

veritas



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In the last Veritas, I mentioned our excitement at the BER (Building the Education Revolution) funding which the School had received. The projects which were at the planning stage at that time are now well and truly under way and most, if not all, of the work should be ready for the start of the 2010 school year. The largest project is the building of a Hall and additional facilities at the Bairnsdale Campus. This building, which has a floor area of over 800 square metres, will complete the campus facilities, some two year ahead of our previous expectations. Many old students will have fond memories of the Lorna Sparrow Hall and this will be a greatly improved facility after the additional work, another of our BER projects, has been completed. Also at the St Anne's campus, work is now close to completion converting the former Girls Boarding facility to additional classrooms, whilst the Boys facility is shaping up as a new Music Centre.

This year, our student leaders and prefects have been strongly encouraging students to get involved in a variety of activities. This level of engagement should be visible to you through the pages of Veritas, where a

From the Principal



wide variety of offerings and activities, from jousting to rowing and from rap-dancing to debating, continue to provide students with opportunities to grow, to learn and to discover their passion. For every article we publish, there are many which space does not allow us to include and we have enjoyed great success this year in equestrian activities, shooting, touch football and a variety of academic competitions. As ever, the music program has been a central component, and the Annual Spring Concert was a huge success, despite so many Year 12 musicians leaving at the end of 2008. After all my years of teaching, I never cease

to be amazed at how the next generation of students leaders rises to the challenge left by their predecessors.

At the end of this year, we farewell a number of staff members, but three in particular have served Gippsland Grammar for a very long time and merit special mention. Joan Ray, who works in our pre-school, has been with the school for twenty years. There will be many students who have passed through her care and Joan, along with the rest of the pre-school team, has helped to create an environment in the pre-school which is one of the major reasons for the significant growth in prep enrolments in recent years. Jenni Demarte, our registrar, has been with us for 23 years and has an enormous knowledge of our School community – including parents, Old Scholars, Foundation members and, of course, current staff and students. Her contribution has included looking after the School's advertising and publications. She is retiring to spend more time with her grandchildren and travelling with her husband, Daryl. Rosemary Mayfield is the longest serving of our retiring staff, having been at the School for almost 30 years. She has been our senior art teacher for most of that time and has also made an enormous contribution as the editor, for many years, of our school magazine, *Claresco*. We wish all three of our long-serving retirees all the best for the future.

Mike Clapper



(L to R): Bairnsdale Campus will have a new Hall and additional facilities in 2010. Year 5 students Jordan Banks, Jess Cameron and Isabella Wyndham-Martin observe the busy construction site.

The will to show you care

Leaving a bequest to Gippsland Grammar

The School that did so much for you or a member of your family by providing both education and lasting friendship will benefit from your gift. Your thoughtfulness now will ensure that future students will be able to share the advantages of being part of the Gippsland Grammar community.

If you are interested in The Bequest Program and would like to know more, please contact the Development Office on 5143 6315. If you have already made a bequest, please let us know so we can thank you personally, and ensure your wishes are carried out.

All correspondence is completely confidential.



Bairnsdale Celebrates

Thursday 15 October was Celebration Day at Bairnsdale Campus. Commemorating the turning of the first sod on the School site, all students were involved in the day's proceedings. Parents were invited to a shared luncheon which was prepared by the students, then enjoyed Fellowship and some entertaining performances.



Megan Wall, Ellen Lucke, Kate Marshall, Rylee Barling, Sophie Blay and Chloe Davies of Year 5/6 Grevillea performing their 'Make a Difference' rap on Celebration Day.

Top right: Year 4 boys Nic Jarvis and Lachlan Jordan enjoyed their Celebration Day cakes.

Swannies 2009

Congratulations to Britt Jeffs (Year 10) who has won a prestigious Swannie Award. The Swannie Awards recognise the achievements of the best speakers in the Debaters Association of Victoria Schools Competition.

This year, more than 10,000 students were involved in the Schools Competition. Over 1300 teams representing 255 schools competed to win fewer than 100 Swannie Awards.

The Awards are given to the speaker in each region and grade who has the highest average speaker score after completing at least three debates during the year. Britt won her Swannie in the 'C Grade' section for the Keysborough Region.

The Swannie Awards are named after Alan Swanwick, one of Victoria's great debaters and adjudicators, and co-author of the *Australia-Asia Debating Guide*.



Swannie Award winner Britt Jeffs (Year 10).

An evening with Dr Michael Carr-Gregg



In June, we welcomed Dr Michael Carr-Gregg to the School for a parent information evening. Hosted by the Parents' and Friends' Association, Dr Carr-Gregg is one of Australia's highest profile psychologists.

He is the author of numerous

books and parent references, such as *Real Wired Child*, *Surviving Adolescents* and *Surviving Year 12*, to name but a few.

Over the course of the evening, Dr Carr-Gregg addressed issues such as sleep (and how much a child needs), building resilience, alcohol consumption, mobile phone usage and the potential

dangers of unrestricted internet access. The evening also served as a platform to launch our Parents' Alcohol and Drug resource book, another initiative of the Parents' and Friends' Association. The book was available for sale on the night and has now been distributed to all Senior School parents. It was pleasing to see so many

parents from our school, and other local schools, attending this important and informative event. The Parents' and Friends' Association now plans to invite guest speakers to the School on an annual basis. The issue of 'cyber bullying' is one topic they are considering for next year's parent information evening.

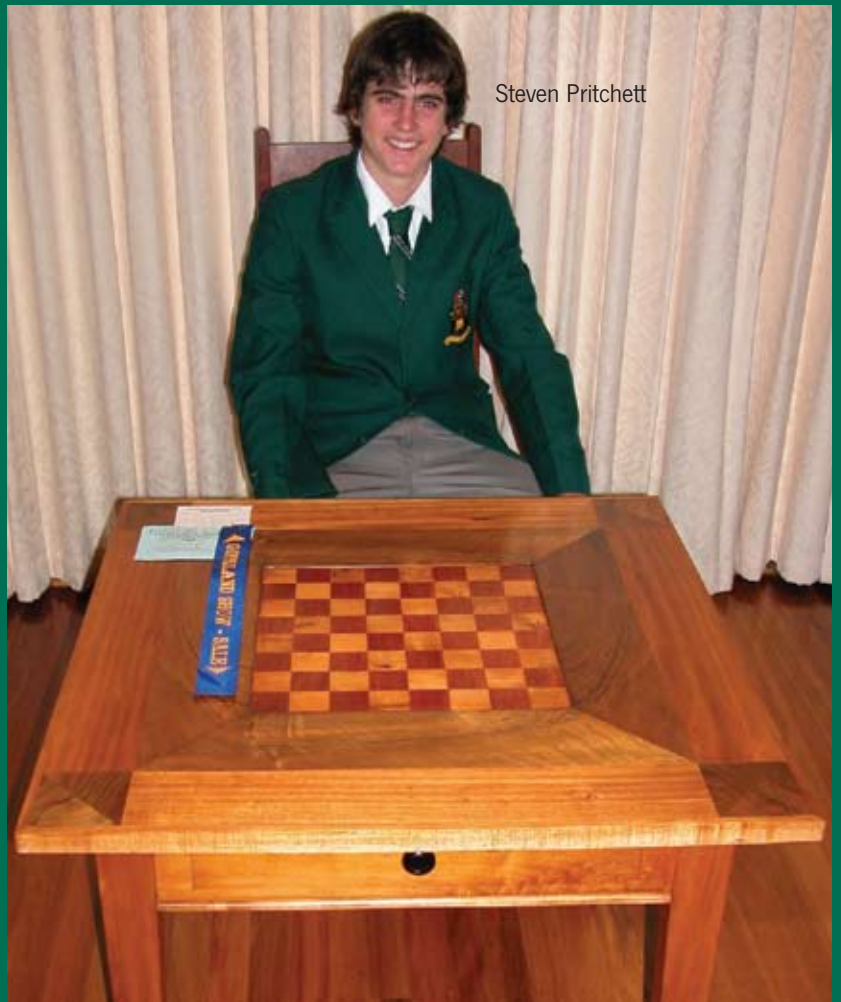
Woodwork Awards

Year 10 Wood Technology student, Steven Pritchett, has received second place in the 2009 WorldSkills Australia Regional VET in Schools Competition. Representing East Gippsland TAFE, where he undertakes a course in General Construction, Steven participated in the State Final which was held at Victoria University in Melbourne.

The VET in Schools Competition aims to challenge young people, their teachers and employers to achieve world class standards in work skills and to promote the status of vocational education and training across Australia.

On the local scene, Steven's chess board coffee table won First Prize in the Secondary Woodwork category and was also named the Most Outstanding Piece of Craftwork at the 2009 Sale Show. To finish off a successful year, Steven also came first in his General Construction class at TAFE.

The School congratulates Steven on achieving such remarkable results in his studies and in the WorldSkills competition.



Steven Pritchett



Medieval Day

On Wednesday 9 September, Year 8 Medieval Day activities took place in and around Garnsey Hall. This was very much a student centred event, with students dressing up in medieval costume, preparing medieval food and taking an active role in managing the events of the day.

Students enjoyed participating in a tug of war, archery, a mock tournament and some even spent time locked in the stocks!

Parents and friends were invited to watch medieval based plays, theatre sports and musical performances. The day was a huge success and thoroughly enjoyed by students and staff alike.



Cassie Byrne and Wilson Pike.

(L to R) : Emily Lade, Kate Mayer and Dallas Adams.



Stalwarts Honoured



The newest addition to the School's rowing fleet.



Simon Tilleard (2001) attended the boat naming ceremony on behalf of his father, John.



The Marton Family – Max, Ben (2001), Karen and Nic (2003).



Jill Burston (1994) with current rowers (Back Row from Left): James Gray, Jackson Harrison, Sam Vuillermin and Tom Sellings. (Front): Georgia Banks.

Past and present rowers, their families and supporters gathered at the Sale boat shed on a sunny October morning for a traditional naming ceremony for the newest additions to the School's rowing fleet; a quad scull, four double sculls and six single sculls. With the School boat club the pre-eminent sculling club in Victoria and fast

becoming a major player nationally, it seemed only fitting that the names reflect the achievements and contributions of past rowers, coaches and supporters.

The quad scull, to be rowed by the Boys Senior A team, was named the 'Jill Burston', after the 1994 alumni and world champion. Jill began her rowing career at

Gippsland Grammar before claiming gold for Australia at the World U23 Regatta in Greece in 1998. Although forced to retire from rowing in 2000 due to injury, Jill's athleticism and competitive spirit saw her go on to win multiple state titles in mountain biking.

Former Gippsland Grammar rowing coach, John Tilleard, was recognised for his contribution to the sport with a double scull named in his honour, as was

former rowing master and coach, Malcolm Ralton. A double scull was named after Helen Drew, a long time supporter of School rowing. The fourth double scull was named 'Port of Sale' to acknowledge the strong links between the School's rowing program and the local community.

Of the six single sculls, one was named 'The Martons' in honour of the support shown by Karen and Max

Marton and their sons, Ben and Nic. Both boys rowed for the School, with Nic Captain of Boats and School Captain in 2003. Another single scull was named 'Colin Price', after our Business Manager.

The remaining single sculls were named to highlight each of the School Houses, Wellington Binks, Cranswick Dargo, Tisdall Hotham and Blundell Bogong.

Soiree Success

The Foundation's major fundraising event, The Holey Plain Soiree, was an outstanding success once again. Over 130 people attended the evening, held at the beautiful home of Richard, Thea and Sophie Crooke. Guests were transported to the homestead in buses funded by the Old Scholars' Association and were entertained by our own Peter Bennett and special guests.

Delicious finger food was provided by our talented VET Hospitality students, who also worked diligently as waiters and kitchen staff on the night. The planning of such an event takes many, many hours and our grateful thanks are extended to staff members Wendy Johns and Sue Rautman who coordinated the food, kitchen and students on the night.



(L to R): Craig Rainey (1981), Caroline Rainey, Ian Rainey (1977), Peter Skeels (1977), Glenn Holland and Brendan Shepherd (1984).



(L to R): Susie Cantwell (Crane - 1986), Sue Gordyn (Mason - 1978) and Karen Prestney. (L to R): Thea Crooke, Gill Meade (Shaw - 1978) and Johanna Erasmus.

Lorna Sparrow Fellow in Residence Program

FOUNDATION NEWS

Gippsland Grammar Foundation recently funded the 2009 Lorna Sparrow Fellow in Residence program. This year, the funding was provided to Marianne Lee, Head of Information Services, to bring author Archie Fusillo to the school once again. Always popular with the students, Archie ran workshops for each Year 7 academic group, spoke to the entire Year 8 group, ran a workshop for the Year 9 boys and held a Professional Development session for our English staff. Archie's unique writing style, natural wit and engaging classroom manner kept the students enthralled during each session. It was wonderful to have Archie back at the School.



Author Archie Fusillo working with Year 7 students.



Our French Connection

(L to R): Gianni Gambirasio, Gabin Maugard, Flora Aubert, Anne Lisnard, Yuna Bellec and Leonie Francois.

(L to R): Anne Lisnard, Cecile Ligot, Yuna Bellec and Gianni Gambirasio.

In July, we welcomed seven students from Jeanne D'Arc, our French sister school, to Gippsland Grammar.

They were Leonie Francois, hosted by Sienna Maill, Gabin Maugard, hosted by Rachael Davis, Cecile Ligot, hosted by Britt Jeffs, Gianni Gambirasio, hosted by Sophie Crooke, Flora Aubert, hosted by Sarah Christie, Yuna Bellec, hosted by Amy O'Reilly and Anne Lisnard, hosted by

Laura Evans. The students, from Caen in Normandy, stayed for almost two months and were impressed by the laid-back attitude and friendliness of their Australian class mates.

The host families took the students to see many sights, including Phillip Island, Melbourne and Sydney. Three of the students, Yuna, Gabin and Leonie, chose to attend our Year 9 snow camp, which was a highlight for them.

Although they enjoyed their time in Australia, the students missed their French summer, bread and cheese. Now safely home, most of the students have commenced Year 12 and we wish them good luck with their studies.

At the end of the year, James Gray and Agnik Sarkar (Year 11) and Rachael Davis, Britt Jeffs and Sienna Maill (Year 10) will travel to Caen to enjoy some time with their new French friends.

VALE

The Reverend John White passed away on 6 November 2009. John commenced at Gippsland Grammar as a teacher, going



on to become our School Chaplain in the mid 80s. John was also a member of the School Board from 1988 – 1991, when he was Rector at the Parish of Bruthen. Our sincere condolences are extended to John's family, especially son Tony (1989) and daughter Vikki (1991).

Ronald (Ron) Duck passed away on 10 November 2009. Ron was a long serving member of our maintenance team and was remembered by staff members, past and present, at his funeral service held at the Chapel of St Anne at Garnsey Campus. Our sincere condolences are extended to Ron's wife, Lyn, and family.



Oz Opera at School

Our junior students enjoyed a performance of *The Sound Garden* by Oz Opera, the touring arm of Opera Australia, when it visited Gippsland this year. The students were thoroughly engaged by this outstanding performance, which complemented our existing music program. Oz Opera gives around 400 schools performances each year, enabling nearly 80,000 primary-aged students to

experience the magic of opera in their very own classrooms, many for the first time. All Oz Opera shows are sung in English and have been experienced by nearly 132,000 people across Australia.

(L to R): Bairnsdale Campus students, Zac Brown, Nic Jarvis, Rylee Barling and Millicent Howlett with members of Oz Opera.



Tribute to Winsome Dennis (nee Cripps) Old Scholar and Olympian

Winsome Cripps commenced at St Anne’s Church of England Girls Grammar School in 1944 at the age of 13. She was a bright student and talented sportswoman, who went on to represent Australia at the 1952 Olympic Games in Helsinki.

She was a boarder and later became Captain of Cranswick House. School friend and room-mate, Marie Potter (Lang) clearly remembers the School relay team, which in 1946 was the fastest in the district.

“The team was terrific,” Marie said. “Frances Bulmer, Margaret Pascoe, Cynthia Mathieson and Winsome Cripps were so fast that they’d finish their race before the others had made their last baton changes,” she said.

Former student, Frances Cheetham (Bulmer) said, “Winsome and I were great rivals at school. Our relay team set records which stood for many years.”

At the start of the 1951 – 52 athletics season, Winsome began serious training and only had limited time before the selections for Helsinki would be made. This fabulous news came on Winsome’s 21st birthday, when she was selected with Marjorie Jackson, Shirley Strickland and Verna

Johnson to compete in the track and field events at Helsinki.

At Helsinki, the team set a world record in the heats and were the favourites going into the final for the 4 x 100m relay. Disaster struck in the last leg of the relay when after passing the baton to Marjorie Jackson, Winsome’s knee clipped Marjorie’s hand and knocked the baton away. It was a devastating blow for the four women who had been running ahead of their own world record time. The team finished fifth.

Winsome’s international running career continued and she achieved selection for the 1954 Vancouver Empire Games. She competed in the 100m, 200m and 4 x 100m relay, gaining two silver medals behind Marjorie Jackson, and finally a gold medal as a member of the relay team.

The School was always extremely proud of Winsome’s achievements and she was spoken of often. She kept in contact with her old School, returning to open a new tennis court in 1952 and in 1966 gave coaching assistance and encouragement to the running squad which went on to win the East Gippsland Secondary Schools Athletic Sports for the very first time. This was a huge thrill for all the girls.

After her retirement from athletics, Winsome became a school teacher and in 1960 had the first of her three children. She also took up golf and approached it with the same determination as her athletics, reducing her handicap to 12.

Once her children went to school, Winsome commenced teaching at Mentone Girls Secondary College, where she taught English and French. She was an advocate of equal opportunity for girls and pioneered the development of ground breaking courses for girls in the area of technology studies, such as electronics, automotive studies and metal work. A technology wing at the Mentone school now bears Winsome’s name.

Years later, Winsome and her husband Arthur Dennis built a home in Paynesville. They were always great friends of Miss Sparrow and even enjoyed a trip to Europe with her.

Winsome passed away in May 1997 at the age of 66, after a brave battle against motor neurone disease. She is fondly remembered as a remarkable athlete, teacher and person.

Pictured Left: Winsome Cripps - 1945

Pictured Right: 1946 School Relay team: (L to R): Cynthia Mathieson, Margaret Pascoe, Frances Bulmer and Winsome Cripps.



Wheelbarrow's Birthday

(L to R): Former students, Judy Tulip (Anderson), Hilary Rash (Richards), Marie Potter (Lang), and Frances Cheetham (Bulmer) presented the new 'Wheelbarrow' at Garnsey Campus.

Following last year's successful reunion of boarding students from the 40s and 50s for 'Wheelbarrow's Birthday', the School was pleased to receive a symbolic, red wheelbarrow which will be used each year for the Bishop's Pantry Appeal. The former students are pleased to bring 'Wheelbarrow' back to life, and in this way continue Miss Sparrow's legacy of sharing what we have by giving to others. The wheelbarrow will be used by our current boarders for the collection of food stuffs during the annual appeal.

30 Year Reunion

The Class of 1979 also celebrated their 30 year reunion in October. Former students and staff met at the Chapel of St Anne for drinks and a tour of Garnsey Campus, and then met for dinner at new Sale eatery, Cee K's restaurant. Former staff included Martin Lowe, who had travelled from the UK, Jan Saville, John Vermaelen, Marylyn Mathieson, Tom Binks and Norm and Jan McNess. During the evening, Tom Binks kindly presented two original artworks which have now been passed on to the School. Ted Collins, who is still teaching at Gippsland Grammar, enjoyed catching up with some of the students from his early years at the School. It was a most enjoyable evening.



Susan Murphy (Campbell) and Martin Lowe.



(L to R): Philip Llewellyn, Reece Newcomen and Dean Farley.



(L to R): Andrew Cox and Paul Churchman.



(L to R): Helen Drew (Jenkin), Susan Murphy (Campbell) and Jane Howie.

20 Year Reunion

A twenty year reunion for the Class of 1989 was held at the Prince Alfred Hotel, Port Melbourne in November. Organised by class member, Anna Speedie (Jones), the group had a fabulous afternoon catching up with old friends.



(L to R): Robyn Svensson (McNeil), Anna Speedie (Jones), Shani Finlayson, Kris Gately, Narelle Wilkins (King), Jeremy Creighton, Sophie Davis (Derham), Rebecca Crawley (Renwick), Sarah Guinness (Lockwood).



Back Row: (L to R): Sherine Cook, Sarah Guinness (Lockwood), Susan McRostie, Lisa Marsden, Fiona McColl, Rebecca Crawley (Renwick). Front (L to R): Anna Speedie (Jones), Kay Baughurst, Nicole Bowerman.



(L to R): Linda Malmø, Scott Haylock, Di Ross, Nick Kluge, Narelle Wilkins (King).



25 Year Reunion

The Class of 1984 celebrated their 25 year reunion in Sale in October. The reunion dinner was held at Cafe Rossi and special guests included former staff members Martin Lowe, Marylyn Mathieson and Norm McNess, who was accompanied by his wife, Jan. Celebrations ran into the next day, with many attending the Sale Cup at Greenwattle Racecourse.

The Class of 1984

Back Row (L to R): Ian Stollery, Ross Heath, Rosemary

Gray (Gerrand), Christine Martin (McKendrick), Wes Farley, Martin Lowe, Karina Vardy, Brendan Shepherd and Bruce Derham.

Middle Row (L to R): Norm McNess, Jan McNess, Tim Hack, Kylie Price, Sarah-Jane Pearson (Steer), Natalie Walsh (Dyer), Meaghen Campbell, Marylyn Mathieson, Shane Klopfer and Lyndel Moore.

Front Row (L to R): Catherine Radic (Richardson), David Auld, Colin Radford, Meredith Bacon and Sally Morrison.

Out & About

October was a month of celebration for the Andrew family. It marked the marriage of **Tim (1996)** and the baptism of baby Alexander, son of **Richard (1999)**, all on one very busy weekend. Alexander, who is the grandson of old scholars, Dallas and Ann Andrew, was baptised at the Chapel of St Anne by the Reverend Caroline Nancarrow.



Tim, Richard, baby Alexander and Dallas Andrew at the Chapel of St Anne.

Anna Blandford (1997) is the artist behind Able and Game, a design company that offers cute and quirky greeting cards, hand drawn by Anna. Anna studied Fine Arts at Ballarat University and then taught Art and Media at Beaconhills College. She started up Able and Game earlier this year and the cards are now available at markets and selected stores. They are also available online at www.ableandgame.com. Anna has also been shortlisted for the Qantas Spirit of Youth Awards for Visual Communication.

Doug Brumley (Dux 2004) was guest speaker at our Commemoration Day Service in August. He has a Bachelor of Science from University of Melbourne, where he majored in Applied Mathematics. In 2008, Doug completed an Honours year in Mathematics, during which he studied the fluid mechanics of nanoscale devices. Doug has been awarded a Gates Cambridge Scholarship, to study for his PhD at Cambridge University in the UK. In particular, his research will be in the area of biological fluid mechanics. He will be studying the fluid mechanics of swimming micro-organisms. The Gates Cambridge Scholarships enable outstanding graduate students from outside the UK to study at the esteemed university. From the thousands of students who apply to Cambridge each year, only about 100 of these scholarships are offered.



Doug Brumley is off to Cambridge University.

David Eilers (2005) and his partner Victoria Giles become parents to son, Ewan Daniel, in October. Ewan, who was delivered by former student, Dr Caroline Tyndall (2000) made headlines in Ballarat, being the 1000th baby born at Ballarat Base Hospital this year. David has just completed an Advanced

Diploma of Live Production, Theatre and Events at the University of Ballarat.

Prue Ferguson (2006) has attained her Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award. Mr James Merlino MP, Minister for Sport, Recreation & Youth Affairs presented the award at Parliament House, Melbourne in July. Prue will complete her Arts Degree at the University of Melbourne this year. She has majored in Developing Studies & Political Science.



Prue Ferguson

Lisa Marsden (1989) is a Primary School teacher at Richmond Primary. Recently married, Lisa still enjoys playing basketball in her leisure time. Lisa's sister, Anita (1991), is an Occupational Therapist and has lived in the UK for 10 years. Anita is married and has a beautiful daughter, Maliya.

Kirstin McIntosh (1987) and her partner Simon have moved to the English countryside and now live in part of a 1930s manor house which has a fascinating history. It was built as a bet between the local lord and the Rothschild family, and was subsequently used by Winston Churchill and his 'top brass' during WWII when they came to visit the Enigma machine and the Code Breakers in nearby Bletchley. Kirstin is currently working on the Mayor of London's green skills strategy which will

contribute to London's transition to a low carbon economy.

Christian Nielsen (1991) and his wife Lenneke welcomed their beautiful daughter, Amali, into the world in June. This is the first child for Christian & Lenneke, who both love the joys of parenthood. Christian reports that Amali is a delightful baby, always quick with a smile and ready for a chat. The family has lived in Brisbane for the past 3 years where Christian works as an Aerospace Engineer, delivering the new ARH Tiger helicopters for the Australian Army.



The Nielsen family.

David Taylor ('Smilie' - 1979) studied Arts/Law and majored in psychology. He graduated with BA (Hons) and Honours in Parapsychology. At the time, he jokingly referred to himself as a Lawyer/Ghostbuster! His first job was as an Associate to the then Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Tasmania, Sir Charles Green. David and his family now live in WA, where he has worked in the Parliamentary Counsel's Office for over 20 years. He enjoys riding his motorcycle and driving his 1960 Mercedes and hopes everyone from the Class of '79 enjoyed their recent reunion.

If you have some news for Out and About, please email: meredith.lynch@gippslandgs.vic.edu.au or send details to the Development Office PO Box 465 Sale 3853

St Anne's Art Show



Year 5 boys Nathan, Aaron and Jackson check out the colourful Chinese dragon at the St Anne's Art Show. The dragon was made in a group effort by all Year 6 students.

Bairnsdale Art Show



Louise VanKuyk, from the Gippsland Art Gallery, who opened the Art Show, admiring Tabitha Manson's art work.



Gary and Lisa Jackson attended the Bairnsdale Art Show at Nu Art Gallery. The Art Show was opened by local artist and former staff member, Pauline Crunden.

Celebrating St Anne's Day



St Anne's Day was celebrated on Friday 24 July. Head of St Anne's Campus, Greg Thomson, enjoyed a chat with Old Scholars, Bev Cook (Hayward - 1943) and Marion Atherstone (Cross - 1967), following Fellowship at Lorna Sparrow Hall.



Old Scholar and St Anne's Day guest speaker, Ann Andrew (Gooch - 1965), spoke about her early years at the School. She is pictured showing her book, "Life at St Annes, Gippsland Grammar School and STAGGS", to Year 5 and 6 students.



Gippsland Grammar

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