It is with great excitement we look forward to celebrating the Centenary of Mildura Senior College, formerly Mildura High School and Mildura Secondary College on Friday 14th till Sunday 16th September.

From humble beginnings as a proposed Agricultural College, Mildura Senior College has a significant place in the history of Mildura. We are proud of our heritage, proud of many students who have distinguished themselves over the years and proud of our standing in the community. There is such a wonderful and rich history at Mildura Senior College of constant growth and change that has mirrored what has happened in the society over the past 10 decades.

The celebration of 100 distinguished years of education is a fantastic opportunity to pay respect to the history of the school and of the stories that need to be told. All the while reflecting on how education has changed and evolved as we prepare for the next 100 years educating the next generation of future leaders.

The events that will be held over the three days are symbolic of these aims. School tours will be available on Friday 14th September, showcasing the learning environment our current students enjoy. Also, on this day, we will mark the occasion formally with year level assemblies and an opportunity for our current students to acknowledge their place in history.

On Saturday the 15th September a variety of events will take place allowing past students and staff from their respective generations to gather and meet. And finally on Sunday the 16th September we will all gather at the school to officially commemorate 100 years of quality education that has been provided by this historic school.

I invite all past and present students, parents, staff and the wider school community to join us in celebrating this very special occasion.

Andrew Ough
Principal
Mildura High/Secondary College/ Senior College Centenary

Momentum is really gathering for our Centenary. Since the middle of last year a Centenary Committee has been working tirelessly to organise a wide range of exciting and interesting activities to celebrate this wonderful achievement. The activities have been organised to appeal to a wide cross-section of people - current and past students, teachers, parents and community members.

Throughout the three days of celebrations there will be something for everyone to participate in and to enjoy - whether it is touring the college in action to discover how education has changed since your schooldays, catching up with your 'old' school friends, seeing how our teachers have aged, looking over memorabilia or kicking up your heels at one of the centenary dinners.

The numbers of bookings for the various events are growing by the day. On Friday the 14th September we are offering tours of the College, a Memorial Service and Community Singing. Normal classes will run on the day but we will be running Monday's timetable and have a special assembly for Year 11s and Year 12s to commemorate our centenary with our current students. Reunion events will continue on Saturday and Sunday 16th of September we will again be opening the school for tours as well as a range of activities including live music and food. On this day we welcome the whole community to come and visit the college, to enjoy a picnic lunch on our lawns and listen to some fantastic music while celebrating 100 years of secondary education in Mildura. Details of all of these events can be found on our website:
www.milsen.vic.edu.au

"A Century Of Secondary Education In Mildura"

In 1884, the Honourable Alfred Deakin was a member of a Royal Commission whose duty it was to study methods of irrigation in America. Deakin met George and William Benjamin Chaffey, founders of the irrigation colonies Etiwanda and Ontario east of Los Angeles. Deakin's enthusiasm for the Murray River gave the Chaffey Brothers much food for thought.

In 1886 George Chaffey, the elder brother arrived in Melbourne where he met Deakin. George Chaffey travelled to Echuca by train and then to Mildura by paddle steamer 'Pride of the Murray'. It was here with a river about 100 metres wide and 10 metres deep and good results from soil testing that George Chaffey made his selection. He sent for his brother, William B Chaffey.

In 1887 the Chaffey Brothers had made a deal with the Victorian Government, they were granted 250,000 acres of land. Development on 50,000 acres was to be commenced and then the right to purchase the adjoining 200,000 acres at 1 pound per acre was settled.

The building of an Agricultural College, endowed by the proceeds of one fifteenth of all irrigation land called College Blocks was part of the agreement.

By the end of 1888, Mr EC Sharland and Mr D Edmonds won the 100 pound purse offered for best design for the Agricultural College. In 1891, the then Governor of Victoria, Lord Hopetoun laid the foundation stone of the College. 300 children with their parents attended the ceremony to hear George Chaffey and Lord Hopetoun's historic speeches.

Alas, the building of the College ceased in the mid 1890's because of the depressed times. It remained Mildura's first ever ruin standing only 13 bricks high until the Victorian Education Department took over the site and so Mildura Agricultural High School was built and opened in 1912. This building consisted of two classrooms, a science room, a cookery centre and dining room, an office, a staff room and two locker rooms. A separate building became the school's woodenwork, woodwork to us today. On the first day, eleven girls and eleven boys were enrolled. In 1913 an area of the school grounds were planted with phylloxera resistant grape vines.

Over the many years since the somewhat stop start beginning, Mildura Agricultural High School became Mildura High School in 1924.

In 1939 the first of many buildings was erected. This double storey building had a hall, a headmaster’s office, classrooms and a library. It was built with money from the "College Lease" endowment. In 1967 the gymnasium was also built using College lease money as finance. Today College lease funding continues to play an important role in the development of the building and grounds at the College.

After the Second World War, the school population grew. In 1990, with a school population of 1,100 students, the district schools agreed that the Sunraysia area should have a Senior College, catering exclusively for year 11 and 12 students.

After much discussion over the next five years, the Mildura Senior College became a reality in 1995. Today the school's population is around 900 students and caters for the provision of quality education for year 11 and 12 students from all around the district and beyond.

We are proud of our heritage, proud of many students who have distinguished themselves over the years and proud of our standing in the community.

Here we are 100 years on from our humble beginning celebrating 100 years of secondary education, sharing our grounds with Mildura Specialist School and The Mildura English Language Centre and the soon to be constructed Mildura Trade Training Centre.

Now we invite all teachers, students, education support staff and others connected to the school over many years to join us in celebrating 100 years. A weekend of celebration is planned for September 14-16th 2012. Full details can be found on the school web site: www.milsen.vic.edu.au

Many reunions will take place as well as tours of the school in operation and a community celebrations. Come along and see how things have changed and how many things are still the same. Meet with old friends, staff and families to celebrate this heritage and the achievements.
Thursday 13th September 2012
Evening – Art Exhibition Opening 25 Deakin 6.00pm (Booked out) (exhibition continues until 1st October at 25 Deakin and Bolte Gallery, Mildura Arts Centre),
Evening – Book Launch Glenn Miller ‘History of Mildura High School, Carnegie Room, 74 Deakin Ave – 7.30pm

Friday 14th September 2012
COLLEGE CENTENARY DAY
Morning – Tours of College and display in College Gym, 9.30am onwards – No cost
Memorial Service – Commemorative ex-students who lost their lives in WW1 & WW2 – 10.45am at the College
Mildura High School ‘Community Singing’, 11.45am in the school Hall – No cost
Evening – “Thank God it is Friday” – past and present staff - $20 per head (finger food, drinks at bar prices), Gol Gol Hotel 4.00pm bus from Mildura Senior College
Informal Evening – 60’s-70’s: Mildura Brewery - $10 head (finger food, drinks at bar prices), 7.00pm BOOKED OUT

Saturday 15th September 2012
REUNION DAY
Morning – Sunraysia Farmers Market – informal gathering, 8.00am onwards
Afternoon – Past and Present staff lunch in College Gym - $50 per head (2 course lunch & drinks), 12noon
River cruise on PS Mundoo - $45 per head (includes cruise + finger food), 1.00pm
River cruise on PS Melbourne or PS Rothbury (depending on numbers) for 60’-70’s - $15 per head, 2.00-4.00pm
Year level groups private functions at various locations
30’s-40’s – High Tea, The Vines, San Mateo Ave, Mildura - $20, 6.00pm
50’s – Reunion ‘Rocking in the 50’s’, Mildura Workingmans Club, Deakin Ave, Mildura - $65 (includes 2 course meal, 7.30pm)
80’s-70’s – Dinner & Dancing to The Avengers, Club Da Vinci, Deakin Ave, Mildura - $65 (includes 2 course meal, 7.30pm)
80’s-94 – Dinner & Dancing to The Avengers, Club Da Vinci, Deakin Ave, Mildura - $65 (includes 2 course meal, 7.30pm)
1995-2011 – Reunion at The Sets, 8th St Mildura - $30 (includes finger food), 7.30pm

Sunday 16th September 2012
COMMUNITY CENTENARY DAY
Morning – Ecumenical Church Service – Wesley Church, 10.00am
Tours of College and display in College Gym, 9.30am onwards
Dr Gotts book reading in the Library – 9.30am & 11am
Lunch – BYO Picnic/Catering available, 10.30am – 2.00pm Front Lawns of the School. Music and Entertainment provided
Afternoon – Into the Future - Thank you and farewell, 1.00 – 2.00pm

Please book via the website, www.milsen.vic.edu.au or by filling out our booking form and mailing it or personally delivering it to Mildura Senior College, PO Box 1436, Mildura, 3502. Forms can be collected from Mildura Information Centre, Sunraysia Daily and Mildura Senior College or posted out by phoning us on 03 50212911.
Any function that requires payment needs to be finalised by Monday 10th September for catering purposes. There will be NO late bookings taken after this date.

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL FOR ALL ACTIVITIES
CENTENARY PAVING
To raise funds to contribute to the development of educational facilities, enhance the grounds and provide a lasting record for the community

$50 each – For paving development between Admin and A wings
(Form to be completed with details of printing required. Please copy as necessary).

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