

# TOORMINA HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Week 9, November 2012



## Work Experience 2012

During 2012 Toormina High School has had over 30 students involved in Work Experience. Some of these students have completed a week block in Year 10 and others are on a special programme where they are engaged in Work Experience one day a week for a term. Toormina High School values the assistance and guidance that our local businesses have provided to our students. Following a successful Work Experience engagement, Lloyd Muir has recently gained an apprenticeship with All Rider Motor Cycles for 2013.

**Crystal Schneiders is pictured with Ed Brazier (owner of Cafe Splash Toormina), where she is engaged in Work Experience one day a week and Josh Ives is pictured at A1 Mobile Mechanical Services.**

For some students, Work Experience can help with developing communication skills, self-management and re-engaging the student in positive learning. The Transition Adviser works closely with the Careers Adviser, Year Advisers and Executive in helping to make positive connections for students transitioning from school into the workplace. We look forward to continuing our Work Experience programme in 2013.

Robyn West (Transition Adviser)



## Our Young Lions



This year's Lion's Youth of the Year Quest is underway. Toormina High school had three outstanding representatives at the Bonville/Sawtell Club's annual dinner on Tuesday November 20.

Amber Holmes, Drew Meehan and Carrie Taylor were all impressive in their interviews and the public speaking competition. The girls had to deliver impromptu speeches on the benefits of service clubs to the community and coal seam gas mining in Australia.

In the prepared speech section Amber spoke about being a foster family, Drew evaluated the stress of the HSC and Carrie encouraged compassion in her speech about child sponsorship. All three spoke admirably and with passion. Carrie was the overall winner and will represent Bonville/Sawtell Lion's Club in the regional final in March 2013.

Toormina High has developed a strong relationship with the Bonville/Sawtell Lion's Club and appreciates their continual support of our students.

L.Mullan



# Remembrance Day

**This article appeared in 'SchoolBiz' the weekly newsletter for the Department of Education and Communities, written by Mark Youngblutt, Acting Regional Director, North Coast.**

On Friday 9 November I had the pleasure of joining the students and staff of Toormina High School in commemorating Armistice Day. The assembly was led by the student leadership team who did an outstanding job.

One of the highlights of the ceremony was a very poignant and thoughtful poem, 'War', written and read by student Tanisha Giulati. The choral group performed 'In Flanders Fields' and Brenton Knight's rendition of 'The Last Post' was very moving.

I also took the opportunity to tour the school and chat with students and staff. I was very impressed by the '10% on top team' who are working hard to improve their outcomes – that is setting and achieving outstanding outcomes for Aboriginal students.

At Toormina High the Year 11 students take on the leadership responsibilities throughout the school allowing Year 12 students to focus on their HSC studies. Over morning tea they shared their thoughts about Toormina High, with common themes emerging about the caring support of their teachers and students' compassionate care for each other.

Evidence of these themes is everywhere in the school and have not developed by accident. Liz and staff have developed a package which recognises the importance on meeting the needs of the 'whole person'. Developing student skills and supporting students as they develop these skills happens in real, day to day situations.

While student outcome data is often the modern measure of schools it is important to experience the culture, tone and feel of a school to complete that measure. We have outstanding schools right across the North Coast and Toormina is clearly one of these. I would like to thank Liz for an enjoyable and uplifting experience and extend my congratulations to you, your staff and students.



Mark Youngblutt and Kim Taylor (School Education Director) with representatives from our Aboriginal Students and our Aboriginal Education Team, Judith Peen, Noelene Faulks and Penny Grace.



# Meet the Maths Faculty



This is a new feature in our newsletter so you can meet the staff .....

*but they can only use three words to describe themselves!*



**The Maths Faculty** (from back left )

**Robyn Kennedy** - Numbers-puzzles-craft, **Russell Murchie** ,Head of Faculty - Jenny-golf-Rabbitohs, **Kali Roraduri** - Aspiring male-model,

**Jackie Cooper** - Running-renovating-relaxing, **Adrienne Gillingham** - Loves-a-chat, **Renee Dawson** - Diving-family-quilting, **Joe Anderson**, Future-all-black, **Simon Liu**, Hardworking-humble-sincere



## 100% Attendance

Congratulations to Madilyn Brady (pictured) and Adam Shand for 100% Attendance. On Monday December 10 over 50 THS students with outstanding attendance records will be rewarded with a fun day out. 'The Goers' will be water sliding and ice-skating at the Big Banana - well done!

## 2013 Musicale Auditions Launched!

Toormina High School and all our Bongil Bongil Community of Schools have launched our Auditions for the Musicale which will be held in June 2013 @ Toormina High!

All Bongil Bongil Public Schools will join with us - or we'll join with them, to prepare combined items that will be created into our Musicale!

Auditions for leads including primary students commenced this week for leads in Vocals, Dance, Drama and Gymnastics! Musicale rehearsals will commence in 2013 and for THS students, this will begin during Sport on Wednesdays.

It is so exciting that students and staff from across all our schools are helping contribute the creative ideas and musical numbers that will be included.

**If anyone would like to audition in any of the 4 areas above, but hasn't put down their name, please see Mrs Ward, Mrs Watson, or Mrs Babbage in the Creative Arts Department - or email Mrs Ward on [cheryl.j.ward@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:cheryl.j.ward@det.nsw.edu.au)**

# Vietnam Veterans Visit

Vietnam veterans came to school to talk to Year 10 History classes about their experiences of the Vietnam War on Friday November 23. The students have been studying Australia's involvement in the war as part of their studies in History. It was a valuable and rewarding experience for the students to be able to interact with men who were there. Out thanks go to the veterans for giving up their time.  
S.Elsley



## FROM THE DP'S DESK:

Last week Yr.8 students spent four days on the Gold Coast for their end of year excursion. Year 10 spent last Wednesday at Dreamworld & Year 7 are currently enjoying themselves down at Tea Gardens for 3 days. Year 9 students will head for Dreamworld next Thursday. Our newsletter once again highlights all of the exciting events that regularly take place at THS. Congratulations especially to those students who have been chosen to attend the Goers Day out. Thank you also to the Vietnam Vets for coming into the school to talk about their war & life experiences, many Yr.10 students have commented to me how interesting and thought-provoking their words were.

Simon McKinney

### SPIRIT OF TOORMINA AWARDS

**Blake Greenway**  
**Bailey Patterson**

Congratulations for showing a fantastic attitude that embodies the Toormina High School philosophy of caring, sharing and participating.

Week 10	DATES
10.12.12	Goers & SRC Day Out
11.12.12	11.00am Presentation Assembly Years 7 - 11 Outstanding Achievement
11.12.12	7.00 pm Year 10 Formal
13.12.12	Year 9 Excursion to Dreamworld

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**\*\*\*Any unwanted uniforms would be greatly appreciated by Mrs Mullan Head Teacher Welfare\*\*\***