Successful under its new owners, the school changed its name several times until once again it became known as Albury Grammar School.

Wilson (Headmaster 1886–1928) moved the school to the present campus. The original house was eventually remodeled in 1946 to become Sellars House.

Albury Grammar School was sold to the Presbyterian Church of NSW. It had remained co-educational until this time when the last of the girls left the school and it became an all boys' school.

Albury Grammar School purchased the Albury Showgrounds and in 1948 the new classroom block was opened.

Albury Grammar School celebrated its Centenary, and opened the new Dining Hall and refectory block in 1967.

The Scots School Albury will celebrate its sesquicentenary — 150 years of history. You are part of Scots' history, join us in celebrating!
FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Ms Peggy Mahy commenced as Principal at Scots in 2014. She has been instrumental in forming the School’s educational framework that covers three streams of life, learning and leading.

“Scots is an amazing school. With our 150th sesquicentenary in 2016, I’m extremely proud to be Principal of a school that has the combined history of Albury Grammar School and Rosehill and Woodstock Girls’ Schools, amalgamating in 1972 to become The Scots School Albury. We want you to help celebrate our living heritage, our strong foundations, and our traditions that give us a strength and stability. We also want you to reconnect with both the school and other alumni who represent a tremendous diaspora spread right around the world - for your story is our story.

Today, Scots continues to offer a holistic education tailored to meets the needs of each student. We take a ‘high-challenge’ approach to education - we provide our students with the knowledge and skills to thrive when faced with challenges and opportunities outside their comfort zone. Many of our alumni have gone on to challenging, diverse and rewarding careers - some of whom you’ll read about in the following pages. At Scots we are keen to employ strategies that connect us with our current and past students and families. We believe in the power of effective partnerships that enhance the learning of all. When you walk through our school, or read about life beyond the school in these pages, you will find many examples of our educational philosophies and practices in action. I believe this is an education worth having.”

FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

David Armstrong joined Scots in 2015 after spending 18 years at St Philip’s College in Alice Springs, including leading the most ambitious outdoor programs in Australia.

“A high priority for me is renewing and strengthening our outdoor education program. Few schools in Australia are better located than Scots to take advantage of one of the most remarkable environments in Australia,” said David.

“Education will always be about the future - it is an opportunity to journey alongside creative minds of the future.”

This year David has introduced many initiatives including ‘Border to Beach’ for Year 9, day trips to the snow for all students and digital citizenship policies.

“At Scots, we seek to develop the whole person - the reader, the writer, dancer, sportsman and sportswoman, the thinker, the learner, the leader.”
Tony Brandt could have retired several years ago and be enjoying the quiet life, but loves practising law too much to give it away – and he credits Albury Grammar School with introducing him to the profession.

“I originally planned to go to Knox Grammar in Sydney, but my family were from Coolamon and Knox was 6 hours’ drive, whereas Albury was only 2 hours,” says Tony, who was offered work with local solicitors Bellbridge Hague through connections he had at Albury Grammar School – even before completing his law degree.

“At school, I had a ball. I did okay academically, but the Cadets played a big part of life and was what I really loved. I was Pipe Major – I even returned after I finished school to teach the pipes for 10 years and made more money doing that than practising law! And the sport – I remember 400 people doing exercises on the oval everyday at mid-morning break... the whole school kept fit together!”

Tony also found the school structure had a lasting impact on his life – students were encouraged and expected to take up leadership roles. With his experience as school captain, he didn’t think twice about stepping straight into leadership roles in law – he was the president of the NSW Law Society, plus the chairman of Wodonga TAFE for 15 years.

“It was being mentored from a young age, and the encouragement from the school – the school produced people to lead people,” he said.

“Friends were incredibly important because they were there when you were growing up, during your formative years – they’re mates for life.”

“I remember a time when the school had little money, so we used to inherit kilts for the Pipe Band from Scotch College in Melbourne. Two women from the linen room then unstitched the kilts, turned them inside out, then stitched them up again. We wore them at a competition in Melbourne and beat Scotch who were wearing new uniforms, and here we were in their old kilts! It’s my fondest memory.”

He continues to stay in touch with many friends from school – one went on to be mayor of Wagga, another became an engineer and built most of the roads in Nairobi.
ALUMNI PROFILE

Barbie Castle Class of 1970
Woodstock Girls’ School

Barbie Castle is a dedicated volunteer in organising reunions, and liaising between the School and the Rosehill Woodstock ladies. She taught art for many years and is now retired.

“I attended Union Rd Woodstock under Head Mistress Nancy Marrows, known by many as ‘The Boss’. She was not a favourite principal – I had a working relationship with her but shared no friendship.

Yet I always admired her quick, inquiring mind. After one Christmas holiday, the Boss had attended some conference and made it mandatory that we had to write on unlined paper! My writing was not always neat as I tended to leave doing homework to the last minute and rush it – with no lines it was more like a snail trail in a maze!

Boarding house and winters are etched in my mind. Bessa brick walls, cement floors, no heating... plus we weren’t allowed electric blankets! But we made up for this with a fashion statement called ‘witches britches’. These of course were banned as they were not school uniform but absolutely nobody adhered to this so these delightful things were worn in an array of colours – anything but grey!

We had regulation uniform for both day and going-out wear (usually only to church every Sunday) – right down to these grey bloomers that I always managed to leave at home (very convenient as we only got home about every 12 weeks!) or lose altogether. They were awful and I simply refused to wear them.

The girls! How do you describe them? A great mob of young women thrown together, day in, day out!

They were there when times got tough or you were in trouble or feeling home sick. They were there to compete against academically or in sporting events. It was great fun to go to different girls’ homes over the holidays, particularly for me as I came from a farming background, an orchard – not these rambling acres of trees, sheep, cattle, and wedge tail eagles. I developed my love of the Australian bush from years of heading up to Kywong to Judy Heckendorf’s family farm between Narrandera and Lockhart. Jude and I are still great mates.

I have heaps of memories from my time there, short-sheeting beds, midnight feasts, and always having to wear plaits – but the best and most important was all the fabulous girls that I met. I have always cherished their company and friendship.

What role did the school play in my life? Well, had I not had the opportunity to attend Woodstock and see that an education is the gateway to life, then I don’t believe I would have gone as far as I have academically.

Being a fulltime boarder also taught me to accept people for what they are and make allowances for everyone’s differences, in order to get along. To be prepared to give it a go, even if you make a mistake just keep trying.

I also learnt the importance of the positive contribution that females can, have and will continue to make to society – thank you Nancy Marrows for that.”

OLD WOODSTOCK IN UNION ROAD
BARBIE IN HER DAILY UNIFORM, INCLUDING PIGTAILS

OLD WOODSTOCK IN UNION ROAD
ALUMNI PROFILE
Sue Maslin Class of 1976
The Scots School Albury

Sue Maslin – an award-winning screen producer – credits Scots with sparking her love for science and curiosity... traits that have proved invaluable throughout her career. Her latest screen production ‘The Dressmaker’ will be released nationally on 29th October and features Kate Winslet, Judy Davis, Liam Hemsworth and Hugo Weaving. This latest feature film follows on from an amazing career, including as producer of ‘Road to Nhill’ (2003 Best Feature Film at Thessaloniki International Film Festival) and ‘Japanese Story’ (winner 2003 AFI Award for Best Feature Film), and a position as Adjunct Professor at RMIT.

Sue originally started studying a science degree but realised its narrow specialisation wasn’t her at all – then found a Graduate Diploma in Media Studies at Canberra College of Advanced Education was something she absolutely loved.

“My role as producer is to find suitable ideas and stick with them for the many years to get them done – it’s not enough to have a good idea, you need a really compelling and great idea. It’s harder than ever to get the finance – it’s just so competitive out there, especially with film, TV, the internet and social media... there’s a lot of ‘noise’ to compete with.”

As well as curiosity and a fascination with storytelling, Sue says as a producer you need extraordinary tenacity (she doesn’t get paid unless she raises the finance and that can take 2-4 years), and you must enjoy working with people since all film work is collaborative.

‘The Dressmaker’, directed by Jocelyn Moorhouse, is a bittersweet story about love, revenge and haute couture – central character Tilly Dunnage returns after working for many years in Parisian fashion houses, to her home town in Australia to right some wrongs of the past.

“This film is my most ambitious project to date, and by far the biggest challenge because it’s a period film (set in the 1950s) and the focus on costumes meant a very, very big budget. But the joy was in how it all started – by reading a book written by Rosalie Ham, an old friend from my own country town of Jerilderie.”

Reflecting on Scots and the path life has taken her, Sue says she still remembers Mr Gin, the science teacher.

“Scots really was a terrific country school, and had a much broader program because it was co-ed and offered so many more opportunities than an all-girls school.”

“I have incredibly happy memories of boarding life, and I was very active in sport. I think friendships made in boarding houses often endure a lifetime too,” said Sue.

“I never regret not following through on science because it really encouraged that curiosity about the whole world that’s really kept me going, and why I’m still here after 32 years of freelancing in the film industry.”

SHORT BIO
Sue Maslin was the inaugural recipient of the Jill Robb Award for Outstanding Leadership, Achievement and Service to the Victorian Screen Industry, inaugural director of the Australian Israel Cultural Exchange Festival of Australian Films in Israel, a participant at the Prime Minister’s 2020 Summit, Patron of Women In Film and Television Victoria and a founding member of Natalie Miller Fellowship.

IMAGE: KATE WinsLET IN ‘THE DressMAKER’

Cover photo: Highly-acclaimed film producer Sue Maslin (on right), with childhood friend and author of ‘The Dressmaker’, Rosalie Ham.
You are invited to
The Scots School Albury
VIP screening of ‘The Dressmaker’
7:00pm Tuesday 27th October 2015
at Albury Regent Cinemas
Tickets: http://go.tssa.nsw.edu.au/dressmaker
ALUMNI PROFILE

Damian Spencer Class of 1997
The Scots School Albury

Damian Spencer came to Scots in Year 6 from St Joseph’s Primary in Beechworth, and was immediately welcomed into the school community. “It wasn’t daunting at all – I got into music, piano and swimming and made some good friends straight away,” said Damian.

On a recent visit to the school, the campus naturally seemed smaller - but no less impressive. “The Indoor Sports Centre is an amazing facility – as good as the facilities at La Trobe University,” said Damian, who is now an Associate Pro Vice-Chancellor (Coursework) at La Trobe University.

“For me, my high school years were very formative. Scots had such a family feeling about it and high quality, caring teachers. I also still remember quite clearly the many extracurricular activities including the theatre productions I was involved in,” he said.

The school still has that same family feeling, the same care for students.

DAMIAN SPENCER

Damian’s parents chose Scots because of its academic reputation, as well as all the co-curricular activities. In Year 12, Damian won the Premier’s Award for being the top student in Computing Studies in NSW.

His three older siblings also went to Scots and now enjoy successful careers in their respective fields – Michelle (Class of 1991) is an academic at RMIT, lecturing in Chemistry and leading her own research team in nanotechnology. She travels overseas every year as an invited speaker to present her research. Adrian (Class of 1992), a qualified field geologist, now runs his own successful grants consultancy business. Steven (Class of 1996) is a senior petroleum geologist in geophysics with Exxon Mobil, travelling nationally and internationally on oil and gas projects. All four children were on scholarships and worked hard to be high-achievers in their studies – especially in science – so much so that their contribution was recognised with a lab named after the family when the Science Centre opened in 2004.

Damian’s parents still feel a strong connection with the school. “We chose Scots because it was such a good all-rounded school, and reflected our values at home. We have always felt a part of the Scots’ family,” said Mrs Spencer.

Certainly for Damian, the opportunities he had at Scots helped lead to a full life. “Scots was so much more than just a stepping stone for me – it was the foundation,” he said.

“I now have a very challenging and rewarding career combining my skills in research, teaching, and university management – and I love this aspect because it’s about making a difference, and being in a position where you can affect change. It’s about changing people’s lives for the better.”

ALUMNI PROFILE

Matt Carrington Class of 2007
The Scots School Albury

Matt Carrington’s path towards the recent opening of his new wine bar took a few twists and turns, but has landed him where he feels he truly belongs.

After finishing Year 12 at Scots in 2007, Matt travelled overseas for a year then started a degree in architecture and construction management, before swapping to photography and film, then finally creative arts. Yet all his training has been poured into the new business venture where you can’t miss his passion and talent – the wine bar and eatery in Albury’s Amp Lane is gleaming and sultry, with detail showing Matt’s eye for colour, lighting and design.

“I loved what I learnt in all three courses, and enjoyed every moment. I had always worked in hospitality throughout uni, and had always wanted to do something like this,” said Matt. “I knew I wanted to do a wine bar restaurant and thought Albury deserved one. We liked the name – ‘Boom Boom’ – because it felt like us... fun and vibrant.”
ALUMNI PROFILE

Callum McLeod Class of 2012
The Scots School Albury

Callum McLeod was Dux and recipient of the Premier’s Award HSC 2012. (98.4 ATAR and 10th in NSW for General Mathematics)

After a gap year co-teaching in Scotland, he is now studying a Bachelor of Commerce/Law at Monash University. He wrote to us recently:

“Scots awarded me a number of special things. One was the ability to walk away after Year 12 and experience the rare confidence that I’d achieved the very best I could. More importantly, Scots provided me with the ability to balance confidence and humility. After 13 years of hard work and mixed success, I can now envisage the long-term - I can enjoy work, whether it is menial or challenging; I can pursue my dreams, even if they seem unachievable; and I can reflect on my character and be happy with it.

I achieved the very best I could

High academic scores and glossy curricula vitae open many doors—Scots successfully provided that. My last year at school opened up the best university course available to me and has supported many great work opportunities.

Yet Scots offers more than this. It not only opens doors, but equips you to make the most of life beyond those doors. Scots gave me the sureness and humility to appreciate that.

The most striking memory I have of Scots was my Year 12 Final Assembly. That day was the culmination of 13 years’ effort and it was special on a personal level. But it was made profoundly special when my Year 12 peers, and then the whole school, stood to applaud me.

It says a lot about Scots, not about me. Hard work and commitment are always the greatest commodities for respect — and they are commodities that are shared. I would have been proud to be part of that applause, not to mention the subject of it.”

MATT CARRINGTON
YOUR STORY IS OUR STORY

SPOTLIGHT ON YEAR 9 STUDENTS

Emily Bell and Claire Murray are both in Year 9 and are self-confessed history buffs. Both girls have looked into their own family tree, with Emily surprised to find a link in hers back to the First Fleet.

“History is important because it teaches you to appreciate what’s changed or better today,” said Emily. “I also think it helps us embrace those values of life, learning and leading, which will always be a part of this school.”

Both girls agree it’s important to celebrate our 150th in 2016 because it demonstrates what’s enduring about the school.

“We are one of the few schools in this area with such a long history,” said Claire. “It’s not just our values but our traditions that also remain the same and are enduring – for example the Pipe Band – plus the opportunities to participate in things such as all the musical groups are still amazing.”

TIME TO ACT!

The last printed edition of The Scots Drum will be a special Sesquicentenary Commemorative Edition in 2016. From 2017 we will only be sending the Drum by email or, under special circumstances, in hardcopy by subscription. We encourage you to update your details at www.scotsalbury.nsw.edu.au/school-alumni-contact-form or return the enclosed cover sheet with your current details. Did you know that you can organise your reunion and keep in touch with staff and other alumni via Facebook ‘Scots Albury Alumni’?

Did you serve in the Middle East conflicts post WW2 or know of a past student who did? The School is producing an Honour Board to recognise those students who have served in East Timor or the Middle East and all those who have served in Peace Keeper roles in those areas. Contact Bruce Pigdon or David Easton at alumni@scotsalbury.nsw.edu.au

We will be producing a Border Mail advertising feature in February 2016 to promote our 150th celebrations and would like to offer your business the opportunity to join us – contact Kerryn Arnold karnold@scotsalbury.nsw.edu.au by 16th October to be involved.

ARCHIVES

Scots very own historian Noelle Oke speaks about why history matters:

“Without historians, we would have very little knowledge of our past and how this has contributed to who we are today as a people, and as a nation. We know that major events and sometimes even quite small and obscure ones, often have an impact on the lives of those who follow after. Traditions develop as a result of the actions of others perhaps centuries before. At Scots, we also continue to carry on traditions – such as school loyalty, boarding, the prefects, the school badge or crest and more.

Importantly, each pupil from the school’s inception in 1866 until the present day has been and is a vital link in the school’s ongoing history. Each has contributed in their own specific way to the heritage and traditions that make the school. The students are the core reason for the school’s existence – without them, Scots would not be what it is today. We can still boast of being the oldest country boarding school in the state, and one of the state’s oldest schools. The school spirit or its esprit de corps and its reputation for academic excellence also stay strong. We have much of which to be proud, to uphold and to defend.”

Do you have any memorabilia from your days as a student at Albury Grammar, Rosehill Woodstock or The Scots School Albury, especially from 1972-80? Consider loaning it to the Archives Office to be displayed and shared as part of various exhibits during the 150th sesquicentenary in 2016. Contact archives@scotsalbury.nsw.edu.au

EMILY BELL AND CLAIRE MURRAY

EMILY BELL AND CLAIRE MURRAY
JOIN US IN CELEBRATING 150 YEARS: 1866-2016

COCKTAIL PARTY
Saturday 12th March 2016
Celebrate 150 years of The Scots School Albury! The Cocktail Party is an event for our current parents and recent past parents – join us for drinks, fine food and live music from 7:30pm-11:30pm. Guests will enjoy an elegant twilight evening in the Chapel Hall courtyard under fairy lights, with bouquets of fragrant flowers and music by local swing and jazz band ‘Infinity’.

CADET REUNION
Saturday 14th - 15th May 2016
All past members of the Cadet Unit of the Albury Grammar School/Scots are invited to a weekend of activities including display of memorabilia, reunion lunch, Riverina Pipe Band Championships and more. Almost all male secondary students of the school up to 1982 were part of the Australian Cadet Corps, forging a strong history with the military. The weekend will serve to bring back the memories of cadet experience, renew friendships and enjoy the company of old mates. A luncheon will be held on Saturday 14th May (and will include entry to the Highland Gathering) and a Chapel service on Sunday 15th May.

FOUNDERS WEEKEND COMMEMORATIVE DINNER
Friday 22nd - Sunday 24th July 2016
It’s our birthday and the whole school will be celebrating! On Friday 22nd July there will be various activities for our current students, plus a Commemorative Dinner at the Albury Entertainment Centre with guest speakers including current and past principals, and alumni speaking about the role the school has played in their lives.

Book a table of 8, or join another table. Why not use that weekend to host your year’s reunion, or just catch up with old friends informally? School tours and displays will be held over the weekend, with a Chapel service on Sunday 24th July.

For tickets and more details on all these events: www.scotsalbury.nsw.edu.au/ 150-year-sesquicentenary-key-events-2016

HIGHLAND GATHERING
Saturday 14th May 2016
The Scots School Albury’s Highland Gathering is a key event in the year celebrating 150 years. Immerse yourself in the culture of Scotland with Highland Dancing, Pipe Bands, Scottish food and stalls and a Gathering of the Clans. The program will include:

9:00am: Street parade of Pipe Bands along Dean St.
11:00am: A full day of activities including dancing, piping & drumming
1:00pm: Official Ceremony
4:30pm: Mass Bands and prize giving
6:30pm: Our inaugural Tattoo. This will be one of the most memorable events of the day as the massed Pipe Bands put on a thunderous performance.

What are Highland Games?
The Scots School Albury has a strong connection to Scottish culture. Highland Games or Gatherings are events held throughout the year in Scotland and other countries as a way of celebrating Scottish and Celtic culture and heritage. Certain aspects of the games are so well known as to have become emblematic of Scotland, such as the bagpipes, the kilt, and the heavy events, especially the caber toss. While centred on competitions in piping and drumming, dancing and Scottish heavy athletics, the games also include entertainment related to other aspects of Scottish and Gaelic culture.
JOIN US IN CELEBRATING
OUR 150-YEAR SESQUICENTENARY IN 2016:

• Cocktail Party: Saturday 12th March
• Cadet Reunion: Saturday 14th May luncheon,
  Sunday 15 May Chapel service
• Highland Gathering: Saturday 14th May
• Commemorative Dinner: Friday 22nd July
• Founders weekend: Saturday 23rd July school tours,
  Sunday 24th July Chapel service

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