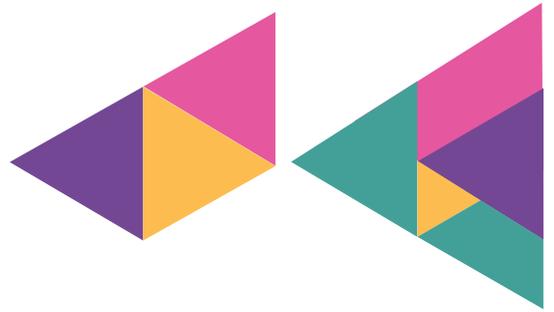


# Youth chronicles

*Special Edition*



*"Stories of young people achieving great things in our region"*



## Welcome to the Youth Chronicles Special Edition

Here you can find the latest news direct from our region's young people.

This Special Edition has been put together to highlight both our current and past students and show where they are now. This publication is produced through a partnership between our region's high schools, youth service providers and the Bundaberg Regional Council's Youth Action Team.

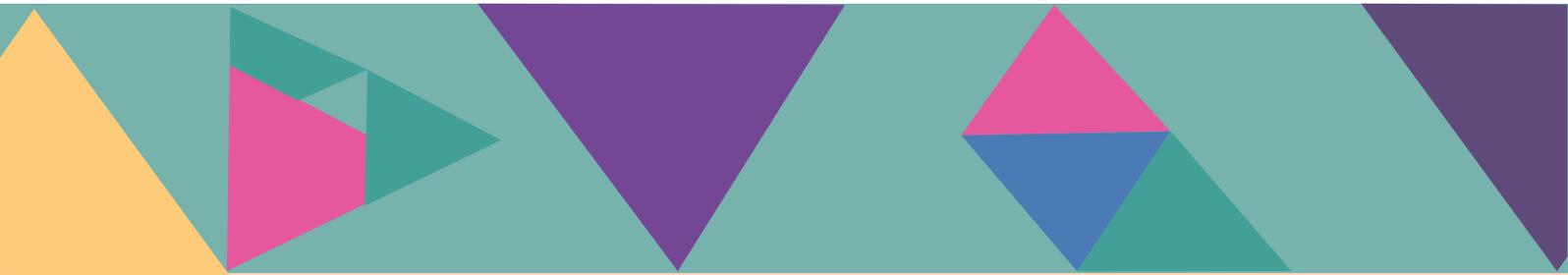
Every high school and youth service provider in the region has been given the opportunity to provide pages for this edition, with many schools getting their young people involved in designing the pages, writing the stories and taking the photos.

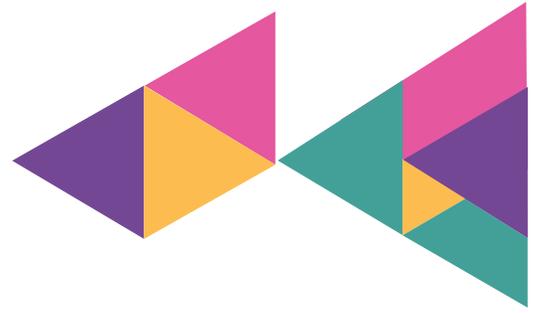
This special edition builds on the 3 Issues already released and continues to highlight the important part that young people play in our region. With the inclusion of stories of ex-students we can see how they have made a difference and contributed to the current and future growth of our community.

The Youth Chronicles magazine is available online at [www.bundaberg.qld.gov.au/youth](http://www.bundaberg.qld.gov.au/youth). An electronic copy is sent to each school to share and a limited number are printed and distributed throughout the community.

We would really appreciate your feedback on the content and quality along with your thoughts on the projects youth have been involved in. Your feedback is valuable in ensuring continuous improvement as well as allowing young people in our community to hear a different narrative about their contributions in their community.

*To provide feedback or if you would like more information, please contact our Youth Development Officer on 1300 883 699 or [youth@bundaberg.qld.gov.au](mailto:youth@bundaberg.qld.gov.au)*





**Youth Chronicles  
Special Edition  
December 2018**

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## Marielle Ong

### Mathematics and Beyond



*"Since Year 8 I've wanted to pursue Science; go to the frontier of the unknown and break boundaries."*

It follows then that St Luke's 2012 graduate, Marielle Ong, went on to study a Bachelor of Science Degree at the University of Queensland (UQ) when she finished school. But she adds, *"Funnily enough, I found out that I absolutely hated Physics so I switched into an extended Math major."*

After graduating, she went on to do an Honours year in Mathematics, and was an exchange student for a semester at the University of British Columbia in Canada, where she even had the experience of playing Muggle Quidditch (a la Harry Potter).

Marielle has also worked at the Queensland Brain Institute, where she studied the left and right handedness of honeybees. She has been the President of the UQ Mathematics Students Society, won the Best Tutoring Award in Mathematics at UQ, received the Warden's Medal at St John's College, as well as a major College Scholarship. She is currently completing her Ph.D. involving complex differential and algebraic geometry (in particular, moduli spaces, non-abelian Hodge theory and gauge theory) at the University of Pennsylvania, USA.

Over this time, Marielle has come to understand her strengths and limitations through the victories and setbacks on her journey. *"I've laughed, I've cried, I've lost all motivation and somehow, bounced back every time,"* she said. *"Since there is no one to push me, I have to decide what motivates me, what moves me and what defines me. University has taught me resilience and fortitude,"* she said.

In terms of her school life at St Luke's, Marielle says, *"My Mathematics teachers were the ones who helped me find my passion in Mathematics and ultimately, led me to the career path I am on. For that, I am eternally grateful."* However, for a math aficionado, it may come as a surprise that many of Marielle's fondest memories come out of St Luke's award-winning Performing Arts Centre. *"The cultural aspect of St Luke's was always buzzing. Under the cultural staff, my piano and cello playing matured and I found a passion in music,"* she said. *"They were always so encouraging to my crazy, spontaneous and creative ideas. The cultural life of St Luke's fed the artistic side of my brain richly, and wholesomely."*

## Rebecca Greiner

### Selected for Hockeyroos



St Luke's 2016 graduate, Rebecca Greiner, has been playing Hockey most of her life. But, it was just one of many sports that the talented youngster competed in at the highest level during her formative years. She was indeed a genuine all-round sports star.

Eventually, as the years passed, Rebecca had to choose which sport she would pursue more seriously, and Hockey was her choice. She trained hard, played well, and developed her skills. Then, finally, the call-up came earlier this year for Rebecca to play in the Australian Women's Hockey team, the Hockeyroos. Rebecca had been a fixture in Junior National teams for some time – she was part of the Jillaroots, the Australian Women's Junior National team, that won bronze at the 2016 Junior World Cup in Chile and she represented Australia in the Under 23 Women's Hockey team in a tour of Europe in 2017.

But, her ultimate goal of being selected for the Hockeyroos had finally arrived. Rebecca was selected for the team to compete in the Four Nation's Women's International Hockey Championships in Japan in September. *"It's exciting to provide this opportunity for some new faces at an international level ... Rebecca's performance at the National Under 21 Championships has brought her to the attention of the National selectors ... She's fully deserved her position,"* Hockeyroo's coach, Paul Gaudoin said.

However, on the eve of her debut, Rebecca fractured her thumb, and was unable to compete. This was a terrible disappointment for the young Hockey star. But, then in October, after being awarded as the equal top scorer in the Australian Hockey League for 2018, Rebecca was once again named in the National squad to compete in China. The future is indeed bright for this young star of the game.



## Alexander Morris

### Master Musician



In terms of musicianship, Alexander Morris has just about seen and done it all. After graduating from St Luke's in 2005, he received his Bachelor of Music at the Queensland Conservatorium of Music in Brisbane. He went on to complete post graduate study at the Australian National Academy of Music in Melbourne, and the Colburn Conservatory in Los Angeles

Alex has taken part in masterclasses with Dimitri Ashkenazy, Michael Collins and Sabine Meyer, and his studies have also taken him to the USA where he has learnt with Yehuda Gilad, Burt Hara and Joaquin Valdepenas. His teachers in Australia include Paul Dean, David Thomas and Floyd Williams. Alex has performed across the globe, appearing in Beijing, Los Angeles, Amsterdam and London.

Alex completed post-graduate study at the Australian National Academy of Music from 2010-2012. In 2013 he appeared as an academy fellow; curating, directing and performing his own series of concerts with academy musicians, faculty and guest artists. He was a bass clarinet fellow at the Aspen Music Festival in Colorado in 2014, and winner of the Festival Concerto competition.

Before joining the Vancouver Symphony as Assistant Principal Clarinet in March 2016, Alex was in high demand as one of Australia's busiest freelance clarinet players. While in Australia he performs regularly in concert with the Melbourne Symphony and in Opera and Ballet performances with Orchestra Victoria.

As a concerto soloist, Alex has appeared with the Aspen Music Festival, Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra, Orchestra Victoria and the South Melbourne Symphony. He has appeared as guest principal clarinet with the Tasmanian Symphony, The Australian Opera and Ballet Orchestra, Melbourne Chamber Orchestra, Queensland Symphony, Auckland Philharmonia Orchestra, and the Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra in Kuala Lumpur.

The list goes on and on ... but, in his (little) spare time, Alex can often be found enjoying sailing and kite-surfing. He also plans to develop his snowboarding skills while living in such close proximity to the snowfields near Vancouver, Canada.



## Kyle Walmsley

### Excellence in the Arts



St Luke's 2005 graduate, Kyle Walmsley, started in his acting career by setting up a children's party entertainment business with friend, Zoey Grills. "We just wanted to get any experience performing we could," he said. "It turned out to be super useful experience but confirmed that I didn't want to do kids parties forever. But, Bundaberg was a great community where people were willing to help if you were prepared to try opportunities."

Kyle did call upon this experience, however, when he moved to Darwin to take on the much loved role of Captain Starlight, entertaining sick children at Darwin Hospital as part of the Starlight Foundation charity. He later graduated from the acting program at the University of Southern Queensland.

Kyle's achievements include a National finalist in ABC's Raw Comedy Competition as part of the Melbourne International Comedy Festival. He has also worked as a performer and facilitator for Corrugated Iron Youth Arts, Darwin Community Arts, and ArtsLink, formerly Queensland Arts Council. Kyle's writing has appeared on the Australian Theatre for Young People's stage at The Wharf, Sydney, as well as being published by Currency Press as part of the 2014 Collection of writing, *Bite Me!* He has also attended the world-renowned clown school, Ecole Philippe Gaulier, in France.

Kyle was also accepted into the most prestigious drama school in Australia, the National Institute of Dramatic Art (NIDA), where stars such as Cate Blanchett, Hugo Weaving, Mel Gibson and Sam Worthington had trained. He was short-listed, filming an audition which was assessed by staff at NIDA, before just 24 students were accepted from up to 1000 that auditioned across the country. "It was really exciting to know I'd been hand-picked to attend somewhere some of my heroes went," he said.

These days, Kyle is busy as an actor on stage and screen, as a comedian and running clown workshops. He is an artist, a play-write, director, actor, and self-confessed funny guy.



## Jasmine Lindsay

### Entrepreneur Extraordinaire



There's no sleeping on the job for this former investment banker. As a St Luke's graduate in 2002, sleepwear designer, Jasmine Lindsay, was on a completely different career path, working as an investment banker in Dubai, when she decided to ditch the wheeling and dealing and try something new.

Jasmine's finance career spanned over 10 years, working first with Macquarie in Australia before relocating to Dubai with one of the Middle East's largest listed companies.

Then, in 2009, Jasmine combined her business nous with her fashion vision, and together with her aunt, Kaye Williams, she launched *Jasmine & Will* — a sleepwear brand which is now hot property, favoured by the likes of Lara Worthington, Bonds model Sarah Ellen, beauty blogger Eleanor Pendleton and E! Australia's Ksenija Lukich.

"I saw a gap in the Australian market for stylish sleepwear," Jasmine says. "Initial discussions turned to products, and the brand was introduced to offer clean, stylish and sophisticated sleepwear options with a playful sensibility."

With limited savings and her mum in Australia dispatching orders, Lindsay juggled her corporate career and her new venture for more than a year. "Then I got a call from my mum saying, 'You need to come home, this is getting out of hand,'" recalls Jasmine, who didn't argue with her dispatching officer. So, at the end of 2015, Jasmine parted ways with her finance career, relocating back to Australia to run her sleepwear label full-time, making Clovelly on the beach near Bondi, her home.

Back in Sydney, Jasmine struggled to keep up with both a day job and a start-up company. Luckily, the business was then at a point where she could financially step away from the security blanket of her job. From there, *Jasmine & Will* has doubled in size and is getting bigger all the time.

Jasmine says her secret to starting this million-dollar business was solving a problem. "When young girls come up to me with a business idea, I ask, 'Is it going to solve a problem?' If they can differentiate their idea from other brands, then it's got legs," she says of standing out from the crowd. Oh, and it helps if Lara Worthington wears your brand on Instagram.

## Lucas Deer

### World Champion



Eighteen year old, Lucas Deer, a St Luke's graduate of 2017, was recently crowned the International Triathlon Union (ITU) Long Course Champion in the 18-19 years division. Lucas competed in a World Championship multisport event in Odense, Denmark, in July, winning the gold medal for his age group.

This ITU World Championship Festival is the largest international multisport week on the calendar that sees international-level athletes compete in duathlon, cross triathlon, aquathlon, aquabike, and long-distance triathlon. Lucas represented Australia in the long-distance triathlon, which consists of a gruelling 2km swim, 90km cycle and 22km run. ITU long course events are approximately triple the distance on an Olympic triathlon.

Lucas discovered his love for endurance sport at a St Luke's after-school sport class. From there, coaches, Rebecca Jenner and Dwayne Mackay, encouraged Lucas to take up cycling, and eventually, triathlon events. Lucas competed with the Wide Bay triathlon team, in the State Schools Championships, and with the Bargarua Tri Club.

In the lead up to the international event in July, Lucas was training with award-winning coach, David Tabernacle, who proved to be a very effective influence, as Lucas smashed his Personal Best time at the *Challenge Melbourne* event in April, posting a time of 4 hours and 19 minutes.

This is certainly a bold and life-affirming way to spend one's gap year; Lucas, who deferred a university offer to concentrate on his elite athlete status, plans to start his Bachelor of Podiatry degree at La Trobe University in 2019.





# Former Student of the Year, named Rural Registrar of the Year

In October of this year, a former Isis District State High School graduate was recognised for his dedication to rural and remote medical services. **Dr Bryce Nicol** has worked tirelessly to rebuild the doctor workforce in Winton and has received the *Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine* and *Rural Doctors Association of Australia* Rural Registrar of the Year award for 2018.

Bryce, who graduated in 2006 as School Captain and Student of the Year, studied medicine at James Cook University in Townsville before undertaking pre-vocational training at Caboolture Hospital and then Advanced Skills Training in Emergency Medicine at Bundaberg. He commenced duties as a senior medical officer provisional fellow at Winton in February 2016 and recently completed his primary rural and remote training there.

Bryce has been described as “a highly skilled and compassionate rural generalist doctor”, who has earned significant respect and immense appreciation from the Winton community. He will be staying in Winton until at least 2020 to further develop his leadership role, including the supervision of additional GP registrars.

Like a number of “country kids”, Bryce experienced a number of hurdles during his first year of university and thought very seriously about pulling out of his course. Conversations with family members and medical mentors were instrumental in convincing Bryce that medicine would be worth the struggle, now 12 years later he is pleased he took that advice and stuck with it.

Parents, Paul and Debbie were fortunate to be present in the audience when he was recognised



*Figure 1: Dr Bryce Nicol, a former Isis District SHS student, successfully following his childhood dream of being a Doctor. (Picture courtesy of Country Life).*

for his efforts by his Peers, they described it as a very proud “parents moment” and a humbling experience.

They believed that Bryce was fortunate to have had a great grounding at Isis High, where many opportunities existed for Bryce to develop lifelong skills. He was fortunate to have highly skilled educators willing to recognise, support and develop these talents.

Those that know Bryce would understand that some of the achievements that he holds dearly were those that didn't come easy, sports awards for example and some of his fondest memories at Isis High are associated with the social and community aspects of his education.



**Australian College of  
Rural & Remote Medicine**  
WORLD LEADERS IN RURAL PRACTICE

# 2019: Strengthening our Ag Department and Re-Invigorating our Main Campus

Here at Isis District State High School, we proudly run an Agricultural program in all year levels and have done so for many years. We have been very lucky to have a strong and effective working relationship with the Childers Fruit and Vegetable Growers Association as well as many other local organisations and businesses over the years which help to sustain our Agricultural program.

Since the mid-1990s, we have operated two Ag areas, a small area on the main campus of the school for crops, chickens and aquaponics and on our second campus 'the Annexe', the supplementary areas surrounding the Annexe buildings including a green house, orchard and animal enclosures. Whilst this arrangement has served us well, it has always been a preferred option to establish a single, combined area for our agricultural program.

We are very excited by this prospect which is scheduled to occur early in 2019 as it marks the largest infrastructure investment in the school for quite some time. It will mean that all other classes will be held on the main campus from completion of the project and Ag classes will have the ability to utilise a fully dedicated space on the Annexe grounds from mid-2019.

By establishing the new precinct on the main campus it will decrease the 'travel time' to/from classes and avoid the exposure to the elements currently incurred eg walking to and from on the really hot days of summer or in rainy weather.

Incorporated within the project is the construction of another under-covered area and a tiered seating amphitheatre suitable for a cohort parade. Both of which will be welcomed additions to the lunch areas for students to utilise.

Preparation for the relocation of the buildings has already commenced with the removal of asbestos occurring in the final week of November.

A community information session was also held in November to ensure local residents had the opportunity to hear about the changes and ask any questions.

During this exciting infrastructure development, we will be posting regularly to our school FaceBook page pictures and footage. Please follow us to be up-to-date with information and see how the move is progressing.



Figure 2: Aerial photo of our main campus (bottom right corner), oval and stadium as well as the central part of the Annexe Campus. Buildings within the left circle will be uplifted and moved to the Main Campus in a new configuration.

With this in mind, Mr Chris Gill (Principal) has been able to negotiate with the Department of Education a solution to this. Over 2018, we have been working to have this solution turn into reality. The solution centres on the relocation of the existing Annexe (old primary school) buildings to the main campus. They will be situated on the current main campus Ag plot whilst the land area at the annexe will be converted to our single area Ag plot.



Figure 3: Artist impression of the Annexe buildings reconfigured on the Main Campus.



# BURNETT

## YOUTH LEARNING CENTRE

'Elliot Farm' 3693 Goodwood Road PO Box 4170 Bundaberg South, Qld 4670

Phone: (07) 4159 7579 Mobile: 0408 775 390 Email: [office@bylc.qld.edu.au](mailto:office@bylc.qld.edu.au) Web: [www.bylc.qld.edu.au](http://www.bylc.qld.edu.au)

### ***"You've changed my life..."***

#### AN INTERVIEW WITH BRAD, ONE OF OUR GRADUATES

During graduation dinner Brad, one of our 2018 graduating students, had the opportunity to say a few words to everyone. "Thank you, you've changed my life..." were the simple and heartfelt words he shared to a room full of proud staff, parents and peers. We later took some time to interview Brad to help us share his experience of BYLC and the story behind his words.



#### **What brought you to BYLC?**

I didn't like my last school. I ended up at JETS for a couple of years and then tried mainstream school again but it didn't work so I got a referral to come here.

#### **What makes BYLC different to other schools?**

The teachers are more understanding, they understand you and care. It's a good set up here too, it's hands on which is better for people who don't like sitting in a classroom and you learn relevant stuff like getting ready for work. It's hard to explain, the first time I came here – I just changed. You wouldn't recognise me from the person I used to be.

#### **How has BYLC helped prepare you for life after graduation?**

I finish my Certificate in Rural Ops with lots of farm work experience and connections to help me get a job.

#### **What are some positive things you can share about your time at BYLC?**

Everything. All of it: the teachers, the hands on learning, the opportunities.

#### **How would you describe BYLC to someone who hasn't heard of us?**

Most people say it's a "bad school", but I wouldn't say that. It's a good school for anyone who can't do "normal" school...but you have to want to change.

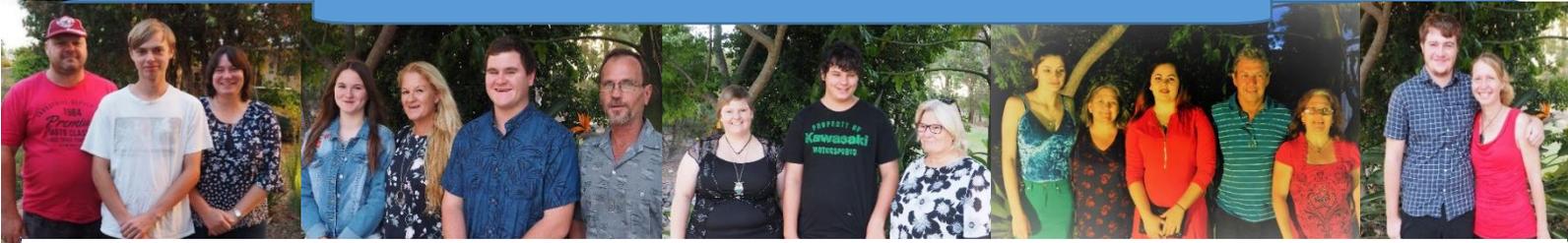
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*It's a good school for anyone who can't do "normal" school but you have to want to change.*

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*BYLC offers an alternative, practical, hands-on, supported approach to inspire personal learning for students who may not have achieved well in mainstream education, or who have exited early, but want to continue their education. We offer disengaged youth the opportunity to participate in education and training with support, so that when they transition they are ready to gain employment and be a contributing member of the community. Generally, referrals to BYLC are made by local schools, guidance officers, counsellors, Youth Justice and other youth agencies.*

# BYLC 2018 GRADUATION



*For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. – Jeremiah 29:11*

Congratulations to our graduates for 2018: Bill, Brad, Vinnie, Trey and Misty. May your feet stay clear on the path directed for you; be blessed and prosperous. May doors be opened that need to be opened and may every door that needs to be closed be shut tight. Let the Lord be a light to your path.

# BYLC 2018 CELEBRATION DAY



Here at BYLC we are big on celebrating achievements and so, come the end of the year, we take the time to get together and celebrate the achievements of our students throughout the year; to acknowledge their effort, celebrate their progress and encourage their growth. By doing this we cultivate positive development. After all, "we delight in the beauty of the butterfly, but rarely admit the changes it has gone through to achieve beauty" (Maya Angelou). Acknowledging growth alongside achievements is known to build confidence, happiness and self-respect – something we all need. Thank you to students, staff, family, friends, stakeholders, community members and honoured guests for joining us; you have helped give meaning to our achievements and reinforced your support of us.



Special mention to our BYLC Top Awardees:

- ❖ **Elliott Farm Award:** Vincent Van Doorn
- ❖ **Elliott Farm Encouragement Award:** Trey Taylor
- ❖ **Best Effort Award:** Keanu Neilson



Burnett Youth Learning Centre – 'Accept the Challenge – Succeed with Hope'

# Gin Gin State High School

*Ever Onward*

30 High School Road  
Gin Gin 4671



**STUDENT LEADERS 2018**

## TERM 4 2018

### GRADUATION

### HANDING OVER CEREMONY

### NEW LEADERS

### 2019 MUSICAL

### SEU ALPACA PROGRAM

### FORMER STUDENTS

## 2019 SCHOOL LEADERS

### SCHOOL CAPTAINS

CEDA RUHL

KEZIAH MITCHELL

### STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT

BRIANA CLARK

### YEAR 10 LIAISON

BOHDI WOCKNIK

### YEAR 9 LIAISON

EMILY CROSSAN

### YEAR 8 LIAISON

MACY HERON

### YEAR 7 LIAISON

LUITA CISLOWSKI

### BARANGA HOUSE CAPTAIN

EMILY SKILTON

### CORANG HOUSE CAPTAIN

KALISTA DUKE

### MANUMBAR HOUSE CAPTAIN

CONLEY INSKIP

## GRADUATION

09/11/18

2018 Year 12 students have come a long way. Thirteen hardworking years of schooling have come to a happy end.

Gin Gin State High School's graduation night was full of glitter and glam. The evening was celebrated at the Brothers Club on 9<sup>th</sup> November. All our students were well presented with stunning gowns and sharp suits. Parents, families and teachers felt an overwhelming sense of pride for our leading class. There were lots of tears and cheers on the emotional night where students received their certificate of graduation and the valedictorians gave a heart-warming speech. Teachers celebrated and danced with the students, which made the night very memorable.



## SAYING FINAL GOODBYES

16/11/18

Only a week after graduation night, the Year 12's had a jam packed week of fun alternative programs and informative lectures. The 16<sup>th</sup> of November was their last day, where we celebrated our goodbyes with the traditional "Clap Out," and Year 12's were showered in one final applause. It commenced with the "Handing Over Ceremony," when the new leaders of 2019 received jackets from the 2018 team. It was followed by emotional speeches from the former Student Council President, Tamira Harrington and School Leaders - Ben Robertson and Connor Boon. Everyone was choking back tears when a power point of happy memories was displayed. All students then formed a guard of honor lined around the school and the Year 12's walked through for the last time, allowing them to say their final goodbyes with hugs and lots of tears. We have seen them grow from small Year 8's into wonderful young adults. They have finally made it. We wish them the best of luck!

By Briana Clark

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## NEW LEADERS 16/11/18

The new leaders are an enthusiastic and lively group of students who are keen to lead the school in 2019. By following the previous leaders' examples, we will expect another great year with fresh and innovative ideas that will keep us all on our toes. We have high hopes for this new team and what they are able to achieve and create. These new leaders are ready for the New Year, especially our house captains who already have some friendly competition happening.



*"I am grateful for this opportunity and excited for Corang to obliterate the competition."* - Kalista Duke (Corang House Captain)

## GREASED LIGHTNING

Recently, we have been informed that our 2019 Annual musical will be the iconic "Grease." Auditions have commenced and roles will be released soon and all students are waiting in suspense, excited to see what quirky character they will get to play. As always, Gin Gin High School's musicals provide a good laugh and cannot be missed. Our rendition will be a feel good musical for parents and students and will not disappoint. We will see you there!

## SEU ALPACA PROGRAM

The Alpaca program continues to grow from strength to strength, thanks to the expertise, passion and dedication of volunteers and staff. Prominent members from the Australian Alpaca Association will attend the program in December to observe the students handling and working with the Alpacas. Plans are in place for the New Year to conduct overnight camps and to participate once again at Agrotrend. Thank you to Fiona, Bev, Nicole, Sandra, Lynn and of course Mr Maskiell for your wisdom, drive and commitment making this program so incredible and beneficial to all.

## FORMER STUDENTS November

### Angela Walker - Exited GGSHS – 2016



- I am studying Bachelor of Nursing at University of Queensland
- The best thing about University is it gives me lifetime opportunities. University of Queensland is a great University because it has many programs and opportunities that enrich your University experience.
- I recommend good time management to new students attending University for the first time to manage school life and social life, do not go out the night before an exam...
- The advice I recommend for students wanting to go to University is – Know what you want to do in life before wasting your time doing a course you do not like.
- The advice I would give to my younger self would be to work hard as it pays off in the future and do not stress because everything will work out in the end.
- High School set me up for University; it provided me with a lot of support and assistance.

### Natalie Stehbens – Exited GGSHS – 2012



- Completed Bachelor of Occupational Therapy at University of the Sunshine Coast. I chose University of the Sunshine Coast because it was more inclusive than the larger Universities.
- The best thing about University was making new friends.
- I recommend when studying university that you maintain a balance of social/work/university. Do not ignore your social life.
- For new high school graduates and current students, I recommend that you volunteer at a business you might want a career at to help you make a decision on that career.
- The advice I would have given to my younger self would be to take up any opportunity presented to you, socially and academically to gain experience.
- High School set me up for University by teaching me to research and writing assignments.
- I was happy to have attended GGSHS because it was small and inclusive, teachers are supportive even after graduating.

By Briana Clark

# Bundaberg Special School

Building Futures Together

Term 4 2018

## Past Students in the Spotlight

### Helen Dolinski Graduated - 2016

Life has continued to be an adventure and full of opportunities for Helen since she has left school. She has been involved with numerous service providers and has expanded her knowledge of life skills. Helen loves attending girls club on the weekend and being with her friends. The school enjoys catching up with Helen on a regular basis as she pops back in to the school to check we are all following the rules. Interviewed by Miss Louise



### Billy Bastable Graduated - 2016

It has been all about the working life for Billy since he graduated from Bundaberg Special School. He has been working 5 days a week at Endeavour, which is a continuation from the work experience that he was involved in during his time at school. The best thing about work, according to Billy, is being able to earn his own money, which he can use to purchase his own food. Possibly a favourite is a Hungry Jacks hamburger. Billy has recently been able to use his earnings to go on a cruise with his family. Which is something that made him feel very proud and independent.

Interviewed by Miss Louise.



### Farewell to our Graduates - 2018

A huge Congratulations to the Bundaberg Special School Class of 2018. Thank you to our families who came to both the dinner and to the graduation ceremony. You all epitomize what our school community is about. Like others who have left us I'm sure many of the students who are leaving us this year will visit as often as possible and we all look forward to hearing of their new adventures.



Bundaberg Special School

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## P & C News

The Bundaberg Special School P and C Association offer a warm welcome to all new and existing students for the upcoming 2019 school year. The P and C Association meet every second Thursday of the month at the school to discuss school matters, events and to organise fundraising for the school. We invite interested parents of the Special School to attend our upcoming 2019 meetings. Any assistance is greatly appreciated as we work together to support the students of Bundaberg's Special School.

In 2018 the P and C Association held a highly successful Cent Sale and a Christmas Raffle raising much needed fund to support our students. Thanks to the extensive fundraising events of 2018 a modified school bus was purchased to accommodate wheel chair students to attend external excursions as part of their curriculum.

2019 holds many exciting initiatives within the school. The P and C are focussed on organising further fundraising events for the school. The focus of future fundraising is to assist with the purchase of a second modified school bus as well as helping to finance other programs within the school's infrastructure and up-grades. The P and C are committed to supporting the school by participating within the Regional Council's Recycling Program and providing students with enhanced learning opportunities. Any recyclables for the Council's recycling program gratefully received and can be dropped off to the school.

We wish all graduating students of 2018 all the best for their future endeavours and we look forward to meeting all students and families in 2019.



## Farewell to Chappy Lynne

Our absolutely wonderful Chaplain Lynne Coyne has received a new appointment in the Bundaberg area. Lynne has been at Bundaberg Special School for the past year and in that time has spent countless hours with our students and families sharing friendship, understanding and providing amazing guidance for our senior girls through the girls club. We wish Chappy Lynne well in her new role.





# Spotlight on Youth

## AWARDS NIGHT SUCCESS

In October, our Awards celebration recognised students who in some way added value to our school in 2018 and in doing so fulfilled personal goals that they may or may not have set out to achieve as well as celebrating many highlights across our diverse delivery areas.

We were also proud to present three students scholarships awarded from University of Queensland, which will be completed across Years 11 and 12. Congratulations to Zahra S, Paige J and Charlie B.

Recognising the success of so many of our students who have achieved personal and team - academic, cultural and sporting successes, not just for their individual talents but for the hard work that got them there is very important.



Congratulations to all our students who do amazing things here in Bundaberg, the State and across the World!

## STEM GIRL POWER ALUMNI

Year 10 student, Laura E, was thrilled to be invited to attend the STEM Girl Power Alumni Event in Brisbane which was held at the Queensland Museum, bringing together STEM Girl Power Ambassadors from all over Queensland.

Two inspirational STEM leaders and guest speakers, Lee Constable and Cecile Godde, spoke about the student's future endeavours and the students learnt about STEM communication before teaching members of the public about one of the new SparkLab science centre displays.

The Ambassadors, STEM Champions and STEM teachers were also presented with STEM Girl Power Alumni Awards and badges from Mr Terry Gallagher, a director from the Department of Education.

"The day was a fantastic event and I got so much out of it! I met so many like-minded girls and made lots of new STEM Girl Power connections." Laura



## CONGRATULATIONS

Former BSHS student, Brinley Cottle is now a fully-fledged member of The Australian Army after his Enlistment Ceremony at the end of November.



*Through hard work, the stars*



## WONDER OF SCIENCE REGIONAL CONFERENCE

In Term 3 our Excel science classes were working hard on their science investigations and presentations as part of the Wonder of Science (WoS) program. WoS encourages a STEM (science, technology, engineering and maths) culture in schools that extends and challenges students.

Teams from Years 7, 8 and 9 were then selected to attend the Wonder of Science Regional Conference at CQU in Bundaberg in September.

All of our teams did a wonderful job on their science presentations and learnt a lot about science research and public speaking, with one of our Year 8 groups was awarded the Regional Year 8 Champions and the Year 9 group was awarded the Regional Year 9 Champions!!



## FUNDRAISING FRENZY

On Friday 26 October 2018, enthusiastic students and staff proudly participated in National Bandanna Day, a very worthy cause raising funds to support young people living with cancer.

Thank you to the SRC and the JRC students and teachers who assisted in selling the bandannas and a **HUGE 'Thank you'** to all of those who purchased bandannas to support NATIONAL BANDANNA DAY.



Throughout Term 4 the Year 7 Excel students participated in the \$20 Boss Challenge developed by FYA (Foundation for Young Australians). Starting with just \$20 the students create, launch and operate their venture with all profits going to charities of their choice. This year the teams raised over \$1,900 which went to Red Collar Rescue, Drought Angels, Cancer Council and the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation!

## CHECKMATE!

Fourteen Bundaberg State High School students competed in the Bundaberg Children's Chess Competition organised by the Bundaberg Chess Club held at Avoca State School.

Taking home the first place trophy and medals was the team consisting of Joshua H (Year 10), Brenton M (Year 9), Reece B (Year 9) and Adheesha S (Year 7). Individually, Adheesha was placed second and Joshua was placed third in the competition overall and received monetary prizes from the Bundaberg Chess Club whilst Brenton, Reece, Zahra and Dakota, each received Merit awards. Congratulations.

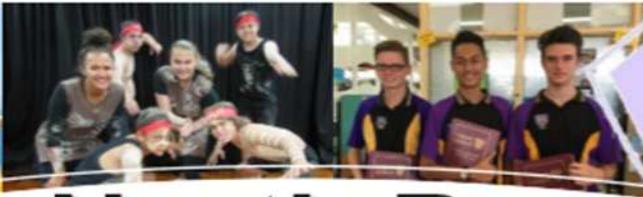


## AN INTERNATIONAL STAGE FOR FORMER BSHS STUDENT

Well done to former Bundy High student Kyle Laybutt who was selected in the Papua New Guinean National Rugby League side! Kyle played for the 'Kumuls' against the Australian Prime Minister's XIII Rugby League team in Port Moresby. It was an outstanding International Rugby League debut with Kyle scoring a try for his team in their 34-18 loss.



*Through hard work, the stars*



*OUTSTANDING LEARNERS*

*OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS*

*OUTSTANDING FUTURES*

# North Bundaberg *State High School 2018*

'North,' as we are known, offers all students a small, safe and supportive environment that allows your child to be truly known as an individual. This attention to the unique needs of each learner is what sets us apart.

Our school vision is: Outstanding Learners, Outstanding Achievements and Outstanding Futures. These form the guiding philosophy for all that we do.

North is poised to deliver a truly 21<sup>st</sup> century model of learning, where critical and creative thinking are considered cross-curriculum priorities, alongside literacy and numeracy skills, ICT and personal and social capability, and ethical and intercultural understanding.

Sporting and athletic endeavours also contribute to a well-rounded school experience, and students at North can enjoy this aspect of school life in a variety of competitive and social settings, in a multitude of sports.

North has built a culture of high expectations regarding student outcomes, specifically the achievement of the Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) and the best possible Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank (ATAR) for those embarking on tertiary studies. North's goal-setting, monitoring and support plan ensures that each student has an effective pathway for their future.

Pathways at North also include vocational education and training certifications (VET) delivered by our trained and qualified teachers, and in partnership with external training providers. Our commitment is to equip students with real, transferable skills and qualifications that will lead to concrete opportunities.

At North, we recognise that there are many paths to success, and our small, safe and supportive environment is ideally suited to those students who require a more personalised and thoughtful approach, in whatever phase of learning and development they happen to be.



# Youth Service's Stories

The following stories have been provide to us with the permission of the services and the young people they relate to

**THE GENERATION OF TODAY**

**YOUTH NEWS**



## T2S – Transmission to Success

Transition 2 Success supports disadvantaged young people to engage in education or employment. Transition 2 Success through partnerships between Youth Justice and a range of community groups, churches and private businesses all sharing resources and working towards a common goal of supporting disadvantaged young people.

Bundaberg T2S currently partners with 12 different local agencies to deliver the program and to support participants' transition into positive outcomes. Bringing together local expertise, resources and opportunities for young people who have been significantly disengaged from education or employment and who are involved, or at risk of contact, with the justice system has seen many young people imagine and pursue a more positive future for themselves. Staff from Bundaberg Youth Justice also work extensively with young people between program periods to increase their employment skills and provide them with the greatest opportunity to gain employment and break the cycle of offending.

Bundaberg Youth Justice has facilitated five T2S programs since September 2016. Nationally recognised certificate courses delivered through the program have included Construction, Horticulture and Resources & Infrastructure as well as number of secondary certificates such as White Cards, Responsible Serving of Alcohol (RSA) and First Aid.



Nationally recognised certificate courses delivered through the program have included Construction, Horticulture and Resources & Infrastructure as well as number of secondary certificates such as White Cards, Responsible Serving of Alcohol (RSA) and First Aid. To date, 58 young people have enrolled in one or more certificate courses with 39 successfully graduating and 16 receiving a certificate of attainment. For the young people who were enrolled in the course, 11 have transitioned back into education, 8 have been supported into employment, 19 have engaged in further training, 7 have engaged with a job service agency and 7 have returned for another T2S course.

Bundaberg T2S has previously partnered with a local church and, through the delivery of a Certificate II in Kitchen Operations, spent 10 weeks preparing and packaging frozen meals for people experiencing homelessness in the Bundaberg area. In 2017 and 2018, Bundaberg T2S has partnered with Peirson Memorial Trust to deliver courses in Construction and Horticulture through the refurbishment of several buildings and green spaces. This partnership will advance in 2019, with the delivery of rural operation courses to increase young people's ability to gain employment in the rural sector in Bundaberg. Peirson Memorial Trust, including Peirson Services and Peirson Farms, are invested in providing real life skills and experience for young people engaged in the youth justice system.

## Tobias and TtW

The Transition to Work program at Impact is for anyone aged 15-21 who finds themselves disengaged from school or education. We have minimal eligibility to qualify for receiving our support. We help identify existing strengths and interests and build on life skills to guide youth to engage in the work world. TtW provides our participants with tailored activities, opportunities and personalized coaching.

Read Tobias's story to gain insight what support was available for him.

### Tell us a bit about yourself

Hi, I'm Tobias, I'm 21 years old. I am a part of the TtW program and I am currently completing my Certificate III in Hospitality at IMPACT Community Services. I have had several jobs in a lot of different areas but have not found the right job for myself just yet. I started the Cert III in Hospitality and am really enjoying it and think this career is for me.

### How did you hear about TtW?

I heard about the program from my partner who was in the TtW program and spoke very highly of it. I thought I would give it a go as I had previously had no success with holding down a job or completing a certificate. I had nothing to lose.

### How has Transition to Work helped you?

Whoa! Where do I start? TtW has helped me to identify the hospitality industry as an area I can see myself having a career in. They guided me and helped me commit to a CIII course. TtW assisted me with paying for my learner's driver's license. The biggest thing for me is since signing up with TtW I have become more level headed, they have helped me control my anger issues and given me some stability in my life. TtW has really changed my life!!!!

### What would be your advice to others about TtW?

This program has really helped me in so many ways. I suggest taking every opportunity given to you and that's what TtW is all about. They help create opportunities. Every opportunity is a stepping stone to a path for the future. I'd recommend TtW to others for sure.

TtW can be contacted on 1800 562 228 with any initial enquiries.



TtW has really  
changed my  
life

“every  
opportunity is a  
stepping stone to  
a path for the  
future”

## Award Winning Apprentice

Local 4<sup>th</sup> Yr Cabinetmaking Apprentice, Ethan Wells has recently won a number of awards with his employer, East Coast Apprenticeships.

After completing Grade 12 at Bundaberg North SHS in 2014, Ethan commenced a Cabinetmaking apprenticeship with East Coast Apprenticeships in 2015 and is currently in the final year of his apprenticeship.

Ethan is currently hosted with local business, Custombuilt Furnishers. As he progresses towards completing his apprenticeship, Ethan really enjoys the learning, challenge and variety that his trade provides and gets motivation and satisfaction from seeing the end product installed in customer's houses.

After winning the 2018 Furnishing Trades Apprentice of the Year for the Bundaberg Region, Ethan travelled to Brisbane for East Coast Apprenticeships Annual Awards in October this year. East Coast Apprenticeships employ more than 400 apprentices and trainees, and Ethan was successful in winning the 2018 Furnishing Apprentice of the Year.

*"WE CANNOT ALWAYS BUILD  
THE FUTURE FOR OUR YOUTH,  
BUT WE CAN BUILD OUR YOUTH  
FOR THE FUTURE."*

*FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT*

**You're off to  
Great places!  
Today is your day!  
Your mountain  
is waiting, so...  
Get on your way!**  
- Dr Seuss -

# YOUTH ACTION TEAM



## WHO IS DAVE?

Dave the turtle is the nephew of Mama Turtle, the Bundaberg Library Paint the Town REaD mascot. Dave came to Bundaberg with his cousin Carlton (now adopted by Bushkids) to help Mama Turtle to get ready for all the new baby turtles. After his time helping Mama Turtle was finished, it was time for Dave and Carlton to leave and help others in joining the reading movement.

Dave loves the Bundaberg Region and was born here. It was through Mama Turtle, Flip and their friends at the Bundaberg Regional Libraries he heard that there was a group of young people who were interested in the Paint the Town REaD movement. These young people wanted to encourage other young people to step up and be role models of reading to young children. Dave met the team and was impressed with what they wish to do so he asked if he could stay with them and help get the message out.

Council's Youth Action Team (YAT) partners with Bundaberg Libraries, Shalom College and North Bundaberg State High School to introduce 'Dave'.

Dave the turtle joined the YAT in October as they travelled to Shalom College and North Bundaberg State High School with their Popup Reading Corner during Children's Week. The YAT and Dave are working together to highlight the important part young people play in reading to younger children. It's just as important to be read to as it is to learn to read. It doesn't always have to be a hard cover book, it can be anything and it doesn't always have to happen inside or in a library. It's great to read outside in the fresh air and even at the beach.

The YAT Popup Reading corners are an inviting corner full of comfy pillows to lay on and plenty of books, comics and magazines where kids can enjoy reading a story to Dave the turtle.

In 2019 the YAT will continue taking Dave across the region in both the community and hopefully more schools in support of the Paint the Town REaD movement. For more information on this project please contact Council's Youth Development Officer on 1300 883 699.





# Youth Development 2019

Keep an eye out for these events and activities in 2019

## Calling all young artist

### Entry NOW open

Entries are being taken now for "the Youth Art Place" Exhibition.

Entry is open to any young person in the Bundaberg region aged 12-25 years, where the only limit is your imagination and artistic vision.

**Entry closes:** on Wednesday 24 April 2019 for the Exhibition on Tuesday 30 April 2019 @ Bundaberg Multiplex.

**Entry forms:** [www.bundaberg.qld.gov.au](http://www.bundaberg.qld.gov.au)

## Mayors Telstra Innovation Awards

**Entry Opens: 11 February 2019**  
**Top 3 teams share in \$10,000 in prizes**

Open to high school students from year 9-12 in the Bundaberg region.

Students work in teams of 3 to develop new and creative uses of technology.

- \* Phase 1; Idea generation
- \* Phase 2: Idea development

Program includes mentoring workshops by industry experts.

All terms and conditions will be available from Councils website from 11 February 2019

**For more information contact our team:**  
[mtia@bundaberg.qld.gov.au](mailto:mtia@bundaberg.qld.gov.au)

## Gin Gin Youth Week Fun Day

**Monday 8 April 2019: 10am - 1pm**

Come along to the Gin Gin Youth Centre and parkland area and enjoy rides, music and food while helping us create an art piece.

The day is all about young people and having fun. For more information check out the youth month website on Council website.

## Childers Colour Chaos

**Wednesday 10 April 2019: 3.30pm - 6.30pm**

Its on again and we are planning for a bright powder filled event. We will have music and food along with colour.

Entries will open Mid February 2019, keep updated on the youth month webpage on Councils website.

## Youth Summit After Dark

**Tuesday 30 April 2019: 5pm - 8pm**  
**Bundaberg Multiplex**

**Open to young people 12-25 years**

Come along be a part of a continued conversation with the Youth Action Team. Enjoy music, food and add your comments to our discussion boards. You can also check out the Y.A.P Exhibition .



Do have any questions on any of these events?

Check out

[www.bundaberg.qld.gov.au/youth](http://www.bundaberg.qld.gov.au/youth)

Or call our

Youth Development Officer on

1300 883 699

Or [youth@bundaberg.qld.gov.au](mailto:youth@bundaberg.qld.gov.au)

Want to drop in and see us?

You will find us at

157 Bourbong Street

Civic Arcade



Latest News from Council

[www.bundaberg.qld.gov.au/news](http://www.bundaberg.qld.gov.au/news)

