

NEWSLETTER
TERM 4 ISSUE 3 - DECEMBER 2014

PO Box 611
40 Boundary Street
MACKSVILLE NSW 2447
Phone: 02 6568 1066
Fax: 02 6568 2802

Phillip Hughes



1988 – 2014



**Phillip remains 63 not out at the crease and
equally he will never be dismissed from the
hearts and minds of this school and our
community.**



LETTER FROM CRICKET AUSTRALIA

Dear Principal Lyne,

The passing of Phillip Hughes is a tragedy for his family and friends, the wider Macksville community and Australian Cricket as a whole. Just shy of his 26th birthday, Phillip has been taken from us far too young.

We will never forget this young man - a modest hero who thrilled the nation and, in so doing, won an enduring place in our hearts. The goodwill and tributes that emerged following his tragic passing have been uplifting and tell us so much about the affection that many felt for Phillip and his place in our sport.

Amid the shock and the profound sense of loss, the community spirit of Macksville shone through the darkness in the week after Phillip's passing.

On behalf of Australian Cricket, I wish to express my sincere thanks to the entire Macksville High School community for its generous and unwavering support during preparations for his funeral service. With thousands of people in attendance, as well as broadcasters and media trying to take the service to millions around the world, this was no ordinary challenge. Quite simply, none of it could have been possible without the school community's understanding and wonderful cooperation.

The Hughes family told us that Phillip would not have wanted the funeral to be anywhere else. We were pleased to fulfil that wish, and take this opportunity to formally acknowledge the professional and understanding manner in which you and the school community responded to the unavoidable impact on school facilities, staff and students. We are immensely grateful for the effort everyone put in during this sad and difficult time.

I would be most grateful if you could extend my sincere gratitude to your staff, students and their parents for their tremendous support and understanding during this period.

After the challenges of recent weeks, I wish you and your school community an enjoyable Christmas period and offer our best wishes for 2015.

*Yours sincerely,
James Sutherland
Chief Executive Officer
Cricket Australia*

CALENDAR DATES

January

26	AUSTRALIA DAY
27	PUPIL FREE – STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY
28	YEAR 7 FIRST DAY
29	YEARS 8-12 FIRST DAY
30	MHS SWIMMING CARNIVAL

MACKSVILLE HIGH SAVES THE DAY!

We have a great vocalist and a great drummer we just need the rest of the band!

That was the situation when the Youthie at Nambucca Heads got a bunch of high school students together to work on producing /promoting and generally getting behind the support needed for the Triple J concert starring “In Hearts Wake” that was held on the 21st of November.

Red, the lead singer had written a bunch of great songs –into the breach leapt Tom “Slowhand” Burke, Anzac “Bassman” Flint, Chris “Powerchord” and Max “Piano Man” Cleversley from Macksville High . Ably supported by Eamon –Red’s brother on drums, Red Zebra did a great job on the night opening the gig to huge acclaim.

Overall the production team listed did an awesome job ensuring the word was spread and that a good crowd turned up and that the event went smoothly. Macksville students took leading roles on the night as well as contributing to the success of the event over many weeks previously. Visiting and contacting all sorts of people and organisations including TV, Newspapers and Radio Stations. Social media also played a major role and hopefully Triple J will look at bringing other events to the Valley. It could well encourage local youth to organise more events aimed at young people.



L – R Alison Hicks, Zoe Baines, Eliza Gadsby, India Bartley, Maya Smith, Tom Steward, Grace Waters and Mr Alan Battery

Please make sure the school has your correct email address and mobile number as we often send out important information via these communication channels. Please advise the office on 6568 1066 of any corrections or additions.

The school canteen is always looking for new volunteers to help out. You will receive lunch as a thank you for your support. Please contact Ros on 6568 1453

FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Distinguished guests, parents and carers, staff and students,

Welcome to Macksville High Schools Presentation ceremony for 2014.

We are a proud public comprehensive high school with the whole school community working towards a common goal – to enable every student to achieve their personal best, and today we are here to celebrate the outstanding personal achievements of so many students. Congratulations to everyone receiving an award today, and we acknowledge the application and diligence you have demonstrated this year.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my first year as Principal and I would like to sincerely thank the students, staff, parents and our wider community in supporting myself and the school in the education of our students. We are in the midst of developing our next 3 year plan and I look forward to working together to make a great school even greater.

Only a few short days ago our stadium was the venue used to celebrate the life of Phillip Hughes. Along with so many from around the world, we were deeply saddened by the news of his passing. Throughout the past week the remarkable character and spirit of our school has been evident through working together, thinking of others, keeping an eye on each other, and pitching in to get things done. I could not have been more proud of our students and staff. As many people recounted their stories to me about Phillip, recurring themes were evident – about setting a goal, working hard and persistently to achieve that goal and never giving up. These are certainly admirable qualities and I would like to think that our learning from this sad experience is if you work hard you can achieve your dreams. The students in front of me today receiving awards also demonstrate those qualities, whether it be for their academic, sporting, cultural or community successes.

As we reflect on our successful year, there are some standout moments and achievements. Some of these have included:

- Megan Porter has had her HSC artwork selected for exhibition in the prestigious ArtExpress
- Alina Tape competing in the Australian Youth Olympic team in China
- Approx 40 year 12 students have already been offered early entry places at University
- A successful musical during term 3
- Elizabeth Argue competing in the finals of the Sydney Morning Herald Public Speaking
- Tess McWade visited the Western Front in France to commemorate Anzac Day this year.

We have 4 staff changes occurring next year. Two of the staff retiring are among the unsung heroes, behind the scenes for the most part, who allow the school to keep operating smoothly - Margery Boylan one of our office staff and Kathleen Lynch, one of our cleaning staff. Both of these ladies have been working at Macksville High School for over 30 years.

Margaret Orman, HT Home Science is on leave pending retirement next year and has been at Macksville for 10 years, and teaching students across the state for over 30 years. We can't thank them enough for their dedication to our school and public education and we wish them all health and happiness in their retirement.

Cathy Eagan has been a casual and temporary teacher at our school for 8 years and has secured a permanent position at Kempsey and we wish her all the best. I am sure that her students will always remember the contribution she has made to their lives.

There are many people to thank:

To the dedicated teaching, office, support and cleaning staff - thank you for your effort and assistance in providing the learning environment and experiences in and out of the classroom, so that our students can reach their potential.

To our parents - thank you for working in partnership with us to nurture the talents that your children possess.

Thank you to our small band of enthusiastic P&C members who provide resources and support for our school. To Ros and our workers and volunteers in the canteen – thank you for feeding the hungry hordes every day, and doing it always with a smile.

Thank you to the Macksville Community members who have supported our school through their time and resources – we appreciate your commitment to our students.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to wish all of you a safe and happy festive season and look forward to working together again next year.

Mrs Erica Lyne - Principal

P & C NEWSLETTER

It was with mixed emotions that I attended my last P&C meeting in October. After 15 years of being on P&C committees, 6 years at Macksville High, it was time to hang up my P&C hat.

I have always found it to be very fruitful to attend the monthly meetings. It's a way of finding out what is going on in the school, especially when you have teenagers who are reluctant to inform you of any happenings!

There is always the opportunity to have your own input in whatever subject is being discussed, whether it be uniforms, class sizes, parent/teacher interviews etc. Also, a forum where you can discuss any concerns you may have, on any topic related to the school.



I have come to know quite a few teachers, on a personal level as well, over the years. It's nice to be able to get to know the person who is teaching your child. Not just a name or a face in the crowd.

I have made many friends through the P&C over the years. Both parents and teachers, friendships that will last long after the children have moved on.

There are some passionate and committed members on Macksville's committee. I would like to thank Dave Hall, for all his hard work and commitment as P&C President for the last 5 years. Thanks also to the small band of regulars, who show up every month without fail. Without these good people, there would not be the opportunity to have parent representation or input within the school.

Paula Buckley.

TOP AWARD TO ALINA



Congratulations to Alina Tape for winning a North Coast CHS Blue at the recent awards presentation held in Yamba in November. Alina also received the 'Col Fisher Award' as 'Sportsperson of the Year' in 2014.

At the NSW CHS award night held in Sydney last week Alina was also awarded a prestigious NSW CHS Athletics Blue.

Alina was then awarded the highest honour for a female athlete in NSW CHS sport when it was announced she had also won the "Betty Bowen" award. Alina is only the 3rd female student in the history of Macksville High to be given this prestigious award.

SCHOOL BEAUTIFICATION PROGRAM

Miss Hardingham has been busy putting a little colour into our school with the assistance of a number of students involved in the school improvement program, which has been running each Wednesday afternoon. The grey cement columns below the TAS block have been given a new lease of life. Some of the students have been responsible for rejuvenating wooden seats and tables, under the guidance of Mr Ally.



REMEMBERENCE DAY 2014

“LEST WE FORGET”

Students and staff at Macksville High school took time out to reflect on the contributions made by servicemen and women during conflicts past and present on Tuesday 11th November.

School captains, Harry Mitchell and Brooke Chapman, led the proceedings accompanied by vice captains, Jaiden Walker and Sal Bartley.



YEAR 7 TECHNOLOGY - TEXTILES

Year 7 Textiles classes have been busy creating draw string bags this term. They designed their own logos which were printed onto fabric and then applied onto the front of their bags. Although a seemingly simple task, the students were able to practise many skills such as measuring, folding, ironing, sewing seams, creating a casing for their cord, designing a computer generated logo and choosing colours they felt went well together. Each student is to be congratulated on their final products and the development of many skills. Below are a few samples of the 7t1 class work, produced under the guidance of Mrs O'Sullivan.



YEAR 8 – TEXTILES TECHNOLOGY

The students have been busily constructing cushion covers this term, after spending a great deal of time producing samples of embellishing techniques. These included free embroidery, radiance dyes, felting, quilting, applique and stencilling. Below are some examples of their work:



YR 7 UNI VISIT

Last week 20 Year 7 students visited Southern Cross University. This visit was designed to illustrate to students that there are many possibilities open to them and that everyone has a different journey in life, which may involve attending university at some point. Students heard a variety of stories from a range of people with different backgrounds and their journey from high school to university. Students created their own journey posters, they were able to ask questions of mentors and participate in a range of Aboriginal dances representing journeys. The Year 7 students also enjoyed learning a Hip Hop routine, in which Mark Nash and Ruby Moore were able to keep up with the newly learnt dance. It was a pleasure to take these students representing our school and the students had learnt something from the day.

Mrs Jones

Year 7 Advisor



NSW COUNTRY REP 2015 FUND RAISER

A massive show of support from the local community has greatly increased the opportunities for budding rugby players Aaron Shrubbs and Joel Cooper to experience rugby union at another level as more than 100 people gathered for the trivia night on Friday at Bowra Hotel.

With Mike Major taking control of proceedings, the strong showing set about answering a litany of questions, supplying items for a very unique treasure hunt and bidding competitively for prizes on offer. The night managed to raise nearly \$3000.00 for the boys, reflecting a herculean effort by all involved. The Bowra Hotel also generously threw in \$500 to help the boys on their way.

Quite simply, the night was a huge success. A hearty time was enjoyed by all as technology took a back seat to general knowledge and slight competitiveness amongst the teams. The music section was especially fun as all tables started moving to beats of past and present tunes. For the record, the winners were the Bull Sharks and the Coopers. However, this night was about supporting a very worthy cause and the response was truly overwhelming.

As a club, the Bowraville Goannas would like to thank Lynda Shrubbs and Bronwyn Cooper for their extraordinary organisation of the event, Mike Major for doing an outstanding job as MC, the Bowra Hotel for hosting, and all the local businesses who generously donated prizes for the night. And a special thanks to all who turned up and gave so much to ensure these young boys get to the trip of a lifetime.

Joel and Aaron would also like to thank the wonderful generosity of the businesses that provided them with prizes :- Bowraville Hotel, Valley Gym, Bellingen Canoe Adventure, Nambucca , Macksville, Bellingen Vets, Norco Rural Bellingen, Nambucca Hotel, Star Hotel, Cutz Both Ways Urunga, Spar Urunga, Nambucca River Department Store, Macksville Megasave Bargains, Nambucca Landscape supplies, Valla Butchery, Majestic Cinema, Liberty petrol Urunga, Blondies Hair, Urunga Pharmacy, Sportsfirst Nambucca, Coastal Curves, Urunga Jewellers, Urunga Butchery, Hair with Flair Urunga, Hickeys Garage, Bushes Bottle shop, National Parks and Wildlife, Pizza Hut, North Coast TAFE, and Michael Baines.



NSW Country rep
players Joel Cooper
(left) & Aaron Shrubbs
(right)
With Bowra Hotel
Manager Shayne
Welsh

STAGE AWARDS/PRESENTATION DAY



This year we divided the final presentation assemblies. We created 2 assemblies that allowed us to celebrate the diverse achievements of many students. The 'formal stage assemblies' recognised the achievements of the students being awarded highly commended and encouragement awards. These awards are particularly special as they are given to students who have shown diligence, commitment and dedication.

Students have worked hard to improve their learning and have shown dedication in a particular subject. These awards may not necessarily be based on academic grades and are awarded directly by the classroom teacher.

These assemblies were very successful and allow for the year advisors to offer their direct congratulations. It also provides an opportunity for students in their stage groups to sing the national anthem and deliver the important acknowledgment of country.

The official presentation assembly was held on Monday 8th December and focused on the students receiving outstanding academic awards and a variety of special awards. In this assembly we were honoured to have many important guests to help award these certificates and prizes, such as the MP for Cowper Mr Luke Hartsuyker, Nambucca Mayor Mrs Rhonda Hoban and Education director Mrs Jo Burgess. At this time we also presented the Alpha centuri awards, which acknowledge the students' strong support of the merit system and commended students who had received the most merits in each year group. We also introduced a new collection of awards that celebrate 100% attendance of students. Congratulations to the 8 students who received this prestigious award.

Both assemblies were a celebration of the academic, dedicated and sporting students that attend Macksville High School. Many parents attended and it was wonderful to celebrate this important occasion with them.

