a venue such as the gallery and I would like to thank Grafton Gallery for the opportunity. I have included further photos of the event over page.

#### Student Achievements

I have been informed of a number of other Grafton High School student achievements that I would like to share with you. Firstly, I would like to congratulate Micaela Scott, Daniel Wall, Kate McGuire and Jordan Smith,

who were all successful in achieving scholarships for 2014 from the Clarence Valley Conservatorium. I also need to acknowledge Mikayla O'Mahony who received a Highly Commended award in the Year 7&8 category of the Northern Rivers Woodworkers Association Jacaranda Exhibition and Competition, for her timber mug holder/stand. Well done Mikayla!

#### Final P&C Meeting for 2013

The final P&C meeting for 2013 will be held at 7:00 pm this Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November in the staff common room. All parents are welcome.

#### School Budget Facts and Figures

As promised last week, I have included below a brief summary of key aspects of the school budget for 2014.

- Over \$130,000 towards teacher professional learning, with the majority focussed on collegial learning in the classroom, focussed directly on improving classroom practice.
- Over \$136,000 for faculty budgets towards resources and consumables for courses.
- Up to \$100,000 towards completion of the mezzanine dance area, gym equipment and landscaping for the High Performance Sports Centre.
- Over \$22,000 contributed by the P&C towards textbooks for the Australian Curriculum.
- Over \$74,000 towards technology equipment, plus funding for the employment of a full time technician.
- Over \$17,000 for Library resources.
- \$5,000 to support the school band and choir.
- Almost \$40,000 for the Djehuti Math Numeracy program
- Over \$150,000 towards Literacy programs.
- More than \$265,000 towards programs for Indigenous students, students with disabilities and students requiring additional learning support.

Without buying into the political debate I do have to mention that this significant increase in funding is due to the Gonski reforms and agreement between state and federal government. It was reassuring to hear the very public support for this funding from the NSW Premier and NSW Minister for Education.

*Peter South - Principal*

## Upcoming Events:

28/11 P&C meeting  
2/12 -6/12 HSC Maths Assessment Week  
18/12 Last Day 2013 for students  
21/12-22/12 Staff Development Days

Sheila Mears Presentation and HSC Major Works Exhibition Photos



## Community Notices

### FREE WORKSHOPS

Eyes Wide continues the Grafton Workshop series in Market Square. FREE for 12-18yrs.

This Saturday 23 Nov...

**WEARABLE DESIGN:** Design and make eclectic wearable jewellery pieces with graphic designer Jess

**MUSIC/SOUND DESIGN:** Make cool music with audio professional Angus Rex

Next week 30 Nov... **FILM MAKING AND DRAGONFLY SCULPTURE**

Find out more on facebook: Eyes Wide Clarence Valley

### WIN \$400 SHOPPING SPREE

Go to [www.eyeswide.com.au](http://www.eyeswide.com.au) and vote for your favourite Legend or Liability design and you could win!

Conditions apply, see entry page for more details.

Mark Conaghan

Clarence "Eyes Wide" Coordinator

**Clarence Valley Council**

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# HELPING HANDS TRIVIA NIGHT All Proceeds To JOSH ALLEN



Proudly supported by Grafton District Services Club,  
Westlawn Tigers Football Club & Clarence River Cricket Association

**Where:** Grafton District Services Club

**When:** Saturday, 7th December, 2013

**Time:** 7.00 p.m. Sharp

### Who Can Enter?

Women's Teams  
Mixed Teams

Men's Teams  
Family Teams

\$10.00 per person

or

\$80.00 per team of 8

For further details contact:

Judy Disson 0409 037 361 or  
Sharon Powell 0400 007 168 or  
GDSC on 6640 3200

The Daily Examiner



1206AM  FM1039



Helping Hands Trivia Night  
"JOSH ALLEN"  
Saturday, 7th December, 2013  
at 7.00 p.m.



**NOMINATION FORM**

**Team Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Team Captain:** \_\_\_\_\_

Player 2: \_\_\_\_\_

Player 3: \_\_\_\_\_

Player 4: \_\_\_\_\_

Player 5: \_\_\_\_\_

Player 6: \_\_\_\_\_

Player 7: \_\_\_\_\_

Player 8: \_\_\_\_\_

For further details contact:

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**Nomination Fee of \$80 per Team of Eight**

**Payment is requested with nomination.**