



the thistle

Edition 3, 2011

A newsletter for past students of THE SCOTS SCHOOL

Headmasters Report

I am very pleased to be able to write to you in this my first edition of *The Thistle* as the new Headmaster of The Scots School Bathurst and Lithgow. It is my aim that two editions of *The Thistle* will be published each year in March and September to enable us to keep in contact with our past students and to let you know what is happening at Scots.

I took up the position as Headmaster in January this year having had the privilege of working in a range of teaching, boarding and leadership positions at Sydney Church of England Grammar School (Shore), Canberra Grammar School, The Armidale School, Geelong Grammar School (Timbertop Campus) and Shoalhaven Anglican School at Milton on the South Coast. I have thoroughly enjoyed my year and feel incredibly privileged and honoured to lead such a fine school. Gillian and I have six children, four whom currently attend the school and two older sons who live in Wollongong and Sydney. The children who attend Scots are in Year 10, twins in Year 8 and Year 4. They have settled in well by making good friends and enjoying the sport on offer. The two boys have played rugby and cricket and my eldest daughter has played netball, hockey and touch football. My little girl has enjoyed her netball this season.

In my first three terms I have had the pleasure of meeting many past students in a range of locations. Just recently, I joined with the Year 12 of 1991 over lunch at the school to share their perspectives of Scots and to show them around the school. I have also had the opportunity of meeting past students at the Bathurst Show and Mudgee Field Days, on the sporting field and as current parents of The Scots School. I have even had the opportunity to talk to a student who was here from 1942-1946, an original student who shared some of the early history of the school with me. I have conducted quite a few scholarship interviews with past students who are enrolling their children for next year. It was a great pleasure

to talk with them about their time at Scots and to look forward to what they hoped for with their children.

I encourage you all to take the time to visit and connect with Scots so you can reminisce on your time here but also to gain a sense of what Scots has become – a vibrant, rich community where students have the opportunity to develop their talents in a caring school with excellent staff. Students are challenged in a wide variety of activities to take them out of their comfort zone in order to experience personal growth. The core Christian values of faith, hope and love are modelled and practised on a daily basis in our attitudes and actions towards each other.

The Scots School is a fantastic school with a rich culture and history and this has remained very important to the school as it has morphed over the last fifteen years from a boys' secondary school to a Pre-Preparatory to Year 12 Co-educational School. The school presently has 390 students from Pre-Preparatory to Year 12 with 205 students in Years 7-12. Our small size allows for a very strong sense of community, small class sizes and individual attention. Our boarding facilities are excellent with both the girls' and boys' houses very close to full.

The recent additions to the buildings at Scots include The Lamrock Performing Arts Centre which has just been officially opened by Mr Adrian Lamrock, Head from 1998-2003 and a strong supporter of Music and the Performing Arts. Currently we are building an indoor heated swimming pool next to the John Hunter Sports Barn which will be finished for Term 4. This will replace the old pool built by students of the school in the 1960s which has served the school so well for almost fifty years.

It is good to see the recent increase in the number of students who are sons and daughters of Scots alumni, many of whom are on scholarships and also receive the 10% discount for children or grandchildren of past students. If you are interested in finding out more about what is available, please



contact Megan Johnstone (nee Greig) whose older brothers David and Wes attended the school in the nineties and her father George is an Old Boy from the fifties.

I really look forward to meeting many more of you in the near future. Please feel very welcome to visit the school for a tour or to arrange a reunion function. I also invite you to join with our current community in any of our country visits or golf/dinner functions. More specific details are provided elsewhere in *The Thistle*. We have just had two country visits to Condobolin on Sunday 18th and Narromine on Sunday 25th of September. The golf/dinner functions are to be held at Bathurst on Sunday 16th October and Cowra on Saturday 5th November. They involve 9 holes of 4 man Ambrose followed by drinks and dinner at the Golf Club. I am very keen for past students to be part of these opportunities so I can meet you and to allow you to mix with our current school community.

I hope you enjoy this edition of *The Thistle*, one which heralds many fine achievements from our students this year, and feel a part of the Scots community by doing so. Please visit the School's website: www.scots.nsw.edu.au to find out more about what we are doing.

Kind regards,

Mr David Gates
Headmaster

Cattle Team Report Sydney Royal Easter Show 2011

In the past 18 years I do not think I have ever had such a great week at the Sydney Royal. To each and every one of you, both parents and students thank you for your contribution, support, hard work and team spirit that you all displayed. Achieving the 3 Champions, Grand Champion and most successful exhibitor was not just an achievement for the paraders but for the entire team. The kids have worked with these animals tirelessly since September 2010 and all deserve the joy of this success.

Winning is great but seeing the kids smiles, laughter and tears of joy makes my job all worthwhile. Seeing Laura Wright come out of the show ring with a blue ribbon at her first royal, seeing Janine and Ian Pollard beaming with pride for Laura Pollard who paraded our Overall Champion, seeing Mary Rose Townsend with tears in her eyes as Annabel's steer Murray won Champion, seeing Jess McGrath's face full of surprise when her animal won and hearing the team jump for joy and squeal each time we got a champion is something that I wish I could see and feel every year. When we had the team photo at the end of the competition and the kids all yelled out 'Scots are winners' I truly felt they meant it holey and solely! What lucky kids they



▲ The Scots School was crowned Most Successful School Exhibitor of Cattle and Sheep at the 2011 Sydney Royal Easter Show.

are to go to our School and have the bond they do with their friends and their school.

Some special thanks must go to:

- Terry and Bev Denniss, Trent Johnstone Trojon Shorthorns, Llandillo Poll Herefords, Six Star Speckle Park and Leigh and Linda Scott – without their support in donating us such wonderful animals we would be lost.
- Peter Rebaux (our farm hand) – he does so much behind the scenes and is as much a part of the team as any of the students.
- Megan Johnstone – for her continual support whilst at the show and telling me to breathe when I forget.
- Megan Dunsford, Christian Allen and Andrew Kelly – for 'fitting the steers' for us.

Agriculture Teacher and Cattle Team Manager – Libby Dawes

Upcoming Reunions

Class of 1981 Reunion on January 21st at Bathurst Campus. To register your interest to attend email: mjohnstone@scots.nsw.edu.au

All year groups are invited to celebrate their reunions at the School. Please contact Megan Johnstone to help organise your reunion. Many options are available, formal or casual lunches and dinners, tours of the school or a table or two at the BBG Ball.

Years due for Reunion:

- 5 Years, The Class of 2006
- 10 Years, The Class of 2001
- 15 Years, The Class of 1996
- 20 Years, The Class of 1991
- 25 Years, The Class of 1986
- 30 Years, The Class of 1981
- 40 Years, The Class of 1971
- 50 Years, The Class of 1961
- All Early Years 1942 to 1960

BLUE, BLACK & GOLD BALL

Join us at the Bathurst Memorial Entertainment Centre for the Blue, Black & Gold Ball. Get together a table of 10 people and enjoy the night!

Entertainment includes; Haggis Party, Highland Dancing, Pipes and Drums and a Covers Band until late.

Contact the school for a RSVP sheet.

Saturday
November
12th

SCOTS SCHOOL COUNTRY VISITS

For past, present and future Scots families

Condobolin:
September 18th

Narromine:
September 25th

To host a country visit contact:
mjohnstone@scots.nsw.edu.au

The Class of 1991 at their reunion in Bathurst on the 30th of July.



▲ The new heated indoor pool is coming along well. The concrete should be poured by the time this Thistle has arrived in the mail.

GOLF DAYS

The Headmaster of The Scots School Mr. David Gates is holding a number of Ambrose Golf Social days and dinners across the Central West. All are welcome to join in!

Bathurst: October 16th
Cowra: November 5th

Expressions of interest must be received by September 29th 2011.
 Please contact Megan Johnstone: (02) 6331 2766
 Email: mjohnstone@scots.nsw.edu.au



Relatives of past students

Front row, left to right: Thomas Cox, Claire Ferguson, Zane Brien-Rowlandson, Paris Bennett, Jack Brien-Rowlandson, Eliza Crozier, Hamish Andrews, Isabella Retallack, Angus Crozier, Sophie Cox, Charlie Bennett.

2nd row: Ned Dawson, Brooke Andrew, Sean Grabham, Angus Inwood, Henry Quant, Hugh McKay, Samuel Pateman, Stephanie Ferguson, Sam Flude.

Back Row: Annabel Shephard, Sarah McKay, Ellen MacKenzie, Luke Perry, Jock Sinclair, Samuel Andrew, Hannah Crozier, Philipa Shephard, Charlotte Inwood. *Staff:* Megan Johnstone (nee Greig).

Opening of The Lamrock Performing Arts Centre

► Photos from the opening of The Lamrock Performing Arts Centre on Sunday the 28th of August. The new centre was named after Adrian Lamrock, former Headmaster at Scots. The Prayer of Dedication was given by Mr Colin Langford, Chairman of the School Board. David Gates (current Headmaster), Tim Richards (previous Headmaster), Sam Gittins (School Chaplain) and Noel Eveleigh (School Bursar) were all involved in the ceremony.



The Bookworm Column Mrs. Kate Chivers

It is with great sadness that I record the death this week of one of my predecessors as Librarian, Mrs Kate Chivers (latterly Mrs. Gould).

Mrs. Chivers will be remembered by many ladies in the community as Deputy Headmistress of the old Marsden Girls' School, and successor to the formidable Miss Glover as Headmistress. With the demise of Marsden, Mrs Chivers took a position as Librarian here at Scots. She also taught General Studies and coached the senior debating squad.

In her time, Mrs Chivers supervised the renovation of the Library in 1985. The layout she designed worked so well that it has not been necessary to change it much since. She also managed the introduction of a computerised catalogue. Having had experience at being head of school herself, Mrs. Chivers seemed to have quite formidable skills in persuading the school to give her a generous budget for the Library. On a personal note, I learned a great deal about looking after a library from Mrs. Chivers.

Some of my Year 8 History classes were able to study a replica of the Bayeux Tapestry that Mrs Chivers donated to the Library – we still have it with Mr. Chivers annotations. Some of our students who know how to use a book have made use of the many books on Mediaeval History that she purchased. Her first husband, George, taught Medieval History at Charles Sturt University.

Mrs Chivers retired in 1989 when George's health deteriorated. She later remarried becoming Mrs. Gould.

It is perhaps appropriate that the Library's collection includes a copy of an Extension 2 English major work by Laura Parker, who was Mrs. Chivers' grand-daughter and a student at Scots from 2001-2006. Her son Bill also taught science at Scots for a few years.

Mr. A. Maher
Librarian

Visit our website at www.scots.nsw.edu.au