

bolac bugle

SEMESTER TWO 2013

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FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S *desk*



After only a very short time here at Lake Bolac College I already know what a great little school it is and how proudly supported it is by the community. Students have greeted me enthusiastically with big smiles and firm handshakes. The College staff are very supportive and generous with their time and know each and every child. This is something that the College should be proud of and not under estimate its importance.

It has been a very busy semester at the College and here are just some of the highlights.

Camps, Excursions and Incursions

Preps had a sleep over at school and I had a great time eating dinner with them at the Lake Bolac College restaurant. Years 4 to 6 went to the shipwreck coast and had some great fun at Camp Cooriemungle.



There was also Woorabinda camp for Years 4/5 and the Advance camp too.

We also had visits from the Life Education Van and Phil the Bucket, as well as many more.



FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S *desk*



The Mountain to Lake was a great success with students, parents, staff and community members enjoying the ride. Everyone is to be congratulated for showing such persistence, support for each other and all round friendliness on the day. Legs on the Lake from all accounts was a huge success as well.

It was also nice to have our friends from Willaura PS over on the day.

Performing Arts

The two school musicals "Long John McArdo" and "Toy Money" were a great success. The College choirs and bands performed at this school as well as others. A special thank you to all those involved in these productions as they are always a mountain of work.



Going Up Day was lots of fun. As I went around each of the classrooms I saw many students diligently working away on activities. I think the new classes and their teachers are looking forward to next year.

I would like to sincerely thank all the members of the College School Council for their work this semester. I have not come across a more committed, passionate and competent school council. Students, parents and the community should rest easy knowing that the College is in good hands.

To all the students, staff, families and friends of the College I would like to congratulate you on a great year. I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a safe, prosperous and fun-filled New Year.

George PORTER | **Acting Principal**

FAREWELL *staff members:*



CYNTHIA DAVIDSON

Cynthia is taking on a teaching position in Ballarat at Mount Clear Primary School. At Lake Bolac College, Cynthia's teaching roles included Year 6, Shared Specialist in the primary school in Science, Art, PE, Middle Years Science. We wish her all the best in her new position.



LESTER HARRIS

The College would like to thank Lester Harris for his work here at the College over the last few years. Lester has engaged our students in English and brought a love of literature to their lives. Staff rely on him as an editor, proof reader and mediator of grammatical disputes. We wish Lester all the best in the future and know that there will be a few more typos slipping through into the newsletter.



WENDY TAYLOR

We thank Wendy Taylor for her valuable time teaching at Lake Bolac College in English, Literature, VCAL, Art, Food. Wendy's love of music was reflected in her enthusiasm and support for the school choir. Wendy has tackled the arduous task of putting together our school magazine this year with ease. We wish Wendy well for future endeavours.



JOHN WALLIS: 1988 - 2013

John Wallis retired at the beginning of the year after many years teaching at Lake Bolac College. He was a much admired and respected staff member. John's versatility in teaching included Woodwork, Art, Vis.Com, Advance (Duke of Ed), Outdoor Ed, ICT, Ag.Hort, Cooking/Food, Media. He was also involved in camps, rowing, many extra curricula activities (Mountain to Lake) and was the school magazine coordinator. We thank John for his outstanding service to educating the students at Lake Bolac College. We wish John and his family all the best for the future.

GRAPEVINE: *news from a former staff member*

ROB & JUDI SMITH

Judi Smith transferred from Ararat College to Lake Bolac College for the 1998 school year as a senior English teacher. She taught English at most levels and was heavily involved in the senior campus musical production. She was also a member of many committees.

Rob was appointed Assistant Principal of the College in 2000 and assumed responsibility for the operation of the newly relocated primary campus. He also taught Legal Studies at Year 12 level as well as a variety of subjects at other levels, including the primary area.

Judi moved to Ballarat Clarendon College in 2003 where she continues to specialise in Year 12 English and Literature. She also works as an advocate for the disabled in the Ararat region.

Rob retired at the end of 2005 but has had several extended periods of emergency work. He is still involved with the college in directing the two college musicals, a task which he also performs at two other schools.

Rob and Judi's youngest child, Ashleyn completed Years 7 to 9 at Lake Bolac College. She is now a nurse in the neurosurgery department of the Royal Melbourne Hospital. Rob and Judi's other children have gone on to be a Principal, a teacher, an Oncology specialist physician and a digital architect. Five grandchildren ensure that an already busy life is even more enjoyable.



GRAPEVINE: *news from a former staff member*



Lake Bolac College

STAFF – 2001

- Back Row: David Nicholson, Steven Mullin, Roger Flanner, Judi Smith, Mark Howard, Kevin Breen, John Wallis
- Third Row: Lynda Gellert, Andrew Twiss, Catherine Lewis, Helen Robinson, Pam McInnes, Graeme Forsyth, Patricia Gratton-Wilson, Pamela Hayes, Kerrie Campbell
- Second Row: Meeghan Driscoll, Lisa Parker, Sharon Britten, Nina Wallis, Lynette Hucker, Jennifer Lloyd, Melissa Beaty, Leanne Breen, Lorraine Hogan, Jenny Wilkinson, Janice O'Brien
- Front Row: Jacqui Coleman, Adele Krepp, Colin Easton, Brendan Ryan (Principal), Robert Smith, Louise Fay, Anne Wynne, Lynette Smith
- Absent: Andrew Clingan, Giselle Allgood, Kenneth Avery, Larelle McInnes, Veronica Hucker

THE OLD SCHOOL YARD: *news from a former student*

SAM BLAKE



I consider myself extremely fortunate to have grown up in Lake Bolac. I started primary school in Lake Bolac in 1989. I think now I mainly remember the good times from primary school. At the grade 5 camp Mr Breen told us that the cactus-like succulents growing on the banks of the east beach was aloe vera. This may be true, but 20-odd kids all covering themselves with sticky plant goo was a sight to see.

The grade 6 camp to Melbourne was terrifying for a country kid. My favourite moment was going 110km/h in a rickety old school bus around the 'new' grand prix circuit - the current speed limit is 40km/h. I'm sure if there was a record for a school bus, we'd still have it.

From this time I have great respect for fantastic teachers like Kevin Breen and Jan Wordly. Mr Breen introduced me to playing golf, which was my great childhood love. I would play golf nearly every day with Mr. Breen and his sons. The children who were too small to walk the course would hitch a ride on his golf buggy but still play with tiny cut down clubs. I remember Mrs Wordly's math quizzes. They were filled with words like 'quotient' and 'product', and endless problems concerning fractions. She was tough, but always fair.

In 1996 my class moved up the hill to Lake Bolac High School. Or was it college by then? Either way, the primary school was down the hill. These days we'd probably call it a separate campus as it sounds fancier. Back then the school was considerably larger than it is now. Year 7 had two classes, 7M and 7B, each with (if my memory serves me correctly) around 25 students. Mrs Hucker was our year 7 coordinator and she was fantastic. I recall her diligently teaching us how to correctly smell gasses coming off a heated fluid from a Bunsen burner, only to be infuriated with me for sticking my nose in the beaker to get a better smell. I think that was my first trip to the office.

In year 7 activities I was introduced to playing squash by Andrew Twiss and John Wallis. I cannot thank them enough for this opportunity. I now play squash 5 to 7 times a week and play club circuit and state grades in Melbourne for Kooyong LTC. Without being introduced to the sport at the school level I am almost certain I would have never taken it up as an adult.

I think one of the great aspects of Lake Bolac College is all the bits in between. I suppose they are called extra-curricular activities, but growing up they just seem like fun.

By year 9 we lost a number of students to the ever-growing trend of packing your children off to private school. (Yes, you may sense a tone in that statement. I'm against it, but this is not the appropriate forum).

During the middle years of school I recall doing the minimal amount of work, and thoroughly enjoying all the sporting opportunities offered by the school. I wasn't a model student. I recall being told to sit outside Ms Wills' French class for being disruptive. The classroom was a portable and outside literally meant outside. It was a bitterly cold windy day. I got chill blains on my ears. Suffice to say, I never misbehaved on a cold day again. Lesson learnt, thanks Ms Wills.

THE OLD SCHOOL YARD: *news from a former student*

Every Wednesday was weights in the gym at lunchtime. We had to start off all exercises at 15 repetitions of (at most) 20lb and could only increase by 2.5lb per week, (kids, that's the abbreviation for pounds, yes, the weights in the gym are old!) With diligence by the end of year 9 we managed to be squatting over 200lb. To this day I enjoy doing weights and I thank Roger Flanner for never having lunch so we could get fit. In the summer lunch times were spent training in the pool. Looking back, 40 laps at lunch time was just a stroll in the park, before PE in the afternoon. It's no wonder we dominated school sports for decades.

By year 11 I started to focus more on studying. I recall the passion Linda Gellert has for teaching physics. Today, I spend countless hours working on high performance computing concerning physical applications like computational fluid dynamics. A lot of my work, ultimately, comes down to the fundamental physics I learnt with Mrs Gellert and Mr Twiss.

Here is a potentially boring anecdote, but it's important to me so here it is. In my year 12 maths class we had a polynomial to factor. It was something like $3x^3 - 31x^2 + 62x + 56$. Mr. Easton couldn't do it off the top of his head or after trying for a minute or so. (Note that he couldn't do it for a good reason, polynomial factorisation is, in general, impractical to do by hand.) So he went off to another room and came back with the answer a minute or two later. I was puzzled, so I asked him why the answer book was in another room. He told me that he had used an old software program to do it. After class he showed me. A tiny little DOS program from the 1980s called DERIVE, probably 1/20th of the size of a mp3 audio file, had computed the factors: 4, 7, and $-2/3$. I was hooked. More about this later.

While Dave Nicholson wasn't a teacher, I was always amazed at his knowledge of just about everything.

From the chemicals in the dark room, weird instruments in the lab, to the hundreds of little apple computers and the dot matrix printers which he could always fix no matter what the students had done to them. Dave certainly contributed to my love of computers, in particular to mac computers and consequently to linux and programming. Thank you, Dave.

In year 12 I didn't do as well as I had hoped. I originally wanted to do engineering at the University of Melbourne. This wasn't to be and I ended up doing science at Monash. In hindsight, this worked out perfectly. I taught engineering maths at Monash for 2 years and I'm glad I didn't become an engineer. But the lesson to be learnt is that I had absolutely no idea how hard some people worked in year 12.

In the months after finishing school and moving to university I worked on David McKay's farm just out of Lake Bolac. This was a wonderful experience. So good I went back 4 years in a row during my university breaks. David taught me so much and the farm work complemented the university life perfectly. These days if I'm struggling for motivation at work I think back to crutching sheep in the middle of summer, or roustabouting for Darren Park and remind myself that sitting at a computer or in a meeting is, in comparison, a breeze.

For a country student the transition to Monash University is perfect. While I love the old buildings at Melbourne University, I'm glad I went from Bolac to Monash. At Monash you're not right in the city. The university is perfectly located so it's an easy drive out the south-eastern and down Blackburn Road. You don't have to contend with trams and you bypass the CBD.

I highly recommend Bolac students take the jump to look beyond the University of Ballarat for their tertiary education. One further recommendation for Bolac students going to university: try to get into on-campus accommodation.

THE OLD SCHOOL YARD: *news from a former student*

You'll be living with 200 other people your age in exactly the same situation as you. It makes the whole experience less scary. You'll instantly make friends, and you'll never have an excuse for not attending a lecture as they are only a short walk away. Without a doubt, my two years living on campus at Monash were the most fun of my life. (But I wouldn't do it again!)

While at Monash I took the opportunity to study abroad. I studied at Loyola in Maryland USA. Loyola was the polar opposite of Monash and this made it a fantastic experience. I left for the US on the 30th of December when it was 32 degrees and when I arrived in Baltimore it was -20 degrees. It took at least 10 minutes into the first lecture before my pen would stop feeling like a frozen ice cream.

I finished my degree with a double major in maths and a minor in physics. I went on to get first class honours in applied maths and joined a research group at Monash upon completion of my degree. Yep, I'm now a big nerd! Mrs Hayes wouldn't have seen it coming in year 7 maths. I started working for Wolfram Research, the makers of Mathematica. Wolfram is based in Champaign, IL USA. I was in the USA from time to time, but I mainly worked remotely from Australia. Soon after joining I discovered I was working on a secret project called Alpha. Alpha is now a web-based artificial intelligence which you can try for yourself at www.wolframalpha.com. Note that it's not a search engine, it's there to answer your questions. It can't answer personal questions, but it's very good at answering questions which have a factual answer. I ended up working on Alpha for 5 years. It was extremely enjoyable and I got to work with some of the smartest people going around.

My story about Mr. Easton's use of DERIVE in the classroom of Lake Bolac College was crucial in working for Wolfram Research. Without this I would never have had an interest in computer algebra and never thought to work for a company on the other side of the world which develops a computer algebra system. In fact, I probably wouldn't be doing what I'm doing now without it. Thank you, Colin!

I started a PhD in 2009 in mathematics at Monash University. I do this in my spare time between working full-time and playing squash most nights. So you can probably guess that I have very little spare time. A PhD is not a sprint, it's much closer to an ultra-marathon. I have no exams, no coursework, and basically no accountability to anybody. It takes a lot of internal motivation, but I love it so the motivation is usually there. 4 years in I feel I have broken its back and I'm now in the process of writing up the last chapter of my thesis. I should submit by the end of the year.

In 2011 I started working for Global Environmental Modelling Systems, a Melbourne-based company which specializes in meteorological/ocean modelling and monitoring. I develop and run massively parallel wave models, cyclone models, and storm surge models. We also develop the system which tracks where you will float if you fall out of a boat or if your boat capsizes anywhere around Australia. So, in a sense, we're using maths and physics to do life saving work.

So that's it. Here I am nearly 13 years after finishing school at Lake Bolac College. While it's been a long time, I still feel so many of my roots are in Lake Bolac. I enjoy returning to Lake Bolac at every chance I get, usually around every 6 weeks. It's a great place. I get to see my mother, grandparents, numerous cousins, and have a beer with my friend and great teacher, Rog. And every so often someone at the pub will ask me a maths question.

Thank you for the opportunity to contribute to the Bolac Bugle.

THE OLD SCHOOL YARD: *news from a former student*



Lake Bolac College

Year 12 – 2001

Back Row: Luke Jackson, Jonathan Box, Owen Fitzpatrick, Brent Veale,
Samuel Blake

Middle Row: Miss Jacqui Coleman (Teacher), Katie Guthridge, Simone Clark,
Sarah Stewart, Sarah Higgins, Mark Bielby,
Mr John Wallis (Teacher)

Front Row: Thea Ryan, Courtney Lovel, Kathryn Higgins, Krystal Day,
Vicky Elliott, Hayley Brown, Wendy Milligan

Absent: Mr Andy Clingan (VCE Co-ordinator), Zayne Pearce



The Mik Maks feature former Wickliffe brothers.

Mik Maks set to entertain youngsters in aid of kinder

ARARAT - The Jack and Jill Kindergarten have announced Australia's newest and most colourful family music act will bounce back into the spotlight at the Ararat Performing Arts Centre on Saturday, October 19.

The MikMaks which is made up of four brothers also boasts the world's best drumming Panda 'Drums the Panda.'

The group have enormous fun performing their quirky songs for children and adults. They write and perform their own songs that focus on engaging children through colour, actions and movement.

The McInnes brothers grew up on a farm on the outskirts of Wickliffe. This is where their love of music was nurtured by their mother, Pamela.

Music is a passion for all four and they feel privileged to be able to share it with their young audiences.

In the past twelve months they have performed at a wide range of events across the state

including the Fun4Kids Festival in Warrnambool.

"We are really looking forward to coming to Ararat. It has sentimental value for us being the place that we spent a lot of time playing sport and visiting friends," Alan McInnes said.

"We hope to see a lot of familiar faces in the audience."

"It's our dream to share the music with as many people as possible. There is nothing more rewarding than playing music for children," Joel McInnes said.

Go along from 12pm on October 19 and enjoy the sausage sizzle, food and craft.

The MikMaks will start their performance at 1pm. To book please go to <http://www.trybooking.com/DPQM>.

Single entry costs \$15 and a family, of up to 5 members is \$50. Tickets are also available at the door.

All proceeds go to the further development of facilities for the children of Jack and Jill Kindergarten.

The Mik Maks

Dean, Joel, Alan and Brian McInnes

All boys are former students the sons of Pam (staff member) and Gary McInnes.

(Article from Ararat Advertiser)

NOTICE *board*

MDFL PREMIERSHIP WINNERS



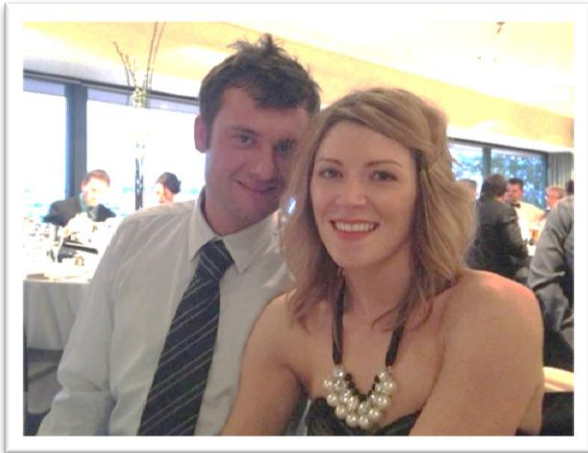
Wickliffe-Lake Bolac Football Club

Congratulations to the Wickliffe-Lake Bolac Football Club on their grand final win in the Mininera & District Football League for 2013.

The team includes several former students from Lake Bolac including: Michael Blackburn, Richard Blackburn, Jake Clark, Shane Clark, Thomas Gibson, James Keys, Josh Keys, Brad Keilar (WJ Lewis medal winner) Dean McInnes, Michael Otto, Danny Smith, Aaron Stewart.

Well done boys!

ENGAGEMENTS



Hamilton - Rich

Tara Hamilton (former student) and Craig Rich.



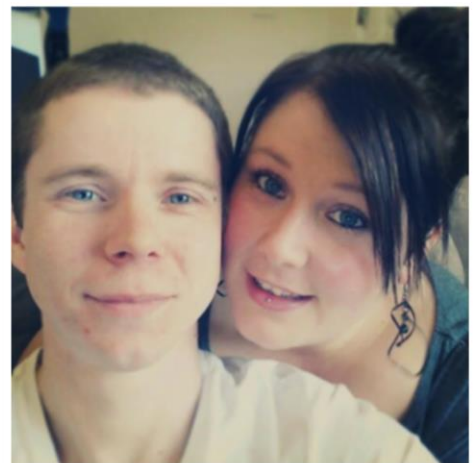
Lloyd - Rake

Lucy Lloyd (former student) and
Anthony Rake



Clark - Richardson

Brooke Clark (former student and staff member) &
Adam Richardson

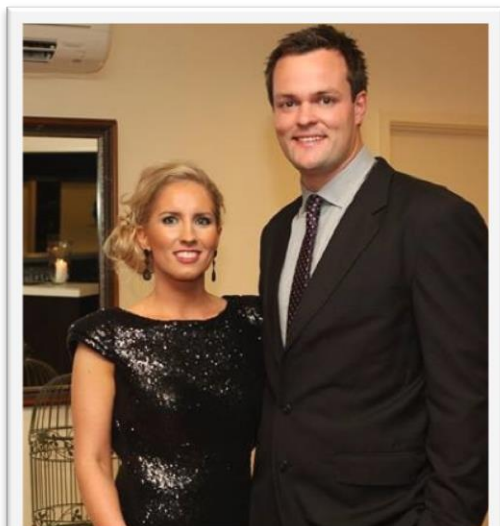


McGeachin-Woff – Aiken-Simpson

Megan McGeachin-Woff (former student) and
Joshua Aiken-Simpson.

Petrass - Hicks

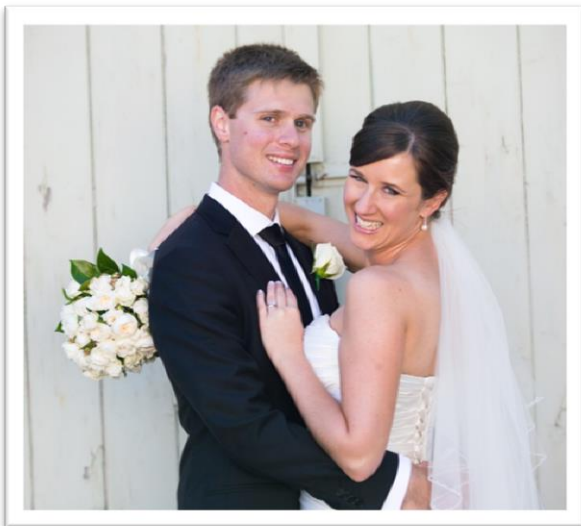
Michelle Petrass (former student) and James Hicks.



Howard – Brown

Emma Howard (former student) and Gerard Brown.

WEDDINGS



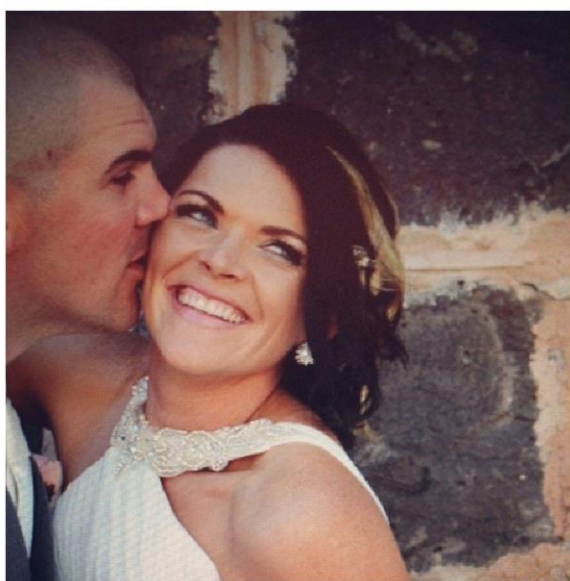
Burn – Grimmer

Andrew Burn married
Lauren Grimmer (former students)
01.03.13 at The Heights, Geelong.
Home: Newport, Melbourne



Blackburn – Blanchard

Michael Blackburn
(former student)
married Rebecca Blanchard
(staff member)
05.10.13 at The Melbourne Club.
Home: 'Eilya', Lake Bolac



Hamilton - East

Sarah Hamilton (former student)
married Shane East
02.11.13 at Mokanger Homestead, Cavendish.
Home: 'Arkola', Cavendish



Warton - Rodoni

Steve Warton (former student) married Sarah on 03.11.13
Home: Pascoe Vale

BIRTHS



Wilson

Georgina (nee Bouchier) and Paul (both former students) a boy, ***Oscar Fletcher*** on 13.03.13.
Brother to Xavier

Smith

Danny (former student) and Belinda a girl, ***Mia Kate*** on 14.10.12
Sister to Dakota & Indi.
Home: Geelong



Bouchier

Matt (former student) and Margot (staff member) a girl ***Arya Susan*** on 14.07.2013
Home: Chatsworth



McDonald

Simone (former student nee Clark) and Sam a girl, ***Minnie Anne*** on 21.11.13.
Sister to Daisy.
Home: Lake Bolac



Mulligan

Anna (former student nee Gibson) and Rob a girl ***Sophie Mary***
Sister to Olivia
Home: Walcha



BIRTHS



Hucker

Paul (former student) and Jodie Hucker twins, a girl ***Addison Lee*** and boy ***Bailey Daniel*** on 21.09.13.
Sister and brother to Eboni and Jack (current students).
Home: Lake Bolac.



Coote

Drew (former student) and Cathryn a boy,
Hudson Ray on 08.11.13



Downes

Alex Downes and Jessica Mulcahy (former students)
a girl,
Marlie Rose on 02.09.13
Home: Ballarat

Hamilton

Ashley (former student) and Jade Hamilton a boy,
Kai James on 08.11.13
Brother to Jed
Home: Ballarat.

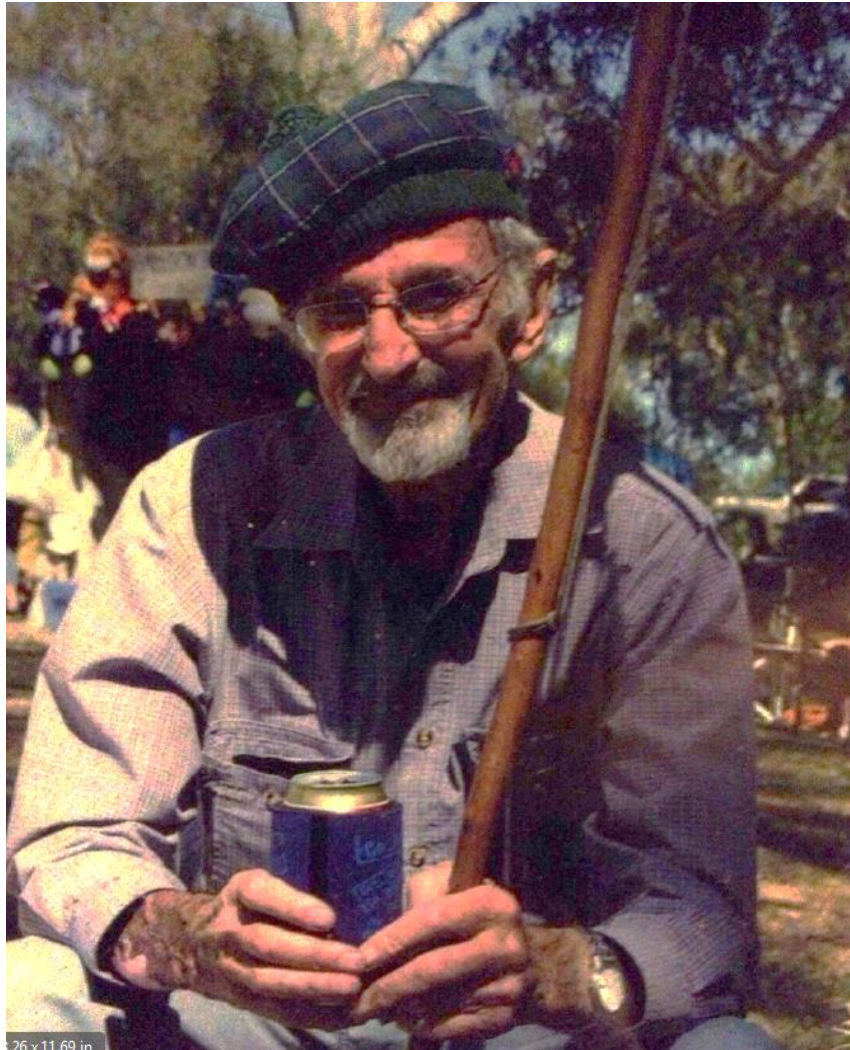


Byrne

Nick (former student)
and Peta twin girls,
Poppy Anne and ***Lily Elizabeth***. Sisters to Lucas and Archie
Home: Tatyoon



Eion (Narrer) McInnes: 13.11.33 – 03.08.13



Narrer passed away this year on 3rd August. A large crowd gathered at the Complex to farewell and pay tribute to a Lake Bolac icon. Narrer was a shearing contractor in the district for a long time as well as working for many years at the silos in Westmere.

However, Narrer was a man of many talents. He was a lover of music and literature, especially poetry.

His annual success in poetry readings at South Street competitions over numerous years was a source of great pride.

Narrer had a fascination with language, especially its potential for playfulness. A conversation with Narrer always included clever wordplay and laughter. Narrer and Dawn, his wife, had four fine sons Murray, John, Craig and Stuart, all of whom attended Lake Bolac College.

Couscous, Snow Pea, Herb and Fetta Salad

Lyndal Geddes

2½ cups chicken stock
2 cups couscous
80g butter
4 green onions thinly sliced
¼ cup chopped dill
¼ cup lemon juice
¼ cup olive oil
1 tablespoons finely grated lemon rind
1 teaspoon ground cumin
sea salt and cracked black pepper
250g snow peas blanched
100g baby spinach leaves
150g feta cheese crumbled



Place the stock in a saucepan over medium heat and bring to a simmer.

Place couscous in a heat proof bowl and pour over the stock. Cover and set aside for 5 minutes before stirring with a fork to separate the grains.

Stir through the butter, green onions, dill, lemon juice, oil, lemon rind, cumin, salt and pepper.

Add the snow peas and spinach, toss gently to combine.

Place in a serving dish and top with feta.

Serves 12.