

"Children will not remember you for the material things you provided but for the feeling that you cherished them" Richard L. Evans

Issue 16, Oct. 22, 2010



ACN 063049669

Maher Road, P. O. Box 771, Gordonvale, North Queensland 4865
tel: (07) 40433777 fax: (07) 40566111 email: reception@djarragun.qld.edu.au

website : <http://djarraguncollege.qld.edu.au>

You can download this and past issues from our website.

School Rover



WARREN SNOWDEN M.P.

Warren Snowdon, Minister for Veterans' Affairs, Defence Science and Personnel and Indigenous Health in the new Gillard ministry made a visit to the Wilderness Centre up in the Goldsborough Valley.

Including some of our Djarragun past students, prospective recruits for the Defence Forces have been in training for a few months and the select group has been whittled down to just a couple of dozen from the forty plus initial intake contingent.

This group has practically been in training in isolation from the rest of the world. Word has it that the level of training has been rigorous and the demands of discipline, routine and ritual have been rude awakenings for those who contemplated easy passage.





BAMAGA TRIP

The Annual Angie Neredre Cup for U/16 Girls & the Chris Johnson Cup for U/15 boys were held at New Mapoon, Bamaga on October 13.

Thirteen girls and fourteen boys from DC made the long overland trip in four wheel drive vehicles. On the first day we camped at Bramwell Junction and left the tents set up for the return trip two nights later. When we arrived in Bamaga on the second day, we had an early lunch then departed on the 25km drive to the northern tip of mainland Australia.

Upon returning to Bamaga, we had a low key kick round with a few footies to stretch cramped legs and returned to NPA College to prepare our evening meals and set up sleeping accommodation in two of the school buildings.

After dinner, we listened to Brisbane Lions retired champion, **Chris Johnson**, who travelled up with us. He spoke about equality in AFL and women's rights. We then had a session with Chris from the Brave Hearts Child Safety unit. She

focused on the dangers of inappropriate Internet use and being Cyber smart. We then did some team building and trust activities led by AFL Cape York staff, Kane and Richard.

The third day was carnival day. Boys' and girls' teams had travelled from Tagai College. The NPA had a full girls' team. A composite boys team was formed including players from the NPA, Weipa, Aurukun and Yarrabah.





Player of the carnival. DC 45 Tagai 20
 Best Players: **Henry Mareko, Derek Ingui, John Gunnawarra, Ralph Daniel, Jordan Dick, Peter Tybingoomba & Leo Akiba.**

The boys second game was against the composite team which again was a closely fought contest. But again the leadership group provided great support for their teammates. Some excellent linking handball and accurate kicking to leading players were a highlight in this game.

Best players included **Henry Mareko, John Gunnawarra, Ralph Daniel, Aaron Guligo, Derek Ingui & Clinton Sullivan** DC 26 Composite Team 16.

The D C Girls played against Tagai in the opener. Our girls tried hard and were competitive throughout the game. The dominance of two particularly strong Tagai girls was a telling factor in the end despite our team improving during the second half. Tagai 27 D C 20
 Best players include **Camille Pearson, Tamina Bassini, Brittany Parry, Talita Stewart & Marsha Matthew.**

Their second game was against the NPA. Our girls got off to a good start with Shandel Sam and Marsha Matthew competing strongly in the middle. Brittany Parry was playing with great confidence and finished the game with 5 goals. The girls played a more team-oriented game with some clever handball, stronger running and closer checking of their opponents.
 DC ran out easy winners - 60 points to 0.
 Best players included **Shandel Sam, Camille Pearson, Marsha Matthew, Brittany Parry** and **Rittia China.**

The boys first game was against Tagai College. The Tagai team included 3 experienced 16 year olds due to last minute withdrawals of the correctly aged players. Many DC boys were nervous prior to the game in anticipation of facing the older, stronger bodies of the Tagai contingent. However with **Henry Mareko, John Gunnawarra** and **Derek Ingui** providing inspiration for their teammates with strong attack on the ball from the outset, our boys put on perhaps the bravest team display I've seen this year.
Henry Mareko was near his scintillating best and was selected by Chris Johnson as the Most Valuable

Our students were great travellers. It is no mean feat spending hours on bumpy roads in the back of a troop carrier without whining or becoming irritable. I was proud of the way our kids were so positive in every aspect of the trip. Chris Johnson and Sam, a reporter with the ABC who also travelled with us both commented to me how well behaved, patient and responsible our kids were. A big thank you to Ms Monika who helped me manage and coach the kids. Thanks also to the staff of AFL Cape York, particularly Kane for coordinating the trip.

Special congratulations to **Marsha Matthew, Camille Pearson, Rittia China, Brittany Parry, Vanessa Anau, Tamina, Bassini, Sarah Tamwoy, Lizzie Gowa** and **Enid Jackonia** who were selected in the Crusader Squad to play in the State U/16 Development Carnival in Cairns during late October. The boys U/16 Crusader Squad for 2011 will soon be named. I'm sure numerous D C boys will be included. **Dave 'MJ' Maddock-Jones**



Our 'topnotch pigeons' - Malachi Songoro, Adrian Dau, Aaron Guligo, Rittia China, Ralph Daniel, Tina Wosomo & Marsha Matthew

ART AND FURNISHING



Term 4 has started well with the students. In the week back, two of the Grade 10 students have completed another competency towards their certificates. **Patricia Tom** and **Joseph Geas** made light work of their written assessments and **Patricia** also completed the best CD rack to date.

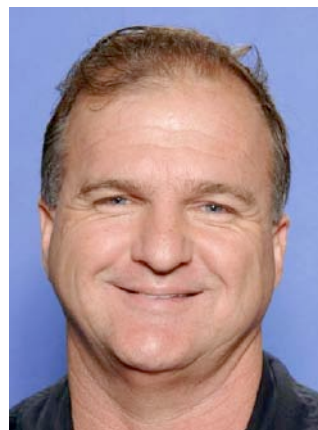


Leana De Jersey also has been involved in a fusion of art and woodwork. She took one of her favourite art drawings and transferred it to timber by burning it and painting the image. The result was awesome.

Jordal Bana has made a good return from Back on Track to normal classes with a good attendance record and has completed a small coffee table and drawer unit - completing 3 of his competencies in the process.

Year 11 student **Daniel Gibuma** has started a Billy Cart project for the 4th Term, producing some quality hand work and showing good skills with the workshop equipment. He has also completed 3 of his competencies.

The early attendance rate has been good and promises to be a good term.



HARRY TENNI FAREWELLED

One of the stalwarts of 'The Shed' is finally making a break from the sweaty routine and daily grind of the workshop.

Staff gathered at the Coffee Shop to scatter a few muffin crumbs and trickle a few tears into the cappuccinos at the Djarragun Coffee shop.

Amazing as it seems, Mr. **Harry Tenni** has been at Djarragun for some five years. His handiwork and expertise filtered through the shed environs to VET courses where he was the Coordinator of the Technology Centre, driving instructor and Workplace, Health and Safety officer. All the best, **Mr. Harry**, in your future endeavours.



NAVY HELICOPTER

One point of real contact with the Australian Defence Force was made by way of a Navy helicopter which made a brief setdown on the school oval to flex off its rotors in front of an excited audience.



It isn't every day that a piece of Defence equipment descends from the sky announced by throbbing air slash and a stirring wind blast.

Some students anticipated a gunship - the type associated with one of the Rambo movies. This one, however, had armory restricted to a winch for use in rescue operations. Girls were surprised that it was possible for women to become helicopter pilots for a career. In their heads, some Primary children looked as if they were already roaming the skies. Santa will need to prepare for a few serious orders at the Christmas Mail Exchange.



- 1 Primary eyes ogle overtime
- 2 Steven Tom & Peter Tybingoompa - maybe giving the pilot some last minute instructions
- 3 Marsha Matthew thinks this is one way to beat the morning traffic to school each day
- 4 Back to the skies again

HEALTH CENTRE

Things starting to get busy again as students build up the traffic flow like bees to the hive. The Health Centre has seen over 150 students this week. As per usual, the complaints are as diverse as the number of 'health seekers' that front up at the desk.



In addition, we welcome **Maisie Tiati** who is our new Health worker.

Subsequent to the change of temperature, a number of students will make the complaint -

I have a headache!!

- As the weather heats up, drinking enough water becomes a problem. Please encourage students to drink heaps of fluids. If they complain of a headache advise them to have a cool drink and sit quietly in the air con.

WHAT'S HAPPENING -

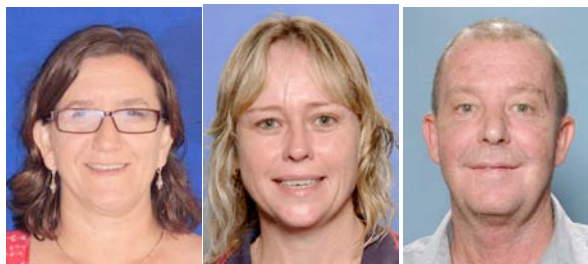
- Australian Hearing: 20-10-10 - We have 16 students to be seen. We only have one audiologist for one day.
- Immunization: 27-10-10 - Year 8 - 2nd dose of Hep B and Year 8 Girls for last HPV shot.
- Students Glasses - we are presently trying to get 17 students their glasses.
- Dental Checks - We are also trying to get all Year 10 students seen by the Dentist.
- STI screening for boarders.

SMOKE ALERT

Please start talking to students again re our Stop Smoking Sessions. We will need a time once a week which suits timetables for students to attend the sessions.

TRAINING

Any staff interested in free Asthma Training. Also during this training we could include Anaphylaxis and Allergy Management and CPR update



Happy Health from Robyn, Sue, Maisie & Clinton

AUSTRALIAN INDIGENOUS COMMUNICATIONS ASSOCIATION

Last Monday night the Aboriginal Dance Group, the Eastern Island Dance group, and the Djarragun Band performed at the Australian Indigenous Communications Association conference at the Cairns International Pacific Hotel and thoroughly impressed everybody.

Revamping to the hotel interior with white body paint was kept to an acceptable minimum. Special thanks to **Nana Shirl Whalen, Mr. Rob McBride, Uncle Mapa Kudub and Uncle Aurie Marou** for making this night a success. The school will receive a \$500 donation for helping AICA at this event.



OFFICIAL OPENING



Senator Jan McLucas receives a bouquet from Patricia Tom

Senator **Jan McLucas** did the honours recently by officially opening not one, two or three but four facilities that have been constructed on the Djarragun campus in a busy period this past year.



In typical style, Djarragun students threw their contribution into the revelry that ensued. A happy looking senator cast her beaming countenance to offset the usually staid governmental duty and the whole event was lifted by her agreeable persona.



Being a northerner from the Atherton Tablelands, Senator Jan showed that she was very comfortable and familiar with the social and cultural ethos of the tropics, including the indigenous component.



The Primary Library, a massive Multi-purpose Centre and the Cybrary Unit were part of the cause for celebrations to rollick through the campus. Some of the Primary students committed aspects of the new facilities to art depiction.



Andrew Oui, Douglas Kaigey & Fury Salee pose a solid backstop to Uncle Mapa Kudub





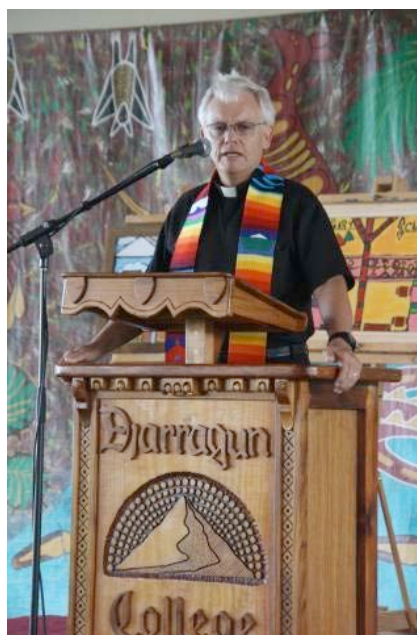
Josh Kyle leads the Aboriginal troupe

Father **David Cole** donned in his rainbow stole pronounced a blessing upon the 'blessings' that have been bestowed upon the school for the benefit of current and future generations.

The Primary Choir lent their voices aptly in the Music Room in a more confined but just as significant scenario to a select audience.

As part of his press release, Mr. **Campbell Clarke** stated :-

Djarragun College today celebrated the opening of several new buildings at its Gordonvale campus. Senator **Jan McLucas** officially opened a new multi-purpose sports and meeting hall; a cyber library and creative arts centre; a music studio and a new primary school with its own library and playgrounds.



Senator McLucas and other invited guests enjoyed a range of dance performances from the college's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander dance groups as well as a recital from the primary school choir.

Ms **Jean Illingworth**, Principal of Djarragun College, said that the new facilities were better than those at many mainstream schools.

'This is the most effective way of helping Indigenous students close the gap,' said Ms Illingworth. 'Not only will our Indigenous youth have the best facilities available, they will feel like they are worthy of having the best.'

'It is so important for Indigenous students to be able to learn in modern and friendly surrounds. Students at Djarragun College are growing up with computer technology in the classroom and the chance to enjoy a wide range of sports and learning opportunities. Our students will benefit enormously in their educational and social achievements'

Senator McLucas said she was pleased to see that Australian Government funds had achieved such immediate success at Djarragun College. 'It's a thrill to see the dancers, musicians, choirs and other children busy using the new buildings,' said Senator McLucas. 'I can see from the many smiling faces that the Building the Education Revolution has made a huge difference to the Indigenous students at Djarragun College. And these facilities will also be a benefit to the entire local community.'



Demetrious Whap & Zechariah Gibuma spearhead their attack on their futures

The Primary Library and the Multi-purpose Hall were funded by Primary Schools for the 21st Century under the Building Education Revolution. The Primary School campus was jointly funded by the Australian and Queensland Governments. The Multi-skills Centre for creative arts and music was funded by the Queensland Government.