

Skool's back in business and ready to rock

By **KUE DAVIS**

SKOOL'S Out on the Coffs Coast and the mission to have fun, safe events for our youth continues.

It's been almost four months since the last real under 18s event in Coffs Harbour and local event promoter John Logan is making it his mission to fix that.

"I made the promise I would try to get a regular event at which young bands could play and young people under 18 could attend to see bands in a safe environment and for a low cost," Mr Logan said.

And so Skool's Out was born.

On Tuesday, July 13, four young bands will take to the stage for the very first Skool's Out event at Club

Coffs on West High.

Featuring the Kamikazi Thunderkats from Byron Bay, The Vaudivals featuring Sunday Faynes from Loco Parentis and Youngblood winners and runners-up The Proposition and Sayd, the event is set to be the hottest ticket in town for under 18s these school holidays.

"This event has been four months in the making and if under 18s support it, we will bring it back every school holidays," Mr Logan said.

The event starts at 6pm and is smoke and alcohol free.

The Safe Party Squad will be in attendance.

Tickets are available at Club Coffs or Park Beach Music.



NSW Teachers Federation Active Life Membership member Dick McDermitt from Woolgoolga High School.

PHOTO: ROB WRIGHT

A rare honour

By **STEPHEN JEFFERY**

WOOLGOOLGA High School teacher Dick McDermitt has received Life Membership of the NSW Teachers' Federation.

Life Membership is a rare honour for teachers – there are just 40 active in the State.

"Dick was nominated by his peers at the Coffs Harbour Teachers' Association not only for his teaching but also for his advocacy of students and public schools and his work in the community," regional organiser of the NSW Teachers' Federation Wayne Webber said.

"It's an incredible honour considering there are more than 60,000 members of the Federation in NSW."

Mr McDermitt received the life membership, a certificate and badge at an awards ceremony

during the Teachers Federation Annual Conference in Sydney.

His career began in 1974 at Chatham High School in Taree, before he moved on to Nyngan High School in the State's central west. It was during this time that he assisted in the reconstruction of the school after it was destroyed by a flood.

"The 1990 Nyngan flood was definitely a lowlight of my time as a teacher," Mr McDermitt said. "But rebuilding the school and getting the community together afterward was fantastic."

Mr McDermitt has been teaching at Woolgoolga High since 1992.

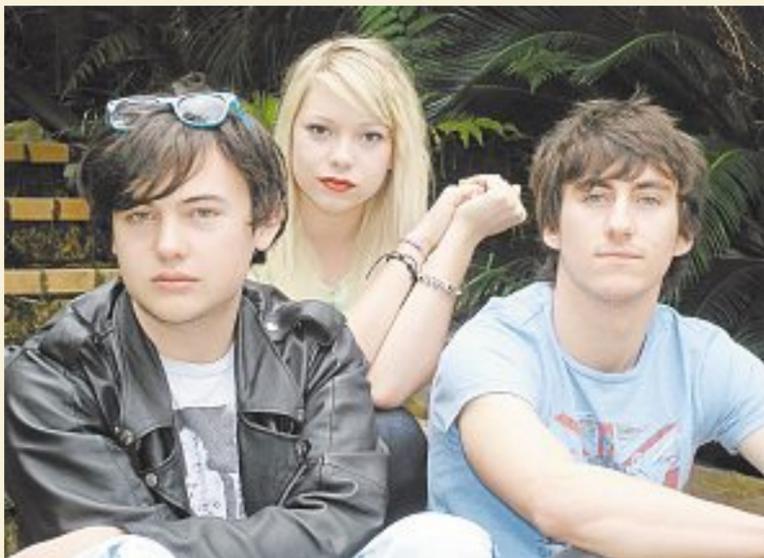
"I've met some great students, some wonderful staff," he said. "It's a lot more enjoyable after the first few years, when you start to become a bit more confident and know that you can handle it."

The social science teacher believes that being able to pass information on to students is one of the most rewarding aspects of the job.

"The amount of knowledge you gain from the subjects is extraordinary," he said.

In 1980 Mr McDermitt was elected by fellow teachers to the State Council of the Federation and has been re-elected at every opportunity since. He has also been awarded life membership from the Nyngan and Coffs Harbour Teachers' Associations, both of which he has represented.

"I'd like to thank the local association for their support and recognition," Mr McDermitt said. "It's been a pleasure representing them, and I think that this award also recognises the great work that the association in Coffs Harbour does."



ROCK IT: Local band The Vaudivals will feature in a special under 18s school holiday event at Club Coffs next week.

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