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# School Rover

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## THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*"To the world, you may be just one person but to just one person you may be the world."*



## OFFICIAL OPENING - DORMITORY & SCIENCE BLOCK

Another main feature to the school year was the Opening of the Dormitory complex on July 21. The day was always going to be spectacular with the inclusion of a Federal Minister (Hon. Ian MacDonald) and three Anglican Bishops Right Rev. John Noble, Bishop Arthur Malcolm and Bishop James Leftwich) included amongst a varied spectator field.

Students had been primed for the occasion. The carnival atmosphere brought into perspective the underlying human vitality of the school. Officialdom did

not plaster its sometimes dampening impact upon a notional success. The Opening of a set of Dormitories does not increase the voting consensus in the political arena but it does raise hopes in the more plebeian quarters. There is good enough reason to rejoice in the provision of suitable accommodation for our burgeoning student population. The feet of our boarders may now rest solidly on their own 'sacred turf' - a firm footing in the scheme of things is something upon which tradition is built. In Biblical terms, the forty years of wandering in the desert is now come to an end. Djarragun is home.



There is the opportunity for rejoicing by members of the Board who orchestrated this stage of achievement; it also draws attention to the further development making its assault upon more areas of our campus in this Term.

There are enough on the staff who are able to capture and relate the 'hologram' that has formed in front of their eyes during the short spate of time that the school has been on its present site. Vacant open spaces are becoming occupied; bricks and mortar present a more permanent facade.

The Official Opening of this sector sustains the familial persona of the school. An 'outsider' would not necessarily have alerted immediately to the cause for the celebration. One witnessed the multiple family groups

who performed that most basic of human instincts - preserving the welfare of the society; the protocols of civility were brought to prominence with sobering clarity. The history of the day is not held so much by the actual opening of sets of building but by the confluence of interested people - the gathering of an esoteric family.



The Principal, **Ms Jean Illingworth**, gave a brief outline of the history of the school, from its days as Emmanuel College hedged in by the uncompromising urban sprawl of Cairns. The school underwent many and varied challenges within the staff, the facilities and amenities. Boarding accommodation was spread across town in less than quality domains and the school suffered an acutely depressed self-image. The metamorphosis that ensued becomes an even greater tribute to those who helped project the school on its meteoric rise.



## 100 DAYS SCHOOL

The Primary School made a special feature of the hundredth day of school for 2003. Three students addressed the School assembly to mention what the students in Primary had been doing.

"We worked with Ms Fay doing biscuits. We made Fairy Bread and on it there was 100s and 1000s and they were so delicious." **Selma Woosup**

"Today, we had work with Ms Michelle. We skipped 100

times and then we shot the ball in the goals 100 times and then we made a little city with 100 blocks. It was fun at Ms Michelle's class. Thank you everyone for listening." **Renartha Bounghi**

**The Hand Prints** : Good afternoon, students. Friday was our 100 days of school at Djarragun College. Today, we worked with Ms Riona doing hand prints and on the picture were 100 hand prints in different colours. We had lots of fun.

## WORK EXPERIENCE

Congratulations to the students who have been busily engaged in the Work Experience options with various workplaces around the district. Firstly, a note of thanks to **Mr. Don Standen** who engineered all the opportunities for the students and followed up their endeavours. Secondly, thanks and acknowledgement to the local companies which provide the placements and thirdly, congratulations to the students who have taken on the appointments with enthusiasm and perseverance. All round it has been a win-win situation for all involved. The students are learning valuable skills and workplaces are realizing what a reliable set of youth they are assisting towards meaningful occupations.

**Trevor Wosomo** : I am working for a mechanic for H & F. Harvesting. I have been going for a couple of weeks and I work along side **Mick, Alan, Harry Harris** and his wife, **Linda**.

We work on the hydraulics for the canecutting and farm machinery. I will be doing this work experience until the end of the year. I attend twice each week on Thursdays and Fridays.

**Michael Billy** : I am working for the Cairns City Council at the Gordonvale Depot. I work with **Don, Leslie, Wally Steele** and **Thomas**. I attend every Thursday until the end of the year. I have been helping to fix cars and rideon mowers, whippersnippers, garbage collectors and slashers and chainsaws. I am enjoying it there.

**Alfred Passi** : My work experience was with a boating workshop at Cyclone in Gordonvale. I helped to build fibreglass boats with **John**. I enjoyed it when I attended. We started with the moulding of parts and so far we have assembled two boats fully complete. It isn't very hard work but you have to keep applying yourself to the job. We have only half an hour for lunch break.

**Iveno Elia** : I work with **Bill Prien** at Gordonvale. He fixes cars and fits tyres. We have worked on around 25 - 30 cars up to this stage since I have been going there. I like working at this place because I get to meet a lot of people.

The best part I like is fixing the cars and doing the services to the engines. We work on a lot of different parts of the cars including the airconditioning. I like to work with the motors. I work with **Les** and I enjoy the work. I work every Monday and Friday and am now on my sixth week of this programme. I like to work on Commodores and Pajero but any car is fine. I made one mistake one time when I was driving the forklift and I bumped it into the bin.

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PARENTS of the DJARRAGUN SCHOOL COMMUNITY are asked to consider the possibility to lend assistance to the local Meals on Wheels Programme :-

## EDMONTON MEALS ON WHEELS Desperately seeking Volunteer Drivers

No meals are delivered on Thursdays due to the shortage of drivers. Over 20 people are missing out on meals and existing drivers are doing double shifts.

If you can help out please contact  
**the Coordinator Ray King**  
**Telephone 4045 2368**

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## SCHOOL CAMP AT TINAROO

The Middle School students (nearly 60 of them) spent four days up at Lake Tinaroo enjoying the challenges of the high ropes, a mountain trek and a variety of group activities. Three facilitators from Higher Ground set the programme in motion and maintained the momentum for the four days. A note of thanks to **Steve, Don and Johnno** for all their skills and patience. The spirit of adventure especially in the high metres above the ground was an engaging form of motivation. Watching the girls conquer the wall climb was exhilarating in its own right. It was obviously an unusual activity for most but that was exciting feature which drew some students towards achievement and others to giving the necessary support and encouragement.

**Lyn and Ron** kept the fires burning in the kitchen and no one came out without a huge dent inflicted upon their appetites.

When the energy was flagging in some of us, it was amazing to see the stalwarts walking all the way back to the base camp after our day trek over the mountain track. Five very early risers 'sleepwalked' their way into the hall from the Boys' Dorm unfortunately to be intercepted by an alert member of the Old Guard. The claim was a fascination for the 'wallabies' outside. One nightstalker

tried to edge himself back into the dorm and earned himself the title of 'Carpet Snake'. All were facing the prospects of enacting their own dawn parade until the timely arrival of **Mr. Dowling**, who saved them by dispatching them to their bunks.

Some of the activities required a lot of patience and genuine application. The students needed to develop teamwork and cooperation. It was very obvious from the start where these qualities were lacking and one particular group took an inordinate amount of time negotiating the "Spider's Web". The usual mockery of each other later gave way to the more desirable virtues of support and guided participation. Problem solving took a nose-dive early in the piece but it was good to see eventual success and keen minds taking on the challenge to transport the group across a gruesome barrier. One of the first hurdles to overcome was that of 'learning to listen'. It gradually penetrated exuberance. Another keen participant could be found accompanying the group on a set of crutches. Whilst his activities were relegated to the lower atmosphere, he was nevertheless observed enjoying many of the games.

**Lonnie Anau** was the first to take to the air on the flying fox contraption claiming superiority in the daredevil charts over the likes of **Kumi Abua** and **Toshie Wigness**.



Congratulations to **Karen Noah** who was observed by Nancy Baker up on the Flying Fox. This was something that took a lot of effort and courage; she had to climb upwards to around 20 metres height and then take the plunge out into space along the flying fox cable. Other skills in getting herself lowered to the ground had to be learned as well before she planted feet on terra firma. While others were busy on the mountain trek, **Ms Nancy** looked after the sick and injured back at camp. **Kirri Blarrey, Karen Noah & Helen Billy** played pick-up-sticks to pass the time away. It provided its own entertainment when (reportedly), the 'incapacitated'

retained any amount of residual venom to aim at each other during their exclusive bouts.

On one night, the hall reverberated to the excited screams of delight when an indoors variety of hockey was contested by corresponding numbers from two teams. Skill and agility did not guarantee a winning contestant and the scores fluctuated tantalizingly and unpredictably.



### **PYRAMID RACE, GORDONVALE**

Each year, this race up the famous geographical feature is developing into a drawcard for local and regional contestants. The **Djarragun Dancers** strutted their five minutes of cultural prowess as part of the public entertainment. **Saggi Eseg, Koza Passi, Bablu Day, Ray Noah, Alick Passi, Rocky Sambo, George Sam** did the dance routines and the accompanying singers were **Uncle Phillip Eseg, Mapa Kudub & Nancy Baker**. It is worth mentioning here that this core of our dance contingent respond voluntarily on many occasions to increasing demand on their time, good will and enthusiasm.

### **YOUNG AUSTRALIA ACHIEVEMENT**

Mr. **Ian Turton** spent a part of last weekend (Saturday, August 16) down in Townsville with a group of our students who put together a CD of our students performing Cultural Dancing. Twenty copies were sold in a successful campaign. Students attended an EXPO organized by Young Australia Achievement.

YAA is an organization which promotes the efforts of youth, encouraging business and enterprise and laying the foundations for proper management and governance. Students generally have to engineer a company, operate within set guidelines produce and market a product. There are a stipulated seven phases to the production. The company has to conduct regular meetings with appointed directors, document their operation, design a logo, organize appropriate finances, delegate the functional roles, promote sales, assess the production and its market success and finally, liquidate the company.

Whilst the product is an essential part of the exercise, the most important aspect is the entrepreneurial skills that are instilled, promoted and developed.

### **SCHOOL ATHLETICS - AUGUST 5 & 6, 2003**

These two days were taken up by serious but fun-filled rivalry amongst three teams which flexed their athletic muscles. The teams - **Scorpions, Vikings** and the **Warriors** evolved the day before at a School Assembly and came out bristling and businesslike, vying for victory.

Captains were :-

**Saggi Eseg and Naomi Cook** (Vikings);  
**Kura Dau & Charmaine Akiba** (Warriors), and  
**Bablu Day & Jessie Aruba** (Scorpions)

Very loud in the air was the lung-busting barracking by **Charmaine Akiba** who rampaged the arena like a new-age Xena - the Warrior Princess. Enthusiasm ran riot and the competition did not lose its edge at any time through the whole mini-carnival.

**Trevor Wosomo** seemed to slide into a state of 'possession' and bestirred the jubilation of the crowd to a different fever pitch at selective moments of the programme. Other notable aspects crept into the game where we witnessed over-confident runners being pipped at the post by the opportunistic 'second-place getter' who finally delivered the goods .

The prospective athletes rotated through the various disciplines and some classroom sloths emerged as racetrack speedsters. Not that we encourage such practices, one competitor ended up his athletic season by adopting a pair of crutches after a tendon tear to one of his legs. However, he seems to be surviving on the subsequent splurge of sympathy - quite admirably.

It's a happy moment to witness nearly all students just participating and not have to go through the bother of convincing them to take part. "Shame" seemed to have been left outside the fence and the paucity of numbers probably enticed the less confident to join in the overall fun. So between team spirit and peer group pressure, a lot of enthusiasm was generated.

Congratulations to **Mr. Tekoa** who bravely battled on despite the dose of 'flu that he was suffering. We must have the only instance of synchronized race starts of its kind. Since the pistol would not always discharge reliably **Mr. Don Standen** was on the nearby sideline armed with a hammer and a brick on which he struck the starting cap at the appropriate cue.

Notable performers in their respective age divisions were **Solomon Daniel, Egana Daniel, Jack David and Sabai Elisala**.

**NEW FACES ON THE CAMPUS** : Welcome to new members of the staff - **Frank Van Pamelan** : Finally, a new offsider to our overworked **Ludo Kuipers**, Frank will inject into our Computer Centre a few more gigabytes to help quell the IT demand. The names suggest a Double Dutch Entente.

A Jack of all trades who stumbled into the music industry and just lingered there over the years. Also a devoted soccerplayer he became a qualified referee and coach to fill his fill in the empty hours. Now he can;t find enough time to scratch his aa aa aa armpits.

**Carola Hunter** : My name is Carola Hunter. I live in Kuranda. I studied at JCU and completed a Science degree before that. My interests are naure, art, singing and dancing. I hope to bring those into my classes