Bye Bye Birdie

Auditions, preparation and rehearsals for our major musical production for 2016 began last year, continued through the Summer break and intensified over recent weeks. The fruits of that committed work are on show this week and I was fortunate to be amongst the first audiences at the first 'boarders' preview'. The talent on stage is really quite exceptional and the show really is great fun, so it was no surprise that the audience was so engaged; cheering, applauding and encouraging the performers at every step. I hope that my acclamation for the show will mean little to you and that you will be waiting to see it for yourselves. We will wrap up on the season next week, but I am confident that you will be at least as thrilled as I was on Monday night.

Geography Honours

Year 9 student Sam Jeyakumar has risen above the pack and achieved something quite special in his academic life this week. As part of his regular assessment work, Sam presented a research assignment on Armidale’s wood smoke problem and the quality of the work was so outstanding that his teacher Ms Taber chose to submit it for the NSW Geography Teachers’ Association fieldwork competition. Sam’s research included consultation with Armidale Dumaresq planning staff, two doctors and an environmental psychologist and it was no surprise to his teacher that it won first prize for Global Education Fieldwork and Research for Year 9 and 10 students. This honour will be recognised at the Governor Arthur Phillip Awards ceremony in Sydney in early April and I am sure that all will join in adding our congratulations to Sam too.
Cricket Season

The 2016 cricket season wrapped up last weekend in a number of exciting and close finals that reflected the spirit of a tightly contested and spirited season. TAS was well represented, both in grand finals for our 12s, 14s and 16s and the preliminary finals for our senior sides and that coverage across the ages highlights the good health of TAS cricket, not just at the top but also in the aspiring young players coming through. Congratulations are due to all those teams who performed so well through the season, but particular recognition should go to the U14 TAS Yellow team (the significance of the name eludes me) for their exciting grand final win. Toby Smith’s four from the last ball is being talked about this week and quite rightly so.

With all our age groups represented in finals this year, it is no surprise that TAS players were well represented in the Armidale Junior Cricket Awards last weekend. Seven TAS players were recognised with major awards, including Nick Farrar who was honoured as the Armidale Junior Cricketer of the Year. Beyond the individual accolades, this bodes well for the future of cricket at TAS and that is a good thing.

NCIS Football Carnival

As the cricket season ends, the football season begins, and the past week has been an important one for our most serious and talented senior players. TAS enjoyed the honour of hosting the North Coast Independent Schools’ championships last week and I congratulate the seven members of our First XI who were selected in the NCIS team to continue to the next representative level at the Combined Independent Schools championships in Sydney. The TAS senior team did not concede a goal in their four games and this must bode well for their 2016 campaign. Congratulations are also due to the Bishop Druitt College sides that won the junior boys’ division and the senior girls’ division and Emmanuel Anglican College that won the junior girls’ competition. Playing amongst keen, able and sportsmanlike opponents in the NCIS championships is a privilege and I offer thanks to all the schools that joined us.

Inverell Toughen Up Challenge

TAS was very well represented once again this year at the Inverell Toughen Up Challenge and I offer congratulations to the 37 students who decided that travelling to tackle unreasonable physical challenges on a hot Sunday afternoon is just a good thing to do. The force of nine teams fielded by TAS were noticed, appreciated and respected at this now iconic event and their performances reflected their serious attitude to it. Amongst plenty of impressive results I offer special congratulations to the TAS team, led by Inverell local Brent Rees, that placed 3rd overall in the competitive section, with a time of just over one and a half hours.

Mr Murray Guest
## Week 8

**Wednesday 16 March**  
Cloisters Run

**Thursday 17 March**  
Junior School Parent Teacher Interviews  
*Bye Bye Birdie* (7pm)

**Friday 18 March**  
*Bye Bye Birdie* Matinee (2pm)  
*Bye Bye Birdie* (7pm)

**Saturday 19 March**  
*Bye Bye Birdie* (7pm)

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## Week 9

**Monday 21 March**  
Year 12 Auto Work Placement

**Tuesday 22 March**  
Junior School Athletics Carnival  
Year 12 Auto Work Placement  
TAS Traditional Easter Service

**Wednesday 23 March**  
Easter Celebration Service (6.30pm)  
*Middle/Senior Athletics Carnival*  
Year 12 Auto Work Placement

**Thursday 24 March**  
Year 12 Auto Work Placement

**Friday 25 March**  
Good Friday  
Easter Long Weekend

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## Week 10

**Monday 28 March**  
Boarders Return

**Tuesday 29 March**  
Classes Resume

**Wednesday 30 March**  
*Headmaster’s Country Tour* (Gunnedah)

**Thursday 31 March**  
*Headmaster’s Country Tour* (Tamworth)  
Middle School Enrichment Day (Years 6-8) Hoskins Centre

**Friday 1 April**  
Activities Day 3  
*Headmaster’s Country Tour* (Glen Innes)

**Sunday 3 April**  
Coffs Harbour Ocean Swim

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### Kokoda Trek - Information Evening

The Kokoda expedition has stood the test of time at TAS because boys and girls still crave great adventure today as much as they ever have, but nothing compares to the real thing.

The 2016 Kokoda expedition will run from 22 September to 3 October 2016 during the September school holidays.

An information evening hosted by the Kokoda tour company ‘Our Spirit’ will be held at TAS in Big School on Tuesday 26 April at 6.30pm.

Find out more by visiting the Kokoda information pages or contact Mr Trevor Thatcher on 0427 765 806 or email tthache@as.edu.au. Click [HERE](#).

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### Uniform Shop Holiday Hours

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<tr>
<td>Good Friday</td>
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<td>Easter Monday</td>
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<td>Friday 8 April</td>
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<td>Friday 22 April</td>
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### Student Services

Term 1/2 Vacation charter coach and rail bookings for boarders. Parents/carers of boarders are reminded that bookings for the usual services are open for only a short time as end of term fast approaches.

Please note that Year 9 Parent Teacher Interviews at end of Term 1 - 6 & 7 April - will affect homeward journeys for that Year group if you plan on attending. For all enquires regarding the charter coaches and train services, please contact travel@as.edu.au without delay.

Thanks to those who responded to the call for Easter bookings. Cancellations are accepted up until the day of departure on the above email address - notifications are appreciated.
P&F PRESIDENT, SUE CARTWRIGHT

TAS Rugby Carnival (TASRC)

In just three and a half weeks our doors and playing fields will open to welcome nearly 1000 players and coaches plus supporters from across NSW, ACT and Queensland for the TAS Rugby Carnival – the largest junior rugby carnival in Australia.

AND WE NEED YOUR HELP!

The TAS P&F, including the Rugby Supporters Group, caters for the players and teams lunches, and also runs the canteen and BBQ and we can use all the help you can give. This is a major fundraising activity for the P&F and it is a sensational way of showcasing our school to so many visitors across just one weekend.

In order to feed everyone, we are looking for parent volunteers (just an hour or two of your time) to:

• help set up on Friday afternoon 8 April, from 3.30 – 6pm
• help on the main carnival day of Saturday 9 April, from 6.30 am – 6.30 pm. We need help with player lunches, the BBQ and the canteen.
• help on Sunday 10 April morning to put together the players lunches, and man the BBQ and canteen, from 7.30-12.30

Parents, if you like getting in and getting things organised, this is the perfect opportunity for you!

We are also seeking your kindly donations of the usual cakes, biscuits, soup, nibbles and other lovely food to sell in the canteen/cake stall. These can be left at Big School reception on Friday 8 April or delivered to the P&F Canteen on Saturday 9 April. Please bake up a storm, buy some lamingtons, whip up some soup or bring any other goodies that you would like to donate.

If you are able to help please log on to VolunteerSpot (an online signup and reminder tool):

1. Click this link to go to our invitation page on VolunteerSpot: http://vols.pt/SdwaBT
2. Enter your email address: (You will NOT need to register an account on VolunteerSpot)
3. Sign up! And choose your spots - VolunteerSpot will send you an automated confirmation and reminders.

Note: VolunteerSpot does not share your email address with anyone.

If you prefer not to use your email address, please contact Rachael Nicoll on nicollfamily1@gmail.com or 0418 980 662 and we can put your name down for a time manually.

Also critical to our success over that massive weekend - we are seeking Community Service volunteers on Saturday (all day) and Sunday morning, however, this will be organised through Ms Catherine Boydell. If you have a son or daughter that wants to earn some Community Service Hours please tell them to contact Ms Boydell on cboydell@as.edu.au

Cooking up a storm

Swimming carnivals are done and dusted and all of your baking and buying efforts were appreciated by students and staff alike. And it's time to do it all again! Athletics Championships are on NEXT WEEK and we will be looking for your assistance again to help satisfy the munchies of our athletes and their supporters. Please pop it in your diaries and get in touch with your LP if you haven't heard from them yet. All donations are most welcome whether they are bought or home-made.

• Junior Athletics Championships – Tuesday 22 March
• Middle/Senior Athletics Championships – Wednesday 23 March

ANNOUNCEMENT re: P&F AGM

THE ARMIDALE SCHOOL PARENTS AND FRIENDS ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

The School Calendar has advertised the holding of the P&F AGM on Wednesday 9 March 2016 at 7pm.

Under applicable legislation for incorporated associations that was amended in 2010, the Committee of the P&F must ensure that annual general meetings are held within 6 months after the close of the association's financial year. In addition, at each AGM, the association's committee must cause the association's financial statements for the previous financial year (ending 31 December) to be submitted to the meeting.
To allow further time to complete the financial statements and in the interests of further developing a vibrant Committee, it was ratified at the General meeting which was held last week, that the AGM will be held in Term 2, on Wednesday 11 May 2016, with the following AGM business being then conducted:

- Election of Committee and office bearers NB all positions will be declared vacant and early nominations are encouraged
- Consideration of 2015 financial statements

Apologies for any inconvenience or disappointment caused.

In addition, the Committee is considering updating the association's constitution (this would be voted on at a general meeting), and any parents wishing to be involved in this project, or just interested in joining the Committee, are welcome to contact the President or Secretary.

Mrs Sue Cartwright

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**MEDICAL CENTRE**

I have become aware as the term progresses that a number of students are being given medication by their parents to keep in the Boarding House.

It is stated in the Medical History and Consent Forms that no boarder is to keep medication in the house unless permission has been given by the School Nurse.

Some students on long term medication are allowed to have their medication in the boarding house. This decision is made after consultation with the student, their parents, the Head of House and myself.

When considering giving a student permission to keep medication we will have a system of review where we can monitor the medications effectiveness and also look for potential side effects.

Can I please ask that you do not supply ‘over the counter’ or prescription medication to your child to keep in the boarding house without first talking to staff at the Health Centre.

The Health Centre is open 7am -7pm weekdays and we hold a clinic weekend mornings and evenings to dispense medication and treat any injuries and illnesses. We are available by mobile phone outside these hours. The boarding house First Aid kits are stocked with a limited supply of medication that can be given by Duty Staff at the direction of the Nurse.

There is no need for students to have their own medication for headaches and colds etc.

As I become aware of students having medication in the boarding houses I will be requesting that they bring it to me where it will be stored safely in the Health Centre for that students use.

Sr Jenny Murray
Senior School Nurse
Famous Last Words
Acts 7

“IT IS FINISHED!”

Exclaimed Jesus. If that were true, we would expect the followers of Jesus to go out in style. Not defeated, not despondent, or unsure, rather certain of their eternal destiny. Sure, not because of some effort of their own, or brilliance in life, but because Jesus did a complete job in his death. Death once and for all.

So let me share with you some of the most famous words of people who have followed Jesus right to death.

Let us start with the first person ever killed for their faith in Christ.

Stephen, a disciple of Jesus: “Then Stephen fell on his knees and cried out, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” When he had said this, he fell asleep.” He died with the mercy for others on his lips, even those unjustly throwing rocks at him, even to the point of death, mercy on his lips - just as his saviour did.

“Swear,” urged the Proconsul interrogating Polycarp, a Bishop of the church in a city in modern day Turkey around 160 AD, “reproach Christ, and I will set you free.” His response before his death, “86 years have I have served him, and he has done me no wrong. How can I blaspheme my King and my Savior?”

Tyndale, a true scholar and genius, so fluent in eight languages that it was said one would think any one of them to be his native tongue. He is frequently referred to as the ‘Architect of the English Language’, for his troubles he was strangled and burnt at the stake on Oct. 6, 1536. His last words were, “Lord, open the king of England’s eyes.” This prayer was answered three years later, in the publication of King Henry VIII’s 1539 English Version of the Bible.

“It is finished” said Jesus, let us live and finish life convinced that there is nothing more to contribute, Jesus has done it all, let us approach the throne of God with confidence.

Mr Richard Newton
TAS Easter Celebration Service

Rev Richard Newton warmly invites all TAS community, family and friends to celebrate Easter at a special contemporary-style service.

*This service does not replace the traditional TAS Easter Service on Tuesday 22 March.*

Where: TAS Big School
When: Wednesday 23 March at 6.30 pm

(a light meal will be served prior to the service from 5.45pm)

A children's activities program will be provided for young ones

www.as.edu.au

Thailand Service Trip

During the past three years, the Thailand service trip has offered help and hope to those less fortunate, and a sense of purpose and meaning to those who have found it a privilege to attend. To find out more information or to submit an application visit the Thailand webpage [HERE](#).

Applications close Thursday 24 March.
There is sometimes a lot of pressure built into our lives. Some of it may be caused by external circumstances and influences, some from internal sources (like high expectations). In turn, pressure creates stress. We know that some stress is important in order to bring us to a higher pitch of performance than no stress at all would do. We also know that too much stress can finally overwhelm us and undermine our performance, even cause us to break down under the weight of things.

People are not all equal in terms of their capacity to respond to the build up of pressure and stress – personality, temperament, family and social contexts, lead to individual differences in the capacity to cope. We need to understand that one approach to managing stress does not fit all people. An individual approach is often called for to increase the capacity of a person to absorb the pressure and stress that is in their lives.

As Year 12 unfolds it is important to discern how each student in the Year is managing the pressure and where their thresholds of stress might lie. We can support or undermine a student simply by the ways we relate to them around these issues of perceived pressure and stress. One message for all is not the way to go. The approach needs to have more awareness and discernment as it is applied to each student. Here, setting manageable and realistic goals matters. The Counsellor’s Corner of four weeks ago addressed this using the SMART acronym.

Understanding the capacities of each student individually requires sensitivity and flexibility. Stretching the limits is something that needs to be carefully negotiated.

Mr Rob Hadfield
After a hectic but enjoyable first leg of the Headmaster’s Country Tour, we returned to TAS on Friday afternoon. I quickly emptied one bag and packed another in readiness for the Australian Boarding Schools Association Conference at the Gold Coast. The Senior Heads of House joined me as we set off on the long drive, which afforded an opportunity to engage in some very worthwhile professional discussions and some good-natured ribbing about my ‘squeaky Jeep’.

The Jeep delivered us to our destination safely and the conference was fantastic. A number of experienced Headmasters and Heads of Boarding spoke about a range of topics pertinent to boarding. We all took away a number of insights but collectively, we are very keen to look at ways we can ensure boarders achieve the best academic outcomes and will be devoting some time next week to discuss how we can provide the best mix of subject specific assistance and some more general ‘academic coaching’ to provide boarders with skills and strategies that will lead to academic success.

While I enjoyed the conference and will certainly take a lot out of it, the experience has again confirmed for me the passion our Heads of Houses bring to their roles and the commitment they make to the boarders in their care.

This week is another busy one filled with cultural and athletic performances. Bye Bye Birdie commences this week and some boarders were treated to a preview on Monday night while others will enjoy the experience Tuesday night. Those who I have spoken to were very impressed by the talent and dedication of all involved, many of whom are boarders. I am very much looking forward to seeing the show.

The Athletics Carnival commences this Wednesday with Pre-Events, followed by the main day on Wednesday 23 March. I have no doubt it will be another wonderful celebration of House Spirit and healthy rivalry.

Good luck to all of the performers, athletes and supporters this week and next.

Mr Michael Holland
Barbecue dinner organised by senior prefects to cheer on the First X1 Cricketers last weekend
Serving others...

This morning when I came to wake the Dangar girls at 7am, I discovered the kitchen had been left ‘less than tidy’. Its something we’ve discussed on a number of occasions. My rule has become ‘If I find it messy, then I close it for a night.’ After all, we need to show respect to the space and each other! They’ve been great for about a month, after the last ‘forced closure’ and heated discussion at our evening meeting. However, last night was definitely a step backwards. So I sent the message around the house that the kitchen needed to be clean before they went to school, otherwise the dreaded closure would occur. I sat and waited to see who and how many would rise to the call. After a while, I was interested to notice that one person chose to pull up her sleeves and clean it up. She did it humbly, without drawing attention to herself at all. It wasn’t her mess; she doesn’t have a badge or a position and she wasn’t specifically asked, yet she was willing to serve her community.

So the question I am asking myself is, how do we foster this kind of ‘uncommon’ community attitude in all our young people? I know if I directly asked someone they would have done the job. However, being willing to serve the group even when it’s not your mess and you weren’t specifically asked to do it, is not something we see in everyone. I’m not saying people shouldn’t be made accountable if they make a mess, but on those occasions where the little acts of service are essentially a choice, I love to see that ‘uncommon response’ in action.

This service attitude is certainly something we foster at school. We see it in our adventure program, when our young men and women are in the bush, or fighting fires or the surf, they are forced to think of others and quite simply serve those around them if they are to succeed. There is community service that is expected at school and in the community and for many it happens not because they have to, but because they want to. Our students volunteer and spend their holidays serving other communities in Thailand and Fiji, not to mention closer to home. From what I’ve seen so far, I believe our students are great at ‘big service’, but it’s the little service, such as cleaning up the kitchen or picking up the rubbish, that sometimes has a way to go.

So after my boarder’s act of service, I made sure I acknowledged her efforts and the value of it and her to our community. I hope focusing on the positive action of one rather than the disappointing reaction of a few will help to foster that ‘uncommon service’ response over time. Don’t misunderstand, the Dangar girls do serve and I see their little acts of care all the time. However, as we grow, I want Dangar to actually be KNOWN as a house that serves others in big and small ways. The great news about living in community, is that there are plenty of opportunities to realise the value of serving others!
UNE Open Day

Friday 6 May is the UNE Open day for 2016. Unfortunately this falls on our exam and excursion week so there will not be any formal opportunity to attend as a group but I would encourage any Year 11 or 12 students who are thinking of studying at UNE to attend individually, if they can find time during the exam schedule.

The Armidale School has a very good relationship with UNE that we would like to maintain. A large number of 2015 Year 12 cohort applied for early entry at UNE with a significant proportion accepting the offer.

It is a good opportunity to talk directly to the Future Students, academic and residential staff about life and further study opportunities at UNE.

Youth Opportunities Expo (YOE)

Year 10 will visiting the YOE on Thursday 17 March at Lazenby Hall UNE.

The Youth Opportunities Expo is a combined community initiative that aims to expand the knowledge base of young people as to resources, services and organisations in our community; in short the OPPORTUNITIES.

The aim of the expo is to highlight a range of services young people may need to access at one time or another… showcasing aspects of health and wellbeing, legal matters, education options, sporting and lifestyle activities to name a few. Young people, parents, carers and support people will also be encouraged to come along and see the extensive range of services, groups, organisations and opportunities that are available the local area.

How each service presents their material will vary depending on how they choose to engage participants. However, it is anticipated that some activities will be interactive including laughter yoga, where participants will be encouraged to participate and learn this increasingly popular wellbeing exercise.

With a focus on how and where young people can seek help and assistance if and when they need it and the opportunities available in our community.

Students will be leaving at 11.20am from front of school.

School Summer Uniform to be worn.

Mr Mark Taylor
Careers Advisor
Autumn Festival 2016 - Focus on Sport

It is that time of the year again when the whole of Armidale pauses and celebrates the arrival of autumn with a festival full of activity. As far as TAS is concerned, the most visible part of the festival is the parade through town and I would like to thank all the students and their families who are able to join the school parade contingent this Saturday. It is a commitment of time for which we are very grateful, and an expression of leadership and service for those who are willing to join their sports captains as they walk through town in support of the school.

It can also be quite fun ... look at the photos below of the 2013 Middle School paraders ... and Mr O’Connell in particular!

Thanks again to all who can make it.

Cheers

Cressida Mort
The Beginning of the End

And so it begins. The last time you will pull on the baggy blue, the ultimate encore, the final bus trip together as a team. Are you ready for this? Perhaps it snuck up on you and you are starting to wish that you could have just one more turn. But the ride goes on…just without you on it.

For year 12s this run of lasts has just begun. As you approach your final year at TAS your mantra should simply be: “Make the most of every moment and leave a legacy that will last long after you have gone.” Whilst I hope you achieve all your goals along the way, treasure the things that last; the friendships you have established, the character you have built and the memories you have created.

I know that parents also feel the end of another chapter in their child’s life. I trust that you have enjoyed this ride and share many of their memories. With Athletics events scheduled over the next week, the school musical officially opening tomorrow night and winter sports on the horizon there are many opportunities to come. However, it will be like holding water in your hands. It is only there briefly. Cherish every moment.

Athletics

The first of the Athletics Pre-Events is on today, commencing at 1:15pm with the Cloister’s Run. Parents are most welcome to attend and are encouraged to be in the Quadrangle by 1pm to gain a good vantage point. The program will then continue after lunch through to 5:30pm, with field and track events on Wakefield see attached.

A catch up day will be held on Monday 21 March, 3:45 - 5:00pm for athletes who are not available tomorrow.

All remaining events will be run at the Carnival on Wednesday 23 March. A full program of events is attached.

Congratulations

Congratulations to the TAS Secondary Boys Football team who won the NCIS Carnival, held at TAS last Wednesday. Cai and Euan Spiers, Alex Boulus, Angus Lloyd, Jarrod Bourke, Angus Webber and Jim Orr, were all selected in the NCIS team to compete against GPS and CAS later this year. I extend my congratulations and best wishes to all of them.

I would also like to congratulate our Under 14 Yellow cricket team on winning their premiership last Saturday in a thrilling battle that was decided on the last ball.
Good luck

The Senior and Junior School chess teams each have tournaments in Tamworth in the Inter School Regional Chess Challenge. Best of luck to all players.

I would also like to extend my best wishes to Michael Harris who is competing this weekend in the Mountain Biking National Championships.

Autumn Festival

This year’s theme is ‘Sporting Heroes’. We want as many students as possible to come along dressed in their sports specific kit so that we can represent all the sports TAS offers. This is a great way to support our community and to represent your school!

The group will depart TAS at 11.30am, meeting at the flag pole, returning at 1.30pm. All students participating will be provided with a pizza lunch and an icy pole.

All students who are interested in being part of the Autumn Festival Parade please meet Mr Caldwell after Prefect’s Assembly on Friday to give him your name.

Head of the River

All three rowing crews gave it their all at the 119th AAGPS Head of the River regatta in Sydney last Saturday, recording their fastest times of the season over 2000m. Held at the Sydney International Regatta Centre, the event is considered the pinnacle of NSW schoolboy rowing.

The Third IV crossed the line in 7:37:35, a considerable improvement on the 7:50:74 they rowed at the Sydney Rowing Club regatta held last month, on the same course. The Second IV finished in 7:26:41, knocking 14 seconds off their previous best, whilst the Firsts recorded 7:18:03, almost eighteen seconds better than their Sydney Rowing Club regatta time.

The boys set very high expectations for themselves and should be proud of their efforts. To have improved their times since their last regatta so significantly to cross the line in personal bests for each crew, is a testament to their commitment and teamwork. During the course of the season they have developed in skills and in character and are wonderful ambassadors for the school.

Thank you to all the families, staff and old boys who came to support. I hope you enjoyed the experience as much as I did.

Girls Rowing Open Day

Due to clashes with Autumn Festival, we have rescheduled the Girls Rowing Open Day to Saturday 2 April. We will be conducting a rowing taster at Malpas Dam for girls in years 9-11. A bus will depart TAS at 7am and return at 10:30am. This is an opportunity for girls to experience the joys of rowing and will assist us in developing the direction of girls rowing in the 2016/2017 Summer season. All girls wishing to attend should register their interest by emailing dcc@as.edu.au by Wednesday 23 March.

Mr Will Caldwell
Director of Co-curricular
## Middle/Senior School

### ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIPS 2016

**Pre-Event Day Wednesday 16 March**

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The hurled themselves over walls, flipped stacks of tyres, and swam through a pool of mud – but the smiles proved the various stages of the Inverell Toughen Up Challenge were no obstacle to fun for 37 TAS students on Sunday.

Based at Inverell Rugby Park, the event consisted of a dozen gruelling challenges along a course throughout the town’s CBD. Competitors carried logs, stacked hay bales, climbed on monkey bars and carried water in their exhausting, self-imposed quest for glory.

TAS fielded nine teams of students including a girls team, who each tackled the course with enthusiasm and humour.

Of special note was third place overall in the competitive section to the team lead by triathlon captain (and Inverell hometown boy) Brent Rees, which competed the gruelling course in one hour and 33 minutes. Meanwhile Lukas Cook took his team to victory in the non-competitive section.
Chess

This Wednesday 16 March TAS will be competing in the Secondary Schools Inter School Regional Chess Challenge held at Farrer High School. Last year we were the winning school and our 2015 Chess Captain Ali Ahsan was the overall individual winner. Let’s see what Charlie Wyatt, our 2016 Chess Captain can achieve this year with a new look team of players. This tournament is a seven round Swiss competition, which means that all players play 7 games and no-one is knocked out of the tournament. Chess clocks will be used as well which we all know adds an extra element of strategy needed to win the game. The time limit is 15 minutes per player per game. The cost for this event is $20 which includes registration and travel. All students will need to bring a water bottle and their lunch. Boarders will be catered for. The school mini bus will depart from Brown street at 7am and return to TAS at approximately 4pm. Good Luck to all players.

Ms Catherine Boydell

Cricket

A very busy weekend of cricket ended with mixed results for our teams. The Under 14s Yellow won their grand final with a very exciting finish to the game. Needing a four to win off the last ball of the game, Toby Smith smashed the ball to the boundary to the excitement of the players and all the parents who came to watch the game. It was a very thrilling game and special mention to Hamish Parsons who ended up with the amazing bowling figures of 5 wickets for 3 runs.

The First XI and Second XI unfortunately lost their preliminary final on the weekend. The Firsts game ebb and flowed and it was only a big seventh partnership from the Barbarians that took the game away from TAS. The players have improved over the last three weeks and it was a great finish to their season. The Second XI have won easily over the past four weeks but they were defeated by a more consistent Barbarians team. Barbarians bowled a hat trick in the second over so TAS were always in catch up mode. I’m looking forward to a number of boys in this team playing in the 1st team next season.

The Under 12s and Under 16s fought hard in their finals but they fell just short against talented opposition. Both games had a great atmosphere with students and parents cheering as they tried to chase down the opposition’s score.

TAS convincingly won their game in the TOAD Cup on Friday night. We ended up with 0 for 142 off our 20 overs with Kieran Dennis 40 ret, Jacob Fernandez 41 ret, Toby Smith 27 not out the main contributors. The fielding was outstanding with great catches and run outs resulting in Armidale High School being all out for 82.

TAS players were also very successful at the Armidale Junior Cricket awards held on Sunday. Our players won awards in their age groups and Representative teams. The Highlight was Nick Farrar winning the Major Trophy of Armidale Junior Cricketer of the Year. Congratulations to the other award winners:-

Hudson Eichorn: Under 12s Bowling Aggregate
Ben Rowe: Under 12s Batting Aggregate
Toby Smith: 14s Representative Player of the Year
Sam Jeyakumar: Under 16 Bowling Aggregate
Kieran Dennis: Player of the Tournament at Walter Taylor Shield
Dan Lethbridge: Under 16s Bowling Average
Nick Farrar: Under 16s Representative Player of the Year

Good Performances this week

Jack Radford 53
Nick Corderoy
Dan Lethbridge 31
Hamish Parsons 5/3
Kieran Dennis 40 ret
Jacob Fernandez 41 ret
Toby Smith
Nick Corderoy 3/7
Cotter Litchfield 2/2

Thank you to the coaches and managers for your hard work and to the parents for supporting your son’s team throughout the season.

Mr Allan Moore
MIC Cricket
Bye Bye Birdie has finally hit the stage to the enthusiastic support of our two boarding preview audiences. With all the set elements, costumes, props and full band in place the show is now the striking spectacle we were all hoping for. It has taken an extremely large amount of work from a variety of talented people who are all motivated by the desire for the students to have the greatest stage experience and I have been so fortunate to work with such a strong production team and enthusiastic cast. We all look ahead to our Opening Night on Thursday and will hopefully be well-rested and energised for that audience and the performance run.

And I must say the support from the community has been excellent. The ticket sales have been phenomenal and all three evening shows are almost completely sold out (so much so that additional seats were added). If people are keen to see the show there are many tickets left for our Friday 2pm matinee so either book online or visit the TAS Reception. As a special incentive for the matinee show parents and grandparents of Middle School students are invited to come in and watch the show with their children or grandchildren for discounted $15 tickets. For any information on the show contact the school and have a look at some of the amazing photos on the TAS or Hoskins Facebook page, which were generously taken by Terry Cooke.

In news for other musicals, ADMS have cast their production of The Who’s Tommy, a show that will be in the Hoskins Centre in June/July, and it is great to acknowledge members of the TAS community who have been selected to be part of that cast. Old Boy Will Schmidt takes the lead role as the titular Tommy, Year 7 student Alexander Gibson carries on his musical involvement from 2015 in the role of Young Tommy and recent graduate Cal Hunter is part of the ensemble. There are also several other parents or siblings of TAS students involved - and, of course, the brilliantly talented Pat Bradley building the striking set - and I also congratulate them.

Mr Andrew O’Connell
THE ARMIDALE SCHOOL Presents

BYE BYE BIRDIE
A Musical Comedy

In Association with NEGS and PLC

BOOK BY MICHAEL STEWART
MUSIC BY CHARLES STROUSE
LYRICS BY LEE ADAMS

originally produced by EDWARD PADULA

17, 18, 19 March 7:30pm
18 March 2:00pm
Tickets $25, $20, $15 hoskins.as.edu.au or 6776 5878
TAS Senior Jazz Combo in the Autumn Parade this Saturday 19 March

Each year the Senior Jazz Combo performs on the back of a truck in the Autumn Parade. The plans for the Senior Jazz Combo this year are as follows:

10.00am Meet at the TAS Music Centre to set up band on truck
11.00am Depart TAS for marshalling area
12.30am Parade begins.
1.30pm Parade finishes.
2.00pm Students arrive back at TAS by foot or by bus.

Students in Jazz Combo will need to wear formals and in particular, your Akubra - so you don't get burnt! It is also a good idea to bring a water bottle as you will be on the truck for quite a while. Many thanks in advance for your participation.

The NECOM Music Workshops are over for another year

Many thanks to the team at NECOM for organising their fantastic annual workshops for Year 9/10 and HSC Music students. These workshops are invaluable, particularly for HSC students in providing them with strategies and advice for their performances and examinations.

TAS elective music students had the opportunity to mix with other student musicians and vocalists from around the New England region. Students were fortunate to have outstanding presenters such as renowned composer and conductor, Paul Jarman, leading sessions. Year 9/10 students had sessions on ethnomusicology, choral performance and individual performance including movement. HSC student sessions encompassed: composition, individual and group performance; aural and musicology skills; and many other aspects of performance and exam preparation.

Next Twilight Concert is coming up on Thursday 31 March @ 6pm

The Term 1 Twilight Concert will be held in the Memorial Hall at TAS from 6pm on Thursday 31 March (Week 10). Students of all ages and skill levels are welcome to perform a piece at the concert and we welcome parents and friends to attend. If you wish to perform please chat with your instrumental or vocal teacher. They will help you choose a suitable piece and can register you for the concert. Mr Dunham will be there to accompany students and rehearsals will be held in the Hall from 3.45pm (before the concert).

Ms Roobol, Mrs Butcher, Mrs Baumgartner, Mr Dunham and Mrs Broadbent

HSC workshop. Internationally renowned conductor Paul Jarman conducts students at the HSC workshop at the New England Conservatorium of Music. Andrew Knight and Renee Collins sang the solos.

The TAS Year 9/10 Music class joined students from Armidale, Tamworth, Inverell, Guyra, Walcha and Glen Innes for a day of Music activities. This is from the session run by Mr Phil Oxley.
Navigating the pointy end…

Clearly someone I’ve recently spoken to is counting the days: not quite three weeks of actual classes left before the term break. Well, life continues busily here and there’s something (more) I want you to do for me: tell your version of your children’s settling, the challenges (indeed difficulties, in a number of cases) they have encountered and, most importantly those aspects of school life that they are enjoying in their relatively short time with us this semester. To be fair, some of you are actually calling, responding via email or calling in and these contacts are good. With luck, by the end of term, fast approaching now, I’ll have had the opportunity to speak to you, too. I’d prefer to speak as this affords me the further opportunity to get to know you a little better.

Athletics

As indicated two weeks ago, the full day Athletics Carnival is to be held soon and, like the Swimming Carnival in Week 2, again I encourage you, wherever possible, to travel to Armidale to see your children’s events. The day promises to be as well attended as the Swimming Carnival day and I know for a fact that Middle School people love to have their families at such major calendar events. We enjoy having you here as well. Armidale weather is predictable in its unpredictability I know, but, suffice it to say that, at this time of year it is generally really pleasant. Certainly, summer is still in residence this week. What I definitely know is that you’ll enjoy the events of the day: always entertaining; real competition; amazing House spirit and there is always something to do and many people to talk to. I’m looking forward to catching up with you.

Parent and Teacher Interviews

I’m happy so many of you have availed yourselves of the opportunity to meet Year 6 and 7 Homeroom teachers again, especially as the term is nearing its end. I’m not sure whether the following comment distinguishes me as ‘Old’ or ‘New’ school, but that doesn’t matter really because it’s what I feel, and I’ve always felt this way in relation to interviews about academic performance: the ten minute sessions concern your children and the manner in which they’ve conducted themselves in class over the school’s longest term. I’m as pleased that a number of students attended these sessions.
However, I want more of them to do so in future; in fact, unless a teacher specifically requests otherwise, it’s important that students attend an interview that concerns their welfare and academic wellbeing. In a productive way, it’s appropriate they are given some time to address issues that arise and since these issues concern them directly, it is fair they’re at the interview to make comment and answer questions.

Contact

Now that the dust has settled considerably, I’m finding it relatively easy to speak to students on a one-to-one basis and I’m enjoying the experience, not so much in my new office as a matter of fact, but outside at the appropriately named round table or in the grounds. They’re generally relaxed enough now to speak honestly, too. With the majority, these talks are as informal as they are brief. Sometimes they’re discussions about food, boarding, schoolwork, skateboards and home. They all love the latter topic. I’m even getting to know the names of some students wider family members, too. So, all in all, life here is becoming ‘normal’ for all, challenging for most, in the best possible way of course, and increasingly easy for some. In short, they’re continuing to settle well and, apart from the food wrappers and paper planes (from then upstairs rooms) quite a few leave around the grounds, I’m happy with their progress here. Now, I want to revisit an earlier point: being a mere mortal, I don’t always ‘get it right’ so, if there’s something you’re aware of that could assist me to address concerns you have about your child’s wellbeing, then I want you to call me rather than wait for me to call you. Mr Andrew Junge and I talk at least once every morning, so our awareness of boarders’ needs is, in my view, excellent, and our management of them is good. But day students have needs as well and I urge you to avail yourselves of the opportunity to speak to me if and when you want or need to do so.

In fact, it’s essential that we communicate because, as indicated in past TAS Talks segments, it’s so much easier to manage issues than it is to address problems. The people we deal with are too young to be burdened by many problems anyway and the more we adults talk, the less likely is the situation where they may arise. Problems have the capacity to impinge on the enjoyment of skateboarding, sitting under trees (sometimes with a good book), careering around ovals and other life-necessities of early adolescents.

Middle School ‘Festival of Big Ideas’ – Thursday 31 March

Enrichment, extension and enjoyment are the three ‘big’ aims of the Creative Writing day to be held immediately after Easter. The day promises something different, something challenging and something to remember. The day provides the opportunity for the Middle School to learn, think and ‘do’ together. More information will be provided but please encourage your children to embrace the opportunity with all they have, they won’t be disappointed.

Pencil + Paper + Brain = Fun

I wish you well.

Mr Mark Harrison
Head of Middle School

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I wish you well.

Mr Mark Harrison
Head of Middle School
The Athletics Season is upon us

As the end of another sporting season is upon us, it is time to reflect on a great summer of highs and lows and the progress so many of our students have shown in many sporting arenas. From the swimming pool to the gymnastic pit to the tennis and basketball courts, and cricket fields, it has been a busy time.

We take the opportunity to thank all our coaches who put a great deal of time and effort into ensuring that the sporting experience at TAS has been a positive one. As we turn to athletics, it is timely to note that the nature of many of the events become more individual and require a different approach in so many ways. When I toured the western districts of NSW interviewing prospective boarders for Middle School, it was always interesting to note that generally, athletes, especially long distance runners, swimmers and musicians had enhanced qualities of persistence and resilience. Independence and self-discipline is often required in these pursuits and it was evident in their interviews. Pushing ourselves to rise to the challenge is an important quality and one we constantly remind our students to bear in mind. We wish Abbott White and Tom Ball every success as they travel to Sydney to compete in the CIS Swimming Championships.

This Friday, Minimbah Primary School joins us for our preliminary Athletics Day for some field events and some practice track events and March past. This relationship has grown over the years and the combined events are a wonderful way for all students to have greater competition and make new friendships. It is the first event this year with Minimbah and we look forward to more to come. The program for the upcoming Athletics Championships on 22 March can be found on the Sport website or by Clicking [HERE](https://example.com).

Autumn Festival this Saturday

Please return the notes to your classroom teachers to indicate numbers for this year’s Autumn Festival. Planning is now being finalised and we expect large numbers of Junior School students and staff to be living the dream (or reliving the dream for some) by dressing up as their own favourite, sporting legend. This is a reminder that students can also wear their sports uniform (cricket whites etc) or their coloured House shirts, blue shorts and white socks. We will be gathering from 12.00 pm onwards (with the offer of a tasty treat before we parade at 12.30 pm) on Beardy St near the intersection of Markham St. Please come along and join the fun. Collection after the parade will be around 1.30 pm from the Area near the Monckton Swimming Centre.
Parent/Teacher interviews

On Thursday, please look for an email explaining the process for booking in for your interview with your child’s teacher. Parent/Teacher interviews are a wonderful opportunity to discuss first hand, your child’s progress and development for the term. It is the first step of our formal reporting for the year, following the pattern of Interviews at the end of Terms 1 & 3 and a written report at the end of each semester. As a parent, I found the chance to talk about academic, social and other issues very informing and I hope you find it likewise. Please contact us if you have any problems with the process at all.

Happy Birthday

This week we wish a very Happy Birthday to Nawaf Alenazi, Will Nash and Blake Whitehill.

Excursions

Excursions will be taking place in Term 2, Week 2 and it is time to get excited. Year 5 will be going to Myuna Bay from Monday 1 May to Friday 5 May. Year 3 & 4 will be going to Lake Keepit with Yr 4 leaving Tuesday 2 May and Year 3 leaving Wednesday 3 May to Friday 5 May. Notes will be being sent home with further details in the next couple of days.

Clothing and sporting goods

Please look through your child’s belongings and ensure the correct item has been collected at the end of the day. Please return all lost items to the Junior School reception.

Parent Teacher Interviews

Information for our Parent Teacher Interviews will be emailed out to families tomorrow.

Attached to the email there will be a username and password. You will need this to access the online booking system. Letters will be forwarded to families with special circumstances with information on how to book an individual appointment. If you have any issues with the system, please do not hesitate to contact the Junior School office.

Mr Ian Lloyd
Head of Junior School
Chess Club

The inter school Swiss Chess Tournament, held at Farrer Agricultural Memorial School, is on March 17. Our teams are busy preparing for this 'buzzer-style' match, by playing a plethora of games at Chess Club and at home! Watch this space for the results.

Chess Club is in full swing! Every Tuesday morning (8:15-8:45), the Chess Club meets in the E & E room. All levels of expertise are welcome, from Beginners to budding Chess whizzes. Middle School students attend to mentor new players by sharing their tricks and helpful tips. There will be inter-school competitions later in the term, including the NSW Junior Chess League competition.

Come along and join in the fun!

Mrs Anne Hine

Scholastic Book Club

Dear parents,

Brochures for issue 2 of the Scholastic Book Club are now available for Junior School students to bring home. You will have noticed that Scholastic is now providing just one brochure which spans all primary school age groups. They also offer a small variety of books at $1 and $2 each.

Ordering and payment for Scholastic can be made via their website, according to the instructions on the order form in the centre of the brochure. Payment by cheque is also accepted, by placing both your cheque and order form in the red letterbox located at the Junior School reception desk. Please note that cash is not accepted and will be returned to you.

The closing date for Scholastic orders is Friday 18 March, 2016.

Please contact me at the Library or at nramazan@as.edu.au if you need any assistance with Book Club.

Happy reading!

Mrs Natalie Ramazani
TAS Library
PYP Update

As our first units of inquiry for the term have come to a conclusion, all classes have spent time over the past week reflecting on the 5 essential elements of the PYP. Years 3, 4 and 5 have reflected on the attributes of the Learner Profile and our infant classes have looked closely at what action could be taken as a result of their newly acquired knowledge.

This week has seen all classes commence their new Unit of Inquiry.

The table below will give you some insight to what your child/children will be inquiring into over the next 6 weeks.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Group</th>
<th>Central Idea</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kindergarten</td>
<td>Family histories allow us to celebrate who we are and where we've come from.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>Forces around us affect movement and how things work.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>Human need for shelter depends on where they are in the world and what access to resources they have.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>Countries in our world are similar and different.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>Exploration leads to discovery and develops new understandings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>Migration is a response to challenges, risks and opportunities.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please take the time to talk to your child/children about what ‘Tuning In’ tasks they have participated in this week. This will provide you with greater insight into the Kath Murdoch inquiry cycle, that all teachers have structured this UOI around.

Mrs Veronica Waters
PYP Coordinator
As our summer sports season is nearing completion please be aware of the following dates for continued training.

**CIS Swimming**

We wish both Tom Ball and Abbott White every success as they travel to Sydney next week for the CIS Swimming Championships in Sydney. We look forward to hearing of their swimming adventures!

**Cricket - Week 8**

Cricket players who have finished their games will be using their training times to practise athletics events.

Basketball players will continue training and games on Monday afternoons.

Gymnastics team will continue attending until Week 9.

Tennis players will continue training until Week 9.

TAS Swimmers will continue training until Week 9.

Indoor Hockey to be advised.

All sports will finish training at the end of Week 9. There will be no sport during Weeks 10 and 11 of term.

**Athletics Championships**

Friday, 18 March – Athletics Day with Minimbah School.

This is our first day of Athletic Events in which some events will be recorded as part of the carnival. The long distance events and some field events will be completed as part of our carnival on this day.

Children from Minimbah will be joining us for these events. We will also have time to run some sprint events as practice for our carnival. The day will commence at 9:15am and conclude by 2:30pm. TAS children will continue with Marching practice from 2:30pm.

Tuesday, 22 March – JS Athletics Championships

Our Junior School Athletics Championships will be held on Wakefield. The day will start at 9am and conclude by 3:30pm. A BBQ lunch will be provided for all children on the day. Children are to wear their house coloured T-Shirts. Please ensure your child has their hat for the day and a water bottle. Sunscreen should be applied before arriving to school, however, will also be available during the day.

The Athletics Carnival program is now available. Follow the link to view the programme or visit TAS website.

If you are available to help out on either of these two days please contact Mrs Christine Wright cwright@as.edu.au

**Mrs Christine Wright**
**Winter Sports**

Team lists and coaches will be finalised in the next week. Please keep an eye out for your child’s Winter sports team and information for each sport in TAS talks before the April holidays.

**TAS Thunder Miniball**

In another fantastic Monday training and game session, the TAS Thunder showed what fantastic improvements they continue to make throughout the season. After an intensive training session with Mrs Monaghan, the team were ready to put into practise their jump stop, pivoting, passing and shooting skills. With recruit Victor helping us along, it was proving to be a tight game against Townies, with the score see-sawing in the first half. Once we had settled in and were making more confident passes and approaches to the basket, we began to get on top, and despite some persistent Townie attacks, our team work won it for us, 28-26 at the final whistle. Congratulations to Henry Kirton for some fantastic pivoting and Flynn Broadfoot for some confident driving to the basket, which drew some fouls and ultimately allowed us to gain rebounds of the free throw line and score up close. Amongst the highlights were Lincoln Connock’s determined defence and Blair Eichorn’s sensational passing and shooting, however the stand out moment was a big swoosh by Oliver Smart off a massive skyhook!

Mr Alex Portell

**TAS Indoor Hockey - TAS P2 Grand Finalists**

Last Friday saw a number of TAS Indoor Hockey teams contest semi-finals. Despite a close loss by the TAS Year 4s (P3A) team, the TAS P2 team, comprising of Year 4, 5 and 6 players, were stunning in their 6-2 win against St Marys. Well done to those younger players who filled in for a few absent players. Coach, Mr Hempel will be glad to see as many supporters as possible at The Den this Friday at 5pm for the Grand Final clash against Messied Up. Good Luck to all of the TAS players.

Mr Alex Portell
Parents drop off and collection information

No Parking
Drivers may stop in this zone to drop off or pick up passengers or goods for a maximum of two minutes. The driver MUST remain in or within three metres of the vehicle at all times. The vehicle must not be left unattended.

If times of operation are shown on the sign, the restriction only applies during the times shown.
No Parking zones can also be used to drop off and pick up children.
Penalty: $173
Demerit Points: YES (2)

No Stopping
Stopping is not permitted at any time.
If times of operation are shown on the sign, the restriction only applies during the times shown.
Penalty: $311
Demerit Points: YES (2)

Bus Zones
Drivers are not permitted to stop within a bus zone at any time.
If times of operation are shown on the sign, the restriction only applies during the times shown.
Penalty: $311
Demerit Points: YES (2)

Stopping on or near a children’s crossing
A driver must not stop on a children’s crossing or on the road within 20 metres before the crossing, and 10 metres after the crossing.
Penalty: $415
Demerit Points: YES (2)

Road safety around your child’s school
Your child’s safety depends on you

Drop off and pick up by car
Make sure your children are in an appropriate child car seat that is fitted and used correctly.
Stick to the 40km/h speed limit in a school zone as children are about.
Look for buses pulling out – watch for flashing wig wag lights.
Always park and turn legally around schools.
Avoid dangerous manoeuvres such as U-turns and three-point turns.
Always give way to pedestrians particularly when entering and leaving driveways.
Drop your children off and pick them up on the school side of the road in your school’s designated drop off and pick up area. Calling out to them from across the road is dangerous – they may run to you without checking for traffic.
It’s safest for children to get out of the car on the kerb side of the road to be away from passing traffic.

Walking together to and from school
Plan your trip to school so you use pedestrian crossings where possible.
Always hold your child’s hand. Children need your help to spot dangers such as vehicles coming out of driveways. They can also be easily distracted and wander into traffic.
Drop off and pick up your child near the school gate and avoid calling them from across the road.
Talk with your children about Stop, Look, Listen and Think every time they cross the road.

STOP! one step back from the kerb.
LOOK! for traffic to your right left and right again.
LISTEN! for the sounds of approaching traffic.
THINK! whether it is safe to cross.
Young children can learn these safe pedestrian habits from you and continue them later on when they are old enough to travel alone.

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2016

Starring
Teddy Tahu Rhodes

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2016 Art in the Garden

Three Gardens
Gungurru Road, Armidale

Sat 2 and Sun 3 April 2016—10.00am to 4.30pm

$6 Entry per Adult per garden or $15 for all three

Under 18’s Free

Sculptures
Books & Magazines
Plant sales
Pottery
Jewellery
Autumn Harvest Stall
Raffle

Teas and Lunches on sale

Directions: From Waterfall Way (Kentucky St) heading to Grafton (east), turn into Castledoyle Road 1km after the Bunnings roundabout. After 1.9 kms, turn left into Gungurru Road and follow NERAMble signage.

Friends of NERAM Inc—(9885144)
GARDEN PARTY

10:30am Sunday April 3, 2016
A morning of beautiful music from the Armidale Youth Orchestras in the magnificent garden of our host Rosemary Leitch. Lunch is provided.

Catering by Fresh@110
Thanks to Armidale High School, PLC and TAS

Armidale Youth Orchestras Garden Party 2016
Sunday April 3 at 10:30am
58 Garibaldi Street, Armidale
TICKETS: www.trybooking.com/KSCE
Adult: $45 • Pensioner $30 • Child $20