

Hawker College

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NEWSLETTER ISSUE 7

SEPTEMBER 2014

ACT Schools Constitutional Convention

Seven of our Year 11 students attended the annual Constitutional Convention, a two day event which was held on 31st July and 1st August at various venues in the Parliamentary Triangle.

The purpose of the event was to participate in parliamentary-style debates on the role of government responsibility in relation to the environment. The students listened to keynote speakers that presented arguments for and against the topic, "Should the Commonwealth Parliament have specific powers to legislate for the environment?" Shane Rattenbury MLA presented the affirmative case and Alistair Coe MLA presented the negative case. Students worked in various groups during the event to explore the constitutional issues before participating in a mock constitutional referendum. Representatives from the Australian Electoral Commission conducted the election. A 'double majority' was decided for the negative stance. Certificates were presented at the conclusion to all students by Vicki Dunne MLA, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly. The seven Hawker College students were excellent ambassadors for our college, and showed great respect for the etiquette of parliamentary debating.

Joanne Adams
Legal Studies and Business Teacher

SPECIAL VISIT FROM THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER, EMILY CANNING – DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

On 20th August, Ms Emily Canning visited Hawker College to give a presentation to Business and Economics students about her role as Chief Financial Officer (CFO) for the Department of Human Services. Students were impressed to hear that the department administers approximately \$150 billion in social security, health and child support payments each year to Australian citizens on behalf of the Australian Government. Some of the payments the department is responsible for administering include Newstart Allowance, Youth Allowance, Single Parenting payments and Disability Support pensions. The department is appropriated \$4 billion per annum in departmental funding to support the delivery of these payments. As CFO, Emily is the financial custodian of these funds, and has 300 staff within the CFO Division to support this important function. What was most valuable from Emily's visit was for students to hear how she has progressed to her current role. Emily is a Hawker College graduate, who after leaving college went on to gain a



Above: Kelsey, Zane, Matt, Brendan, Ciara, Sophie and Claire, participate in the ACT Schools Constitutional Convention.

degree in accounting before becoming a Chartered Accountant, gaining work in private enterprise and then in the public service. Emily encouraged students to have a strong work ethic, which is what she believes has been the key to her success. Emily's presentation was thoroughly engaging and students were really grateful to hear from such an inspiring business leader.



Above: Emily Canning, CFO Department of Human Services

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

BRIDGE School Partnerships

Since 2008, the Asia Education Foundation through the Australia–Asia BRIDGE School Partnerships Project has:

- partnered 164 Australian schools with schools in China, Indonesia, South Korea and Thailand;
- facilitated professional learning to 520 teachers that builds Asia-relevant capabilities.

BRIDGE schools participate in an in-country experience alongside their Australian/Asian partner school. This experience provides deep insight into the social, cultural, historical and educational aspects of the partnership country. It provides the opportunity to build personal and professional relationships and plan for partnership activity.

The program in each country consists of:

- an initial three days of workshops addressing intercultural understanding, contemporary Australian and Asian society, social media in education and building successful partnerships;
- a seven-day homestay and school visit, which provides experiential learning opportunities that build knowledge and understandings of society, culture and education.

The reciprocity of the in-country program experience provides teachers opportunities to identify common ground, dispel stereotypes, challenge preconceptions, agree on project expectations and learn from each other.

Hawker College has been actively involved in the BRIDGE program since 2012; the initial partnership was with the Indonesian school, SMA Petrus in the West Kalamantan (Borneo) Province, 7-12 school.

The links between the two schools have been based around the Mathematics Faculty and environmental sustainability, led by Sheikh Faisal and the GAIA student group.

This year the program has extended to Thailand, with Hawker partnering Khaosaming Witthayakom School (KWS) in Trat in south eastern Thailand. Hawker College is a part of the second group of schools to partner a Thai school. One teacher per school is nominated to lead the project in each school. The nominated teacher participates in two 10-day in-country professional learning programs – delivered in Australia and Thailand.

Currently Achita Hardann a Mathematics Teacher from KWS is a guest at Hawker and is immersing herself in the teaching and learning at Hawker College and the local culture. She is observing classes, networking with teachers from across the college, speaking with students and exchanging resources. She is home staying with Sheikh's family and enjoying the Australian life style.



Above: Zalak Desai Year 11 and Achita Hardann (Mathematics Teacher, Khaosaming Witthayakom School).

In early 2015, Sheikh Faisal, our executive teacher of Mathematics will reciprocate and travel to KWS for 10 days to experience similar opportunities.

The benefits of this program go beyond the opportunities given to these two teachers; it extends to other teaching staff and our students. Students from both schools are involved in video conferencing on a regular basis, benefiting their mathematics and primarily their intercultural experience.

On 22 August, Sheikh and I were guests of the Thai Ambassador, Maris Sangiampongsa, at a dinner to celebrate the Australia-Thai BRIDGE Project. Maris spoke knowledgeably about the importance of building further relationships between our two nations and the effectiveness of education through our youth to promote a vibrant and regular exchange of ideas and culture. He is keen to visit Hawker College in the near future to lend his support to the project.

In speaking to Achita, she conveyed to me her impressions of Hawker College. Her observation was that at Hawker she was able to see best practice in the teaching of mathematics. The blended learning model demonstrated to her that students were able to learn with a high level of independence. She was impressed with the manner in which teachers were always available to support students in their learning.

Achita loved the opportunity of visiting Hawker College and sharing the professional and cultural exchange with Hawker teachers.

She commented that as the Principal, I was very lucky to have such dedicated and wonderful teachers.

I can only say that I emphatically agree.

Peter Sollis
Principal



HUMANITIES NEWS

Media student films on the big screen

Two films by Hawker College Media students were selected for screening at the Step into the Limelight Film Festival last Tuesday night, 19 August. Congratulations to Brendan Laus and

Perran Creevey (Year 11) for their film, Splendid, and to Arlen Luhrs (Year 12) for Jerome the Gnome. Both films looked sensational on the big screen of the ARC Cinema. May there be many more films to come from these talented young filmmakers.

ICAS Writing Comp results

Congratulations to the small band of students who participated in the ICAS Writing Competition. Results are in and special congratulations must go to Michaela Lavers who attained the highest possible grade – a High Distinction, and to Heather Macpherson who achieved a Distinction. Certificates will be distributed shortly.

Hamlet comes to Hawker in bits

Disappointed that some students arrive at college assuming Shakespeare is dull without having had the opportunity to see his fine plays in performance, I am delighted to offer every English and Drama student the opportunity to experience a little of Shakespeare's magic, live at Hawker College.

On Wednesday 24 September, Bell Shakespeare's ACTORS AT WORK theatre in education troupe will perform Hamlet: Out of Joint – extracts from Shakespeare's masterpiece, Hamlet. This wonderful company of young actors is highly skilled in bringing Shakespeare to life for students. The performance will be held from 9:45 – 10:45 am in the English Open Area. Teachers will distribute permission notes in Week 6 and students should return these to Jenny in the front office, along with \$8.50. Jenny would greatly appreciate the correct money if at all possible. As we would like all English students to attend, the faculty is willing to subsidise attendance where cost is an issue. Where that is the case, please contact Kathryn by phone on 62057774, email: kathryn.sutherland@ed.act.edu.au or pop into room 74.

Shakespeare boring? Not this time!

Kathryn Sutherland
School Leader, Humanities

MY BUSINESS WEEK IN SYDNEY – BY KAITLYN AXELBY, YEAR 11

During the school holidays, I was lucky enough to be selected as one of 50 public school students from around the country to attend an all-expenses paid, residential program in Sydney, called the UBS Finance Academy. None of the students had ever met one another when

we arrived, but it only took a couple days before we had forged incredible new friendships. We listened to numerous guest speakers and got an insight into many different career options in finance and investment banking. Not only did we learn all about finance and the UBS, we also developed valuable business skills like public speaking, making presentations, teamwork and networking.



Above: Kaitlyn Axelby, Year 11

Our networking skills were put to use at a mid-week canapé function, where I was very fortunate to speak with the Head of Investment Banking at the UBS, Guy Fowler. One of the highlights of the week was when we took a tour of the UBS trading floor, which is just like in all the movies! After being assigned into small groups at the start of the week, we worked together to present a financial case study to a panel of UBS staff on the final day. Although challenging, the presentations served as a final showcase of all the great things we had learnt. I would like to thank the UBS and Hawker College for this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

Kaitlyn Axelby
Year 11 Student

TOURISM STUDENTS AT 2014 CANBERRA CAREERS XPO

On 30th and 31st July, Hawker Tourism students were again responsible for providing support to the organisers of the Careers Xpo. They undertook a range of duties such as office management, marshalling and directing students to events, providing hospitality services and supervising workshops. They excelled in all areas with a genuine openness and generosity in sharing their expertise.



Over the course of these two days, approximately seven thousand people visited the CareersXpo so the students had their work cut out for them. In the two days they packed and delivered more than two hundred lunches and served endless cups of tea and coffee to the stall holders. They also performed duties such as writing a newsletter for Rotary (co-organisers of the event), which included interviews with the stall holders. Furthermore students were the principal 'meeters and greeters' when the participating schools arrived at the venue. To their great credit, several of them took leadership roles with very little supervision.

The feedback received from exhibitors and members of Rotary about the Hawker College students was extremely positive. They were commended on their efficiency, friendliness and willingness to assist whenever support was required. Overall, the exercise was a great success and their praise was very well deserved. Hawker College is very proud of them and their fantastic representation of the school during the event.

Here are some of the students' comments:

"From this experience, I have learnt how to approach people and I also have gained knowledge of how to direct large groups" Megan Stalker.

"From this experience, I have learned how to work under stress and pressure, which has reassured me that I am a very capable person when it comes to tricky situations. I have also learnt more of how to work in a team, rather than individually which is normally what I prefer". Natasha Stefanac.

"I believe it was an excellent experience because it helped us with communication and the understanding of adapting ourselves in a work atmosphere and being responsible at all times" Sheida Sabetraftar.

Celia Bazalar
Tourism Teacher

Hawker College Fiji Marine Expedition 2014

On the 17 August, 15 students and two amazing teachers ventured to Fiji where we were immersed in Fijian culture and developed first hand an appreciation and understanding of the people and the need to protect its sea life, especially sharks and the fragile marine environment.



We were lucky enough to do one of the world's best shark and large marine animal dives which made us realise how awesome these creatures are. In perfect conditions, everyone's diving improved considerably as we explored soft corals, wrecks and the sea-life in crystal clear water. We completed an in-depth study on the decline of the world shark population and it made us realise we need to become advocates for sharks and protecting the underwater environment.



Making a lasting impression were our village and school visits where we learnt about the culture and way of life in a traditional setting. Hawker College students generously donated school supplies, sporting equipment and clothing and much needed items to the village. We really loved being able to give to others less fortunate than ourselves.

This trip made us appreciate how lucky we are in Australia, and also realise the value of things that money can't buy.

Student Quotes:

- *All of our group had an absolutely amazing trip and we all recommend the scuba and overseas trips to everyone. It is a life changing experience!*
- *The trip was so much fun, made heaps of new friends – it was amazing!*
- *I recommend scuba to everybody. It is so fantastic!*
- *I had an amazing time in Fiji and on the scuba course with Alana. I really recommend students to participate in the scuba program next year, you learn so much and you will love it. I overcame a fear of sharks. I was terrified when I first joined scuba at the start of the year, but in Fiji I was swimming with them. Now I want to feed the bull sharks! Throughout the course I have made several new friends and have learnt a lot about myself. I would do this again in a heartbeat. Thank you Alana (& Chris) and Hawker College.*
- *I love scuba diving so much. It has become a passion. Thanks Alana and Hawker College for running such an awesome program.*
- *This is a once in a lifetime experience. It has tripled my confidence in a way I never imagined. It's hard to put into words how I feel about diving ... I'm just so glad I had the opportunity to do it at Hawker. Alana made me push myself way past what I thought I could cope with but I always knew that I would be safe. Thanks for everything. It has really changed my life!*

From the 2014 Hawker College Marine Exhibition Students

Hawker College Students Excelled

The Hawker College students impressed everyone we came in contact with throughout this excursion. Their passion for the underwater environment, diving and the plight of sharks made a huge impact on all. Their ability to work together and support each other, and keep positive, even when exhausted was evident. Elliott, Callum and Vanessa took on leadership roles and were a great support to Chris and myself. James, Simone and Jess extended themselves in all areas. Ella, Jacob and Nick were fantastic role models throughout the trip keeping the group cheerful and positive. Andrew's enthusiasm for all things and Perran's sense of humour kept us entertained. Kyle and Dayved's progress in their diving ability was also evident. HC and all parents should be extremely proud of these students and the global citizens they have become.

Alana McGee (Outdoor Ed Teacher & Scuba Trip Coordinator) and Chris Brown (Deputy Principal, Curriculum)





CAREERS NEWS

Canberra Tertiary Open Day – Saturday 30 August, 9am - 4pm

Canberra's five tertiary institutions were open for one day during the weekend. This was advertised to students through Careers News.

Applying for University: Year 12 Tertiary Students - 2015 UAC Applications Now Open

- Tuesday 30 September 2014: Last day for domestic undergraduate students to apply and pay (\$ 29.00) to avoid progressive increases to processing charges.
- Thursday 18 December 2014: ATARs released on UAC's website.
- Wednesday 7 January 2015: Last day to change preferences in time for Main Round offers.

Wednesday 21 January 2014: Main round offers released. <http://www.uac.edu.au/>

Year 12 T students –Alternative entry to university and other tertiary institutions.

If you think you are eligible for the EAS (Educational Access Scheme) or SRS (School Recommendation Scheme) to gain entrance to university you must see Kim Thomas, the Careers Teacher ASAP.

Canberra Defence Force Recruiting Information Sessions - September

- ADFA information session - Tuesday 9 September 2014, 6 pm
- Army Reserve Information Session - Tuesday 16 September 2014, 6pm
- Trades Information Session – Tuesday 23 September, 2014 6 pm
- All information sessions – Defence Force Recruiting Office, Level 2, 64 Northbourne Avenue, Canberra. Talk to the Careers Teacher to book a seat at one of the sessions alternatively you can email cptact@dfr.com.au

AMBASSADOR'S INNOVATION ROUNDTABLE AGENDA

Wednesday 30 July 2014, Questacon Canberra

"In today's market, innovation is essential for success.... Investment in science, technology, and research is one of the most important guarantees we can make for our future and I believe this is one of the fundamental areas in which we as partners and friends should look to increase our cooperation." -- John Berry, U.S. Ambassador to Australia, National Press Club, June 25, 2014

The U.S. Embassy launched the first "Ambassador's Innovation Roundtable" on 30 July at Questacon – The National

Science and Technology Centre in Canberra, where leaders in global technology met with Australian researchers, secondary and university students, and government officials to discuss challenges and opportunities of the knowledge economy.

Representatives from Google, Microsoft, Intuit, Boeing Australia, Raytheon, Cisco, Lockheed Martin, Seeing Machines, General Electric Australia, Sense-T, BHP Billiton, IBM Research Australia, CSIRO, the Grattan Institute, and the Australian National University shared innovation success stories, discussed challenges in linking research and development to commercial opportunities, emphasized the importance of STEM education, and explored potential innovation partnerships.

The day's program involved a series of panel discussions in the morning and a student forum with the Ambassador and panelists in the afternoon to set the stage for future roundtables.

U.S. Ambassador to Australia John Berry believes this kind of collaboration is critical for the economies of the United States and Australia. *"In today's market, innovation is essential for success. Investment in science, technology, and research is one of the most important guarantees we can make for our future.*

I believe this is one of the fundamental areas in which we should look to increase our cooperation."



Above left to right: Vanessa, Correa, Kerrie-Ann, Dharshini, Tahirrae, Nicholas, and Mannan, participate at the Ambassador's Innovation Roundtable

**Feedback from one of the participant:
Tahirrae Slikker, Year 11**

I learnt an extreme amount in the space of one day and the importance of innovation was stressed and how Australia was lacking in enthusiasm and not planning for a brighter future. The Australian scientist of the year, Professor Ian Chubb, expressed his thoughts as to why Australia could not contribute to the international table. Reasons included lack of money, lack of organisation and a lack of focus on STEM education ad development.

The Ambassador also expressed how important it was for the ties between America and Australia to be strengthened and this could start with large companies (such as Lockheed Martin, Boeing and CISCO, Google, Microsoft, BHP) looking for innovative young minds. The importance of technology was also a large topic as small businesses being the most important customers for companies such as Intuit who help with financial management.

Overall this was an amazing experience in which I met people who I would not see in a regular day to day life. I talked to the US Ambassador and managers of International companies and they were genuinely interested in who I was and what I wanted to do with my life. The amount of wisdom and years of

experience these people provided was amazing and a massive help for me to decide my future.

SPORT REPORT

The sporting schedule this term has been very busy with our sporting teams working towards their respective semi-finals. Our Oztag team currently sits in 2nd place with a couple of very hard fought games, the latest being an exciting draw. Desperate passing led to a try in the final seconds to tie the game. Representative Brad Hardy, made a welcome return from injury, and with the finals approaching fast, our team is preparing for a big finish.

Both our Girls' Volleyball team and our Boys' Volleyball team have had a couple of very close losses. Both were unlucky in games that could have gone either way, but unfortunately fell short in the third set. Despite these results they are still in the running for the semi-finals and we wish them well.



A massive congratulation goes out to Jay Hansen! (pictured above). What does Jay do after attending Physics, Math Methods, Economics and Cisco classes at Hawker College? He wins the 83kg open powerlifting event at One Rep Max powerlifting event for athletes from the ACT and surrounding districts. Jay's phenomenal performance included lifting personal bests in all 3 lifts of bench press, squats and dead lift. Hmm.... still not impressed by Jay's performance of beating athlete's years older than himself? Well Jay only started strength training in December. Jay's exceptional performance has seen him qualify for the 2015 National Championships in Melbourne.

Hawker College will be convening two ACT carnivals this term. The ACT Colleges Golf Championships will consist of nine holes played in Week 9 followed by another nine in Week 10. I will be convening this competition. Interested players should see me ASAP for further details.

The ACT Colleges Indoor Cricket Championships will be organised and run by Hannah McFadden and the Year 11 Sports Administration class. Students interested in participation should see me to register their interest.

Sometimes we miss outstanding sporting performances and achievements by our students due to not being informed. If you know of any students who have good sporting achievements please send me a quick email at the following address: mark.greer@ed.act.edu.au.

Mark Greer
Sports Coordinator

**ALL TERTIARY YEAR 12
STUDENTS ACT SCALING
TEST (AST) 2014**

This year's AST will take place on Tuesday 2 & Wednesday 3 September 2014.

All Year 12 students who wish to gain an Australian Tertiary Admission Rank must complete all parts of the AST.

Any Year 12 student enrolled in a T package who is unsure of what they will do after Year 12 should also sit the AST.

A Student Information Bulletin has been issued to students via MI Group. It outlines what the test is like, how it is developed and what can be done in preparation. The Bulletin also informs students about the timetable for each day of the test, the equipment they must provide and the test conditions. Students should carefully read this bulletin and ask the AST Coordinator – Julia Braguina, in Room 74 – if they require any clarification.

**Hawker College Front Office
Reception Hours**

8:30am - 4:00pm

**We request all payments
be made between**

8:30am - 12:30pm

1:00pm - 2:00pm

Front Office closed
each Friday 10:40 - 11:05am



**ATTENTION YEAR 11
EX BELCONNEN HIGH STUDENTS!!!**

What did you do with your old Yr 10 uniform???

If it's under your bed or in the bottom of your cupboard why not give it to the BHS Second-hand Uniform shop and go in the draw to win a

\$50 i-Tunes card???

Leave clothes in a bag at either Hawker College or Belconnen High front office - please remember to include your name and contact number for a

chance to win.

Thankyou!!!!



Board Forum 3

**A Review of the ACT Year 12 Certificate:
Discussion and question and answer session.**

Date: Thursday September 11, 2014

Time: 4.15—5.30 pm

Venue: Merici College, Braddon



RSVP: Tuesday 9 September, 2014

Ph: (02) 6205 7181

email: sharon.berzins@act.gov.au

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Changes to ACTION's New School Services Network

AM/PM	Service	Description of Change
AM	408	This service will no longer operate. Students to use routes 16 and 314 to Cohen Street Bus Station and connect with route 17.
PM	549	This service will no longer operate. Two route 17 services will now depart from Radford College.
	600	This service will no longer operate. Students to use route 17.



Important dates for your diary

Monday 1 September 2014	College Meetings: Year 11 students 12-12:30pm; and Year 12 students 12:30-1pm
Tues 2 & Wed 3 September 2014	AST Day - Year 12 Teritary Students
Thursday 4 September 2014	AST Trial - Year 11 Teritary Students
Tues 9 - Fri 12 September 2014	Mid-Semester Cross-Line Testing - Alternate Timetable for Test Week
Friday 12 September 2014	Term 3 Units End
Wed 17 - Fri 19 September 2014	Dance Festival
Wednesday 24 September 2014	Bell Shakespeare Company - Line 3
Friday 26 September 2014	Last Day of Term 3
Monday 13 October 2014	First Day of Term 4

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For further information
Call Lisa or Matthew on 6242 8687
Email: info@pinnacledrivingschool.com.au
Website: www.pinnacledrivingschool.com.au

2014 SCHOOL SATISFACTION SURVEY FOR PARENTS AND CARERS

The 2014 School Satisfaction Survey for Parents and Carers is now open. If you have not already completed the survey, please complete the survey by Friday 29 August 2014. A letter about the parent and carer survey was emailed to parents and carers or sent home with students. If you do not have a letter for each child in your family, please contact the school office. The letter contains all the information you will need to complete the survey.

Thank you in anticipation of your participation in this important school survey.

The key results from the 2013 School Satisfaction Surveys have been published in a brochure which is available at www.det.act.gov.au



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