

Primary entry #6: Corpus Christi PS, Waratah



# The CC Update



**TRIUMPH:** These days, Thomas Fulmer is all smiles at school.

## A long way to the top

By **ELLIE DART, JACKSON FULMER, JACK LEWIS, CAITLIN McDERMOTT and WILLIAM FEENEY**

SIX-YEAR-OLD Thomas Fulmer is a survivor of two years of chemotherapy.

Thomas is now in remission and had his last chemotherapy on February 17, 2007.

Before he was diagnosed with leukaemia in 2005 Thomas was restless and tired for three days.

His mother, Sandra, took him to the doctor where tests showed he had leukaemia.

"Before we found out it was leukaemia, but we didn't know what form of cancer it was, we were all just scared," said Thomas's elder brother, Jackson.

Thomas's other brother, 11-year-old Harrison, and six-year-old Monique, who is Thomas's twin, were also shattered and heart-broken.

"It was devastating, really," said Jackson.

"Mum and Dad were really just trying to help us stay positive."

Jackson said that Thomas was very brave throughout the ordeal.

"I was upset and blown away," Thomas said.

After Thomas's diagnosis, he joined local charity Camp Quality and the national charity, The Starlight Children's Foundation.

## Exploring Kokoda Trail

By **LUKE NORGDARD and MATTHEW NADALIN**

A VILLAGE in Papua New Guinea will soon have easy access to fresh water, thanks to the efforts of Waratah's Garry Norgard, his business associates and children Luke and Sherie.

Mr Norgard undertook the 96-kilometre trek along the Kokoda Trail in October, 2006, and now plans to return to share the experience with his children and help the people of the Kargi Village.

Mr Norgard said he met the friendly people at Kargi Village mid-way through his trek.

The head of the village, Mr Gary, asked Mr Norgard if he would be able to supply 100 metres of water pipe so the villagers could pipe water from the river.

Mr Gary said there were older people in the village who were finding it hard to walk to the river.

"This year's trek is not only to supply Kargi Village with the water pipe but to also help the villagers lay the pipe and connect the taps," Mr Norgard said.

Mr Norgard is looking forward to helping the villagers but also the opportunity to make the trek again, this time with his children Luke and Sherie.

"The Kokoda Trail is rated as one of the world's great bushwalks and offers a physical challenge, spectacular scenery and the warmth and

hospitality of the New Guinea people," Mr Norgard said.

Mr Norgard said he had always had an interest in New Guinea as it was the first country he had ever visited, and he had found the country fascinating and the people friendly.

He was also interested in places where Australians had fought and visited Gallipoli in 1986.

"To travel a trail that our soldiers had fought so bravely on to defend our great country was in places very lonely, challenging and rewarding," Mr Norgard said.

To prepare for his 2006 trek, Mr Norgard trained for three months at Glenrock Lagoon from 4.30am to 6am.

Mr Norgard said that parts of the trail, such as river crossings, creeks and steep mountains, were very dangerous.

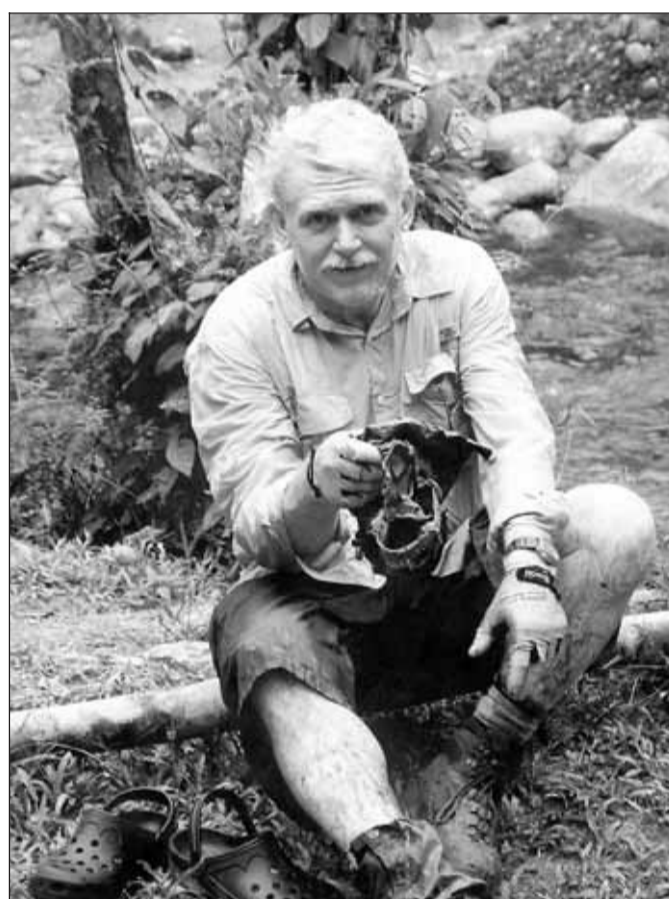
"The 96-kilometre track cuts across knife-edge ridges and over the Owen Stanley Ranges," Mr Norgard said.

"The terrain constantly changed as we trekked through rainforests, jungle, tree ferns forests and patches of open grasslands.

"We crossed steep mountain slopes that fall away to reveal clear mountain streams in the valleys below."

Mr Norgard got the chance to make the trek along the Kokoda Trail when, in 2006, five workmates all decided they would like to do the trek.

"The only achievement I wanted was to finish the trek and I did that," Mr Norgard said.



**ADVENTUROUS SPIRIT:** Garry Norgard on the Kokoda Trail.



**BULLSEYE:** Mitchell Clegg's aiming high.

## Mooseye on target for sporting success

By **CHRIS CAELLI and DOMINIC FAULKNER**

AT 15, Mitchell "The Moosta" Clegg, from Mayfield, NSW, became the youngest person ever to earn a place in the Ladbrokes World Darts Championship after winning the Oceanic Darts Competition in 2006.

Mitchell, who has been a member of Mayfield's Newbold Diggers darts club for the past eight years,

practises his sport for two or three hours a day and plays in many different competitions each night of the week.

During the prestigious Ladbrokes World Darts Championship, which was held in England, Mitchell was able to practise with multiple world championship-winning dart player Phill Taylor.

During his one and only game, Mitchell earned \$7300 prize-money.

In this game, Mitchell competed against Raymond Van Barneveld, who went on to beat Phill Taylor and win the tournament.

He said his experience in England changed his life in many ways. "I am noticed in the street by complete strangers," Mitchell said.

"It also changed my attitude towards the game. It showed me that darts in England is a lot more competitive than Australia."



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# Students say no to school uniforms

## Editorial

By ANNIKA PARSONS, KRYSZYAN NOWAK, SAMANTHA WATSON, MATTHEW LOWE and MATTHEW STANMORE

SCHOOL uniforms are a hassle and make students' lives unnecessarily hard for many reasons.

Abolishing school uniforms would allow for greater freedom of expression, student creativity and comfort. There would also be cost benefits.

By not having to shop for uniforms, families would save money. School clothes aren't cheap to purchase. Other clothes can be purchased cheaply, at places like factory outlets, but this isn't possible with uniforms.

It is also easier for parents and guardians if their children just wear one set of clothes a day instead of two sets.

School children wear one set of clothes to school then often come home and change into something casual.

If children didn't wear uniforms, there would be less washing, which would be good for the environment as it would save water and helps the trees and plants.

Having no uniforms is also a good idea because it allows freedom of expression.

It makes kids feel free to have different clothes on and express themselves, instead of being in the same old uniform all day, every day. Change is good.

Another thing that would be good about no uniforms would be that people could recognise others by what they were wearing.

For example, if one of your friends was wearing a green T-shirt and matching board shorts, you could actually find them.

If everyone is wearing a school uniform, sometimes it's hard to spot individuals.

School uniforms can also feel very uncomfortable. However, if students wore their own clothes they would not have to worry about itching, irritation, tightness or the dreaded wedgies.

Discomfort and irritation can distract people from their vital education, which they need for a good job.

Children will go better at school if they are comfortable and are wearing their own clothes.

Australia prides itself on its acceptance and encouragement of diversity.

We can embrace this idea by allowing children to express themselves in their own style.

We can embrace this idea by allowing children to express themselves in their own style.

This would boost individual self-confidence and promote a general feeling of happiness throughout schools.

Trialling an out-of-uniform policy for at least a week would allow the school to enjoy the benefits and iron out any problems.



MOUNTED: Policeman Jeremy Clark riding along the sand.

# Journey through force

By GRACE BURGESS CLARK, BRITTNEY GRAHAM, CARISSA BEATTY and VICTORIA CROMBIE

MOUNTED policeman Jeremy Clark reckons he's had so many embarrassing moments involving horse poo he could write a book.

Senior Constable Clark, 41, is a member of the Sydney Mounted Police. During his career in the police force, which has spanned almost 20 years, he has also worked as a detective in Sydney and a policeman in Newcastle.

His favourite horse is Jackson (Jacko) and the pair recently was in the media for appearing in a Mounted Police band, where Senior Con-

stable Clark played the drums while riding Jacko.

Senior Constable Clark said he loved working in the police force and it seemed that everyone he met loved to see him - or at least the horse he was riding.

When he was a detective at Kings Cross, in Sydney, Senior Constable Clark said he always felt stressed as it was very busy.

"Most of the people you came into contact with were very unfortunate and sad, which affected me," he said.

That has changed since he joined the mounted police.

"I like that people are really nice to me and always want to stop me and ask questions," he said.

# Looping the Lake

By BIANCA CAMPBELL-LEWIS, MIKAELA NICKERSON and ASHLEIGH SEE

AFTER 40 years of cycling for fun and fitness, Corpus Christi teacher Christine Dodd entered her first competition during the recent Loop the Lake event.

"I was 12 years old when I got my first bike and started riding when I was nine," Mrs Dodd said.

Loop the Lake is an annual bike race that fol-

lows an 80 kilometre course around Lake Macquarie. It starts at Swansea and finishes at Speers Point.

Mrs Dodd entered the 20-kilometre event and she finished the course in one hour and eleven minutes. She said her "prize" was finishing the event.

"I entered to be part of a family team," Mrs Dodd said.

Mrs Dodd said she liked cycling because it was good way to see and explore the countryside.



PEDAL POWER: All set to tackle a 20 kilometre ride.

# Teacher in Australian rowing team

By GEMMA SHAW, KIRRILY MAXWELL and NATALIE GAUTA

LUKE Moore, a primary school teacher, will compete at the Australian rowing championship ships in Scarborough Beach, WA, as a member of Nobbys Surf Lifesaving Club's A Crew.

"This is going to be very tough for us," said Mr Moore (pictured). "It will be the ultimate test."

A love of rowing and the beach led Mr Moore to join the team two years ago.

The distance of the rowing events varies. Races usually take three to five minutes.

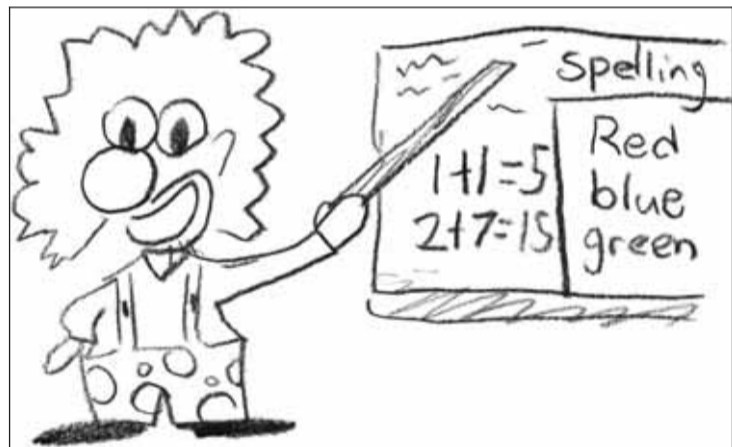
This is only Mr Moore's second year competing in surfboat rowing and he is the least-experienced member of the team.

Mr Moore and his team-mates do a fair bit of travelling. They have been to the Gold Coast, Manly, Coffs Harbour, Cronulla, as well as many Newcastle and Central Coast beaches.

Mrs Moore, Luke's mum, found watching her son compete exciting and nerve-wracking.

"It can be very exciting when there are waves but I get nervous when the waves are too high," Mrs Moore said.

"When you see the boats turn over you hold your breath until they are safe."



— Illustration by Krystyan Nowak

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