Welcome Mr Travis Hooper
A very warm welcome to Mr Travis Hooper who has taken up the Deputy Principal position after the retirement of Mr Scholes. Travis brings to the College a wealth of experience particularly in the curriculum area where he has been Deputy of both Eastern Goldfields SHS and Tom Price SHS and also was curriculum leader for a number of years at Eastern Goldfields.

Out of the Woods
Mr Stephen Prangnell, Head of Department D & T, recently entered five of our students work in the state “Out of the Woods” Competition and Exhibition held at the Wood Show in Claremont. The results from this competition were again outstanding with the College taking out first and second for the second time and now having won a category on four separate occasions since entering the competition 8 years ago.

Our congratulations go to:
- Kiara Harris  First Year 12 Furniture category (Marri hall table)
- Ricki Hathway  Second Year 12 Furniture category (Jarrah bedside cabinets)
- Ron Clarke  Third Year 12 Furniture category (Jarrah and mini orb park bench)
- Jack Paterson  Second Year 11 Furniture category (Jarrah TV unit)
- Will Fegan  Highly Commended Year 12 Furniture (Pine box with mini orb)

Congratulations to Mr Prangnell who has demonstrated consistency over many years in attaining excellence from his students in the furniture making area. An outstanding job.

College Survey
Being mailed out is the College Survey which we have been doing annually for the last 4 years. The College Board has had significant input in making changes this year to ensure the data we receive is relevant and can be actioned on. The responses have led to a number of changes in our College, including a concerted effort to improve our communication to parents. While the survey seeks to improve the College’s performance it also gives us really good feedback on what is working well and the vision to continue with the things that are performing. I would encourage all parents to take 15 minutes and fill out the survey and return to the College by Open Day.

Open Day
Open Day is again upon us and I would encourage friends, families and anyone interested in possibly attending the College to come and visit us on Open Day Friday 13 September and see some of the amazing work of our students.

North West Tour
The North West Tour was again a great success and while extremely tiring for our students (and staff), is a trip that has lasting memories. I would like to thank Mr McCart for again organising the trip which is no small task mobilising 49 students, 2 buses, a truck and ute and managing to ensure the safety of everyone. Also those staff that attended in Mr Garry Elliott, Mr and Mrs Steve and Julie Skinner, Mrs Leanne Childs, Mrs Laura McCart and our cook Mrs Sonia Clements.

Country Week
Congratulations again to the students who competed in the Countryweek carnival in the last week of Term
Two. The teams of netball, soccer, basketball and football all competed hard and while not appearing in any of the grand finals, were always a chance. Unfortunately a few injuries really made it hard for us to be competitive towards the end of the week. A big thankyou to our staff Mr Jasper (general organiser and football coach), Miss Bruce (netball), Mr Thompson (basketball) and Mr Hovell (soccer). Also to Mr Prangnell, Mrs Childs and the residential staff for their support for the teams. It was again a pleasure to be involved with the students and one of the great events of the year.

Business Manager - Mrs Laura McCart

Thank you to parents for the prompt response to payment of accounts this year. Parents need to be aware of the College Fee Policy that states,

“The third and final instalment of residential fees and College charges must be cleared prior to the commencement of Term Four”.

This is applicable to all parents unless prior arrangements have been discussed with the Business Manager. Please ensure that the balance is paid as soon as possible to alleviate any problems arising with students boarding in Term 4.

Can parents please ensure that they use their child's Student Number as a reference. Currently we have a deposit that was made to the College that we have been unable to identify as no reference at all was given. If you receive your statement and a sum has not been deducted, please contact me as soon as possible to identify the deposit.

All payments can be made the following ways:

**In person:** At the College

**Internet:** Account: WA College of Agriculture Cunderdin  
Bank: Westpac  
BSB: 036-107  
Acc No: 129204  
Ref: Students Number

**By Mail:** PO Box 132  
Cunderdin WA 6407

**School Website:** www.cunderdinag.wa.edu.au  
Navigate to online payments on our website and follow the links. This will allow for payment direct to our account. Please ensure to use students CC number as payment reference.

**By Phone:** The College has eftpos, making payment available by phone or also in person.

If you have any queries please contact me either by phone on 9635 2100 or email at Laura.McCart@education.wa.edu.au
**Staffing**

As reported in the June newsletter, we were having to back-fill a number of farm positions and I’m very happy to report that we’re coping as well as can be expected. **Ms Madison Davey** – Miss Maddie as she is known to one and all, has fitted in nicely looking after the piggery whilst **Mr Reynders** is looking after the Assistant Farm Manager’s position. We have also been fortunate to have secured the services of **Mr Brian Farmer** who is overseeing operations in the farm workshop for the third term. With **Mr Fissioli** due to recommence his role at the beginning of Term Four, there will be further changes to the make up of the crew but hopefully these will be in a manner that causes the least disruption.

I would like to extend a welcome to **Mr Travis Hooper** in his position as Deputy and RTO Manager; the latter being especially important from a farm perspective.

**General**

Writing the last newsletter in late June saw us looking down the barrel of a disaster due to a lack of June rainfall. Whilst we haven’t been inundated with significant amounts since then, I am happy to report that 42.8mm in July and 24.4mm to date for August has been sufficient to rescue the situation for the time being. Ironically, with the forced sale of 300+ ewes with lambs at foot and having two mobs of sheep on agistment, the recent rainfall has kicked away the paddock feed such that all the remaining stock are quite well off. Likewise, the crops have also made reasonable growth over the past four to six weeks and have given me the belief that we should at least expect an average yield. Of course there are many hurdles to cross and I won’t get too far ahead of being relieved that things are vastly improved since the beginning of July.

**Mr Laird** enjoyed some well deserved Long Service Leave which allowed him to take in some overseas travel straddling the mid term break. Since returning, he has been busy with lamb marking amongst other sheep related duties.

Training for Led Steer, Farm Skill and the Dowerin Fencing competition is well under way at this point. Seven of the Led Steer students are travelling to Beverley this weekend to participate in the cattle handling competitions at the Beverley Agricultural Society annual Show. To my knowledge, this is the first time that this College has participated in this event. On the 5 August, **Mr Murray Williams** gave up his time to pass on some of his knowledge of cattle handling and assessment to the Led Steer students and likewise, **Mr David Evans** has assisted with clipping the cattle ahead of the Beverley Show. **Mr George Panayotou** and **Mr Michael Sala Tenna** from Waratah paid a visit this week to assist students to brush up on the finer techniques of their fencing skills ahead of the Dowerin competition. This voluntary support by all mentioned is very much appreciated as is the extra work that staff contribute to ensuring the success of these events.
Our attention is starting to focus in the direction of Open Day with an emphasis on making everything ship shape. Of course the continued need to maintain our day-to-day activity is never far away, with an equally keen eye on ensuring that the Year 12 students are completing the requirements to achieve their Certificate II in Agriculture. Sometimes it is concerning and even disappointing, to find students who don’t appear to understand the processes involved in achieving a Certificate. This has certainly not been from a lack of information on our behalf. If parents have any concern about this, I am only too willing to explain the process. Parents should also be mindful of students telling them that they have nothing left to do on farm – they can continue to gain assessments in a range of areas right through until they leave.

We have finally completed planting the Old Man Salt Bush seedlings into paddock 15 - we commenced this operation in early June, planting about three quarters of the planned amount into marginal moisture, with the belief at the time that we’d receive some top up moisture. When this didn’t happen, I was convinced that I had done the wrong thing by getting in early and was certain that we would lose the bulk of the plants. However, I can now vouch for the strength of these mighty little plants, as they waited patiently for the rain and are now going great – I estimate that there is better than a 95% strike rate on the earlier planting, which is nothing short of phenomenal, with the remaining plants going into optimal conditions. We have planted about 20% of the paddock to Rivermore Salt Bush, with a variety of native shrubs and some clone Old Man Salt Bush that we are trialling thanks to Dr Haylee Norman from the CSIRO. Subdivision fencing of the paddock and the installation of water points into each new area is next on the agenda. I am looking forward to this paddock becoming a key feed source, especially to cover the usual autumn feed shortage.

In closing, I’d like to acknowledge the effort by those students involved in the various farm related competitions that are coming up and wish them luck in their particular events.
Safety Glasses
Students have become bit lax about bringing and wearing safety glasses in the workshops. Could parents please check that their son or daughter has their own glasses. This will be a focus for Design and Technology over the coming weeks. The policy will be no glasses, no work.

Wood Show
The annual WA Wood Show was on at the Claremont Show grounds over the 2 - 4 August. Student projects were entered into the “Out of the Woods” fine woodwork competition and were on display for the duration of the show. A great deal of work went into the preparation of projects for the competition and the students are to be congratulated on their success.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 11 Project</th>
<th>Jack Paterson</th>
<th>Jarrah TV Unit</th>
<th>Second Place</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 12 Project</td>
<td>Kiara Harris</td>
<td>Marri Hall Table</td>
<td>First Place</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ricki Hathway</td>
<td>Jarrah Bedside Cabinets</td>
<td>Second Place</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ron Clarke</td>
<td>Jarrah Mini Orb Park Bench</td>
<td>Third Place</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Will Fegan</td>
<td>Pine Mini Orb Bar</td>
<td>Highly Commended</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Wood Show Display

Kiara Harris’ Marri Hall Table

Ricki Hathway with her Jarrah Bedside Cabinets

Jack Paterson’s Jarrah TV Unit

The End
The finish of school is rapidly approaching for the Year 12 students. Most are now frantically working on their major projects and completing competencies in each area. Year 12’s now have at best three full cycles left at the College and any absences may impact quite severely on some student results. Also the Engineering and Furnishing workshops have been open on a regular basis for the last 2 terms. Requests for extra time to complete projects will be considered if the student has made some effort to utilize the extra workshop time.
For Year 11 students take a look at how some Year 12’s are coping at the moment and ask yourself if you want to be in the same position as some of them next year.
Residential - Mr Darryl McCart

North West Tour
21 July saw Year 11 students return to the College to start packing vehicles for North West Tour. This year 49 students and 8 staff attended. Students participated a range of activities this year including the RFDS base in Meekatharra, Mt Whaleback mine in Newman, Karinjini National Park, BHP Billiton loading facility to name a few. The feedback from students was positive and it appears they had a good time whilst away.
I would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff involved for their help and for ensuring the smooth running of this tour Mr Garry Elliott, Mr Steve Skinner, Mrs Laura McCart, Mrs Leanne Childs, Mrs Sonia Clements and Mrs Julie Skinner who were always there to get things organised and sort out any problems that arose.

Laundry
Building of the new laundry is due for completion around the first week of September. Tenders to supply the commercial machines for it have been received and the contract will be awarded this week, so hopefully the laundry should be operational within a month.

Leavers Jumpers
Year 12 students are awaiting the arrival of this years Leavers Jumpers, I was advised that the jumpers left Queensland last week so they should arrive shortly.

Medication
Can parents and students please take the time to read the new policy regarding medication that was sent to all parents recently as students are still returning to the College with excessive amounts of “over the counter medication”

Medication - Prescribed and over the counter drugs
All medication (prescription and over the counter drugs) must be handed into the residential staff for dispensing through the first aid office. If students have to self medicate they must check with the residential manager or principal if the medication is suitable to be kept in the students own room. Students are not to have medication of any kind in their possession that is not approved.

Excessive use or overdosing of many medications can occur if taken incorrectly:
• Not prescribed for the person taking the medication.
• In greater quantity than prescribed

Even medication such as paracetamol or ibuprofen if not taken as prescribed or in excess of the prescribed dose limits can have life long adverse effects on a person.

It is essential that students and parents abide by this policy. Students in breach of this policy will face consequences that may result in suspension or termination of their residence.

Midland Photography
School photos were taken on 19 August and a number of parents and students have been enquiring about ordering photos. Parents will be able to look at and order photos on Open Day. There will be a photo album in the Residential display section for parents to look at.

College Ball
The College Ball is being held at the Hyatt regency this year. Students will be given a disk to view Ball photos for ordering. Parents will also be able to view and order photos on Open Day in the Residential display section.

Graduation
This year’s Graduation will require students to be dressed in FULL SCHOOL UNIFORM (which includes ties and blazers). Can parents please start checking with their child that they have the necessary uniform for the day.
Term 3 is now well underway and looking like it is in a bit of a hurry! **Please be mindful that there is a lot of tasks and end of semester testing to complete in the next 5 weeks so attendance is a very important factor in the successful completion of Year 12.** Missing just one day or leaving early on a day can mean missing an important assessment or valuable course content. With exams and tests coming up it is very important that you are present for all the content and revision time. Please make sure you approach your teachers and catch up on any missed work!

Year 12 ATAR students are reminded that they have an Exam Week in Week 10 (the last week of Term 3). This is our own internal exam week. The WACE Exam Timetable has also been released and there is a schedule included in this newsletter, as well as a copy being available on our website or the School Curriculum and Standards Authority website.

We will be once again running our ATAR Study Camp in Term 4. Please mark the dates of October 21-22 on your calendars. More information to follow towards the end of term.

**English 1C/D**
All 1C/D English students in Year 12 have now completed a cover letter, resume and participated in a mock job interview. Students spent time researching careers, looking for job and apprenticeship opportunities, using professional language when writing a Resume, cover letter formats and also interview techniques including body language and speaking skills. The exercise proved to be valuable and certainly had the students thinking about next year! The students are to be commended on the way they conducted themselves during the interviews.

**University Applications**
Students sitting their WACE Exams will obtain an ATAR and are able to apply for university through TISC. Parents are encouraged to chat with their child and look at the universities and courses that they are interested in. If you would like to apply for University, you can proceed through the TISC website (www.tisc.edu.au) or students may approach Mrs Jane Beatty who will help them with the application. Please note that there is a $25 fee involved in the application which will need to be paid by the student for the application to be admitted. Closing date is **Friday, 27 September 11.00 pm** (TISCOnline) Applications after this date incur a substantial late fee ($130). There are also other options for applying for university if you are not going to get an ATAR.

**Thinking about going to University?**
There are several options for students who wish to apply for University.

- If you are doing ATAR you need to apply through TISC (Tertiary Institutions Service Centre). www.tisc.edu.au
- Edith Cowan University has a Portfolio Entry Pathway. Refer to their website www.ecu.edu.au
- University of New England (UNE), Early Entry Pathway. Refer to their website www.une.edu.au
- All of the major universities have several options for applying and also offer bridging courses. Please visit their websites for information.

**Scholarships for Year 12’s Leaving the College**
There are a number of scholarships available to students entering further education. Many of the universities and training institutions offer their own scholarships but in addition to these there are also industry sponsored scholarships. Most universities have a link on their home page or a separate scholarship webpage with all the information listed. In some cases you only have to fill in one application form and by ticking the boxes it applies to multiple scholarships.
Whilst we make students aware of scholarships available through a Careers and Information board in the library and through looking up websites, the applications quite often ask for personal information that we do not have access to. We are unable to apply for individual scholarships on a student's behalf but are happy to give assistance with the process.

## Scholarship Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Link to Scholarships</th>
<th>Closing Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>University of Western Australia</td>
<td><a href="http://www.scholarships.uwa.edu.au/future-students/key-dates">www.scholarships.uwa.edu.au/future-students/key-dates</a></td>
<td>From 27/09/2013 – 01/11/2013</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### End of Semester Test and Exam Schedule 2013 (Year 12)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>EXAM/TEST</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 10th September</td>
<td>YR 12 Exit Testing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 16th September</td>
<td>1C/D Plant Production Systems – Test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1C/D Animal Production Systems – Test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1C/D Integrated Science – Test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 17th September</td>
<td>1C/D English – Test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2A/B Maths – Test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1C/D Integrated Science – Test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 18th September</td>
<td>Stage 3A/B Animal Production Systems – EXAM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 23rd September</td>
<td>Stage 2C/D and 3A/B Maths – EXAM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 24th September</td>
<td>Stage 3A/B Plant Production Systems – EXAM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 25th September</td>
<td>Stage 3A/B English - EXAM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Please note that this is a general guide only and may be changed if required*
UNE VISIT

Amy Cosby from the University of New England (UNE) in Armidale, NSW recently visited WA College of Agriculture – Cunderdin. She spoke to students about opportunities for tertiary study in agriculture and in particular highlighted the new course on offer at UNE; Bachelor of Agrifood Systems.

This degree will teach students how to make farm management decisions that lead to productive, profitable and ecologically sustainable agricultural enterprises. Students will be exposed to the latest in industry technology and learn how it can be used to improve farm operations. Students will study a combination of vocational training and university units. This degree can be completed online with some intensive schools (in Armidale, NSW) or you can study on campus at UNE.

There is a range of different areas to study with Majors available in:
- Crop Production
- Livestock Production
- Production Horticulture
- Poultry Production

For more information please visit www.une.edu.au/agrifoods or contact Amy at acosby2@une.edu.au

There is an opportunity for students from WA to visit UNE at the inaugural GENERATION2050 student conference. One hundred passionate agriculture students from around Australia will be chosen to take part with applications now open at www.generation2050.com.au

When? Sunday 1 December to Wednesday 4 December 2013
Where? University of New England, Armidale, NSW
Cost? Free! All accommodation in a UNE residential college, meals and activities will be provided free of charge. Travel to UNE will also be subsidised.

BEVERLEY SHOW

Mr Byrnes and Mr Jones attended the Beverley Show with the Led Steer students on the weekend to compete against WA College of Agriculture - Narrogin and Bindoon Catholic Agricultural College. This is the first time the students have attended the Beverley Show and it was well worth the effort.

Led Steer (Heavy Weight) 1st Maria Spark, 2nd Tom Tiller, 3rd Cassy Jones
Led Steer (Medium Weight) 2nd Harris Thompson, 3rd Josh Newbery
Junior Cattle Judging Cassy Jones, Maria Spark and Tom Tiller were in the Top Six. (Cassy Jones came 2nd which enables her to judge cattle at the Perth Royal Show.)
Cattle Handling 4th Harris Thompson
Overall Steer Judging 1st Tom Tiller, 2nd Maria Spark, 3rd Harris Thompson

Cassy Jones, Maria Spark, Josh Newbery, Cassy Sing, Tom Tiller, Harris Thompson and Milan Jovanovic

Cassy Sing with her steer
The Principal, staff and students invite you to the

2013 College – Open Day

To be held on
Friday 13 September 2013
commencing at 10.00am

Light lunch will be provided
12:00 noon – 1:30pm

RSVP: 6 September 2013
Phone: 9635 2100  Fax 9635 1334
Email: Cunderdin.ac@education.wa.edu.au
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>29 August</td>
<td>Year 11s to Dowerin Field Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>College closes 2.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>30 August</td>
<td>College Ball</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>1 September</td>
<td>Students return after 4.00pm - No evening meal provided</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>2 September</td>
<td>Suits collected</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Friday</strong></td>
<td><strong>13 September</strong></td>
<td><strong>College Open Day</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>College &amp; Ball Photos can be ordered</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>10 September</td>
<td>Year 12 MSE Exit Testing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday - Wednesday</td>
<td>16 - 25 September</td>
<td>Year 12 Exams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>26 September</td>
<td>Farm Skills at Perth Royal Show</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>27 September</td>
<td>College closes 12.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Closing date for TISC university applications</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>13 October</td>
<td>Students return after 4.00pm - No evening meal provided</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>14 October</td>
<td>Students commence 8.00am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday - Tuesday</td>
<td>21 - 22 October</td>
<td>Year 12 ATAR Study Camp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Friday</strong></td>
<td><strong>15 November</strong></td>
<td><strong>College Graduation</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>20 November</td>
<td>Year 11s finish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday - Tuesday</td>
<td>20 December - 28</td>
<td>College office closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>January</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Main Roads WA will be advertising this coming weekend for a trainee to be employed at our Wheal Belt North Regional Laboratory based in Northam. The traineeship is a formal two year contract where the successful candidate will be given formal tuition and on the job training in all facets of Materials Testing appropriate to the maintenance and building of the state road network. Challenger Institute of Technology are our registered training organisation who assess the progress of each trainee as they work towards a Cert III in Laboratory Skills. Though not guaranteed, it is anticipated that the trainee upon successful completion of the two year traineeship, will be offered fulltime employment at one of ten Main Roads WA Materials Laboratories around the state. It would be prudent for students who are approaching the end of their Secondary studies and who anticipate a pass in mathematics, english and science to consider applying for this Traineeship. The position will be advertised on the Main Roads WA website, the Jobs WA website and the Avon Valley advocate. I invite any student who may have an interest in this position to have a look at the information kit attached to the advertisement on the Jobs WA website and consider whether this traineeship is for you and submit an application.

WA College of Agriculture - Cunderdin
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