Primary entry #18: St Mary's Primary School Warners Bay

SIMARYS THE BAY WATCH **Changing face of health**

By ELLIOT HAINES, CAMERON SPARKES, DANIEL ROBSON, LOGAN PANOZZA and JOSHUA GESELL

ACCORDING to her mother, 12-year-old Molly Gould, of Valentine, owes her life to recent advances in medical technology and treatments.

'Improvements in technology probably saved Molly's life," Lisa Gould said.

When she was just five, Molly was diagnosed with juvenile dermatomyositis, a very rare inflammatory auto-immune disease which affects only about three in 1 million children. The disease caused Molly's immune system to malfunction and attack healthy tissue in her muscles and skin.

Juvenile dermatomyositis affects girls and boys in equal numbers, and the average age of onset is seven years.

treatable.

netic resonance imaging] and the improvement in turn-around times of blood test results enabled her

fully in school life.

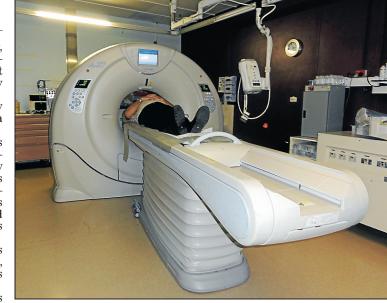
"Molly's specialists are able to this would have been possible with treatment of patients.

While it has no known cure, it is

year 6 student, who participates

'The development of MRI [mag-

doctors to start aggressive treat-ment," Ms Gould said. Molly is now a happy and active



ADVANCES: CAT scans have been a lifesaving advancement in modern health practices. Picture: Joshua Gesell

'They are also able to communic-

ate with national and international

colleagues by email to help in the

treatment of her illness. None of

keep in touch with the latest without improvements in techno-research from around the world via the internet," Ms Gould said. Newcastle's modern health pro-

fessionals have seen a number of significant changes. Healthcare today has advanced machines and cutting-edge medicines to assist

Intensive care nurse Helen Haines has seen many changes since she started working at John Hunter Hospital in 1991.

"Probably the biggest development has been the progressive introduction and development of computer systems to aid in the diagnosis and treatment of patients," Ms Haines said.

"It also allows us to make a quick diagnosis of diseases through X-rays, CT scans, MRI scans and ultrasounds."

Dr Mark Miller, a specialist in the John Hunter Hospital emergency department, agrees that technology plays a huge role in modern health-

"Nowadays all medical notes are scanned and digitised," Dr Miller said

"All blood tests and X-rays are viewed on computer terminals in the emergency department.

"This means we can instantly access and share information with other departments in the hospital."

Retired Charlestown GP Dr Brian Hardie practised for almost 70 years. Besides the huge influence of antibiotics, Dr Hardie believes the most advanced piece of equipment used in medicine today is the electrocardiograph machine (ECG) - a device for examining the different chambers of the heart and testing its rhythms.

MENTOR: Former student Anthony Quinn with students at St Mary's Primary Picture: Marv Gralton

Origin star returns to his roots

By LIESEL GILLIES, BILLY MILNE, RHYS ASHFORD and LINCOLN SELBY

WELL-KNOWN NSW Origin winger and former St Mary's student Anthony Quinn has made a return to his roots, playing this season with the Newcastle Knights. Quinn started his football career with

the Knights, playing 103 games with the local side from 2002 to 2006, before signing with the Melbourne Storm.

Now with a young family. Anthony says he has rejoined the Newcastle Knights to be closer to family and to give his

children the opportunities and lifestyle offered here.

Anthony started playing rugby league at age seven and he developed his skills further playing for Valentine-Eleebana Red Devils.

As a junior player, he received career-developing mentoring. Quinn has now jumped at the opportunity to act as a mentor for the under 20s Knights players.

"It's a good way to give back to the community. I am an electrician by trade and I combine this with my 12 years experience as a first grade footballer to mentor for the younger players," he said.

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head, has been a singer in Dio-Sounds for the past two years. She says that there is a lot of preparation involved but it's worth it. "It is a great opportunity to perform in front of a live audience, it is

a lot of fun and gives me more confidence," Ivania said. The best thing about DioSounds

SINGER: Ivania Coluccio performed

Students fill

theatre with

musical acts

By JASMIN BENNETT, JACKSON

MOLLY GOULD and DARCY GREW

MORE than 350 students aged 12 to

18 practised their moves and pol-

ished their performances for Dio-Sounds, the musical spectacular

which displayed the talents of stu-

dents from Catholic high schools

around the Newcastle-Maitland dio-

Held across two shows on June 13

at the Civic Theatre in Newcastle,

the students performed to more than

Acts included soloists, folk groups, choirs, rock bands, dances and indi-

Year 9 student Ivania Coluccio

from St Mary's High School, Gates-

BOTHAM, LAVINIA CÓLUCCIO,

Picture: Lavinia Coluccio

at the 2013 DioSounds

spectacular

cese

3000 spectators.

vidual instrumentalists.

is you can meet other students that have the same interest as you." Music teacher Lisa Pockran direc-

ted a winning performance from last year's show. 'The students are always keen to School.

be involved and we often have about 100 students performing," Ms Pockran said.

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