

VISION MAGAZINE



ISSUE I

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ISSUE ONE

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and Planet Lighting for supporting Vision Magazine*





Welcome,

to Vision Magazine

Vision Magazine is a termly publication dedicated to showcasing the creative talents of students from the Mid-North Coast Region. We are dedicated to the writing, journalism, and visual arts of youth!

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*Editor of Events &
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Max Kornhauser

*Editor of Writing &
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- 
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Collective Amnesia.

In the exponentially evolving world of modern technology, social media and total news coverage, we are engulfed with information whether we like it or not. In an instant, we have complete coverage of any story from around the world, from any perspective. As a result, significant events and issues attract direct attention from news readers, TV viewers and social media users alike. Within weeks, urgent issues confronting Australians and the global community are forgotten and replaced with different stories that are more current but not always more consequential. It's a never ending cycle of collective amnesia that leaves critical issues unresolved and bypassed as the new story steals the global gaze. Does anyone remember the 200 Nigerian girls kidnapped by the Islamic Fundamentalist group Boko Haram who are still missing? How is the post earthquake cleanup in Nepal progressing?

It seems that in this ever updating world of communication, governments, politicians, the media and the general public cannot stick with an issue for an extended period of time. The gay marriage debate was at the forefront of Australian politics, but since the rise of ISIS and national terrorist threats, gay marriage has been pushed to the background. The media doesn't focus on it, the Liberal Party ignores the issue, and the general public appears to have overlooked what was once a prominent matter. The other issues warrant a significant amount of attention but should not push matters such as marriage equality aside. In spite of this, the public's focus on

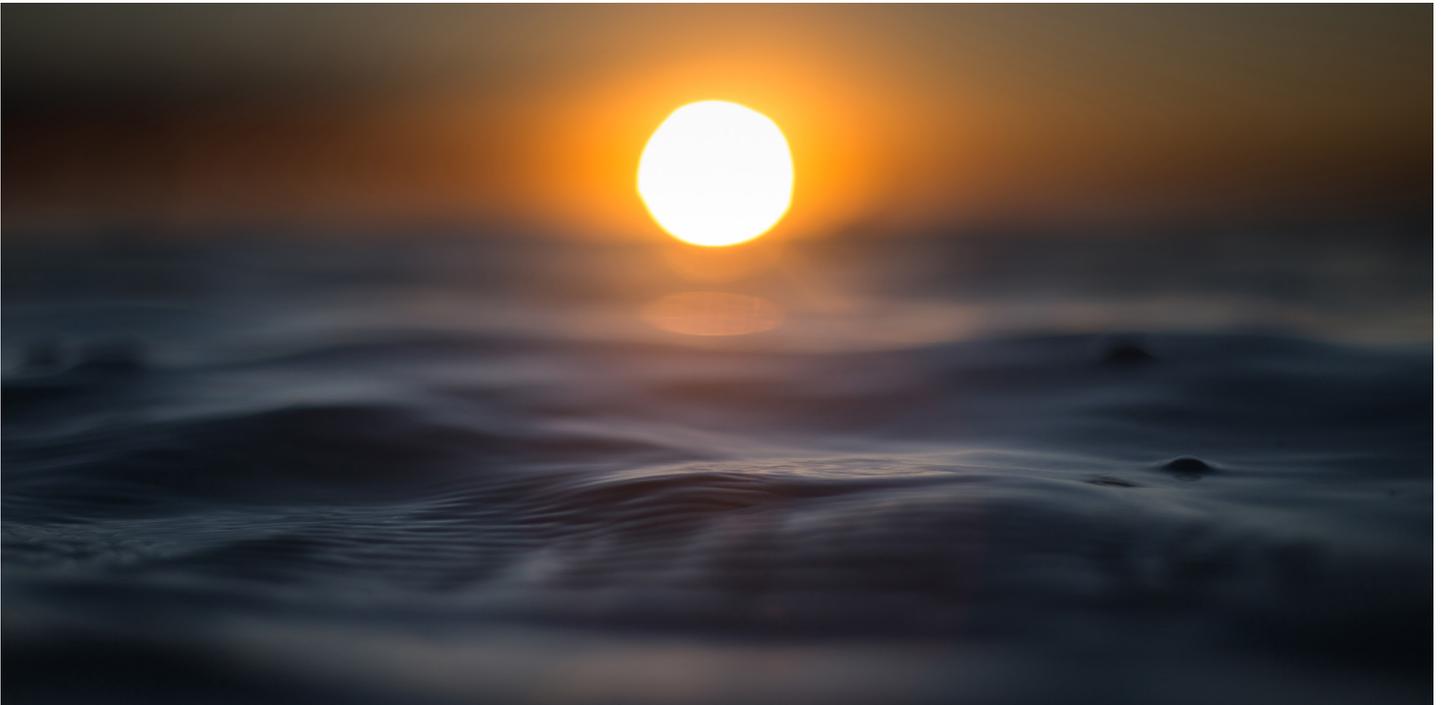
certain issues (and not gay marriage, for example) is not purposeful, and instead counterintuitive. The majority of people will unconsciously only pay attention to issues in their direct line of sight, and the media is that line of sight. The public's attention on the media and politicians, who have a focus on other issues, only leads to gay marriage being neglected and unprioritized by the community, even though the Australian community supports the legalisation at a telling 68%.

The existence of collective amnesia is not only apparent surrounding gay marriage; instead it's a widespread phenomena. The aftermath of the ebola crisis, extreme poverty and starvation in parts of Africa, Indigenous incarceration, the human rights abuses from nations including Saudi Arabia (and to an extent, our own country) are just a few examples of how issues can be forgotten or left behind if they are not solved by the time a new matter grabs the spotlight. So, who's to blame?

You would think that the media is part of the reason for this occurrence, and yes it is. To dump complete liability on the media though, would be like blaming McDonald's for the entire obesity crisis. The media is just the medium, or at least the catalyst for this phenomena as they project consistently new stories on many platforms of communication. In many ways however, the media's role is to provide new stories to the public and keep them informed. Is it really the media's job to remind us about issues that have been disregarded? Frankly, I don't believe so.

In essence, finding someone or something to blame this on is infact, pointless and the reason for this is concealed in the first word of the name for this phenomenon: collective amnesia. Collectively, the media, the government and the general public are all part of the cause for this occurrence, there is nothing and everything to blame. The responsibility to break the continuous cycle though falls not on the media but on the government and the general population. The media is going to always report newly discovered stories, that is their job description. Crucially, it is up to the many governments around the world to attempt to deal with situations that have been neglected, even if the issue is not in the public eye. If it is an issue of importance, just like marriage equality, poverty in Africa and other bypassed matters, it should be dealt with and not forgotten, regardless of whether it will gain immediate support or votes for the sitting party. Surely the victims of Boko Haram and the Nepalese earthquake deserve this.

Ultimately though, it falls on the shoulders of the public, to break free from this damaging cycle of unintentional forgetfulness. If an issue hasn't been tackled and has fallen into the shadows of the political agenda, the public should demand for change instead of acting with neglect. It is vital that individually and communally, we recognise when an issue has been pushed aside from our line of sight on the news or social media, the political conversation, and in general discussion, so that we may actively break free from the cycle of collective amnesia that prevents humanitarian development and progression.



“The five photos I’ve put together for this feature article have all been taken by me over the past two years. The settings and subjects of my photographs fall under the bracket of nature photography, which is what I’m most passionate about. The reason I chose this set of photos is because they are amongst my favourite images but also demonstrate a variety of different compositions and techniques. They also illustrate the diversity of the Australian land & seascape, as the turtle photo was taken on the Great Barrier Reef, the cascade taken further inland from Dorrigo, and the waves captured down on the South Coast. The fact that all these moments were captured in unique and varying environments is what makes photography interesting, as my creativity can be expanded as I discover new locations to travel to.” - Cem Yumru



“Windows to the Soul” by Amelia Barbaresco

PHOTOGRAPHERS OF VISION



"I've been taking photos since I was 12. The photos on display are some of my best photos. I have always had a passion for photography but only really got into the whole photography thing in the last 2-3 years. I have taken many different photos including portrait, landscapes, the built environment, some firework pictures; stop motion but my main photos are nature. Most of my photos have been taken in Coffs Harbour, some in Bright in Victoria and some on school camps. I love how photos can say 1000 words to a billion people"

Brooke West, Year 10



"These photos have been taken along the East Coast of Australia and in Isle of Pines, New Caledonia. I especially love capturing the soft textures contrasting the vibrant colours which I find bring in a peaceful effect to the compositions and draw in the reality of the moment in which the photo was taken."

Laura Cross, Year 11



"My name is Peter Stocks I'm 17 years old, I've lived in Coffs Harbour my whole life. I started taking photo's early in high school, and haven't looked back. Over the years I have focused on just surf photography, taking photo's out at a few local reefs and beach breaks. I have started taking a few landscape shots over the past year, and I'm starting to enjoy it more and more. I have recently purchased a drone, to capture a different perspective on photography/videography. I use Olympus cameras to capture my photographs. I have had much help over the years with my photography through my family and friends, and also Coffs Harbour Camera House."

Peter Stocks, Year 12 JPC



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"The Funny Thing About Loneliness"

*Much like a shadow,
Sometimes you forget about it.
Sometimes it springs out of nowhere,
Leaving you wondering how it could possibly ever slip your
mind.*

*Sometimes you might think you have escaped it,
Beaten it,
You might even think it will never appear again.
But people are blinded by their goals,
And they believe what they want to believe.*

*So, much like a shadow,
It never truly leaves.
Sometimes it may be obscured by another's presence,
Sometimes thrown behind you in an attempt to forget and
move on.
However, while you think you may be hiding it behind your
back,
It's projected in bold behind you,
Plain for everyone to see except yourself.*

*At the end of the day,
You either have to turn around and accept it,
Or it returns uninvited,
First into your peripheral vision,
Before it poisons your thoughts, yet also feeding your mind.*

*Because, much like a shadow,
As long as you are there to embody it,
It will grow with you,
And live through you.*

*The funny thing is,
How different would it really be
If this was titled "The Funny Thing About Love"?*

Lilli Moscow-Klipin.



Laura Cross, w Year 11

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

JACOB EGAN

Most Coffs Harbour students don't spend an evening at the Coffs Hotel or at the Plantation Hotel to be honest. The ones that do, might not be there for the right reasons. Yet Jacob Egan has spent an evening at both these venues and many more around Coffs Harbour doing what he does best; playing the guitar. His band, called Pinnacle with two guitarists and a drummer, has performed their instrumental metal style across the region delighting and entertaining the local audience.

"Performing is wonderful. It gives us a chance to showcase what we've written without having to record and sell our music." The gigs not only have economic benefits but are an experience that Jacob will remember for the rest of his life.

Jacob started to play guitar in year two at the age of seven. What inspired him to pick up the instrument was slightly unusual. "My uncle bought me Guitar Hero 3 and I was also jealous of my sister who played cello so I decided to play guitar." His uncle has another connection to Jacob, a trainee chef; "My uncle's a chef and he is the one who plays bass and got me into guitar in the first place, so yeah that has had an influence on me."

He developed his skills learning his first song, 'Sunshine of my Love' by Cream where he found his passion for electric guitar. Seven years later, Jacob now plays all kinds of music ranging from Alternative rock (his favourite genre) to bands like Metallica who's song, 'One', is his favourite and most prolific song in his

repertoire.

As his ability increased so did his guitar count. This year, Jacob has three guitars that include a "7 string Schecter, a Fender Squier and an Ibanez RG." The 7 string guitar adds another element to his music, enabling Jacob to play bass riffs while playing guitar. Additionally it allows Jacob to play "better sweeps and scales" and takes the cake for his favourite guitar.

Talking of bass, Jacob has demonstrated a great deal of commitment in beginning to learn the bass so he can get a spot in the musical 'Pirates of Penzance.' (There were no guitar spots left.) He was also a guitarist in the Hairspray Musical in Coffs Harbour which was his first gig in a professional environment where



Photography by Cem Yumru

he earned money and attained priceless experience in the performing arts industry.

There is another aspect of music though that Jacob has even more passion towards, something that is unique to his own character. "I do want to be making my own music either by myself or with a band." It

is a facet of music that is individual to oneself, something that Jacob gets a significant amount of enjoyment from. Already performing his own bands work in the many gigs they have played at, Jacob aims to continue to create music wherever the guitar takes him.

Undoubtedly, Jacob will perform

at school assemblies throughout the year, showcasing his incredible talent for the guitar to the school community. Keep your eyes peeled for any Pinnacle gigs. They are definitely worth your time. Whether Jacob's future lies in Food, Music or any other field, it's safe to say that he is one damn good guitarist.

Written by Max Kornhauser



Brooke West, Year 10

NEWSFLASH!

Have you ever wondered how you can tackle some of society's biggest issues like gender identity and equality, discrimination, the acceptance of diversity and many more issues in the school community?

Your questions can be answered through...

The newly launched, student run, **Human Rights Group!**

The group is open to all ideas, we want to hear and discuss them so together we can further accept diversity, eliminate discrimination and ultimately promote harmony within our community and school environment. The recently created group already has around 30 members, with new members turning up each week.

With the introduction of the Safe Schools Program we are all faced with a new understanding of what can be improved within our school community. Our aim within the human rights group is to bring about these changes. We support diversity and encourage the inclusion of people from any religion, gender, race, cultural background and age. We are really looking forward to this becoming a school wide group and hope that big issues can be tackled.

During the weekly meetings, any topic, issue, idea or concern can be brought up and are open for discussion. Hopefully, this will help us break down a lot of barriers between students and

allow us to move toward bettering our school community for all who attend BDC.

Other than the Safe Schools Program, the group is advancing the Harmony Day service into a meaningful celebration of diversity and harmony, whilst also planning to fundraise for the STARTTS organisation, that provides treatment, rehabilitation and support for refugees that have experienced trauma and harsh conditions.

We realise that the thought of changing the world seems like an impossible task to most of us yet we believe that this group can make a significant difference in the school community and beyond.

So with that in mind, our question to BDC students is... do you care? Care about feeling safe in your own school... in your own country... on your own planet? Do you care about equality? Do you care about inclusion and freedom of choice? Do we care about other people despite their differences? Because after all, being different is what makes us human and we should celebrate it instead of shunning it.

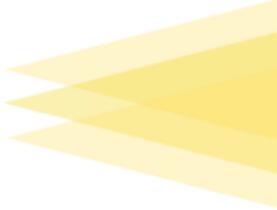
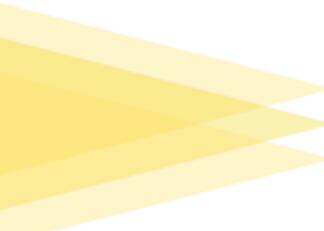
If you do care, come along,
Thursdays, lunchtime, in senior block.

Written by Morgan Walker, Sammy Pilpel and Laura Cross





Laura Cross, Year 11



[●REC] YA SHORTS YOUTH FILM FESTIVAL

Following up on the huge success of the inaugural REC Ya Shorts Youth Film Festival last year, with 6 original short films submitted by BDC students, I am pleased to announce the return of [REC] Ya Shorts Youth Film Festival for 2016! On top of the film making workshops run by Screen Wave we will also run a number of brainstorming/collaboration workshops here at Bishop Druitt College. My aim will be to bring a number of artists, such as musicians, vocalists and visual artists together to offer collaborations. Keep an ear open at assemblies throughout the terms 1&2

The film competition rules are for short films to run up to **8 minutes duration**, to involve the positive message of "**Adventure**", and to all feature this year's **signature item** - "**Key**". Our aim is to have a regional screening tour to celebrate the finalists' films up on the big screen. The screenings are free and open to the general public. This is a family friendly, alcohol-free event to shine a spotlight on rising young, local filmmakers of our region.

Stay updated with [REC]YaShorts 2016 at [facebook.com/screenwave.australia](https://www.facebook.com/screenwave.australia)
& screenwave.com.au/recyashorts

TEACHER INTERVIEW:

Julie Bain.

HEAD OF ENGLISH



Where did you grow up and what was it like?

I had a really good and happy childhood with two siblings, two parents, two dogs and a grandmother who lived in the house behind us. I grew up in Ashfield, in what is now an inner western suburb of Sydney. We had lots of freedom and we knew all the children within about a kilometre radius (but it was miles back in those days - makes me sound ancient!). We'd all just play in each other's back yards until it was dark. Dad had a pool built in our backyard and then all the kids would come over to swim in summer. It didn't seem like there were many rules - except I know I wasn't supposed to play in the tar on the road, which would bubble in summer. It used to get stuck on my clothes. I was a bit of a grub.

What school did you go to and what type of student were you?

I went to PLC Croydon and I liked school, even though lessons would sometimes be pretty tedious and I often felt that we relearned lots of stuff. I suppose I cruised through, I don't remember struggling with the ideas. I was in trouble occasionally

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for talking or laughing or whistling or singing or putting my hands in the pocket of my blazer or having messy hair.

After school you became a Jillaroo. Can you explain why you choose that occupation after school?

Actually it just sort of happened. I didn't really plan it. I went to the country for a party, a week after I finished my Higher School Certificate, a celebration of sorts. And I just didn't return to the city. I managed to get work jillarooing, roustabouting and doing odds and ends. After I'd done that for a few years I also worked part-time as a science assistant at the local central school and then gained my qualifications as an artificial insemination technician for cattle.

What other jobs have you had, why did they appeal to you?

Apart from the jobs I've mentioned, after working in the country for about five years, I moved back to Sydney, I did some bar work and waitressing and eventually gained employment with a legal firm, firstly as a receptionist and then later, as a

secretary. I studied some courses in naturopathy at night. Then I moved to the central coast and found employment as a personnel and payroll officer for Edgell Birdseye.

Why did you become a teacher, what caused that career change?

I married and had two wonderful children. When they started daycare I enrolled at Newcastle University to study Drama and English, to try and stretch my brain a bit, even though I continued to work full time for Edgells.

I'd always loved writing so it seemed logical to do something that I loved and I was extremely lucky to have really wonderful teachers at university. Then, as the children grew older I realised it would be good to find work that allowed school holidays and school hours. So I undertook some postgraduate courses, a diploma, and then a masters in education. I've been teaching, and loving it, ever since.

What is your philosophy of education?

I think we learn most effectively when we enjoy things. And when you watch children learn, at their most receptive, when they're very young, you'll see that they learn best through social interaction and play. If I could have a school that was designed around choice, play and challenge, I'd love that. But in terms of educational theory and pedagogical models I'm a great believer in multiliteracies education.

That's a model of education that provides visual, auditory, spatial, gestural, social, literary and even emotional education. Each of those modes affords different stimuli for learners. I think education has an important role in building self-esteem and confidence. So sometimes I struggle with the notions of grading and labelling that is required in institutional education.

I also believe we need a broad curriculum to stretch both students' and teachers' minds. I'm not

keen on the dichotomy of teachers being the font of knowledge and students being empty vessels, especially not secondary students. I suppose really I feel that education is based on social interaction and requires trust, innovation and hard work as well as a need to imagine a positive future. It is about collaboration, sharing and remembering to be both forward looking, embracing new ways of expression (which includes technologies) while gleaning the best from civilisation from the language of the past.

Tell us a little bit about your interests outside of school?

I write. Since moving to the coast I am most interested in the sea and its creatures. Family is the biggest interest of course - always entertaining! And I love to build teaching resources, (in and out of school) really love that! Oh yes, and I've just started piano lessons.

What's your favourite Movie? Why does it stand out?

My favourite movie of the moment is a recent release called Youth, with Harvey Keitel and Michael Caine. This film was beautifully filmed and the characters were wonderfully nuanced and the narrative just grabbed my heart - truly beautiful. I also enjoyed the last Star Wars film.

If you could spread one important message to students, what would it be and why?

Don't take learning for granted and keep learning forever! Find the things you're passionate about and never surrender to complacency!

Finally, what's one thing about you that would surprise the students and teachers that know you?

I like pumping weights!

Interview by Max Kornhauser

“JANUARY 20, 1951”

WRITTEN BY STEPHANIE GREY

Ruby looked me over with fond contempt: tweaked my jacket, the collar of my unironed shirt, tried to tame my hair with Brylcreem. I loved Ruby for her sharpness, though I was frequently cut by it. My lanky frame, boyish face and debilitating lack of selfconfidence were only the beginning of a myriad of insufficiencies. I knew I didn't deserve her.

One night I came back to our apartment, the blue slant of New York light filling the rooms with shadows, and found them, wrapped breathlessly close, tangled in the sheets. The depression that followed was suffocating. My heart deadened into something heavy that made getting out of bed seem impossible. It was the the dust on my typewriter that initiated action: shock, then fear. A writer who doesn't write isn't a writer. Paralysis was replaced by a sudden surge of anxious energy and I found myself in a smoky establishment just east of 39th.

Warm, lively jazz coaxed dancing from vivacious customers. Others sat in lazy conversation with flirtatious grins in the amber light. I steadied myself, trying to look

nonchalant, and made a beeline to the bar, where the bartender polished the lacquered wood with a cloth. A memory surfaced: Ruby, achingly beautiful, with immaculate red lipstick ruby red lipstick. Sitting at this very table while betterlooking men looked on longingly. I pushed the image from my mind.

An intriguing party of three arrived at the bar. One of them they called him Harry bumped into my elbow and turned around, apologetic. I was met by sturdy blue eyes that twinkled with something like mischief, and effortlessly the group expanded to include me. I liked it.

Joan was the kind of girl who my mother would say “has too much fun”. She pulled me up to dance, dark, wild hair cascading out of its style into waves, laughing at my awkwardness and making me blush by putting her hands in playful places. Harry and Frank watched from the table with amusement, smoking. As the music and dancing intensified, I returned to the table, flushed but exhilarated.

What Harry wrote was unlike anything I'd read: about finding

yourself, stripping down to your core being, and other equally reckless and brilliant ideas. I listened with rapt attention, awe-struck. From then, a curious flame was lit inside of me, and it would never again go out. Back at Harry's, there was a couple curled up on the couch, kissing. We were all drunk. I wheezed from the smoke. And the cocaine. I'd never soared so high, felt so outgoing. Harry and I were immersed in avid conversation, and I was rambling on about something or other when he leant over and kissed me.

Warmth. It was wonderfully warm and tender, unlike anything Ruby had given me. He moved closer and I started slightly, but he shushed me and put a gentle hand on my neck to kiss me again. My heart pounded. I knew about homosexuals, but I'd never met one. Not one so wildly curious and interesting and intelligent. With effort I gathered enough resolve to pull away, wideeyed and breathing fast. Harry gave me a small smile and crossed the room to the window, where he gazed out into the city streets and I was left alone to wonder.



MR. MCSKIMMING, 1968



Peter Stocks, Year 12

BDC ENVIRONMENT GROUP

The Student Environment Group has made a great start to 2016 with a new group of highly motivated and enthusiastic students. The group has already been busy completing an entry for the Park Beach Plaza Recycled Sculpture Competition. The students decided to focus on the impact of rubbish in the local marine environment and as such have created an amazing sculpture highlighting the damage that discarded plastics have on the natural environment. The stomach contents of the fish show how plastics and rubbish enter the food chain and the rubbish in the net shows pollution in the marine environment. The students really want to raise awareness about these issues and promote a positive message that this damage can be reversed if we all learn to reduce, reuse and recycle.

There are major cash prizes available to winning entries and the students have a number of environmental

projects in mind for the school if they are lucky enough to win. To win the students need the support of the wider BDC community. You can vote for the BDC entry by visiting:

<http://bit.do/vote-for-bdc>

The good news is that everyone who votes goes into a draw to win \$1000 of Park Beach Plaza dollars!! You can vote once a day up until voting closes on the 31st March so please support the group's entry (and maybe win a nice prize for yourself along the way).

The group also conducted our first Beach Clean Up and Tree Parents excursion last week. The new group of students were inducted into 'tree parentage' with their first visit to our plot in the Bongil Bongil National Park for fertilising and watering of our koala friendly trees. The trees are looking extremely healthy and the group did an amazing job of individually fertilising, weeding and watering all 60 trees before lunch.

After lunch we headed to Park Beach for a major clean up session around the Coffs Creek. After recent large swells and big tides there was significant amounts of rubbish to remove and the students did a fantastic job of filling their bags with rubbish and recyclables which they then sorted and disposed of correctly.

It was a pleasure on the day for the students to be accompanied by Rev Cooke who worked alongside the students and really clearly articulated the connections between spirituality and the natural environment.

We have an exceptional group of committed environmentalists that have started this year and look forward to a very productive year of environmental activism from this group so please keep an eye out for their ongoing projects...and don't forget to vote for the BDC sculpture!

Mr Bennett & Mrs Lang





JAPAN TOUR 2015

On the 5th of December 2015 at 5:30 in the morning, 48 student musicians and 8 teachers from BDC departed the small boundaries off Coffs Harbour city and began a long journey to the vast, mysterious and electric city of Tokyo, Japan. The city held promises to us of anime, musical and old beautiful traditional areas, so so so unbelievably excited for what we were about to see. 9 hours of plane sleeping whizzed by and the BDC orchestra stepped off the plane in Tokyo with stars in their eyes, gazing ever so dreamily at all the vending machines, food and luminescent lights.

We spent our first few nights in the city, at 'Hotel Edoya', a beautiful hotel that had traditional futon beds, japanese baths, amazing breakfasts, paper walls and tradition onsen outdoor baths at our disposal! Every Night we would sit on the rooftop of our hotel, drink green tea and overlook a seemingly never ending city, Tokyo the City of dreams never seemed to sleep and was so incredibly mesmerising! In the four days we stayed in Tokyo we had the amazing opportunity to meet the mayor of Edogawa city, visit surrounding schools in the area, workshop/perform with them and have our first taste of Tokyo nightlife. Special welcomes were given to us at every school, and members of the orchestra took the chance to teach our fellow Japanese musicians Australian slang which the Japanese students found way more entertaining than we would have first have imagined. The famous 'shaka' was a prime winner among the school girls. The Australians every night would then venture out to the winding back roads to explore the delicious array of small food stalls built into the walls of every side street. A \$7 dinner never disappointed I will tell you that. Japan is also responsible to the marvelous creations of green tea kit kats, ice cream that never melts, apples the size of your head and vending machines that spit out a warm coffee for just \$1 each.

We zoomed around to areas such as Akihabara - 'the electric city' - which is famous for its intense culture of huge department stores stocking manga, anime and pokemon specialty, Shibuya crossing, which is the world's busiest intersection, Harajuku, an area famous for its extreme teenage fashion culture and The Meiji Shrine, located in a beautiful forest and is nearly 100 years old. The last night before we moved on we had the privilege to perform in an amazing concert hall that was for a social inclusion week.

Along with the BDC orchestra, we joined up with a local high school, primary school, and members of a local choir. The musical highlight of the trip was this particular night when conducted by a famous composer from the area Mr Shimizu, we performed in the orchestra with a local choir 'Daichi Sansho' (Glory to the Earth).

The second week into our trip, we travelled on the 'shinkansen', a Japanese bullet train, to Toyama to visit our sister school, 'Toyama International High School' where we homestayd for two nights. This is where I met my host sister Reika, who made parts of the trip quite unforgettable. Staying with our beautiful host families, all members of the orchestra felt welcomed and perfectly at home, being totally immersed in the amazing food and lifestyles that are so otherworldly to us but so interesting and fun. The second night myself and fellow student Tegan were surprised by our host sisters by bringing us to a secret location that overlooked a glistening lake, lit up by a towering sparkling christmas tree suspended in the water. A moment we will both never forget.

The next few days flew by faster then ever with the prospect of leaving the amazing country and returning home looming closer and closer, but everyone's spirits were high and we ventured on. We visited the snow monkeys, an island full of roaming deer, hiroshima peace memorial



park and the kyoto temples. And then finally it was time to depart Japan, and return to Coffs Harbour. The Japan trip was truly memorable, the country with its unbelievable beauty, our host families and fellow orchestra friends who we bonded with and the incredible music opportunities we were given. Those two weeks in Japan is most definitely a time I will never ever, ever forget.

Written by London Hawke, Photography by Tom Tuohy & Saxon Spillet

be a part of vision issue 2.

Want to be published in Vision Magazine's next issue?

Email vision.magazine.bdc@gmail.com



BISHOP DRUITT COLLEGE

