Poetry Comes to Rutherglen

In 2011 Rutherglen High School has formed a partnership with Australian Poetry, sponsored by Arts Victoria. The partnership will operate for the remainder of the year with high quality poets working with students in a series of visits culminating in a smorgasbord of self-expression being presented as our annual production in a series of skits or cabaret style.

“The first stage is the ‘Tasting Platter’ in which master poets conduct workshops with staff and students on Thursday 23rd (Year 7 & 8) and 24th June (Year 9 & 10). The poets are highly regarded in Australia and internationally. Indeed one of the poets, Emilie Zoey Baker, featured in Monday’s Age newspaper – excerpts of which appear below.

[WHO] Emilie Zoey Baker, poet and international slam champ

[WHAT] Australia neglects poetry, depriving young people of a powerful outlet

[HOW] Launch performance poetry competitions on prime time TV

Forget *MasterChef*, Emilie Zoey Baker says there is much to be gained by having poetry competitions on television.

POETRY can be one of the simplest, most malleable forms of writing. It is accessible art, for composer and consumer alike. It is a ready, rollicking outlet for many of the emotions and ideas and feelings that flay us or fling us into joyful trajectories.

One of Australia’s most active and successful poets is Emilie Zoey Baker. "Poetry is a great stage for your voice. It’s a vehicle for what young people need to say. Poetry is a fantastic way of saying it. You can really experiment with language. You can draw from yourself. You can draw from outside of yourself. You can express yourself using poetry."

Poetry can be presented on the page and on the stage and Baker does both. She was a star act at the Emerging Writers Festival, which has just ended in Melbourne.

She is an international champion of slam, a form of spoken-word performance and competition. Slam started in Chicago more than a quarter of a century ago and is huge in the United States, Britain and Europe, stuffing venues with raucous, celebratory gatherings.

But it is almost unheard of here; there is a thriving underground slam movement, but in mainstream media it is all but mute.

Here’s how slam works: 10 poets are invited to present a piece. There are generally just a bare stage and a microphone - no props permitted. Members of the audience are selected to be judges. Each recital is scored.

"It’s just them and their voice. And the audience, the random judges, give them a score out of 10. It’s immediate. It’s live. It’s raw. There is booing. There is cheering. There is jeering. And at the end the poet with the highest score is the winner."

At the end of the 2010 International Slam Review, part of the Berlin International Literature Festival, Baker had the highest score. She is also a former winner of the Nimbin Performance Poetry World Cup. She is a slam champion from festivals the world over, performing in the past two years in Paris, London, Singapore, Bali, Montreal, New York, Chicago and elsewhere.

Phil Rogers
TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER.......  
4 tickets to Essendon V Geelong Cats (sitting in the Medallion Club), on Saturday 2nd July (7.10pm).

Package also includes an Etihad Stadium Carpark Pass.

Please send bids to Philip Rogers, Principal at rutherglen.hs@edumail.vic.gov.au

THANK YOU TO AN EX-STUDENT  
Dave Smith, a former student in 1977 (and the son of a past teacher Fern Elita (Bunty) Smith), has kindly donated 5 books to RHS’s Library. Dave is now happily living in Bali with his Balinese wife and 2 children. The books are about Bali’s culture, history, language and religion. We thank Dave and his family for their generous donation and appreciate them sharing their Balinese culture with us.

SPORT REPORT  

Great Vic Bike Ride Parent/Student Information Evening  

Monday June 28 @ 6pm at the School Library, for anyone interested in this year’s GVBR. The ride is on November 26 til December 4 starting in Swanhill and finishing in Castlemaine. Any enquiries contact Claire Megarrity.

COMING SPORTING EVENTS  

Hume Cross Country, Broadford – Tuesday June 21
Intermediate and Senior Sport Day, Albury/Wodonga – Thursday June 23
Junior Sport Day, Albury/Wodonga – Tuesday June 28

Cyber Information/ E Smart night  

On Monday 27th June we will be holding a parent and student forum focussing on Young People and Technology. Please come along and learn about the current trends (did you know that up to 90% of communicating and relationships for young people can occur online or with technology), possible online dangers, parenting suggestions to help young people navigate these possible dangers as well as view the wonderful short film clip made by Yr 9 students about the consequences of sexting.

The evening will be interactive and supper will be provided to entice you out of your warm lounge rooms. Hoping to see you there.

Linda Elkington, Adolescent Health Nurse

Cyber Safety  

Remember—When socialising online — Not everyone is who they claim to be. It’s great to have lots of online friends, but including them on your friends list allows people you don’t know to see all about you.

This information could be used for a scam, to steal your identity, or worse! If you want to meet someone that you haven’t met in person so far..... ask a parent or another adult to go with you and always meet in a public place, preferably during the day.

SAY NO! — Free offers online are usually too good to be true and can end up costing you heaps! Sad to say, not all promises are real...! Check out www.cybersmart.gov.au
Congratulations to:

Rebecca McClusky (Year 8) - Winner ... Top reviewer
Georgina Windebank (Year 8) - Commended reviewer
Georgie Parkin (Year 12) - Commended reviewer

for their excellent Triple R book reviews for Term 2, 2011.
Rebecca, Georgina and Georgie received a certificate and book prize each.

REBECCA’S REVIEW
“In the jaws of the sea”,
by Simon Higgins

Young, rich, beautiful, - what more could Kira want? Nothing ... wrong!! Kira Beaumont, Commander of the UNFC (Under No Flag) Thunderfish, wants to save her boyfriend (who happens to be the only one who can save the world from fatal destruction) from the Jaws of the Sea. Teetering on the edge of a massive hole that never ends at the bottom of the sea, her boyfriend’s sub waits. Will she have the right equipment to save him? Or will both subs be consumed by the awe-inspiring power of the Jaws of the Sea? The action had begun by the end of the first chapter and before I knew it, the book had me in a grip so tight I couldn’t let go until the very last WORD! I loved this book, ... one of the best conclu-

GEORGIE’S REVIEW
“Scarred”,
by Julia Hoban

Scarred is a story about Willow Randall, a 17 year old ‘cutter’, depressed by the feeling she murdered her parents because of a fatal car accident, - Willow being the driver. She meets Guy and falls in love. Can he help her to deal with her tragic loss, her secretive self-harm, and to also help her regain the lost friendship with her only brother? Fast moving, emotional, funny and exciting, but also shocking! It was great! ...very realistic. I was crying on one page and then laughing the next. Although I found this novel easy to read, it is more suited for older female readers as it’s a little graphic when she prac-

GEORGINA’S REVIEW
“Tyranny: I keep you thin”,
by Lesley Fairfield

This book is about Anna, a young girl who thinks she’s fat, even though she is losing a lot of weight and looking very bony. One day she meets Tyranny, her destructive alter-ego, who forces Anna to even more extremes. Anna is getting even more skinny and sick. When she finally enters ‘Eating Disorder Unit East Wing’, for some much needed therapy, she begins to get some weight back. And as her healing progresses she banishes Tyranny and finally reclaims her life. This is a graphic novel that is well-written and emotional. I loved this book

RRR is a reading promotion program which has been operating at RHS since 1994. The program has featured in various journal articles, conferences and websites Australia-wide, Victoria-wide and locally. RRR’s student group read the latest contemporary adolescent fiction or sports biographies then review

We would also like to congratulate all our Triple R members (currently we have 28 junior and senior members) for their incredible reviews. This term we had over 30 books read and reviewed!!
Australian National University Visit

On the 4th of May a physics professor and the student university manager from the Australian National University of Canberra visited our school to speak to the year 10,11 and 12 students about Science courses offered at University. They also engaged the students in a physics demonstration using plasma.

The students were shown Physics experiments that are conducted at University and they also spoke about life as a University student. The students found the presentation interesting and asked many valuable question.

Many thanks to the students and teachers involved.

Regards, Ms Nancy Coppolino - Science Coordinator

DATES TO REMEMBER. in JUNE....

Monday 20th to Tuesday 21st—Yr 11VCAL exc. to Melb.
Tuesday 21st—Hume Cross Country
‘Keys Please’ Yr 10, Periods 1&2
Wednesday 22nd—Yr 12 TIS Day, Periods 1&2
Thursday 23rd—Senior & Intermediate Sport
Monday 27th—Cyber Safety Info Evening, 7pm
Tuesday 28th—Junior Sport

Most excellent work from Ryan Jones for getting up at 7am on his day off to assist with the Animal Nursery last weekend.

Great community spirit Ryan! Also, a GYGT to those students who made a point of thanking staff for their organisation & participation.

Canteen Roster

Friday 17th - PUPIL FREE DAY/REPORT WRITING
Monday 20th - Snez Keljin
Tuesday 21st - VOLUNTEER NEEDED
Wednesday 22nd - Eida Rogers
Thursday 23rd - Jane Bromich
Friday 24th - Debbi Renshaw

June / July

Monday 27th - VOLUNTEER NEEDED
Tuesday 28th - Jackie Pianto
Wednesday 29th - Paulene Sims
Thursday 30th - VOLUNTEER NEEDED
Friday 1st JULY - Georgie McCluskey