



the QUARTERLY

December 2011
www.clontarf.org.au

Welcome to the December edition of our Clontarf Quarterly newsletter.

Our moment in history

It's not every day you get to meet Her Majesty the Queen

For several of our graduates and current Academy students, an October visit by the Queen to our Academy at Clontarf Aboriginal College in Perth was the chance of a life time.

Arriving to a warm welcome from students, staff and teachers, the Queen was given a tour of the College and officially opened the new on-site hostel which will accommodate around 80 Clontarf Academy participants in 2012.

Our CEO, Gerard Neesham, had the opportunity to explain the history of our Foundation to the Queen while she watched a football game with

participants from the Gilmore, Yule Brook, Northam and Clontarf Academies.

Gerard was joined by Clontarf Academy graduates Jeff Farrell (2002) and Dylan Haynes (2010), who both shared their personal stories with the Queen.

Current Foundation students Neil Winmar (Yule Brook), Johnny Garlett (Gilmore) and Ben Ward (Clontarf) were selected to meet the Queen and represent all the boys involved in Clontarf Foundation Academies across Australia. Ben presented the Queen with one of our footballs in appreciation of her visit.

189 Year 12 Leavers from our Academies

Clontarf student meets US President

Clontarf plans for NSW

Employment outcomes for 2011

How we celebrate the achievements of participants

Clontarf Foundation CEO Gerard Neesham introduces Her Majesty the Queen to Clontarf Foundation students and graduates during a visit to Clontarf Campus in October



clontarf foundation

Clontarf on the ball

The Clontarf Foundation continues to raise the bar in the pursuit of excellence for our students.

189 Indigenous young men have completed Year 12 in 2011, with 126 of them achieving secondary graduation. In many cases these young men are breaking a cycle of disengagement from school to become the leaders in educational outcomes for their families and communities.

In the Northern Territory we have seen great advancements in secondary graduation. 27 young men from Casuarina Academy in Darwin completed Year 12, a record for Casuarina Senior College. This is an increase from the anecdotal annual average of only six students in Year 12 prior to Clontarf commencing at Casuarina. In addition to this, 19 of the 27 students achieved secondary graduation.

With the support of the Derby Clontarf Academy in the Kimberley region of WA, for the first time eight young men completed Year 12 at Derby District High School. Four of these students graduated with their Western Australian Certificate of Education. These results are mirrored in many of our Academies across the Foundation.

This achievement is not only tremendous for students but positively impacts the families, siblings and communities in which they live. In these locations, it is now becoming standard for Indigenous young men to engage in education. Their individual and collective achievements are leading to positive generational change.

These results are achieved with enormous support provided by Clontarf Foundation staff. Their willingness to go the extra yard to assist the students is inspirational and we must acknowledge all of them for their efforts.

Intensity is the key...

Clontarf runs intensive and holistic programs to engage participants through their school years. Sustainable change can only be achieved through support from locally-based full-time staff who are committed to guiding students to reach their potential.

Breakfast at the Halls Creek Academy in WA



In 2011, just some of our support included:

- **380,000 days** of school attendance supported by Clontarf Foundation staff
- **125,000 student pick-ups** before school by Clontarf staff
- **200,000 breakfasts** provided to Clontarf students
- **10,800 home visits** to meet with parents or caregivers by Clontarf staff
- **25,000 student days of engagement camps and trips**
- **200,000 hours of training, games and sports** by Clontarf students
- **18,000 hours of community involvement** by Clontarf students
- **1,361,103 kilometres travelled** to engage and support Clontarf students
- **5,400 loads of washing** done in our Academies
- **3,600 student workplace visits** (Years 10 – 12 Clontarf students)

Clontarf into NSW

With our ongoing success in supporting young Indigenous men to complete secondary school and transition successfully to employment or further study, comes a desire from new regions and schools to host a Clontarf program.

Clontarf continues to expand its Academy programs and we are very excited about our next 'big move' into New South Wales in 2012.

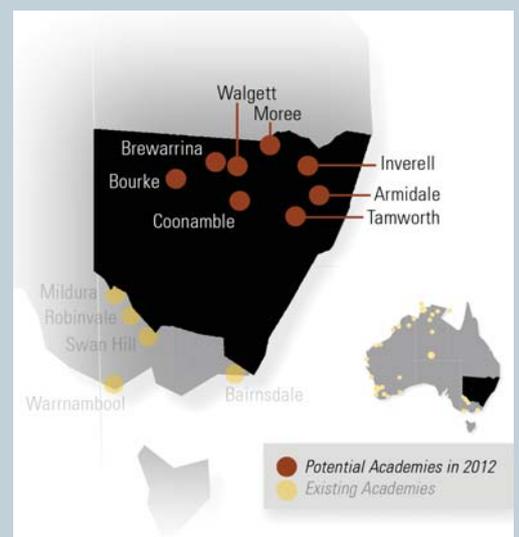
Intensive work has been undertaken over many months to engage with local communities, schools, the Aboriginal Education Consultative Group, the Education Department and the New South Wales State Government. Support has been overwhelming and we hope to finalise the locations for early 2012 in the coming weeks.

The locations we will be commencing in NSW will be in the north-west of the state and could include Armidale, Bourke, Brewarrina, Coonamble, Inverell, Moree, Tamworth and Walgett.

One of the questions we are often asked is what sport we will be used to attract the boys to school in NSW. Given that the overwhelming passion of the locals is rugby league, we expect that to be the primary sporting vehicle in our new NSW programs.

We have already seen numerous rugby league games played in the Top End where many of our boys play league. We know that it is an equally powerful vehicle as Australian rules football has been in Western Australia and the Northern Territory.

Fitzroy Crossing will be the newest WA Academy in 2012 with potential for more WA programs to open during the year.



Year 12s celebrate at the Northern Territory Leaving for Work Dinner



"This is a very impressive group of young men who are a fine example of the outstanding outcomes the Clontarf Foundation has achieved in the Northern Territory over a short period of time."

The Hon. Paul Henderson MLA, Chief Minister of the NT

Leaving for Work

Completing Year 12 and making a successful move into further training or a meaningful job, is the key goal for all Clontarf students.

Every year, the Clontarf Foundation has seen more and more young men complete school, achieve a recognised graduation and launch into a successful career and healthy lifestyle.

2011 has been no different with 189 students completing Year 12.

Celebrating this achievement is really important and so around the country we have joined together to recognise the efforts of these fine young men with graduation dinners and Awards Nights.

The inaugural Northern Territory Leaving for Work Dinner was held in Darwin in early November and celebrated the outstanding achievements of 64 NT Clontarf Year 12 students.

Students representing nine NT Academies from Alice Springs in the south to Yirrkala in the east attended the event supported by Academy staff whose ongoing

commitment has been so important in assisting the young men through the challenges of Year 12 completion.

More than 230 people attended including the Chief Minister, The Hon. Paul Henderson MLA, the Minister for Education and Training, Dr Chris Burns, MLA and the Hon. Gerry McCarthy, MLA.

The MC for the evening was Anthony Smith, a 2009 Palmerston Academy graduate, who is employed by Brierty in Darwin.

DET representatives, principals, teachers, corporate partners of the Clontarf Foundation and our staff also congratulated the boys on their outstanding achievements.

The evening finished with the Chief Minister presenting individual Leaving for Work certificates to the young men from the different Academies.



The Magnificent Seven

In Bunbury, WA, seven young men from the South West Clontarf Academy graduated in 2011, setting a new record. All seven Newton Moore Senior High School students attained a Western Australian Certificate of Education (WACE) after completing all academic requirements.

"Our previous best was five," said an elated Academy Director Gavin Greaves, adding, "Since the South West Clontarf Academy commenced at Newton Moore in 2007, a total of 23 members have graduated with their WACE."

Brandon Jetta, Leslie Parker, Gavin DeWorboeis, Bernard Jetta, Travis Humphries, Brandon Yarran and Dylan Stack were the successful students this year. Two of them have already found full-time employment and the others are in the process of attaining work or applying for further training.

The graduating Year 12s have set a significant example for younger Academy members and will continue to have a positive impact on their local community.



Academy participants before starting their ride in Noresman, WA

Riding for a good cause

The South East Clontarf Academy, located in Esperance WA, held its annual fundraising bike riding event in November and raised \$10,000 for local community groups.

Nine Clontarf students along with Academy Director Glen Symonds tackled the 200km bike ride to raise money for charities in Esperance. The group started the ride by departing from Norseman, camping overnight at Salmon Gums and then making their way into Esperance the following day.

This event is a great opportunity for the students to participate in an activity where they are giving something back to their community and helping others. It helps build the important skills of leadership and empathy.

This gives the students a sense of pride and belonging to Esperance - very important attributes in the development of a young person.



Palmerston graduate meets Obama

Palmerston Academy Year 12 student Nathan May met Barack Obama during the US President's visit to Darwin RAAF Base on November 16.

Nathan was selected as a representative of Palmerston Senior College in Darwin for his outstanding leadership and commitment to education within the school community.

"It was definitely one of the highlights of my life because he was such a nice guy," Nathan said.

17-year-old Nathan has been a member of the Palmerston Clontarf Academy in Darwin since it opened in 2008 and recently completed Year 12 with secondary graduation. He has set a fine example for Academy members to embrace education and reap the benefits from being part of a Clontarf Academy. Next year, Nathan plans to move to Adelaide to take on a plumbing apprenticeship.

Your questions answered

How do we celebrate student achievements?

Academy Awards Nights are the perfect way to cap off a busy year within a Clontarf program.

Held in the weeks before the end of the school year, the event celebrates the achievements of all Academy members, highlights outstanding individual efforts and provides a great opportunity to engage parents and families of Academy members with the school community.

A range of awards are presented to students who have excelled in a variety of areas such as education, attendance, leadership, community involvement and sport. Principals and teachers are invited to attend and present awards, as are Clontarf Foundation partners.

For the participants, earning a Year 12 Leaving for Work certificate is the pinnacle of participation in a Clontarf Academy, as it acknowledges the completion of Year 12. It also inspires younger Academy and family members to strive for this achievement.

The events have been held in the Academy rooms, school halls, basketball courts, football ovals or a local facility prepared to donate their venue. Academy staff put together a video to show the highlights of the year and day-to-day life in the Academy.

An Awards Night is another strategy used by Clontarf staff to provide participants with a wide-range of opportunities from public speaking to creating a culture of achievement.



Warmambool Academy (Victoria) Director Mick Riddle presents an award to Year 7 student Phillip Chatfield



Participants at the Bairnsdale Academy Awards Night in Bairnsdale, Victoria

Clontarf's working

Engaging participants beyond compulsory school age continues to be a strong focus.

Career planning and developing work-ready skills are implemented through the employment plan in each of our Academies. Interest in the world of work is created within each Academy through activities such as hosting guest speakers and workplace visits.

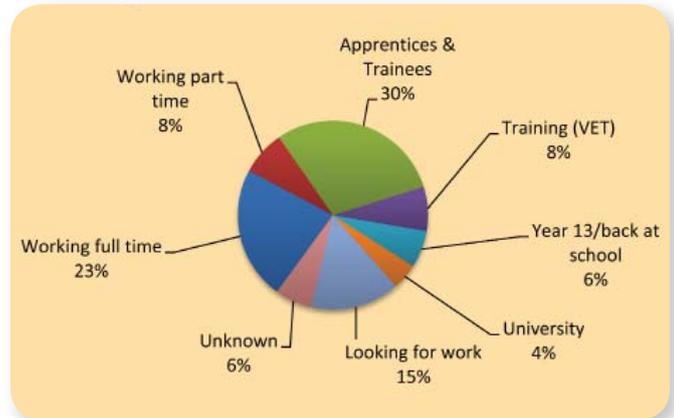
Over 180 work site visits were conducted in 2011 engaging around 3,600 Clontarf students. With assistance from Academy staff, every student develops a career pathway plan suiting their ability, interests and passion.

All Clontarf participants leave Year 12 with a well-developed portfolio that includes the essential elements for a smooth school to work transition.

In 2011, nine employment forums were held in key locations throughout our regions where 250 Year 11 and 12 students were able to have direct contact with some of our corporate partners who are able to offer future employment for graduates.

As the 2011 school year nears completion, the focus of the employment team shifts from the 2010 graduates to the current group of 2011 Year 12 Academy members and placing them into work or training in the year ahead. In 2012 we anticipate having over 300 Year 12 students in our Academies.

A recent survey of our 2010 leavers found that 78% are currently engaged in work or training. More significantly, 90% of all 2010 leavers have been engaged at some point this year.



Clontarf Foundation Engagement Statistics for 2010 Graduates (Dec 2011)



The Top End Employment Forum in September was a great success with Year 11 and 12 students from six Clontarf Academies being introduced to 14 potential employers



Jason Nannup at work in the school-based apprenticeship program in Perth, WA

Jason Nannup's story is one of many successes that occurs throughout our Academies every year.

When Garth Taylor, Sevenoaks Clontarf Academy Director (WA), had a chance meeting with Jason at a local shopping centre in 2010, little did he know how Jason's life would turn around 12 months later.

At the time, Jason was disengaged from the education system and not doing a great deal with his life. An invitation for Jason to join the Academy saw him enrol in 2010 and become an active member in all activities including a great school attendance rate.

Jason took up a school-based traineeship with Action Mining mid-way through 2010 before being accepted this year in to the school-based apprenticeship program with HWE Mining.

With the ongoing support of Clontarf and his employer, Jason has overcome some significant challenges in his personal life to complete his school-based apprenticeship which has resulted in him securing a plant mechanic apprenticeship commencing in January 2012.

The foundation has now been laid for Jason to set himself up for life and this again reiterates the significance the Clontarf Foundation plays in the lives of young men like Jason.



The Year 12s from Casuarina Academy in Darwin have become the largest group of Indigenous males to graduate from a single school in the Northern Territory's history. A total of 27 Academy participants completed Year 12, including 19 with NT Secondary Graduation.

All 27 Year 12s have attended the Casuarina Clontarf Academy for three years and nine members attended Sanderson Academy when it began in 2008. This is a great demonstration of the integral role an Academy has on the educational outcomes of its participants.

Thank you

Clontarf would like to acknowledge our new partners and the ongoing contributions from those who have recently renewed their commitment to support the Foundation.

Caltex
Coca-Cola Australia Foundation
Qantas
ConocoPhillips
Freehills
Decmil Australia
Clough

more details early in 2012

BROOME TO BICTON, March 2012

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About Us

The Clontarf Foundation exists to improve the education, discipline, self esteem, life skills and employment prospects of young Aboriginal men and by doing so, equip them to participate more meaningfully in society.

Using the passion that Aboriginal boys have for football allows Clontarf to attract the boys to school. But it is not a sporting program.

Each Clontarf Academy, formed in partnership with the local school, is focussed on encouraging behavioural change, developing positive attitudes, assisting students to complete school and secure employment.

Fundamental to this, is the development of values, skills and abilities that will assist the boys to achieve better life outcomes.

Through a diverse mix of activities, the full-time, local Clontarf staff mentor and counsel students while the school caters for the educational needs of each student.

Workplace Giving donations

There is a significant number of individuals that support the Clontarf Foundation through their work place giving program.

We are very appreciative and thank you for your ongoing support. If you would like to know more about donating or work place giving, click in the box below:

Clontarf Academy Year 9 student Ben Ward presents the Queen with a Clontarf Foundation football

