Many of you will know that at the end of this year, 2010, I will be retiring from Scots. I have had the good fortune to have worked at Scots for 31 years. It has been a very rewarding and enriching experience. To finish as Headmaster has been a great affirmation of my desire to always do as much as I could to help the students of Scots and to see the School held in the highest esteem by all who know the School.

I have seen many changes over the years and had many different roles within the School. There are some facets of the School that remain the same and make Scots a school which is a privilege to be associated with, both as a member of staff, and a student. The size of the School and the type of families which have children here means that there is very much a family feel about the School. Everyone staff, students and parents, know each other well and there is an atmosphere of friendliness and generosity of spirit which helps people feel that they are cared for. This also translates into a sense of pride and belonging to the School. There is a great school spirit which has always been a hallmark of the School.

Scots is a special place to be a part of and I know the incoming Head, Mr David Gates, will quickly feel at home and endeavour to keep the School progressing. I urge you all to do as much as you can to support him, come back to the School to meet him. I know he will be very pleased to see you. I wish him and the School the best of luck in the future. Scots is a great school and has a great future.

Regards,

Headmaster

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I am sorry that I have to pass on the sad news that Don Wiburd passed away this morning in Bathurst Base Hospital. Don has been very ill for a number of weeks. Don is remembered very fondly as a supporter of independent schools in our region but also he was very active in junior country sport administration, particularly Rugby Union and Cricket.

Rest in Peace,
Tim Richards.

Mr Wiburd’s funeral was held on Monday November 22nd at the All Saints Anglican Cathedral Bathurst.
Ode to Don Wiburd
14/03/1929 – 15/11/2010

“The Don”

Now Don was a man who right from the start
Lived a principled life and spoke from the heart
When he shook your hand, he’d look you in the eye
If he said that he liked you, that wasn’t a lie

His coat and his tie, nothing less it be said
With an akubra or beret to cover his head
Prim and proper, quite so, in all that he did
A gentleman’s gentleman his kindness not hid

As a boy, he was born in Bathurst you see
The only child of couple Elsie and Lesley
He would never address them as mum or as dad
He used “Mother” or “Father”; these were the titles he had

With an English Irish background he was taught to stand tall
For social equity and justice and a fair go for all
His vision? “Boys need to experience success”
Thus he created competitions for boys in the west

Was he an angel from heaven with a heavenly plot
To impact the students of Saints’, Stannies and Scots
Selflessly giving to all as he passed
He was a rare man, unique, not type cast

For the Wiburd, Yates and Foster Shields
He would organise the times and even the fields
Association-creator – he loved meetings like no other
He would read all the minutes from cover to cover

At Scots he was more than a master of sport
Boys listened carefully to the life lessons he taught
And he’d help write letters for boarders to send
To their mum or their dad or even a friend

Don was teaching Geography and in a lesson he said it:
Rainforests change to savannah and then desert
And Ron ‘Raddish’ Radford yelled out with a sigh
“I guess it’s just like your disappearing hair-line”

“You’re time will come Radford”, was Don’s reply
No one knows when and no one knows why
But all was revealed in reflection Ron saw –
He went bald himself, at age 24

With passion and skill, Don coached a Scots’ team
That in ’64 beat Stannies, oh what a dream
The lads still remember the feeling that day
While Don with a smile walked humbly away

Well he didn’t walk far there was a position to fill
Don then taught at Stannies on top of the hill
And at dinner he’d humbly remove his tweed hat
‘May the blessed one, give a blessing’, Benedictus Benedictus

It was here that his status of legend took hold
Not because of his grey hair or the fact he was old
The young lads in his teams valued his wisdom and view
As he affirmed each player in his half time review

From Stannies to Saints’ to the red, white and blue
Retired and a bit lost with not much to do
He was asked to coach cricket, his heart skipped a beat
He lived what he loved and loved coaching a treat

But a dilemma arose when Saints and Scots took the field
Who would Don support in the Harlequin Shield?
“I don’t normally support anyone”, he said to me grinning
“But I usually end up on the sideline that’s winning”

Ring ring, “Wiburd here” he would answer the phone
Classical music playing on his grammar phone
He’d chat about sport until the cows would come home
And it was a pleasure to listen to his gentlemanly tone

Of course he recalled names, places and stats
His memory so lucid, he was sharp as a tack
He’d recount poignant moments in history with flair
Young men were inspired with the stories he shared

One day he was seen with a spring in his step
What are you up to Don, what’s given you this pep?
I was just talking to a lady on my walk round the block
“Did you ask for her name?” “No, no, I should think not!”

Nothing came of this meeting, this meeting of chance
But he didn’t stop walking, he preferred this to dance
You can picture him charming the ladies in the street
I’m sure some came out, this gentleman to greet

Well it wasn’t the Order of Australia Medal he wore
Or his list of achievements that would knock you for four
It was the spirit within, whose heart would reach out
He was a wonderful strength when you were in doubt

A lasting tribute is the Yates Wiburd Family Bell
Resounding today and through Bathurst to tell
That ‘The Don’ has gone home, to be with his Maker
A privilege he knew there could be none greater

But the real legacy he leaves is not competitions or bells
It is more significant and lasting and I dare say, pray tell
It is the life of one man, whose actions and words
Will live in our hearts – Mr Don Amos Wiburd

“A selfless man from another time”
A think that describes him, just fine.

Greg Thornton
Mary Redfern retires

Mrs Mary Redfern retired this year after 30 years of service to The Scots School.

A celebratory morning tea was held in Mary’s honour and long serving teachers including Brian Mair and Ian Doney made some hilarious speeches about Mary’s time at Scots.

Mary was presented with gifts from the school including a magnolia tree.

Mary’s Granddaughter, Addison Hargans, starts at Scots in 2011 in the Pre-Preparatory class.

20 Year Reunion – Class of 1990

Around 50 past students from the Class of 1990 gathered on the 23rd of October at the School in Bathurst for a long lunch and tour of the School.

The year group were most excited to see the completion of the John Hunter Sports Barn which was still a cement floored shed when the men were students.

The barn now also includes special rubber flooring, showers and change rooms, a weights and cardio gym and classroom complete with smartboard (a white board that hooks up to the internet). Thankyou to Jason Patterson and James Boag for co-ordinating the reunion.

Scott Johnson and Owen Kurtz.

The John Hunter Sports Barn

Anthony Woodside, Robert McKellar and reunion organiser Jason Patterson.

23rd October 2010

Ben Piegunn, Matt Irvine and Pete Gill.

Frank Peacock, Richard Bunn, Grant Chudleigh and John Lovell.
Blue, Black and Gold Ball

The Scots School Blue, Black and Gold Ball is held every year on the second Saturday of November.

Past students and their families are always welcome to attend. Contact the School around September to book a table.

Here are photo’s from this year’s ball held on November 13th.

▲ Retiring Headmaster Mr Tim Richards with “Kilted Men” at the Blue Black and Gold Ball.

▲ Jennifer and David Crofts formerly of Bathurst.

▲ Henry Stockman-Ellis from Forbes, Craig Potts from Sydney and Trent Fardon from Hobbys Yards.

▲ The School’s Pipes and Drums performances are always the highlight of the night.

Julie Irvine, Damian Irvine, Teri O’Rourke and Paul O’Rourke.

NOTICEBOARD

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

Scholarship Applications for students to start in 2012 will be available from February 1st, 2011.

See the school website under ‘Enrolments’ for more information.

OLD BOYS ANNUAL CRICKET MATCH

Sunday, 6th March 2011

Please contact Sports Master Justin Adams: jadams@scots.nsw.edu.au or Old Boy Ron Radford on (02) 6892 8204 to join a team.

KARRALEE RESTORATION

Buy a paver with your name and the years you attended The Scots School to help landscape the new garden at the back of Karralee.

Single pavers: $35 Double: $75

The first round of pavers have been laid with the next order arriving soon. Buy your paver or pavers today!

For a paver application form contact Enrolments & Promotions Officer Megan Johnstone on (02) 6331 2766.

Has your mailing or email address changed since you graduated from Scots? Please send your updated details to mjohnstone@scots.nsw.edu.au.

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

THE SCOTS SCHOOL
Bathurst & Lithgow

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