On Tuesday 17th February, Elizabeth Ross, Cassie Marshall, Justin Pryce and Brian Adam represented Toormina High School in the Lions Youth of the Year Competition. It is designed to encourage, foster and develop leadership in young people. The qualities sought, apart from academic attainments are those of leadership, personality, sportsmanship, public speaking and good citizenship.

Congratulations to this year’s winner, Justin Pryce! He will now move on to the Regional Final at Nambucca in March.

The progress of women in the last century has dramatically increased the opportunities available to women, yet women’s participation in positions of public influence continues to lag behind. Zonta International believes young women are the key to women’s advancement in the field of public service. The Young Women in Public Affairs Awards program recognises young women for their commitment to public service and civic causes and encourages them to continue their participation in public and political life. Elizabeth Ross was awarded an Encouragement Award by the Zonta Club of Coffs Harbour for her active commitment to volunteerism and leadership achievements. Congratulations Lil!

THS year 7 students Brodie Elkins-Baker and Coby Wilson (photographed above), together with a friend, saved a toddler at Boambee Bay recently. The boys were featured on the front page of the local paper, the Advocate, celebrating their quick thinking and bravery in pulling from the water a young boy and saving his life.

The mother of the two year old child praised the boys saying she will be forever grateful for their lifesaving actions.
Introducing our Aboriginal Education Team ...

Name...Judith Peen
THS Position......Aboriginal Education Officer
The high school I attended was...Kempsey High.
On weekends I enjoy...watching sport.
I love... my family, my culture, my heritage.
I don’t like.....people who think it is cool to be disrespectful.
When I was a teenager I wish someone had told me... to put money in my super fund.

Name...Vicki Filewood
THS Position...Aboriginal Tutor
The high school I attended was...Coffs Harbour High School, as it was the only high school in Coffs and the surrounding area at that time.
On weekends I enjoy...going canoeing, stand-up paddle boarding, walking, squash, swimming and camping.
I love...time with my family and friends, including going on picnics and exploring new places with my family.
I don’t like... having to prove myself everyday. Racism and discrimination and loss of our Aboriginal programs/funding.
When I was a teenager I wish someone had told me... that my Identity and Culture was going to make me a better person. Never give up and to be whom I have grown to be today.

Name...Penelope Grace
THS Position...LOTE Teacher - Gumbaynggirr
The high school I attended was...year 7 & 8 at Kelso High School, year 9 &10 at Bowraville Central and year 11 & 12 at Macksville High School.
On weekends I enjoy...not having to do the morning rush - breakfast, lunches etc and drive to school.
I love...rainbows and butterflies, walks through the bush (but not mossies and leeches), sitting on the headland listening to the surf, and peace and quiet.
I don’t like...conflict, hayfever, disrespectful behaviour.
When I was a teenager I wish someone had told me... (not that I would have listened) things get better after school, but you have to do the best you can while you are there, so you can make the most of your opportunities.

Name...Karen Miranda
THS Position...Norta Norta Tutor
The high school I attended was...Liverpool Girls High School. I attended the University of Western Sydney and Southern Cross University This year I am at Charles Sturt University. I have two Bachelor degrees and a Masters and I'm working on my third. I believe education gives me power. Power through knowledge.
On weekends I enjoy... family time. This involves my children, grandchildren, cousins, nieces and nephews. We enjoy gathering to eat and play. It might be a picnic, game of cricket, beach or barbeque.
I love...being real.
I don’t like...ignorance.
When I was a teenager I wish someone had told me..... that there is a process for everything and it’s okay to make a mistake, it’s part of the learning process.

Name...Lorissa Saville
THS Position...Norta Norta Tutor
The high school I attended was...Coffs Harbour High School.
On weekends I enjoy...spending time with my family.
I love...the colour green.
I don’t like...brussel sprouts.
When I was a teenager I wish someone told me... that life was not a box of chocolates.
Toormina High School's Year 7 cohort participated in a Bonding Day at Sawtell recently.

At the beginning of each year the year 7 students spend a day out of school developing social skills and self awareness through team building activities. Leadership, resilience, constructive strategies, cultural awareness and trust are all explored through fun activities.
Congratulations to Support Unit teacher Ms Louise Evans for securing a grant from The NSW Government’s Environmental Trust to enhance our garden. The THS Support Unit has a long history of integrating gardening into practical learning for students with special needs. This current grant will allow students and staff to work on developing a working vegetable garden, making garden beds that are portable and accessible to students with high support needs. Mr Andrew Fraser presented a plaque to Ms Evans and students. Mr Fraser enjoyed coffee and a bite to eat at another great program offered here at THS- Coffee shop and was really impressed with all the activities that the unit provides.

Chris Browne - Head Teacher Support

Environmental GRANT

Photographed above Chris Browne, Iraia Connors, Hayden Castle, Louise Evans, Andrew Fraser and Jas Strickland.

ON-STAGE EXCURSION TO SYDNEY

This month 12 of our Year 9-11 Drama students enjoyed the annual excursion to ‘On-Stage’ in Sydney to view three concerts of all the outstanding Drama Performances and Projects from 2014. This excursion was inspiring and exciting for our up-and-coming HSC Drama candidates, and also included the musical ‘Dirty Dancing’ which was an amazing experience as well!

We travelled to Sydney by train and viewed many cultural sights including Darling Harbour, Manly and Chinatown. Some students had never been to Sydney, travelled by ferry or seen a musical, so they were especially inspired! All the students came back fired up with enthusiasm and inspiration from the exemplary HSC performances and projects that they had viewed! The students represented their school with pride and joy and even found time to shop a little. A very special time was had by everyone.

Cheryl Ward - Drama Teacher
SCOUTED

THS year 9 student, Hunter Bake-Smith has been chosen by the National Scouting Report for baseball. Hunter was selected not just on sporting talent but also (through an interview process) on academic prowess and ability to be a team player.

This selection means Hunter’s baseball progress over the next few years will be monitored by this national organisation and also by college coaches in the United States of America. This should culminate in Hunter receiving a placement to undertake tertiary studies and play baseball at an American college. Congratulations Hunter!

Extension English Enthusiasts

On February 19, Toormina High School hosted a study day for Extension 2 English students in the region.

The students heard presentations from Teresa Welsh (Coffs Harbour Senior College) and Julie Roberts (Toormina High School). Students were also able to ask HSC Marker, Susan Green (Hornsby Girls High) questions about their projects and the marking process via Video Conference. This was a very valuable learning experience for our students.

Lisa Mullan - Head Teacher English

Opportunities in Radio Land

Looking for a career in media or just interested in broadcasting for fun, maybe you love technology? 2NVR 105.9fm, Nambucca Valley Radio, is excited to be hosting a Regional Community Radio Conference on 20-22 March.

The benefits flowing to conference participants are:

- Shared ideas (for radio content, fund-raising and community connections)
- Expert advice (legal, technical, grants)
- Connections to fellow stations
- Inspiration to make even better radio
- Fun with like-minded people
- Training opportunities & career pathways from Australian Film, Television & Radio School (AFTRS) & Community Media Training Organisation (CMTO)

The conference will feature presentations and training from experts across the sector and opportunities to see radio in action.

The conference will kick off, with live entertainment from local band didJital at the 2NVR Tewinga Studios on Friday evening. Workshops will be held on Saturday at Valla Beach Resort Conference Room and a Brunch and Tewinga studio tours on Sunday to round off the weekend.

Anyone, of any age, with an interest in or seeking a career in radio, is welcome to attend this fun event; head to www.2nvr.org.au to register.

Contact Ceri Wrobel 0458 772 096 for more information and student discounts.

UNIFORM SHOP HOURS

Monday, 8:30am - 12:30pm
Thursday, 1:30pm - 5:30pm
Shop closed Thursday, March 20

THS Uniform Shop
0468436217
Please leave a message.
HOSPITALITY

Hospitality is off to a great start for 2015 with 6 enthusiastic students ready to embark on their Certificate II in Hospitality.

The seafood basket was a popular choice for a lesson on crumbing, food safety and knife skills. Students are keen to learn the basics of Food and Beverage service and will hopefully be able to operate a café for senior students next term.

Judy Phemister - Hospitality Teacher

Photo shows Mitchell Stacey & Jonothan Atkinson cooking their seafood basket.

Principal's Column

Dear Parents,

Thank you for supporting our school with our uniform change. Students are wearing the new uniform with pride and style and they look very smart. Remember if you need help with uniform or any other supplies for your child at school, make confidential contact with Mrs McRae, our Head Teacher Welfare. We do not want family financial circumstances to prevent students from fully accessing their educational opportunities.

Particularly considering the current media attention on inappropriate conduct of school staff in interaction with students, I have reminded our students again that they are to report any concerns at all about staff conduct, particularly regarding any sexual contact or grooming, to me directly or through their favourite teacher who will report directly to me.

It is important to note that as mandatory reporters of student wellbeing issues, public school teachers and principals are required to report any such concerns for investigation by the Employee Performance and Conduct section of the Department of Education and the police. I am proud of our record in this matter of mandatory reporting and I assure you that your child’s wellbeing is our first priority, above any other concerns.

Please contact me if I can be of help in any way.

Best wishes,
E. Donnan

Toormina High P&C

Toormina P&C will be running the Bunnings BBQ on April 11.

We would very much appreciate volunteers to man the BBQ through the day.

Please contact me if you can help, 0417 542 849, thanks.

Michele Bake

The Rotary Aviation Careers Expo will be held from Sunday, 31 May, to Tuesday, 2 June 2015, at the Tamworth Regional Airport. Please see Mrs West for details.

There are a number of lockers still available for students to hire.

Cost is $40 for the first year and $20 for each additional year. It is a great way to keep belongings safe and backs protected from heavy textbooks. See the front office for further information.
2015 MULTICULTURAL HARMONY FESTIVAL

- FREE WORKSHOPS ON SAMBA STREET PERCUSSION
- BECOME PART OF ‘The Samba Team’ for our local Festival
- Perform at the Festival Sunday 22nd March

NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY BUT WE WELCOME SKILLED DRUMMERS!

We are excited to announce that Paul Barrett (the Samba Blissas Percussionist) will be appearing at the 2015 Multicultural Harmony Festival.

Two free drumming workshops will take place on Friday 20th @ 6pm and Saturday 21st @ 9am at Coffs Harbour Jetty Field, with a group performance at the City’s annual Multicultural Harmony Festival on Sunday, 22nd March at the North Coast Botanic Gardens. It is expected that you will need to attend both workshops.

All drumming enthusiasts aged 15 to adults are welcome to join this exciting new element of the Festival. Bring your own instrument or there will be some limited instruments available at the workshops.

Join the Festival! Red is the theme for the Group on go wild with your costume!

Contact Council on 6648 4078 to book your place or for more information. This is an initiative of Coffs Harbour City Council’s Multicultural Reference Group for the Multicultural Harmony Festival “where everyone belongs.”


Celebrate Togetherness | Coffs Harbour 21 - 22 March

The Multicultural Harmony Festival

Festival launch, 8.30am, Coffs Harbour Jetty Field, Saturday 21st March

Festival, 9am - 5pm, Botanic Gardens, Sunday 22nd March

Sharing the skills and talents of our region’s diverse cultural communities.

Traditional welcome to country | Two stages of dance and music | Cultural exhibitions | Edward Kim public demonstrations | Youth performances | Storytelling | Kid’s entertainment | International foods ... and much more

Gold coin entry

For more details phone 6648 4833 or www.coastthatisanyp.com.au

Health

NSW Government

Mid North Coast Local Health District

Quality and Excellence in Regional Healthcare

Did you know all children aged 0-17 years are entitled to free dental care?

To be eligible all you need is a current Medicare Card.

No Health Care Card required.

Seniors don’t miss out on your free dental before turning 18.

For an appointment please call:

1300 651 625
CHS Open Boys Basketball
On Tuesday, February 17, Toormina Open Boys Basketball team played other local school teams from Dorrigo through to Grafton in a knockout competition at Sportz Central, Bray Street, Coffs Harbour.

Toormina won their first game against Orara High School. In the second round game Toormina was defeated by a taller Senior College team from the Coffs Harbour Education Campus. Our students played extremely well and, as usual, represented Toormina High School in an exemplary manner. Congratulations to all the team members who did their best on the day.

Our team captain, Bodhi Wickliffe, was successful in gaining a position in the Mid North Coast Zone Team. Bodhi was also honoured to be asked by a talent scout, present during the day, to join a local under 18 basketball side in an evening competition which serves as a preliminary competition leading to open professional level basketball.

Phil Ward - Team Coach

KOKODA CHALLENGE 2015
In July, 2015, THS is entering a year 9 team in the 48 km Kokoda Challenge on the Gold Coast.
Sheridan Watkins, a THS year adviser and PE teacher will be coordinating the team and the fund raising. There will be lots of fundraising involved and all proceeds going to the Kokoda Youth Foundation.
The goal is to finish in honour of the spirit on the Kokoda Track in 1942: courage, endurance, mateship and sacrifice.
Regardless of fitness level, age or background, people from all walks of life find participating in the Kokoda Challenge not only a great personal achievement, but a way to honour the Kokoda legacy.
Any donations will be greatly appreciated.

Uniform Update
Not much to tell you unfortunately. Still waiting for shorts and polos. I will get notices out as soon as they arrive.
Please note the shop will be closed Thursday 19th.
Sorry for any inconvenience.
Michele

Links to Learning
Toormina High School is participating in the Links to Learning program in conjunction with Coffs Coast Community College.

Links to Learning will give some of our Year 9 and 10 girls the opportunity to engage in creative and innovative projects that assist them to remain in education. Workshops this term will include Rock and Water, Barista skills and VET taster classes in business, IT and aged care. Students will also achieve their First Aid Certificate, Certificate I in Skills for Vocational Pathways and Certificate I in Access to Vocational Pathways.

Laura McRae - Head Teacher Welfare
Dear Parents

Parent/Teacher/Student interviews for years 7, 11 and 12 will be held on Tuesday 17th March 2015 from 3:30pm – 5:45 pm. Bookings must be finalised before the 16th March at 4pm, when bookings for this event will close.

For parents that do not have internet access, the Front Office will help with your bookings. Parents may send a note to school with the approximate times they require, or phone the school on 66533077. Interviews are strictly 5 mins and spaces are limited. If you require more time, please contact your teacher directly to make alternative arrangements.

Now you can book school interviews for the times that suit your family.

Go to www.schoolinterviews.com.au and follow these simple instructions.

Simply enter the code and press "Go"

Enter your details

Select the teachers you wish to see

Select the appointment times that suit your family best

When you click Finish, your interview timetable will be emailed to you automatically. If you do not receive your email immediately – Check your junk mail folder AND make sure you have spelt your email address correctly

You can return to www.schoolinterviews.com.au at any time, and change your interviews - until the bookings close on 16th March at 4pm

You may change your bookings, any time prior to the closing date, by re-visiting the www.schoolinterviews.com.au website, and using the event code. Remember to use the same name and email address, you used when you made your original booking. Parents wishing to change their interview times after the closing date, should contact the school directly on: 66533077

We would love to hear what you think about online booking. If you get time, click on the “contact us” button on the www.schoolinterviews.com.au website, and leave some feedback - anonymously if you wish, but please include the school's name and suburb.
Prevent bullying posters from Ms McRae's year 8 class.