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weather

☀ Today	10-27	Fine
☀ Tomorrow	10-28	Fine
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gold lotto

August 27, 2014 draw 3377
Winning numbers
5 7 9 34 36 44

supps

19 40	
Division 1.....	\$0.00.....0
Division 2.....	\$6765.60.....11
Division 3.....	\$646.75.....179
Division 4.....	\$32.60.....9896
Division 5.....	\$15.65.....28,533
Division 6.....	\$11.85.....58,614

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Police develop strategic plan at OIC conference

PROPERTY crime, traffic crashes, assaults and domestic violence order breaches have been named as focus points for Charters Towers police.

Officers in charge from stations around the Townsville district recently met to update their skills and knowledge at a conference.

Charters Towers Police Station

officer-in-charge Senior Sergeant Graham Lohmann said the strategic direction the Queensland Police Service has set is relevant to the region.

"Domestic violence order breaches are on the rise, not only in Charters Towers but across the state," Sen-Sgt Lohmann said. "For property crime, particularly break-

ins to houses and motor vehicles, we have achieved a significant reduction in the last financial year, but we have a long way to go."

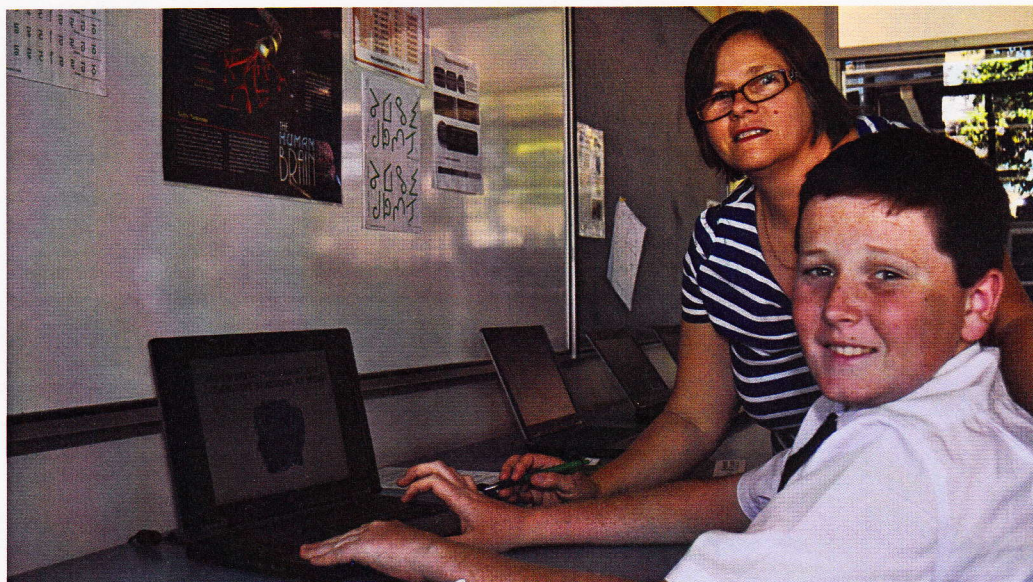
It is the first time the officers have come together in this format since 2010, and Sen-Sgt Lohmann welcomed the opportunity to network with fellow colleagues.

"The networking with other of-

ficers in charge is really the most valuable outcome from these conferences," he said.

"Talking about what's working in their divisions, what's working in ours and seeing what we can take back and adapt to our areas."

"Charters Towers got a fair bit out of the conference. We brought a lot of information back."



Arrowsmith trained BTC teacher Chris Fairbairn with Callum Bourke (13) who has moved from Victoria to take part in the Arrowsmith program.

Picture: SAM BIDEY

Arrowsmith ready to go

BLACKHEATH and Thornburgh College will officially open the doors of their Arrowsmith classroom next term, offering globally-renowned education for students with learning dysfunctions.

The Arrowsmith Program is founded on neuroscience research and more than 30 years of experience demonstrating that it is possible for students to strengthen the weak cognitive capacities underlying their learning dysfunctions, through a program of specific cognitive exercises.

BTC teacher Chris Fairbairn travelled to Canada recently to receive the necessary training to teach the program.

"It was absolutely amazing over there," Mrs Fairbairn said.

"It was full-on training for three weeks, with three hours homework every night."

"There were 47 of us doing it, which reflects on how popular the program is becoming."

"We had the opportunity to not only learn about the program, but we trained up in the

assessment that the program puts forth for pretesting."

"And we had an opportunity to participate in each and every one of the activities that the program offers students."

Mrs Fairbairn said the program is suited to children who have problems with dyslexia, auditory memory, attention and focus, logical reasoning, executive function, time management, mathematics, making connections and speech problems.

She said it was for those children who are intelligent, but something is holding them back.

Now she is back, the school is in its final stages of preparation for Arrowsmith.

"At the moment the classroom is still being set up," Mrs Fairbairn said.

"We started pretesting this week."

"Each child goes through around six hours of assessment, then data is sent to Canada where the program for each child is set up."

"We will commence class in term four."

Due to the popularity of the program, BTC

will be training a second teacher during the school holidays, in preparation to open a second class next year.

"We have had a significant number of applicants for the class," BTC principal Nigel Fairbairn said.

"We have 11 students per class and we've got them from Victoria, New South Wales, Western Australia, South Australia and Queensland."

"At the moment what we are doing is looking after the Australian children first, but we have had numerous inquiries from international students."

Mr Fairbairn said the program will benefit the Charters Towers community, as it continues to improve on the already lofty educational standards of the region.

"We are the second boarding school in the world to offer the program," he said.

"This has been over 12 months in the planning and we can't wait for it to start."

— SAM BIDEY

Glassing granny sentenced to imprisonment

From page 1

"MY adrenalin was running so much at the time I didn't realise what happened at first. I thought she punched me," Nat-Lee James said in court.

"I was in a daze and it was totally out of character for her and I didn't know what was going on."

After the incident Ms James said she said she ran out onto the lawn and saw Fowler lunging at her partner with the glass still in her hand.

The court heard the couple had previously mowed the woman's lawn in exchange for fruit and vegetables at different times.

The 80-year-old defendant protested her innocence throughout the hearing where she represented herself telling the court she could not afford legal representation on the pension.

Fowler said she never touched Ms James, but thought she might shock her by throwing wine on her. "I knew she was coming at me and Fernando is an ex-judo trainer," Fowler said.

"I felt very threatened when Fernando came up."

"I cracked my wine glass and said to her I will defend myself."

Fowler said she held the glass tight against her body, and when

Ms James approached her she cut herself.

"I then held the glass to my neck to protect myself," Fowler said.

"She came to headbutt me and that is how she got the injury to the side of the face."

Asked if she was to glass someone, how she would do it, she replied, "I would strike to the stomach and pull up, but that wouldn't be enough to disembowel someone."

Magistrate Ross Mack found Fowler guilty and told her the time was done for protesting her innocence when she told him again she did not touch Ms James.

"I find this matter of fact you struck Ms James with the wine glass in your hand, not once but twice," Magistrate Mack said.

"That is the kind of fact that the court has made beyond reasonable doubt."

Magistrate Mack said in this case the charge, which carries a maximum penalty of 10 years imprisonment, was worthy of a jail sentence.

Fowler, who had no previous criminal history, was convicted and sentenced to 12 months imprisonment, wholly suspended for two years.

— SOPHIE KESTEVEN

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