

IN THE PRESS

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Students honour a former pastor

School community rallies to raise funds for MND

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Through participation in RACQ's Technology Challenge in Maryborough, college fundraisers and doorknocking, the students were able to make a significant contribution to the research foundation.

Teacher Ian Learoyd said it was students who led the decision to support MND Queensland and who were the driving force behind fundraising activities.

"Following the diagnosis of an influential member of our community, students were keen to raise funds to contribute to research," Mr Learoyd said.

Former college pastor Rick Zweck has been battling the disease for a number of years.

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COMMUNITY-MINDED: Students at Pacific Lutheran College prepare to present a cheque for \$4000 to MND Queensland.

PHOTO: CONTRIBUTED

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corporate sponsorship for the RACQ Technology Challenge, doorknocked on weekends and assisted in the co-ordination of college fundraisers."

Last week the school held a special assembly to present a cheque to MND Queensland.



BIG EFFORT: Students at Pacific Lutheran College prepare to present a cheque for \$4000 to MND Queensland.

PHOTO: CONTRIBUTED

Ill pastor inspires fundraiser

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Last week the school held a special assembly to acknowledge the massive fundraising effort and present a cheque to MND Queensland.



MOTIVATED: Pacific Lutheran College has entered the Maryborough technology bike challenge.
PHOTO: PATRICK WOODS

Kids pushing pedals for their pastor

By LUKE SIMMONDS

PACIFIC Lutheran College is no stranger to the Maryborough Technology Challenge Bike Race, but this year it has a much deeper emotional meaning for the students.

Former pastor Rick Zweck was diagnosed with the untreatable and incurable motor neurone disease two years ago.

Entirely unprompted by adult influence, the students have taken to any form of fundraising from volunteer door-knocking to corporate sponsorship, and have raised more than \$3000 in just the past few weeks.

Team manager Ian Learoyd said he had never seen the students lift for a cause like they had for their pastor.

"They wanted to do something close to home," he said.

"The kids have known him since primary school and those years mean a lot more to the students.

"They remember those days and their hearts go out.

"The sheer generosity of the kids to put in the time is an amazing effort.

"They've made it their personal crusade."

But between the Year 12 hybrid boys' team and the Year 11 girls' team, the kids are also racing for pride in the bike race.

This is the eighth year the school will compete in the race and the boys are looking to back up last year's first place in the hybrid division while the girls are hoping to improve on their eighth place in the pedal section.

With the girls entering the 120-bike field for the first time last year, Mr Learoyd said the battle of the sexes had only improved the boys' desire to win.

"The boys never rode so hard because they were afraid of losing to the girls," he said.

"And let me tell you, the girls ride harder than the boys."

A team of eight riders start the race on Saturday, taking shifts in a three-wheeled pedal car throughout the night, and eventually finish 24 hours later on Sunday.

Mr Learoyd said the race was hugely competitive with some racers unable to complete the journey.

"One school had its entire steering mechanism ripped off," he said.

"There are huge crashes and flips."

Kids pushing pedals to help their pastor

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PEDAL POWER: Pacific Lutheran College will take on the Maryborough technology bike challenge. PHOTO: PATRICK WOODS

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SURF'S UP: Pacific Lutheran College student Haylie Powell has been surfing since she was three years old.

PHOTO: CONTRIBUTED

Grommets drop the books for surf comp

CONDITIONS couldn't have been better when more than 45 grommets took to the waves at the Pacific Pulse Surfing Contest last Tuesday.

Blue skies and small but tricky conditions at Kings Beach greeted surfers aged 8–12 who competed on the day.

Pacific Lutheran College Year 4 student, Haylie Powell, has been surfing since she was three-years-old.

"This is my second year competing," Haylie said.

"I enjoy Pacific Pulse

because it's a great way to make new friends and have fun."

Event organiser and Pacific Lutheran College teacher, Mr Darren Hooper, said this year's competition was particularly tough.

"We have a lot of great surfers who are involved in the contest and it's also great to see the beginners out in the water, giving it a go," Mr Hooper said.

"Buddina State School was named the overall champion... Our Lady of the Rosary took out the Tag Team Surfing Challenge."



SURF'S UP: Pacific Lutheran College student Haylie Powell has been surfing since she was three years old.

PHOTO: CONTRIBUTED

Groms swap school for surf

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Five local schools took part in the event organised by Pacific Lutheran College, including Our Lady of the Rosary, Buddina State School, Talara Primary College and Currimundi State School.

The annual competition has been running for nine years and provides the opportunity for both beginners and confident surfers to compete in a friendly environment.

Pacific Lutheran College Year 4 student Haylie Powell has been surfing since she was three years old.

"This is my second year competing," Haylie said.

"I enjoy Pacific Pulse because it's a great way to make new friends and have fun."

Each student surfed two heats, competing for both

their school and as individuals.

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Six of our best

MORGAN LEWIS, 17
Redlands College
OP: 1

Wants to study:
ENGINEERING
"Having three weeks away this year was very stressful. The teachers were really helpful in pushing me."

ELLA HINGSTON, 15
Pacific Lutheran College
OP: 2

Wants to study:
ENGINEERING
"Being young was no big deal academically. But all my friends can drive and I'm stuck at home."

JACK O'HARE, 17
St Joseph's College, Gregory Terrace
OP: 3

Wants to study:
ARTS/MEDICINE
"We had different study styles. Harriet planned and I crammed. In the end I just stepped back and let her ace everything."

HARRIET O'HARE, 17
Stuartholme School
OP: 1

Wants to study:
ARTS/LAW
"We're more friends than rivals. We share the same study area. We're twins and we had identical subjects, so we helped each other out."

THILINI LIYANAGE, 17
Somerville House
OP: 1

Wants to study:
MEDICINE
"I was most stressed in year 11 because of the school musical, Fame. That was really hard because it was like 12 hours a week rehearsal."

MICHAEL WILLIAMS, 17
Brisbane Boys College
OP: 1

Wants to study:
MEDICINE
"The school promoted an environment where you were recognised for improving. There was always an incentive to work harder."



These high achievers are a class act

Mitch Gaynor

THESE six talented teenagers are a class above.

The elite students from around the state belong to a group, out of 26,000 eligible school leavers, who have been awarded among the top-ranking OP scores.

From Ella Hingston, who started high school at the tender age of 10, to Morgan Lewis, 17, who spent nearly a month away from school in the Australian youth volleyball side before knuckling down to achieve the highest grade point ranking on record at his school, they are an inspiration.

The six are among the 12,000 students who opted to receive their OP results by email or SMS yesterday.

Education Minister Geoff Wilson

congratulated them, saying: "I wish them well as they enter this exciting new chapter in their lives. I hope they enjoy their individual journeys on the road to reaching their goals."

Ella's parents couldn't hide their pride. She skipped grades 2 and 7 on her way to earning top marks in year 12, graduating from Pacific Lutheran College at Caloundra when she was just 14.

"She has just worked so hard, you know," mother Patricia said.

"Even when she was young, at church the kids would be drawing and she would be studying maths."

Ella, a talented violinist, was also in the Sunshine Coast Youth Orchestra and school band. Her first preference is for a dean's scholarship through QUT to study engineering.

Thilini Liyanage was rewarded with an OPI and is one step closer to her dream of studying medicine and working in Third World countries.

The Somerville House dux balanced hockey, debating, choir, theatre and volleyball with her studies.

"The inspiration for working that hard was the competition," the 17-year-old said.

"I had the kind of teachers that are passionate about their subjects and made me want to learn a lot more."

Twins Jack and Harriet O'Hare have been competing with each other for the past 17 years, but typically with a smile.

"We're friends more than rivals," Harriet, the cultural captain of Stuartholme School, said.

The pair studied identical subjects,

helping each other through the hard times and only "occasionally" getting on each other's nerves.

Jack, a house captain at St Joseph's College, Gregory Terrace, will pursue his goal of being a movie director.

Harriet has settled on an arts/law degree at University of Queensland.

Michael Williams won the BBC Collegian award and Caltex All-rounder prize as well as the top OP. His dream is to be a doctor.

Redlands College dux Morgan Lewis not only managed a three-week tour of Thailand with the national youth volleyball side and the Duke of Edinburgh program, but also got the highest GPA in Redlands College history. He wants to study mechanical and aerospace engineering.

gaynorm@qnp.news1td.com.au



Flying high

Range horse riders win at nationals

TWO Range teenagers have returned victorious from the National Interschool Equestrian Championships in Sydney.

Maleny showjumper Serena Stanley, 15, won the 90cm secondary class on her stock horse gelding Loot. Landsborough

dressage rider Madison Layfield, 17, was medium champion riding Hanoverian gelding Remi Legenderry. Stories, Pages 4-5.

ALL CLEAR: Serena Stanley, 15, rides Loot in the National Interschool Showjumping Championships.

PHOTO: NIGEL OWEN

Madison headed for the top

Landsborough teen wins national title

By JESSICA MCKENZIE

WITH just five years of riding experience under her belt, Madison Layfield has achieved something that many equestrians can only dream of.

The Landsborough teenager took out the medium dressage championship title at last week's National Interschool Championships in Sydney.

Madison, 17, said she was ecstatic after winning the title at her first interstate equestrian event.

She achieved the win on Hanoverian warmblood gelding Remi Legenderry, or Ridge.

"I pinch myself every time I ride him," Madison said. "He just tries his heart out for me."

Madison has been riding Ridge for a year and together they have cemented the high level dressage movements.

The pair's talents were brought to the fore with the

help of trainers Melanie and Linda Schmerglatt at Mooloolah Valley.

"It's all credit to support from my parents and my instructors," Madison said of her rapid rise to the top. "They're the ones that pushed me and supported me to do that because they saw that I could do it."

Madison and Ridge won two of their three medium level tests at the nationals and came second in the third.

In the medium freestyle to music the pair scored an impressive 70.667%.

The Pacific Lutheran College student said she choreographed the freestyle test herself.

"I didn't want anyone to make it for me because I wanted it to represent me and Ridge," she said.

Madison said her nerves melted away as soon as the music started.

"I didn't realise that I was riding around with a massive Cheshire cat grin



BRIGHT FUTURE: Madison Layfield, 17, rides Ridge in an extended trot. PHOTOS: OZSHOTS

on my face. I think we both just had the time of our lives in that arena."

Madison said the test was set to a Narnia-inspired score and she had another very special horse on her mind as she rode.

Her first dressage horse, Stirling, passed away earlier this year.

"I wanted to do nationals with Stirling but he wasn't able to, so I guess I did this ride for him," she said.

"He was a very strong-headed horse but once you worked out that

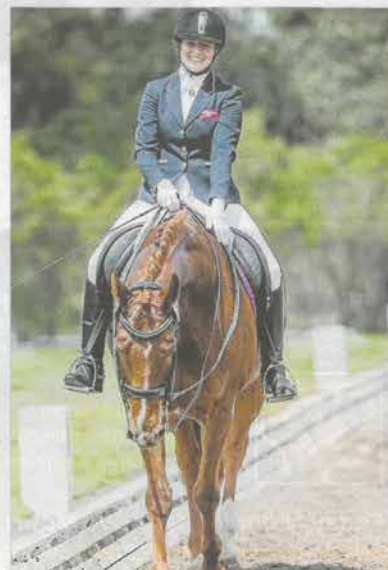
relationship he would do anything for you."

It was Stirling who taught Madison to love dressage.

"In forming a bond with an animal and making a language that only the two of you can understand, it's just such a special and fragile bond," she said.

"It's in dressage that you can go out and show people how special that can be."

Madison now hopes to work towards competing at Prix St George level with Ridge.



CLOSE BOND: Landsborough equestrian competitor Madison Layfield rewards Ridge for a job well done at the National Interschool Championships in Sydney. PHOTOS: STEPHEN MOWBRAY

➤ **PACIFIC LUTHERAN COLLEGE**

Jessica loses locks for charity

PACIFIC Lutheran College Year 10 student Jessica Keenan has shaved her head in support of the Leukaemia Foundation's World's Greatest Shave.

The shave took place during lunchtime last Friday, with Jessica's family in attendance, as well as most of the college community.

College director of students Brendan Delaney said it was very moving to hear Jessica being cheered on loudly during the shave.

"Jessica should be very proud of herself and the awareness she has raised among our community," Mr Delaney said.



CHOP CHOP: Ben and Jayne from The Barber's Shed visited to give Jessica her new hair do. *PHOTO: CONTRIBUTED*

Following the shave, students and teachers could colour their hair for a gold coin donation.

Jessica has been raising money for the Leukaemia Foundation over the past month and has already exceeded her initial goal of raising \$570 towards the cause. With the donations made by the college community on Friday, Jessica

has raised more than \$1200.

"I felt that shaving my hair is a small price to pay to help support and fund research into finding a cure for blood cancers," Jessica said.

It's not too late to sponsor Jessica's shave. If you would like to donate, visit <http://www.worldsgreatestshave.com> and search for Jessica Keenan under "sponsor".

➤ PACIFIC LUTHERAN COLLEGE

Students help out the Salvos

MORE than 150 students, parents and staff from Pacific Lutheran College participated in the Salvation Army's Red Shield Appeal doorknock at the weekend.

The college supports the Salvation Army each year by participating in a range of appeals and activities to raise funds and awareness for the nationwide charity.

More than \$7000 has been raised this year and the college has collected in



KNOCK KNOCK: Pacific Lutheran College students helped the Salvation Army's Red Shield Appeal. PHOTO: CONTRIBUTED

excess of 2500 items for the Winter Food Appeal.

Pacific Lutheran's director of students Brendan Delane assists in organising and co-ordinating the college's fundraising efforts each year.

"The college also held a

casual clothes day and spaghetti lunch to raise additional funds for the Salvation Army," Mr Delaney said.

For more information, contact Stephanie Scarlett at Pacific Lutheran College on 5436 7386.

A powerful message and a fond farewell

ON SUNDAY, August 2, 130 members of St Mark's Lutheran Church Caloundra celebrated 13 years of Hymns We Love.

The theme this year was A Powerful Name, which Pastor Ray Morris, the local Lutheran pastor, discussed in his address to the



He was presented with a small gift and suitable parting words...

congregation.

Students from Pacific Lutheran College, conducted by Adrian King, sang two of the hymns and the St Mark's Men's Choir sang one.



NEW ROLE: Pastor Ray Morris, chairman Peter Asher and Pastor Paul Smith. PHOTO: CONTRIBUTED

Ten hymns and their stories were chosen by the St Mark's Worship Committee.

Pastor Paul Smith, recent chaplain at Pacific Lutheran College, was also given a farewell to take a higher

position in the Lutheran Church in Queensland as Bishop.

He was presented with a small gift and suitable parting words from Pastor Ray Morris and chairman Peter Asher.

➤ PACIFIC LUTHERAN COLLEGE

Kaylee sets national record

PACIFIC Lutheran College Year 9 student Kaylee McKeown set the pool alight recently at the 2015 Georgina Hope Foundation Australian Age Championships in Sydney.

Swimming Australia acknowledged Kaylee's success on its website and social media accounts, stating that she is "proving her potential in the pool and emerging as one to watch for the future".

In the girls' 12/13 years division, Kaylee won gold in the 200m individual medley and both the 100m and 200m backstroke, silver in the 200m freestyle and took out fourth place in the 100m freestyle.

In the 100m backstroke, Kaylee broke her own Australian record set last month with a time of 1:02.23, holding off her nearest competitor by more than four seconds.

In the 200m backstroke, she hit the wall just 0.3 of a second off the Australian age record, dropping more than seven seconds from her heat swim.

She finished more than nine seconds clear of the silver medallist in a



GOLD MEDALLIST: Promising swimmer Kaylee McKeown.

PHOTO: CONTRIBUTED

time of 2:13.41.

Pacific's Head of Sport Mark Hauser said Kaylee had competed extremely well.

"We are very proud of Kaylee's

achievements in swimming," Mr Hauser said.

"At a college level, Kaylee broke four records at our inter-house swimming carnival and was awarded the

14 years age champion title."

Kaylee has also been selected in the Queensland Schools Team to compete at the Pacific Schools Games in Adelaide later this year.

Investigating the local environment

TERM three at Pacific's Early Learning Centre, sees students investigating the environment; exploring rainforests and the benefits of worm farms.

As part of their studies, students have been making weekly visits to the rainforest that is located on the school grounds.

Head of Teaching and Learning K-5, Mrs Sue Zweck, said the children have enjoyed exploring the area.

"The children have loved being outdoors," Mrs Zweck said.

"To date, they have matched photos of bark to real trees, completed bark rubbings and made tree



A CLOSE UP ON NATURE: Children have been investigating plants from Pacific's rainforest.



CREATING GOOD SOIL: Waste to Resource visited the service to talk about worm farms.

trunk impressions in clay."

"Having the rainforest on our grounds provides such a unique learning experience for the kindergarten children," she said.

Last month, a representative from Waste to Resource visited the Early Learning Centre to discuss the benefits of creating a worm farm.

"Students learnt about how worms were good for the garden and various characteristics of worms," Mrs Zweck said.

"The centre has their own worm garden and so students were also able to share their knowledge of the topic."

Making a community connection

YEAR 6 students and teachers from Pacific Lutheran College have developed a strong relationship with the Centaur Community in Caloundra.

Throughout the year, the school engages in four main visits and various activities with the residents including memorial services and Christmas and New Year celebrations.

Pacific's Year 6 teacher, Mr Joe Doran, has been instrumental in fostering the relationship with the Centaur Community.

"It is a really rewarding relationship for both students and residents," Mr Doran said.

"The residents hold off their New Year celebrations until school resumes and it's a wonderful way to start the year," he said.



SPEAKING WITH RESPECT: Year 6 students giving their speeches at the Anzac service.

Student learning and understanding is also an important part of the relationship.

As part of Pacific's involvement staff and students attended the community's Anzac Day ceremony where a number of students wrote and delivered speeches and prayers of blessing.

A speech from the commemoration:

"To me, ANZAC spirit means bravery, teamwork and sacrifice because these young men were following their commanders and leaders without stopping or ques-

tioning them, even if it was for a huge sacrifice.

These brave men did all this for their country, mates and family. Without the ANZACS we would not be living such a comfortable life today.

This is why I acknowledge and respect the ANZACS, because I know that they sacrificed their lives for us to have good lives.

We need to remember the ANZACS now so that we do not forget what they did for us and do not have any more wars again. Lest we forget."

By Dafydd Thomas (Year 6)

An unusual visitor

THE humanoid robot NAO, recently visited Pacific Lutheran College to speak with students interested in coding and programming.

A French robotics company developed NAO in 2006. He is 58cm tall and is completely interactive – he can move and talk, understands and recognises people.

Pacific's Teacher Librarian, Ms Nell Keen, organised NAO's visit to the college.

"NAO spoke to students, danced, explained his capacities and bragged about his soccer prowess," she said.

"Students loved engaging and interacting with NAO. It was a great learning experience for them."

This year, Pacific has started a number of clubs to support and encourage students with an interest in coding, robotics and electronics.

"We have established a Code Club and Maker Space in the library, which run during lunchtimes," Ms

Keen said.

"Code Club provides students with the opportunity to create their own animations, games and websites while the Maker Space provides an area for students to explore a range of technical materials like Littlebits electronics and Makey Makey."

Year 2 students Georgia Karavolas and Jazlyn Miller are members of the Code Club.

"We thought it would be fun to learn cool things about coding and technology," they said.

"When we grow up we want to do something with robotics."

Pacific's Information Technology (IT) Department has also begun introducing coding and visual programming tools into the Junior College.

Mrs Janine Stone, head of the IT Department, said it is important for younger students to engage with this



HANDS UP FOR ROBOTS:
NAO the humanoid robot introduces himself to Pacific students.

type of learning.

"In a time of great technological advancement, schools have the challenge of equipping students with these skills," Mrs Stone said.

"By incorporating IT early on in a child's learning journey, Pacific is equipping students for higher level computational thinking as they move through the middle and senior levels of the college."

And beyond.

Paving the way in health care

THIS year, in partnership with TAFE Queensland East Coast, Pacific Lutheran College has introduced a Certificate III in Basic Health Care to its senior subject offerings.

Pacific is one of only two schools on the Sunshine Coast who are able to offer this program internally, with the assistance of qualified staff members and TAFE as the registered training organisation.

The college's registered nurses deliver the course with Dr Peter McMahon, Pacific's Head of Personal Development and Outdoor Education.

The course provides students with a qualification on completing Year 12 and prepares them for a career in the health industry.

Currently, five Year 11 students are undertaking the two-year course, which also includes 75 hours of work experience with a

health care provider.

Course facilitator, Mr Ian Learoyd, said the program had been extremely well received by students and their families.

"Already the intake for next year is full, following Year 10's subject selection this term."

"Health is one of the fastest growing industries in Queensland, so it is important to equip young people with skills that will provide solid career pathways," Mr Learoyd said.

"The course provides practical content for the students to work on such as First Aid, using resuscitation dummies, learning to monitor vital signs and blood pressure, medical terminology and patient movement with a full size 45 kilogram mannequin."

"They are enjoying the experience and the feedback we have received is really encouraging," he said.



A HEALTHY APPROACH: Year 11 students practicing bandaging and bedside patient care.
PHOTOS: CONTRIBUTED

Amy Flemming is one of the Year 11 students undertaking the course.

"I was interested in the Certificate III in Basic Health as thought it would help me in my future as I want to be a nurse when I leave school," Miss Flem-

ming said.

"The course is providing so much practical experience and I am excited about going on the work placement next year."

"It is a really good opportunity for my future in the health industry," she said.

