

Woonona High School

EXCELLENCE INNOVATION SUCCESS



Issue No. 14

22 September 2014



WOONONA HIGH SCHOOL

UNIVERSITY OF WOLLONGONG

Partners in Quality Teaching and Mentoring programs



This week we have seen Year 12 in the final formal week of their time at Woonona High School. We know that they are still preparing themselves for their HSC and they know that there is still support and teachers here to assist them. It is amazing how much refinement of knowledge and skills can be done in the time left before the HSC as students build upon their hard work. We can but thank Miss Sharp for guiding and encouraging Year 12 for so many years as their Year Adviser and of course Mrs Pickering and Mr Boyle as well as all the staff for their ongoing commitment to Year 12 in focusing them on their study and fulfilment of their goals.

The final assembly for Year 12 on Thursday was a great day with many smiles but also a sense of anticipation of what the future may hold. Miss Sharp has organised, again, a wonderful celebration and Year 12 sincerely thanked her for her support and encouragement over the years. The hall was full of parents, grandparents and relatives who should be proud of their young adults, just as we are.



It is wonderful to see students engaging in so many extra opportunities that we offer here at Woonona High School. Our three students, Jade O'Brien, Brenna Petrolo and Isobel McLachlan who have had their writing published in "Written Portraits", a national competition, is a testament to their enthusiasm for learning. This was also shown with Jay Archer, Alyssa Ludwig, Nathan Boyle and Nickolas Cracknell working together as a team at the Talented Maths Student Day for the Illawarra and gaining a high placement as a team. Jay Archer demonstrated his individual talents as a mathematics student by gaining equal first place. Woonona High School is extremely proud of our student achievements and we encourage everyone to take up every opportunity that we can offer.

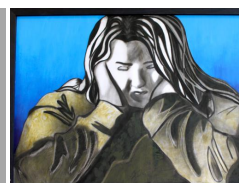
This last week of term has been busy as usual with the wonderful display of Year 12 Visual Arts and Design & Technology Major Works on Monday night, the "Unplugged" concert on Tuesday, our P&C meeting on Tuesday, Year 12 celebration day on Wednesday and their graduation ceremony on Thursday alongside all the excursions in which we engage.

I wish everyone a very happy holiday time and we will see all Years 7—11 students back to school on Tuesday 7 October.

Also in this issue:



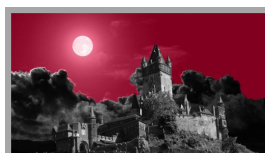
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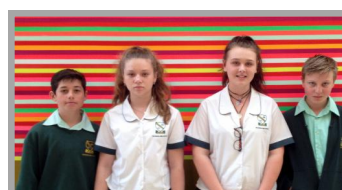
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Wishing everyone a safe and happy holiday!

First day for students in Term 4 is Tuesday 7 October 2014

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FAREWELL YEAR 12

This week we farewelled our 2014 Year 12 cohort.

The week started off with a “celebration” day on Wednesday which commenced with a BBQ breakfast here at WHS. The breakfast was attended by all Year 12 students and teachers and was a great start to a fun day.

Next it was off to Northern Bowl for a game of ten pin before adjourning to Stewart Park in Wollongong for some fun and games as well as having a go on the giant sling shot that Miss Sharp had organised as a surprise for the group.

On Thursday the formal Graduation Ceremony was held. The hall was at full capacity with families and friends to watch the group graduate.



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Major award winners at the ceremony included Kirsten Armstrong—The ADF Long Tan Leadership Award, Kate Stewart—School Medal and John Campbell—The L Lyon Award for Outstanding Contribution to the Performing Arts. Congratulations to these students and to all who received awards at the ceremony.



The new SRC executive for 2015 was also announced at the ceremony. School captains for 2015 are Brody O'Brien and Elleigh Price, Vice Captains are Tim Pollock and Cello Mahon, Secretary, Brenna Petrolo and Treasurer Hayden Moran.

Congratulations to these students.



Lots more photos from the celebration day and the Graduation Ceremony will be published in the October 20 issue of the newsletter.

The HSC commences on Monday 13 October with the English paper. Woonona High would like to wish all Year 12 students the best for the examinations.

A reminder also that Year 12 scheduled study sessions are on through the holidays for one on one examination preparation.



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YR 8 MARINE STUDIES EXCURSION

On the 11th of September Year 8 Marine Studies travelled to Sydney on an excursion to the Sydney Aquarium and Sydney Maritime Museum.

We left Woonona station at 7:20am and arrived at Town Hall at 9:00. From Town Hall we walked to Sydney Aquarium. Our topic in Marine Studies this term was 'Dangerous Creatures'. At the aquarium we observed most marine animals including various types of fish, sharks, starfish, coral, jellyfish, crustaceans and many other marine creatures, we didn't get to see the dungeons as their enclosure was closed. We gained information on the species and took note of what we saw. We all had an assignment to do whilst walking around the aquarium. After walking around the whole aquarium 3 times we met outside near the harbour, then we walked and had lunch near the harbour.



We then had to leave the museum and walk to the train station. After catching three trains and moving platforms several times we finally boarded a train and had to wait 40 minutes to leave. The train trip was equally as exciting as the day. We arrived at Woonona at 4:15, tired but happy.

We would like to thank Mr Wilson very much for taking us, what a great day!

By Molly Callendar, Zoe Post and Grace Mellows



After lunch we walked to the Maritime Museum and explored an old submerged battle submarine. The submarine could hold up to 65 people. We all saw the rooms on the submarine and how they worked: they were very small! We all then went into the museum to take part in activities where we learnt information, looked at old ship parts and looked at handmade models of ships. It was a very interesting place to visit.

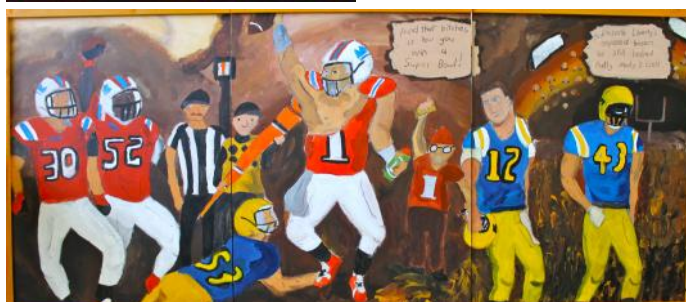
HSC VIS ART DISPLAY

On Monday night 15 September ,Year 12 Visual Art class held a display of the works the class has submitted for this years HSC. The artworks are the culmination of a many hours of hard work and effort. We wish these students well for the HSC.



Pictured above is Mr Hoole and the Year 12 Visual Art class.

Below are just some of the examples of the fine work submitted by this years HSC cohort.



IMPORTANT NOTICE

Parents and carers are reminded that they are not permitted to drive into the school grounds to drop off students in the morning or pick up students in the afternoons.

Because of the wet weather many parents are attempting to drive into the school to drop their children off. This causes chaos with staff not being able to enter the school and a student was nearly hit by a car recently.

If this practice persists we will have to have staff monitoring entry into the school to ensure the safety of our students.

There is ample parking off Austin Street for parents who wish to drive their children to school.



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The Year 9 elective class, Information Software & Technology looks at the ever changing world of software & technology. Students in this course learn about, choose and use appropriate information and software technology to develop an informed awareness of its capabilities, scope and limitations.



The difference in the original photograph and the ones produced by the Year 9 students using the Photoshop software are amazing. The castle is only slightly recognisable but the transformation of the blue sky background and the shading of colours make the new pictures not only very different but interesting and almost “eerie” to look at.

The pictures shown here were produced by Year 9 students, Jay Archer, Dakota Lee, Nicholas Cracknell and Taylor Tane.

Other areas of special interest in this course include Artificial Intelligence, Robotics and Software Development.

Mr Mete

(Science & Technology teacher)

The original image (above) and a second image depicting dark storm clouds were issued to students. Using the software program Adobe Photoshop the students learned to create a new image by merging the images.

The students learnt how to change the environment where the picture was taken by using the Extraction Tool, Crop, Selection, Mask and other tools to transform two photos into one.



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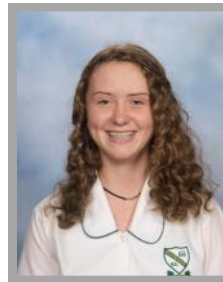
WRITTEN PORTRAITS

On 10th September Jade O'Brien, Brenna Petrolo and their families travelled to Sydney to attend a literary event at the Opera Quays. Jade and Brenna, along with Isobel McLachlan of Year 8, had been selected from hundreds of entries to be published in this year's "Written Portraits" anthology of short stories. This was a national competition which attracted an extremely high standard of short stories, so we are very proud to have had three of our students published.

The event at Circular Quay was an opportunity for our young writers to meet other finalists, as well as find out which story was the overall winner of this year's competition. The girls had the opportunity to listen to a guest speaker, a writer who went on to direct a short film, which they found interesting and inspiring. Brenna commented that Woonona High School was one of the schools which had the most students published (along with the academically selective school North Sydney Girls') Congratulations to Jade, Brenna and Isobel for achieving at this extremely high academic level on a National level.

Jade's story, "Those Who Sacrificed Before Us" is published in the 'Student Voice' section of this newsletter (Page 18). (Isobel's story was published earlier this term).

Ms Clare Matthews



Pictured above is Jade O'Brien and Brenna Petrolo.

Isobel McLachlan is pictured left



UOW LEARNING LABS - A HOLIDAY PROGRAM FOR GIFTED & TALENTED STUDENTS

LEARNING LABS

During the July school holidays the University of Wollongong held a LEARNING LABS program. "Learning Labs" is a gifted and talented program for students in Years 7 to 10. Over 200 students from the Illawarra, South Coast, Sydney and the Southern Highlands attended the program.

Students who attend the program must be academically performing in the top 10% of their area of interest. The workshops are innovative and challenging and offer students an accelerated program of study.

During the July cycle of Learning Labs, six Woonona High School students successfully completed the program.

Congratulations to these students.



Lucy Rouse
Creative Writing for
Beginners and Beyond



Rachel Pollock
Nerds, Geeks & Fandom



Rebecca Miranda
Nerds, Geeks & Fandom



Mitchell Begley
Nerds, Geeks & Fandom



Lara Chapman
Radical Graphics



Kaitlyn Smith
Radical Graphics

STUDENT MONITORING

This week student monitoring was completed for all students in years 7—10, in all subjects. Monitoring cards were handed out in roll call last week. These monitoring cards indicate a students' progress in all subjects and are an important way to communicate to parents and students how they are performing in their subjects. Please take the time to have a look at your child's monitoring card and if you have any queries please do not hesitate to phone the school on 4284 1513.

WOONONA HS STUDENT FINISHES EQUAL FIRST AT 2014 YEAR 9 TALENTED MATHS STUDENTS DAY

Smith's Hill High School hosted this year's event which featured students from all over the Illawarra and was again endorsed by the University of Wollongong.

Woonona's Jay Archer finished equal first in the individual student placings. This was a wonderful achievement considering the many talented students who competed in the event.

Perhaps Jay thought the prize was the black Ferrari parked in the school grounds. The Ferrari actually belonged to an Austinmer resident who studied Mathematics at Wollongong University and then achieved his wealth through creating his own financial market trading company. His friend and lecturer Jacqui Rammage borrowed the car to highlight to the Year 9 students the potential of a career in mathematics.



The students completed questions which covered a range of mathematical concepts and were introduced to the field of Matrices. Lollies, drinks, cakes and a BBQ lunch were provided for the students and teachers from the 13 schools which attended.

Special mention should go to Alyssa Ludewig who finished just one point behind Jay in the final rankings. Nathan Boyle and Nicholas Cracknell also performed well as the Woonona Team finished high up in the team placings. In fact Woonona were leading going into the final round before Smith's Hill HS eventually finished in first place.

Mr Holliday.

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WHEELCHAIR ROADSHOW!

On the 26th of August, Year 10 students participated in the Wheelchair Road Show.

Brendan and Andrew are two men from Sydney with spinal cord injuries. They were kind enough to come to Woonona High School and talk to us about spinal cord injuries and the effects they can have on people, their families and friends. Brendan told us how he was born with spinal defects and has not walked a day in his life. Andrew told us that he was 14 when he dove into a sandbar at the beach and hit his head. Since that day he hasn't been able to walk again.

They told us how privileged we are to be able to do the simple task of getting out of bed without trouble.

We all had a turn of getting in the wheelchairs and playing wheelchair basketball. Brenden made a great point that we are very lucky, because at the end of the game we will get out of the wheelchairs and walk to our next class. Some people aren't that lucky and are forced to be in a wheelchair for the rest of their lives.



Everyone really enjoyed playing wheel chair basketball, and all thought it was a great experience seeing what it's like to use wheelchairs, especially trying to play sport in them.

As much fun as we had, we all took away an important message from the day. Be careful and think through what you are doing, but also be very thankful that we are able to walk.

Mr Spargo

PDHPE Teacher

SUCCESS IN ENGLISH COMPETITION

This year students at Woonona High School achieved great results in the University of NSW International English Competition. This is a prestigious competition open to students from across Australia and South East Asia. Four students achieved Distinction Certificates, putting them in the top 10% of candidates.



Congratulations to Nicholas Turner, Freya and Liam of Year 8 and to Donevan Moss of Year 9.

Three students achieved Certificates of Credit, reflecting their achievement in the top 20% of candidates - congratulations to Faith Apps, Jeremy Eager and Jade O'Brien of Year 8.

Students from Woonona High School achieved well above the national average. Congratulations to all students who took the opportunity to challenge themselves in this competition.



Clare Matthews (Acting Head Teacher English)

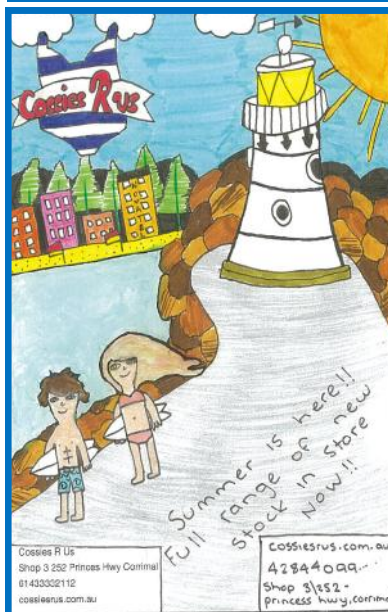
ILLAWARRRA MERCURY "DESIGN AN AD"

Selected Year 7 and Year 9 English Classes competed this term in the annual Illawarra Mercury "Design an Ad" competition. We were partnered with two local businesses (Cossies R Us and Woonona Bulli RSL) and were given specific criteria to meet. This included using the company logo, including catchy slogans such as "summer is here!" and using Wollongong Beach and the lighthouse as part of the designs setting.

All entries were sent off this week and if any of our students are successful, prizes include \$800 first prize and \$500 for the best collective school effort. Fingers Crossed.

The following are two examples of the great works submitted to the competition.

Ms Whiddon (English Teacher)



ABSENTEEISM FROM SCHOOL

Parents are reminded that students who are absent from school need to return a note from a parent or carer within seven days of returning to school. This is a Department of Education requirement and the school sends reminder notes home each week to parents / carers of students who have outstanding unexplained absences. If the school does not receive a note within seven days the absence will be recorded on the students report as an unexplained absence and will not be able to be changed once this has been recorded.

Parents / carers are also reminded that "slept in" or "missed the bus" are not justified reasons for late arrivals. Late arrivals for these reasons will also be recorded as an "unjustified" absence on the students report card.

THE WAR of WOONONA !!
and we all know NO-ONE WINS A WARexcept
LEETON.

After going on a four-month reign of Rugby League domination, leaving a broken trail of rep stars, reputations and dented egos in their wake, the Woonona Opens team had their "Alamo" and the battle was fierce to say the least. The team had beaten all comers from the whole of the South Coast and was in the final 16 teams of all of NSW, and hosted Leeton High School attempting to make the quarterfinals of the University Shield.

We knew we were on the big stage and that our opposition were no mugs, having defeated the prestigious Yanco Agriculture College on the way to us. They also arrived a day early and were watched by our "local informers" training at the ground late into the evening. Still, after our tremendous victory in the South Coast Final, and our fielding the strongest team we could, we really thought we could give it a shake. And things certainly did shake, mainly the ground, which rumbled when the behemoth's from Leeton climbed off the bus and they Fee-Fi-Foed their way into the sheds. To describe them as enormous is a gross understatement of gigantic proportions (no pun intended)

As mentioned we had pretty much a full squad, as guys returned from injury, good behavior bonds and beauty treatments. Our starting forward pack contained; Ryan "RPG" Jones, Ben "A Cause of Constant" Grief, Ryan "The Cannonball" Grimshaw, Corey "Quick-Feet" Quirk, Ben "The Bearded One" Brien and C5 (Captain Callum-Cal-Cal-Corey). The brains and direction, if not looks, were provided by Ben "Baby Face" Ridgeway and Chad "Smooth As" Butterworth feeding a backline featuring Brad "The Drop Out" Reid, Runaway Reece Mathison, Kyle "Cuckoo" Wilson, Callum "Can't Concentrate" Smith and Will "Run Rings Around ya" Latu. Our bench was strong with Joel "The Whacker" Westmond, Cooper "Nuttzy" Nizza, A-Aron Holland, Jake "Bloopster" Cooper, Connor "Watch Me" Basham, Jacob "Jimmy" Hendricks, Josh "Fabio" Grimshaw, Kyle "Old Mother" Hubbard-Stewart and Austin "Whole Chook" Brookes. We were still without Matt "The Hammer" Harrison who had injured his leg at a trampoline party.

Our good training and strong squad were quickly tested though, as within minutes we had Corey Quirk leave via ambulance with a badly broken collarbone, as well as Ryan Jones who had his ear torn to the point that it was only attached to his head by masking tape. Our Captain, Callum Corey's finger was also bent and twisted to a shape that it was not meant to be and had to be re-adjusted back into place. Both boys went back on to help their mates though. The team fought on bravely and for 74 minutes the score was 6 – 0 to Leeton. Woonona threw themselves at the bigger opposition, time and time again in both defence and attack, but it seemed that we had used all our luck in the game against Bomaderry, as on the day, the ball just didn't bounce our way. In the end Leeton scored twice more late, to make it 18 – 0. They went on to be beat Fairfield before losing to Farah who won the State Title.

The game was fantastic, made more so by the enthusiastic support provided by the students and staff of Woonona High who cheered on the team. Our boys could walk away with heads high as they, to a man, demonstrated courage and tenacity to never give up in a match that was tough, but played in a wonderfully competitive spirit. So, the 2014 Rugby League campaign is finished and I want to thank all the boys who played throughout the year and all the teachers whose help has made it all possible.

Mr. Hoole



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WHS EQUESTRIANS

This year Woonona High had three representatives at Camden Equestrian Interschool (Amy Bradbury, Breanna Geloven and Kira Small). Please find below a picture of these riders on the day.

It was Amy's last year representing Woonona High as she is now in Year 12 (left in pic). Amy had a hugely successful day in the intermediate ring and ended up taking out Champion (Year 12).

Breanna (right in pic) and Kira (Middle in pic) managed consistent placings in the Years 8 & 9 open rings which is also a great achievement.

Congratulations to all of these riders - they were great representatives for Woonona High on the day.



RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

Students in Years 10 and 11, who are over the age of 16 have been invited to support the Red Cross Blood Drive this year.

Blood is vital for life, and for many people, blood donors are their lifeline. Currently only 1 in 30 Australians donate blood, but 1 in 3 Australians will need blood in their lifetime.

This week saw the first students give donations and this will continue next term. Year 12 student Luke McKellar was instrumental in organising the donations this week.



PHOTO PAGE



Pictured above is Mr Landy and the State Athletics representatives at assembly this week. See the full athletics story and more pictures on page 14 of this issue.



SOUTH COAST Under 15

WHS Year 9 student Josh Grimshaw had the privilege of playing rugby for the South Coast Under 15's squad in Canberra this year. Congratulations Josh.



YEAR 8 CUPCAKES AND MORE

The Year 8 Cupcake class this week made a very impressive "Australian Flag" cupcake display. Over 60 cupcakes went into making the display with each cake decorated intricately to make the Australian Flag.

Well done Year 8 Cupcakes I'm sure that the cakes tasted as good as they looked.

Ms Bolam

Industrial Technology Teacher

Yr 9, 10, 11 VISUAL ART EXCURSION

Selected students in Yr 9,10 & 11 Visual Arts classes travelled to the NSW Art Gallery in Sydney to see the Archibald Prize, which is the biggest, most popular portrait exhibition in Australia.



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LIBRARY

BOOK CLUB

This fortnight our guest speaker was Ms Reynolds from our English department. Ms Reynolds is a keen reader of historical fiction and reviewed the book *Little Brother* by Allan Baille. This book revolves around the lives of two young brothers who are caught up in the Vietnam War.



I reviewed the book *This Star Won't Go Out* by Esther Earl. Any parent of a teenage girl will probably be familiar with the book *The Fault in Our Stars* by John Green. This book is the number one top seller in teenage fiction at the moment and is based on the true story of Esther Earl a teenage girl who contracted thyroid cancer.

This Star Won't Go Out is a collection of the journals, fiction, letters, and sketches of the late Esther Grace Earl, who passed away in 2010 at the age of 16. Photographs and essays by family and friends help to tell Esther's story along with an introduction by award-winning author John Green who dedicated his novel *The Fault in Our Stars* to her.



READERS ABSORB LESS ON KINDLES THAN ON PAPER, STUDY FINDS



A new study which found that readers using a Kindle were "significantly" worse than paperback readers at recalling when events occurred in a mystery story is part of major new Europe-wide research looking at the impact of digitisation on the reading experience.

The study gave 50 readers the same short story to read. Half read the 28-page story on a Kindle, and half in a paperback, with readers then tested on aspects of the story including objects, characters and settings.

In the study, it was found that paper readers did report higher on measures having to do with empathy and transportation and immersion, and narrative coherence, than iPad readers. Kindle readers performed significantly worse on the plot reconstruction measure, i.e., when they were asked to place 14 events in the correct order."

SHORT STORY WORKSHOPS

In the *school holidays*, Will Kostakis, the NSW based, short listed author of "The First Third" will host:



"Short Stories that Stick:

Writing short stories that capture readers."

WILL KOSTAKIS – OCTOBER 2, 2014

School Holidays - OCTOBER 2, 2014 with CBCA NSW at the State Library of NSW

During **Term 4**, the **Bell Shakespeare Company** and a co-presenter will present a teen writing workshop focused around *The Tempest*.

The TEMPEST - Term 4 on FRIDAY OCTOBER 24, 2014

The **Bell Shakespeare Company** and a co-presenter who will present a teen writing workshop focused around "**The Tempest**". Students attending this workshop will also receive a private tour of the Shakespeare room at the State Library of NSW.

OCTOBER 24, 2014 with CBCA NSW at the State Library of NSW

WOONONA PUTS ON A GREAT SHOW AT THE STATE ATHLETICS TITLES

Woonona triumphed at the CHS Athletics Carnival, four of our relay teams qualified to compete at the CHS titles and 3 of those qualified to run in the finals.

Congratulations to the 12 Years boys, the 13 Years boys, the 13 Years girls and the 14 Years boys teams.

The teams and results were:

12 Years boys: Thomas Heaton, Angus Smart, Kane Dorian, Coen Bott (6th)



13 Years boys: Michael Quirk, Naran Ping, Alani Tokelau, Lawson Charlesworth (7th)



14 Years boys: Marley Carr– Smith, Jack McConnell, Wilson Owen, (7th)



13 Years girls Abby McConnell, Courtney Phillips, Brooke Tierney Kendall Linsley were struck down by injury when Brooke Tierney strained her hamstring and was unable to compete but quick thinking by her dad enabled us to replace Brooke with a Bulli runner to allow the rest of the team to take to the arena. The looks on the faces of the girls showed that the experience though somewhat modified was definitely worth it.



Jay Archer qualified for the final of the 800 metres and placed 8th, a creditable performance.

13 Year old Lawson Charlesworth competed in the 100 metres and the Long Jump and Alani Tokelau competed in the 13 Year boys Shot Put. Both boys scored minor placings.

I would like to acknowledge the coaching all relay teams received from Ron Thompson and the extra time and effort put into the 12 Years boys team by Steve Smart.

I would like to congratulate all students who competed for the school in athletics this year. We are looking to further modify our coaching program next year to provide a longer development period during Term 2 and to maintain the ongoing support right through to the State Titles in Term 3.

Rod Landy

Athletics Coordinator & Science Teacher



CAREERS



Year 12

As per usual the final week of term four involved a bit of frivolity. Our students looked great for their final day of classes, had a fantastic day bowling and at the park and by the time this is published the graduation ceremony will be over. It is now time to put heads down and commit to the last couple of weeks of HSC Examination preparation. Good luck to all of Year 12 students.

EARLY ADMISSION TO THE UNIVERSITY OF WOLLONGONG (UOW)

Twenty one of our HSC students have been invited to interviews for 'Early Admission' to UOW. This is a great result. Congratulations to those that have been offered interviews. Remember to think about why you want to attend UOW and be sure to show how you have a passion for the learning you will undertake in your degree choice. For those that were not granted an interview; please do not despair, this only one way to enter university. Each faculty at UOW has different policies regarding 'Early Admission'. You may contact the faculty you applied to via the contact details provided in the advice you received regarding your 'Early Admission' application.

UNIVERSITY ADMISSIONS CENTRE (UAC)

If you are applying to study at virtually any university in New South Wales or Canberra you must submit an application through UAC. If you submit an application by 30 September this will only cost \$29. Heavy late fees apply if you apply later. You may choose up to eight programs to apply to but you only need to choose one, at any university, and you may change your preferences right up until 7 January 2015. Please see the 'Timeline' and 'Important Information' below.

A link to an instructional video on applying to UAC has been emailed to all HSC students.

TIMELINE FOR UNIVERSITY APPLICATIONS FOR ILLAWARRA STUDENTS

This advice is provided as a general guide only. Students are advised to contact individual universities in order to check specific course information.

29 AUG UOW EARLY ADMISSION (E.A) CLOSING DATE

29 SEPT – 1 OCT UOW E.A. INTERVIEWS

30 SEPT- UAC CLOSING DATE FOR 'ON TIME' APPLICATIONS

UOW SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS CLOSING DATE
SRS CLOSING DATE

8-12 OCT UOW INFORMS CANDIDATES OF E.A. RESULTS

13 OCT- 5 NOV HSC EXAM PERIOD

1 DEC PREFERENCES FOR UAC EARLY ROUND
OFFERS MUST BE FINALISED.

YOU MUST INCLUDE YOUR UOW EARLY ADMISSION OFFER
OR YOUR SRS OFFER AS FIRST PREFERENCE BY THIS DATE

4 DEC DECEMBER EARLY ROUND OFFERS MADE FOR UOW AND SRS

5 DEC FINAL DEADLINE FOR STUDENTS TO APPLY FOR UAC'S MAIN ROUND OF OFFERS (this will involve hefty late fees)

17 DEC HSC RESULTS ARE RELEASED BY THE BOARD OF STUDIES.

18 DEC **ATARS RELEASED BY UAC**

6 JAN UOW 'OPTIONS DAY' FOR STUDENTS TO RECONSIDER PREFERENCES (see UOW website for further details)

7 JAN **FINAL DATES FOR A CHANGE OF PREFERENCES IN ORDER TO RECEIVE A MAIN ROUND OFFER THROUGH UAC**

16 JAN DEADLINE FOR ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED FOR SOME COURSES FOR UAC'S MAIN ROUND OF OFFERS.

21 JAN **MAIN ROUND OFFERS RELEASED BY UAC**

3 Important Pieces of Information for School Leavers

1. TAFE CHOICES DAY SATURDAY 6 DECEMBER

Anyone considering attending TAFE in 2015 ought to attend. Teachers and Careers Advisers will be on hand and in past years you could enroll on the day.

2. UOW OPTIONS DAY

Following the HSC some students may wish to reconsider their post school options. When a student's results are better than they expected, or perhaps not as good as they expected, they may want to consider other directions. UOW offers a service for this on 6 January. This is just in time for finalising preferences for the 'Main Round UAC' offers. At this 'Choices Day' all UOW faculties and other tertiary institutions, including TAFE, will be on hand to help students make final decisions regarding choices for 2015.

3. NSW DEC CAREERS ADVISORY SERVICE

This website provides access to the Careers Advisory Service, an annual initiative which gives students and their families or caregivers up to date information about the range of relevant career and study options available following the release of the Higher School Certificate results by the NSW Board of Studies Teacher Educational Standards (BOSTES).

The Careers Advisory Service complements the services provided by the Board of Studies Teacher Educational Standards (BOSTES) NSW, The Universities Admissions Centre, TAFE NSW, universities and other providers.

In 2014 there will be:

- Phone-in service - this free state-wide service operates from a call centre in Senior Pathways –Secondary Education between 18-19 December and 22-23 December 2014. Telephone 1300 300 687.

E-mail service - this free state-wide service operates from a centre in Senior Pathways –Secondary Education between 18 December and 23 December 2014. Access to the service is through this website.

The majority of enquiries focus on the following issues:

- career/study options available to students with lower or higher than expected ATARs
 - changes to university course preferences, and university and TAFE NSW application processes and courses.
- Experienced careers advisers from government high schools staff the Advisory Service and offer a professional, friendly and impartial service.

Year 10

I have spent two periods with each Year 10 student in their Science and Mathematics classes. We have been preparing resumes that will be used to secure 'Work Experience'. Parents wishing to see the resume (it is still only a draft) and offer constructive advice may do so with their child. Students only need to go to woononhighcareers.com and log into the 'Student Secure Area'

All Year 10 students will participate in 'Work Experience' during week seven, 17-21 November. All students have been provided with a *Student Placement Record* to be completed by; first the employer then parents and students before it is returned to school to be signed off by me.

Students have also been provided with a letter of introduction to give to prospective employers as well as *The Employers Guide to Work Place Learning* which must be given to employers.

It is the responsibility of students to secure their own 'Work Experience'. I have been offering advice and guidance to students and will continue to do so as Careers lessons are continued in PDHPE lessons during term four. All student must have their 'Work Experience' finalized by the end of week five; 7 November.



50th ANNIVERSARY PHOTOS

By popular demand I will be publishing a small selection of 50th Anniversary photos each fortnight. There were so many great photos taken of the event. I must say a big thankyou to Suzanne Montague and Trevor White for supplying these great photos of the 50th Anniversary dinner.



STUDENT VOICE

People, Places and Things That Inspire Me

By Jade O'Brien

Grandma points to a faded sepia photograph of a young man in a crisp Khaki army uniform, slouch hat on this head, gun by his side.

"This is your Grandpa," she says, passing me the album for a closer look. "He went to war and never came back home to me," she continues, eyes welling up. Taking a handkerchief from out of her sleeve, she wipes her eyes, blows her nose and begins to sob. "I have some of the wonderful letters he sent to me," she says, opening an old biscuit tin and taking out some dog-eared, discoloured papers.

She collects herself and reads aloud: *"My dearest Kate, I have seen some men coming around to collect mail and I thought that I should take time to write to you while there is a merciful break in the horrendous fighting. Everything is so tough out here; my mates are dropping like flies. The hygiene is terrible and many of the soldiers in the lines with me are being affected by disease.*

When I left for my turning out you had just gone in to the jobs office. Did you manage to find a job? What do they have you doing for the war effort?

"You and our beloved daughter are always in my thoughts and I fight even harder each day for you."

There was a long pause, as if her mind was somewhere else, in another time lost to the ages. "That was when your mother was only eighteen months old," she says wistfully after checking the date atop the parchment.

I think of her daughter, my own mother, and how she had grown up without a father and how hard it must have been for Grandma to raise her completely on her own through such hard, unfair times.

She continues to read. *"By the time you receive this letter it will probably be after your birthday but, if by some miracle you get this before, please remember I love you so much and you are always in my thoughts. I miss you like nothing else and can only dream of the day when this war is over and I can return back home to you and our beloved daughter, Matilda."*

After she reads this part of the letter she bursts into tears. I am helpless. The only thing I can do to comfort her is give her a big hug and hold her tight. She points towards the box of tissues sitting on the coffee table. When I stand up to get them, the plastic protecting the couch sticks to me, making a crinkly sound. As I come back with the box I can see her picking up the photograph that fell out of the envelope and holding it to her face, staring, as if the warmth of my long-dead Grandfather is somehow to be found in the picture itself. She cries even harder and I feel so terrible that there is nothing I can do to ease her pain.

She reads out the last line of the letter, with an effort I had never witnessed before. *"Hopefully, my love, I will be home soon and I will be able to see you, touch you, the way we used to. With all my love and devotion, Dave."*

"I love you too, Penny," she whispers, her old smile back.

He died from a grenade explosion just five days later," she explains, somehow now calm. Her lips curl into a faint smile, her eyes coming back to mine.

With this she folds the letters up and places them carefully back into the old tin, shutting the lid before placing it back on the shelf. Eyes still watering, she walks into the kitchen and pulls out a chair, rests her hands on her head and continues to sob quietly. I follow, sit down on a chair next to her and clasp her hands. I try to tell her that everything is alright but I know for her it isn't. It never quite will be. He is never coming back and she has lived all this time without him.

I tell her he died fighting for our country's freedom and how proud I am that he was – he is – part of my family. She looks upon me with her glassy eyes but I don't know what else to say. The oven timer dings, signally that our scones are done. Grandma gets up and puts the oven mitts on before opening the door. She takes the tray out and places it on the bench. We stand next to each other taking the scones off the baking tray and putting them onto the wire rack to cool. A simple act, but one filled with love and togetherness.

"I love you lots, Grandma," is all I say and I don't even expect an answer.

As we clean up from baking I can't help but think what an inspiration my Grandpa is. He left his family at home and fought for his country, and my country, knowing the risks and the chance that he may never return home. I also think how inspiring my Grandma is for raising my mother on her own, and for staying strong after the love of her life was gone.

"I love you too, Penny," she whispers, her old smile back.

**CANTEEN VOLUNTEERS**

Once again a big thankyou to all our canteen volunteers who helped us out last term. It would not be possible for us to keep up with the demand for our nutritious and delicious food if it was not for our wonderful volunteers.

Unfortunately this term there are many days where there are no helpers rostered. We would like to encourage anyone who would be able to volunteer once a month to contact the school. Our volunteers usually help out for 3–4 hours once a month but even if you can spare 1 hour we would be very happy to see you.

Thanks again

Pam and Sharon (Please contact us on :Ph: 4284 1513).

CANTEEN HELPERS TERM 4 2014

| | |
|-------------|---------------------|
| Wed 8 Oct | Chris Core |
| Thur 9 Oct | HELP NEEDED |
| Fri 10 Oct | Narelle Green |
| Mon 13 Oct | Vasey Usher |
| Tues 14 Oct | HELP NEEDED |
| Wed 15 Oct | HELP NEEDED |
| Thur 16 Oct | Stephanie Cotterill |
| Fri 19 Oct | Angela Madden |
| Mon 20 Oct | HELP NEEDED |
| Tues 21 Oct | Susie Eager |
| Wed 22 Oct | HELP NEEDED |
| Thur 23 Oct | HELP NEEDED |
| Fri 24 Oct | HELP NEEDED |
| Mon 27 Oct | Karen & Lenore |
| Tues 28 Oct | Kerri |
| Wed 29 Oct | HELP NEEDED |
| Thur 30 Oct | HELP NEEDED |
| Fri 31 Oct | Jo Meiers |
| Mon 3 Nov | HELP NEEDED |
| Tue 4 Nov | HELP NEEDED |
| Wed 5 Nov | Chris Core |
| Thur 6 Nov | HELP NEEDED |
| Fri 7 Nov | Narelle Green |
| Mon 10 Nov | Vasey Usher |
| Tues 11 Nov | HELP NEEDED |
| Wed 12 Nov | |
| Thur 13 Nov | Stephanie Cotterill |
| Fri 14 Nov | Angela Madden |
| Mon 17 Nov | HELP NEEDED |
| Tue 18 Nov | Susie Eager |
| Wed 19 Nov | HELP NEEDED |
| Thur 20 Nov | HELP NEEDED |
| Fri 21 Nov | Wendy Wyatt |
| Mon 24 Nov | Karen & Lenore |
| Tue 25 Nov | Kerrie |
| Wed 26 Nov | HELP NEEDED |
| Thur 27 Nov | HELP NEEDED |
| Fri 28 Nov | HELP NEEDED |
| Mon 1 Dec | Karen & Lenore |
| Tues 2 Dec | HELP NEEDED |
| Wed 3 Dec | Chris Core |
| Thur 4 Dec | HELP NEEDED |
| Fri 5 Dec | Narelle Green |
| Mon 8 Dec | Vasey Usher |
| Tues 9 Dec | HELP NEEDED |
| Wed 10 Dec | HELP NEEDED |
| Thu 11 Dec | Stephanie Cotterill |
| Fri 12 Dec | Angela Madden |
| Mon 15 Dec | HELP NEEDED |
| Tue 16 Dec | Susie Eager |

TERM 4 2014 CALENDAR

| | |
|--------|--|
| 7 Oct | 1 st day Term 4 for students |
| 8 Oct | Year 10 Yearly Exams |
| 9 Oct | Year 10 Yearly Exams Year 9 English Exc. IPAC |
| 10 Oct | Year 10 Yearly Exams |
| 13 Oct | HSC Examinations start |
| 21 Oct | 2015 Enrichment Class Day P&C Meeting |
| 23 Oct | Year 11 HSC Study Day |
| 27 Oct | Year 5 Sample Lesson day |
| 29 Oct | Year 11 into Year 12 Information evening |
| 31 Oct | Immunization Years 7 & 9 |
| 3 Nov | Year 12 VET Work Placement |
| 4 Nov | Year 12 VET Work Placement |
| 5 Nov | Year 12 VET Work Placement |
| 6 Nov | Year 12 VET Work Placement |
| 7 Nov | Year 12 VET Work Placement Year 12 Clearance Day 9 – 11am SCR |
| 10 Nov | Year 12 VET Work Placement ESSA Online Test |
| 11 Nov | Year 12 VET Work Placement ESSA Online Test Year 6 Parent Information Evening Remembrance Day |
| 12 Nov | Year 12 VET Work Placement ESSA Online Test |
| 13 Nov | Year 12 VET Work Placement ESSA Online Test |
| 14 Nov | Year 12 VET Work Placement |
| 17 Nov | Year 10 Work Experience Year 11 RYDA |
| 18 Nov | Year 10 Work Experience P&C Meeting |
| 19 Nov | Year 10 Work Experience |
| 20 Nov | Year 10 Work Experience Year 12 Formal |
| 21 Nov | Year 10 Work Experience |
| 28 Nov | School Spectacular |
| 3 Dec | Year 7 2015 Orientation Day |
| 4 Dec | Stage 4 Assembly |
| 9 Dec | Variety Night |
| 10 Dec | Years 7 – 11 Rewards excursion |
| 11 Dec | Presentation Evening |
| 15 Dec | Student Activities week |
| 16 Dec | Student Activities week |
| 17 Dec | Student Activities week Last day for students 2014 |

Uniform Shop

The Uniform Shop now has an email address. To contact Renae or Jackie for any enquiries regarding uniform orders please email them at woononahs.uniforms@gmail.com. Uniform order forms can be downloaded from our website or they are available at the Front Office.

The Uniform Shop is open each Thursday from 8.00am—9.30am. If this time is unsuitable for you, orders can be paid for at the Front Office (Mon—Fri 7.45am to 3.15pm) and the items will be delivered to your child the following Thursday.

New items for winter include:

WHS Spray Jackets \$65
School cap \$15

UNIFORM SHOP NEWS

For a limited time the green fleece school jackets and jumpers will be on special for \$30.

Parents please be reminded that clothing items can only be exchanged if they are faulty or the wrong size – not because you or your child have changed their minds.

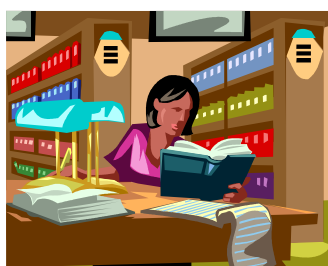
Also clothing to be exchanged must be unworn and still have the tags attached.

Thankyou from the “Uniform Ladies”

THE HOMEWORK LEARNING CENTRE

The Homework Learning Centre is open in the school Library every Tuesday from 3pm to 4.30pm.

Specialised teachers are on hand to help students and a light afternoon tea is provided. This is an excellent opportunity for students to use the school resources and teacher's expertise to complete homework, assignments and study notes.



MEDIA RELEASE

11 August 2014

RAIL SAFETY WEEK REMINDS COMMUNITIES IN THE ILLAWARRA TO BE SAFE AT STATIONS AND AROUND RAIL CORRIDORS

Chief Executive of NSW TrainLink Rob Mason today urged customers and local communities in the Illawarra to take extra care at level crossings as NSW TrainLink has released the top “hot spots” of level crossing trespasses.

As Rail Safety Week kicks off across the country, new figures show the level crossings at Bellambi and Corrimal have been found to be in the top five of the most reported incidents of trespassing, with the majority of incidents caused by pedestrians not following the safety signals.

The most frequent trespasses at level crossings were at:

- Hamilton – 8 reported incidents;
- Bellambi – 8 reported incidents;
- Wickham – 5 reported incidents;
- Woy Woy – 5 reported incidents; and
- Corrimal – 5 reported incidents.

“The dangers of illegally crossing a rail line are obvious,” Mr Mason said.

“An accident between a pedestrian and a train at a level crossing can be catastrophic with both pedestrians and motorists killed each year.

“It takes up to 570 metres for a passenger train travelling at 100km/h to stop - that’s the length of more than three football fields. A train cannot simply swerve to miss a pedestrian on a level crossing, so the consequences can be deadly.

“Research shows that 57 per cent of collisions involve motorists who live within 10 kilometres of a level crossing.

“We are urging pedestrians, cyclists and motorists to take care and remain alert when approaching level crossings.

“They should wait for the lights to stop flashing, look both ways, listen for trains and cross only if it is safe to do so.”

With an estimated 3800 level crossing across NSW there are serious consequences for people who ignore safety warnings.

“Users of level crossings can sometimes be overconfident and think they can ignore the signals, but trains cannot swerve to miss pedestrians or vehicles on tracks,” Mr Mason said.

Mr Mason said customers need to look after their safety.

“People should remove their headphones if listening to music, stop talking on the phone and stop texting until they are safely across the crossing or when boarding a train. When on a station platform customers should always stand well back behind the yellow line.”

Motorists caught disobeying signals at a level crossing will receive three demerit points and a \$405 fine.

Rail Safety Week runs from 11-17 August and brings together rail operators from Australia and New Zealand to raise awareness about rail safety for one week every year.

As part of Rail Safety Week, a large scale Pearly Gates installation has been erected at Wollongong Station to remind pedestrians and motorists to be cautious around level crossings.

“The ‘Pearly Gates’ sends a clear message – be safe and don’t rush to the other side,” Mr Mason said.

“If you are driving with other people in the car/listening to music and you come to a level crossing, block out the noise and concentrate really hard, then stop, look, listen, and think before crossing the tracks. Doing this could save the life of everyone in the car.”

Russell Vale

PUBLIC SCHOOL



60th Anniversary

CARNIVAL

Saturday October 18th

come celebrate with past & present students

**11am
to
3pm**



**11am
to
3pm**

Rides * Stalls * BBQ
Coffee Van * Food Stalls
Plant Stall * Face Painting
School Memorabilia Display
Live Music "Vita Zapper"
and so much more!!!

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info contact kellymills5@bigpond.com - 0414 851914

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Community Noticeboard

Basketball and Fitness School Holiday Activities



Basketball Training Days

School Years 2 to Year 6

1. Wednesday, 24 September 2014

2. Wednesday, 1 October 2014

Fitness Day

(boxing circuit, volleyball, dodge ball)

Ages 7 to 14

Monday, 22 September 2014

10am to 2pm

BBQ lunch/drink provided

Bookings are essential.

Contact Bulli PCYC on:

Ph: 4284 3878

email: bulli@pcycnsw.org.au

Cost: \$20 per session

PCYC Membership applies to non-members (\$10)

<http://ndcc.nsw.cricket.com.au>

Thirroul and Northern Districts Junior Cricket Club Registration Info

Thirroul and Northern Districts Junior Cricket Club invites you to register to play cricket in 2014/15.

Boys and Girls can register for the following:-

In2Cricket (Milo Cricket) 5 to 8 yr olds

In2Cricket (Milo T20Blast) 8 to 9 yr olds

Junior teams from U/10 to U/16 yr olds

Season commences on Saturday 11 October 2014

Register at <http://ndcc.nsw.cricket.com.au>

Or

Contact the club Registrar

Club Contact Details:

President: Chris Collimore - chris.collimore@gmail.com

Registrar: Michael Clayden - michael@criterionfs.com.au



TAKING THE FINAL WICKET



Find out how you can create
your own cricket moment at
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Summer in Australia means cricket.

And cricket is a fun way for girls and boys to develop fundamental movement skills, learn about teamwork and get involved in the local community.



rebel

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Thirroul & Northern Districts CC

CALL Michael - 0439436296 OR VISIT

<http://ndcc.nsw.cricket.com.au/>

For more information, visit playcricket.com.au



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Community Noticeboard



Bluelight Under 18's Dance Event. September 20th 7pm to 10.30pm.

Splashes Nightclub Novotel Northbeach.

Pre-Sale Tickets \$15 available from Wollongong PCYC. \$20 at the door. Buy 2 Pre-sale tickets before the 30th of August, mention your school newsletter and get one ticket free.

This event is supervised by NSW Police Officers. No Pass outs. A great way to kick off the September School Holidays with your friends.

Ph 42294418

WOONONA GIRL GUIDES

Would you like to have fun, experience exciting challenges and make new friends?

Girl Guides is part of an international organisation that offers a weekly program for girls in various age groups. They are encouraged to think for themselves and to gain life and leadership skills in a safe environment with qualified leaders.

Woonona Dolphin Guides is for girls aged 7-10 years and meets on Tuesday nights. Woonona Guides is for girls aged 10-14 years and meets on Monday nights. Both groups meet at Woonona Guide Hall in Strachan Park, Woonona (between Ball St & Princes Highway).

For more information please contact the District Manager on 0450 632 774, or Girl Guides NSW membership on 300GIRLGUIDES (1300 447 548).

Check out Girl Guides at www.girlguides-nswact.org.au



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A FREE Lecture to Help Students Excel in the HSC & Trial Exams

To help students obtain the best possible marks in their trial and HSC Examinations, TSFX is holding a series of FREE* lectures titled "Mastering the Exams". This exclusive lecture is being delivered by one of Australia's leading education / learning specialists.

The lecture is valued at over \$200 but is free of charge to students. Students, however, required to make a minimum \$10 donation to the Fred Hollows Foundation who will be in attendance on the day.

Phone 1300 362 143 for more information.

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Interested? Email us: burghjunior7s@gmail.com

looking for players and teams

MATHEMATICS TUTORING

Maths students from the University of Wollongong have the thorough knowledge of all aspects of high school mathematics courses, as well as the recent experience of taking on the HSC and the personality and relatable character to make learning maths as engaging and entertaining as possible for all students.

Our tutors will strive to enhance your skills and understanding to improve your results, whether you are part way through high school or if you are approaching HSC exams.

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0413400179

jhand.tutoring@gmail.com

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Ray White

The difference is in the detail.....



Rick Taylor 0404 305 315 rick.taylor@raywhite.com

Troy Johnson 0411 969 656 troy.johnson@raywhite.com

Ray White Woonona is a long established local business; who are proud of their achievements winning numerous awards for sales & services. Led by principals Rick Taylor & Troy Johnson who boast over 40 years of combined real estate experience. We support numerous local sporting teams, surf life saving clubs & local schools. Our aim is to achieve the highest possible price for your home with the minimum of fuss.

Woonona

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