

Dedicated Educators at Tomaree High School



(Left to right) Robert Henderson, Head Teacher Vocational Education and Training, Sue McPherson, Deputy Principal and Scott o'Hara Head Teacher Welfare.

There is more to Tomaree Highschool - with it's 1300 students - than most of us were aware of. Apart from the standard subjects, like English and Maths there is a range of options for students to get familiar with various trades and professional occupations. Not only for those students that really want to make a career in hospitality or fish farming but also for students that pursue an academic career and want to learn some hands on activity on the way. With great enthusiasm Robert and Scott showed us the various sections on campus where students can re-assemble a go-kart, grow vegies and wattles (to be sold to sand miners) cook the most delicious dishes in a professional restaurant kitchen, while using the greens harvested from the garden or the fish farmed in their new tanks.

It is disturbing to hear that 10 - 15% of the students have some sort of mental health issue, ranging from depression, self-harm, disciplinary and behaviour problems, suicidal tendencies or autism. There are six support classes with one special needs teacher and a teachers aide to seven students. A number of children do not get the attention and support from home as often the parents also have problems, are busy single parents or lack the financial means to

get treatment or support outside the school. The Rotary grant Tomaree High received last year is put to good use to support these children engaging social workers and psychology support from Hunter Health. One of the special programs to boost confidence and self esteem for students involves helping in the library to train members of the public in the use of tablets to hire and read e-books.

A major problem is that a lot of students want to leave school early and without any proper qualifications. With the law changes in 2010 they have to stay on till they are 17 years of age unless they can find full paid employment or full time training or education outside the school. There is a whole range of programs to inspire the students that haven't found their direction in life and keep them interested in school and further education. These programs offer - apart from the compulsory subjects English and Maths - a wide range of opportunities to study and get hands on experience. Together with the Real Futures Foundation they regularly organise workshops for year 11 trade education and orientation.

Thanks, Sue, Robert and Scott for a very interesting and enlightening presentation.

Contents:

1. Vocational visit to Tomaree High School.
2. Photo page and program for the weeks to come.

Congratulations

Members birthdays

9 Nov - Warwick Mathieson

Partners birthdays

1 Nov - Jenny Shaw

1 Nov - Joy Faulkner

4 Nov - Lynette Booth

Anniversaries

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Lady Luck

No raffle (or H&T) this week but you'll get two tickets next week!!!!

Next Week Guest Speaker

The F/A-18 Hornet by Group Cptn. Daniel Reid

Members duties

Door

Chris Coy - Mike Jenkins

Meet and Greet

Richard Turner,
Don Whatham

Introduce speaker

Ken Arnett

Thank speaker

John Stuhmcke

Loyal Toast

Doug Craike

A visual impression.....



Top left: Refurbishing a go-kart.

Top right: Growing their own veggies.

Bottom left: The new fish farming tanks with their own water treatment facility.

Bottom right: A fully equipped industrial kitchen in the hospitality wing.



Program for the next months....

DATE

ACTIVITY - LOCATION

30 Oct	Club at Tomaree High School
6 Nov	Group Captain Daniel Reid on the F/A-18 Hornet
7-9 Nov	Myall Lakes
13 Nov	Leah Royale about the Australian Wildlife Society.
14 Nov	Bunnings BBQ (+ launch of Stinker's new book, 2pm, Fingal Bay)
20 Nov	Club meeting with Lions and ACTION club
27 Nov	Palms Golf
4 Dec	AGM + John (Stinker) Clarke on history of fishing & oystering
11 Dec	Tony Mackenzie on MHERV
18 Dec	Christmas party at Fingal Bay SLSC
20 Dec	Children's Christmas party

Please note that there are some changes in the above program since last week. David Morris (on KYDS) will talk to us early next year and the Sunday brunch - scheduled for the 16th - has been canceled. Instead there will be an evening of family fun in 2015.