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### Eight students from Hornsby schools finish First in Course as HSC results are released

ROHAN SMITH AND • HORNSBY ADVOCATE • DECEMBER 18, 2013 3:31PM

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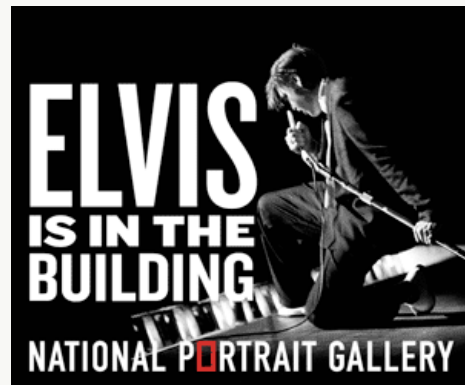
Students L-R Aparna Balakumar, Jasper Koolen, Suzannah Dewhurst, Marcela Torres Castiglioni, Thomas Chang and Karen Lin at Wahroonga Park. Picture: CRAIG WILSON Source: News Limited

THE results are in and Hornsby's HSC students have excelled across the board, topping the state in several courses.

Eight students from schools including Hornsby Girls High, Barker College and Loreto Normanhurst finished First in Course in 2013.

The First in Course awards acknowledge the highest achieving student in each HSC course.

The students received a phone call last week from the Board of Studies, but not released until Wednesday morning.



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Aparna Balakumar from Hornsby Girls High came equal first in Society and Culture. *Source: News Limited*

Karen Lin, from Hornsby Girls High, who finished first in General Maths, said she fell off her chair when she heard the news.

"I was calmly painting and I collapsed on the floor," she said. "I couldn't believe it."

Karen was joined on the list by schoolmate Aparna Balakumar, who drew on her experience as a volunteer in East Timor when working on her major project for Society and Culture.

Marcela Torres Castiglioni, from Ku-ring-gai High School, said she cried after being told she topped the state in Spanish Continuers.

She said hard work was the key to her success.

"It's just consistent work throughout the year, not just the HSC exam," Marcela said.



HSC first in course awards were handed out at the Australian Technology Park in Eveleigh today. *Source: News Limited*

Suzanna Dewhurst, from Loreto, performed best at Music 1 after spending an hour a day mastering four piano pieces.

Michael Ashelford and Thomas Chang, from Barker College, Harry Morris, from Normanhurst Boys High and Jasper Koolen, who is in Year 11 at Ku-ring-gai High, also made the list.

Minister for Education Adrian Piccoli congratulated the students.

"Any student who receives their HSC has worked hard and I congratulate all students who have completed their exams this year," Mr Piccoli said.

A ceremony was held on Tuesday, attended by 121 students who placed first or equal first in 112 courses.

#### FIRST IN COURSE

A total 121 students finished first or equal first in 112 courses. Of those, 83 were female and 38 were male. Local best in course recipients included:

- Suzanna Dewhurst: Loreto Normanhurst (Music 1)
- Aparna Balakumar: Hornsby Girls (Society and Culture)
- Harry Morris: Normanhurst Boys High (Software Design and Development)
- Marcela Torres Casigliani: Ku-ring-gai High (Spanish Continuers)
- Jasper Koolen: Ku-ring-gai High (Dutch Continuers)
- Thomas Chang: Barker (English Extension 1)
- Karen Lin: Hornsby Girls (General Mathematics)
- Michael Ashelford: Barker (Industrial Technology)

#### HIGH ACHIEVERS

The following list of students received High Achiever Awards for finishing in the top band of respective HSC courses:

- 15020 Ancient History Smith, Penelope Kate Loreto Normanhurst
- 15020 Ancient History Mackey, Emma Loreto Normanhurst
- 15020 Ancient History Gracie, Chloe Loreto Normanhurst
- 15020 Ancient History Codsí, Isabella Loreto Normanhurst
- 15040 Business Studies Reading Scott, Cameron Knox Grammar School
- 15040 Business Studies He Annie, Angelina Hornsby Girls High School
- 15040 Business Studies Koleth, Daniel Cherrybrook Technology High School
- 15040 Business Studies Petkovski, Kane Barker College (Hornsby)
- 15040 Business Studies Tsoi Yi-Seen, Gladys Abbotsleigh (Wahroonga)
- 15050 Chemistry Deodhar, Isha Abbotsleigh (Wahroonga)
- 15590 Classical Greek Extension Zhang, Helen Pymble Ladies' College
- 15090 Drama Barry, Vincent Barker College (Hornsby)
- 15100 Earth and Environmental Science Thompson, Christopher Barker College (Hornsby)
- 15100 Earth and Environmental Science Knox, Anthony Barker College (Hornsby)
- 15100 Earth and Environmental Science Petkovski, Kane Barker College (Hornsby)
- 15110 Economics Sekhar, Praba Hornsby Girls High School
- 15140 English (Advanced) Langford, Samantha Loreto Normanhurst
- 15140 English (Advanced) Sheahan, Elizabeth Julia Abbotsleigh (Wahroonga)
- 15140 English (Advanced) Premaratna, Anya Reinuka Abbotsleigh (Wahroonga)
- 15140 English (Advanced) Lee, Alison Ching-Yee Abbotsleigh (Wahroonga)
- 15130 English (Standard) Brass, Shannon Hilary Abbotsleigh (Wahroonga)
- 15150 English as a Second Language Lim Zi, Zai Cherrybrook Technology High School

15160 English Extension 1 Premaratna, Anya Reinuka Abbotsleigh (Wahroonga)

15160 English Extension 1 Sheahan, Elizabeth Julia Abbotsleigh (Wahroonga)

15170 English Extension 2 Chang, Thomas Barker College (Hornsby)

15170 English Extension 2 Ho, Sophie Hornsby Girls High School

27299 Financial Services Examination Gupta, Alpa Northern Sydney Institute - Hornsby College

27299 Financial Services Examination Harichandra, Aaron Northern Sydney Institute - Hornsby College

15680 French Continuers Wei, Jenny Hornsby Girls High School

15690 French Extension Wei, Jenny Hornsby Girls High School

15230 General Mathematics Lin, Karen Jiaying Hornsby Girls High School

15230 General Mathematics Brown, Sophie Elizabeth Julia Loreto Normanhurst

15230 General Mathematics Burley, Georgia Mary-Alice Hornsby Girls High School

15230 General Mathematics Fieldus, Madison Barker College (Hornsby)

15230 General Mathematics Codsí, Isabella Loreto Normanhurst

15230 General Mathematics Fornasier, Johnathan St Leo's Catholic College (Wahroonga)

15190 Geography Wong, Sally Abbotsleigh (Wahroonga)

15720 German Extension Wu, Natalie Wing Yee Abbotsleigh (Wahroonga)

15280 History Extension Xiao, Alison Hornsby Girls High School

26599 Hospitality Examination Sharp, Megan Turramurra High School

26599 Hospitality Examination Princi, Josephine Mount St Benedict College (Pennant Hills)

15200 Industrial Technology Ashelford, Michael Barker College (Hornsby)

15200 Industrial Technology Burger, Ryan Cherrybrook Technology High School

15210 Information Processes and Technology Wong, Chloe Sum-Yu Hornsby Girls High School

15830 Japanese Continuers Lo, Timothy Daniel Knox Grammar School

15850 Japanese Extension Lo, Timothy Daniel Knox Grammar School

15220 Legal Studies Drummond, Sarah Loreto Normanhurst

15240 Mathematics North, William D Knox Grammar School

15240 Mathematics Tran, Nathan Normanhurst Boys High School

15240 Mathematics Chan, Wing-Yan Chloe Cherrybrook Technology High School

15270 Modern History Sheahan, Elizabeth Julia Abbotsleigh (Wahroonga)

15290 Music 1 Dewhurst, Suzannah Loreto Normanhurst

15320 Personal Development, Health and Physical Education Grellman, Jacqui Jennifer Abbotsleigh (Wahroonga)

15320 Personal Development, Health and Physical Education Madden, James Barker College (Hornsby)

15320 Personal Development, Health and Physical Education O'Rourke, Ellen Caitlin Abbotsleigh (Wahroonga)

15320 Personal Development, Health and Physical Education Green, Rory Barker College

(Hornsby)

15340 Senior Science Pye, Isobel McKellar Abbotsleigh (Wahroonga)

15350 Society and Culture Balakumar, Aparna Hornsby Girls High School

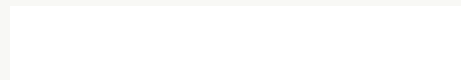
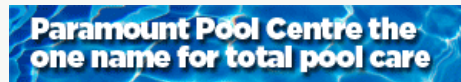
15360 Software Design and Development Morris, Harry Tadek Normanhurst Boys High School

15360 Software Design and Development Smith, James Barker College (Hornsby)

16080 Spanish ContinuerTorres, Castiglioni Marcela Blanca Angelica Ku-ring-gai High School

15400 Visual Arts Maneschi, Lauren Loreto Normanhurst

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