



# ORANGE HIGH SCHOOL

## Deadly Times



Term 1 - 2005

### Contact List

**Principal**

David Lloyd

**Deputy Principals**

Helene Hamilton

Kathleen Maksymczuk (Rel)

**Head Teacher Admin**

Kylie Winslade (students)

Joanne Cormack (Rel) (staff)

**Head Teacher Welfare**

Kerrie Chopping

**Year 7 Adviser**

Cassie Coates

**Year 8 Adviser**

Alice Bright

**Year 9 Adviser**

Sophie Healey

**Year 10 Adviser**

Sarah Townsend

**Year 11 Adviser**

Taara Wilson and Aaron Routh

**Year 12 Adviser**

Daniel Wait

**Career Connection Co-ordinator**

Glen Pearson

**School Counsellors**

Robyn Flood

Gai Torshavin

**Aboriginal Engagement Officer**

Gavin Bell

**Girri Girri Co-ordinator**

Andrew Jones

**Norta Norta Co-ordinator**

Gavin Bell

**ORANGE HIGH SCHOOL**

PO BOX 654

ORANGE NSW 2800

Phone: 6362 3444

Fax: 6361 3616

[www.orange-h.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.orange-h.schools.nsw.edu.au)

## Welcome to the inaugural Deadly Times

This is our very first Deadly Times, a newsletter celebrating Orange High School's Indigenous students and their awesome achievements.

This newsletter will be completed once a term and will showcase the achievements and aspirations of our Aboriginal students in the sporting, academic, extra curricular and cultural areas. We will also try to keep you updated on upcoming events both at school and in the Orange community.

We will need your help to keep us up to date on any exciting or interesting events that are coming up in the community and please let us know if you have anything you would like to put into our newsletters, or if you have any ideas for articles you would like to see included in future newsletters.

This newsletter has showcased some of our past Indigenous students and how they mentor and role model for our Aboriginal students at Orange High School and in the surrounding communities. We hope to continue with this theme in upcoming newsletters.

Lets work together to make this newsletter a success and to both congratulate and encourage our Indigenous students in all their future endeavours.

*Helene Hamilton*

*Deputy Principal*





# Student Profile

## Atahlia Sutherland



Orange High School and our Indigenous community have many reasons to be extremely proud of Atahlia.

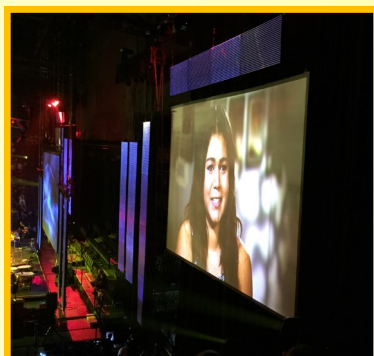
She has had an incredible year in being named Orange City Council's Youth of the Month in recognition of her musical and cultural achievements. Atahlia attended a civic reception on Friday 27th February in the Civic Theatre and was presented with her award by Deputy Mayor Chris Gryllis.

Atahlia sang the Australian National Anthem in the Wiradjuri language from the top of the Sydney Harbour Bridge on Australia Day, a fantastic achievement for one so young. She was asked because of her solo performances at the School Spectacular late last year, when she opened the event with the acknowledgement of country and performed three songs.

During 2014 Atahlia received the NAIDOC community award and the state-wide Nanga Mia Award from the Department of Education. She has also performed throughout northern NSW with the "Healthy Living Lifestyle Roadshow" tackling Indigenous chronic health problems.

Atahlia believes that without her friends, family, the school and people in the community she wouldn't be where she is today. She hopes to make a career out of performing.

We hope she will inspire more of our Aboriginal students to follow their dreams and never give up.





# Elders Olympics

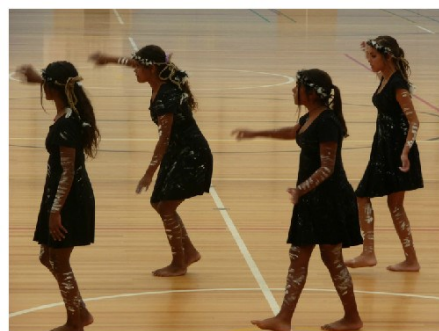
## Central West Elders Olympics

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March

PCYC

Community groups from all over the Central West battled to win the Wirajuri Elders Olympic Shield and the Sports Ability Trophy. After a Welcome to Country by Uncle Neil Ingram and the banner march, approximately 150 Elders participated in Kai, Gorri, Buroinjin, Thong Throwing, Blanket Ball just to name a few. The day concluded with relays and some fantastic singing by Atahlia Sutherland.

The Orange High School students should be congratulated for their positive and helpful approach to the day. They assisted with refereeing, scoring and catering and were fantastic in these roles. The elders had a very enjoyable day and were appreciative of the involvement of the local schools.





# Girri Girri

Girri Girri has made a positive start in 2015 with many students taking the opportunity to get involved in a range of activities. Students are attending double period fortnightly sessions within their own year group. This is designed to focus more closely on the requirements of each year group and build positive relationships within these groups. The focus of the program is:

- ♦ To assist students with assessment tasks, assignments, homework, general class organisation and study skills;
- ♦ To support students in the pursuit of extra - curricular activities and sport. This will involve some practical lessons.
- ♦ The possibility to complete courses of interest to the students (sports coaching, first aid, lifesaving etc). This may involve the occasional excursion.

Recently I have been working with the students on using a diary successfully, managing time in the lead up to assessment tasks and the completion of assignments.

It has been great to get to know many members of the community at the OHS afternoon tea, Girri Girri sessions and BroSpeak training. It is never too late for your son or daughter to join the Girri Girri sessions. It is important that they bring in their permission note so their attendance is approved. Currently the sessions are timetabled as below.

Year 7	Week A	Wednesday	Periods 1 & 2
Year 8	Week A	Wednesday	Periods 3 & 4
Year 9	Week B	Thursday	Periods 1 & 2
Year 10	Week B	Tuesday	Periods 5 & 6

I have enjoyed learning about the range of interests, abilities and achievements of your sons and daughters at both Orange High School and within the Orange community. I am keen to continue to support your son or daughter in any way I can. If there are particular areas that you would like me to focus on please don't hesitate to call.

*Andrew Jones*

*Girri Girri Co-ordinator*





# Water Tank

## Clean-up

On Wednesday the 18<sup>th</sup> of March work began on cleaning and removing paint from the large water tank adjacent the school gym.

The tank will be repainted with a mural celebrating the art, culture and educational philosophy of the Wiradjuri people of the Central West and the students of Orange High School.

Many thanks to Coates Hire of Orange who assisted us in the hire of the water blaster and the box trailer to transport it.

Ken Mills.



Brendan Whitfield, Will Page and Mat Ingram ready to pressure spray the tank.





# Hornet's State Touch football

Congratulations to Mitchell Leonard and Cheynoah Merchant.

Cheynoah and Mitchell were selected in the Hornet's touch football team.

Cheynoah Merchant said that it is her second year in Hornets. This year 35 girls were selected to trial but only twelve were selected including herself. Cheynoah is the only girl selected from the Western Region. Every time she has training she has to travel five hours.

Cheynoah said she was selected to trial for Hornets during the State Cup. She had put her name down for Hornets and while she was at the State Cup the selectors watched her and asked her and some other girls to trial at Maitland. Cheynoah went to the trials and was selected.

Mitchell Leonard said there were 60 boys that got selected to trial but only eight boys made the team. It is also Mitchell's second year being selected for the Hornets touch team and he's excited to be on the Hornets team again.



## Nations of Origin

Nations of Origin is an Indigenous sports day. The students were selected and coached to a high level by Mr Bell and Reece Bell. The Orange High School team who will be contending for the Cup are Cal McKellar, Isaac Lettice, Bronson Bates, Kellie Furner, Tenka Whitton, Isaac Sutherland, Kyhia Gilby, Emily King and Ebony Page.

These students will be battling it out for the Nation of Origins Cup which will be held at the Lake Macquarie Football club which is the Dungguddy home ground.

Forty teams will be competing for the Awabakal Nation Cup from all over the state and will travel from the South Coast and the North Coast, Peak Hill, Parkes, Condobolin and Wellington. The competition will be held on the 30th June 2015.



# BroSpeak

BroSpeak is a program for Aboriginal boys attending secondary and primary schools. It is designed to help the boys be strong in their Aboriginal identity and smart in their approach to achieving their life goals. BroSpeak links young aboriginal men with local Aboriginal role models and successful men in the wider community.

## BroSpeak Goals

To assist Aboriginal boys to become:

- ♦ strong in their hearts, proud of their identity and solid in their community;
- ♦ smart in the way they do things, focused on high achievement and determined to achieve;
- ♦ leaders in their school and community;
- ♦ connected to their Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Island culture

## BroSpeak Outcomes

To achieve these goals the participating boys will aim to:

- ♦ attend school regularly
- ♦ be punctual in their daily attendance
- ♦ act within the schools' behaviour guidelines
- ♦ revise their personal learning plans to include BroSpeak goals
- ♦ stay at school beyond compulsory attendance age; and
- ♦ accept roles of responsibility at school

## BroSpeak Sessions

The program includes sessions on Cultural Connections, Self Esteem, Goal Setting, Time Management, Conflict Resolution, Relationships, Leadership and Career Development. It may also include a cultural project, a range of guest speakers and excursions to culturally significant local sites. Students finish by attending a celebration of the program.

Gavin Bell and I have recently completed a training session on BroSpeak and will be meeting with other BroSpeak facilitators and mentors in Week 10 to discuss how the Orange area program can be jointly developed in the local area to include both primary and high schools. We enthusiastically anticipate the introduction of the BroSpeak program at Orange High School in the near future.

We will be launching Sista Speak in Term 2

# Bangarra

Bangarra Dance Theatre is Australia's leading Indigenous performing arts company and is recognised nationally and internationally for distinctive theatre productions that combine the spirituality of traditional culture with contemporary forms of storytelling through dance.

Bangarra's vision is to:

Respect and rekindle the links between traditional Indigenous cultures of Australia and new forms of contemporary artistic expressions;  
Create inspiring dance theatre productions of integrity and excellence that resonate with people throughout Australia and the world.

Our students had the opportunity to participate in a workshop at Kelso High School on Monday 9th March. These workshops enable students throughout the state to audition for the Indigenous State Dance Ensemble which participates in a number of festivals and School Spectacular.

Elijah Smyth from Year 9 was targeted as a potential member.

*Mel Hope*  
*Dance Teacher*





# A short profile on our Aboriginal staff members

## Gavin Bell



Gavin is our Aboriginal Learning and Engagement Officer. He has been working at OHS for the last two years. Gavin acts as a liaison between the school and our Aboriginal community. He helps our students with problems, assessment tasks and attendance concerns. Gavin engages pathways with universities such as Charles Sturt University and Western University, Sydney.

Gavin also helps organise and attends events with the students, such as Girri Girri, Bangara Dance and BroSpeak. He is the manager and coach of school soccer, Bill Turner Cup and the Nations of Origin Futsal competition.

## Natalie Crossley



Natalie started her career at Orange High School as a Norta Norta tutor and is now one of our School Learning Support Officers.

She is currently studying to be a primary school teacher and attends ACU, attending several residential blocks throughout each year.

Natalie expects to complete her Bachelor of Education (Primary) (Indigenous Studies) in 2018.

## Bec Ford



Bec is a former student of Orange High School and finished in 2011. She is currently at university studying a Bachelor of Education (Health & Physical Education) (Honours).

Bec works part time in the office at OHS as a much valued member of the SASS team where she both set up and maintains the Orange High School Facebook page and helps our office manager with the Aboriginal Education Support Traineeship program. Bec helps the other members of the SASS staff update their IT skills and we believe she will make a great teacher. She is looking forward to starting her teaching career next year in 2016.

## Cody Robbins



Cody is also a former student of OHS. He has been employed at Orange High School over the last three years.

He started as a mentor with Norta Norta and is now employed as a School Learning Support Officer.

Cody is a first grade local footballer who plays fullback for the Hawkes.

He is an enthusiastic and caring mentor to our students, organising many sporting games. He also helps out with the Aboriginal dance students.

