

# Chatham High dux an independent learner

ENJOYING a gap year before starting university study, 2011 Chatham High year 12 student Colin Watts was recently presented with the perpetual trophy for dux of the school.

Deputy principal Christopher Abbott said one of the secrets to Colin's success was his 99.9 per cent attendance rate and his ability to be flexible in his learning.

Colin studied advanced English, extension I and II maths, engineering studies, physics and chemistry. However, not all of these subjects were through

Chatham High.

For physics, he studied by distance education through Camden Haven High School and for engineering studies, he commuted to Taree High as part of the shared curriculum program.

Mr Abbott said this clearly showed Colin was an independent learner and this would be great preparation for tertiary education.

He also acknowledged the strong support of his family and

their involvement in the school P and C.

"They have really been very supportive of both Colin and the school and have done the journey with him," Mr Abbott said.

During the presentation assembly, two former Chatham High students gave speeches, Rodney Finch, from Noeledge Systems (graduated 1992); and Cathy Edwards from LJ Hooker Taree (graduated 2001).



**Honour board: Chatham High principal, Willem Holvast congratulated 2011 dux Colin Watts.**



**Chatham High principal Willem Holvast (centre) with 2011 Dux, Colin Watts and (left) special guest speaker and former Chatham High student, Cathy Edwards from LJ Hooker Taree.**



**2012 school leaders Toni Bush (vice captain), Rebecca Macguire (captain) and Trent Boyle (vice captain) with 2011 Dux Colin Watts.**



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