

Roseville College

An Anglican  
School For Girls



## Memories and Dreams Roseville College 1908-2008

Roseville College is celebrating 100 years of educating young women. To mark the occasion, a centenary history has been written by Denise Thomas, AO. The book, *Memories and Dreams: Roseville College 1908-2008*, is so called because of its strong reliance on oral history and the reminiscences of members of the college community. Memories make history personal, and add colour, vitality, meaning and immediacy to bare facts. *Memories and Dreams* is beautifully presented, full of wonderful archival images showcasing past events and achievements and current developments.

Late in 2006, Denise Thomas was commissioned to write the history of Roseville College from 1908 to 2008 in celebration of the school's centenary. Denise is a highly respected and experienced educator and leader, and has also written, or contributed to, the histories of Wenona and Meriden.

Denise has been working on the College history in addition to her many other duties and activities, drawing on sources within the Roseville College Archives, the records of the Sydney Anglican Schools Corporation, and through interviews conducted with past Heads, past members of Council and past parents.

By far the most difficult aspect of writing the history has been to ensure that it is short and concise: so much has happened since Isabel Davies and her sisters opened a small school in 1908 in the house known as 'Hinemoa' on Victoria Street. The book includes all of the key facts, events, struggles and achievements which characterise the growth and development of any institution. But more than that, it incorporates the true spirit of Roseville College: the stories of the girls, their memories and observations of their lives as school children, and reflections about what being a 'Roseville' girl has meant to them in their subsequent lives.

The process of writing any history always involves comparisons, and an evaluation of broader social, economic and historical contexts. The 'Roseville College' story parallels that of Roseville itself, and also reflects the realities of educating girls against the backdrop of constantly changing circumstances of the twentieth century. The College had humble beginnings, and owes much of its current successes to the dedication of many over a long period of time. The stage is set for the next one hundred years!

*Memories and Dreams* will be officially launched at the College on 29 February. Copies are available for \$25.00 plus \$10.00 P&H from the College. Please contact the Centenary Office on 9884 1100 to order your copy.

For further information please contact Kim Eberhard on 9884 1100 or [keberhard@roseville.nsw.edu.au](mailto:keberhard@roseville.nsw.edu.au).

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