



New Norfolk High School

Fifty years of change

OUR school has changed, inside and out.

This year we are celebrating 50 years since New Norfolk High School was opened as an area school in 1954. And not surprisingly, in those 50 years there have been considerable changes.

The school was originally built to accommodate up to 300 students, but a lack of suitable transport meant that the school only managed an enrolment of 200 students with eight full-time teachers.

The maximum population reached was more than 1000 students in the early 1970s.

Today there are 320 students enrolled with about 23 full-time teachers.

The original school buildings were made from aluminium and most, with the benefit of renovation, still stand today. There have also been a couple of new buildings erected in the school grounds.

The school community is now planning further developments.

The most innovative changes at New Norfolk High School over the years have taken place in the learning

program. The old learning program consisted of Mathematics, English, Social Studies, Science, Art, French, Music, Library, Health and Physical Education, Home Economics (for girls) and Wood Work (for boys). These subjects were taught independently of each other.

In contrast, our new learning program has a very integrated structure. We now study Communications (Literacy and Numeracy), Inquiry-Based Learning (Science and SOSE), Health and Wellbeing (PE/Health) and Arts and Technology.

These changes have been made to better prepare students for a world where they will have to continually learn.

Instead of just teaching subject knowledge, New Norfolk High now focuses on helping students "learn how to learn" and to develop deeper understandings about the world in which we live.

By doing this, the school hopes to give us the skills, knowledge and understandings necessary for us to have a great future.



EARLY DAYS: New Norfolk High's original school building.

Back from the wedding



STARRY-EYED: Getaway's Catriona Rowntree with New Norfolk High students and other members of the Derwent Valley Concert Band in Denmark for the royal wedding.

SIX talented musicians from New Norfolk High School recently returned from a trip to Denmark, where they performed at the wedding of Crown Prince Frederik to Tasmania's Mary Donaldson.

The students were Tegan Turner, Natalie Connor, Amanda Connors, Whitney Pegg, Emma Ismawi and Jessica Rhodes.

The highlight for these students was performing at the pre-wedding parade through the streets of Copenhagen.

Tegan was overwhelmed by

the welcome the musicians received as the only non-Danish band in the parade.

"As we followed the Danish bands in the parade, we were given a mixture of Danish and Australian flags to hand out to the crowd. We easily ran out of Aussie flags first," she said.

Apart from the wedding celebrations, the band also performed at Tivoli Gardens (the world's largest theme park), the Bakken Amusement Park, a large shopping centre, and a public school in

Copenhagen where they shared their musical talents in a workshop with students from the school.

Our students spent what spare time they had on the whirlwind tour appreciating all that Denmark had to offer — particularly in the shops!

The students were very grateful for the friendly, welcoming nature of the Danes, and their willingness to do all they could to make their Tasmanian guests feel at home in Mary's new homeland.

In brief

No Dole Project

MANY local business people attended a luncheon at our school on May 18 to launch the school's partnership with the Beacon Foundation.

It is hoped that this partnership, together with our Pathways to the Future program, will ensure that all students leave the school with a planned pathway to employment, training or education.

The aim is that no student will be "on the dole" on March 31 in the year after they leave New Norfolk High.

Back to school

AS part of the National Back to School Day, former student and VFL football great Peter Hudson visited the school.

During his visit Hudson talked about his time at New Norfolk High, and the pathway he took to become a goal-kicking record holder and businessman.

Seniors camp

Forty students from years 9 and 10 recently attended a three-day camp at Esperance.

The students participated in many activities including abseiling, raft making, long boat racing, bush art, a quiz night, a karaoke night and finally a formal dinner.

Whilst the camp was physically and mentally exhausting, the students enjoyed the opportunity to try new adventures and spend time together in a different environment.

We will rock you

NEW Norfolk High School will be participating in the 2004 Rock Eisteddfod Challenge in August.

This year's theme is "Reality TV".

It has been a whole-school effort to raise the funds for the performance, and about 130 performers and crew have been working hard to prepare for the event.

Real learning takes students outdoors

DRIVING boats, snorkelling, tree planting — it doesn't sound like an average day at school, but that's exactly what some students have been doing as part of a learning program offered by the Derwent District Schools.

New Norfolk High School students have the opportunity to become involved in a program called Real Learning Real Futures.

The program aims to give students the chance to develop real life skills and knowledge in a real-life learning environment.

A group of students recently completed the River Keeper program.

Over three days, Sharon Cranfield, Ashlee Lewis, Tegan Turner, Lydia Waalkens,

Sharn Brazendale, Chris Jones and Samuel Bennett participated in activities involving boat and water safety, snorkelling, rescue procedures, tree planting and care for the environment.

By the end of the program, they had not only learned a great deal about their environment, but had also fulfilled the criteria to be awarded their small boat licence.

Other real life learning experiences available to New Norfolk High School students include the Holden and Fords Program, where students (particularly girls) learn the basics of car maintenance and repairs; junior Fire Brigade and a State Emergency Services (SES) program.

● This school page was produced by Years 9/10 Project Based Learning students at New Norfolk High School, with particular thanks to Tim Stewart, Elyse Edwards, Amelia Bout and Andrew McKenzie

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