Welcome to 2015 at Bowral High...

Welcome back to all our students and staff and a big welcome to all our new students and their parents.

We are all very excited and proud of our Visual Arts teachers, particularly the head teacher Mr Timm O'Regan. This week they were awarded the Sir William Dobell Art Foundation award for excellence in the teaching of Visual Arts. The award recognises the most outstanding Visual Arts teachers in the state. We are enormously proud of our Art staff and their achievements. As well as this award, Caitlyn Neil's work, Gastropodia, was purchased for the Wilkins Collection by the DEC.

Our new year 7 students returned on 28th January and have quickly settled in to their classes and the playground. All the students arrived in their new school uniforms and looked fantastic. We have 170 enrolled students in year 7 this year which is the highest number we have had in over six years.

The playground areas all look very green and have been beautifully maintained over the break by our General Assistant, Wayne Haslehurst. Another big improvement has been the laying of carpet in the E block corridors on the lower and middle levels. This has been done at considerable expense and it looks great. The number of slips, trips and falls will hopefully decrease and the carpet will also improve the noise levels in the buildings. We plan to carpet the top floor of E block next year. There have been many other improvements including the provision of commercial grade vinyl in the Home Economics building and new carpet in several classrooms. We hope that everyone can work together to look after the environment of the school.

The school welcomes Mr Robert Hall who will be teaching in TAS this year, replacing David Prattis. Many of our loyal and highly competent casual and temporary teachers have returned this year. Our congratulations are extended to Ms Emily Nelson who gave birth to a beautiful baby girl before Christmas and to Mr Yarran Cox who was married over the break. We will be saying farewell to Mr Keith Pauley who has worked at the school for more than twenty years. Keith will be taking up a position at the Highlands School and we wish him all the best.

It was wonderful to see all our students resplendent in their school uniforms on the first school assembly. The school has a well-publicised uniform policy that is endorsed by the Uniform Committee and the P & C. The school uniform promotes safety as it allows the staff to easily identify our students in the playground and isolate intruders. The uniform also promotes school pride and the school values: Respect, Responsibility and Fairness. We have a clear and well understood policy in relation to the uniform. Students know that if they cannot wear their uniform for a particular reason then they should bring a note and give it to their roll teacher who will record it on our school welfare system. However, if a student fails to bring in a note three times or more his becomes an issue of non-compliance and disobedience and the student may be placed on a school level. We do offer uniform items to students who are unable to wear them using a confidential application process. Students or parents can collect a Student Assistance application form from the finance office or student window and support will be available. There really is no reason therefore, why any student cannot wear the uniform correctly and with pride.

Attendance at school is a legal requirement for all students. The school has prioritised school attendance in recent years, appointing two staff members to the attendance team who have the responsibility of tracking and following up on poor attendance. Parents are reminded that partial attendance should be minimised; the school day starts at 9am and students who arrive late are recorded as partial absences. The school staff is keen to support students and parents to attend school regularly. Exemptions will no longer be granted for holidays or travel. This is in line with new guidelines from the DEC. Please contact us at the school if you need support or advice.

Parents are reminded to download the Bowral High School app through iTunes. The app works with all smart phones and tablets. It is an important means of communication but we will continue to use SMS, the newsletter and the school website as well.

I look forward to another productive and busy year at Bowral High School.

Kim Paviour - Principal
EXCELLENCE AND SUCCESS AT BOWRAL HIGH SCHOOL

The Bowral High School graduating class of 2014 has excelled in the Higher School Certificate. Here are some highlights:

- 20 Band 6 results across a range of courses.
- 98 Band 5 results across a range of courses.
- 73.35% of our HSC students achieved a Band 4 or higher in the subjects they studied, compared with a state average of 71.59% for those subjects.
- Outstanding results in Visual Arts with 4 Band 6 and 6 Band 5 results from a class of 11 students which is 7.9% above the state average for this course. Five students selected for ARTEXPRESS.
- In PDHPE, 2 students achieved a Band 6 result from a class of 12 students and the overall result was 3.4% above the state average.
- 44.4% of students achieved a Band 5 and 6 in Earth and Environmental Science- 4.68% above the state average.
- Industrial Technology- Timber continues to perform strongly- 12.8% above the state average and 100% of students in the class achieving a Band 5 result.
- 4 students from a class of 7 in Engineering achieved a Band 5 or 6 result- 6% above the state average.
- Outstanding results in Music 1 with 3 Band 6 results and 9 Band 5 results from a class of 14 students- 4.1% above the state average. Emilia Diaz achieved a score of 97 in Music 1 which is exceptional.

Along with success in the HSC exams, our students have also achieved outstanding results in other areas of their HSC studies. In Vocational Learning, Bowral High students consistently achieve at a very high standard. At the 2014 Southern Highlands Schools Excellence in Vocational Education and Training Awards, Christopher May was named School Based Trainee of the Year; Brigitte Simpson was named Vet Student of the Year in Business Services and Claire Van Bergen received a Judges Award for Excellence.

In the Creative and Performing Arts, Bowral High School HSC students have once again achieved outstanding success. Six students were nominated for ARTEXPRESS in 2015 and five have been chosen. Elysha Eccleston, Ashley Millward, Caitlin Neil, Erin Schaefer and Lulu Talbot-Le Scraigne will all have their HSC major works exhibited in art galleries around the state. Ashley Millward's work; ‘Still Life inception’ will be part of the Art Gallery of NSW exhibition. Congratulations go to all five of these students and their talented, hard working teacher, Mr Timm O’Regan.

The school extends warm congratulations to all of our HSC students and we thank them for their contributions and support. We wish them well in their future endeavours.

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**Some Calendar Dates for Term 1 2015**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weeks</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
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<tr>
<td>Week 3</td>
<td>9 Feb</td>
<td>10 Feb</td>
<td>11 Feb</td>
<td>12 Feb</td>
<td>13 Feb</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Yr 7 &amp; 11 Vaccinations for boys</td>
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<td>Yr 9 &amp; 10 Elective changes close</td>
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<td>Week 4</td>
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<td>17 Feb</td>
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<td>19 Feb</td>
<td>20 Feb</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Yr 7 BBQ</td>
<td></td>
<td>Meet the Music Year 7 Camp</td>
<td>Year 7 Camp</td>
<td>Year 7 Camp</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 5</td>
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<td>25 Feb</td>
<td>26 Feb</td>
<td>27 Feb</td>
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<td>Week 6</td>
<td>2 March</td>
<td>3 March</td>
<td>4 March</td>
<td>5 March</td>
<td>6 March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Meet the Music</td>
<td></td>
<td>Yr 6 -7 Parent info night</td>
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</table>
Year 7 settling in well at Bowral High School...
News from the Support Faculty
Welcome to Term 1, 2015.
The students in the Support Faculty had a very productive year in 2014 and we are very much looking forward to what this year will bring.

We would like to welcome our new year 7 students. They all seem to be settling in well and look comfortable in their new routines around the school.

Special mention should be made of our new SRC member, William Armstrong. He will be a great asset to the team and he has already started to prove himself at the swimming carnival by cooking sausages for everyone.

Several senior students are completing Certificate II courses at Moss Vale TAFE this year and we wish them all the best. They seem to really enjoy learning new skills in an adult environment as it allows them some independence.

We will also look forward to participating in our TASTER days at the Transition To Work programs. This is a great opportunity for our students to learn what their options are when they finally leave school.

Finally, we hope everyone has a great year and we wish our year 12 students all the best for their final year at Bowral High School.

Amanda Sutton - Head Teacher

Year 9 Camp – Great Aussie Bush Camp Tea Garden
2015 will see the introduction of Year 9 camp at Great Aussie Bush Camp, Tea Gardens. Notes were sent home at the end of last year for students to bring back with their expression of interest and deposit. We have had an excellent response and I look forward to sharing three days of travel, fun, mud and new experiences with students who have elected to go.

The balance of the final payment is due on Friday 20 March to the finance office. A list of equipment, swimming and allergy notes will be sent home in the next two weeks to also be returned by the 20 March. Please feel free to call me if you have any enquiries regarding this camp.

Mrs N Reay - Year 9 Adviser

Welcome back to a bright new year at Bowral High School!
This year your school counsellor, Lilianna Komljenovic (Miss. K), has a new office opposite D19 and will be at Bowral every Monday to Thursday. Students can be referred by staff and parents. Students wishing to self-refer can call in at recess and lunch to make an appointment.

Miss. K’s service of the month:
The Family Referral Service listens to families and refers them to services that best suit their needs.
For more information check out their website:
or call ph: 1800 663 863

Need help managing stress or anxiety?
If your child or teen has difficulties with anxiety or just seems to have too many worries, we would like to introduce you to BRAVE Self-Help – an interactive, online program for the prevention and treatment of childhood and adolescent anxiety. It was developed by a group of researchers from the University of Queensland and now, with the support of beyondblue, this program is now freely available to all young people aged 8 -17 years old who are living in Australia. BRAVE Self-Help provides strategies for children and teenagers to better cope with their worries. There are 4 programs available, one for children aged 8-12 years, one for teenagers aged 12-17 years and one for parents of children at these ages respectively. The program can be accessed as often as you like, from the comfort of your own home. For more information, or to register for the program, please visit www.brave4you.psy.uq.edu.au.
Vivo Bowral 2015!

Vivo’s are back for 2015 as our rewards system. New students will be receiving their logins and all students have received a reminder of their details through the departmental email. The online shop has many, many new items and is always expanding the choices so that the students can reward themselves by spending their Vivo’s.

We have teamed up again with Edval Timetables and the new Welfare and Attendance package has made the rewarding of our students much easier than ever before. The two systems ‘talk’ to each other so that Staff can reward students from the electronic Rolls they keep and Bowral High School is still at the forefront in testing this new software.

Staff continue to mark their Rolls in real time so that every class is marked during the day and students can be tracked hour by hour to make sure they are in class at all times. Tracking our students is of real importance to us and 100% attendance is a real goal for us, as, unless our students are in class they cannot learn and achieve their maximum potential. If your child misses just one period a day for a week they have missed an entire day of learning. A whole day missed each week for a term equals two weeks of learning missed. That leads to a whole month each semester and two months over a year. Between 7 and 10 missing a day a week leads to 48 weeks of schooling having been missed, roughly a whole year! That is why we encourage all of our students to be in class at all times.

This year we are asking Parents to get involved in the Vivo rewards program by using their logins, which will be sent out to them, to pledge a reward for their child. You will be able to set the number of Vivo’s you would like them to achieve for the week and then pledge a reward to your child. It might be a trip, meal, time off chores or anything you come up with. Another way to support and get involved in your child's education.

Our thanks to the P&C who work so hard raising money to support the Vivo program and I am sure they would welcome your involvement.

Here’s to another successful year and hoping that 2015 will see Bowral High School build upon the huge successes of the previous years and further develop the Positive Behaviour for Success.

Nic Morris
Deputy Principal
The Bowral High School Swimming 2015 Carnival....
The Bowral High School swimming carnival was held on Thursday 5 February 2015 at the Bowral Pool. The inclement weather failed to dampen the spirits of staff and students as the carnival attendance was excellent - one of the highest for years. This was largely due to the excellent organisation of the school's swimming coordinators - Ms Eckley and Mr Langdon.

The carnival was conducted in great spirits with House morale high and students supporting their team house colours. They looked fantastic!

Despite competitor numbers being lower this year, some excellent results were achieved, while the novelties were again extremely popular with all students.

Toby Croudson continued to excel in his age group, breaking four records and one which had stood for almost 30 years.

Toby broke the 50 metre (1085) record and 100 metre freestyle, 50 metre backstroke and 50 metre butterfly (1985 record) in an outstanding performance.

Other excellent performances were achieved by Abbie Zwickl, 13 years’ girls, Tayla Croudson, senior girls, Alex Smith 14 years’ boys and Clayton Barnes senior boys. The age champions are listed below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Boys</th>
<th>1st</th>
<th>Girls</th>
<th>1st</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12 Years</td>
<td></td>
<td>12 Years</td>
<td>Madison Ibrahim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 Years</td>
<td>Alex Martin</td>
<td>13 Years</td>
<td>Abbie Zwickl</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 Years</td>
<td>Alex Smith</td>
<td>14 Years</td>
<td>Krystal-Lee Miller</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 Years</td>
<td>Toby Croudson</td>
<td>15 Years</td>
<td>Yazmin Reay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 Years</td>
<td>Eligh Morris</td>
<td>16 Years</td>
<td>Ellie Jordan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>Clayton Barnes</td>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>Tayla Croudson</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The overall House champions were Belmore. Congratulations to all students, staff, the SRC for the BBQ, Mrs Guymen and organizers for a great day. A team of 35 swimmers will now compete in the Zone Championships at Queanbeyan on Friday 20 February 2015. Good luck to ms Eckley, Mr Langdon and the entire team.

Carl Davey
Head Teacher PDHPE
2015 Cambodia excursion

On Saturday 31st January, 33 exhausted but happy students and staff returned to Australia after a 15 day trip through southern Vietnam and Cambodia. Through their travels, students were able to gain first hand experiences of life in other cultures and learn about the people’s day to day struggles to survive in a world which is vastly different to their own. Through visits to sacred sites such as Ankor Wat, museums and places of historical importance they were also able to gain an insight into why things are the way they are now.

They were able to enjoy hands on experiences such as preparing meals, eating in local homes and enjoying the hospitality of local families. They were also able to test their practical skills and learn new skills ranging from pottery, silver smithing, and even making rice paper wrappers for fresh spring rolls. While most experiences were positive, there were times when the horrors of past times were particularly confronting.

This was true for their visit to S21 prison and the killing fields just outside Phnom Penh. It was in these places and across the country that more than 2 million people died under the brutal control of the Khmer Rouge. A whole generation of Cambodian people were lost and the country is just recovering from this period. The students found it difficult to comprehend the brutality of that period with the peaceful and friendly nature of the people living in Cambodia now.

The focus of the trip was the regular bi-annual visit to the Siem Reap VDCA school and the village of Peak Sneng. The village of Peak Sneng is about an hour outside Siem Reap and has been the beneficiary of a number of fund raising efforts by BHS and the broader Southern Highlands community. Besides school resources, wells providing fresh water, buildings such as a library and classrooms, and more sustainable initiatives have been established including teacher training and employing staff to supervise ongoing projects. This trip was no different with funding being provided for the establishing of an outreach initiative where “teachers” will travel to outlying communities to teach English to children who cannot travel into Peak Sneng.

However, for the Bowral students, the most important thing was the opportunity to teach, play and interact with the children in the schools that they visited. The thought and effort that the students put into these lessons was amazing. The classes were filled with noise, laughter and eager village students trying to answer correctly. For the last two days of the trip these lessons were repeated at the Volunteer development children’s Association school and a nearby village called TING. The teacher here was supported by previous BHS groups who provided the funds needed for her to be trained as a teacher and who has now returned to the area.

For all our students it was a great way to end the trip, although we continue to be upstaged by the sporting prowess of the various school children who showed no mercy by defeating the best of Bowral High School 8 – 5 in football; 16 – 13 in volleyball. Their endless enthusiasm and energy left us in their wake and we need to be better prepared next time.

For all of those who went, it was an ‘amazing adventure’ with everyone experiencing a mountain of moments which will put their own lives into some sort of perspective as they return to their families and studies. It is an initiative which continues to make a difference to our senior students 12 years on from the original trip and hopefully for many more years to come.

Mr Kervin - Librarian
Technology News
After the successful trial of the tables in year 8 last year, it was decided that the school would continue this initiative. The school has now bought another 50 Samsung Galaxy Tab 4’s that will be given out to 7R and 8T, while last year’s year 8 would continue to use their tablets this year.

We have also purchased charging stations that will be used to house and charge the tablets at night time. The teachers will be using these tablets in a variety of ways, for example, using them as a research tool, completing class work and using apps from the Google Play Store to assist the students in lessons.

In 2014, the Technology Committee decided that an upgrade of one of the schools computer labs was necessary. The computer lab has now been upgraded and is being used by classes. All the desks have been replaced by new desks, specifically designed to be used with computers. The capacity of the room has also increased with 30 computers now available for student use.

Steven Hurley - TSO Officer

Hospitality and Café Bowral
This year we see the return of our strong team of Hospitality students in year 12 who have very capably run Café Bowral since Term 3 2014. During the next two terms, the year 12 students will begin mentoring and leading the very large intake of Year 11 Hospitality students in Café Bowral on Thursday.

Café Bowral offers Hospitality students the opportunity to develop the skills and organisation techniques required to work in the industry. Students can obtain competencies in Espresso machine use, food handling, customer service skills and necessary teamwork skills to work in most workplaces.

Year 11 students are required to have paid for their Café Bowral uniform by the end of Week 8. All Hospitality students are required to pay half their consumable fees by the end of Term 1 please.

Year 11 students will undertake both their compulsory work placements this year. The first will take place in August and the second during Term 4. By completing both work placements this year allows students to complete Year 12 without any disruptions from our faculty.

If you have any questions regarding the Hospitality courses at Bowral High School please approach your child’s teacher.

Mrs N Reay
Breakfast Club
The Breakfast Club enables students who have not had breakfast for any reason to attend and eat breakfast at school on Tuesday's and Thursday's each week. It is supported by Bowral-Mittagong Rotary, Bowral CWA and Probus (who are the cooks for the morning) and various teachers within the school. Students have a sit down meal and can choose from the following:- a fully cooked traditional breakfast, cereal, toast and fruit.

The Breakfast Club usually sits between 100 – 180 students each morning. Students have consumed the following food in 2014: 100kg bacon, 210 cartons of eggs (2,520) 256 loaves bread (white, wholegrain and wholemeal), 80 fruit loaves, 256 tins baked beans or spaghetti, 576L milk, 32 boxes of fresh fruit, 64 tubs margarine, 8 boxes cereal.

We have also been sponsored by the following businesses in our local area and thank them for their ongoing support for this worthwhile program:-

Simon’s Butchery Springetts Arcade Bowral
Highland Grace for the fruit box
Bakers Delight Springetts Arcade Bowral

Staff members have also donated excess produce from their vegetable gardens and chooks. At the end of last term Kelloggs included us in their breakfast program which enabled cereal to be supplied during fourth term.

Funding has been through Bowral-Mittagong Rotary Club, Community Grant from Mittagong-Moss Vale RSL Clubs and Bowral High Interact Club.

If you wish to make a donation of any foods listed above please do. It can be left at the front office, where it will find its way to Mrs Christine Sands who is the mentor teacher for this program.

Mrs Sands

Chocolate Fundraising at School
Chocolate fundraising is NOT permitted by students at school. It does not align with our Healthy Canteen Policy and impacts directly on the P&C’s ability to raise funds (through Canteen sales) for our school and our students. We thank you very much for your cooperation in this matter.

DEC Changes to Attendance Codes in Schools
The Minister for Education has approved the changes to the use of the Attendance Register Codes for 2015.

(A) Means the student's absence is unexplained or unjustified. The revised description reinforces that it is at the principal’s discretion to accept or not accept the explanation provided.

(S) Means the student's absence is due to sickness or as the result of a medical or paramedical appointment. This clarifies that the principal may request a medical certificate in addition to explanations if the explanation is doubted, or, the student has a history of unsatisfactory attendance.

(L) An explanation of the absence is provided which has been accepted by the principal. It now includes travel in Australia and overseas.

(M) Indicates the student was exempted from attending school and a Certificate of Exemption has been issued by a delegated officer. Family holidays are no longer an accepted category for exemption from school attendance. This is now recorded as leave using symbol “L”.

(F) The student is participating in a flexible timetable and not present because they are not required to be at school.

(H) The student is enrolled in a school and is required or approved to be attending an alternative educational setting on a sessional or full time basis. This applies to students who are enrolled in a school but are required or approved to be attending an alternative educational setting.

(B) The student is absent from the school of official school business. The now includes student participation in international student exchange.
EXCITING EVENT COMING TO BOWRAL

Wingecarribee Aboriginal Cluster Group (WACG) are proud to present the first ever.....
Wingecarribee Aboriginal Community Services Expo & Family Fun Day!!

Things to expect on the day:

40+ information stalls from a huge range of services to the area including employment, health, disability, aged care, carers, mental health, AMS, Centrelink, Transport, Law Access, employment & a heap of fun too...

The hilarious Sean Choolburra will be MC for the day!!

Performances by traditional dancers and singing groups, jumping castles, fly wall, mechanical surf boards, koori-oke, petting zoo, face-painting, lucky door prizes and many more giveaways

..........and don’t forget the free feed too!!

Grab your mob and come on down!!

When: February 20th Time: 2-7pm
Where: 15-17 Kirkham Rd, Bowral

Free Transport is available: Please call Janice at Southern Highlands Community transport Ph: 48723722
Workplace Learning 2014

The students, staff, parents, carers, and community of Bowral High School would like to thank the following host employers for their involvement with our school last year.

The opportunities they have provided to our students are invaluable. Each work experience/placement takes a considerable amount of time and effort on their part, and many of these employers have hosted more than one student throughout the year.

Please support these businesses wherever possible, in appreciation of the time and effort that they have invested in our students.

Ace Internet Services
ACMUSE
All About Automotive
Allman Johnston Architects
Annesley Bowral
Anthem Aged Care
AT Roofing
Austral Bricks, Bowral
Australian Disability Enterprise
Bambinos Bowral Street
Barbara's Storehouse
Bargo Public School
BD's Woodfired Pizza & Pasta
Bernie's Diner
Birrahlee Childrens Centre
Black Cat Milkbar Café
Body Dynamics Illawarra
Bowral Co-op
Bowral Motor Cycles
Briars Country Lodge & Inn
Centennial Vineyards Restaurant
Chats Cafe
Cheveau Studio
Coles, Moss Vale
Colo Vale Public School
Crackerjacks on Shepherd
Craigieburn Resort and Conference Centre
Curves, Bowral
Dogue Country Retreat
Dot's Frozen Yoghurt and Cafe
Eickhoff
Elouera Woodworks
Eschalot Restaurant
Esco Pazzo Italian Restaurant
Flour Water Salt
Fly On The Wall Theatre
Friendly Grocer
Ganache Patisserie
Gumnut Patisserie
HarbisonCare Burradoo
Harper's Mansion Archaeological Exploration
Highlands Golf Club
Highlands Health Club
Highlands Transmissions
Hill Top Public School
Janeks Café
Jermy Moss Hotel (Sheriff Catering)
Josaphan's Fine Chocolates
Joy Global (Aus) Underground Pty Ltd
Mayfair's Coffee Shop
Mezza Bar
Milk Factory Gallery Café
Milton Park Country House
Mittagong Preschool Kindergarten
Mittagong Public School
Mittagong RSL – Admin and Bistro
Moss Vale Aquatic Centre
Moss Vale Mowers & Chainsaws
Out There Fun & Fitness
Oxley Partners Chartered Accountants
Oxley Timber Company
Pac Performance
Palate Pleasure
Peppers Manor House
Picton Public School
ProFinish
Pru Goward's Office
PS & K Price Plumbing
Ray White
Red Tree Cafe
Reece Plumbing
Rocl
Schofield Holsteins
Scottish Arms
Serenity Beauty
Shoalhaven District Memorial Hospital - STACS
Silver Pines Vet Clinic
Southern Highlands Motorcycle Centre
Southern Highlands Service Centre
Southern Highlands Smash Repairs
Southern Highlands Truck and Tractor
Spa Di Lusso
Stacks - The Law Firm
Station Coffee House
Stones Patisserie
TAFE Western Sydney Institute
The Green Tomato
The Hospital Shop
The Physio Space
The Woodage
Thirlmere Vet Clinic
Tudor House School Prep School
Tyree Industries
Tyrepower Bowral
Wilson Financial
Wingecarribee Shire Council
Woolworths, Bowral
Workplace Learning Southern Highlands
Worthington & Reading Lawyers

Mrs Christine Beasley
Careers Advisor
VET Coordinator