

# Future Footprints



Australian Government  
Department of Education, Employment  
and Workplace Relations



ASSOCIATION OF  
INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS OF  
WESTERN AUSTRALIA (INC)



# Table of Contents



Welcome	4	Guildford Grammar School Indigenous Program	19
Welcome to Country	6	Year 12 Graduation Dinner	20
Student Council Meetings	7	Future Footprints in the Community	22
School Cultural Activities	8	Perth NAIDOC Awards	22
School Cultural Activities	10	2012 Social Events	24
Future Footprints Students Meet Kevin Rudd	11	IYLP National Year 12 Graduation Dinner	25
Future Footprints Camps	12	School Coordinators' Forums	26
Career Expo and Pathways Breakfast	14	Mentor Program	27
Where are they now?	16	Calendar of 2013 Events	28
Student Profile: Liam Lannigan	17		









24 September 2012

Mrs R Forrest  
Coordinator  
Future Footprints Program  
Association of Independent Schools WA  
PO Box 1817  
OSBORNE PARK WA 6916

Dear Roni

I write following the very successful Future Footprints graduation ceremony conducted here at Christ Church last Thursday evening.

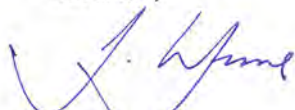
Congratulations on this wonderful event that served to highlight the talents and skills of the graduating class. It was particularly pleasing that David Wirrpanda was able to speak, given his high profile and his advocacy of education as a pathway for the success of Aboriginal people.

At the conclusion of another very successful year for the program, I thank you for your passionate work and exceptional commitment. I do this both as a Head of a school benefitting from the program and as the Chairperson of the Management Committee. Roni, Future Footprints is in very safe hands with you at the helm!

I look forward to ongoing success through 2013 and beyond.

With kindest regards

Yours sincerely



Garth E Wynne  
HEADMASTER

## Message from the Deputy Director of AISWA

The success of the Future Footprints Program is evident across a range of indicators particularly in the area of retention and completion. Together with participating schools, Future Footprints has demonstrated a commitment to provide social inclusion and reduce disadvantage for Indigenous children.

I wish to congratulate all students for their great efforts and achievements throughout 2012 and wish continuing students all the best for the next school year. I especially wish to recognise the huge efforts, both personally and academically, of all of the graduands. Your dedication will stand you all in good stead for your futures and furthermore will highlight the contribution to Australian society by young Indigenous people.

I commend Roni Forrest for her wonderful coordination of the Future Footprints Program. Congratulations to all involved.

Ron Gorman



# Hello

Well 2012 is over, and it's been a very productive year for the Future Footprints Program. We have consolidated and built on the work of the past years. Student numbers have grown considerably and most schools are now at a peak in terms of enrolments. Thirty five students graduated from Year 12 this year, which is an indication of the support schools are receiving from the program.

All schools have amazing cultural programs which enhance students' engagement and retention. Cultural events are celebrated such as NAIDOC Week, Sorry Day and Language Week. I attended a wonderful cultural feast at St. Brigid's College in Lesmurdie. I witnessed fabulous cultural dance performances at various schools by the Wesley College, Guildford Grammar, Iona Presentation College and Presbyterian Ladies College students. Students were invited to attend national Indigenous performances such as *Pecan Summer*, at the State Theatre Centre and *The Sapphires* film. Invited guests to schools have been received with great appreciation. Performers included Alan Pigram, Gina Williams, Sean Choolburra, Archie Roach and Deb Cheetam, amongst many others.

The Future Footprints Program has successfully worked in partnerships with various support networks such as Madalah, the Kimberley Klub and the ICEA to give support to schools and staff. The School Indigenous Program Coordinators do a tremendous job in supporting our students, going above and beyond their role at times. Their passion and commitment is to be applauded.

Schools are excellent at identifying student needs, and on many occasions I have assisted with pastoral care issues. Programs and activities relating to pastoral care have been extremely well attended and enjoyed by the students. We held three boarders weekend camps this year with over thirty five students attending each camp. Two camps were held at the Ern Halliday centre and the other one held at Woodman Point. Woodman Point was the site of the old Quarantine Station which provided for a very scary and interesting camping experience!

School Coordinators really enjoy the forums which are held once a term where we reflect plan and share ideas for the care of our students.

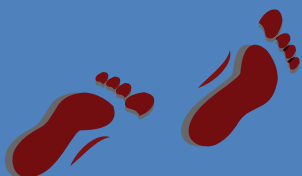
There have been many student achievements throughout the year; students have excelled in the academic and sporting arenas, and this has been complimented by leadership roles. For example Hayden Winmar of Hale School was selected to take part in a National Indigenous Youth Leadership Conference in Sydney, Gerald O'Sullivan from Aquinas College and Rakeem Pickett from Wesley College won art awards and Presbyterian Ladies College student Jasirah Bin Hitam completed the leadership journey aboard the Leeuwin. Many other students were awarded for their abilities.

Through the Future Footprints Program I applaud the schools on their support of students and the students on their successes. I remain committed and passionate to continue to support families and students in their achievements and engagement of their educational experiences in Perth.

Finally I would like to thank Ron Gorman for his support and faith in me in coordinating the program and Sue Mulholland for her support and guidance throughout the year.

## Roni

Future Footprints Coordinator







# Welcome to Country

More than 200 students attended a cultural event held in the second week of the school year to welcome students back to school and to Perth.

A Welcome to Country is a traditional practice of special significance for Indigenous people. When an Indigenous person visits places in their country they may talk to the spirit ancestors of that place to identify who they are, and who is accompanying them. Welcomes can take many forms, it can be a formal or informal welcome address. Most ceremonies typically involve the use of fire, smoke or water.

Noongar people have their own customs and protocols about welcoming visitors to Noongar Country. The Whadjuk Noongar people do this with great pride, as they are gaining respect and recognition for country and their role as custodians and educators of their land.

The 2012 ceremony was held at Kings Park on 12th February and was conducted by Noongar Elder Kim Collard who gave a cultural insight into Noongar country complemented by a talk on the importance of education and supporting each other as Indigenous people.

Many boarding and day students, staff from schools and boarding houses, and students' families attended the event. Many Noongar Community members also participated.

Volunteer university students also attended and assisted with cooking the sausage sizzle. Excellent feedback was given on the day by students, schools and parents who attended.





# Student Council Meetings

The Indigenous Students' Council meetings are held once a term on a rotating basis at a host school, with two student representatives from each school attending. A President and Vice-President are elected on an annual basis by the students. The council meetings provide opportunities for discussion and social interaction for students. A guest speaker program is an integral part of the meetings with young Indigenous guest speakers providing valuable mentoring and role modelling. The council is selected from the leadership student group of Years 10-12. These students are voices on the student council on various concerns such as sharing resources for their schools, boarding house issues, planning upcoming events, inviting guest speakers into schools and planning and sharing ideas for NAIDOC week activities.

In Term 1, Hale School hosted the first meeting for the year which focused on leadership and values, as well as elections for Council President. Bevan Bennell from Scotch College was elected President and Tegan Bedford from Iona Presentation College was elected Vice President.

St Brigid's hosted the Term 2 Council meeting and invited Elder Marie Taylor to speak about her education and journey, and the Stolen Generations as the date coincided with Sorry Day. Naomi Wheat from St Brigid's College facilitated great student activity games before a delightful supper of pizza and cupcakes was enjoyed by all.

Guildford Grammar School hosted the Term 3 Council meeting. Andrew Beck and the students had organised a wonderful evening of games and challenging activities for the students to participate in.

The Term 4 Student Council meeting hosted by Wesley College was a visit to the Centre for Aboriginal Studies at Curtin University. Students were treated to a smoke ceremony welcome by Associate Professor Simon Forrest. Staff and ex-Future Footprints student Kimba Benjamin spoke to the students about studying options with Curtin University.





# School Cultural Activities

## Wesley Colleges

The dance troupe Moorditj Mob continues to grow from strength to strength. They are very busy being invited to many schools in Perth to perform their routine, having performed at over thirty different venues and schools this year. During NAIDOC the students set up a Tent Embassy in the library and on the school oval to recognise the 40th anniversary of the Tent Embassy in Canberra. The boys were very lucky to attend a cultural day with Noongar Elder Noel Nannup in Walyunga National Park.



## Presbyterian Ladies College

Students participated in a range of activities including attending the film *The Sapphires* and the black opera *Pecan Summer*. A boomerang painting activity, "Art Activity on the Quad", culminated with the boomerangs arranged on the grass to spell NAIDOC in huge letters on the quad. Students were invited to hear young indigenous woman Tanya Major speak at Curtin University.

## Iona Presentation College

Students have formed a dance troupe with the assistance of Mr Simon Stewart from Broome. Simon taught the girls contemporary dance with traditional elements, and the girls performed at their Sorry Day ceremony. They were also invited to dance at the launch of Beehive Montessori School's RAP in Mosman Park.





### St Brigid's College

Students celebrated Language Week with a feast of bush tucker offerings cooked by Future Footprints and the Kimberley Klub. Roni Forrest made kangaroo stew and the students assisted making little dampers. Frank Ansey and Layla Yu cooked barramundi and dugong kebabs which were an absolute treat for the students. The college was the venue for the Black & White Social held in Term 3.



### Santa Maria College

Peter Dawson, an emerging young leader in the Indigenous community regularly visits students at the school. Peter speaks in particular on the inclusion of Indigenous people in the National Constitution and Closing the Gap strategies. Santa Maria is very grateful for Peter's contribution to their school program.

### Aquinas College

NAIDOC celebrations culminated in the whole school assembly where students performed a song they had written with Alan Pigram's father also called Alan Pigram, who is a singer songwriter from Broome. It was a wonderful experience for the boys, and was an idea generated during the school's trip to Derby. Future Footprints and the Kimberley Klub cooked kangaroo stew, made dampers and prepared tasting plates of dugong, pearl meat and barramundi. The students really enjoyed the feast and there was not a morsel of food left!



### Guildford Grammar School

The cultural dance troupe is developing well with the assistance of a cultural teacher from Derby, Mr Dann, and the dancers performed at the opening of the 2012 Careers Expo and also at the school's NAIDOC service. Students invited ex-student John McGuire back to the school to talk about his journey since leaving Guildford, and also organised bush food sampling for staff. Andrew Beck led the boys in a dance session with didge and the boys made bush tools down by the Boat Shed with their cultural teacher.





# School Cultural Activities

## St Marys Anglican School for Girls

Students participated in an Evensong celebration of NAIDOC at St George's Anglican Cathedral in the city. The girls carried in the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags and performed readings for the service. They also had a very interactive NAIDOC week with visiting speakers such as Marissa Verma, who spoke to the girls about women's business. A movie night and pebble painting activity, as well as bush tucker tasting were also enjoyed.



## Hale School

During NAIDOC week a Welcome to Country ceremony was held, traditional food was cooked and shared and a number of guest speakers addressed a school assembly.

Indigenous students gave a presentation to all middle school students about their home towns and what it was like to live in many different parts of WA.

## Scotch College

The school always has a wonderful turn out of Aboriginal guest speakers and role models for their annual NAIDOC week.

## Christ Church Grammar School

NAIDOC Week assembly was held in the prep school, and was enhanced with storytelling and a didgeridoo performance. The school also held their very popular Aboriginal art exhibition where students paint their stories of country on canvas. This year, the exhibition titled Young Dreaming, was opened by Janet Holmes A Court. Other visitors to the school this year included the Bartlett Bros, Noel Nannup and Emma Sibosado. Christ Church also hosted the 2012 Future Footprints Year 12 Indigenous Graduation Dinner with keynote speaker David Wirrapanda.



## Perth College

Future Footprints students organised a NAIDOC Week assembly. Jasmyne Fullgrabe and Marika Ugle spoke about their heritage. Former student, Madeline Anderson, was the guest speaker. During NAIDOC week there was bush tucker, with kangaroo and dugong tasting. The girls also made friendship bracelets in NAIDOC colours.







## Future Footprints Students Meet Kevin Rudd



The heritage listed Shenton House on the banks of the Swan River at UWA set the scene for a special day in the life of Year 11 boarding student Bevan Bennell. It was here that Bevan, a young man from Northam, met with the Hon Kevin Rudd MP at the UWA School of Indigenous Studies. Bevan is the beneficiary of an Indigenous Youth Leadership Program scholarship and the Vice President of the Future Footprints Program. Mr Rudd met with students individually to discuss how they were best utilising the opportunities given to them and their aspirations for the future.

Other Future Footprints students invited to meet Mr Rudd were Donald Imberlong and Trevor Menmuir from Hale School, Brianna Ozies from St Brigid's College and Tegan Bedford from Iona Presentation College. They were joined by the Future Footprints mentors who are UWA students.

Mr Rudd also gave a speech on the importance of leadership and active participation in the community, with the emphasis being the difference that individuals can make on the continuing path towards reconciliation and healing.

**Chris Menage, Scotch College Teacher**







# Future Footprints Camps

Future Footprints camps have developed from an identified need to offer students, families and schools a safe, supervised and positive alternative for students to access whilst residential houses are closed during term breaks. These are students who live in remote communities and cannot get home in the five day break from boarding houses. Numbers are restricted to 35 students on five day residential recreational, leadership and cultural camp.

The camp program is designed to ensure maximum participation in all activities over the five day camp for students. Our goal is for the students to have a valuable learning experience whilst at the same time having fun and socialising. The activities

selected for the camp are facilitated and coordinated by Future Footprints staff with assistance from university mentors. All activities endeavour to promote team building, trust and leadership.

In 2012 three camps were held; in March at DSR Ern Halliday Recreation Centre, in June at DSR Woodman Point Recreation Centre and the final camp was held at the DSR camp at Ern Halliday Recreation Centre.

AISWA have developed a partnership with the ANZ Bank to sponsor the mid-term break camps. As the camp has a focus on leadership, students participate in financial literacy programs during the camp. Students workshopped to create advertisements on the knowledge they had of ANZ.

The workshops focused on developing video presentations. Students were asked to gather into groups and discuss what they learnt from previous ANZ literacy workshops. They were then asked to develop a video focusing on making a positive advertisement or message for Aboriginal people to better manage their money. Students were very engaged in brainstorming ideas for their presentations.

They presented their ideas to the facilitators who gave them feedback.

Students then worked on filming and making of videos which they all thoroughly enjoyed. Many of them were adept at the technology of designing and recording their





Sponsored by **ANZ**

videos, and they sat for hours fine tuning and editing them at night.

The camps are extremely popular and also have a strong cultural element with a Noongar Elder welcoming the students and an Indigenous cultural dance group performing and facilitating workshops.

Many activities on the camps include water sports, team games, talent nights, basketball carnivals, and a day out from activities. The camps would not be as successful without the support of the university mentors who act as supervisors and role models to the students. A core group of mentors have developed trusting and caring relationships with students and are of great assistance to the program.

This year the Kimberley Klub coordinated a basketball carnival hosted by Christ Church Grammar School which was very popular. Future Footprints students combined teams were winners and Bevan Bennell won the three point shoot out.

On the final camp for 2012 leaving Year 12 boys presented Roni with a framed photograph of many camps they have participated in over the years.







## Career Expo and Pathways Breakfast



The Future Footprints Indigenous Careers Expo is held annually in NAIDOC Week. The expo aims to support Indigenous student engagement in education and to enhance the transition to and from school, to further education and to employment and training.

At the expo students get the opportunity to seek information on university courses, pathways and scholarships as well as employment options. Exhibitors at this year's expo included Woodside, a number of universities, TAFEs, government departments and companies such as ANZ, BHP Billiton and NAB. Woodside generously sponsored the 2012 Career Expo.



Now in its fifth year, the Future Footprints Indigenous Careers Expo is a wonderful opportunity to support Indigenous students to research different employment possibilities. More than 120 students explore potential careers with more than thirty different organisations at this innovative Expo which is held at the University of WA Business School.

A formal Welcome from Noongar Elder Barry McGuire gave a wonderful insight into Noongar country and the strong connections the Wadjuk people still retain. The welcome was complemented with a moving cultural dance from the students







of Guildford Grammar School and their cultural teacher Mr Dann from Derby.

Students heard inspiring stories from former Future Footprints Program students Kimba Benjamin (a Presbyterian Ladies' College graduate) and Curtin Journalism student, Dylan Collard (Guildford Grammar School now a law student) and Hale School graduate Torey Rickerby who is now studying at university. Their messages of encouragement was received with great applause from the students and staff.

This year's expo also featured the Indigenous comedian Sean Choolburra who thoroughly entertained the students with his routine and dances.

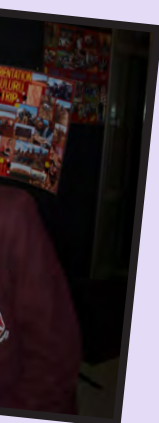
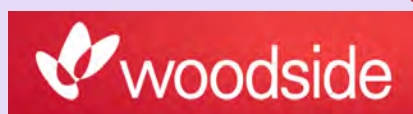
Students completed a questionnaire after speaking with exhibitors and gaining information on career choices. The forms went into a draw to win

very generous prizes sponsored by Woodside. An iPad was won by Mariah Lowy from Perth College and an iPod Touch was won by Jasmine Stewart from St Mary's College.

In Term 4 Woodside hosted a Career Pathways Breakfast at the University Club in Crawley. Many Future Footprints Program staff and schools' careers staff attended the breakfast. Woodside presented information on their Career Pathways Program and introduced Indigenous staff who spoke of opportunities for Indigenous students post secondary school.

Future Footprints once again thank Woodside for their generous sponsorship of the expo and look forward to another productive year in 2013.

Sponsored by













# Where are they now?



## **Godfrey Simpson 1994 graduate Guildford Grammar School**

Godfrey spent four years at Guildford Grammar School and is Wajarri from the Murchison River region of the Mid West of WA.

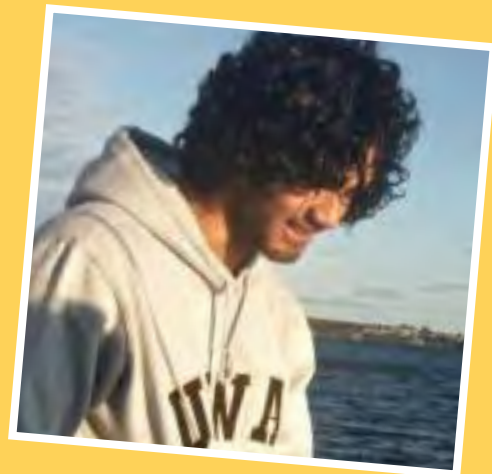
Since leaving school Godfrey has had many roles but his proudest was working on recording the Wajarri language with Elders and finally launching the Wajarri Dictionary in 2011 in his home country at the Murchison Shire Settlement. Godfrey now works for CSIRO as the Indigenous Engagement Officer.

## **Annika Bellou Watson 2005 graduate Presbyterian Ladies College**

After graduation Annika went back to the Kimberly and is now working at her local school which is the Nyikina/Mangala Community School.

Annika is Nyikina and Mangala and lives in her home community of Jarlmadangah Burru Aboriginal Community. She looks after her three nieces and four younger siblings.

Annika speaks of fondness of her time at boarding school in Perth.



## **Kamsani Bin Salleh 2008 graduate Scotch College**

Upon graduation, Kam enrolled at UWA in Environmental Design and Architecture.

Upon completion of his degree he will enrol in Bachelor of Arts to become a teacher.

Kam has been living at UWA's Currie Hall College for 2 years and thoroughly enjoys it. During the semester breaks Kam works as an intern at Hassell Architects.

## **Kimba Benjamin 2010 graduate Presbyterian Ladies College.**

Kimba is currently finishing her second year of a Bachelor of Arts degree majoring in Journalism at Curtin University. She is looking forward to her third and final year next year, and is very excited to join the workforce!

Throughout 2012 Kimba has attended many youth forums, including the inaugural Constitutional Recognition Forum and the National Youth Congress Forum, both held in Sydney at the National Centre of Indigenous Excellence. She is also heavily involved in ICEA (Indigenous Communities Education Awareness) helping to facilitate the mentoring program, Marja Mob in Perth. Over the summer Kimba will be doing vacation work with BHP in the Indigenous employment sector based in Perth.







# Student Profile

## Liam Lannigan

Liam Lannigan is a legend at Christ Church Grammar School, always joking, always cheerful and always giving everything his best shot. He is a very popular student with staff and fellow students.

Liam comes from the Jaru community of Halls Creek and has attended the School since Year 7. Inspired by his grandmother and his guardians Liam has embraced schooling in Perth.

Liam enjoys his time at boarding school in Perth as he says “ I really enjoy boarding as you get to meet other people from different places and we have awesome activities on the weekend”. It initially is hard without your family around you but I kind of grew out of it after so many years away from home. Liam was determined to stick it out as he feels school has made him a better person. I am so thankful to Christ Church for giving me the opportunities I may not have had if I stayed in Halls Creek.

Support Teacher Jamie Foster says, “Liam has brought some wonderful attributes to the residential community at CCGS since starting here in 2008. He always presents well, maintains a reasonably neat room and is engaging and popular company wherever he goes! His laugh and love for some entertainment has made the boarding house come alive on numerous occasions. Life in a residential community brings with it certain responsibilities and this has presented a few challenges for Liam along the way. However, what has been pleasing is the way he has acted upon advice given and learnt to respect everyone and use his energy in the correct manner and environment. He is developing into a mature and responsible young man who has a really bright future ahead. I have been delighted with his progress and it has been great to assist him with his journey so far.

Liam has seized opportunities he would never had such as gaining a traineeship with Leighton’s mining contractors. Upon completion of his schooling in Perth Liam aims to become a mechanic on the mines or work with cars.

A final word of advice from Liam to all students thinking of attending boarding school is “to make the most of your opportunities, learn from your mistakes and use the support that you have been given!”

Future Footprints wishes Liam good luck with his final year and congratulates him on a very successful school and boarding experience.







## Guildford Grammar School Indigenous Pro

Situated on the banks of the Swan River some 15 kilometres from the centre of Perth, Guildford Grammar School stands among trees and lawns on grounds which extend over approximately 100 hectares. These are the traditional lands of the Wadjuk people.

This school's present site on Wajuk land was chosen by Anglican Father Louis Giustiniani for a small Anglican Chapel for Aboriginals and immigrant Europeans alike. Father Louis Giustiniani was outspoken in his criticism of the European interaction with the native people of Australia and outspoken in his advocacy for Aboriginal Rights.

Guildford Grammar School opened with 14 pupils in 1896 by Mr Charles Harper. In 1914, its distinctive Gothic style chapel was consecrated on a site adjacent to the location of Fr. Giustiniani's church.

The first Aboriginal student at Guildford Grammar was Charles Burns, a Kimberley man, who attended the school from 1905-1909. Charles was, arguably, the first indigenous student in the Puplic Schools Association. He was a keen sportsman and went on to distinguish himself in service to the Australian Defence Force in two world wars.

In the 1960s and 70s Headmaster David Lawe Davies encouraged the admission of the first group of Aboriginal students which included Archie Weller from Katanning who would later become a noted writer. (These students were mainly funded by the Commonwealth Aboriginal Secondary Grants Scheme. Guy Weller attended from 1963 and he won a Council scholarship. Archie Weller started in 1968; he was given a GGS Bursary.)

Headmaster John Moody launched the Aboriginal Scholarship Scheme in 1989 and the first three boys under this scheme attended Guildford in 1990. Since then, the mining companies BHP, Argyle Diamonds, Western Mining, the energy company NewGen and the Federal IYLP and Abstudy programs have funded additional scholarships and places at the School. More recently, donations via bequests from members of the school community have also provided financial support for scholarships, these being the Bayley and Inkpen scholarships. The School also contributes funding through its bursary program.

Including current students, Guildford Grammar School has had over 141 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students during its one-hundred and fifteen years of operation.

Ex-Guildford Indigenous students have become successful in many fields such as working for major mining companies, representing others in the legal profession, working as contractors and translators, as well as playing various sporting codes.

Since 2004 Guildford Indigenous students have been supported by their involvement in the AISWA Future Footprints program. Working closely with the Indigenous Co-ordinator employed by the school, Mr. Frank





## ogram

Bobongie until his retirement in 2011, and currently with Mr. Andrew Beck, the number of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander students has multiplied sixfold.

Students excel in many areas. Guildford Grammar School graduated five Year 12 boys this year. Other students excel academically and on the sporting field. Students such as Thomas Ashworth Year 11 who played under 16 and 18 for Lloyd McDermott Rugby development squad in QLD and NSW and also played SGBall and got selected for Reds academy. Kieren Turner, Kiet Cook and Kendal Budd have all been invited to play AFL with Swan Districts Colts. Doug Lewis was invited to play AFL with the Claremont Colts.

Albert Dean played under 16 for Swan Districts and was elected School Prefect and Boarding House Prefect for 2013. Francis Divilli won the Year 9 Technology & Enterprise award and John Divilli was voted Fairest and Best for under 16 basketball competition in Kalamunda. Tommy Charles was awarded runner up Fairest and Best for under 16 basketball competition. Darnell Morrison played under 16 WA Boomerangs and won fairest and best for the grand final when the Boomerangs played SA.

Guildford Grammar School is one of the first Future Footprints participating schools to develop and approve a Reconciliation Action Plan. Everyone is looking forward to the launch in 2013.

The Indigenous Program at Guildford Grammar School involves weekly Wednesday lunch meetings, after school hours study tuition and a Welcome to Country at the beginning of the school year. Students participate in cultural events such as excursions to Walyunga National Park to hear the teachings of local elders and speech night where an inspirational speaker addresses all the indigenous students and their parents. Students also assist in planning and delivering NAIDOC celebration events throughout the school community and other social events. This program is a valuable part of our community.

**Written by Andrew Beck**







# Year 12 Graduation Dinner



Thirty five students gathered recently at Christ Church Grammar School for their final graduation dinner hosted by Future Footprints in conjunction with the School.

Roni Forrest and AISWA Deputy Director Ron Gorman awarded the record number of graduates with a certificate and a gift.

Inspiring educator and former sportsman David Wirrapanda spoke to the students and congratulated them on their success. David says the students were in a very enviable position having graduated from Year 12, something he would have loved to achieve.

A moving welcome from Noongar man Barry McGuire was very insightful and gave students a cultural understanding of the lands of the Whadjuk Noongar people.

Aiden Albert, graduating student from Christ Church Grammar School, did an excellent job as MC for the evening.

Garth Wynne, Headmaster of Christ Church Grammar School, congratulated Future Footprints and school Coordinators on the night. He was very impressed with the talents and skills of the graduating class that were highlighted. He thanked Roni Forrest for her passion and exceptional commitment to the program, fulfilling our role of attaining students to graduation.







### **Christ Church Grammar School**

Aiden Albert  
Wayne Edgar  
Richard Taylor

### **Guildford Grammar School**

Doug Lewis  
Kendall Budd  
Kiet Cook  
Shaun Garlett  
Keiran Turner

### **Hale School**

Patrick Birch  
Donald Imberlong  
Jonathon Farrar  
Trent Haerwa  
Trevor Menmuir

### **Aquinas College**

Isaiah Mahoney

### **Iona Presentation College**

Kyana Collard

### **Methodist Ladies College**

Lenore Morris  
Rebecca Simpson

### **Presbyterian Ladies College**

Callee Pigram  
Skye Lockyer Richmond  
Madeline Edwards

### **Perth College**

Mariah Lowy

### **Scotch College**

Tobin Brownley

### **St Mary's Anglican School**

Jannika Jacky

### **St Brigid's College**

Rose Dean  
Amber Dudley  
Patricia Farmer  
Brianna Ozies  
Eleisha Ozies  
Heloise Parker

### **Wesley College**

Dwayne Bolton  
Dylan Loo  
Chris Hollaway  
Rakeem Pickett  
Tyler Ryan  
Derek Sario





# Future Footprints in the Community

During September, students were selected to highlight the graduation of 35 Year 12 students from the Future Footprints program.

Heloise Parker spoke of her graduation from Year 12 with pride and a real sense of achievement. Heloise did not have the best start in life but made up for it through her education. Heloise plans to study social work and help young people who go through what she has.

Patrick Birch said he would be forever grateful to Hale School for helping him achieve his dream of graduating. Mariah Lowy is the first of her family to graduate Year 12 and is extremely proud of her achievements.

Other students participating were Dwayne Bolton from Wesley College, Tobin Brownley from Scotch College and Richie Taylor from Christ Church Grammar School.



## Perth NAIDOC Awards



The Future Footprints Program was nominated in the Perth NAIDOC awards this year. The program was awarded runner-up award in the not for profit category.

The NAIDOC Perth Awards honour the outstanding achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander individuals, organisations and businesses in Perth. In 2012, they were held two weeks prior to NAIDOC Week at the Government House Ballroom.

Dylan Collard, ex-Guildford Grammar student, was also nominated and came runner up in the Youth Award category.



# Footprints to the future

**M**ORE than 200 Indigenous students explored careers with over 35 different organisations at a careers expo held earlier this year at The University of Western Australia Business School. The Future Footprints Indigenous Careers Expo was organised by the Association of Independent Schools of Western Australia (AISWA). The association aims to support Indigenous students' engagement in education and to enhance their transition to school and then from school and on to further education, employment or training.

Exhibitors included TAFEs, universities, government departments, and companies such as Woodside, ANZ and BHP Billiton. The attending students came from regional and remote areas of WA who

study at participating independent boarding schools in Perth.

Now in its sixth year, the expo was hailed as a wonderful opportunity to support Indigenous students to engage in employment opportunities.

## Woodside sponsor

Woodside is very impressed with the Future Footprints Indigenous Careers Expo concept and were the major sponsor of this year's event.

AISWA Future Footprints co-ordinator Roni Forrest said students at the expo had the opportunity to discuss university degree courses, entry pathways and scholarships in many different careers.

"We exposed students to universities,

government departments and agencies so they could access employment and post-secondary education options available to them," she said.

"They also listened to inspiring stories of former Future Footprints students studying in non-traditional areas of law, commerce, geology and engineering."

The Future Footprints expo is held during NAIDOC Week every year, and this year comedian Sean Choolburra entertained the students.

Another feature of the expo is that each school highlights its cultural program, and this year the Guildford Grammar School students performed a Wanjina Dance from the Kimberley with their visiting cultural teachers from the region.



Pictured above and at right are students and other participants at this year's Future Footprints Indigenous Careers Expo at The University of Western Australia Business School.



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WESTERN AUSTRALIA (INC)**



## Future Footprints Program

The Future Footprints program supports Indigenous students from remote regions in Western Australia who attend boarding schools in Perth. The broad aim of the program is to improve educational outcomes for Indigenous students and enhance their opportunities post school to further education, employment and/or training. The primary goal is to ensure the engagement of Indigenous students with the education system and foster a sense of belonging and self worth and provide Indigenous students with the confidence, knowledge and skills to succeed.

The program is centrally administered by The Association of Independent Schools of WA Inc (AISWA) on behalf of fifteen participating residential schools (eleven independent and four catholic member schools). Two hundred and forty students from fifteen participating residential schools are currently actively engaged in the program.

### Students are from participating schools:

- Aquinas College
- Christ Church Grammar School
- Guildford Grammar School
- Hale School
- Iona Presentation College
- Methodist Ladies College
- Penrhos College
- Perth College
- Presbyterian Ladies College
- Santa Maria College
- Scotch College
- St Brigid's College
- St Hilda's Anglican School for Girls Inc
- St Mary's Anglican Girls' School and
- Wesley College



Whilst each school has a comprehensive pastoral care system, Future Footprints was established in response to schools identifying that, in order to address the needs of Indigenous students and to provide a supportive environment, additional support was required to maximize students' success and engagement with education while away from home.

Whilst a majority of the students traditionally came from the Kimberley the program is now supporting many Noongar students at various schools. The program focuses on providing mentoring and pastoral care to boarding schools with Indigenous students, it also assist schools to access information on best practice, including through other programs and services and assist schools to access information on other sources of funding including other scholarships programs or corporate and philanthropic support.

One of the key support areas is the facilitation and provision of professional development to teaching and support staff on transitioning students from home to school, from school to work, further education and/or training providers, tertiary institutions, employers and other organisation/agencies, this may include a focus on VET in school opportunities.

Future Footprints also support schools in consulting with IYLP Partnership Brokers to facilitate the sharing of ideas and practices to the broader network of boarding

schools, in terms of providing pastoral care, support mechanisms and access to other programs and projects which may assist Indigenous students in their schooling, or in their transition from Year 12 to training, future education or employment;

A major obstacle for boarding students is their homesickness and feelings of isolation and being away from families. We organise on behalf of the schools independent events that will assist outcomes for Indigenous students, events to come together and events that celebrate Indigenous culture.

A Welcome to Country event, held at the start of each school year in Kings Park is attended by all schools, many parents and all students. Students are welcomed to the Noongar Country by a Noongar Elder. Students from across all the partner schools come together and participate in the ceremony and socialise and tour the park and listen to language speakers and story tellers.

Future Footprints is a well established partnership between students, schools, parents and communities. The program is well known to parents and communities and is considered very positively by parents. The involvement of parents and community is a valued and important feature of the Future Footprints program and contributes to effective support of students.

The program is a vital additional support network for Indigenous boarding

students, their families and participating schools. Developing support programs such as Professional Development Workshops specifically for School Staff on Indigenous learning styles and cultural awareness are further having a positive flow on effect with school staff working with Indigenous students.

Future Footprints has played a significant role in the engagement of these Indigenous young people in education and has also proved successful in their transition at critical times of education and school to work transition.

The success of the program is evident across a range of indicators particularly of retention and completion and, together with the strong growth in Indigenous student enrolments in independent residential schools, AISWA's continuing commitment to provide social inclusion and reduce disadvantage of Indigenous children is to be applauded.





# 2012 Social Events

Eighty Five students from all participating schools attended the students's social hosted by St Brigid's College, the Black & White Social. Many teachers and parents also supported the event and assisted with supervisory roles. Always very popular, students' feedback on the night was excellent. Future Footprints students are invited to bring with them a non-Indigenous student friend. It is an excellent idea of St Brigid's College in the theme of reconciliation.

School supporters and university mentors volunteered their time and assisted with supervisory roles and cooked a sausage sizzle for the students.

Students of Scotch College organised a fabulous popular Social Gathering. All Future Footprints students were invited to ice skating held at the Cockburn Ice Arena. Over seventy students enjoyed the day. The aim of the day was to get students together in a less formal setting of a social occasion and to catch up with families and siblings at other schools. A big 'thank you' to Felicity and the Scotch College Indigenous Network [SCIN] for organising the day..





# IYLP National Year 12 Graduation



In November Roni attended the Indigenous Youth Leadership Program National Student Year 12 Graduation in Canberra.

The IYLP program provides quality educational opportunities to students from regional and remote areas to assist in the development of future Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leaders of the country. The program provides scholarships for a number of Indigenous students to attend high performing secondary schools and universities across Australia. It also offers students support to develop their leadership skills and become positive role models and future leaders.

The gathering was attended by 138 students with their parents and guardians. Some of the students are the first in their families to graduate Year 12.

Students participated in a range of activities, tours and discussions. The graduation breakfast was attended by Minister for Education Peter Garrett who told the large crowd of students, "These graduates are paving the way for a new generation of leaders, who will not only go on to support their local communities, but also be role models for the next generation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students. For me this is one of the most important days of the year as we recognise the achievements of these young people, who will be huge role models for their family and community."

A graduation dinner was held in the evening with Sean Choolburra providing the entertainment.

Students had an absolute ball singing karaoke and dancing with their parents and guardians and took away from the gathering fond memories and new friends.







# School Coordinators' Forums

A network of Indigenous Coordinators from each school has been developed for regular communication between schools and the Future Footprints Coordinator. In addition, a forum is held once per term to plan events, share ideas and to discuss any issues or concerns. The forums also serve as a means of providing information to schools on a range of topics and guest speakers are invited where appropriate.

This year Christ Church Grammar School hosted the Term 1 forum where Coordinators shared ideas and resources for Aboriginal studies and guest speakers.

St Brigid's College hosted in Term 2 and invited guest speakers such as network partners Madalah, IYLP, ICEA and the Kimberley Klub who gave presentations along with Greg Bridge from Legendary Life Consultants. Other invited guest speakers were Rio Tinto staff who spoke of their scholarship opportunities and career pathways.

The Australian Indigenous Education Foundation were invited to speak at the Term 3 forum at Presbyterian Ladies' College on scholarship opportunities for WA students.

Our final forum, a 2013 planning meeting, was held at St Mary's Anglican Girls' School.

Coordinators forums are always very energetic with lots of ideas forthcoming and sharing of resources and guest speakers in schools.







## Profile of a Mentor

Ree Couzens, from Carnarvon WA, is a 2<sup>nd</sup> year student completing a double major in Aboriginal History and Anthropology at UWA.

Ree started mentoring with Future Footprints because she felt she had a lot to offer Aboriginal people. She especially enjoys making a connection with the kids, "I feel that a lot of them would all have problems or issues that I have once faced growing up and I feel that I would be able to help them in any way to feel better about who they are or what they want in life, especially being Aboriginal and living away from their families and home.

There are a many personal benefits of mentoring as Ree says, "I also enjoy how they make me feel when I'm with them, the kids are always happy and seem to be enjoying life so its good to be around little people like that to remind you to stay young, be happy and that you are loved by somebody out there.

It is the sheer enjoyment of spending time with young adults and assisting them to fulfil their potential and discover their strengths that makes mentoring fun. "I love my relationships I have made with the kids, they are all so loving and I feel great whenever I am around them. I love that I feel like they can rely on me for anything, which is one of the main reasons I enjoy mentoring. I also love the feeling of helping them, they are all so young and I can see all of them making an amazing difference in the world so I want to encourage them to never give up and to keep going because they all have that special something about them.

"I am making some kind of difference out there especially for my people. I feel more satisfied with myself and I feel like a better person whenever I am doing work that has something to do with helping Aboriginal people. Thank you for giving me the opportunity Roni".

# Mentor Program

The Future Footprints Mentor Program has grown steadily over the year. Former students of the program willingly give their time to assist with camps, university orientation days, guest roles in schools and expos. We now have more than ten ex students and friends on the program.

Most of the mentors are university students who happily give up their time during semester to help out with camps and share their education experiences with the students.

Future Footprints camps would not be possible without the assistance of these students. We appreciate the role the young people play in the lives of our students.

Mentors build on their leadership skills in developing trusting and caring relationships with students. The mentors offer guidance, support advice and encouragement to the Future Footprints students.





# Calendar of 2013 Events

## TERM 1

Feb-17	Welcome to Country	Kings Park
Feb-20	School Coordinators Forum	Christ Church Grammar School
28/2-4/3	Mid Term Break Camp	Ern Halliday Recreation Centre
Mar-13	Student Council Meeting	Aquinas College

## TERM 2

May-15	Coordinators Forum	Guildford Grammar School
May-22	Student Council Meeting	Perth College
May 30- 3 June	Mid Term Break Camp	Ern Halliday Recreation Centre
July 7-14	NAIDOC Week	Community Event
Jul-01	Career Expo	UWA Business School

## TERM 3

Aug-09	Black & White Social	St Brigid's College
Aug-14	Coordinators Forum	Penrhos College
August 22-26	Mid Term Break Camp	Point Walter Rec Centre
Sep-04	Student Council Meeting	Scotch College
Sep-19	Year 12 Graduation Dinner	Wesley College

## TERM 4

Nov-04	School Council Meeting	St Brigid's College
Nov-13	Coordinators Forum	Hale School









# Future Footprints Participating Schools

Aquinas College

Christ Church Grammar School

Guildford Grammar School

Hale School

Iona Presentation College

Mazenod College

Methodist Ladies College

Penrhos College

Perth College

Presbyterian Ladies' College

Santa Maria College

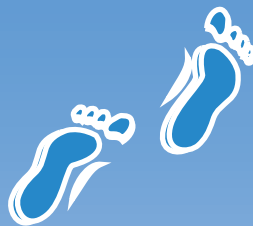
Scotch College

St Brigid's College

St Hilda's Anglican School for Girls

St Mary's Anglican School

Wesley College



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