Principal’s Report

We are rapidly approaching the end of Semester 1 and the time for us to assess student progress. I encourage parents and carers to ensure that their children are in the best possible place to do their best. This can include things like making sure children are taking sufficient time for revision at home (including doing homework and assignments), and that they are getting enough sleep. It still surprises me how many students come to school too tired and with no breakfast – hardly the right way to present to school to start the important business of learning.

I was delighted to attend the St Colman’s Parish Debutante Ball recently and see how well presented our senior girls and boys on the evening. It is wonderful that such traditions continue here in the Burdekin, while elsewhere they fade away. As Mayor Bill Lowis referred to in his speech, the balls are no longer about ‘trying to marry off daughters’, but about recognising and celebrating our young women and men making a transition in their lives towards independence. My congratulations to our debs, their partners and the great organisational team from St Colman’s.

Recently I was honoured to present Home Hill SHS’s achievements at a recent Director General of Education Forum for North Queensland principals. It is important that our community understand that our school’s achievements and quest for continual improvement is highly regarded and have been recognised in Central Office – we were the only secondary school selected from North Queensland for this event and the feedback from ‘the top’ was very positive.

As you would be aware, it is not long now until the first year 7s arrive at our doors in 2015. We are working hard to ensure that we are well prepared, having just successfully completed a peer review on our progress. Miss Clark and Ms Mavanna attended a recent Junior Secondary conference with me, where we have planned out finer details. There are a few points I would like to share with the community:

- We understand very clearly the need to ensure 2015 is a big deal for both our new year 7s and year 8s.
- Socialisation and induction processes for year 7 and 8 will be enhanced to ensure a very smooth beginning to high school occurs. We are working with young learners who need great individualised attention and explicit teaching of processes and routines.
- We will have primary school parent representation on our Junior Secondary committee, to help gather and disseminate ideas.
- We are very excited about the opportunity to provide the ‘high school experience’ to our year 7s, and evidence from pilot schools is that the educational outcomes are very positive. We want our students to be safe, resilient, inspired learners who love to come to school.

We are also very pleased to announce that Mrs Adele Armstrong (Home Hill SS) is making the transition to secondary school in 2015 and will be one of our Junior Secondary teachers. She will be an extremely important part of our team and we look forward to working with her.

Finally, a huge thanks to all involved in the fete and Golden Anniversary celebrations. It was a magnificent event and brought our community together. Read more about the Golden Anniversary and the Building fund inside.

All the best, Steven Miskin
SMART FUTURES FOR NORTH QUEENSLAND

Forty-six year ten students recently had the wonderful opportunity to research and trial many different trade options at the SFNQ trade expo in Townsville. Numerous trade and training organizations were on display, with experts available to answer all student questions. Students were able to physically try their hand at bricklaying, carpentry, cake icing, plumbing, welding simulation and hair and beauty activities. Home Hill High also had six students compete in the Trade Challenge where each student in the team had to race against the clock to complete various tasks. Damon Brotto was particularly adept at changing nuts and bolts in the plumbing section and Branden D’Alessandro excelled at the carpentry jigsaw puzzle component. However it was Elly Caspanello who drew the most attention as she tried to speed eat the sponge cake that she had just recently iced. Whilst the team finished in a respectable time of 1 minute 50 seconds they were soundly beaten by a superior team on the day. All students left the expo with a greater knowledge of their employment opportunities as well as a plethora of leaflets, pens and stickers.

Lansdown Science Discovery Day

On Wednesday 28 May, a group of Home Hill High students accompanied by Miss Horan travelled to Woodstock to attend a Science Discovery Day held by AgForce Queensland and CSIRO. After an hour and a half long bus trip and one wrong turn we arrived at the Lansdown Research Station. It started with a quick introduction into what activities were planned for the day, followed by a talk about Cattle Sales and Marketing. We then got to visit the stockyards, learn what to look at when assessing cattle and about the multiple careers associated with agriculture.

Then we moved on to an activity called No Guts No Glory, in which we got to witness first-hand a full sheep dissection. This was very interesting seeing the difference between a human and animal digestive tract. A talk about the alternate food sources for cattle, or what they like to call Ruminants, explained to us that algae is a great alternative to grass, the hard part is getting the cattle to eat it.

We were also spoken to about the current study in a multi-million dollar research facility on the effects that cattle have on greenhouse gasses; in which we learnt that cattle don’t contribute as much methane as we were led to believe. This was then followed by a relaxing lunch before proceeding on to our last activity of the day, a forensic science activity where we students had to investigate which farmer was stealing cattle (cattle duffing) from another neighbouring property using evidence from a real life case. The results were curious to say the least. We then headed back to Home Hill making all the appropriate turns. Overall the day was very interesting and definitely brought some insight into certain areas of the agricultural industry.  

Jacquilyn Marano
YLEAD ARTICLE

On Monday 26 May, the 8 year nine students with leadership roles travelled to Townsville to the yLead Leadership Day. At 8.30am we arrived at the Rydges Hotel on Palmer Street, where we would be informed and entertained by several speakers whose subjects involved goal setting, goal reaching and information on how to be happy and healthy.

It was a very informative and interesting day for all of us, and on behalf of everyone who came, it was fair to say that the day was inspiring and motivating.

The students who went on the excursion were Emily Cannavan, Sam Gibson, Naomi Loizou, Paul Marano, Nikola Poli, Elena Postma, Mitchell Price-Wilson and myself.

Karli Linton, year 9

INFORMATION SHEET

PROJECT TITLE: Attitudes and behaviour towards disaster preparedness.

We would like to invite you to take part in a research project about attitudes and behaviours towards disaster preparedness in the Burdekin Shire. In this study, a disaster refers to extreme weather events such as cyclones, storms and flooding. The study is being conducted by James Cook University students’ Michael Bradly, Emma Chalmers, Catherine Clarke and Emma Kassulke and their supervisor Dr Connar McShane. This project will contribute to a group project for the completion of Bachelor of Psychology at James Cook University.

If you agree to be involved in the study, you will be invited to complete a questionnaire on preparatory behaviours and social support. The questionnaire should only take approximately 20 minutes of your time. An online version is also available for your convenience (http://www.surveygizmo.com/s3/1636541/Attitudes-and-behaviour-towards-disaster-preparedness).

Taking part in this study is completely voluntary and you can stop taking part in the study at any time without explanation or prejudice. By returning a completed questionnaire, you are indicating that you consent to partake in this study.

If you know of others from the Burdekin Shire that might be interested in this study, can you please pass on this information sheet to them so they may contact one of the investigators to volunteer for the study.

Your responses and contact details will be strictly anonymous. The data from the study may be used in research publications and presentations, however you will not be identified in any way in these publications.

If you have any questions about the study, please contact Dr Connar McShane.

Principal Investigator and Supervisor: Dr Connar McShane
School of Psychology
James Cook University
Phone: 4781 6879
Email: connar.mcshane@jcu.edu.au

If you would like more information on disaster preparation please go to www.disaster.qld.gov.au or contact the disaster management team at your local council for information local strategies and events on (07) 4783 9800. (http://www.burdekin.qld.gov.au/community-information/emergency-information/)

If you have any concerns regarding the ethical conduct of the study, please contact: Human Ethics, Research Office James Cook University, Townsville, Qld, 4811. Phone: (07) 4781 5011 (ethics@jcu.edu.au)
NAPLAN BREAKFAST

This year, for our NAPLAN Breakfast for our year 9 students, we had on our first morning nice hot ham and cheese toasties with fruit platters and juice. On our second and third days we had cereal, raisin toast, fruit platers and juice. The students really seem to enjoy having something hot for breakfast as a change. I was very fortunate to have the assistance of our CEC, Ollie Henaway to help with the making of the toasties. I was on my own for the second day and our lovely Chappie did the third day. I hope we can provide these free services for our students in the future. If anyone can provide the fresh fruit it is always appreciated.

FETE and the “HEALTH BOOTH”

For the fete, I had a stall of information and give-away bags for those who attended this great night. I was able to contact different health related sites and organisations to get the material that I had on display. I tried to show the public all of the areas that I can assist staff and students on at our school. People were amazed that we used this many subjects. I was glad to see people enjoying our healthy fruit platters and vegetables and low fat dips. Some of our students spent many hours in their lunch breaks helping me to put together little information bags. I gave these out for free on the night and this went over well. I ran out in no time at all. I was also very pleased to have adults come up to get information on many and varied health issues. I had my mother come down from Ingham to volunteers her time, as she also is a nurse. It was helpful to have another person there to help with some of the inquiries. I thought the “HEALTH BOOTH” went over very well.

LEAH GEORGE

SCHOOL BASED YOUTH HEALTH NURSE

Tuesday and Wednesday

PH: 47905614 or 0428825565

Email: lgeor61@eq.edu.au

Growers Race Day Clean Up

Over forty students, parents and teachers braved the clean-up of the Burdekin Growers Race Day on Sunday 18 May. This annual event always proves to be very interesting and this year did not disappoint. The most exciting items found included sunglasses, shoes, cigarette lighters and fascinators. Surprisingly there was very little loose change discovered. This bustling garbage offensive is always a fantastic fund raiser for the P&C and despite the dirt, a morning of great camaraderie.
Tuckshop News!

Can you spare 1½ hours, 1 day a month?

Your Tuckshop is in desperate need of volunteers. We need at least six people. Parents, guardians, aunts, uncles or grandparents are all welcome.

We are looking to fill:

- 1 Monday a month - beginning 21 July
- 1 Tuesday a month – beginning 10 June
- 1 Wednesday a month – beginning 4 June
- 3 Fridays a month - beginning 6 June, 13 June or 27 June.

If you spare between 10:30m to 12:00pm it would be greatly appreciated, remember it all benefits your students.

Please contact the office if you are able to help.

Year 11 & 12 Hospitality Mighty Meal Challenge

The year 11 and 12 Hospitality students put on an outstanding display last Tuesday when they each prepared a two course meal for two guests at the Home Hill Rotary Club Mighty Meal Challenge. Students arrived eagerly to school at 5.00pm to prepare their chosen menu and were thoroughly engrossed in the preparations for service by 6.45pm in the school restaurant. As usual the students were to keep their meal under a budget of $17, so this involved a number of weeks practicing, planning and experimenting with possible combinations.

A wide smile was evident on the face of winner Shakieta Sollitt who prepared and served a very tasty version of the popular Chicken Parmigiana followed by a delicious Chocolate Hazelnut Tart. Shakieta won a $50 open order to Home Hill Newsagency for her efforts.

Runner-up for the evening was awarded to a very proud Hayden Hanlon. He received a $30 open order to Home Hill Newsagency for his Honey Soy Pork Stir Fry followed by Rice Pudding with Pineapple Compote.

Certificates of participation were handed to each of the students with special mention made of Liam Mitchell’s Pan-fried Pork wrapped in Prosciutto with Sage and Capers along with a dessert of Sticky Date Pudding. Michael Torney also won praise for his Japanese Beef Stir Fry with Jaffa Cheesecake.

Once again we must thank the Rotary Club for continuing to support this stimulating and rewarding activity as it allows students to develop skills and confidence. Thanks also to judge Nyree Woods for taking on the difficult job of finding a winner on the night.

Congratulations to the following students:

Year 11 – Shakieta Sollitt, Teik Gale, Emma Craperi, Bridgett Hill and Katherine Hookey.

Year 12 – Danielle Shepherd, Kali Totorica, Liam Mitchell, Hayden Hanlon, Amber and Mariah Johnson, Shirley Steinhardt and Michael Torney.
With Friday 2 May 2014 fast approaching, anticipation for the annual Interschool Cross Country was high, with many kids eager to run their team to victory. So the race began, period 4 on a hot Friday afternoon with the boys starting first, ready to complete their 5.1km run in under 35 minutes to receive points and girls needing to complete their 3.3km run in 30 minutes. Inkerman and Beachmount had their tactics (make the time limit and we will give you a free icy-pole). Surprise, surprise, without briberies, Upstart took out the annual cross-country title for 2014 with 390 points. Only 14 points behind first place, Inkerman’s house captains encouraged their team mates to receive second place with 376 points and chugging in with a smile, in last place the title holders from the previous year, Beachmount with 333 points. Kate Neal and Josh Previtera were happy to receive yet another title for an interschool carnival this year. Congratulations UPSTART! Massive thanks go to all the helpers on the day, especially Mrs Becke! Once again this day could not run as smoothly without you all.

Age Champions for the 2014 School Cross Country:

Opens:  Josh Previtera and Kate Neal
16 years:  Chris Previtera and Mikayla Warcon
15 years:  Rory Heatley and Amanda Bourke
14 years:  Brody Smith and Erin Grimbaldeston
13 years:  Reece McCubben and Sophie Sibson

Congratulations to all the age champions and big congratulations to the first male and female to finish the course, Sophie Sibson from Inkerman and Chris Previtera from Upstart. Many athletes were then selected to continue the cross country journey to represent Home Hill State High School in the Burdekin finals.

Congratulations go to the place getters and competitors at the Interschool Cross Country. In the girls 13 year age division Sophie Sibson and Chayanna Geesu took to the course with Sophie coming in at a very respectable 3rd placing. The 13 year old boys were Reece McCubben, Steven Zabala and Joel Minuzzo, with Steven and Joel being placed 3rd and 4th respectively. The 14 year old students were Erin Grimbaldeston, Nikita Fabian, Zoe Oakes, Karli Linton, Brody Smith, Jakson Garner and Alfio Cantarella. Erin ran in at 6th position. Elly Caspanello gained a 3rd place in the 15 year age division while Mackenzie Fabian, Paul Marano and Jaylen McCubben gave it their all. Home Hill 16 year olds girls were Mikayla Warcon, Darcy Alford and Ashleigh Dwyer and our 16 year boys took out first and second place with Chris Previtera and Luke Torkington. Not to be upstaged, our open division boys and girls were extremely competitive with Josh Previtera placing first, Aaron Benato second, Callan Sunderland third, Kate Neal second and Kimberley Bourke third.

Once again Home Hill proved their skill having six students continue on to the NQ trials in Townsville. Congratulations to Josh and Chris Previtera, Aaron Benato, Callan Sunderland, Luke Torkington and Kate Neal. Chris Previtera and Kate Neal were again lucky and talented enough to make it to the next stage. Kate and Chris will be representing North Queensland in July at Toowoomba. Good luck guys!

Mackenzie Falco
Congratulations to Nicola Williams and Emily Cannavan who will be representing North Queensland in their sport of Golf. The state champs are to be held during July in Brisbane. Good luck!

Elly and Rylee Caspanello along with Alana Swindley recently travelled to Ipswich for the U19 State Football Trials. Congratulations to Alana Swindley who was selected as shadow for the State team.

Also in football, Home Hill SHS had three young ladies representing the school at NQ trials in the Burdekin U15’s football team. Well done Andi Gelling, Elly Caspanello and Alana Swindley. Special congratulations to Elly who has made the NQ team that will travel to the Gold Coast in August!

Over the past 6 weeks the year 11 HPE class have been running a lunch time touch football competition. It has been highly successful competition with games running nearly every lunch for both Junior (year 8s, 9s and 10s) and senior (11s and 12s) divisions. The grand final is set to be held in week 7. Well done to Mrs Becke’s year 11s for running the competition and to the year 11 and 12 Recreation class for refereeing the games.

Remember to keep listening to the morning notices for trial dates or see Mrs Eathorne for more details on NQ trials.

“Charity Quest”

“Queenslander, Queenslander, Queenslander.” Well unfortunately the result last Wednesday night was not in our favour. However, the year 12 English Communication class’s event, “State Of Origin Free Dress Day” was a winner! The senior students have just completed a unit that focused on an Australian charity. The students devised and supervised the events, that this year were aimed at the Myeloma Foundation. The very dedicated students washed twenty staff and student cars last week and then organised the casual dress day in honour of the first State Of Origin game. The whole student body supported the charity in their origin colours and they looked passionate and very colourful! Reese D’Alessandro and Natasha Langridge shared the “Best Dressed” title and took home origin gear donated by Eathorne’s Sportspower. The year 12 students raised a whopping $530 from the event and a compassionate stance for Australian charities.
Each year Home Hill SHS participates in the Interschool Drama Festival with Burdekin Catholic High and Ayr SHS. With the direction of a number of dedicated teachers, Home Hill High students consistently produce high-quality plays that are guaranteed to bring the house down. Performed at the Burdekin Theatre, the festival is adjudicated by a guest judge with three prizes awarded to each school, Best Actor, Best Supporting Actor and Director’s Award. It is a highly entertaining night and a wonderful opportunity for our budding actors, makeup artists, set designers and stage managers to hone their skills.

This year’s Drama Festival play was a parody on the Real Housewives of Beverly Hills and Desperate Housewives. In the play *The Real Housewives of the Burdekin*, the simple housewives of Home Hill are in for a treat. Monica Northcutt and her high society husband Reginald, from the big city of Ayr, are moving over the bridge! The fancy and sophisticated new comers have the Home Hill...billy housewives in a tizz and they are desperate to make a good impression (despite their husbands). The housewives hold a barn dance in order to learn some ‘big city ways’ but they soon realise they have it pretty good - over on the south side.

The performance was held on May 2 to a full house at the Burdekin Theatre. Our students excelled as usual with Reece D’Alessandro (Fester) taking out the award for excellence in performance. Ashley Wood (Uncle Harold) received the award for best supporting actor and Cassie Loizou received the Director’s award.

The entire cast and crew did a fabulous job and no doubt they have inspired a new group of actors to tread the boards next year. The Drama Festival is open to all students, from all grades, whether or not they are studying Drama.
On Monday 19 May, 13 students from both the senior and junior secondary segments of the school took part in showcasing their public speaking skills in the Rostrum Voice of Youth Competition.

Through the use of excellently crafted persuasive speeches and honed delivery; they conveyed their informed opinions on topics such as ‘We Hear What We Want to Hear’, ‘Charity Begins at Home’, ‘Freedom or Licence’, ‘Less is More’, ‘Climb Every Mountain’, ‘Never Say Never’ and ‘Trash or Treasure’.

The senior division included winners Reece D’Alessandro and Christina Postma as well as Mackenzie Falco, Cassandra Loizou, Katelyn Shepherd and Coralie Mannea. The junior division consisted of school winners Dana Falco and Andi Gelling as well as Georgia Dahlenburg, Naomi Loizou, Branden D’Alessandro, Mikaylah Wall and Tamoki Kupenga.

An exceptional night was had by all, that truly reflected the amazing and talented students at Home Hill High.

On Wednesday 28 May, the school winners went to Ayr SHS to compete against students from Ayr SHS, BCH and Bowen and Proserpine SHS. The outstanding standard of speeches made the judges’ job difficult and after much deliberation, Reece D’Alessandro was named as winner of the senior section with Alix Leckenby of Ayr SHS winning the junior section.

As the North Queensland district sector of the competition was held in Townsville on Saturday May 31, Reece had to step aside with Deb commitments.

Well done to Reece, Christina, Dana and Andi for their ongoing and fantastic representation of our school.

A huge thank to the former and current staff, parents and students who assisted with the Golden Anniversary display held in the Library/Resource Centre. Your contributions of items that you hold dear are much appreciated! Many visitors during the Friday Fete, Saturday Official Ceremony and the Sunday Farewell spent a lot of time looking at the uniforms, trophies, banners, badges, old school books, projects, photos, Corona magazines and in particular the school scrapbooks meticulously prepared by Library staff over the last few decades. Mrs Josie Wood and Mrs Josie Harper deserve much of the praise for the display; however the contributions by the school community were invaluable, THANK YOU! Items loaned to the display can now be collected from the Resource Centre or office.
**ROBBIE RETURNS AND RELIVES GOOD TIMES AT HOME HILL HIGH 32 YEARS LATER**

On Thursday May 22, year 8 SET and year 10 History classes were fortunate to have former Rotary Exchange student Mr Robert Dick talk to them about his time in Australia as a student at Home Hill High in 1981-82 and also the geography, history, architecture, attractions and culture of the United States. Robbie rewarded correct answers with genuine American dollar bills, quarters (25c), nickels (5c) and bags from Broadway. Hands went up in the air with frenzy when he asked a question. The students really did learn a lot. In particular: New York City Metropolitan Area has a similar population to that of Australia but in a much smaller area, Disneyland is not a state and Canada is a completely different country altogether!!

Robbie spoke of his host families, his friends at Home Hill High, representing the school as part of the Queensland Baseball team and how much he enjoyed his return for the Golden Anniversary celebrations. He expressed his fondness for both countries and told the students that Australia has a great friend in America. In thanks for Robbie’s time and generosity, he was presented with some mementos of his visit to Australia and Home Hill High. Please contact Lisa Todeschino, Teacher-Librarian, at school if you wish to obtain Robbie Dick’s email address.

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**Red Shield Appeal 25 May 2014**

On Sunday May 25, a small but very dedicated group of Home Hill State High School’s finest students joined Mr Gall, Captain Gary Johnson and Ms Pat Brooke in collecting money for the Salvation Army Red Shield Appeal. This appeal occurs just once a year and is the Student Council’s main charity event. The reason this event has been chosen is because it is for such a good cause, raising money as it does for our fellow Australians who have fallen upon hard times in their lives, for whatever reasons. Of several fundraising events during the year that are run by the Student Council, this is the one that gives us the chance to give back to the community, as distinct from other events designed to raise money for the school.

After visiting their designated areas in the town of Home Hill, seeking donations from local residents, each group of students returned to the school with their money and were greeted by Mrs Grimbaldeston and Ms Powell from the Bendigo Community Bank, who were kind enough to do the counting of monies for us. As this was being done, students enjoyed a beautiful morning tea, which was kindly supplied by Mrs Brooke.
Wow, what a fantastic way to end Term 1! As a reward and a thank you to all students for such a fantastic Term, we celebrated National Youth Week at Home Hill State High School with the following activities held during the first lunch break each day:

- ITTA - what a great turnout so many students involved themselves in this activity. It was so popular we now have this as a lunch time activity every Monday.
- Octoball - new all-time legend of the game would have to be Mikada Carr.
- Thong Throwing - with Jamaine White blitzing this activity and beating Mr Cheyne’s record.
- Egg and Spoon Race - the students were very creative with keeping their egg on their spoon.

On the Friday we ended with a sausage sizzle. A big thank you to Mr Styles, the new “Master Chef” for his help cooking.

A very big thank you to all the year 12 students for your ideas and support in all of these activities. Mr Scalia, Mr Cheyne and Miss Horan the week could not have gone ahead without all of your help.

But most importantly thank you to all the students of Home Hill State High School. I can’t wait to organise such successful events in the future.

“Stay Safe & Keep Smiling”

Miss Amanda
During the month of May, Indigenous students from years 8-10 participated in ATSIMS. A program started by researchers at JCU to promote a career in Marine Science to Indigenous students. The first trip was to the Museum of Tropical Queensland and Reef HQ, where students were able to see how science is presented to the public. The second trip, students were allowed access to AIMS (Australian Institute of Marine Science), where they were given a tour of a brand new $35 Million Sea Simulator. The Sea Simulator allows scientists to complete experiments on marine organisms within very strict parameters. Students were also able to feed Artemia (Sea Monkeys) to Coral Polyps. The main event of the ATSIMS program was an overnight camp to the JCU research station on Orpheus Island. Here the students were able to experience Marine Science in the field, going snorkelling and walking in the intertidal region. The most impressive organisms that were spotted were giant clams with a diameter of over 1m, an octopus, and a juvenile Lionfish. The final day of the program was spent at JCU with careers education information and an address given by Mr Maxwell Lenoy (an Indigenous Lecturer from JCU). Three awards were given out by the ATSIMS organisers for the students who showed the most interest throughout the program. Congratulations to Del-Anne Sturgeon (3rd), Travis Asa-Stokes (2nd) and Jahmal Sarabo-Leste (1st) on receiving these awards.

Overall the students had a great time meeting Indigenous students from other schools and getting a taste of Marine Science. Thank you to all the teachers, parents, JCU staff, and Ollie and Gerald Henaway for allowing us to attend the ATSIMS program.
Japanese Class
Letters from Japan!

The year 9 and 10 Japanese classes have again received letters from the students of Nishihara Junior School in Japan as part of an ongoing cultural exchange between the two schools. This is the second time we have received letters from them and in return the Japanese students at Home Hill are busy drafting their replies. Some of the letters we have received (with wonderful drawings) are below.

In Japan, the schooling system is a little different to here in Australia. At the end of year 9 students must work hard to get good academic results as these count towards their eligibility to enter the senior years at school. (It is similar to the OP system here in Australia.) They also need to take an entrance exam for the high school that they want to go to. Because many of the students who have written to us this time will now be at their new school, the program will continue from here with Kashiwa High School. We look forward to receiving and sending many more letters to each other!
The annual fete was the first event in a ‘golden’ weekend. The Fete on May 9 was the beginning of the Golden Anniversary weekend and what a great success it was! There were plenty of popular stalls and activities: pick of the shelf, bottle stall, treasure tray, cake stall, show bags and the cent sale. Mrs Kerr and our Hospitality students were kept busy cooking up a storm to provide culinary masterpieces at the café, while others enjoyed hot chips, burgers and cold drinks.

For those who were young or young at heart, the jumping castle, the giant slide and the fairy floss were an attraction. Mobile Laser Skirmish also proved very popular with players of all ages.

Retail outlets throughout the Burdekin very generously donated fabulous prizes for our Spot Raffles, Cent Sale and Pick of the Shelf. The support of the local community is very much appreciated.

There were eight fantastic Spot Raffles drawn throughout the night:

1. Car Detailer’s Kit donated by Repco plus $150 voucher from Brennan’s Tyrepower. Won by J. Mannea.
2. John Deere Mini tractor donated by Honeycombe’s Ayr plus remote controlled vehicle donated by Toyworld in Ayr. Won by M. Styles.
3. Tool-bag donated by Home Hill Engineering plus esky cooler donated by Brennan’s Tyrepower. Won by S. McKaig.
4. 20 kg dog food and 20kg mash donated by Home Hill Stockfeeds plus a host of pet products donated by Home Hill Stockfeeds and My Pets. Won by J. Menso.
5. Vouchers from Clove Restaurant, the Commercial Tavern in Ayr, the Ayr Travellers’ Rest plus 2 tickets to see the Johnny Cash Tribute show donated by the Burdekin Theatre. Won by C. Grimbaldeston.
6. Host of home electrical appliances donated by Burdekin Tyre Services plus a rug donated by Burdekin Floor Coverings. Won by R. Hook.
7. Child’s Rocking Horse and vouchers from Queen Street Interiors and the Burdekin Motor Inn. Unclaimed on the night (it was an orange ticket with a highlighter line on it, ticket #47).
8. Family passes to Billabong Sanctuary, Reef HQ and a family pass on SeaLink to Magnetic Island. Won by A. Styles.

Congratulations to the winners of all these spot raffles.

The Wheelbarrow Raffle was also drawn on the night. Congratulations to the two winners:

1 – Grocery plus wheelbarrow – Patty Sartori
2 – Grocery pack – Marni Santacaterina

Members of the public were entertained by Karen Healy dancers, Rock Solid Boxing, Burdekin Celtic dancers, South Pacific Tai Kwon Do, performances from Christina Postma and Coralie Mannea, singing from Bridgette and Lisa Hill and Cassady Howie, as well as our sensational year 12 fashion parade students who were dressed by Tasha’s Top Shop, Sibby Saitta World of Fashion, Katherine Falco Wearable Art and Eathorne’s Sportspower.

The toad races were also a highlight of the evening with 10 toads looking to be the first to cross the line. The toads were actioned off and were named after staff at the school. First prize was 2 tickets to the Cowboys v Manly game later in the year. In fact there were great prizes for all toad race ‘owners’.

The fete is the major fundraising event for the School P&C. It does not happen without a lot of support from the community. We would like to thank all of our sponsors who provided prizes as well as those members of the P&C and parents who gave of their time, grocery items, cooking ingredients and support on the night. Special thanks to the Home Hill Lions Club for their support by cooking on the BBQ.

It was one of the best fetes in recent years! Well done to everyone who made it happen!!
Reminder

The Major Raffle is due to be drawn on June 10 so tickets are due back. Prizes are:

1st prize  2 tickets to State of Origin 3 plus 1 night’s accommodation at the Treasury Hotel & Casino in Brisbane

2nd prize  2 nights’ accommodation at Rose Bay Resort in Bowen

3rd prize  1 night’s accommodation at Broken River Mountain Resort

Fete Sponsors

- A & B Rural Supplies
- A & L Seafood
- About Town Bait & Tackle
- Agnorth Pty Ltd
- Alfie’s Croissant de Paris
- Ashworth’s Jewellers
- Ayr Amcal Chemist
- Ayr Camping World
- Ayr Traveller’s Motel
- Paul & Ken Barker
- Bendigo Bank
- Ben’s Leading Appliances
- Billabong Sanctuary
- Bob Gould Fabrications
- Brandon’s Real Estate
- Brennan’s Tyrepower
- Broken River Resort
- Buchan’s Cycles & Mowers
- Burdekin Bowl
- Burdekin Celtic Dancers
- Burdekin Delta Cinemas
- Burdekin Engineering Works Pty Ltd
- Burdekin Floor Coverings
- Burdekin Motor Inn
- Burdekin Motorcycles
- Burdekin Printers
- Burdekin Theatre
- Burdekin Tyre Service
- Butterfly Blue
- C&M Agencies
- Clove Licensed Restaurant
- Coco House
- Coles
- Commercial Tavern
- Commonwealth Bank
- Country Timbers & Kitchens
- Cowboys Rugby League Football Limited
- Daniell Bookkeeping
- Dominiques’ Flowers & Funk
- Eathorne’s Sportspower
- Five Ways Fish & Fuel
- Friendly Care Pharmacy
- George Fotinos Chemmart Pharmacy
- Glen Dell
- Glicks Auto Parts
- Greens Irrigation Supplies
- Guardian Pharmacy Home Hill
- Home Hill Bakery
- Home Hill Discount Drug Store
- Home Hill Engineering
- Home Hill Lions Club
- Home Hill News
- Home Hill Stockfeeds
- Honeycombe’s Sales & Service
- Ispyit Boutique
- Jo’s Gifts & Linen
- Karen Healy Dancers
- Katherine Falco Wearable Art
- KFC
- Liessmann & Sons Plumbers
- Lilly May Flowers & Gifts
- Macdabrit Designs
- Michael’s Mens & Boys Wear
- Miss Sushi
- ML Partners
- My Pets
- Overflow
- Queen Street Interiors
- Queensland Country Credit Union
- Reef HQ Aquarium
- REPCO Auto Parts
- Rock Solid Boxing
- Rose Bay Resort
- Sealink
- Selections
- Shutopia
- Sibby Saitta World of Fashion
- South Pacific Tai Kwon Do
- Spearritt’s Jewellers
- Tasha’s Top Shop
- Toyworld Mac’s Ayr
- Wilmar
- Woolworths LTD
What an incredible achievement! From 9 to 11 May, Home Hill SHS hosted a three day celebration of the last 50 years of excellence in education. The Friday night saw a huge crowd descend on the school for a gargantuan Fete that was brimming with stalls, entertainment, food and fun.

On the Saturday morning the school opened its gates to the hundreds of past students and staff who came to celebrate the Golden Anniversary. At the official welcoming ceremony, Burdekin Mayor Bill Lowis, Delphine Baker (student 1964), P&C President Richard Wall and Jean McCubben who taught at Home Hill in the founding year, all reminisced and celebrated the history and successes of the school. The celebration cake was cut by Noel Skinner who was the school’s longest serving teacher, Bill Foster who was a student in 1964 and Louisa Daley who is this year’s youngest student. Rosemary Menkens MP and Principal Steven Miskin articulately responded on behalf of the school to the sentiments expressed by the speakers.

The various groups of visitors then had the opportunity to have photos with their friends, year levels or decades and the chance to explore their old stomping ground. They also reminisced in the wonderful library display that celebrated and emphasised the history and change of the last 50 years. Thanks to the library staff Josie Wood and Josie Harper who coordinated the display.

Saturday night was the pinnacle of the celebrations with the Gala Dinner. A capacity crowd enjoyed speeches by current Principal Miskin and longest serving Principal Bruce Edwards; listened to moving bush poetry by past student Chris Vass, and a medley of the songs popular in the last 50 years by a choir of past students and staff. The entire evening was thoroughly enjoyed by all present and was a resounding success.

Sunday morning saw a more informal gathering at the school for a morning tea and farewell.

Congratulations to the Golden Anniversary committee for organising such a professional and flawless weekend of celebrations. Particular thanks must go to Principal Steven Miskin who has been the driving force in recognising this milestone along with past teachers Karen Marchant and Melba Watson, and committee members Delphine Baker, Robert Marshall, Sheree McKaig, Jocelyn Defranciscis, Julie Bourke, Annmearre D’Alessandro, Julie Davies, Ann-Marie Hudson, Lisa Todeschino, Anne Kerr and Ute Miskin. Congratulations to the Golden Anniversary Book creators Dee Musumeci, Viv Maltby and Vanda Hodder. Thanks must also our current students and staff who have all been involved in some way to ensure the success of the weekend.

Our school has definitely enjoyed the successes of the last fifty years and we look forward to an exciting future. Congratulations Home Hill High!