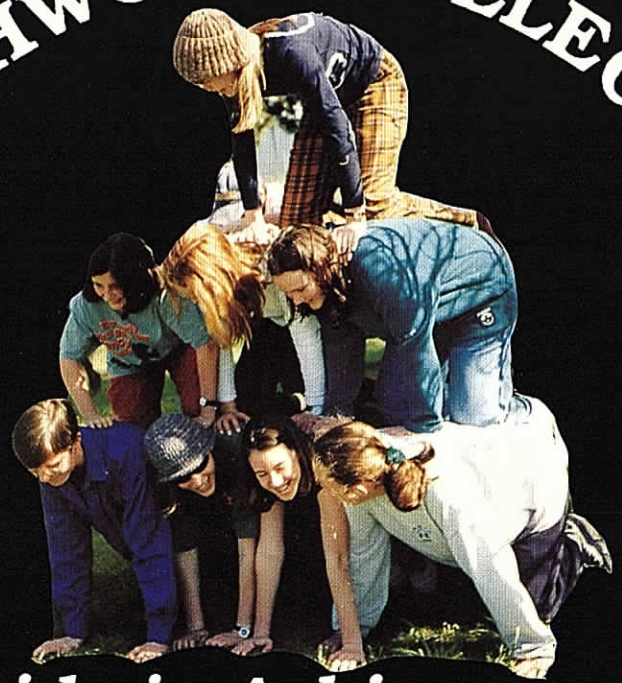
ASHWOOD COLLEGE



Pride in Achievement

YEARBOOK 1997

Principal's Report

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

As the final year of our first Charter, 1997 was a year of reflection. We gathered a sizeable book of data for the Triennial Report in August and analysed the performance of the school in a number of fields over the past three years.

The College has changed greatly in this time. Its growing reputation in the community is shown by the growth in Year 7 enrolments. Over 40% of the students are now in the Years 7 and 8; next year 62% of the student body will be in Years 7, 8 and 9.

The measures in the curriculum demonstrated that our school outperforms many of our neighbouring schools. The high standard of education was highlighted by the wonderful achievements of last year's VCE group: very High TER scores, an overseas scholarship, entry into a number of very prestigious courses, strong representation in TOP CATS yet again.

Staffing has remained very stable. We welcomed Brendan Mathiesson to the post of VCE teacher of Outdoor Education and Physical Education and in October said goodbye to Graham Young. Graham's retirement after 29 years of teaching at Jordanville Technical School and Ashwood College forced us to revise the metal work courses and facilities. The discrete subject of engineering will be lost but the valuable skills will be incorporated into future metalwork areas. Much of the heavy machinery has been sold and Room 55 will commence its life in 1998 as an Art room.

The maintenance grant improved more than our physical environment. Raising the ceilings to create the illusion of a cathedral, (a Year 7 students perception) or a railway station, (mine) also raised the morale of staff and students.

The introduction of criteria based assessment in line with the Curriculum and Standards Guidelines required work from the staff to initiate the system and an educational program to enable parents to interpret the rows of figures! In addition the introduction of a computerised reporting system placed the teachers on a steep learning curve and received overwhelming support from the community.

The challenge is now for us to continue this emphasis on improved performance. The new Charter concentrates almost entirely on teaching and learning. It defines the school as a learning community in which the responsibility for and commitment to improved performance is shared. It outlines the strategies by which this will be achieved and the indicators by which progress will be measured.

But a school is far more than the measures. No Statistics can encapsulate the dedication of the SRC members to their community, the quality leadership shown by so many students, the cohesion of the Year 12 students. These and many more achievements are shown throughout this magazine. I invite you to share in this public celebration and congratulate the students, staff and parents on a wonderful year.

Principal June Wright

Principal June Wright

ARC01367

SCHOOL COUNCIL REPORT 1997

It's been a busy year for the Ashwood College Council, with the major renovation/upgrade being completed and opened by Mr. Jeff Kennett, the music centre already in extensive use and the computers being constantly under review for applicability to all curriculum areas.

Who are the council members?

The council is composed of 6 non Department of Education and 5 Department of Education representatives and 4 coopted members.

The parent representative members:

- Geoff Brown, Rob Fletcher, Karen Le Rossignol, John Markham, Rod Potts, Chris Rath.

The staff representatives:

- Wayne Burgess, Peter Forbes, Anne Kelly, Chris Sanders, June Wright.

The coopted representatives:

- Alan Bishop, Jack Fairchild, Connie Halvatsiotis, Nicholas Meadley.

What's been happening this year?

The council has been working with the SRC on developing plans for the student recreation area outside the art wing. There are also plans for a radio studio/interview room and the SRC coffee shop relocation to this area.

Another council initiative has been the development of Arts Scholarships, to be given for VCE study in arts-related areas such as Studio Arts, Art, Drama, Music.

The council has also spent time planning for the next three years. This has been tied in with the new school charter, which is being finalised by the end of the year. The council has developed a strategic plan which links to this charter, and gives very clear goals to work towards. These include:

- develop an integrated physical environment which promotes the school to the community as a centre of excellence
- develop an arts/performance related stream of curriculum with refurbishment to include radio room and outdoor performance area, gallery for permanent displays and a multimedia presentation space as lecture theatre and live theatre performance area
- develop computer technology aspects of the curriculum including graphics and desktop publishing, music computer laboratory, computer upgrades to support English/Maths/LOTE/SOSE
- develop student areas to integrate student involvement in school planning and curriculum.

What are the future plans?

The council has set up a three stage approach to its strategic planning, and these stages will be under review by the council next year:

Stage 1 (completed)

- Upgrade of music and drama facilities to enhance the delivery of the total arts curriculum.
- Upgrade of visitor amenities to improve access and college profile.
- Continued upgrade of computer/ technology resources.

Stage 2 (in progress)

- Administration upgrade to improve access and college profile.
- Improved student service facilities.
- Consolidation of the college facilities in arts/technology to provide integrated and enhanced curriculum.
- Computer resources review and recommendations in graphics/multimedia.

Stage 3 (at planning stage)

- Develop performance/lecture space, with access for community and college.
- Develop curriculum focus on performing arts.
- Develop permanent gallery space for the school and community.
- Develop computer graphics/multimedia resource, computer music laboratory.

So we anticipate next year will be a very exciting one for the council!

Karen Le Rossignol

College Council President 1997

School Council Report

School Council Report

PB

1997

Ashwood College Staff

ROW 4: Chris Sanders, Michael Culling, Ron Anderson, Ian Kerr, Bill Norris, Paul Cuthbert, Marion Thomson, Peter Evans, Harry Ersch.

ROW 3: Karen Levy, Gerry Slockwitch, Alan Reynolds, Sue Davies, Maree Dusting, Peter Forbes, Sandra Gunther, Ann Goller, Erica Chadderton.

ROW 2: John Bullen, Viola Yao, Sandra Baker, Elly Maher, Mario Barbieri, Graham Young, Liz Kirkby, Wendy Hinson, Neville Bullard, Julie Moffat.

FRONT: Henriette Lubliner, Suzanne Pedlow, Margaret Single, Janet Wiggins, June Wright, Hugh Halliburton, Deborah Morrison, Jane Hills, Felica Mundell.

STUDENT LEADERS 1997

School Captains: Craig Johnson, Illaisa Samoa

School Vice Captains: Tristan Dolling, Laura Vezer

Sports Captains: Eliza Atkinson, Jane Goodier, Kylie Drew

Promotions Captains: Harley Beresford-Long, Jade Canavan, Charity Ellefsen, Jack Fairchild

House Captains:

Red: Scott Ellis, Lee-Anne Crothers, Adrian Baker, Lisette Kennedy, Joshua Tan, Argina Baker

Blue: Shane Oldfield, Donna Beauchamp, Matthew Goodier, Angie Balayannis

Yellow: Stephen Shaw, Nicole Bluett-Boyd, Neil Synott, Jenny Rogers, Andrew Bird, Tara McKenzie, Daniel Nowak, Shireen Ali

Green: John Collins, Laura Vezer, Nicholas Letts, Christine Sekulic, Geoffrey Cooke, Karen Ohlsen

SRC MEMBERS 1997

7A Jasmine Manapol, Rory Bluett-Boyd

7B Michael Tomeo, Argina Baker

7C Ricky O'Brien, Phillipa Crombie

7D Stephanie Norton, Phillip Nixon

7E Shaun O'Callaghan, Melissa Hodder

8A Shelley Vezer

8B Meley Taffere

8C Leana Bailey

8D Melissa Reekie

9A Emily Kearney

9B Zahra Lalani

9C Mark Brown

10A Lisette Kennedy

10B Robyn Donnelly

10C Helen Markham

11A Jarrod Canny

11B Georgina Campbell

11C Brooke Hanna

12 Michelle Drew, Robert Pickard, Illaisa Samoa, Shazma Patel, Craig Johnston, Laura Vezer, Tristan Dolling

SRC Members 1997

Student Leaders 1997

STUDENT LEADERS 1997

Leaders come from all sections of the student body at Ashwood College. There is a formal structure of Captains and a Student Representative Council (SRC) and there are also many other opportunities for students to be leaders during the school year.

Captains
The Captains were led this year by School Captains, Craig Johnson and Ilaisa Samoa, who led by example through their involvement and participation in numerous school events. Both School Captains attended and participated in house sports days. Craig led particularly through his key involvement in music performances. Ilaisa (1996 SRC President) continued to play an active role in school activities. Both made excellent speakers to whole school assemblies. Sports, House, Promotions and Class contributed to this year's life at Ashwood as part of their roles.

The SRC was led this year by Mark Brown of Year 9 (President); Shazma Patel (Secretary) and Robert Pickard (Treasurer); a group of committed class representatives attended throughout the year.

Students displayed leadership amongst the myriad of happenings this year. It is pleasing to say there are too many students to list personally in this article, however their achievements have been acknowledged in the newsletter, at school assemblies and also at smaller celebration assemblies.

The following are some of these leadership opportunities where individuals truly led by *"doing"*, being involved and giving up their time!

Performing - Drama: "Aladdin", touring production
Music: an enormous range at school and outside.
Who will forget the Year 12's responsible and very entertaining departure assembly this year!
Monitors - in the library and also the computer rooms assisting other students
Coaching - sporting teams
Playing -in teams (special mention should be made of the Girls' Cricket Team!)
Managing - the "Coffee Shop"
Fundraising -at whole school levels and class levels
Competing - in sports, subject competitions (and doing very well)
Volunteering - assistance for Open Day, parent teacher nights, Art Show tours
Taking responsibility for tasks and following through.
Participating actively in studies
Helping each other
Representing the student in SRC and on Council

Student leadership atAshwood College is available to all. More and more led well in 1997 - let's hope for even better for 1998!

Congratulations to <u>all</u> student leaders and to the staff who support them.

A NOTE FROM THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT

1997 provided some great challenges for our Ashwood College music students in the classroom, Instrumental program and the extra curricular music activities.

We have seen again an increase in the number of students involved in the program with 1 in 5 students playing a musical instrument or singing.

Students prepared for and performed on a number of occasions including the AGM. Open Day, several school assemblies, presentation night, our school musical of Aladdin, the Box Hill Festival and of course our End of Year Concert.

Several students also sat for the AMEB exams receiving Honours and Credits. Congratulations go to Andrew Bird, Adam Fraine and Warren Liang who completed grade 3 Saxophone and Joanne Potts for grade 4 Flute. This involves many hours of dedicated practice on their instruments.

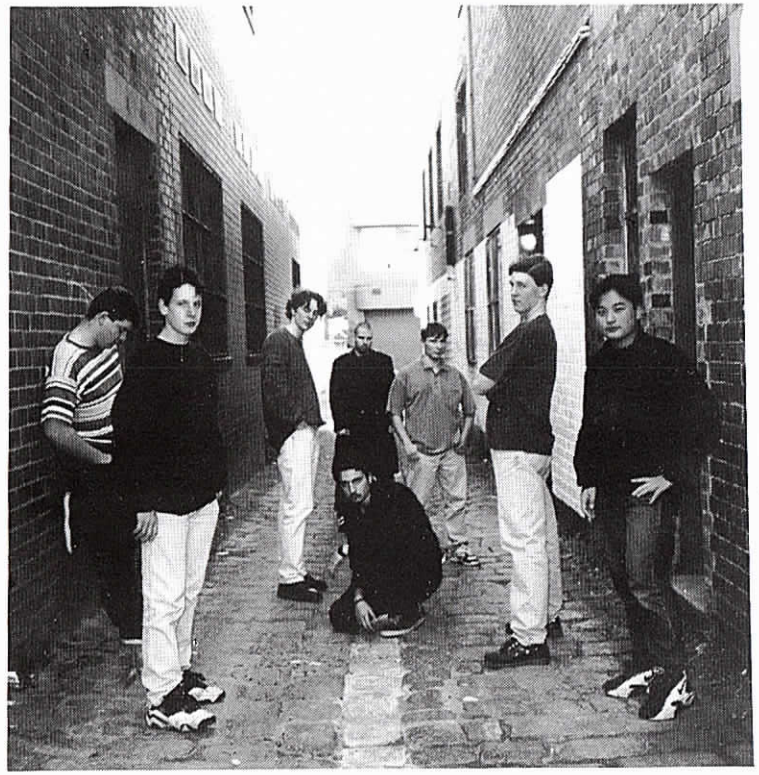
This year also marks the final year for four very active musicians and singers, Katherine Carragher, Jenny Rogers, Ben Cas and Craig Johnson. Jenny and Katherine first started with me in Year 8 class and soon showed an interest in the choir. Over the years this extended to vocal solos, duets, major production roles, compering, strong members of the jazz singers and great role models for younger singers in the school. Jenny also went on to direct the 1996 Production. Ben tapped his first beat on the desk and went on to be our resident drummer for many terrific performances including four school productions and concerts with guitar and bass skills. Craig also at Year 8 was willing *"to give it a go"* and hasn't looked back since as a bassist, guitarist, singer, compere, actor and School Captain. The greater the challenge the better, even if that meant wearing a dress!

I would especially like to thank this *"awesome foursome"* for enriching the music program and our audiences over the past 5 years with their special gift of music. Farewell and we wish you all the best for the future.

Thanks also goes to our staff Mr Gow, Ms Pasky, Mr Graham, Mrs Kaev, Mrs Ujuma and Mr Bullard for helping us all make music together.

Regards

Felica Mundell
Music Coordinator



ALBUM COVER SHOT
Sam, Adam, Ben, Harris, Craig, David, Andrew, Warren are **NOUVEAU GRUNT**

STAGE BAND

1997 has been a big year for the stage band with one of the highlights being our recording at Studio 52, Nu-Music in Collingwood. It was an excellent chance for the quality recording. This wasn't a simple excursion though as the eight hour session would prove to be both hectic and exhausting. Any nerves we were feeling soon disappeared, mainly courtesy of our mixer-producer Rowan who made us feel very relaxed, which is important when you work in such a time frame. The overall result was a high quality CD which we can all look back on and remember for years to come. Special thanks go to Mr Sanders and Mrs Hills for their help with transport and for their support.

Craig Johnson (year 12)
School Captain

LEFT TO RIGHT (Inside studio-sitting)
Ben Cas, David Markham, Warren Liang, Adam Fraine, Harris Robotis, Craig Johnson, Andrew Bird, Sam Bird at Studio 52 Collingwood

ALADDIN

This year's production of the musical **"Aladdin"** provided a great challenge to the musicians involved in the production band. The music was diverse in styles and very enjoyable to play, and provided us with opportunities to explore and experiment with some new ideas. A new aspect to this year's production was the inclusion of scene change music for many different parts of the show, which was quite confusing at first.

The band this year was made up of a majority of students who were in Year 8 and Year 9. The band members were Harley Parker (bass guitar), Charity Ellefsen (keyboard), Angela Dimas (keyboard), Andrew Bird (sax), Adam Fraine (sax), myself on drums and Ms Felica Mundell on piano, without whose help none of what we achieved would have been possible.

Like the actors involved in the production, rehearsals started early in the year and continued up until the last day before the first performance. We were all extremely happy with the final results and the audience seemed to enjoy our work too. It was once again great to be a part of the production band, especially in a show that had plenty to offer to actors, musicians and audiences alike.

Ben Cas (year 12)
Drummer

AUSTRALIAN SCHOOLS' ENGLISH COMPETITION

Students at Ashwood College demonstrated their proficiency in reading and language when they competed in the 1997 Australian Schools' English Competition.

This year 16 students were awarded certificates in the competition in which students from all over Australia, New Zealand and the pacific Region competed. Highest certificates awarded went to:

Jeremy Hogg
Year 7
Adam Fraine and Cyril Soh
Year 8
Mark Brown
Year 9
Georgina Ballantine and Katherine Dircks
Year 10

These students received Certificates of Distinction.

All students who participated this year are to be congratulated and applauded for their efforts. Well done!!

Bill Norris
English Coordinator

ENGLISH NEWS

Congratulations to Ben Cas and Adam Martin of Year 12 who have just had expositions on adolescent literature published as feature articles by *Viewpoints*, a Melbourne University publication. Ben and Adams' work looked at why teenagers are attracted to bleak or dark literature and both articles were very well received by the editors of the magazine. This is not the first time Ben or Adam have had work published by *Viewpoints*. Two years ago while in Year 10, they wrote pieces exploring the reasons why teenagers read. It is very difficult for young writers to get their work published and Ashwood College congratulates Ben and Adam on their wonderful achievements.

W. Norris
English Coordinator

"ON THE INTERNET" ASHWOOD COLLEGE is on 'THE WEB!'

Welcome to The Age CitySearch.

Through our Information Site, the public will be able to find us by using keyword searches and browsing in CitySearch, or by typing in our new Internet address listed below:

http://www.citysearch.com.au/mel/ashwoodcollege

Please feel free to look us up!

THE ASHWOOD COLLEGE LIBRARY: 1997

The college library has come a long way this year. Back in January we were fully occupied, correctly replacing books, magazines, posters, kits, furniture, equipment and various other library items which had been removed from their usual abodes due to the requirements of repainting and recarpeting the library during the summer holidays.

Due to superhuman efforts and many helping hands, the bookstock was returned to perfect alphabetical and Dewey orders within days. All the hard work involved certainly has paid dividends - the library now looks a treat!

Mrs Davies, the library coordinator was on long service leave during term 2, during which time she was ably replaced by Mrs Will. A special thank you goes to student library monitor, Alysia Betts of 9C, who has generously donated so many of her lunch times to library circulation desk duties. Volunteers, Mr Robert Taylor, Mrs Fran Hogg and Mrs Margaret Pickard have made great contributions to the library's successful service delivery.

Bookaleidoscope was the title of this year's Children's Book Council Book Week, celebrated from August 18th - 22nd. The college library ran daily student quizzes and organised a student poster competition. A colourful display was mounted and bookmarks were distributed. Book Week again proved to be extremely enjoyable.

The library staff, including Ms Levy, Mrs Slockwitch and Mrs Davies, wishes to thank all students, staff and others who have contributed to the success of the library program throughout this challenging year of 1997.

Best wishes for 1998!

CS Davies (Library Coordinator)

Mr Kennet and Film Crew in the Ashwood Library.

RACE TOWARDS "HEAVEN"

Just imagine it's a Friday and you've been struggling to survive a strenuous double period of Maths. As you fight to keep focused on what seems to be an ever-growing number of equations, your stomach rumbles loudly echoing through the working silence which your teacher has worked so hard to achieve. You so desperately want to answer your stomach's call, but you can't even find a half-sucked lolly stuck to the inside of your pocket. You look at your watch trying hard to see the time through the waterfall of sweat falling from your brow. Just then the school bell heralds the coming of lunch time. You sprint out of the class (after being dismissed of course) and athletically race towards "heaven" - the Canteen.

As you fumble for your wallet, images of meat pies, donuts and salad rolls flash through your mind. You hurl yourself towards the window and are greeted by the friendly smile of one of the canteen ladies. "A meat pie and a Big M please", you manage to gasp. On receiving the food, you thank the canteen staff and proceed to devour the goodies. The canteen has saved you again. But have you ever thought about what goes on behind the scenes?

I talked to the canteen Ladies and got their perspective on canteen life. The staff at the canteen, who have been working there for 9 years, say that the best part of working at the canteen is stirring the kids. However, they don't appreciate people being cheeky. "Stirring doesn't bother us, we give it, we take it, it's the rude kids that we don't like. A please and thank you would be nice too, Mrs Churchus commented. During their time at the canteen many funny things have happened. They recalled the time when Mrs Langmaid threw a glass of water over the kids. "It was a stinking hot day and they asked me to sprinkle them with water, so I did."

Parents might be interested to know that the ladies say the dietary habits of students haven't changed much over the years, but they could improve. The most popular foods have been chicken burgers and jumbo sausage rolls but salad rolls and fresh fruit are always available for a healthy alternative.

The Canteen does a wonderful job in supplying the food which gives students the energy to get through their busy day. However, the canteen is in need of parents to come in and help at lunch times. If you're a parent with a couple of hours to spare once a month, put down that paper and give the school a ring. You'll get a warm glow from knowing you're doing your bit to help the school community and you'll even get a free lunch.

I'm sure that the Canteen staff have gained a special place in all our hearts (and our stomachs!)

Mark Brown - that's what I reckon.

MIND CHALLENGE PROGRAM

During Term 2, seventeen highly able Year 7 students met once each week to participate in the *Mind Challenge Program.* The sessions focused on creative problem solving across the curriculum with an emphasis on cooperation and teamwork.

The program was developed and implemented by Mrs James who worked enthusiastically to make the sessions interesting as well as fun.

Congratulations to the following students who were awarded Certificates of Participation:

Robert Adamson
Shea Canavan
Stevie Carroll
Anna Cowdell
Chris Currie
Eliza Dolling
Luke Edwards
Daniel Fox
Lucus Hall
Richard Hensen
Peter Hinch
Jeremy Hogg
Broderick Jackson
Sarah Lieberman
Samuel Lockhart
Chantal McInnes
Daniel Mauseth

Richard Hensen, Lucus Hall & Chris Currie

ROMEO & JULIET: A REVIEW

The remake of Shakespeare's world renowned play, Romeo and Juliet is splendid. The style and setting is unique and cleverly modernised. This classic love story is about two star crossed lovers who are torn apart by family hatred. The Montagues and The Capulets despise each other but their children are in love.

Romeo and Juliet meet not knowing that they are meant to be enemies. The Capulets arrange a marriage for Juliet to Paris, a young, rich and impressionable man, but Juliet does not approve. She is besotted with Romeo and nothing is going to stop her from marrying him.

The rivalry between the two families is fought out on the streets with Juliet's cousin Tybalt leading the Capulets and Romeo's best friend Mercutio leading the Montagues. These fights end in disaster with Romeo and Juliet going to extreme lengths to savour their love.

The movie is set in America on a Beach called Verona. Costumes are very 90's with characters wearing tattoos, denim, floral print/Hawaiian shirts, neck charms and lots of jewellery. The music soundtrack is great. It has a variety of styles, grunge, rock, ballads and choir.

The director Baz Luhrmann has chosen two talented young actors to play the parts of Romeo (Leo DiCaprio) and Juliet (Claire Danes). I thought this movie was one of a kind and it appealed greatly to the young and old. I also think that if Shakespeare was alive today he would be flattered and proud of such a movie.

Loren Ibbotson - 10A

HOUSE ATHLETICS

The 1997 Ashwood College Athletics Sports were held Thursday 21st August at Knox Athletics Track. Blessed with extremely pleasant weather, spirits were generally high throughout the day as several hundred students were involved either as competitors, spectators or helpers in running events. Field and track events ran simultaneously throughout the day and most competitors were able to line up at the right time at the right location.

Winners of events will form the Ashwood College team to compete in the District Athletic Carnival to be held at the same location on September 12th. Students who performed particularly well include Jessica Konstantinidis with four wins, two seconds, Joanne Potts with five wins and Fiona Meldrum, Jane Goodier and Leana Tilley each with six wins. Eric Morvan achieved five firsts and competitors who earned the right to represent us in at least three events include Kanok Bunrit, Tuong Tran, Matt Dunham, Brad Bain, Matt Goodier, Tonga Pota, Lance Coleman and Nick Rae. We needed a longer tape measure than our 50metre one to properly measure one of Nick's throws with the javelin.

Congratulations to all students and staff for making it a successful day.

A Kelly
Student Programs Coordinator

House Athletics Photos

AUSTRALIAN STUDENTS' PRIZES - 1996

On the basis of their Year 12 results, the top students across the country have been awarded a certificate of excellence and a prize of $2000 from the Commonwealth Government.

In the words of David Kemp, Minister for Schools.....

"The Australian Students' Prize celebrates the outstanding achievement of the very best students who graduate from our secondary schools each year. Winners of these prizes are of the highest international standard and I congratulate them on their outstanding effort."

Ashwood college adds its congratulations to **Kate Hogg**, our Year 12 Dux and now a Victorian recipient of the 1996 Australian Students' Prize. **Fantastic Kate!!**

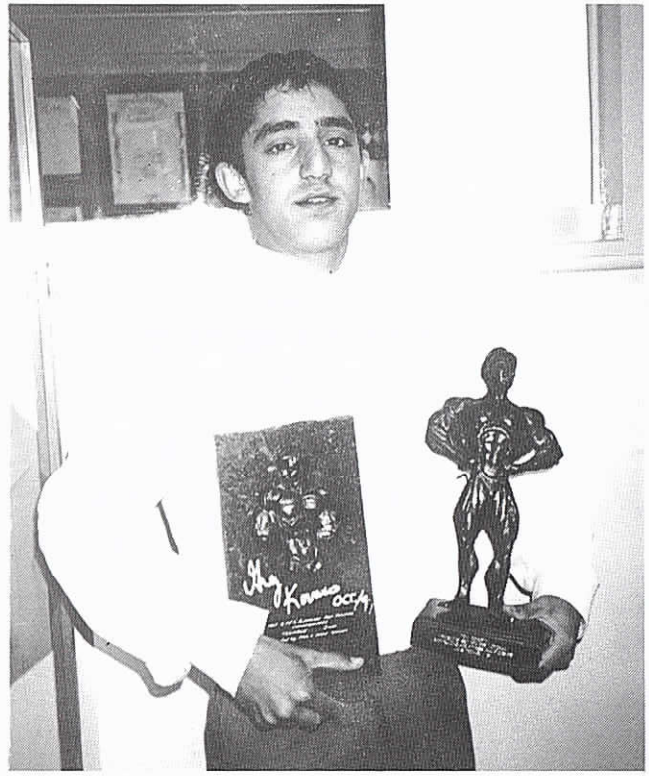
Congratulations to **Ben Cas** of Year 12 who has just had an exposition on adolescent literature published as a feature article by "Viewpoints", a Melbourne University publication.

Ben's work looked at why teenagers are attracted to bleak or dark literature and was very well received by the editors of the magazine. This is not the first time Ben has had work published by Viewpoints. Two years ago while in Year 10, he wrote a piece exploring the reasons why teenagers read. It is very difficult for young writers to get their work published and Ashwood College congratulates Ben on his wonderful achievements.

W Norris
English Coordinator

SHOW OF STRENGTH

Ahmad Popal, Year 10, while not the tallest person in the school is probably the strongest. Ahmad recently won the U19 Section of a prestigious body building/weight lifting club. Congratulations Ahmad, may the force always be with you.



RETIREMENT OF MR GRAEME YOUNG

On 10th October this year, we lost one of our long standing teachers Graeme Young. After over thirty years of teaching, he decided to pursue a more tranquil and relaxed way of life, travelling, camping and fishing. Graham had spent most of his teaching career at Jordanville Technical School and Ashwood College. His teaching speciality of technology/engineering was very popular with students. Many of his past pupils have built successful careers in associated occupations and all members of the College will sadly miss him.

Mr Young and Mrs Wright discussing plans for retirement with Mrs Wright and Mr Jeff Kennett, Ashwood College local Member of Parliament.

MY FAVOURITE PLACE

My favourite place in the world, where I feel most relaxed and happy is my Grandpa's house. It is situated in Rye, right near a big field where you can fly a kite or take the dog for a walk or something like that.

It's ten minutes drive to the beach and about half an hour's drive from the back beaches which sometimes has waves which go up to 8 metres. Near the beach there is a hot dog place that sell the biggest and best hot dogs I have ever tasted. The movie place has only two theatres but they're really nice.

My grandpa's house is single storey but it's very big. He's got a king-sized pool table that takes up a whole massive room. He's got a really good pool and his garden is very, very beautiful. His partner is one of the best cooks and her meat pies are the best.

When I go to my Grandpa's house, my cousin is usually there and we have fun playing in the pool and going to the beach.

I miss doing all these things so this summer my Mum and I are going to Grandpa's and I can hardly wait!

Lucas Hall

A WAR POEM

On a cold winter's night of Nineteen Forty Three,
I thought of the things that mattered to me.
As I sat in my trench and thought about life,
I thought of my mother, my son and my wife.

I felt so proud to serve for my land,
We fight from the sea right to Germany's sands.
We die for our country, we kill for our queen,
We creep through the trenches trying never to be seen.

All around me there's bodies and other men's blood,
Not buried, not honoured, they just lie in the mud.
What if I never came home from this terrible war?
Will I ever sail back to my very own shore?

We kill without knowing how precious life is,
I'll fight for the freedom of my loving kids.
For all the soldiers that died, these brave young men,
Don't let what they fought for, happen again.

Robert Phillips - 10A

SCIENCE - A REAL LIFE CHALLENGE

Top students at Ashwood College showed they have the answers and a bright future following their success in the world's largest Science Competition.

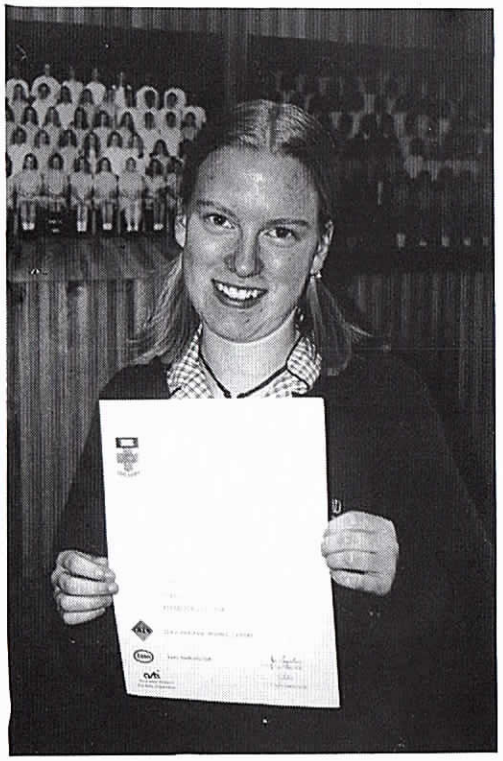
Ashton Batty (Year 8) received a High Distinction Award in the Australian Schools' Science Competition organised by the Educational Testing Centre at the University of New South Wales.

This year a record 443,000 students entered the competition held annually throughout Australia, New Zealand and the Asia-Pacific region.

"Science is ultimately about real life. The competition presents students with the challenge of solving real-life problems, thus enhancing their understanding of the science they have learned in the classroom," said Associate Professor, Jim Tognolini, Director Educational Testing Centre UNSW.

The competition has been sponsored by Esso Australia Ltd for the past 16 years and is supported by the Australian Science Teachers' Association.

Esso's Corporate and Public Affairs Manager, Mr Ron Webb said, "While Esso's main contribution to Australia is as a major producer of oil and natural gas, we also believe it is important to support community initiatives which promote science and education. Esso's support of the Australian Schools' Science Competition is one of the projects we support to encourage scientific excellence among students and schools."



Charity Ellefsen of Year 9

Other students who also performed very well indeed were:

Charity Ellefsen	Year 9	
Distinction		
Rithy Lim	Year 11	Credit
Ross Nimon	Year 11	Credit
Harley Beresford-Long	Year 11	Credit
Katharine Dircks	Year 10	Credit
Mark Brown	Year 9	Credit
Cary Fagan	Year 9	Credit
Nick Rae	Year 12	
Achievement		
Cameron Wilson	Year 10	
Achievement		
Shelley Vezer	Year 8	
Achievement		
William Gatzonis	Year 7	
Achievement		

AUSTRALIAN MATHEMATICS COMPETITION

Results of the Australian Maths Competition which was held at the end of July.

Ashwood College entered 120 students in the competition. Of those, 41 received Credit Certificates, 14 students obtained Distinction Certificates and 1 student in Year 11 achieved a High Distinction which places him in the top 1% of that year level. All entrants received a Certificate of Participation and an individual performance report. Results for all year levels were posted in the school and there was a morning tea to celebrate the results and present certificates in the school library on 16th October. Congratulations to all students who entered!

High Distinction	Rithy Lim	Year 11
Distinction	C Currie	Year 7
	A Cowdell	Year 7
	R Owen-Adamson	Year 7
	C Wilson	Year 8
	T Milenkovic	Year 8
	N Bluett-Boyd	Year 8
	T Tran	Year 8
	X Ling	Year 9
	E Brown	Year 10
	K Dircks	Year 10
	M Jozwik	Year 11
	J Potts	Year 11
	Y Marinis	Year 12

D Podhorodecki
Maths Learning Area Coordinator

1997 AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL CHEMISTRY QUIZ

This quiz is sponsored each year by the Royal Australian Chemical Institute. It was held early in term 3 and we have been eagerly awaiting the results. All of our Year 11 and Year 12 Chemistry students enter the quiz each year and the results have again been very pleasing.

All students are to be congratulated for their participation in the quiz. The following students deserve a special mention because they did particularly well and received awards.

YEAR 11

RITHY LIM	HIGH DISTINCTION
MICHAEL COLLINS	DISTINCTION

YEAR 12

GAVIN MAK	HIGH DISTINCTION
KATHY LOW	DISTINCTION
NICK RAE	DISTINCTION

We look forward to building on the tradition of our participation in this quiz in 1998.

CHRIS SANDERS.

HOUSE SWIMMING SPORTS

Swimming Sports - "What I reckon"

It was a sunny, 32 degree Valentine's Day and a day out of the classroom for students and teachers. The school was heading to Oakleigh Pool for the Swimming sports - their goal to win points for the four houses Red, Green, Blue and Yellow.

The first buses arrived at 9.30am and the students found their own patch of shade and marked their territory with towels. Those first up in the program prepared for their races, while others relaxed for a while. But who was to be victorious? I set out to see what everyone else "reckoned".

"Well, I reckon Yellow's going to win cos Yellow's cool and I go for Yellow," one person said. "Um, Footscray," another said. "I reckon that Red's going to win." "Green I think." These were just some of the opinions at the start of the day.

Later Miss Kelly was to comment, "It looks like Yellow might have a good showing. I mean they're coming second at the moment and there's a lot of spirit in yellow this year.... Only time will tell. There's a whole other half of the program yet."

The events got underway. During all this Mr Evans was getting trigger happy with his starter gun, Mr Norris was down poolside showing off his body and Miss Moffat was cheering on her house and favourite colour, Green. These were just some of the officials who made this event possible. The rest of the day continued with lots of swimming, relaxing, eating and keeping cool in the other pool.

Now only one race remained - the teachers versus students relay. Who would win? Unfortunately for the teachers, they lost and I was down poolside to hear their excuses. Mr Walker began, "Well mate, you know I think we were cheated a bit. There were a few false starts in between there. Especially the second changeover on the winning turn." "We had no warm up. The student's have been warming up all day", Mr Cuthbert added. "But all in all it was a pretty decent effort (by the teachers)", Mr Walker commented.

People who won their event(s) were: Anna Cowdell, Daniel Mauseth, Lisa Hartle, Adam Fraine, Angela Dimas, Matthew Dunham, Alex Friday, Steven Bailey, Laura Vezer, Matthew Gillespie, Eliza Atkinson, Andrew Bates, Phillipa Crombie, Helen Lee, Stephen Shaw, Chris Walsh, Matthew Goodier, Simon Fletcher, Joanne Cahill, Rory Bluett-Boyd, Claire Wilson, Nicholas Letts, Shelley Thomson, Katherine Carragher.

The final total was Blue 209; Yellow 175; Red 172; Green 130. Congratulations to Blue and all the other houses for doing really well.

Mark Brown
Year 9

House Swimming Sports

Some more photographs...

GIRLS' YEAR 8 CRICKET TEAM

Ashwood College's Year 8 Girls' Cricket team continues to sweep all before them. On Thursday 20th November, the girls will compete in the State final for Year 8 Girls' Cricket.

To reach the position of being one of the best two teams in the State, they have had to win five knock-out finals matches this term, having played and won their district matches in first term.

First was the Eastern Zone quarter-final on 16th October, Ashwood 10/117 defeated Norwood Secondary College 10/64.

The Eastern Zone semi-final against Emerald Secondary College followed on 28th October. Again Ashwood 10/107 was successful, bowling Emerald out for 45.

The Eastern Zone metropolitan final, played against Wantirna Secondary College on 30th October looked like it was going to be much harder when Ashwood was dismissed for 82. However, the bowlers rose to the challenge and Wantirna was bowled out for 35.

Thursday 13th November saw the team travel to Euroa to play Wangaratta High School in the Eastern Zone country versus metropolitan final. Wangaratta chose to bat first and were dismissed for 79 runs. Two good partnerships at the beginning of the Ashwood innings laid the foundation for the rest of the team and Ashwood reached the required 80 runs for the loss of only five wickets.

Now the girls were one of the top four teams in the State as they had reached the State semi-finals.

On Tuesday 18th November at Croydon, they played the winner of the Southern Zone, Berwick Secondary College in one semi-final. Ashwood chose to bowl first and dismissed Berwick for 51 runs in 24.5 overs, with the last five wickets falling without a run being scored. Chasing the runs was not easy - after all, it was the State semi-final. After a nervous start, a recovery and then going from 4/47 to 7/50, victory for Ashwood looked a long way off (especially remembering how Berwick finished). Eventually however, Ashwood reached 7/52 in the eighteenth over.

The Ashwood College Year 8 Girls' Cricket team has reached the State final because they are a team. They do not rely on one or two individuals. Everyone contributes and different people star on different days. Sometimes Cam Tu's bowling is the key to success. Sometimes it is the bowling of Melinda or Melissa. Sometimes it is the catching of Kylie, Leona or Jessica K. Sometimes it is the batting of Lisa, Claire, Katie, Jessica B or Rachel. Sometimes it is Leana's captaincy: like Mark Taylor, her bowling changes see wickets fall.

At Croydon on 20th November, we won! Ashwood College is very proud of this group of twelve girls who have represented their school with distinction.

J Moffat
Girls' Cricket Coach

Centerspread

Centerspread

Centerspread

Centrespread

Work Experience

Blood Brothers and Sisters

WORK EXPERIENCE 1997

Work experience for all year 10 students took place during the last two weeks of term 2 this year (from Monday 16th June to Friday 27th June).

This program was an important part of the year 10 Curriculum and it benefits our students in many ways. It gives them an opportunity to investigate possible future career options; it can help them to make sound subject choices for VCE and it gives them an insight in to the world of work. For these reasons, we encouraged students to carefully select their places of employment.

Students generally organise their own work experience placements through perhaps contacts: friends, family, acquaintances. The college assists those who may need help.

If you are able to help us with the placement of students for work experience, please let us know!

YEAR 7 CAMP

During the last week of February the Year 7's set off by bus to Dromana for their camp. When we arrived the other half of the Year 7's were enjoying their last day of camp and we were about to take over. Both groups did some activities together. Soon after lunch the first group went back to school, we then got our luggage and Mr Anderson showed us to our cabins.

The activities we did at the beach were canoeing, swimming, snorkelling, sand sculptures and a beach hike. At the camp we did Getting to Know Each Other Exercises, had free time which meant we could use the trampolines, pool table, soccer game and played games on the oval. At night we watched a movie and had a concert which was really good. The food was ok, but there was a lot of it!

I really liked the camp. It was a good way to get to know more people.

Stephanie Norton - 7D

BLOOD BROTHERS AND SISTERS

Last year approximately twenty of our Year 11/12 students gave blood and were supplied with a mini bus for the day to transport them to and from the centre. This year, 28 of our students volunteered to take part in the program. Sally Wynne from the Blood Bank, spoke to the senior students asking for their help and the response was excellent. We sincerely thank all those students who took part in this extremely valuable program and their parents/guardians who spent time discussing this with their child. The Blood Bank appreciated the thoughtfulness of the students at Ashwood College.

VCE OUTDOOR EDUCATION

This year, the VCE Outdoor Education course was filled with excitement. The students participated on many different activities and had a fantastic time discovering the great outdoors.

Activities which were undertaken include: white water rafting; caving; snorkelling; bushwalking; downhill skiing and many others. Not only were the students able to participate in these fast moving adventures, but they also learnt a great deal about nature conservation, the aboriginal people and other aspects to do with adventure in the outdoors.

One particular activity that I would like to expand on was the snorkelling trip to Portsea. This trip was taken in May of 1997, just when it was getting a bit too cold to go swimming.

It was an overnight trip which consisted of snorkelling lessons, snorkelling under the Portsea pier and snorkelling in the open waters of Port Phillip Bay.

Before the trip, the students had two lessons in the pool at the Nunawading Swim Centre. Here they were taught to duck dive, clear their masks under water and buddy breath. This was an excellent activity to do before we went because it meant that when we got to Portsea we had some background knowledge of what to do.

When we reached Portsea we had a lesson on the do's and dont's of snorkelling which explained certain aspects such as equalising and what to do if you got in trouble. Next we went to the local indoor swimming pool to refresh our basic skills before we went out under the pier.

After lunch the students went to the dive school and got wetsuits so that they would be protected from the cold water. Once in the extremely tight and weird looking suits, we all waddled down to the water where we jumped in off the pier. All you could hear were shouts of "Oh gees, it's FREEZING!!!", but this was soon overcome because we were given activities which once again enhanced our knowledge and skills in snorkelling. The swim under the pier was fascinating; we could see all different forms of plants and animals which lived there. We had instructors who pointed out animals who camouflaged themselves amongst the seaweed, and who told us of the stingray who lived under the pier. Not only was there natural sea life under the pier, but there was a lot of rubbish as well. This was a little disheartening to see that people couldn't care less about the habitats which they were destroying. The next day we all went on a boat out to the Pope's Eye which was a fort originally built on a sandbar in the middle of the bay. Here we could make safe anchorage and explore the underwater world in the cove, there were many different species of fish, kelp and other sea creatures which we could swim with, hold and observe in their natural environment.

Once back on the boat, the group travelled to where a seal colony lived. This was a great part of the trip. All the students (and supporting teachers) were able to swim with the seals. We had to move and act like a seal in the water which meant tumbling and doing somersaults. When we moved like the seals, they came up to us because they thought we were seals too. It was so much fun, but unfortunately, we couldn't spend that much time with the seals due to restrictions on the amount of human contact that the seals could be exposed to.

On the way back to shore, the students had an opportunity to do commando jumps off the back of the boat. We would all line up and the boat would pick up speed and then we would all jump off the back one after the other, get back on the boat and do it all again. It was a cheap thrill but it was exciting for all of us.

The snorkelling trip was one of many where the students had fun and learned to appreciate the complexity and diversity of nature and the environment.

So if you are a student who thinks that they would find this sort of activity a real adventure, I would highly recommend that you take Outdoor Education as a subject and have the time of your life!!!

Brooke Hanna, Year 11
VCE Outdoor Education student

Senior Presentation Ball

PRESENTATION BALL

There is one day in the year that most Year 11's look forward to. This is the day when you get dolled up, you hire fancy cars and have the time of your life. For this year's students that day was Friday 20th of June and the event - "The Senior Presentation Ball."

The students had been practicing, practicing and practicing their dance steps for 12 weeks prior to the Ball, hoping that they would remember which way to turn and what to do next when the time came to perform for their parents and friends.

Other preparations which had to be considered were what dress to wear, what shoes to buy, what design for the vests, the posies, tickets and many other bits and pieces which had to be organised for the big night. Finally after all the preparations had been completed the time had come for the Year 11's to show everyone how they scrubbed up.

The students arrived at Rembrandts, Knox at about 5pm and all were looking unusually different in their dresses and suits. Girls with their posies, boys in their tails lined up for their professional photos. The students had an opportunity to get in one last practice before the presentation, which seemed a scary thought. Next came the group photo, which seemed to take forever, "no, you move over here, not that far, come back a little," the shots were taken and the students were moved off into the little room at the side of the stage.

Here the students talked about the night and how the dance lessons seemed to go on and on, but now that the Deb was here they couldn't believe how fast the time was going. Parents and friends started arriving, finding their tables and places, they got settled, ate soup and waited for the presentation to begin. Back in the little room the nervous debutants and their partners waited patiently, nibbling on little sandwiches. The boys were called to go off to the other side of the stage and the girls were left alone with their churning stomachs. "Line up in order please, be quiet, everyone can hear what you are saying." Then the first four girls were called to go back stage through the little door. Then the door was closed again. As the line of girls moved forward, you could see the fear in their eyes. "I hope I don't fall down the steps, I hope I don't stuff up the dance steps!!"

It was like a dream, each girl moved into position, each partner was already sitting in his place, music played and all of the students moved to their positions, walked forward, curtsied and moved off. Each girl was as pretty as can be, each boy just as handsome, the couples smiled and didn't even show that they were about to collapse from nervousness. When each partner had been presented, the music changed and the couples began to dance, moving in time with the beat, graceful and happy to be there - finally!! The dancing finished with the girls out the front and the boys behind, what a great bunch of kids. The night went on and the music played loud and good. Parents and friends, debs and their partners boogied throughout the evening. They ate, laughed, danced and got really sore feet. What a night of fun and excitement!!

At 12, Cinderella had to go home and the coach turned into a pumpkin, well not really, the time at Rembrandts was over and it was time to go home. Well that's also a lie, the kids went off into the night partying and drinking sinful liquids and the parents went home wondering where all their money went.

For the students the night was still young and partying was the best and only way to finish off the day that was the Senior Presentation Ball.

Many thanks to Ms Dusting, Ms Moffat, (dance teachers, Grant and Heather McGeackin) and all other people who were involved with making the Ball such a success.

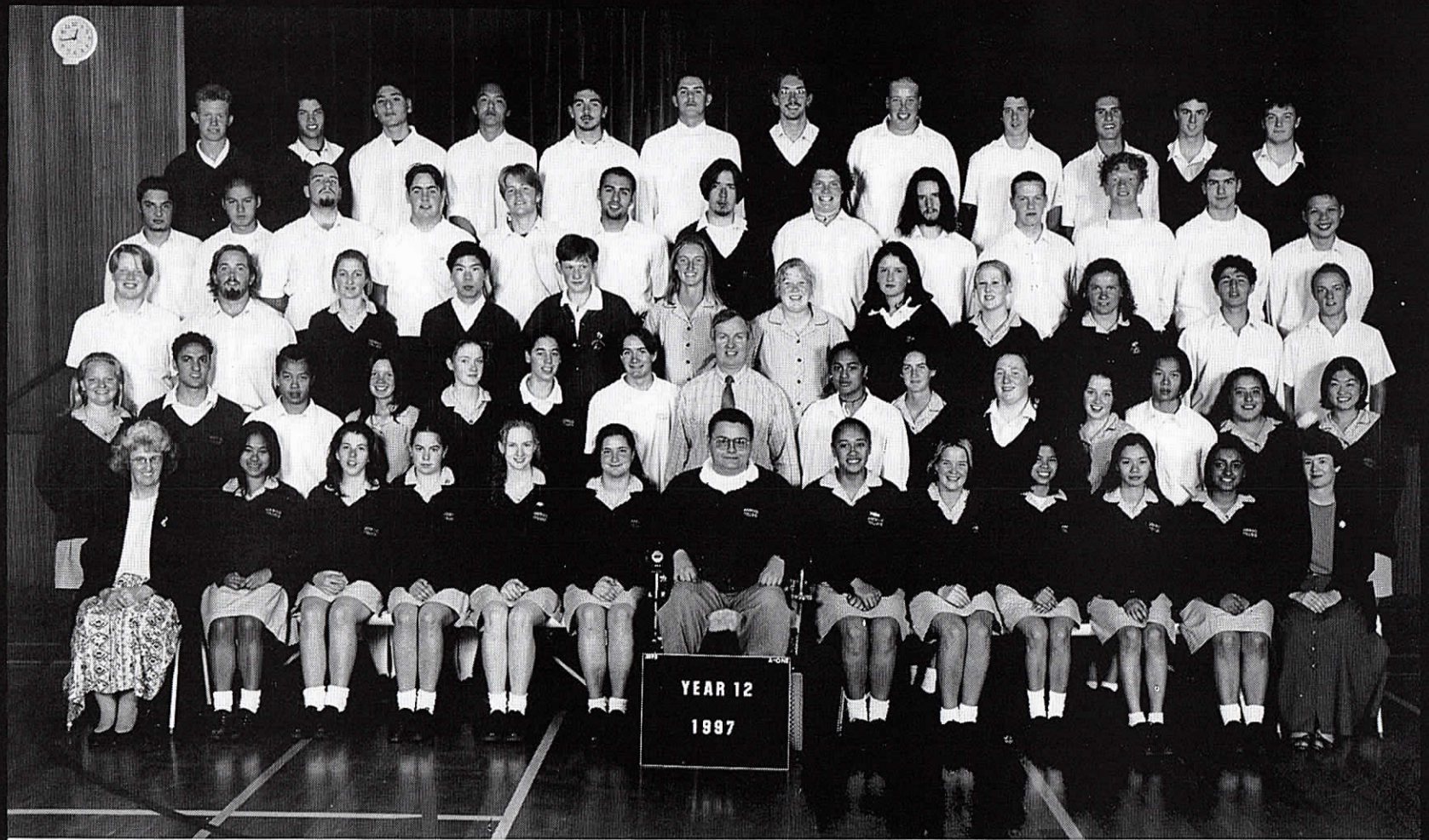
Brooke Hanna
1997 Ashwood College Debutant

YEAR 12: THE LAST DAY

The Year 12s had their last day on Thursday 23rd October. They farewelled the school with an Assembly which was highly entertaining and full of laughs. We discovered some hidden talent in singing, music and dance items, and special guests included Michael Jackson, The Queen, Yasser Arafat, Poida and Panda. We thoroughly enjoyed it and wish them all the best for the future.

Harley Parker - 8A

1997 Year 12



ROW 5: John Collins, Scott Ellis, Shaheen Tomasian, Ben Henderson, Vas Siganakis, Bill Dimas, Sam Lieberman, Scott McDonell, Tim Fletcher, Andrew Bates, Ben Cas, Ben Hellwig.

ROW 4: Bill Apostolou, Young Marinis, Craig Johnson, Neil Synnott, Lance Coleman, Shahab Karimi, Anthony Davies, Ryan Stevens, Evan Langmaid, Zeb Richardson, Adam Martin, Chris Agiazis, Luan Nguyen.

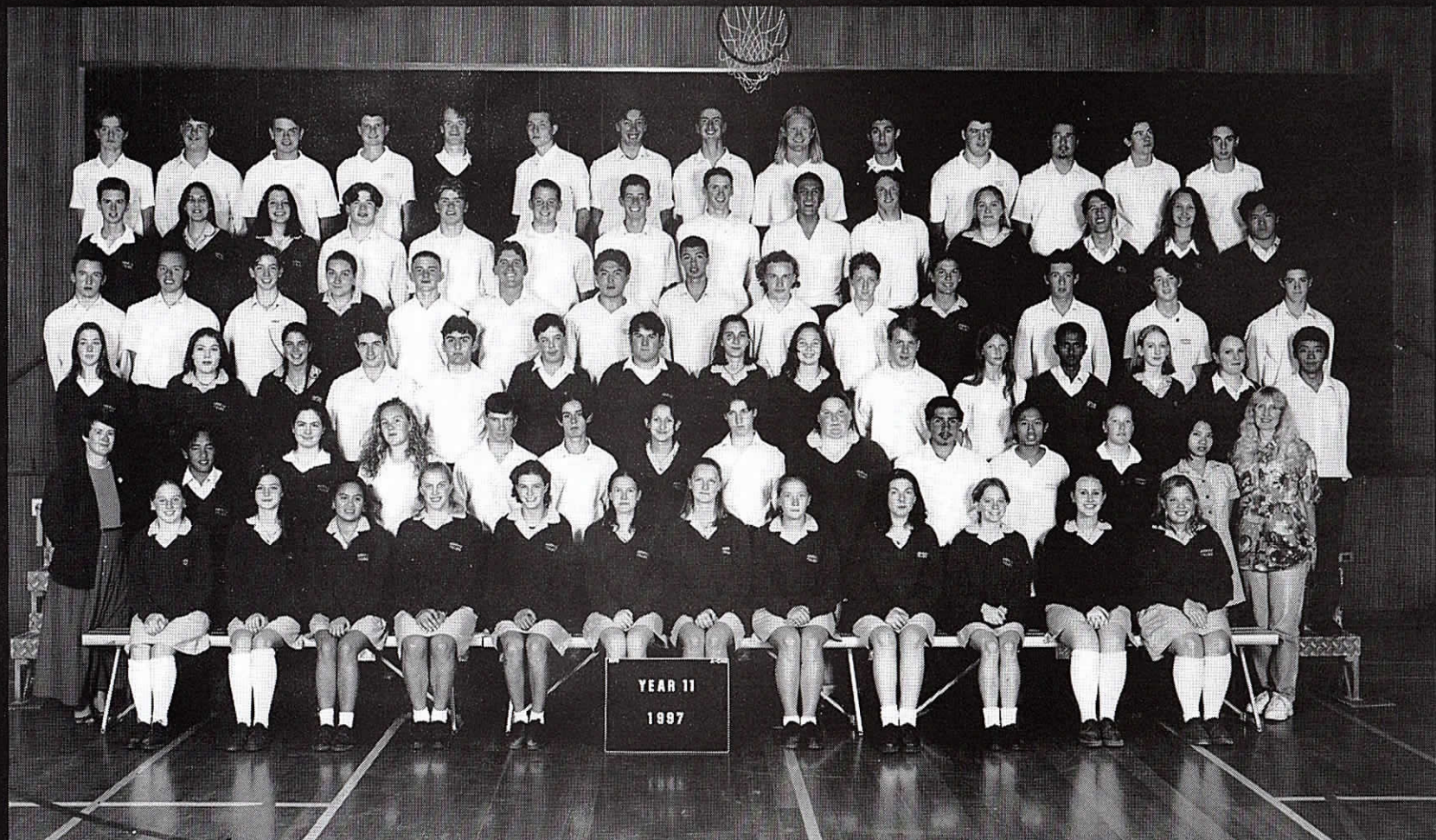
ROW 3: Alistair Clark, Shane Oldfield, Tracey Boulton, Gavin Mak, Robert Pickard, Leana Tilley, Catherine Hill, Anita Bamert, Eliza Atkinson, Donna Beauchamp, Kemal Effendi, Rhys Jackson.

ROW 2: Katherine Carragher, Yama Rezaee, Toan Nguyen, Jane Boyd, Maggie Cairns, Russell Aronson, Nick Rae, Ruth Faalele, Katherine Thompson, Megan Pountney, Lee-Anne Crothers, Lian Byrne, Tai Nguyen, Lucy Ly.

FRONT: Lorena Javier, Alexandra Christopoulos, Michelle Drew, Jenny Rogers, Rachel Cahill, Peter Wenzler, Ilaisa Samoa, Kylie Oldfield, Sheryl Ballesteros, Kathy Low, Shahzma Patel.

YEAR: 12 YEAR LEVEL CO-ORDINATOR: MISS J. MOFFAT. HOME GROUP TEACHERS: MS M. FERGUSON, MR C. SANDERS

1997 Year 11



ROW 6: Simon Fletcher, Ross Manning, Michal Jozwik, Phillip Moxon, Nathan Jackson, Adem Raman, Brodie McLeod, Jason Mead, David Collins, Sayed Asim, Sam Bird, Harris Robotis, Craig Laing, Lyndon Fagan.

ROW 5: Michael Collins, Soula Babaniaris, Laura Vezer, Liam O'Callaghan, Thomas McCormack, Phillip Kirkland, Shannon Boltuc, Shane Raeburn, Marcus Tan, Brent McDougall, Emma Williams, Justin Reynolds, Alexandra Nevzorova, Dennis Louey.

ROW 4: Miguel Rusch, Ben Young, Tristan Dolling, Natasha Kennedy, Bill Wigham, Matthew Gillespie, SunYi, Eric Morvan, Dwayne Godfrey, Ross Nimon, Joanne Potts, Vitali Zaslavski, Jarrod Canny, Andrew Hunt.

ROW 3: Katherine Oglesby, Julia Grimshaw, Georgina Campbell, George Fatouros, Thomas Siamatas, Kym Everitt, Michael Duggan, Effie Adamopoulos, Leanne Schneider, Harley Beresford-Long, Luke Douglas, Avinesh Mudaliar, Emily McLennan, Jessica Gulley, Masa Sato.

ROW 2: Rithy Lim, Maria Baras, Brooke Hanna, David Markham, Nick Peristeris, Fiona Pritchard, Jonathan Hogg, Bronwyn Parker, Nick Gatzonis, James Ross, Shelley Thomson, Jelia Wong.

FRONT: Loretta Telling, Emily Turner, Britt Jacobson, Nicole Vanderzell, Anna Meldrum, Nicole Sharp, Joanne Owens, Tara Beattie, Georgia Liberopoulos, Elizabeth Carragher, Kate Rodger, Tanith Guy.

YEAR: 11

YEAR LEVEL CO-ORDINATOR: MISS J. MOFFAT. HOME GROUP TEACHER: MRS M. DUSTING

ROW 4: Corey McCann. Darren Johns, Chris Kennedy.
ROW 3: Allison Nair, Robbie O'Brien, Robyne Martin, Loren Ibbotson, Lisette Kennedy, Jerom Dixon, Jonathan Chionh, John Corrin.
ROW 2: Andrew Heath, Mark Anderson, Bradley Bain, Hayley Goode, Robert Phillips, Kimberley Duband, Marlon Schleicher, Nicholas Cross.
FRONT: Nathalie Morvan, Hayley White, Emma Brown, Jane Goodier, Lucy Kane, Michelle Gordon, Natalie Grant, Michelle Casteilucci-Price.
YEAR: 10 A TEACHER: MR H. ERSCH

ROW 3: Jason Elder, Daniel Edwards, Mark Foster, Peter Whatmore, Andrew Irving, Nicholas Letts, Theo Prodromou, Steven Bailey, Edwin Farmar-Bowers.
ROW 2: Rita Rooney, Matthew Carragher, Robyn Donnelly, Mahoran Visanourack, Cameron Wilson, James Cole, Georgina Ballantine, Assema Lalzad.
FRONT: Daniel Aronson, Stephen Horsburgh, Connie Halvatsiotis, Rachel Barnes, Angie Balayannis, Kate Smallacombe, Chris Jackson, Daniel Krongold.

YEAR: 10 B TEACHER: MISS K. LEVY

Years 10A and 10B

BRACES

By Kim Duband - Year 10

Metal, Braces.
What is the point of braces?
I ask.
To correct your bite,
To straighten your teeth?
22 Months of inconvenience.
Is it worth it? I ask,
...I think so!

Orthodontists with colourful bow ties,
Gingivitis and a dry sense of humour.
"How does that feel", they ask,
When your mouth is
gaped open by metal separators.

A jaw held together with
elastic bands. SNAP!
There goes one as I bite into an apple.

After 22 months
the braces are removed. Now I
Have perfect teeth.
22 Months of inconvenience.
Is it worth it? I ask,
YES!

ROW 4: Tonga Pota, Dale Stephenson, Ben Grigg.
ROW 3: Amy McDonald, Shan Summers, Chris Kubuj, Brad Lyon, Matthew Goodier, Mustafa Shahabi, Rachel Smithers, Angela Morgan.
ROW 2: Christine Sekulic, Kylie Thompson, Stephen Porter, Lauren Warne, Nathaniel Hanley, Ayesha Effendi, Ahmad Popal, Curtis Garcia.
FRONT: Helen Markham, Kate Harrison, David Marwick, Linda Na, Natalie Clark-Pearman, Callum Sanders, Tara McKenzie, Debbie Marshall.
YEAR: 10 C
TEACHER: MRS E. CHADDERTON

ALADDIN

"Aladdin"- A Rock Pantomime opened at Ashwood College on Monday September 15 at 7:30 pm and ran each night until Thursday September 18.

The show was the culmination of some six months of hard work for approximately sixty of our students. Ashwood has a tradition of student run productions, with all of the key roles being carried out by them. They are the actors, musicians costume, make-up and stage designers, technicians, caterers, publicists and can claim the vast majority of credit for the very professional pieces of theatre that Ashwood has and will continue to produce.

All the preparation work was done out of hours, in the students' own time, but the skills and experience gained by those involved form a very important part of their educational lives as well. This version of Aladdin has an Australian script and had some very unusual characters and plot twists as well as a memorable and entertaining score. Our students have added their own ideas and the result was a very enjoyable story about a lamp, a genie, a flying carpet, a boy, a girl and a shark. All ages found something appealing in Aladdin. We're glad to see that people flocked to see how much talent our students had.

Mr N. Bullard

A FRENCH CONNECTION

I have just come back from my student exchange in France. I went with an organisation called Southern Cross Cultural Exchange. I had the choice to go to a number of countries but I chose to go to France.

I left early September last year and came back at the start of this July. If you want to go overseas as an exchange student there are a lot of different programs that you can choose, two months, five months or ten months. It depends on what program would be best for you.

When I first arrived I stayed in Paris for six weeks (with a family) to do an intensive language course, because I didn't feel comfortable enough with speaking French. The course really helped me a lot. There were ten people doing it, six Australians, two Danish and two Brazilians. We would work for four days and each Wednesday we would go around Paris to do all the sight seeing. In that time, I saw the Eiffel Tower, Sacre Coeur, Notre Dame, L'Arc de Triomphe and the most famous street, The Champs-Elysees.

After that I went to Nantes where I would be staying for the next nine months with a family that I hadn't met beforehand. Nantes is situated on the west coast of France a little bit below Brittany, at the mouth of the Loire river. Nantes has a population of around 600,000, that makes it about the sixth biggest city in France after Paris, Lyon, Marseille, Lille and Bordeaux.

Nantes is a very historical town with a castle situated in the centre of it which dates back to the 16th century. Near it there is a huge church called St. Peter's Cathedral which goes back to the 15th century. You can tell that the town dates back just by looking at the architectural design and the narrow streets. Most of the houses were made from stone and they were close together like terrace houses in the city. Apartments were very common. In the centre of town that's all there were. There are barely any front gardens mainly because there wasn't the space at the time. But further out of town, you see them more. I lived in a house about five minutes by car from the centre. The street I lived in was very narrow. We had a garage, but the street was too narrow to turn the car into it, so it was pointless and used as a storing room. The door opened onto the street.

I attended a school called "College La Noe Lambert". It had about 800 students spread over four year levels. One of the first things that I noticed was how big the classes were. There were 31 people in my class. I found that a little bit too many because everyone works at a different level so the slower people just got more and more behind.

School went from 8.00am till 5.30pm! It seems long but the day is cut in two by lunch which is one and a half hours. There was a large canteen which served things like bread and cheese, salad, a warm main meal, then dessert. When a teacher was away there wouldn't be a class. So often, days would start at 10.00am or maybe finish at 3.30pm. There was a wide range of academic subjects, but not a lot of artistic subjects, only Art and Music. I was in a bilingual class which means that I had five hours of French a week. Languages are strongly enforced. The others in my class also had to do either German or Spanish (three hours). As an extra there was also Ancient Greek or Latin (two hours). I had two sciences, Physics (with a bit of Chemistry) and Biology. History and Geography was also a big deal. In the year level I did, (the equivalent of year 9) the 20th Century was studied, mainly the wars but also the crisis in the early 30's, which started in America. School took a while to get used to because it was so different, but I must have adapted, because when I came back to Ashwood I was still thinking the French School system. It was weird to see students in uniform again and it's taking a while to adjust back to a different way of learning.

For entertainment the French generally went to cafes, talked, or went to the cinema, things which I think stays the same the world over. But with school being so long, there wasn't a lot of time free, except Saturday and Wednesday afternoons. Sundays are normally spent with the family.

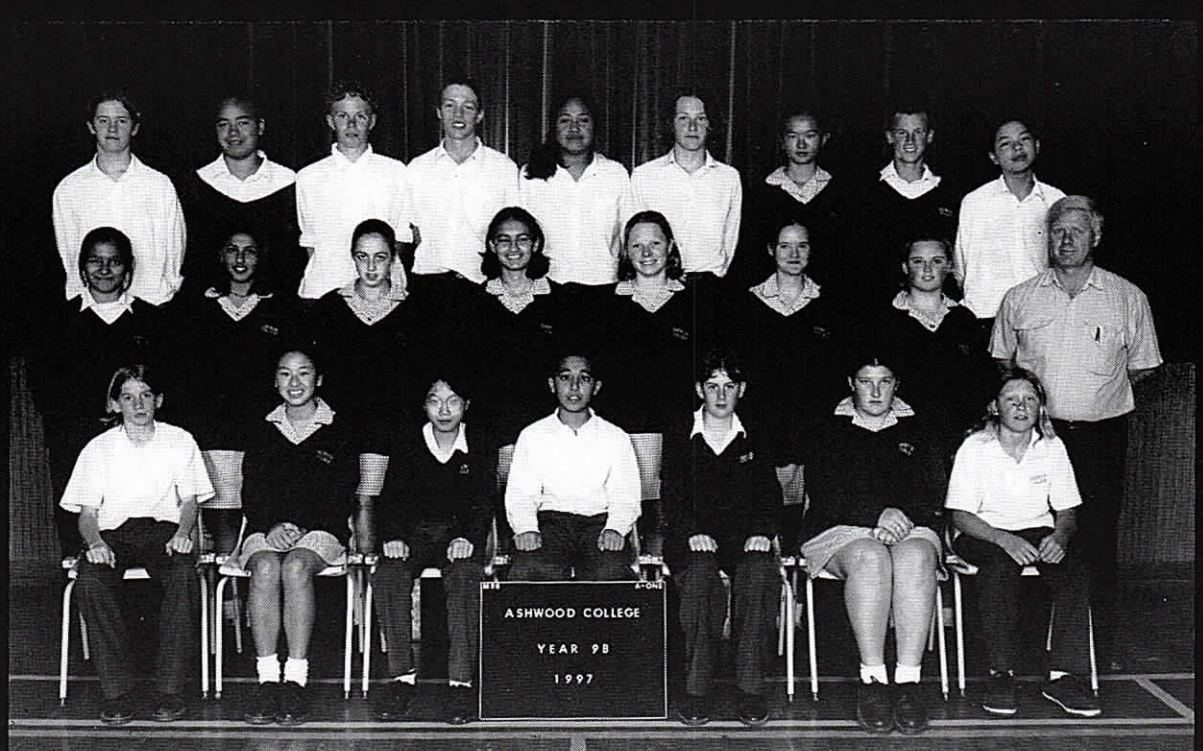
Holidays are a big thing in France, especially the two-three months for summer (which unfortunately I missed). Over Christmas I went to Alsace, which is a region in the north-east of France. I visited Strasbourg which has a very famous old cathedral. The only problem with going to the east was that at that particular time Europe was suffering from the coldest winter in about 45 years, which gave temperatures as low as - 15 degrees!! There was snow everywhere which was really pretty, but I can't help saying the Australian Christmas over summer isn't something that we can complain about.

That was about all the travelling that I did as well as a class trip to London (where I probably spoke more French than English). In all, I'm really happy that I decided to go to France for 10 months. It's an experience that I would recommend to anybody. But it is not something you should be forced into. It should be you that makes the choice, for it's a big decision.

by Student Exchange Student: *Emily Wilson - Year 11*

ROW 3: Natasha Sharp, Jodi Field, Justin Daw, Stuart Donnelly, Andrew Bird, James Ballard, Rachel Webb-Stoll, John O'Doherty, Buster Martin.
ROW 2: Leigh Hutchison, Merata Blockley, Pooja Singh, Fred Bissett, Adrian Tizio, Alex Rozycki, Kate Phillips, Kevin Bland, Emily Kearney.
FRONT: Serena Poon, Max Samoa, Warren Liang, Mariam Shahabi, Melissa Masalski, Kevin Gibson, Paul Seddon, Nilofar Popal.

YEAR: 9 A



ROW 3: Peter Bridgman, Lisa Johansson, Mathew Dunham, Andrew Letts, Kathy Tuiloma, Christopher Walsh, Min Henderson, Michael Kilner, John Nguyen.
ROW 2: Zahra Patel, Zahra Lalani, Fiona Meldrum, Chantelle Patel, Alexandra Friday, Sarah Norton, Danielle Young.
FRONT: Bryson Telling, Hanami Kikuchi, Wai Kam Mok, Qais Ali Khail, Cary Fagan, Amanda Beattie, Lance Allan.

YEAR: 9 B TEACHER: MR P. FORBES

Years 9A and 9B

Year 9 Self Defense

Last week all students in Year 9 participated in a self defence course instructed by Matt, a martial arts instructor from **Southern Self Defence.**

We were shown various techniques on how to quickly escape from our attacker or cause much pain to them. Some of these techniques included aiming for the eyes, ears, throat and groin area. We were also told we should use weapons in an attack such as pens, keys, etc. Tips were also given to us on what to do if we were being followed by car or foot. We tried some moves that would immediately put our attacker in an uncomfortable situation.

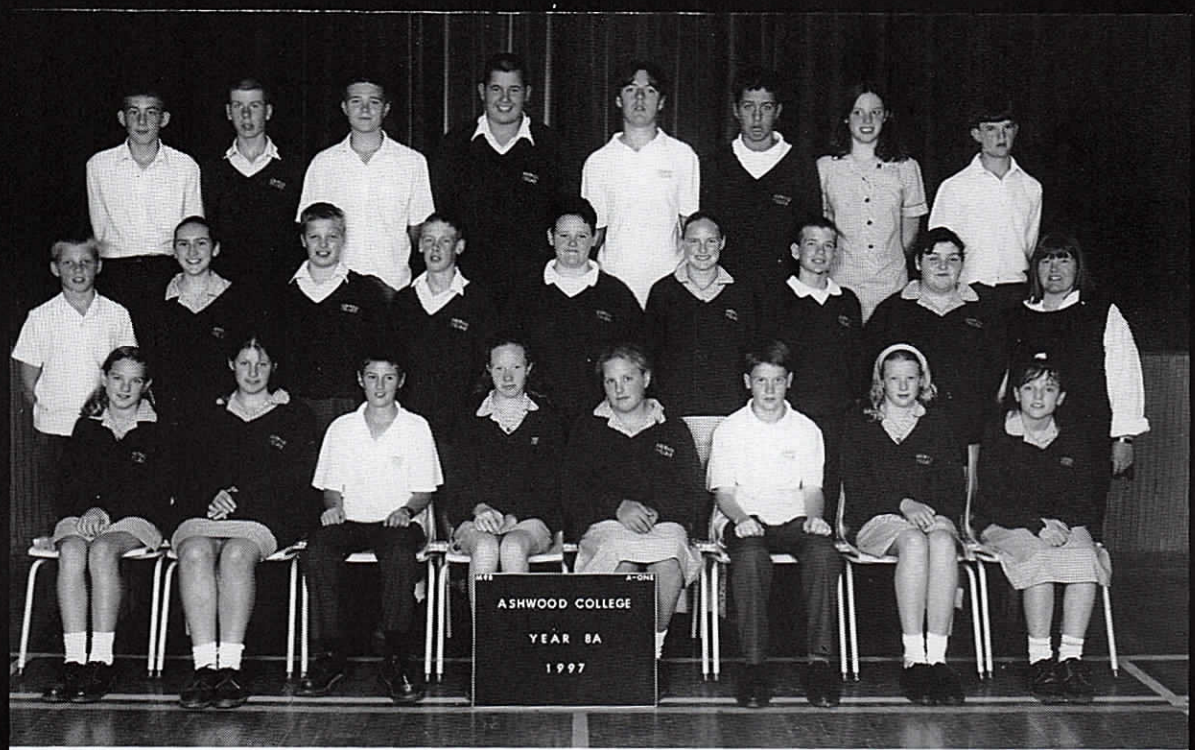
This course was a useful and fun experience that would be of great use to anyone.

ROW 3: Allison George, David Sharp, Sonny Futialo, Darren Drew, Jarrod Francis, Jonathan Fox, Ling Xu, Tegan Skinner, Alysia Betts.

ROW 2: Mandi Darrington, Matthew Franzi, Matthew Ibbotson, Edward Nethery, Jade Canavan, Paul Kelly, Shahin Karimi Sarab.

FRONT: Sarah Gryfenberg, Carrie Hatch, Angela Dimas, Mark Brown, Jade Williams, Charity Ellefsen, Hilda Sutcliffe.

YEAR: 9 C TEACHER: MR W. NORRIS



ROW 3: Kane Mullins, Adam Davies, Shaun Stephenson, Daniel Nowak, Daniel Ede, Mark Sims, Shelley Vezer, Lucas Hillenga.
ROW 2: Adrian Gailitis, Nicole Behar, Jason Adlam, Nathan Silk, Jacquie Ahern, Katie McBaron, Simon McGuinness, Courtney Grayden.
FRONT: Kim Gulley, Melanie De Jong, Robert Bradfield, Amber Dryden, Melissa Boyse, Robert Leggett, Nicole Patchell, Tarnya Kelly.

YEAR: 8 A TEACHER: MS F. MUNDELL

ROW 3: Bethel Kidane, Micah Douglas, Terry Poutakidis, Holly Melrose, Charles Barath, Brent McLeod, Maree Haley, Leona Maxwell.
ROW 2: Kalo Li, Dayle Hanley, Daniel Samoa, Anthony Papadimitriou, Michael Wu, Jake Nichols, Robert Suckling.
FRONT: Samia Lalzad, Meley Taffere, Fahima Lalzad, Angela Benitez, Muslima Shahabbi, Lena Jiang, Cam-Tu Tran.

YEAR: 8 B TEACHER: MR W. BURGESS

8D PROJECT RECOGNISED

W Hinson
Home Group Teacher - 8D

As part of the Year 8 Service Project seven students from 8D took part in the World Vision 40 Hour Famine.

Supported by their class, friends, teachers and family, these students raised almost $430 for the Famine Appeal.

Many thanks to all who supported the students and congratulations to the students for their excellent efforts.

Melinda King
Jessica Bryce
Jessica Konstantinidis
Melissa Reekie
Lisa Gunn
Lisa Hartley
Megan Young

ROW 3: Daniel McCready, Rachel Jackson, Nicole Bluett-Boyd, Adam Fraine, Stephen Shaw, Nathan Dodds, Sophie Reese, Katie Moxon, Leana Bailey.

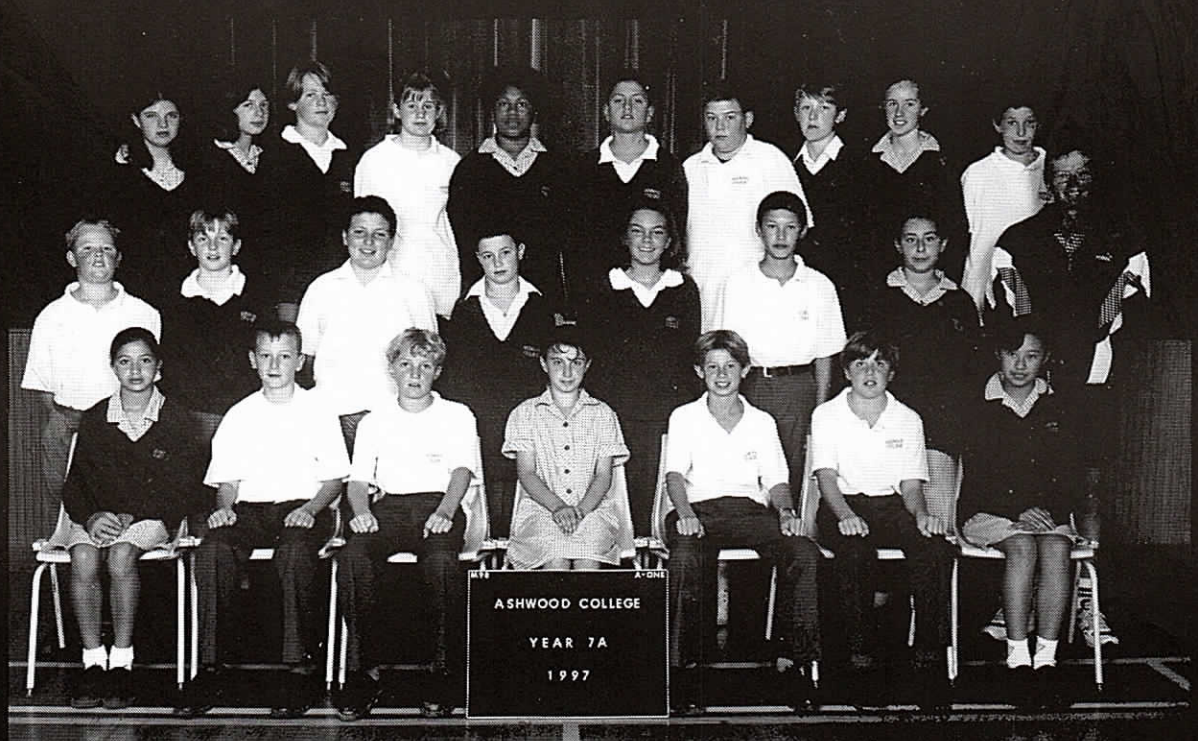
ROW 2: Elisha Smith, Allan Pickard, Wes Grigg, Leon Makopoulos, Marc Meulenbelt, Tuong Tran, Lydia Ngapare, Nick Hogan.

FRONT: Karen Ohlsen, Dusko Petrovic, Lisa Perkins, Elizabeth Nevill, Ronny Lombardo, Helen Lee, Jarrod Hargreaves, Elsa Scott-Carroll.

YEAR: 8 C TEACHER: MR P. DEMPSTER

ROW 3: Michael Bird, Lisa Hartley, Kylie Drew, Leigh Zimmer, Ashton Batty, Austen Pota, Phillip Morey, Stacey Anderson, Patihan Visanourack.
ROW 2: Jason Bell, Jarrod Boltuc, Beorn Bayliss, Melinda King, Tony Hooper, Sayeeda Asim, Jessica Konstantinidis.
FRONT: Megan Young, Cyril Soh, Suzanne Grant, Claire Wilson, Jessica Bryce, Steven Dunham, Melissa Reekie.

YEAR: 8 D TEACHER: MS W. HINSON



ROW 3: Belinda Bishop, Eleanor Meldrum, Trystan Mortimer, Melissa Drew, Adi Ratuvou, Luigi Scalise, Ben Padula, David Simpson, Sarah Lieberman, Luke Edwards.
ROW 2: Bradley Young, Peter Hinch, Jace Curyer, Andrew Morvan, Merindah McInnes, Josh Tan, Kally Alexandrou.
FRONT: Mariam Effendi, Jake Kneale, Ashley Hunter, Bianca La Rocca, Scott Rackham, Rory Bluett-Boyd, Jasmine Manapol. (Absent: Nick Hall.)

YEAR: 7 A TEACHER: MR R. ANDERSON

Years 8D and 7A

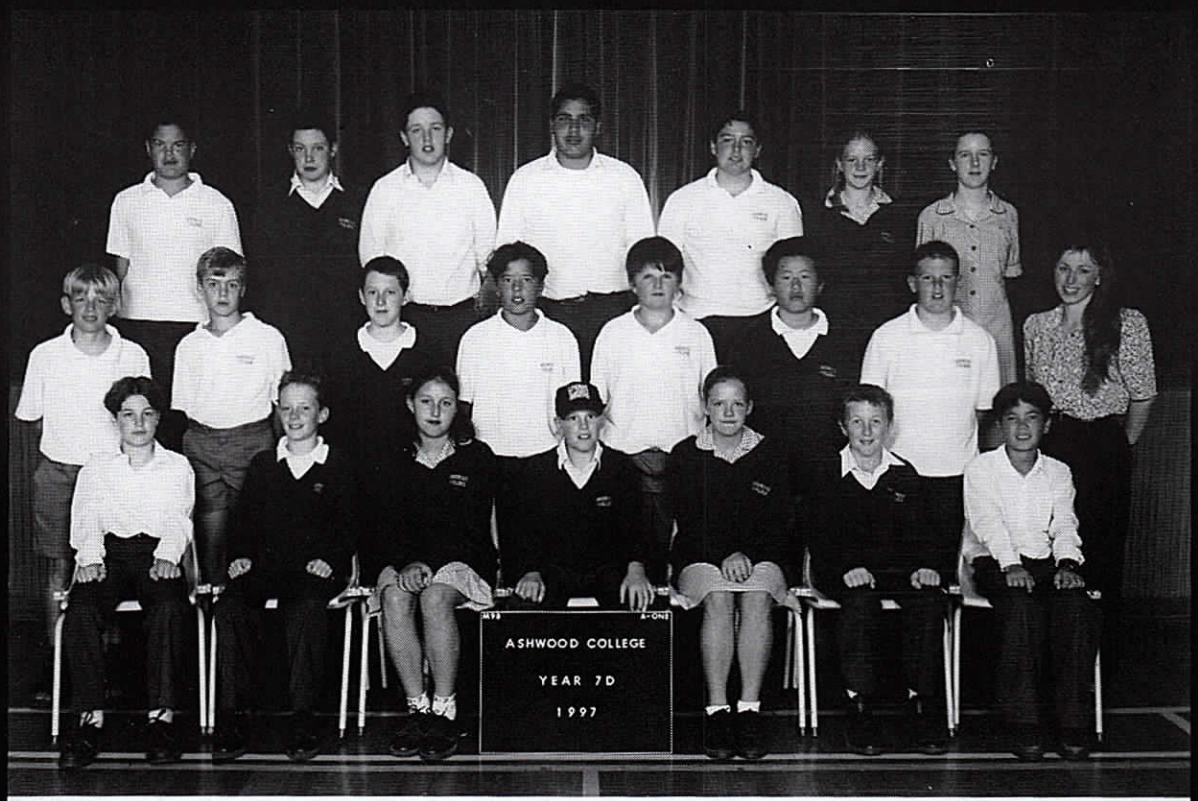
Years 7B and 7C

ROW 3: Chelsea Hill, Jonathan Constable, Eliza Dolling, Ahmad Seyar Amiri, Boyan Zrncic, Dale Boulton, Chantal McInnes, Michael Tomeo, Zahirullah Khan.
ROW 2: Joshua Smith, Argina Baker, Nabil Abdullahi, Tosh Elder, Karli Hatzi, Lucas Hall, Kanok Bunrit.
FRONT: Alvin Lee, Brett Ryan, Jeanette Raffay, Khalid Shahabbi, Billy Gatzonis, Simone Corrie, Shireen Ali.
(Absent: Anastasias Hatzis, Stephanie Keylock.)

YEAR: 7 B TEACHER: MS J. HILLS

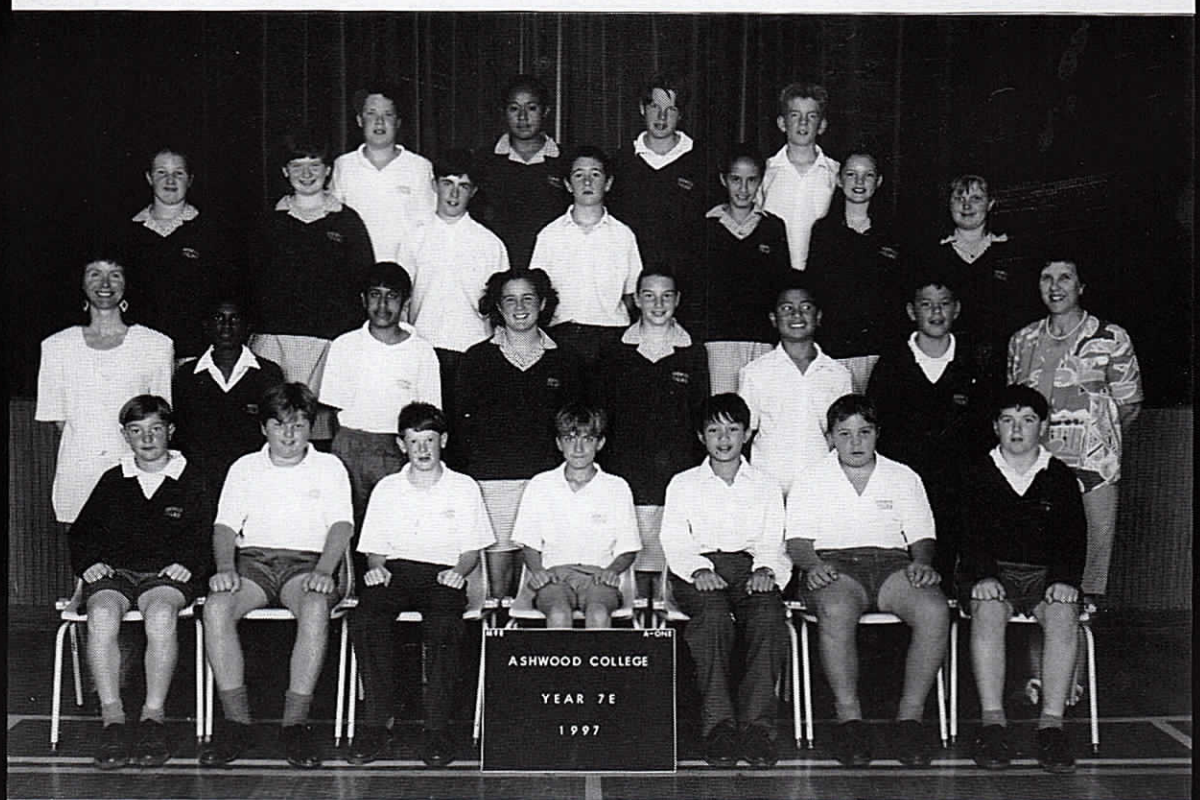
ROW 3: Daniel Mauseth, Stevie Carroll, Brett Collins, Matt Yarmouth, Sarah Irving, Lloyd Johansson, Matt Gailitis, Matthew King.
ROW 2: Brendan Sacco, Daniel Searby, Billy Kimitsis, Ricky O'Brien, Kristy Gray, Samuel Lockhart, Adam Geoghegan.
FRONT: Philippa Crombie, Jay Martin, Robyn Klye, David Dryden, Kristie Dalsanto, Daniel Fox, Jodi Breeden.
(Absent: Hannah Field.)

YEAR: 7 C TEACHER: MISS H. LUBLINER



ROW 3: Ken Jonassen, James Rath, Shannon Davies, Joseph Augelli, Patrick Nethery, Caroline Letts, Jacqueline Gartley.
ROW 2: Richard Henson, Matthew Nixon, Gregory Fiske, Rodney Richards, Tristan Reekie, Sze Lim, Leigh Wills.
FRONT: Jeremy Hogg, Jarrod Boyd, Juliette Mitchell, Mark Horsfield, Stephanie Norton, Chris Currie, Liem Nguyen.
(Absent: Owen Deas, Shelley Webb-Stoll, John Morgan, Anna Cowdell.)

YEAR: 7 D TEACHER: MRS J. WIGGINS



ROW 4; Aaron Twomey, Samantha Pota, Adam Gardner, Broderick Jackson.
ROW 3: Laura Kearney, Florina Bent, Nathan Odgers, Timothy Rosenberg, Shea Canavan, Melissa Hodder, Amanda Carter.
ROW 2: Warren Hammond, Ashish Tailor, Joanne Cahill, Michelle Corr, John Amato, Aaron Porima.
FRONT: Chris Petrolo, Geoffrey Cooke, Warwick Grant, Robert Adamson, Johnny Ly, Marcel Reyes, Shaun O'Callaghan.
(Absent: Casey Allan, Josh Staker.)

YEAR: 7 E TEACHERS: MS D. MORRISON, MS E. MAHER

Years 7D and 7E

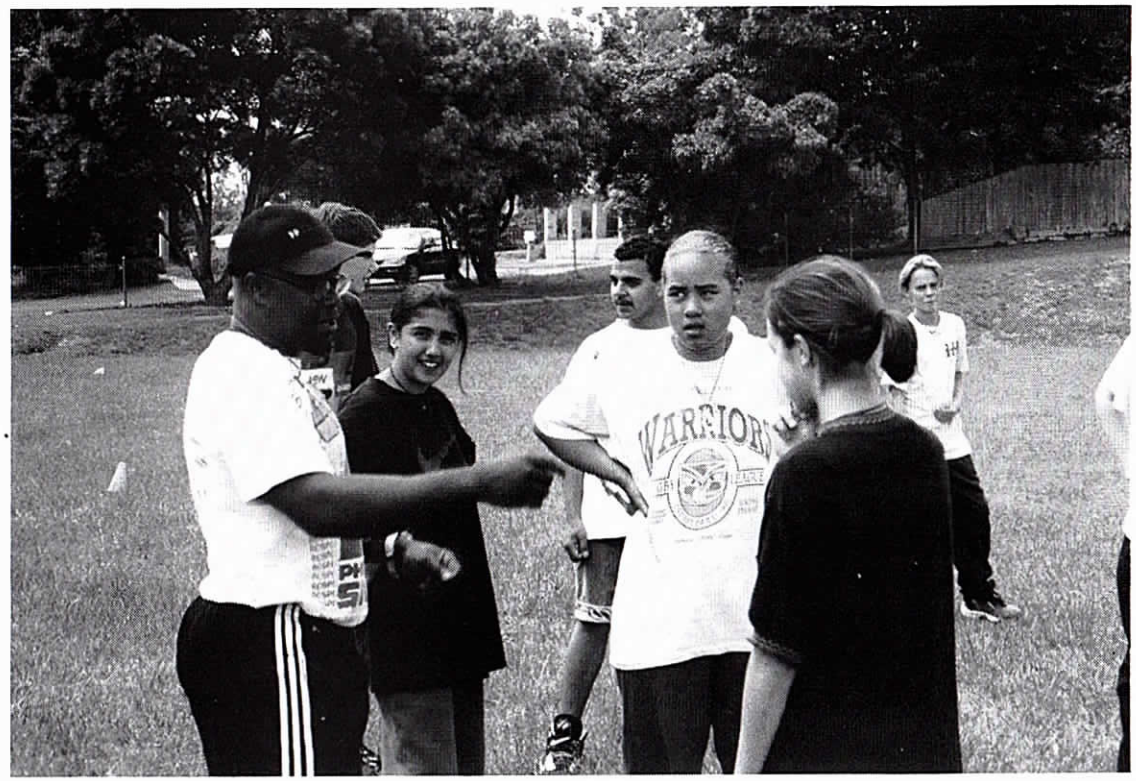
GRIDIRON COMES TO ASHWOOD COLLEGE

Gridiron is being introduced to Years 7 and 9 students as part of their sport education program.

Coach, Dave Duncan from the United States of America is instructing these Year 9 students in the basics of the sport.

Dave and assistant Richie are experienced Gridiron players and have gained an excellent rapport with the students. Major safety aspects of American football are taught using tagging and flag football techniques. The game is quite demanding similar to Aussie rules and Rugby, in this respect.

The Year 9 sport group have been very quick to accept this new sport and are all very keen to participate with requests for the program to be extended. Mixed teams have worked well with this group. The coaches have complimented them on their attentiveness and the speed with which they have been able to get the hang of the sport. Learning terms such as "downs 1 to 4" and offensive tactics such as "shake and bake" to elude the opposition.



Many thanks go to the staff from Sharks Gridiron Club in Mt Waverley for providing a new and interesting sport experience for our students.

1,2,3 Hup!

Paul Orange
PE Department

STARLAB

On the 19th of November the students of year 8 went to room 20. Once in the room we were confronted with one *big* silver bubble. We were introduced to the man in charge, Mr. Neville Green. He explained to us that the bubble had been brought down from Canberra and was held up by a fan.

Most of us were really excited about going inside. We crawled into it through a tunnel, six at a time. Inside it was pitch black and I couldn't see a thing. We all sat down on the floor and after our eyes adjusted to the dark we looked up and saw whole galaxy of stars staring back at us. The stars were made by a black rotating box with holes in it and inside was a light. Mr. Green show us the process of the sun setting and some constellations. He showed us where you could see the planets Venus, Mars, Jupiter and Saturn at night using a little red laser pointer. He projected some amazing colour photographs on the wall of stars blowing up and the planets. We all enjoyed it. Bethel Kidane thanked Mr. Green and we left. I think most of us will be talking about it for a long time to come.

Holly Melrose 8B

Starlab

ASHMOLE COLLEGE