



# ROSETTA HIGH

A PROGRESSIVE SCHOOL WITH TRADITIONAL VALUES

## Real learning programs take off

ROSETTA High, along with all the other secondary schools in the Derwent Education District, is part of the Real Learning, Real Futures program.

The program aims to motivate all students by providing a more interesting and relevant senior curriculum.

It also seeks to make better provision for less engaged students without isolating them from the mainstream.

Improving retention and attendance rates and addressing the issues of youth unemployment and alienation also drive this project.

This year Rosetta High hosted the aquatics, bricklaying, multimedia and Holdens and Fords programs.

In the multimedia project students from the district's schools worked with a mentor on their own multimedia pro-

jects, products and challenges. The skills developed were capitalised on in the production of the movie *Cinderella* and contributed to Rosetta High's successful entry in the national Kool Skools Competition.

The popular Holdens and Fords course operated from the school's newly redeveloped material, design and technology facilities. Participants learnt about car maintenance and repair work by working on cars purchased by the school or vehicles generously donated by members of the public.

Richard Gibbs, proprietor of Gibbs R H Automotives, willingly volunteered his time on Fridays and assisted Graham Alomes with instruction.

Our students have journeyed to other schools and participated in other Real Learning, Real Futures com-

ponents including:

- Robotics (New Norfolk High School)
- Bridgewater High School Farm
- Emergency Services Training (Glenora District High School)
- Aquaculture (Oatlands District High School)
- Artisans in Residence (Cosgrove High School)
- Derwent Maritime Adventure (Claremont High School)
- River Keeper (Derwent Support School)
- Natural Therapies (Derwent Support School)

These curriculum innovations offer exciting projects for all our students. They cover the spectrum from practical workshop activities to highly academic programs.

Rosetta High students are so fortunate to have these opportunities — it is a great time to be at our school!



**CHALLENGING:** A Rosetta student turns firefighter as part of an emergency exercise.

## Making it real, making it work

MAKE it Real is about learning real things, making real decisions and working on real projects.

The first Make it Real program was offered this year at Rosetta and provided all Grade 9 and 10 students with a four-part life skills course set around the following themes:

**Personal Challenge:** This invites students to attempt something new, extend their boundaries and find out more about themselves.

**Enterprise:** Putting ideas into action is the common thread here. The successful implementation of ideas usually results from creative organisational, managerial and decision-making skills.

**Work Studies:** This is a compulsory component requiring the completion of career/vocational assessment tasks. It also provides opportunities for work experience and placement programs.

**Service:** Here the onus is on thinking about others both within the school and in the wider community.

Some programs have included: recycling, family his-



**SCHOOLWORK:** A Rosetta students taking part in the Holdens and Fords course.

tory, fitness and self-defence for girls, Rosetta/Montrose precinct, pre-driver education, cross-age reading tutor, Landcare, solar car challenge and home brewing.

Make it Work targets a much smaller group of individuals in the senior school.

The initiative focuses on

students who have not previously enjoyed great success at school.

The program involves a team of mentors who work with the students to help the development of confidence, a positive self-image and a sense of achievement and responsibility.

Make it Work students are offered a course of study that caters for their individual needs and interests and are provided with a pathway to further education and training, along with one-on-one counselling on these issues.

The weekly program for Make it Work students incorporates:

- Work placements
- Project-based learning
- Literacy, numeracy and

## Employment beacon

THE non-profit Beacon Foundation started in Tasmania with a single focus — to address youth unemployment.

A key strategy for Beacon is to initiate projects that demonstrate effective solutions to youth unemployment and encourage self-help at the local level.

Beacon has now successful replication of its projects in every Australian state and the Northern Territory.

The Beacon Foundation is working with Rosetta High School on the Make it Real and Make it Work programs, which were conducted for the first time throughout 2003.

Next year these important projects will benefit from financial support provided by the Tasmanian Community Fund.

The allocation of \$97,000 will enable the school to employ a project officer and will allow us to further develop the mentoring aspects of the Make it Real and Make it Work programs.

communication skills

- Healthy living.

Trust and co-operation were promoted through activities like indoor rock climbing and basic sailing skills.

Through a short course at Pulse, students addressed issues of safe partying, bullying and anger management.

**Produced by The Mercury School Page Make it Real Team**

Student Coordinators: Jacqueline Brown and Erin Such

**Next Friday's School Page: Lauderdale Primary School**

## Rite of passage

FOR the first time in Rosetta's history, a graduation ceremony was held, with all Grade 10 students who qualified presented with a certificate.

The ceremony, held on Wednesday at the Hotel Grand Chancellor, resulted from the school's decision to recognise the efforts of all the students leaving the school, not just the prize-winners.

The Rosetta High School Graduation Certificate reflects each student's performance and contribution to the school.

The graduation process is conducted over two years. Points are awarded in two areas: The general category covers achievement, behaviour, attendance and participation. The Make it Real Challenge also has four core parts — personal challenge, enterprise, work studies and service.

● The Rosetta Presentation Day Assembly will be held on December 16 from 12.30pm to 2.45pm at the Derwent Entertainment Centre.

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