Eamon Hannan – Principal

As I write, the 115 Cardinals have entered the Conclave and we await the election of the new Pope. We pray the Holy Spirit guides the Cardinals in their choice. The Catholic Pope is the leader of the 1.2 Billion Catholics in the world. As the leader of our church the Pope can have a great impact on many lives. The impact is typically far wider than the church to the broader world community.

St Patrick’s Celebrations
This Sunday March 17 is St Patrick’s Day, however because the day falls on a Sunday in Lent the Solemnity of St Patrick is celebrated in the church’s calendar on the following day, Monday March 18 this year. Today at assembly Seminarian Andrew Hogan shared with our students the story of St Patrick. St Patrick is credited with the conversion of Ireland. The church in Ireland though struggling at the present time has had a huge impact on the church worldwide but particularly in Australia through the work of various missionary orders from Ireland. At St Patrick’s we celebrate the heritage of the Christian Brothers and the Mercy Sisters which were both founded in Ireland in the nineteenth century. The Mercy Sisters and the Christian Brothers have both conducted schools on our site.

We will celebrate with Mass next Monday morning and will also have activities organised by the Student Representative Council at lunch time. Students are to wear their formal uniform and may also wear a green ribbon or badge to celebrate St Patrick on Monday. All parents are invited to attend the college’s St Patrick’s Day Mass on Monday at 8:50 am.

Academic Awards for 2012
Next Wednesday 20/3/2013 we will present Academic Awards for Year 12 students based on their work in 2012. The awards will commence at 7:30 pm. This will be a short and simple ceremony acknowledging the fine efforts of our students.

Swimming Carnival
Our swimming carnival is tomorrow (Thursday) at Pioneer Pool. All students are expected to attend to support their house and take part in this community event.

Mocktails
Last Friday night our Year 12 students along with those from other schools and colleges in the region celebrated Mocktails at the MECC. Students who attended had a wonderful time and represented the college very well. We thank Mr French and other staff of the college who assisted with supervision on the night. Mocktails is run by a community organisation for the benefit of all Year 12 students in the region. It has become part of the rite of passage for Senior students in the greater Mackay region. All schools in the region appreciate the efforts of these community minded people.

Industry Placement
We have a large number of vocational students in both year levels attending work placement in the last two weeks of term. This is a vital component of their studies and is their first priority. Students should not be missing any days of work over this period. Students do not interrupt their work placement unless they are ill. There have been difficulties in placing some students due to the inclement weather affecting some employers particularly on outdoor building sites. We thank Mr Cassells and Mrs Browne for all their efforts with the students in organising the placements. We also thank MRAEL who act as the brokers for St Patrick’s students and in fact for most work placements in the Mackay region.

National Day of Action Against Bullying in Schools
This Friday Is A National Day Of Action Against Bullying In Schools. At assembly today I spoke with students reminding them that this is all of our business – everyone of us has to look out for the rights of others. It is about respect.

### Dates to remember:

**March 2013**
- 14 Aquatics Carnival
- 15 Year 11 and 12 Maths A exams
- 17 St Patrick’s Day
- 18 St Patrick’s Day Mass 8:50 am
- 18-20 Industry placement
- 20 Awards evening for Year 12, 7:30 pm, St Patrick’s Hall
- 21 Mid-semester exams commence
- 28 End of Term 1
- 30 India tour leaves

**April**
- 15 School resumes – Term 2
- 19 Cross Country
- 22-24 Year 11 Orientation Camp to Hamilton Island
- 23 Mid Semester 1 Reports posted home
- 25 ANZAC Day

**May**
- 1 P & F Meeting, 6:00 pm Board Meeting, 7:30 pm
- 2 Parent – Teacher evening
- 8 District Cross Country
- 22-24 Year 11 ACTS Camp
- 24 Catholic Debutante Ball
- 26 National Sorry Day

**June**
- 5 P & F Meeting, 6:00 pm Board Meeting, 7:30 pm
- 10 Queen’s Birthday holiday
- 12 End Semester 1 Exams commence
- 20 Show holiday
- 21 Cultural tour departs Last day of Term 2

**July**
- 8 First day of Term 3
Ways in which we do this is through respect for the dignity of each one of us. Respect for each individual person; respect for their name and their possessions. Respect for each individual’s right to be peaceful and happy; both physically and online.

As a community we use courtesy when we talk with each other. We include each other in what we are doing. We respect and celebrate our differences – it would be a bland world if we were all the same.

**Exams, Assignments and Study**

In this period leading up to exams it is important that students begin to study at home more intensely than they may have done previously. Some students will struggle with this but they should be studying about 2.5 hours per week for each OP subject and 1 to 1.5 hours per week for VET subjects.

If students are having difficulty studying at home they could make use of the library before and after school or on Saturday. Many of our teachers are also holding tutorial sessions after school at present.

Some students will need to do short intense bursts of study of around 20 to 30 minutes at a time. The problem with this can be the potential for long gaps in between bursts. They will most likely need encouragement to get back to their work. Doing this they can achieve quite a bit of study and over time increase the bursts and reduce the gaps.

The exam timetable is available on the college website. Students need to pay close attention to the times of their exams and attend in full school uniform with appropriate equipment. Those students who are attending industry placement are required to attend their exams on the evening indicated in the exam timetable.

**Readings for Mass next week**

**Reading 1**: Is 43:16-21 …for I put water in the desert and rivers in the wasteland…

**Psalm**: Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6 The Lord has done great things for us

**Reading 2**: Phil 3:8-14 I continue my pursuit toward the goal, the prize of God’s upward calling, in Christ Jesus.

**Gospel**: Jn 8:1-11 “Let the one among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her.”

**Lesley Fraser – Assistant to the Principal: Religious Education**

This coming Sunday the 17th March is the feast of St Patrick, Patron of Ireland. We pray this day for all Irish people and for our St Patrick’s College community. Patrick was born towards the close of the fourth century, in a village called Bonaven Taberniae, which seems to be the town of Kilpatrick, on the mouth of the river Clyde, in Scotland. In his sixteenth year he was carried into captivity by barbarians, who took him into Ireland, where he was forced to shepherd cattle in the mountains.

During his captivity, he turned to God in prayer. He wrote:

"The love of God and his fear grew in me more and more, as did the faith, and my soul was rose, so that, in a single day, I have said as many as a hundred prayers and in the night, nearly the same." "I prayed in the woods and on the mountain, even before dawn. I felt no hurt from the snow or ice or rain."

Patrick’s captivity lasted until he was twenty, when he escaped after having a dream from God in which he was told to leave Ireland by going to the coast. There he found some sailors who took him back to Britain, where he reunited with his family.

He had another dream in which the people of Ireland were calling out to him "We beg you, holy youth, to come and walk among us once more." He began his studies for the priesthood. He was ordained by St. Germanus, the Bishop of Auxerre, whom he had studied under for years.

Later, Patrick was ordained a bishop, and was sent to take the Gospel to Ireland. He arrived in Ireland March 25, 433, at Slane. One legend says that he met a chieftain of one of the tribes, who tried to kill Patrick. Patrick converted Dichu (the chieftain) after he was unable to move his arm until he became friendly to Patrick.
Patrick began preaching the Gospel throughout Ireland, converting many. He and his disciples preached and converted thousands and began building churches all over the country. Kings, their families, and entire kingdoms converted to Christianity when hearing Patrick’s message. Patrick preached and converted all of Ireland for 40 years. He worked many miracles and wrote of his love for God in Confessions. After years of living in poverty, travelling and enduring much suffering he died March 17, 461 at Saul, where he had built the first church.

On Monday 18 March we are having a College Mass in St Patrick’s Church which starts at approximately 8.50 am and finish by 10.00 am. All of you are welcome to attend. Students are required to be in full academic uniform which includes long grey trousers for males and stockings for females.

Visit by Kathleen and Barry Evans

Last Friday we were honoured to be visited by Kathleen and Barry Evans, who shared their amazing story with the Year 12’s. Kathleen, mother of five, and grandmother of twenty-one from the small town of Windale, Lake Macquarie was diagnosed with a non-small carcinoma in her right lung in the 1990’s. Her surgeon wanted to remove her right lung to give her 5-6 extra years to live, but found that the cancer was more aggressive than expected and moved to several glands including one near her aorta. Wanting to check x-rays before taking action Kathleen’s doctors found that her cancer had spread to her brain and as a result could not operate.

Chemotherapists gave Kathleen no hope for chemotherapy working, so she was sent to radiotherapy, only to be told that any ray treatments would help with side effects and perhaps only give her a couple more weeks at the end. For this to happen, Kathleen would’ve had to go to the hospital for 10 consecutive days. Being too sick for this course of action Kathleen felt that the odds were just not worth it and decided to go without treatment.

Kathleen received a picture of Mary MacKillop from a friend. Attached to the back of the picture was a piece of Mary’s clothing. Kathleen wore this relic on her nightie and later on her clothing, it never left her. Kathleen was also given some prayer cards that were given out to all her family and friends asking them to pray the same prayer, asking Mary to pray with them all to God on her behalf.

Kathleen started to get stronger, and was able to stay out of bed longer. Within two weeks, she was able to go on a weekend retreat. Her doctor wanted her to have more tests done about four months later because he said that she shouldn’t be here. It wasn’t until another three months, (10 months from being diagnosed) that Kathleen went back to take those tests, only to be told there was no sign of cancer anywhere, just scarring where the cancer had been. This miracle was the second to be attributed to Mary MacKillop which led to her canonization and becoming Australia’s first saint. The students and staff were grateful for the time Kathleen gave up to share her incredible life story.

THE MASS OF CHRISM
7.00pm, Wednesday 20 March, 2012
St Joseph’s Cathedral

We are invited to gather as a diocesan family:
- to witness the Blessing of Oils
- to be used in parishes during the coming year
- to support our Bishop and priests
- as they renew their commitment to ordained ministry
- to renew our own commitment to Jesus Christ.

Supper will follow in the grounds of the Cathedral.
Edna Galvin – Assistant to the Principal: Curriculum

Scholarships

Congratulations to Jenny Galea (Year 12, 2012) who has been awarded The Aspiring Teacher grant for 2013. This award goes to an inspiring young person entering tertiary education study. The college also had a recipient the previous year when Sarah Curti was chosen to receive this award. Congratulations also to Kate Tolo who has been awarded a Melbourne Fashion Scholarship for the entire period of her degree. Kate is studying textile design and fashion and this award will assist Kate to achieve her dreams in this very competitive field.

Awards

Congratulations to the many Year 12 students who will be receiving awards next week based on their final Year 11 results. This Awards Night is held every year around St Patrick’s Day as part of the celebrations of this important College feast day. The night is only short as the major celebration of senior study is Valedictory Night. The Awards evening next week is to acknowledge the work completed in their Year 11 study and to encourage them in their final year of schooling. Congratulations to all students listed below:

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Exam Rules

1. Read your exam timetable carefully and note all exams. This is YOUR responsibility.
2. Turn up in plenty of time – half hour before most exams or at 8.25 am for morning exams.
3. Wear full academic uniform.
4. Phone the college if you are going to be late or are ill. Illness will usually require a medical certificate to be presented when you return to school. You will still be required to complete the exam.
5. Bring all necessary equipment – spare pens, calculators, rulers, erasers, extra batteries etc in a clear container. You will not be allowed to borrow anything during the exams. Do not bring other materials into the exam.
6. When called over the PA, line up in classes in alphabetical order so that rolls can be marked. This order is also the order that you will sit in for the exam. Follow teacher directions.
7. Dispose of any study notes before you enter the exam room.
8. Once you enter the exam room you must remain silent and not communicate with any other student in any way. TO DISRUPT AN EXAM IS A SERIOUS BREACH OF THE COLLEGE BEHAVIOUR CODE.
9. During perusal, you may **not** write your answers, but, in some subjects, you may be able to write notes on the exam. Remember perusal means read thoroughly, **not** skim.

10. Read the whole paper during perusal and ask questions at that time.

11. Do not ask teachers how to answer questions – they cannot tell you and it wastes your valuable time.

12. At St Patrick’s you may not leave the exam room until the set time, ie the end of the exam.

13. No food is to be taken into exam rooms and water bottles must be kept on the floor.

14. If you wish to speak to a supervisor you must stand in your place. Do NOT raise your hand.

15. MP3s, Ipods, Mobile Phones etc are strictly forbidden in the exam room at all times.

16. We are under State and National requirements for the qualifications gained by senior assessment including exams – these require the college to conduct exams under strict, secure, ethical conditions.

17. Rearranging an exam can only be done under very exceptional circumstances which **MUST** be disclosed to the Administration of the college – it is not desirable because of the reasons stated above.

18. **SCHOOL NOTICES** will be posted on noticeboards each day. Please check these for any important information.

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**Sean Geoghegan: Assistant to the Principal – Student Welfare**

**Education – the ultimate game changer**

All my life I have suffered from visual myopia and have needed corrective lenses to remediate the problem. This is a physical defect that is easily remedied. Far more serious is the condition of mental myopia, the inability to see to the horizon and indeed beyond. It involves a failure to understand that the world is a damned exciting place and that the possibilities are endless. Most people claim that travel is enriching (even if some don’t believe it). The experience itself however, is transformed if one embarks on the excursion armed with information and knowledge. It is this prior knowledge that will have a significant impact on what one ‘sees’ and what one ‘notices.’ In some ways it is not dissimilar to the contrast between viewing the stained glass window of a church from the outside and from the inside. From the outside, it is dull, mundane and unremarkable, grey in colour and the design is barely discernible. Step into the church and it’s another matter. Colour, clarity, vibrancy and enchantment. What would have scarcely attracted your attention before, now becomes the object of your attention. **Knowing** that stepping into the church will make a difference – changes what the eye encounters. Changing the perspective from which the window is viewed, changes everything – but in order to do so – knowledge is required.

The acquisition of knowledge sparks a renewed appreciation of what has always lain in ones field of vision of what had hitherto gone completely unnoticed. I remember how when my wife fell pregnant for the first time, I suddenly saw babies and baby products everywhere. Where had they all come from? I couldn’t turn on a TV without being confronted by a deluge of gurgling, crawling, bawling humanity. Fact is, they had always been there, but the knowledge that my circumstances and lifestyle were about to change caused me to suddenly notice and become aware of images and products that had always been there. And here’s the point – the mind does the seeing, makes the observations, the deductions, the inferences. One can have 20/20 vision and yet be completely blind. So what opens up this ‘Mind’s Eye’? Education – pure and simple. Why do you think antiquity collectors trawl through second hand and pawn shops? It’s because they rely heavily on the inability of people to tell the difference between what they think is an ugly ornament and a Faberge egg.

I have to confess that every year I get overwhelmed by how many students lack a zest for life. There appears to be little understanding of the infinite possibilities that exist. I also lay much of the blame at the feet of those who start telling students what information they will ‘need’ and what information they will ‘not need.’ Step into any class and see which student learns faster and which students stay constantly engaged. It’s the students who for one reason or another were fortunate enough to have acquired a general knowledge that stretches well beyond what the school curriculum may or may not have taught. Their minds demonstrate a specialised level of organisation that allows new information to be quickly assimilated because it is **adding** to what is already there. Think of how a jigsaw puzzle becomes progressively easier as more pieces lock into place. The correct placement of the pieces, that appeared so confusing to begin with, quickly becomes apparent because of the existing placement of other pieces. The more a student knows, the faster and easier new learning becomes. If we, as teachers, start with a blank slate, a severe lack of parenting is evident.
**Bianca Johnston – Cultural Coordinator**

Thank you to the tour families who have paid their second tour payment, lodged their travellers VISA application, and returned the dietary requirement form and travel insurance. These forms and payments are now overdue.

The tour group has started putting together their show stopper item whilst band members, dancers and actors learn scripts, choreography and music. To aid in the student’s development and progress a rehearsal a draft rehearsal schedule has been distributed. It is important all tour members and co-curricular students adhere to this schedule.

The College Drama Club, Stage Band, Percussion Ensemble, Choir and Handbell team will continue rehearsing up until Friday 22 March. (Please note the co-curricular groups **WILL NOT** meet during the exam week). Rehearsals will commence again, week one of term two.

The tour group will meet and rehearse throughout the exam block. It is important **ALL** tour members attend these practices. The tour rehearsal schedule is as follows:

**Term 1 - Week 7**  
Friday 15 March lunch Rehearsal (PAC)

**Term 1 - Week 8 and Week 9**  
Tuesday 19 March Lunch - Tour singing rehearsal  
Friday 22 March 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm  
Monday 25 March 1:45 pm – 3:00 pm  
Wednesday 27 March 1:45 pm – 3:00 pm

**USA Arts Tour Fundraising:**  
Thank you to the number of students and parents who have registered their help for the upcoming USA Arts Tour Sausage Sizzles at the Good Guys. Our first sausage sizzle will be held this Saturday at the Good Guys from 8:30am – 4:00pm.

**Cadbury Chocolate Drive**  
Chocolate Boxes have been ordered for all touring students. Each tour member will receive their box/s to sell next week during rehearsal. Students are encouraged to sell their chocolates over the exam and Easter period. All chocolates **MUST** be sold by **Wednesday 17 April**. **All monies must be returned to the College by Thursday 18 April.**

If students would like to sell more chocolates / or have trouble selling them, they are encouraged to contact Mrs Louise Blomfield via email: louiseblomfield@icloud.com or contact her on 0407 774 464.

**Co-curricular Arts Groups reminder:**  
Co-curricular Arts Membership Fee is due by **Friday 22 March**. Forms are available from the College office.

**Membership Fees (yearly fee):**

- **$90.00** (if a student is a member of one co-curricular group)
- **$130.00** (if a student is a member of two co-curricular groups)
- **$160.00** (if a student is a member of more than two co-curricular groups)
Brendon Brauer - Sport

Capricornia 19 years Rugby League Selection
Congratulations to Year 12 students, Ross Bella, Rhys McBride and Jarrod Morris who have been selected in the Capricornia 19 years Rugby League team that will now travel to the state titles.

Mackay District 19 years Squash and Netball Selections
Congratulations to the following students who were selected in the Mackay 19 years Netball and Squash teams following last week’s trials:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Squash</th>
<th>Netball</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dana McLennan</td>
<td>Danica Szepanowski</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aidan Burke</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lucas Nielsen</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quinn Osborne</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Mackay Schoolgirls Netball Competition
The Mackay Schoolgirl’s netball competition commences today with five St Pat’s teams involved in competition. All girls are reminded to let their coach know if they are unable to attend today’s fixtures. Most girls should now have returned their permission forms and competition levy and have seen Mr Brauer for a team uniform. Mrs Tracey McLeod has been very busy organising our netball teams and the college is grateful for her assistance with the St Pat’s netball program. Good luck to all of our netball teams.

St Pat’s Aquatics Carnival
On Thursday we will be holding our annual aquatics carnival. Attendance at this event is compulsory for all students. The carnival will be held at Pioneer Swimming Pool commencing at 9.00 am and concluding at 2.15 pm. Following a roll mark at the college, students will travel to Pioneer Pool by bus. At the conclusion of the carnival, all students must return by bus to the college unless prior arrangements have been made. Students will need to bring a note from home if they intend on leaving from the pool.

The carnival events will commence at 9.15 am with the college triathlon followed by novelty and age championship swimming events. The Aquatics carnival is our first house event for 2013 and no doubt, competition will be fierce as each house team attempts to gain supremacy over their rivals. At present, Rice House (Year 11 boys) and will be hard to beat with more individuals and teams entered in the triathlon than the other house teams. There are 28 individual competitors and 49 teams entered in the college triathlon comprised of a 300m swim, 6km cycle and a 2.5km run.

Cyclists must arrange for their bikes to be dropped off at the pool from 7.30 am - 9.00 am. This is the preferred way of getting bikes to the pool. Bikes can be picked up from 11.30 am - 2.30 pm. Outside these times, staff will not be available to look after bikes. If parents intend dropping off bikes before 7.30 am, please leave bikes inside the pool complex and if possible, chain them to the fence.

Students are encouraged to wear house colours and the dress theme for the day will be ‘Under the Sea’.

Students are reminded to bring sunscreen, hats, suitable sun safe clothing (house colours) and a towel. Students are reminded that there is to be no coloured zinc worn in the pool. This is a request from the pool staff. Lunch (Pizzas - limited numbers) will also be available for students at their own expense.

Good luck to all house groups.

Important Dates
12 March  Mackay/Whitsunday Futsal Titles (Open Boys)
14 March  St Patrick’s College Aquatics Carnival (Triathlon and Aquatic events)
19 April  St Patrick’s College Cross Country
William Cassells: Diocesan VET Coordinator

Work Placement

With work placement commencing next Monday, it is important to remind students that signed contracts must be returned to the College by close of business this Friday. This is the contract that activates WorkCover and indemnity insurance and any variation to this requirement is a significant breach of legislation.

Teachers will be checking progress of students early next week, with a site visit during the second week of the placement.

It is essential that if there is any sickness or other event that may prevent attendance at work, the work place and the school must be notified at the commencement of the day.

School Based Apprenticeships and Traineeships

A number of students have commenced School Based Apprenticeships and traineeships this term. The College congratulates:

- Sean Beazley - Carpenter
- Luke Britton - Diesel Fitter
- Brianna Ingram – Hairdresser
- Presley Andrew – Accountant
- L’Koi Hamilton – Motorcycle Mechanic
- Brandon Norris – Plumber
- Caleb Pace – Boilermaker
- Harrison Shelley – Carpenter

These students along with their parents can be proud as they engage the world of work and training beyond school in preparation for their future careers.

Edie Weiss – Guidance Counsellor

Tuckwell Scholarship

The Tuckwell Scholarship is a generous new scholarship of $20,000 per annum for highly talented and motivated school leavers to study at the Australian National University. Applications close on April 2, 2013, and more information can be found at http://tuckwell.anu.edu.au

Australian Defence Force Information Session at School

ADF will be available to talk to students during lesson 5 next Wednesday. This will be of interest to both year 11 and 12 students who are interested in finding out about joining the Defence Force. Students will need to sign on at the Counsellors office and get permission from their teachers to miss class.

RMC, ADFA and Women in the Army information session

6.00 pm, Wednesday, 20 March 31/42 RQR Komiatum Barracks, 400 Shakespeare Street.
Please RSVP by Monday 18 March to pross@dfr.com.au or on 4726 0226.

Altitudes, Insects and Climate Change

Professor Kitching is currently working on Mt Dalrymple, Eungella, with a team of young scientists and they are collecting specimens from the mountain as part of a project to determine the effects of climate change. Professor Kitching will be presenting a lecture at CQ University as follows:

Cook Lecture Theatre, CQ University, Boundary Road, Friday 15 March 2013, 7.00 pm
Entry is free, and a light supper will be provided. You are welcome to chat with the Professor afterwards.

Please RSVP to Ros at the Mackay Conservation Group, Phone 49530808, or mcgemail@bigpond.com
Thursday the 21st of March is Harmony Day. This Special day coincides with the United Nations International day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. It was first declared in 1999 as a day to encourage tolerance and understanding between Australians of all races and cultural backgrounds.

Harmony Day provides an opportunity for all Australian’s to:

• Celebrate our many successes as a diverse and harmonious multicultural society.
• Recommit to our common values of respect and goodwill towards our fellow Australian’s of all backgrounds.
• Say ‘no’ to racism

The message of Harmony Day is Everyone Belongs. In 2013 the theme is: Many Stories – One Australia.
Our Australian story is diverse. We come from many countries around the world. We each make up the pages of the bigger Australian story we share today. From the Dreamtime to the Eureka to the Snowy River, from the outback to the city, in wartime and in peace, our stories may be heart wrenching but also inspirational.

Let’s take the time to celebrate our diversity. Let’s go beyond the cover of the book and wander through the pages of each other’s story. It is here we can learn and understand each other.

Bree Sinn
Regional Indigenous Education Liaison Officer

The Catholic Guy Mission
COMING SOON!! THE CATHOLIC GUY MINISTRY

This is a mission/retreat experience which will be open to all and conducted at St Francis Church from 15 to 19 April 2013. It is a spiritual journey with sessions available morning and evening. Each 90 minute session builds on the previous one, but each session can also stand alone. It is suitable for everyone, from teenagers to mature parishioners. A collection will be taken each session to cover costs. More information will follow in coming weeks, but you can get a sneak preview by visiting http://thecatholicguy.com/
HISTORY
The Great Depression 1929-1939

After nearly a decade of optimism and prosperity, the United States was thrown into despair on Black Tuesday, October 29, 1929, the day the stock market (see following article) crashed and the official beginning of the Great Depression. As stock prices plummeted with no hope of recovery, panic struck. Masses and masses of people tried to sell their stock, but no one was buying. The stock market, which had appeared to be the surest way to become rich, quickly became the path to bankruptcy. And yet, the Stock Market Crash was just the beginning. Since many banks had also invested large portions of their clients' savings in the stock market, these banks were forced to close when the stock market crashed. Seeing a few banks close caused another panic across the country. Afraid they would lose their own savings, people rushed to banks that were still open to withdraw their money. This massive withdrawal of cash caused additional banks to close. Since there was no way for a bank's clients to recover any of their savings once the bank had closed, those who didn't reach the bank in time also became bankrupt. Businesses and industry were also affected. Having lost much of their own capital in either the Stock Market Crash or the bank closures, many businesses started cutting back their workers' hours or wages. In turn, consumers began to curb their spending, refraining from purchasing such things as luxury goods. This lack of consumer spending caused additional businesses to cut back wages or, more drastically, to lay off some of their workers. Some businesses couldn't stay open even with these cuts and soon closed their doors, leaving all their workers unemployed.

In previous depressions, farmers were usually safe from the severe effects of a depression because they could at least feed themselves. Unfortunately, during the Great Depression, the Great Plains of the United States were hit hard with both a drought and horrendous dust storms, creating what became known as the Dust Bowl. Years and years of overgrazing combined with the effects of a drought caused the grass to disappear. With just topsoil exposed, high winds picked up the loose dirt and whirled it for miles. The dust storms destroyed everything in their paths, leaving farmers without their crops. The farmers who had lost their homes and land usually headed west to California, where they heard rumors of agricultural jobs. (The stories of these migrants to California were immortalized in the fictional book, The Grapes of Wrath by John Steinbeck.)

Beyond North America, the world in the 1920's had come to be very dependent on loans from the United States. One of the biggest recipients of these loans was Germany. After the devastating effects of World War I and the subsequent Treaty of Versailles, the German economy, which was the largest in Europe, had become dependent on US loans. This was because Germany had been stripped of land and compelled her to pay huge amounts of money to Britain and France as compensation after the war. During the Depression, global trade decreased sharply, US loans dried up, and many countries throughout the world were thrown into crisis. The Great Depression created enormous instability in many countries throughout the world and it became extremely difficult for democracy to survive in many countries during this time of crisis. Rising unemployment caused populations to turn toward political parties and individuals who appeared to be able to alleviate or solve the crisis. It also saw an increase in the popularity of communism as an alternative to capitalism as many people believed that capitalism had proven itself to be a failure. The Depression is seen as playing a significant role in the rise of Adolf Hitler, who was later to become dictator of Germany and was to play an important role in causing World War II. In 2008 the world appeared to be sliding into another Great Depression.
Depression, in what came to be known as the GFC or Global Financial Crisis. The world came perilously close. There is little doubt that the lessons learned by governments from the Great Depression caused them to act quickly to use public funds to prevent the banks from going bankrupt.

**Ideas**

**What is The Stock Market?**

When companies start growing they need to raise money to keep buying machines and products and to expand their businesses. Banks would be unwilling, for the most part, to give companies the funds they need to create further expansion. At the same time, ordinary people, (let’s call them investors) want to find companies where they can invest their money, so they can receive income from the growth of those companies (which would be more than interest earned from that money in a bank account).

Companies discovered a long time ago that the most profitable, easy, fast and effective way to find the investors is through an organized system, through which all interested individuals could bring in funds to keep developing their businesses and enterprises. That is what started the Stock Market, which has been evolving and improving for a long time. People can trade and invest on this market through Exchanges. For example the New York Stock Exchange, (NYSE) or the Australian Stock Exchange (ASX) are regulated agencies, which facilitate the transactions between buyers and sellers and ensure the fairness of each transaction for everyone. ‘Stockbrokers’ also facilitate transactions for their clients and earn a commission for doing so.

On this market you can be an investor or you can be a trader / speculator. Investors are individuals that want to invest an amount of money, usually a large amount, and keep on the market for a while to profit from a long term trend. They want to grow their money, but they also want safe investments. They are not gamblers. They usually have large amounts of available funds so they can afford to leave their money on the market for months and sometimes even many years. Traders and speculators usually want fast profits. They may or may not have large amounts of available funds for trading and even if they do, they don’t want to risk them too much. This is because traders usually take considerably higher risks than investors do. Many of them not only trade shares of stock. Many of them are those that want to become rich in a few months. They want higher than average results. In fact they want the highest possible results. Many traders and speculators lose all their money on The Stock Market while others make fortunes.

When there is buying trend on the Stock Market, it is called a ‘Bull Market’. When the market lacks confidence and the trend is one of pessimism and investors are selling, it is known as a ‘Bear Market.’

*The Bull outside the New York stock exchange on Wall Street in Manhattan*

**NATURAL HISTORY**

**What it means to be human – Part 1**

One fossil discovery above all has transformed views of how we became human - the discovery of Lucy.

During the 1970s, two fossil hunting teams began uncovering evidence of ancient human ancestors in east Africa. One team, co-led by Donald Johanson, was working at Hadar in Ethiopia. The other team led by Mary Leakey, was over 1,500 kilometres away at Laetoli in Tanzania. Fossils discovered at the two sites were found to have very similar features and ages but they did not match the fossils of any species known at that time. Lucy was discovered in 1974 by anthropologist Professor Donald Johanson and his student Tom Gray in a maze of ravines at Hadar in northern Ethiopia. A new species name, *Australopithecus afarensis*, was therefore created for them in 1978. Based on its small size, and pelvic shape, they concluded
it was female and named it 'Lucy' after 'Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds', the Beatles song playing on the radio when Johanson and his team were celebrating the discovery back at camp.

Like a chimpanzee, Lucy had a small brain, long, dangly arms, short legs and a cone-shaped thorax with a large belly. But the structure of her knee and pelvis show that she routinely walked upright on two legs, like us. This form of locomotion, known as 'bipedalism', is the single most important difference between humans and apes, placing Lucy firmly within the human family. "Bipedalism is the most distinctive, apparently earliest, defining characteristic of being human. Johanson named Lucy's species *Australopithecus afarensis*, which means 'southern ape of Afar', after the Ethiopian region where Hadar is located. 3.5 million years ago, *Australopithecus afarensis* foraged for fruit, nuts and seeds in a mixture of savannah and woodland. It may also have obtained animal protein from termites or birds' eggs. In 1975, Michael Bush, one of Johanson's students, found the remains of more than 13 afarensis individuals buried together following a natural disaster - possibly a flash flood.

While Lucy undoubtedly walked upright, some scientists, doubt that she walked with straight legs like humans. Instead, they argue, she kept her hip and knees bent, like chimps do when they walk upright. Chimps usually walk on all fours, but occasionally walk upright for short periods of time. Professor Robin Crompton of Liverpool University has used computer modelling to reconstruct how Lucy walked based on the proportions of her skeleton. He assumed that Lucy could either have walked upright with a bent hip and knees like a chimp, or with straight legs like a human. Crompton found it was mechanically effective for Lucy to walk like a human. Chimpanzees are our closest relatives. Genetic studies show humans and chimpanzees shared a common ancestor that lived in the African rainforest 7-8 million years ago. The descendants of this common ancestor split into two lineages - one that led to chimps and another that led to us. It is thought that the human lineage developed routine bipedalism as a strategy for living on the ground when climate change decimated the forest, leaving wide belts of open terrain with no trees. Crompton believes the forest canopy bipedalism shown by orangutans provided the kick-start for routine bipedalism when our ancestors came down from the trees and began living on the ground.

"This behaviour is a good place to start in terms of what pre-adapted the hominin body, particularly the hip joint and knee joint, for the adoption of habitual (routine) bipedalism," Crompton explains. Once our ancestors were forced to adapt to living on the ground, some drew on this behaviour from their existing repertoire as a method of terrestrial locomotion. The challenges of spending more time on the ground would have favoured those hominids whose anatomy and behaviour gave them a reproductive edge over their peers, however slight. Hominids that were good bipedal walkers were clearly at an advantage in this terrestrial environment, because millions of years later, we walk on two legs instead of four.

**CITIZENSHIP**

**Australian Constitution**

The constitution of a country states the fundamental political principles upon which that country’s legal and political system will be founded. It lists the powers, rules and responsibilities of all governing bodies. The *Australian Constitution* (*Commonwealth of Australia Constitution Act 1900*) is the primary piece of legislation in Australia and gives all levels of government their powers and jurisdiction (areas of influence).

Each Australian state also has its own constitution.

Interestingly, England does not have a constitution, relying instead on an accumulation of documents and traditions over the centuries. This is called Constitutional Convention.
The five functions of the constitution are:

- To recognise the existence of the six colonies of 1900 and continue their individual constitutions, powers and laws except where changed by the new constitution.
- To create a new central government and its agencies and to outline their powers and responsibilities.
- To regulate relations between the new federal government and the six states.
- To establish an Australian Common Market in the form of free trade and commerce between the states, including a common external customs tariff.
- To guarantee some basic rights for Australian citizens.

Three different powers exist as a result of the Australian Constitution:

- **Exclusive powers** which may only be exercised by a Federal Parliament. e.g. making money or creating a defence force.
- **Concurrent powers** may be exercised by both State and Federal (Commonwealth) Governments. However when the laws conflict the Commonwealth law takes precedence. Examples would include trade, fisheries and drug use.
- **Residual Powers** means that the law making powers held originally by the states are retained unless exclusively taken away by the constitution.

Because the Constitution defines what we value as a country, it cannot be changed easily. **Laws (also known as Acts) which are passed must follow the rules of the constitution.** If they appear to contradict the constitution the matter may be challenged in the **High Court**, the highest court in Australia.

This happened in 2011, when the National Schools Chaplaincy Programme was challenged by Ron Williams on the grounds it was forbidden by section 116 of the constitution which stated that The Commonwealth shall not make any law for establishing any religion, or for imposing any religious observance, or for prohibiting the free exercise of any religion, and no religious test shall be required as a qualification for any office or public trust under the Commonwealth. The case has been substantially proven in the High Court although aspects of the judgement are still being challenged.

The constitution can only be changed by **referendum**, a topic we will examine in another Knowledge Project.

**SCIENCE**

**Vaccines**

Vaccines have been found to be the most successful and cost effective public health measures that prevent disease and save lives. This is particularly true among children all over the world. Over the last half of the 20th century, diseases that were once all too common became rare in the developed world, due primarily to widespread **immunization** (also called vaccination).

**What is a vaccine?**

A vaccine is a preparation of a **weakened or killed bacterium or virus**, or of a portion of the pathogen’s (a disease-producing agent) structure, that **stimulates immune cells** to recognize and attack it, especially through antibody production. That means that a vaccine **causes the body to react as though it is being attacked by the pathogen and therefore to produce antibodies in the blood which prevent the full-blown version of the disease.** Most vaccines are given orally or by injection.
The first vaccine developed was against smallpox by Edward Jenner, an English "country" physician, in Berkeley. He found that dairy maids with cow pox were relatively immune to small pox. He took the exudates and secretions from a cowpox pustule (like a blister) on the hand of dairymaid Sarah Nelmes and inserted it into the arms of an 8 year old boy James Phipps on May 14, 1796.

The vaccination was effective since the boy did not catch small pox even when he was infected with the small pox virus six weeks after the vaccination. Jenner published his findings in 1798. Despite opposition, vaccination soon became accepted practice.

Some of the diseases which have been successfully combated by vaccines are:

- **Smallpox** (as above). In the 20th century alone 300 to 500 million people died of smallpox. It has been eradicated worldwide since the 1980’s.

- **Polio** is a paralysing disease that was prevalent until vaccines were developed in the 1950s. In the US alone there were 21 000 cases in 1952. The rate of infection has dropped by 99% but it can still be found in a few countries, though no cases have been reported recently.

- **Measles** is both common and contagious. It can cause blindness, deadness and even death. Rubella (German Measles) can cause birth defects if a woman contracts it in the early stages of pregnancy. A rubella vaccine has been available since 1969.

- **Diphtheria** was once a dreaded bacterial illness. In the 1920s diphtheria killed 13 000 to 15 000 people a year in the USA alone.

However, not everyone accepts the effectiveness or safety of vaccines, although government health advice is that they are essential for greater public health. The reality is that all medicines have side effects of some sort, and reaction to vaccination varies with individuals. In very rare cases there may be quite serious side effects.

Some diseases appear not to respond to vaccines as well and they mutate and continue to be a problem. Whooping cough is one of these. Critics of vaccinations point to potential side effects as well as the right of parents to choose to vaccinate. The problem is that this potentially allows the disease to spread.

**LITERATURE**

**J.K. Rowling**

Few people have not heard of Joanne Rowling and her Harry Potter fantasy series. The sheer volume and overwhelming success of her works have made her a noteworthy author. In addition she has been given credit for a resurgence in interest in the print media by contemporary generations addicted to social media and the “quick fix” of audio-visual material.

Rowling was born in July 1965 in England, and after a conventional early education attended Exeter University where she earned a French and Classics degree. As a postgraduate she worked as a researcher for Amnesty International, a charity she now supports generously.

She first conceived the idea of Harry Potter the boy wizard who is unaware of his powers in 1990 during a train journey. Subsequently, she spent five years writing the plot of each book and then began writing the first novel.
She married in 1992 and moved to Portugal but after the birth of her daughter Jessica the marriage broke up and she returned to England, finished her first book but had difficulty getting it published. In the end the publisher, Bloomsbury Press agreed to publish *Harry Potter & the Sorcerer’s Stone* (1997), largely because the eight year old daughter of editor Barry Cunningham loved the first chapter.

The appeal of the Harry Potter series lies in the way readers can empathise with Harry Potter, the child who is *isolated and unloved in the family* of distant relatives until he discovers his *true heritage as a wizard* and his *destiny to save the world* from the evil sorcerer, Voldemort, who killed his parents. Like most fantasies, it relies on the *Superhero discourse* that witnesses the transformation of the ordinary human into something more - *something superhuman* and the perennial *battle between good and evil.*


Website and publishing rights TM and J.K. Rowling 2012

Electronic link to this week's Crossword:


Electronic link to last week’s Crossword:

Knowledge Project Part 5 2013
St Patrick’s College

ACROSS

1 The Depression played a significant role in the rise of ___.
2 The Harry Potter series has been given credit for a ___ in interest in the print media.
4 ___ is where the NYSE is.
5 Whilst the early human species Lucy probably walked she most likely did not walk with ___ legs.
8 A ___ stimulates immune cells to recognise and attack it, especially through antibody production.
11 Many ___ in the 20th century have been prevented by immunization.
13 The Stock ___ is a way for individual people to be able to invest in companies.
14 ___ does not have a constitution.
17 ___ powers are only exercised by a Federal Parliament.
22 In the 1920’s many countries of the world and in particular German has become very dependent on ___ from the USA.
24 ___ powers are law making powers originally by the states which are retained unless exclusively taken away by the constitution.
27 The accumulation of documents and traditions over the centuries is called constitutional ___.
28 Black Tuesday, October 29, 1929 is the day that the ___ market crashed.
29 Another word for immunization.
30 Single most important difference between humans and the apes.
31 During the Great Depression, the Great ___ of the United States were hit hard with both a drought and horrendous dust storms, creating what became known as the Dust Bowl.

DOWN

1 ___ were good bipedal walkers.
2 Author of Harry Potter ___.
3 ___ was discovered in 1974 by anthropologist Professor Johanson.
6 In very ___ cases there can be serious side effects to vaccinations.
7 During the Great Depression loans ___ up and many countries around the world were thrown into crisis.
9 The appeal of the Harry Potter series lies in the way that readers can ___ with lead character.
10 The ___ Constitution was enacted in 1900.
12 The first vaccine was developed against ___ by Edward Jenner.
15 ___ powers are exercised by both State and Federal Governments.
16 Black Tuesday was the beginning of the Great ___.
18 The NYSE stands for the New York Stock ___.
19 The author of Harry Potter first thought of the idea for the story on a ___ journey.
20 A ___ is a buying trend in stocks.
21 The new species name Australopithecus ___ was created in 1978.
23 In 2008 there was concern that the ___ would lead to a second great depression.
25 A ___ Market is when there is a selling trend in stocks typified by pessimism and a lack of confidence in the market.
26 ___ is a paralysing disease that was prevalent until vaccines were introduced in the 1950s.
THE WATERLINE

Lino prints  Tony Druery

An Exhibition of reduction linocuts depicting the developing City of Mackay.

TOWN HALL GALLERY

Sydney st
Mackay

13 April - 20 April
10 am - 4pm

All works for sale

Tony Druery Artworks
0416 945373
visit Tony Druery Artworks on Facebook

Artspace Mackay
Artspace Mackay Community Exhibitions Program