

## Resource Centre

What a wonderful year 2003 has been for the Middle School and the Resource Centre. A year filled with activities that saw us squeeze whole year levels into the library at times, and still come out smiling in the end.

2003 was my first year at BBC as Teacher Librarian for the Middle School, taking over the reins from the "Book Lady", Mrs Ann Baker. I have been able to build on the excellent work of someone who had put a great deal of herself into the College, a very hard act to follow!

Year 9 students used the Resource Centre for Readers' Cup in Term 1 and for a fascinating English unit on the 1950s in Term 2, as well as for many other research and reading activities.

The Year 8s began their program in earnest in Term 2, progressing to the Readers' Cup and a visit by 30 students to the Ipswich Festival of Literature in Term 3, and to the prestigious "Australian of the Year" unit held in Term 4.

These students excelled in both their reading and research activities throughout the year as the Wide Reading Programs, now well established for Years 8 and 9, offer many opportunities for students to find ways of using the huge variety of information available in our well resourced and welcoming Senior School Library.

This year also saw the introduction of a Wide Reading Program for Year 7 students, with activities that varied from a Harmony Day library quiz and visit to the Somerset Festival of Literature in Term 1, to a presentation by wildlife photographer Steve Parish in Term 3. By Term 4, all Year 7 students were eagerly using the library at least once a week, in their English classes, to choose new books to read, or to listen to someone reading aloud to them. Together, we discovered some amazing authors along the way! I found myself borrowing many a book recommended by the students, just to find out what happened in the end.

We look forward to another wonderful year in 2004, when we welcome the new cohort of Year 7 students to the library. Boys who read will indeed succeed and it makes my day, along the way, as well!

Elaine Mowat, Teacher Librarian