



Irrawang High School Newsletter · Issue 6 · Nov/Dec 2021

Promoting excellence in academic, cultural and sporting performance



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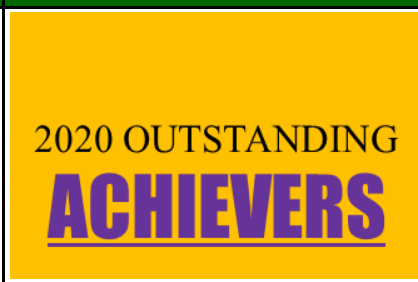
Principal's Report



Thank you MarketPlace



Student Achievers



Year 12 Graduation



Years 7-11 Presentation



Congratulations Zarleigh!



Clontarf Academy Awards



School Leaders 2022



Snack n Study



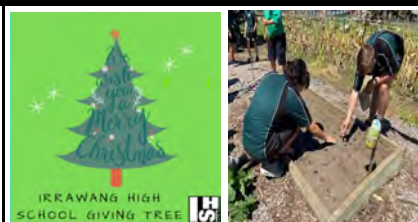
5 STEPS



Congratulations Caitlin!



Giving Tree · TAS News



Welcome New Chefs

School Drop Offs/Pickups

New PBL Videos

From the Principal's Desk

For me it's hard to believe another year has gone by, 2021 has been a challenging year for all schools, students, family and community. With the COVID 19 pandemic we have had to react to a constantly changing situation. We implemented various operational measures and adjusted programmes in relation to safety, learning and wellbeing for students and staff through the learning from home phase, through to the gradual return to school. We focused on staying in touch with every student to ensure ongoing learning and maintaining those connections, as we know this helps with wellbeing. I am proud of how well our students and staff have risen to the challenges of 2021 and have adapted and are now more resilient and able to handle this type of learning and living when the need arises.

I would like to especially thank our teaching, support and SAS staff. Every challenge has been met with enthusiasm and commitment. The excellent outcomes achieved by our students are a credit to all the staff of Irrawang High School. In some ways we have been too humble in publishing and promoting our academic successes. Our students and teachers have achieved above state average growth in writing, spelling, reading and numeracy in NAPLAN in 2021.

The table below is Irrawang High School's Year 9 NAPLAN results for 2021, with the school's results in light blue on the left of the group of three columns, if you're reading this in black and white indicating Irrawang High School's achievements. The top table reflects an average scaled growth and the bottom table indicates % of student at or above expected growth compared to similar schools in black (the middle column) and the State in red (the column on the right).

School Level Growth



From the Principal's Desk cont'd

Our average HSC courses in 2020 were above State average in 9 subjects, above similar schools in another 18 subjects, with 90% of subjects average scores trending upwards. You would be hard pressed to find another school in our local area achieving these results. This upward trend in NAPLAN and HSC data has been in place since 2017. For those considering options about where to send their child in 2022 or beyond, I encourage you to make the time and have a conversation with Irrawang HS about what we have to offer.

At Irrawang High School we value high expectation relationships. We believe as educators that we have a great opportunity, and bestowed the greatest privilege, to have a positive impact on the future of the young people in our care. I know for myself and the staff of Irrawang High, we respect that opportunity. That as a school community, we have students' academic success and their wellbeing as a dual focus for our actions every day.

To the students and staff, you should be proud of what you have achieved; to the parents you should be confident that your children are in the hands of dedicated and committed staff. The staff not only provide quality teaching in the classroom, they go above and beyond through the huge number of extracurricular opportunities on offer in sport, creative arts, academic learning and culture. Check out our feed on Facebook, you will be amazed. The staff's dedication and commitment to provide so many extra opportunities for students to explore the boundless possibilities that lie ahead of them is truly amazing and I am sure these opportunities are appreciated by the students and families.

Farewell

With optimism, we look forward to the new year. As some may already be aware, I will be moving onto Tomaree High School as Principal in 2022. It is with mixed emotions I say farewell to this wonderful school and community. I have made this move to be closer to home and be able to spend more time with my family.

To all parents and caregivers, I thank you for your support of Irrawang High. I thank you for giving us the opportunity to work in partnership with you, to give the greatest gift of all, for all of our children – the gift of education.

As I said recently at the Year 12 Graduation ceremony, this has been, by far, one of the most difficult things to put into words and write. As I reflect upon on so many things that we have achieved, the people I have met, got to know, I am so fortunate that I have had this opportunity that has meant so much, I just feel and think, "How lucky I am, to have

From the Principal's Desk cont'd

something that makes saying goodbye so hard." This hasn't been just a job, it has been a privilege to do something I believe in, as an educator to do my very best to make a difference, to try and have a positive impact on our future and the young people who have attended Irrawang High School.

It has been an amazing journey since January 2016. Throughout this time, students, colleagues and communities have continued to be the centre of my daily decisions and actions. Thank you for the experiences and memories that you have gifted to me and for the wonderful expressions of thanks and best wishes I have received from so many. I extend to all members of our school community my very best wishes for a peaceful Christmas and a refreshing and safe holiday.

I wish you all the very best for your futures.

Paul Baxter
Principal

Thank you MarketPlace Raymond Terrace!

Huge thanks as always to all the MarketPlace businesses for their continuing support of our Community PBL and outstanding students and schools during 2021.



Student Achiever of the Week

Congratulations to the following students on their excellent achievements:

TERM 4

Week 5:

CAPA: Levi Hobbs, Emelia Gibson, Shanay Dawson and Jacob Crossan

TAS: Addison Thomson, Sahara Kirkman and Anna Stankovich-Trustum

Week 6:

CAPA: Amelia Sloane, Oliva Dee, Mackayla Astin and Haylee Wilkinson

English: Cooper York, Monique Randall, Liam Salerno, Harley McGregor-May,

Montana Olding and Lily Carter

Week 7:

CAPA: Chloe McNaught, Miya Boyes, Amber Wilks and Ashley Horn

Mathematics: Travis Lamborn, Jaylen Fisher, Kayden Turner, Emily Boatswain, Layne Westley, Alice Hedges, Sam Yeomans, Christine Higginbottom and Skylar Aldred

TAS: Rachael Garrett and Capri Muddle

Week 8:

Mathematics: Emily Boatswain, Toby Ruhl, Lucy Shearer, Lilly Dickens, Fletcher Laughton, Charlotte Taylor, Zain Hassan, Alexander Hopwood and Lochlan Dudley

TAS: Sophie Robinson, Jaylen Fisher, Jayden Dudley, William Phillips and Chelsea Slapp

Week 9:

Mathematics: Holly Fairlamb, Ann-Marie Cummings, Lochlan Adams, Sam Rainbow,

Holly Olding, Cooper Murphy, Brodie Mitchell, Samantha Schiller

TAS: Ebony Thomson

Week 10:

TAS: Levi Hobbs, Chloe McNaught and Anna Gamble

NSW Government Schools - Term Dates 2022

Term 1:	Friday 28 January to Friday 8 April
Term 2:	Tuesday 26 April to Friday 1 July
Term 3:	Monday 18 July to Friday 23 September
Term 4:	Monday 10 October to Tuesday 20 December

Staff Development Days 2022:

- Friday 28 January
- Monday 31 January
- Tuesday 26 April
- Monday 18 July
- Tuesday 20 December

Please check with the school, as some schools may vary some of these dates.

Year 12 Graduation Ceremony

Wonderful to again have families and friends at school for the Year 12 Graduation Ceremony. Year Advisors Ms Danvers, Ms Newell and Head Teacher Well Being Mr Tonks, organised a memorable ceremony with a great slide show of photos of the students from Year 7 and a video of messages from staff. A lovely surprise was a visit from Ms Jennifer Harding the student's previous Year Advisor.

Mr Baxter presented the Special Awards....

Excellence in Creative Arts Performing Arts: Caitlin P

Vocational Education - Youth Express Engaging in Education Award: Madison J

ADF Awards: ADF Long Tan Award for Leadership and Teamwork: Caitlin P

ADF Future Innovators Award: Jayden W

Ngarralbaa Citizenship Award for Leadership: Haley S

Ampol Medallion for All Round Excellence for A Senior Student: Ellie M

University of Newcastle Award for Academic Excellence in Year 12: Elizabeth F

After the ceremony, Year 12 were clapped out by families and staff and presented with a special gift.



Year 12 Graduation Ceremony cont'd



Years 7-11 Awards Presentation Ceremony

Years 7-11 had their Awards Presentation ceremony last week, albeit a shorter one than normal, with 1st in class awards only given to students. The Year Advisors gave out other special awards during year meetings this week.

Mr Baxter presented the Special Awards...

- NSW Premier's Sporting Challenge Medal:
Year 7: Lachlan W
- Outstanding Achievement by a students in a Support Class:
Year 9: Shakeah K and Tyga B
Year 11: Tavis A

Years 7-11 Awards Presentation Ceremony cont'd

- Citizenship Awards to acknowledge consistent participation in school and community life:
Year 7: Christina M and Emily R
Year 11: Mabel B and Kolby M
- Ngarralbaa Awards:
Cultural Awards for an Aboriginal students to acknowledge consistent participation in Aboriginal Cultural activities.
Year 7: Melina G
- All round commitment from an Aboriginal Student:
Year 11: Nicholas K
- Raymond Terrace Lions Club Diligence Award:
Year 8: Lochlan D
- Kate Washington Award for students undertaking a high level of Mathematics/ Science:
Year 10: Christian T
- Tahnea Ducat Memorial Award:
Year 11: Zachery Z
- Reuben F Scarf Award:
Year 9: Shakyia A
- ADF Long Tan Awards for Leadership and Teamwork:
Year 10: Huxley R
- ADF Future Innovators recognising student achievements in S.T.E.M:
Year 10: Jarrod K

At the end of the assembly, the School Captains Mabel and Selman thanked Mr Baxter for his leadership, open door policy and willingness to listen and act on student suggestions. They then presented him with a small gift on behalf of the students.

Congratulations everyone for your outstanding achievements.



Years 7-11 Awards Presentation Ceremony cont'd



Hot off the Press – we have an Australian Champion – in two events!!

Massive congratulations to Year 9 student Zarleigh Went, who competed in the Australian Mixed Martial Arts Titles held in Sydney this weekend. Zarleigh is now the Australian Champion Continuous Sparring and Australian Champion Points Sparring in the 13-15yo category. She also placed third in Full Contact Sparring – open all grades, including black belts.

Zarleigh has been learning kick boxing only since mid last year and Taekwondo since the beginning of this year with Steve from Toogee Martial Arts - Raymond Terrace.



Only two weeks ago she competed in the State titles and achieved the title of State Champion in Full Contact Sparring where she competed in four levels, full contact, points contact, points sparring and free sparring.

An incredible feat as this time last year she hadn't even thought about competing.

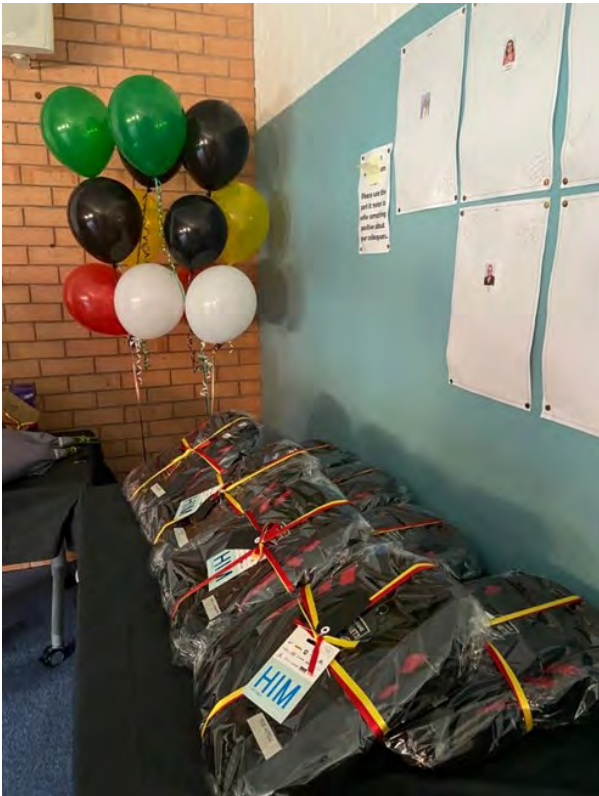
Zarleigh is now eligible to compete with the Australian Squad – with overseas competitions on the horizon.

Wow Zarleigh – what can we say except, a huge congratulations from the whole Irrawang High School Community.

Irrawang High School Clontarf Academy Awards Ceremony

The Irrawang High School Clontarf Academy held their annual IHS Clontarf Academy Awards Ceremony recently. All the young Clontarf men presented beautifully and were recognised for their outstanding achievements, with three of the young men graduating from Year 12 this year. The three incredible IHS Clontarf role models and mentors – Poss, Luke and Thanz were understandably proud of these young men, with whom they have worked so closely with over the years.

Congratulations to you all!



Irrawang High School Leaders 2021/2022

Captain



Mabel

Captain



Selman

Vice-Captain



Deakon

Vice-Captain



Holly

**Support
Ambassador**



Joel

**CAPA
Ambassador**



Brendan

**Ngarralbaa
Ambassador**



Nicholas

Snack n Study

Snack n Study (Homework Centre) is held every Monday and every second Tuesday (Week A) from 3:15-5:00pm. Teachers are available to assist students with assessments and class work.

Afternoon tea is provided. Permission forms are available from Mrs Firth.



NSW Government Schools Term Dates 2021

Term 4: Tuesday 5 October - Friday 17 December

Staff Development Days 2021:

- Friday 17 December

Please check with the school, as some schools may vary some of these dates.

Have you changed your personal details?

In order to keep our records up-to-date, if your student has any change in their personal details eg doctor, medical condition, emergency contact, telephone no., address etc, please inform the school ASAP.



5 STEPS

to stop the spread
of respiratory
illnesses

1



Cover your mouth and nose with tissues when coughing, sneezing, blowing and/or wiping your nose

2



Dispose of tissues in the nearest waste bin after use

3



If no tissues are available, cough or sneeze into your inner elbow rather than your hand

4



You may be asked to put on a face mask to protect others

5

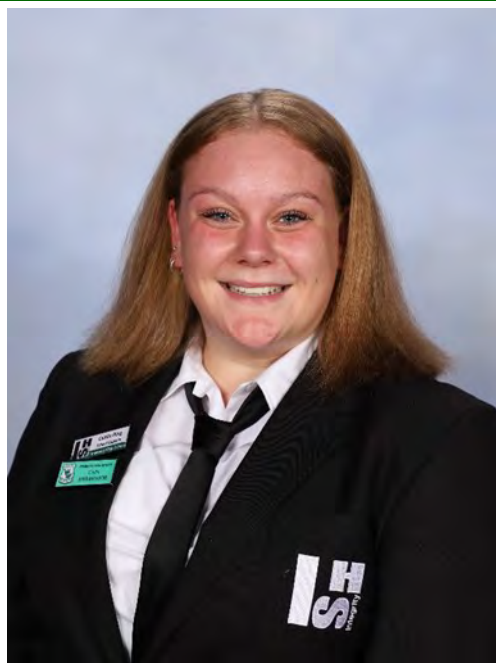


Wash your hands with soap and water or alcohol based handrub after coughing or sneezing into hands or tissues

Congratulations Caitlin!

Huge congrats to Caitlin Ping who has received The Ma and Morley Scholarship. This scholarship is one of only 20 awarded to students attending the University of Newcastle. The Ma and Morley Scholarship Program application process is designed so that a diversity of students has a fair opportunity to access this life changing experience. The program supports three categories: Indigenous, Educational and Disadvantage and Academic Excellence.

Caity's Indigenous scholarship supports 'Indigenous leaders to be future leaders in their communities and beyond'.



There are many benefits to this scholarship:

- Up to \$50,000 for the entire program
- Access to values-based leadership program
- China immersion experience
- Lifelong friendships and bonds

Caitlin has already gained an early entry offer to the UoN to study a Bachelor of Secondary Education and will be the third generation of teachers in her family.

WOW Caity – well done!

Irrawang High School Giving Tree

Year 12 students had great pride in implementing the 2021 IHS Giving Tree, with all donations given to the Salvation Army Raymond Terrace for the benefit of local families.

Sincere thank you to everyone who took the time to bring in much needed items.



News from TAS

In March, Ms Henry's Year 8 Technology Mandatory - Ag and Food Tech students experimented with different types of garlic, from the huge Russian to the purple and Italian. After peeling the skin off the three varieties, cloves were planted. And look what we have now after the heads of garlic have been drying for three weeks. Big plump heads of garlic. YUM!



Welcome ...

A very warm IHS welcome to our two new highly experienced Cafe Irrawang chefs.

Chef Tanya pictured left, comes to us after working at Murray's Brewery for the past four years.

Chef Nicole has been working for eight years at the Lemon Tree Passage Bowling Club and more recently The Poyer's fine dining French restaurant.

Our school is thrilled to have 'Healthy Canteen' status.



VISITORS TO IRRAWANG HIGH SCHOOL

Visitors should not enter school playgrounds without the issue of a visitors pass from the front office.

NB: Teaching staff are not always available, therefore it would be appreciated if appointments were made beforehand.

Before visiting, please check the COVID-19 restrictions with the school

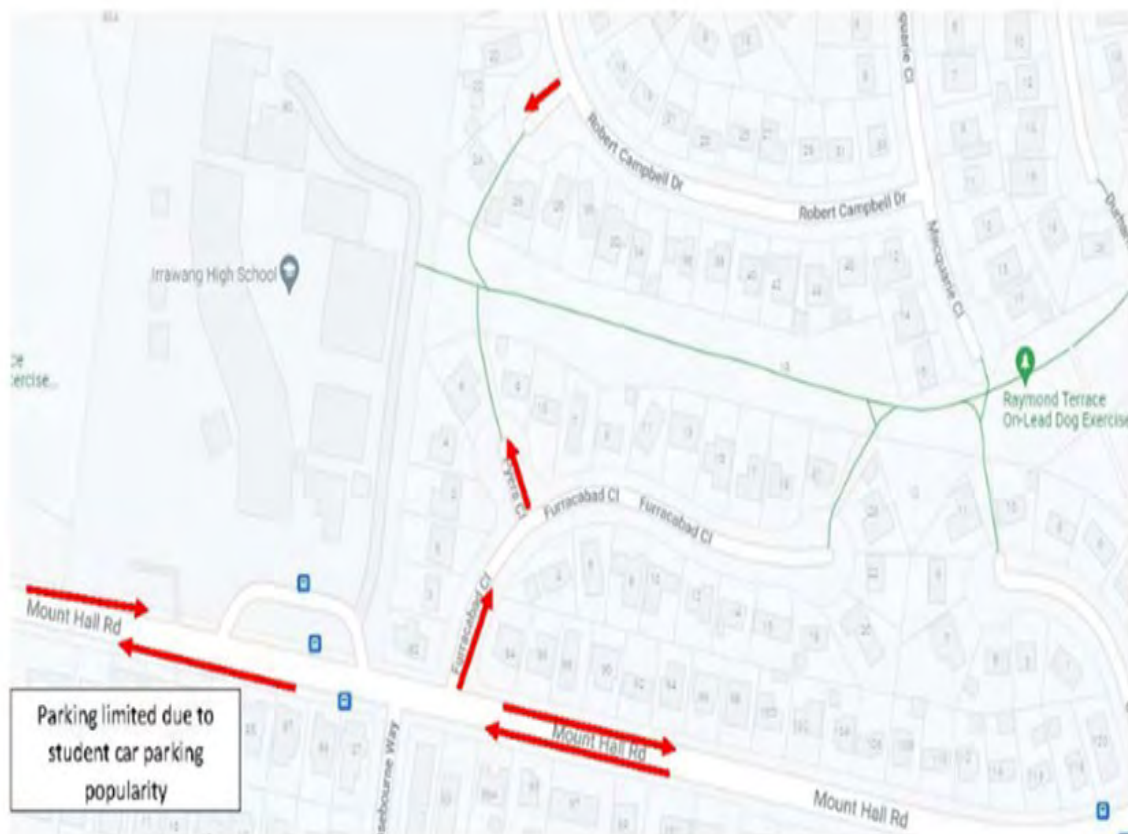
Student Drop Offs/Pick Ups

Student safety is a priority at Irrawang High School and traffic congestion at drop off and pick up times is a concern. We encourage students/families to only use the visitor car park on the eastern side of the school to park their cars and not to use this space for drop off and pick up as this area can be congested with students entering and departing the school. On exiting the visitor car park, we urge you to not make a right hand turn on Mount Hall Rd.

We also encourage students and families to use the following drop off and pick up areas:

- The school can be accessed via the side gate off Pyers and Furracabad Closes
- The school can be accessed via an alleyway off Robert Campbell Drive.
- Opposite the school in Mount Hall Rd, with students to use the traffic island to cross safely to the school
- On Mount Hall Rd to the west of the school – just past Furracabad Close

Please do not stop in the bus bay at the front of the school at all between 8:00am - 9:30am and 2:30pm – 4:00pm.



New PBL Videos

Some of our Years 8 & 9 PBL Ambassadors have spent the last two days coordinating the filming of six new PBL lesson videos. They have shown outstanding leadership and collaboration working with their peers and the professional videographer.

All students involved should be proud of how they have conducted themselves and upheld our PBL values.



School Based Traineeships at Hunter New England Health

After receiving information from Careers Advisor Mr Tonks, Year 11 students Huxley, Elijah and Eden, applied for and were accepted for a School Based Traineeship (SBAT) with Hunter New England Health in 2022. All students will complete 100 days over two years and finish with a Certificate III in Acute Care Nursing. They will also work for half their holidays and attend TAFE twice a week over two years until they finish Year 12. Huxley and Eden will be based at the John Hunter Hospital and Elijah will be based at the new Maitland Hospital. Some of their duties will include: making beds, taking obs – pulse, blood pressure, temperatures etc.

A huge congratulations to all three students on gaining these very competitive SBATs, we wish you all the very best, and look forward to hearing all about your new jobs over the next few years.



Pictured from left: Huxley, Eden and Elijah

School Based Traineeship in Early Education

Huge congratulations to Year 10 student Lilliana Westrup, who, after completing a work experience in childcare in Medowie earlier in the year, applied for and secured a School-Based Traineeship (SBAT) with St Nicholas Early Education.

Lilli had her sign up meeting at St Nick's recently, and will complete the SBAT over the next two years as part of her HSC – working one day a week and in her school holidays for 100 days. Lilli will gain a full Certificate III in Early Childhood. She will complete the online training at school in her study periods through the International Child Care College RTO ID 90081.

Pictured with Lilli is Grandmother Karen Leard, Helen from the ICCC, Paul Wilson from MEGT Australia and Stacey Cameron from St Nicholas Pathways.



IRRAWANG HIGH SCHOOL

ABSENTEE NOTE

(to be returned to Roll Call Teacher first day back after absence)

STUDENT'S NAME: **Roll Group:**

Year: **Date of Absence/s:**

Reason for Absence: Sick Leave Other

Signature Parent/Caregiver: **Date:**

IRRAWANG HIGH SCHOOL

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(to be returned to Roll Call Teacher first day back after absence)



STUDENT'S NAME: **Roll Group:**

Year: **Date of Absence/s:**

Reason for Absence: Sick Leave Other

Signature Parent/Caregiver: **Date:**

NOTE: DUE TO COVID RESTRICTIONS WE CAN ONLY ACCEPT 4 NEW STUDENTS FOR OUR TAEKWONDO PROGRAM THIS TERM

TOOGEE MARTIAL ARTS
RAYMOND TERRACE DOJANG
TAEKWONDO MON & WED
5.30 - 7.00PM
KICKBOXING TUE & THU
7.30 - 8.30PM

ENROL NOW!

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TMA 투기무술 logo

IHS supporters

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2 Jacaranda Avenue
0249872404
www.rtbc.com.au

Real Futures Foundation
RFF
Making futures real for our youth



Jets Junior Bowls Academy

Gain experience from the best of the best with World Champion Natasha Scott, Australian Rep Matt Baus & former State Reps Jason Stokes and Lennon Scott.

All kids are kitted out ready to take to the green

Scholarships up for grabs

AERO BOWLS



The Real Futures Foundation is a non-profit organisation which has an established track record of helping to inspire and motivate students in Port Stephens to either stay in school and increase their educational engagement and attainment, or choose a positive pathway that enables successful transition to employment, further education or training.



THE RECTORY
TEA HOUSE & FUNCTION CENTRE



Book your next party, high tea or private event with our Events Manager, together create a memorable personal celebration

Open on weekends for casual Cafe' dining, sit among the peaceful gardens and spoil yourself or friends with delicious coffee and hearty food. The Rectory is the perfect setting for your next event

Unwind • Indulge • Celebrate 48 Sturgeon Street

Scotty's
CINEMAS
RAYMOND TERRACE

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SUPPORTING LOCAL COMMUNITY

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