PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

Students are our core business!
Gundagai High School is here to provide the best possible opportunities for learning success for all its students. The many and varied opportunities that our teachers provide are both in the classroom and outside of the classroom.

One particular teacher who has always focused on students, their learning and being able to provide them with the best opportunities is Mr Neil Armstrong. As our Careers Adviser he has provided many students over the years with invaluable information that has taken them into successful careers.

Neil has always been a leading learner himself, looking for ways to understand learning and how students learn in order to be the best teacher. He was, and when this combined with his good humour his classes were always fun and a place to be.

Another staff member, Mr Allen Crooks, has also shown his commitment to Gundagai High School and its students through the care and commitment to perfection in the work as General Assistant that he carried out in every nook and cranny of the school. He has always been obliging in his nature and nothing was too much trouble. You could always be rest assured that any request would be completed to the highest standard.

On Friday 15th March Gundagai High School is holding a special Morning Tea at 11.00am to mark the retirement of both these valued staff members.

There is an Open Invitation to any members of the community who would like to attend the morning tea to mark this occasion.
Please just give the front office a call to rsvp 6944 1233
Congratulations Students!
You have all started the year with such a positive approach and focus on your learning. This focus on your learning, and the learning opportunities provided by your teachers is the perfect mixture for successful achievement in learning.

I therefore look forward to our next assembly where I am sure there will be many Special Mentions for outstanding achievement by students.

- Year 7 have marked Clean UP Australia Day, with a school clean up - Thank you Year 7 well done! Thank you to Mr Crane for organising the students. Please see their photo over.

- Meg Armour and Stephanie Cribb, what superb athletes having a great time in Coffs Harbour representing the Riverina at the NSW Girls Cricket Knockout. The photos (further on) clearly show the skill and enjoyment the girls had at this event. They were model representatives for the school. Well done Girls.

- Exemplary role models, Caitlin Crane, Clay Willshire, Gabrielle Turek and Tylor Rolfe attended an exhausting 2 weeks at Stewart House. See photos further on in the newsletter.

- Clay Willshire – had success at the Tumut show as a Gundagai High School Cattle Parader with a first in the Year 8 division. Well Done!

- Our School Captains were invited and attended the opening ceremony of the Gundagai Multi-Purpose Service on Wednesday 6th March. Kate and Danian felt very privileged to be at such an important event in Gundagai’s history.

Hospitality students, Skye Thomson, Stephanie Cribb, Nina Elliott, Ashleigh Smart and Mrs Hunt were also involved in the food service after the formal ceremony. There were many positive comments about the presentation and service of our students. Well done girls! Thank you Mrs Hunt for organising the students.

REMINDERS

- P&C Annual General Meeting will be on Monday 18th March at 7.00pm at the Services Club.

- SNAP SHOT REPORTS will be out to Year 7 today and Monday for Year 11. These reports are a gauge on how your child has settled into the new year and new subjects.

INVITATION

To current Year 6 parents and students to our Information Night on Tuesday 19th March at 6.00pm at the high school.

This is the first of many opportunities for you to ask questions about high school and have a look at the facilities at Gundagai High School. For those parents who attended Gundagai High School, there are changes you might like to see! Your child will receive an invitation from myself next week, when I visit the Primary Schools.

Jennifer Miggins
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL’S NEWS

HPV Vaccination for boys from 2013
Males who are 14-15 years of age in 2013 and who are in Year 10 can receive free HPV vaccine at their GP during 2013 only
- It is important when making the GP appointment that the receptionist is informed of the reason for the visit and that sufficient time is allowed (at least three working days) for the vaccine to be ordered and delivered to the GP.
- GPs should contact their local Public Health Unit on 1300 066 055 to order each vaccine dose.

Have you received the schoolkids bonus?
Do you know about the Schoolkids Bonus? It is a new cash payment to help eligible families and students with the costs of primary and secondary school studies. Around 1.2 million families have already benefitted from the first wave of payments in January 2013 – have you?

If you receive a family or income support payment, including Family Tax Benefit Part A, you could be eligible to receive $410 a year for each primary student and $820 a year for each secondary student, with half paid in January and half paid in July.

The Schoolkids Bonus replaces the Education Tax Refund (ETR) and is a much simpler system. You no longer need to collect receipts and payments are made automatically so you don’t have to wait months to make a claim via your tax return. Unlike the ETR you can choose how you use the payment to best support your children’s education – whether it be school books, stationery, uniforms, school fees, or excursions.

Check your eligibility by visiting australia.gov.au/schoolkidsbonus and if you think you might have missed out on the January payment, contact Centrelink – either in person at a Centrelink-Medicare Office or by calling 132 468.

Simon Bridgeman

Attention all GHS girls....

- Are you having issues with peers?
- Do you want some advice about school or home concerns?
- Are you worried about a friend?

The Girls Supervisor is available to advise and assist female students.

Make an appointment with Miss Carr.
FROM THE FRONT OFFICE

Invoices
Included with this newsletter is a general outline of 2013 Subject Contributions. Individual invoices will be posted home next week.

School attendance
Missing school means your child misses out on vital information and maintaining learning routines. This can result in a loss of confidence and missing out on forming vital friendships.

Attendance is recorded each day. As a parent or caregiver you are responsible for ensuring your child attends school every day, including sports days unless your child:

- has an unavoidable medical or dental appointment (preferably these should be made after school or during holidays)
- is required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- is required to attend an exceptional or urgent family circumstance (such as attending a funeral)
- is sick, or has an infectious illness.

Senior students need to attend school regularly to meet the course requirements of the Higher School Certificate.

If you miss an Assessment Task, you are required to complete an Illness/Misadventure Form and attach a Medical Certificate if you were sick.

If your child has to be absent from school for any reason, including arriving late or leaving early, please explain the reason by written note or email (gundagai-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au) as soon as possible.

At Gundagai High School, the school day starts at 9.00am with Roll Call.

It is important for your child to attend roll call in the morning as it is an information sharing time. If there are any variations to the day, roll call is where everyone finds out about it. A lot of sporting announcements are also made at these roll calls. If your child doesn’t arrive at school on time to attend roll call, they need to sign in at the front office and present a note explaining the reason for their lateness.

There are several issues with students arriving late to school including:
- Students don’t know if there are any variations to the school day which may include visiting workshops, room changes, program changes, nominating for sporting events.
- These partial lateness’s add up over the year and it will be shown on their school reports that they have had unexplained absences. This does not look good when they apply for a job and need to show their school reports.
- Students arriving late to a class are disruptive to both the teacher and fellow students.

We ask all parents to encourage their children to arrive at school by 8.45 am, attend roll call and are ready for lessons.

Email addresses for Newsletter
If you do not already receive the school newsletter by email and would like to do so, just send through an email to gundagai-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au requesting to be added to our distribution list. We have a large number of families that prefer this method to ensure that they receive a copy.
FROM THE SCHOOL COUNSELLOR’S DESK

Gundagai HS School Counselling Service

Hi! My name is Tanya Willis. My role at Gundagai HS is to provide a counselling service to the Gundagai school community. I am a fully qualified School Counsellor with a Post Graduate Diploma in Psychology.

How can I help? As a school counsellor I am able to:

- Support individual students deal with their problems
- Assist students to learn new skills such as resilience, anger management and dealing with bullying
- Use assessment tool to work out why some students find it hard to learn and suggest ways to help them
- Help teachers and other staff to support students
- Help students and others deal with tragedies or natural disasters.
- Work with parents in addressing concerns they have about their child.
- Liaise with other Department of Education and Communities personnel and with outside agencies, such as Community Mental Health, paediatricians and other health workers.

I visit Gundagai HS every Thursday. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me. Just ring the school office on 6944 1233.

MULTI CATEGORICAL CLASS (MC)

The MC Class is up and running!

We are very excited to share what is going on up here in B6. The MC class is a transition room for students that need support in mainstream classes. Our aim is to provide exciting and engaging lessons that focus strongly on developing Literacy and Numeracy skills.

All students receive one-on-one time with myself and Mrs Rachel Murray who has been appointed to the position of School Learning Support Officer.

Each student has their own personalised desk where they can complete individual work. Support for students will be a process of nurturing them throughout the year to enable them to work more independently.

We have a group learning centre in the middle of the room with desks all facing inwards to allow for group work and collaboration. We have a “chill out” zone that is used every day for quiet and guided reading and social discussions. We also have access to laptop computers in our technology corner which allows students to access programs and the internet to enhance their learning further.

Students have been selected to attend this class and are already seeing the rewarding educational benefits and we are working towards a holistic experience encompassing academic, social and emotional achievements.

Ms Webb (MC Class Teacher)
ENGLISH

English Competitions
The University of New South Wales 2013 International Competitions and Assessments for Schools will again administer competitions at Gundagai High School this year. There are competitions in Writing, Spelling and English, and will take place in June and July. Applications and fees need to be handed in to the school before the end of term at the latest. Please speak to your English teacher or Mr Regan as soon as possible so that your registration is ensured. Entry fees for these competitions are; $18.70 for Writing, $12.10 for Spelling and $8.80 for English.

These competitions are a great way to see what your skills are like compared to students from across Australia. Please speak to your English teacher or Mr Regan if you would like to take part.

Writing Enrichment Day
Students in years 7 and 8, together with students from years 5 and 6 from across the region, and who have an interest in writing, will get together later this term to focus on creative writing. This is an annual initiative to help students interested in writing or who are talented in creative writing to expand their skills.

This year’s writing day will again be at Tumut High School, and teachers and students from Gundagai High School will take part.

If any student from years 7 or 8 are interested in participating this year, you are required to write a 200 word response to the following stimulus:

“... he cried...”.

Students, please speak to your English teacher or Mr Regan if you would like to discuss your ideas, or if you would like some help in generating some ideas for your response. Your edited 200 word piece of writing is due to Mr Regan no later than Friday 15 March.

Mr Regan
Head Teacher English/HSIE

GIRL’S LIFESTYLE WORKSHOP

The annual Girl’s Lifestyle Workshop was held at Mirrabooka on Monday 4th March to celebrate International Women’s Day. We had 100% attendance of our year 10 female students this year which was wonderful. The program was run by facilitator Jesmine Coromandel and the group mentors Cheryl Lynch, Rachelle Nicholls, Emma Tan, Kelly Lotts and Merran Carr.

The inspiring workshop was run to educate the young women about the importance of being economically empowered and financially independent.
The day consisted of a range of activities broadly aimed to boost self-esteem, inspire young women about the diversity of job options available and focus on the benefits of good financial planning.

The girls thoroughly enjoyed the day and had fun interviewing the mentors. They gained many handy tips and helpful advice to utilise in their lives. A huge thank you to all the mentors who volunteered their time, Jesmine Coromandel for her energetic leadership and Peggy Elliot for catering and organising the inspirational day.

Merran Carr
Girls Supervisor

GUNDAGAI HIGH SCHOOL PARADERS PARTICIPATE AT THE TUMUT SHOW.

On Saturday March 2nd a team of 16 Agriculture students from Gundagai High School travelled to Tumut to compete in the School Parader Competition of the Tumut Show. It is always hard to beat Tumut High on their home ground and despite the excellent effort of our students it was again true for 2013.

The standout performance for Gundagai High on the day was Clay Wilshire who was awarded joint Champion Year 8 Parader. This was an excellent effort by Clay who had been away the 2 weeks prior to this event so had little opportunity to practice.

Billie-Joe Carberry and Amelia French made it to the Year 10 final whilst Charlie Degotardi and Taylor Piper competed in the Year 9 final. I was also very impressed with the amount of Year 7 students who entered and the level of skill they displayed at Tumut, their first event. In many of the events it was half points that separated our students from the major ribbons. The whole team performed extremely well and should be commended for their dedication as they only have their lunchbreaks during the week in which to practice.


Due to a late change in Animal Health regulations for show cattle I was unable to run the School Parader competition at this year’s Gundagai Show. However, I am in the process of organising that event for Saturday March 23rd at the Gundagai Showgrounds.

Dale Chadwick Agriculture Teacher
The Gundagai Show Team:

**Back:** Harrison Daley, Clay Willshire, Harry McDonnell, Charlie Degotardi.

**Middle:** Joseph Carberry, Will Crane, Jack Jones, Elise Hughes, Taylor Piper, Amelia French, Billie-Joe Carberry

**Front:** Hayden Smart Logan Elphick, Mitchell Luff, Chaz Bishop. Absent Amelia Smith.

Clay Willshire and Billie-Joe Carberry in the ring

Charlie Degotardi and Taylor Piper competing in the Year 9 final.
Digital Education Revolution – NSW (DER-NSW)

Since 2009 the DER-NSW program has successfully delivered over 250,000 laptops to year 9 students, installed wireless access points in over 21,000 learning spaces, provided professional learning experiences to teachers and leaders across the state, developed more than 250 online resources and supported schools with 560 school based Technology Support Officers. 2013 will see the final rollout of 63,500 laptops. Under DER-NSW Gundagai High School received 250 laptops, had wireless access installed in 26 spaces and a Technology Support Officer employed full time from 2009-2013.

The DER-NSW one to one laptop program has led to enhanced access to computers and the internet for students, teachers and students’ families, plus the movement of teaching practice towards the skills of the 21st century, greater access for students to global information resources and tools and improved motivation and engagement of students. (Source: The 2010-2012 evaluation of DER-NSW by the University of Wollongong)

New arrangements from 2013

The Australian Government’s DER National Partnership Funding finishes at the end of 2013. Students who have already received laptops or alternate technology under this program (i.e. years 10, 11 and 12 2013) will continue to use them under the terms of the Laptop User Charter while remaining at a government school, with transfer of ownership on final completion of year 12. In 2013 there will be a roll out of laptops to schools, similar to previous years. This is to be based on Year 9 student numbers.

In 2013 laptops allocated to schools become school property. Thus any allocations to students are to be done as loans to students. Parents will be required to sign a Laptop Loan Charter. Since the 2013 laptops will not be considered part of the state wide pool, there will be no transfers of laptops between schools unless an arrangement is made between principals. This includes when a student moves to a new school.

Gundagai High School has decided that the best way to deliver access to these laptops to Year 9 students is to follow the model from previous years. As from this year the laptops are school property there is a Laptop Loan Charter which needs to be signed for access to a laptop. The changes within the Charter will be elaborated on in our DER information night being held on Tuesday 26th March at 6:00 PM.

Our school will continue to plan how best to continue integration of Information and Communications Technology (ICT) into teaching and learning and to take advantage of emerging technologies and new ICT devices in ways that will best meet the learning needs of our students.
Stewart House is a wonderful organisation which opened in 1931 and relies on charitable donations to operate. Each year 1,800 public school children attend Stewart House from NSW and ACT. Located at South Curl Curl in Sydney, it is a school, hospital and charity all in one.

Four of our students were lucky enough to be offered the opportunity to have a 12 day visit to Stewart House in February. During their stay they experienced many popular tourist sites around Sydney including Taronga Park Zoo, The Powerhouse Museum, the filming of ‘Australia’s Funniest Home Videos’.

The students had lots of fun and have many memories to talk about in years to come.

A huge thank you to all the staff at Stewart House for their support and hospitality and also to the generous donors who make this service possible.

Donations to Stewart House can be made through their website www.stewarthouse.org
"Cleaning Up" Gundagai High

Clean Up
Australia –
Year 7
Great Job!!

Girl's Cricket

At Coffs Harbour Cricket Grounds
6th March 2013

Dear Parent/Guardian

This letter outlines the Voluntary Contributions which supplement funds given to the school by the State Government.

The Voluntary contributions have two parts:
1) General School Contributions
2) Subject Contributions for Elective subjects to assist in paying for materials.

In Years 7-10 the General School Contribution has been set at $25, while in Years 11 and 12 the contribution is $35.

During a state wide survey conducted in 1995 it was found that the average secondary school contribution was $58. We have endeavoured to keep costs to a minimum.

While I emphasise the voluntary nature of the General School Contribution, it is vital that you realise that funds raised in this way provide additional resources for your children, assist in improving the school environment and assist in up-dating the school’s capital equipment, such as computers etc.

Subject contributions need to be paid when students choose options that call for the provision of special resources. No student will be denied the educational experiences of practical work but completed projects can only be taken home by students who have contributed to the cost of materials.

The quality of your child’s education, in part, depends upon your financial support in these matters.

**General School Contribution**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Years</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7-10</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>11-12</td>
<td>$35.00</td>
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</table>
Total Year 7 – 2013

General School Contribution $25.00
TAS Technology (Mandatory) $25.00
Visual Arts $20.00
Music $5.00
TOTAL $75.00

Total Year 8 – 2013

General School Contribution $25.00
TAS Technology (Mandatory) $25.00
Visual Arts $20.00
Music $5.00
TOTAL $75.00

Subject Contributions

Visual Arts
Year 12 Art $40.00 Materials per year
Year 11 Art $40.00 Materials per year
Year 10 Art $50.00 Materials per year
Year 9 Art $50.00 Materials per year
Year 8 Art $20.00 Materials per year
Year 7 Art $20.00 Materials per year

TAS Industrial Arts
Yr 12 VET Building & Construction $80.00 Materials per year
Yr 11 VET Building & Construction $80.00 Materials per year
Yr 12 VET Metal & Engineering $80.00 Further costs depending on student’s selection of
Yr 11 VET Metal & Engineering $80.00 projects during year
Yr 11 Industrial Technology - TPF $80.00
Yr 12 Industrial Technology - TPF $80.00
Yr 10 Industrial Technology - Metal $60.00 Materials per year
Yr 9 Industrial Technology - Metal $60.00 Materials per year
Yr 10 Graphics Technology $10.00
Yr 11 Graphics Technology $10.00
Yr 10 Industrial Technology - Timber $60.00 Materials per year
Yr 9 Industrial Technology – Timber $60.00 Materials per year

TAS Home Economics
Yr 12 VET Hospitality $100.00 per year
Yr 11 VET Hospitality $100.00 per year

Yr 10 Food Technology $60.00 per year
Yr 9 Food Technology $60.00 per year
TAS Computers
Yr 12 VET Information Technology $30.00 per year
Yr 10 Inform Technology & Software $25.00 per year
Yr 9 Inform Technology & Software $25.00 per year

TAS Agriculture
Yr 10 Agriculture Technology $5.00
Yr 9 Agriculture Technology $5.00

Music
Yr 10 Music $5.00
Yr 9 Music $5.00

Please note that the school has funds to assist families in paying Voluntary Contributions. Any matters relating to assistance are held in the strictest confidence. If you need help, don’t hesitate to contact Mrs Ballard or myself.

To further assist in the payment of Voluntary Contributions, an instalment scheme can be arranged. No student will be embarrassed over the non-payment of the voluntary contribution. I do urge you, though, to help us provide the best resources and the most pleasant environment we can for your children.

Yours faithfully

Jennifer Miggins
Principal
OUR SCHOOL CANTEEN

The school canteen operates every day at Gundagai High. Lunches should be ordered at recess and collected at lunchtime.

Updated November 2012

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<tr>
<th>SANDWICHES</th>
<th>HOT FOOD</th>
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<tr>
<td>Toasted 30c EXTRA</td>
<td>Bakery-Pies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cheese</td>
<td>Beef, Bacon, Cheese</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tomato</td>
<td>Potato</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cheese &amp; Tomato</td>
<td>Pizza</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vegemite</td>
<td>Cruizer Pies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spaghetti</td>
<td>Bakery-Sausage Roll</td>
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<td>Egg &amp; Lettuce</td>
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<td>Chicken Wedges (each) 50c</td>
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<td>Chicken &amp; Salad</td>
<td>Sweet Chilli Tender Wrap 4.50</td>
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<td>Chicken, Cheese &amp; Lettuce</td>
<td>Lasagne</td>
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<td>Mayo or Extra Filling</td>
<td>Hash Browns</td>
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<td>Wraps from 3.50 to 5.00</td>
<td>Wing Dings</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rolls 80c extra</td>
<td>Sweet Chilli Tender</td>
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<td>Toasted 30c extra</td>
<td>Kebabs</td>
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<td>Cupa Soup (Winter)</td>
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<td>Tomato Sauce</td>
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<tr>
<td>Large Milk 600ml</td>
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<td>Focus/BC/Lemonade/Raspberry</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>MISCELLANEOUS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Twisties</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red Rock + Grain</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shapes</td>
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COMMUNITY NEWS

Study Space at Gundagai Library

2013 Study Space will be running at the Gundagai Library during school term on Wednesdays from 4-5 pm. Each week an experienced teacher will be available to assist students and supervise the session.

It is important for parents/caregivers and students to understand that Study Space is not 'tutoring', but assistance for students in developing skills to complete homework, assignments and assessments more independently and with a greater understanding of task demands and achievement levels.

This means that students need to bring their own work to complete at Study Space for each session they attend.

Casey Norden.

Tumut Bull Ants Junior Rugby Union Club

Registration Day & Try Rugby Night

Date: Tuesday 19th March 2013
Where: Jarrah Oval Tumut - Bulls Home Ground
Time: 6.00pm
Cost: $60 per player
      $50 per player for extra siblings

Registration Benefits
All children receive the following when registering:
1. Club football bag (new registrations only)
2. Club socks & shorts
3. Try Rugby pack
4. Brumbies rugby card giving free access to all Brumbies Club games

Rugby is a great social event for the whole family with 2 games every 2nd weekend, keeping 2 weekends a month free. Girls welcomed in age groups U 7 – U 9s, age groups include under 7s, 9s, 11s, 13s & 15s. Training is held Tuesdays at Jarrah Oval, Tumut 5.30pm.

Enquires contact David Elworthy on 0418 694401. For more details visit www.tumutbullants.rugbynet.com.au