Students Sporting Achievements

Madison Scriha, Shyla Kronk and Serena Twomey have just arrived back from overseas after competing in the 2013 UCI BMX World Championships, held in Auckland New Zealand. These girls are ranked within the top 16 in Australia in their age group, which then allowed them to qualify to race as part of the Australian Team at the championships.

Madison Scriha was placing 4th in her races, with a crash in her 2nd moto, this meant she didn’t progress to quarters. She then raced cruiser, which is a different size bike, the following day.

Serena Twomey raced really well making it to the semi-finals, this ranks her in the top 16 in the world.

Shyla Kronk was racing in the 13 girls which showed some very competitive racing and she finished racing in the motos ranking her 35th in the world.

It was a great experience to be involved in representing our country, along side 36 other countries of the world. Each of us were overly proud of how we rode, and proud of each other. We’d like to thank everyone for their support and on going understanding of our teachers throughout our absence.

Tristyn Kronk also competed at the 2013 BMX World Championships and was competing in the Junior Elite Men Category. He finished up with 7th in the final. Racing in the Junior Elite category,

Tristyn started off the 8m high starting hill and rode the pro straight. “I am very appreciative of everyone who has helped me get to this stage. I am stoked with this achievement and can’t wait to try better it next year.” Tristyn said. There was over 6000 spectators watching the Elite categories and it was broadcast live worldwide

Madison Scriha and Tristyn Kronk
Athletics Carnival Highlights

By the House Captains

The Athletics Carnival, on the 18th and 19th of July, was a great success, with a large turn out from all grades. Records were broken, the costumes were outrageous and everyone participated and had a swell time.

Tug-o-war was dominated by Orion who won the year 9’s, 10’s and 11’s. Also, the relays were a close competition between Orion and Pegasus. It was great to see all students in their costumes and competing in events to earn points and help out their teams. A big congratulations goes to all those students who were crowned the age champions on the day. All students put in a massive effort for their house teams.

In the end it was a nice, easy win for Orion as they dominated the whole carnival. All houses represented our school with pride, with second place going to Pegasus, third to Aquila and fourth to Taurus.

All the sports captains would like to thank the teachers, helpers and all the students who came and made the Athletics Carnival a great success.

Well done everyone!
We want all of our students to be safe and happy. We understand, however, that the reality is that events, actions and decisions made by our students both in and out of school can have negative impacts on their capacity to learn. To help support our students to make better, informed choices, Mirani State High School has been fortunate to have hosted visits by public speakers who have spoken to the students about cyber safety and physical safety.

Our Year 8s and 9s hosted Brad Huddleston, who delivered his ‘Dark Side of Technology’ presentation. Brad spoke about the known risks when students use the internet and social media, as well as some common sense advice about how students can control these risks.

Our Year 10s were spoken to by Paul Stanley, who delivered his ‘One Punch Can Kill’ talk. The One Punch Can Kill campaign contains a very clear message which aims to change the attitudes of young people regarding senseless violence at social events like parties. The slogan, One Punch Can Kill, is a reminder of the shocking reality that simple acts of violence can have tragic consequences. Paul has been visiting our school for four years now, and it was a pleasure to have him return.

I would like to take this moment to thank Shane Sturdy and his team at Mackay Youth Support Services, and Sgt. Nigel Dalton from Mackay Police Services, for their work in organising these two talks.

Senior Subject Selection Matters
If you have a student in Year 10, please read the following information carefully.

Earlier this week your son/daughter received a letter notifying them that their SET Plan interview day is fast approaching. I know a number of our parents and students attended the Subject Selection night that was held on Wednesday to hear more about this event.

The next phase in the subject selection process is for the students to finish their SET Plans. The purpose of a SET Plan is to encourage Year 10 students to start to think about what they would like to do after school, and ensure that the subjects that they choose to study in Senior meet their interests, strengths and career goals. These SET Plans are currently being completed in their Work Education classes.

Once the students have finished their SET Plans, they need to be reviewed by both the school and the students’ parents/guardians. To this end, we intend to hold a SET Plan Interview Day on Wednesday, 28th August. During this day we would like parents and their children to attend an interview with a member of the school’s Leadership Team (the Leadership Team consists of the Principal and Deputy Principals, Heads of Department and Guidance Officer). The Leadership Team have agreed to be available between the times of 7am and 7pm on this Wednesday so as to best fit in with the work and family commitments of our students’ parents.
Members of the Leadership Team will be contacting parents of students in Year 10 to make an appointment on this day. If a parent is not available on this day alternative arrangements will be made. By the conclusion of the interview, the following needs to be completed:

- the student’s SET Plan needs to be signed by the student, parent and school representative, and kept by the school;
- the student’s subject selection form needs to be completed and handed in;
- the student and parent will need to sign a Senior Enrolment Form (outlining commitments by the school and student, and what the student is expected to do during Access Day)

Importantly, regular Year 10 classes will not be run during this day, and so **Year 10 students are only expected to attend school for the duration of their SET Plan Interview**.

**Enrolment management**

In the last newsletter I outlined the situation whereby future enrolments at Mirani SHS would have to be reviewed in the context of our Enrolment Management Plan. Understandably, a number of parents who live outside our catchment have been in contact with the school asking how their children may still gain entry in our school. At this point in time, I would like to stress that the enrolment management process is about maintaining the school's capacity, not excluding specific locations outside the catchment.

What this means is that over time, should our enrolments fall below our capacity, students who live outside our catchment, and who don't meet any of the other conditions necessary to gain entry, can still be admitted to the school. For this to happen, parents need to submit an enrolment form to the office. These enrolment forms are date-stamped, and placed on our waiting list. Should vacancies occur, these forms will be processed in order of time received.

*For Year 8 enrolments in 2014, out-of-catchment enrolment forms will be ready at the office from the first day of Term 4, 2013, Tuesday 8th October.*

I must stress that families inside our catchment, and those outside who already meet the criteria for entry, do not need to submit an enrolment form to go on this waiting list.

Mr Matthew Horton
Principal

### Calendar of Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>21st August</td>
<td>First Aid Course</td>
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<tr>
<td>22nd August</td>
<td>Year 11 MAP Excursion</td>
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<tr>
<td>22nd August</td>
<td>‘Shake n Stir’</td>
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<tr>
<td>26th August</td>
<td>Cap Trials – Cricket</td>
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<tr>
<td>27th August</td>
<td>Cap Trials – Track &amp; Field</td>
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<tr>
<td>28th August</td>
<td>Year 10 SET PLAN Interviews</td>
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<tr>
<td>28th August</td>
<td>Voluntary First Aid Course</td>
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<tr>
<td>28th August</td>
<td>Dance Extravaganza</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd September</td>
<td>Year 11 MST Boating</td>
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<tr>
<td>3rd September</td>
<td>Year 11 MAP Boating</td>
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Once again the year has flown by and the busiest time of the school year approaches for our senior visual art students. The graduating class are finalising their assessment and preparing for their exhibition. Some thought-provoking and highly technical pieces will be sure to appeal to a wide audience. Check out this exhibition, if you are in the market for some unique original artworks for your home. SAVE THE DATE: 25th October at Paxton’s Creative Space, River St.

Six students have been entered into state-wide art competitions. Maddie Bryant, Nikala Gibson and Eden Duyker have submitted artworks to the Creative Generation Excellence Awards. Baylee Hardwick, Luke Dixon and Mikaela Boswell have submitted appraisal essays to the QFA Write About Art Competition. We wish them all the best in these prestigious awards.

Year 11 artists have just taken part in the annual Land Art workshop with local artist Wanda Bennett. An excursion to Far Beach saw students create ephemeral artworks using the materials in their natural surroundings. As these artworks were temporary it was critical to document them through photography. Some inventive photographic compositions resulted, capturing the site specific works in context. Please enjoy these images.

Sharon Martin
Art Teacher
National Science Week is Australia’s annual celebration of science. Mirani State High School students have celebrated science week as a school community.

It began last Friday on parade when the year 11 Chemistry students took on the challenge of dry ice. They mixed science, dry ice and a little bit of humour to get the school ready for a jammed pack week of science. The year 11’s did a marvellous job at producing amazing chemistry experiments for the whole school to appreciate.

The year 12 chemistry students have been conducting an experiment each day for the school where they have taken on the challenge to enthral and enthuse us all with scientific knowledge and passion for science.

There have been ‘pops’, ‘bangs’ and lots of ‘ooooooo’s’. Needless to say Mirani State High School is well and truly in the spirit of science this week.

Junior Secondary News

Mirani State High School will introduce Year 7 in 2015.

On Wednesday 14th August, Mirani SHS hosted a Subject Selection night for all interested parents. At this event, information was given regarding the introduction of Year 7 into our Junior School in 2015 and included information regarding the possible introduction of a Junior School Uniform. Parents were then given the opportunity to vote for or against the introduction of this uniform for Years 7, 8 & 9.

The uniform aims to promote a smoother transition from the Primary to Secondary School setting by:

• ensuring that the Junior Secondary students will have their own group identity within the larger school community.

• ensuring that students don’t feel lost in such a large crowd and are easily identifiable to teachers and other students.

• ensuring that our school is supporting the social and emotional needs of Year 7-9 students.

If you were unable to attend this event, voting is still available online. Please email Jodi Gibson at jgibs125@eq.edu.au to submit an online vote. Voting closes Friday 23rd August (week 7).

Change Response Committee - School Improvement Working Group

Jocelyn Cowper
Guiding Principles of Junior Secondary

**Distinct identity**
Junior Secondary students will have their own group identity.

**Quality teaching**
Teachers will have the skills to support young teens through the early high school years.

**Student wellbeing**
Schools will support the social and emotional needs of Year 7-9 students.

**Parent and community involvement**
Parents will stay connected with their students’ learning when they enter high school.

**Leadership**
Schools have leadership roles for students and staff focused on Years 7–9.

**Local decision-making**
Community needs will influence how Junior Secondary looks.

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**Where are we now?**
- Junior uniform
- Junior leaders
- Junior Secondary areas
- Junior Secondary Teacher Leadership Team
- Information night/afternoon
- Transition days

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**Getting Ready for Junior Secondary**

**Information for Junior Secondary Parents**
Junior Secondary at Mirani SHS will provide the link between upper primary and senior secondary, with a focus on:

- Exploring different learning spaces, eg. science laboratory
- Literacy and numeracy
- Trying new subjects
- Working with different teaching styles and class groups
- Building independence as a learner
Out & About with Val

Sarina Show Judges

On Saturday, 3rd August, our school was invited to participate in the Junior Show Judging Competition at the Sarina Show competing against other schools in the region. While our school was not the overall winner, each of our students produced outstanding results. Paige Pearce achieved a first place in the Fruit and Cane Judging, Mikaela Cave won first place in the Vegetable section while Fiona Bazzeeley came first in the Trade Cattle section. Casey Bartolo scored creditable third places in the Fruit and Cane section against some tough competitors. All the students were there bright and early before 8 am to begin the judging and were happy when the final results were announced after 1 p.m. Ribbons were presented by Miss Sarina Showgirl, our very own Emma Crozier, school vice-captain in 2011.

Val Clark
HoD Social Sciences/Music/Dance

Students Wow Audience at Rock Pop Mime!!!!

On Saturday 27th July, 17 Mirani State High School students put on a flawless performance in the Rock Pop Mime competition at the new Amphitheatre at Mackay Botanical Gardens. It was the first event at this new facility and the Lions Club were celebrating their 30th year putting on this event for primary and secondary schools. All 10 performances by the high schools that competed impressed the judges with their amazing talent.

The Mirani High students performed a tribute to the British comedy TV show “Absolutely Fabulous” featuring Patsy and Eddie. Standout performances by Alex Weeks, Megan Gibson April Evans and our two “Sexy Back” boys, Flynn Holmes and James Medway, wowed the crowd. All students who competed represented the school with excellence and “Valley Pride.”

I would like to thank all students for their commitment to this performance and parents for driving students. A special thanks goes out to Mrs Evans for making our amazingly huge and impressive white hoop skirts, Mrs Nash and Katie Rewald for helping sew costumes, Ms Martin for painting our impressive backdrop and Ms Reilly and Ms Littee for their make-up and backstage skills.

They only gave out 1st place which is a shame as there were 10 performances. Everyone should be proud as many people saw me after the performance and said that it was amazing and they were impressed. We will be back next year bigger and better.

Mr Ashley Fergus
**BIENNIAL VISIT FROM AKUTAGAWA HIGH SCHOOL**

Students and teachers from Akutagawa High School in Japan, once again visited Mirani State High School. The week-long visit was a busy but enjoyable time for everyone. The 9 students and 2 teachers were hosted by students and teachers from Mirani. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the families involved. Four of the days were spent at the school enjoying different activities ranging from observing Physics classes to painting their own boomerang souvenirs. Many students from Mirani had the opportunity to get to know these Japanese students and found them to be very polite and grateful to have the opportunity to get to know some Aussies. The Wednesday of their visit was a bus tour around the region, showing many of our wonderful natural attractions. Beach cricket at Cape Hillsborough, Soccer at Broken River. Saturday was a special time spent with their host families. This was quite evident when students arrived at the airport on Sunday ready for the journey home. The tears of sadness were plentiful.

Mrs Lyn Keehn  
HoD Mathematics and LOTE

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**Fashion Update**

**The 2013 Mackay Student Festival of Fashion saw entrants including:**

Nicole Curran- Fashion Illustration, Wearable Art, Pulp Fiction  
Jade Herring- Fashion Illustration, Masks, Evening Wear, Street Wear  
Jacinta Belford-Bartho- Masks  
Bethany Pinkard- Masks  
Amy Stratford- Masks  
Emily Agius- Masks  
Rhiana Foley- Masks  
Jamie-Lee Tipo- Wearable Art

I would like to recognize the outstanding efforts of all the entrants and their models. They looked magnificent and walked the catwalk with pride. A huge congratulations goes to Jade Herring for winning the Evening Wear category with her Sari inspired gown.

Elizabeth Nash
Year 12 News

Year 12 News

Year 12 News

Merit and Distinction Ceremony
As the year quickly passes by a number of important events are fast approaching. On Monday the 26th of August, the Year 12’s will have their last Merit and Distinction Ceremony in the hall at 12.10pm – 1.20pm. This is a combined ceremony with the Year 10 and 11’s, however if you would like to attend you are welcome to.

QCS Test
OP Eligible students will sit for their QCS test on the 3rd and 4th of September. After months of preparation, I am sure that the students will be relieved once the test is over and they can focus on the last few weeks of their senior year. It is a reminder to all other students that these two days are normal school days and classes will still run as usual. It is not a day off school, and you are expected to attend classes as usual.

Save the Dates – Formal and Graduation
The Year 12 Formal will take place at North Mackay Bowls Club on Wednesday the 13th of November. As this is Access Day for Year 12 students, they have the day off to prepare for the formal and are not expected at school this day. Thursday is a normal school day and all students are expected at school on Thursday the 14th.

The final graduation ceremony will take place in the morning on Friday the 15th of November. It is compulsory for all Year 12 students to attend school on this day.

Over the next few weeks you will receive more information regarding these events with specific information regarding times, costs and purchasing tickets. Please put these dates into your calendar and feel free to call me if you require more information on 49 667 111.

Jennifer Pel
Year 12 Coordinator

Relay for Life

Once again Mirani State High School has a strong team representing our school at the Pioneer Valley Relay for Life event. With approximately 60 students registered for the school team, fundraising is well under way. On Sunday, a small team of students helped with a fundraising BBQ at Walkerston Woolworths raising approximately $200 for the school team. Seniors gave up their Access Day this on Wednesday the 14th of August to wash over 20 cars another $200.

This year our team has adopted an “Army” theme with our slogan – ‘Fighting for a cure’. Senior art students are busy designing our banner and students are busy looking for purple cargo outfits to wear on the day. This week, students sold sets of Relay for Life shoes laces, which students can wear until the end of this term in support of Relay for Life. The shoes laces were in high demand and sold out in two days! And there is a colour display of purple laces around the school.

The house captains are running our annual coin relay in the next few weeks! This is a house challenge and therefore the more money each house can collect the more likely your house is to win this challenge. There are two categories which are judged, the house which can make the longest coin line in the allocated time and the house which has the coin line worth the highest value. So please start saving your coins and listen out for notices asking for participants to be involved in the coin relay event!

Next week students will start selling tickets in the Father’s Day raffle which will be drawn on Friday the 30th of August. We are still looking for donations for this raffle, so if you have an item you would like to donate, please bring items to G Block Staffroom.

Finally, Friday the 30th of August is PURPLE DAY in support of Relay for Life. Students are asked to wear purple on this day and bring a gold coin donation which will go towards our relay for life fundraising. We would like all students who have purchased shoe laces to wear their laces on this day and to all students to dress in purple! Good luck to all Relay participants with your last few weeks of fundraising.

Mrs Pel
Relay for Life Coordinator
Stationery Collection Drive

Zonta is collecting stationery items to send to a Primary School in Vanuatu.

We are looking for donations of exercise books, pens, pencils, glue, scissors etc.

If you could purchase a set in your grocery shopping to donate, or have some extra items at home, please bring them to G Block Staffroom to help this worthwhile cause.

Ladies, Ladies, Ladies

It is time to clean out your bra drawer.

Zonta is supporting the World’s Longest Bra Chain Record Attempt which is taking place in the first week of October. The Zonta Club is collecting bras and donations which will be sent to Brisbane to help with this challenge and to raise valuable funds to support Breast Cancer Research.

We need your help!

Please donate old/new bras that you no longer need or wear. For every bra donated, we ask for a gold coin donation which will go towards Breast Cancer Research. Once the bra chain has been completed, wearable bras will be donated to women in less fortunate circumstances.

Donations can be made until Friday the 6th of September to the office or G Block Staffroom.

Please support this worthy cause!
Next Meeting – 10th of September – 7PM – Staff Common Room

Please mark the next meeting in your diary; we are making decisions that not only affect your student at Mirani High now but the students in future years.

Discussions at our last few meetings were:
- Access Day
- Enrolment Management
- Tuckshop Screen replacement
- Tuckshop Menu prices
- Plans for the new hall
- “Possession of Knives” added to School Behaviour Plan
- Chaplaincy in our school

At our meeting on the 13th of August our P&C endorsed the following motion:

“The Mirani State High School P&C supports the Chaplaincy Service in the school, and wishes to continue to utilise NSCSWP funding to employ a School Chaplain for 2014.”

We support the Chaplain Service and hope that Chappy Rex can continue to be a valuable member of our school community in 2014.

Remember we don’t have fundraising activities – our tuckshop is our source of income, as well as our P&C family levy.

Please consider:
- Paying your P&C levy – payment of $50 per family goes to the school office.
- Volunteering at the tuckshop, Kerry needs more helpers – contact her on 49667117
- Coming to our P&C meetings – we need your ideas and input.

Thank-you and hope to see you at our next meeting
Angela Windsor

Tuckshop Price Rise

Due to rising product costs, the P&C unfortunately will be increasing tuckshop prices as of 2nd September 2013. Prices of hot food and salad boxes will rise by 50 cents each.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Price</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salad Box</td>
<td>$4.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Burgers</td>
<td>$4.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wraps</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hot Dogs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pizzas</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pies</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sausage Rolls</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lasagne</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fried Rice</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spaghetti Bol</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pizza Pockets</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dagwood Dogs</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wedges – Sour Cream</td>
<td>$4.50</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

No price rise for drinks, chips & ice cream at this time.

Tuckshop Convenor / P&C Committee
Mount McKinley (Denali) by David Lade

Mt McKinley is a peak over 6000m’s in elevation and sits in the Denali National Park, Alaska. To climb this mountain has been an ambition of mine now for 4 years and was a trip of a lifetime. I spent a year training for this climb and even after all that training felt unprepared once landed on the mountain. Starting with a cold was not the best strategy for climbing such a mountain and left me fatigued constantly.

The climb lasted 3 weeks and we had to contend with rain, blizzards, heat, whiteouts and cracking crevasses. The beauty of such a place is only evident if you are there to experience it for yourself. On certain days the views went on for many kilometres. Teamwork is an integral part of the trip and our team worked very well together. Teamwork is essential as you rely on each other for your personal safety.

I enjoyed the experience of being pitted against nature and standing above the clouds. All issues fade away and seem such minor details when in the midst of the mountains and your survival.

We flew into the glacier by small planes where we camped for a few nights before moving off at 2am along another glacier passing across various crevasses that could open up any time and swallow you up. Exhilarating yet extremely dangerous it pumped the heart rate up each time we stepped across them. Looking left and right down into the unknown depth took my breath away. We climbed up staying at several camps along the way. At 3350 meters we were contained by a blizzard for 5 days with not much to do except look at the top of a tent, sleep and eat after building ice walls to save the tents from blowing away.

We moved up to 4300m after a long day of hauling equipment and food using ice axes and crampons to keep moving up near vertical walls. Here we rested waiting for the assault to high camp. We cached food at 5000m and then back down to our camp for rest before moving to high camp at 5200m. Unfortunately I was plagued with my cold and altitude sickness was setting in. Having not slept more than 5 hours in 3 days I was fatigued. After discussion with the guides it was decided that I would descend with another team for the best of the team and myself. Being the last climb of the season the rangers had left and rescue would not be quick in coming if I got really bad. This was quite depressing yet exhilarating at the same time. I knew I was not well enough to precede and felt positive to get off the mountain. However I was very withdrawn and emotionally depressed about leaving such great colleagues on the mountain. They too felt almost betrayed that I had left them and put them in a state to question their own capabilities after I was so strong on the climb up until them. In the end it is a decision you make at altitude about survival not bravado.

Having not made my personal best altitude of just over 5000 meters I was very disappointed but was more than happy about the wonderful experience that I have had and the exceptional people I have met. It has been one of the toughest physical and mental projects I have taken on to date.

Life is an adventure, live it.
David Lade
On Sunday 4th August 2013, 10 students represented Mirani State High School, in Head of the River in Rowing. Head of the River is an interschool rowing competition. The students competed in quad boats, double sculls and single sculls. Most students rowed in their age group as well as other age groups to make up the numbers.

Flynn Holmes, won the Year 10 single sculls for 1500m, this was only his third time in a single scull. Double scullers, Brittany Wedemeyer and Jennifer Ryan, won the Year 9 event. Overall the school came third, however there was a special mention made of the Mirani’s team spirit.

The team consisted of the following students: Raoul Mackenzie, James Medway, Scott Wedemeyer, Declan Roberts, David Ryan, Brittany Wedemeyer, Jennifer Ryan, Flynn Holmes, Rebecca Grummit and Linnea Freeman.

Congratulations on a terrific day of rowing.

Ms Barkley and Ms Simmonds
Coaches
For Sale

Extras include Canopy, Bull Bar and Tow Bar
New windscreen and new tyres
Under 50 000 Km with RWC
$16 500.00 ono
Phone 0417 661 471