

Primary entry #35: Bonnells Bay PS



# THE BAY GAZETTE



**RESILIENT:** Kathie Cummins from Southlakes Saddlery.  
- Picture by Tani Mitchison

## Deja vu of an anniversary to remember

By TANI MITCHISON

A YEAR after the devastating floods that hit the Hunter on the June long weekend last year, businesses in the south-west of Lake Macquarie are bouncing back, according to Kathie Cummins from Southlakes Saddlery at Dora Creek.

Ms Cummins said that on the Friday before the long weekend last year, the business had to close because of a blackout and that on the Saturday staff from the saddlery worked to clean up the shop and move goods to a higher floor.

But the saddlery was able to be re-opened by the following Tuesday despite water flowing through the block which also contains a fruit shop, butcher and real estate agent.

As this year's June long weekend approached and rainy conditions again looked like turning into major storms, people shuddered at the thought the flooding might be repeated.

Dora Creek was one of the worst-hit areas last year when water crept up to many doors and inside some of the older houses built lower to the ground.

Sandbags were placed at the doors of shops to try to stop the water.

Emergency fire crews were called in to help evacuate locals from their homes, giving them free rides in a fire truck.

# Sky is limit for shoppers

By ANDREW PRATT and TALECIA VESCIO

THE long-awaited Morisset Square redevelopment opened its doors on May 1, giving the area's shoppers greater choice.

Morisset Square includes a take-away chicken shop, travel agency, gift shop and discount pharmacy.

Still to come are a clothing store, cake shop, bakery and a range of other specialty stores.

The flagship store of the new centre is a new Coles supermarket.

It covers 3200 square metres and holds \$1 million worth of stock at any one time, including a butchery and bakery.

Four semi-trailer loads of goods arrive daily at the supermarket.

The old Bi-Lo store is being refurbished for a Country Target.

As well as the parts the shopper actually sees, there is a hive of activity behind the scenes.

Doing its bit for the environment, Coles uses a machine that crushes all the recyclables the store produces including cardboard boxes, paper and plastic and glass bottles, which are then recycled or taken to landfill.

There is also a rubbish room from where all the perishable food that is past its use-by date is disposed of.

Driving the supermarket's equipment is a plant room for circuitry,



**SPOILT FOR CHOICE:** The wide and varied produce at the new Coles.

- Picture by Talecia Vescio

switches and refrigerator motors.

A central computer system continually updates product lines and prices.

Under the store there is three

storeys of office and storage space.

A new Aldi store is also being proposed for the Morisset industrial area and another two new Coles stores are planned for Bon-

nells Bay and Cooranbong.

A Coles manager Mr David Egan said this would "up the competition in the area and bring down the prices".



**TALENT:** Bonnells Bay Public School's Star Struck dance group.

## Putting their best feet forward

By RACHEL GREEN and JESSICA LANGLEY

BONNELLS Bay Public School has provided a group of 18 dancers for this year's Star Struck, held at Newcastle Entertainment Centre last month.

Thousands of Hunter Region public school students participated in the annual entertainment

event at the centre.

About 70 talented students from the school trod the boards in auditions but only 18 could be chosen.

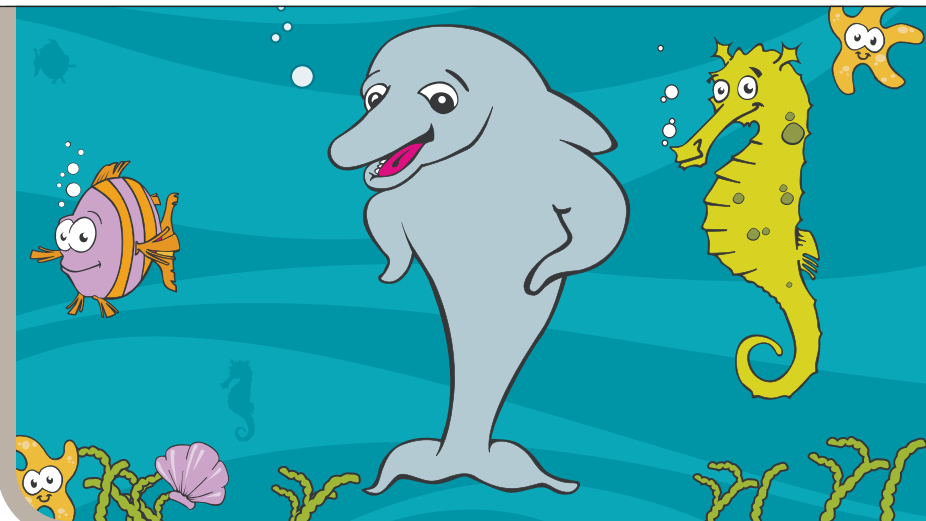
The people who did make it through worked extremely hard to get their dances perfect in time for the spectacular opening night at the entertainment centre.

During the lead-up to

the event there were long and tiring rehearsals almost daily as the dance group worked its hardest to get things just right.

The dance group from Bonnells Bay considered itself lucky to have been part of such a great event.

Students who will be in Years 5 and 6 next year are already counting down the days to Star Struck 2009.



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# Bullying becomes blight on society

## Editorial

By TANI MITCHISON and ASHLEE MAGGS

IN the community and in public schools all over Australia bullying is a serious issue that needs to be addressed with greater diligence.

Bullying occurs in many different forms, some of which, such as cyber bullying, have only recently appeared as technology has become more advanced and accessible. This is a worrying trend that seems to be on the increase.

Bullying in all of its forms creates great distress for the victims and their families and it is a practice that needs to cease.

Everywhere you look there seems to be someone affected by bullying. Litigation claims by victims appear to be on the rise, a fact that has been highlighted by many media outlets covering court cases directly related to this issue.

In cyber bullying, which targets victims over the internet or by emails and text messages, people are using technology to get back at the people they may recently have had a fight with. One problem is that many of them use "anonymous" as their username or go into other people's accounts to which they know the password. Physical bullying is also of great

concern because it causes the greatest harm to victims who are often too frightened to report it for fear of repercussions from the bully. Hiding injuries also makes things extra uncomfortable for the victim when asked to explain where the gashes and bruises have come from.

One of the worst forms of bullying is racism. Children can be teased about their background, colour, religion and culture. This can make people upset and may even turn them against their ancestors.

One of the main problems today is that many things said by bullies can be taken to heart as a personal problem when this may not be so. This may result in the victim causing self-inflicted injuries to hurt themselves because they think they are no good.

During bullying the victim may have several emotions. They will be feeling sad because they are being picked on and they will also have some very strong feelings about the bully. There may be anger, embarrassment and humiliation if there is an audience.

The bully usually has reasons to be a bully. They may be in trouble at home or they could just be facing difficulties in their life. But one thing's for sure, they do it for the feeling of power.

Bullying needs to cease. Otherwise circumstances resulting from bullying may affect the greater good of society.



MUSIC ON THEIR MINDS: Stage 3 students pondering new learning. — Picture by Jessica Langley

# Music hitting the right note

By EDYN CARTER

SINCE the start of this year Bonnells Bay Public School students have been participating in a new program taught by experienced music teacher Mrs Louise Pavey.

Mrs Pavey has been learning and teaching music since high school.

She said that she was inspired to teach music by her exceptional high school music teacher.

Mrs Pavey taught at Hunter School of Performing Arts before coming to Bonnells Bay.

"I believe that music helps develop a sense of rhythm and hand-

eye co-ordination and it helps promote discipline," Mrs Pavey said.

"My students develop all these skills while taking part in music."

She also said that seeing her students' progress in music gives her a sense of pride.

Early in term one Mrs Pavey came up with an idea for Celtic lessons.

She and nine students give up their own time to practise classic Celtic songs.

Stage 3 students are doing music appreciation, learning notes and playing a variety of instruments including the glockenspiel, drums, tambourine, maracas and keyboard.

# Plans on table for growth by lake

By SHANNON BROWN and TALECIA VESCIO

A NUMBER of new developments are being proposed for the south-west area of Lake Macquarie.

Trinity Point is a new life style village development being proposed by Johnson Property Group to include a marina and helipad on the waterfront at Morisset Park.

Plans have also been announced to redevelop Wangi Power Station into a modern shopping centre, housing apartments, a cinema and shopping centre.

Bonnells Bay shopping centre is also being redeveloped into a more modern place to shop or catch up with friends.

The \$200 million Johnson Property Group development would be on a site that adjoins its Trinity Point housing estate.

It would include a heliport, 300-seat conference centre, restaurant, cafe, convenience store, day spa and fitness centre, 400-metre public boardwalk and 150 apartments, split between tourism and residential accommodation, in two- to six-storey buildings.



Illustration by Nicole Milligan

# Arrival of deadly visitors adds some bite

By OLIVIA COOK

BONNELLS Bay Public School students were treated in May to a visit by the Deadly Australians educational program.

Deadly Australians' co-ordinator and presenter Mark Dorse, from Queensland, spoke to all 15 classes about a range of Australian animals that can be dangerous if provoked.

One such creature is the blue-ringed octopus, whose bite can cause death, while the myth that daddy-long-legs are the most venomous

spiders was busted when students were told that the most venomous spider is the funnel web.

Students also learnt interesting facts about turtles including that they don't breathe through gills but rather a "less desirable" location at the other end of their bodies.

Mr Dorse also showed off a diamond python.

Students were told how the box jellyfish has claimed many lives.

For more information, visit the website [deadlyaustralians.com.au](http://deadlyaustralians.com.au)



SSSSSTUNNED: Students look on in awe as Mark Dorse shows off a snake. — Picture by Shannon Brown

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## A platypus!

The platypus is found on the banks of waterways on the east of Australia. It has webbed feet, rich brown fur and uses its duck-like bill to hunt for food along the bottom of streams and rivers.



Here for learning.



Advertisement created by Nicole Milligan of Bonnells Bay PS.

