Newman school celebrates 40 years

Newman Senior High School celebrated its 40th anniversary last Wednesday and was graced by former students from the school’s early days who travelled from as far afield as Perth to attend the event.

NSHS head girl and sports star from 1975, Cherylee Monck, paid a visit along with 1978-82 student Lisa Rickett, among many others.

NSHS principal Milanna Heberle said the number of former students who made contact with the school and provided old photos and stories was terrific.

“I think it was fabulous to be able to celebrate the anniversary and have so many people join us,” she said.

“Our planning started several months ago when we sat down with student councillors and asked them how they thought we should celebrate.”

Ms Heberle said she had seen a lot of changes during her three years working as principal of the school.

“We’ve been working very hard with the community to develop a positive relationship with community groups and we’ve got many that work with our students now,” she said.

“We’ve developed a value system, which we hold in very high regard, and have had significant building projects thanks to BHP Billiton.

“We just recently were announced as an independent public school too, which is great for the community to have a really good look at what we do and ensure we have the best education opportunities for students in Newman.”

NSHS’s Live the Dream media launch in 2012.

Former student Cherylee Monck, who travelled from Perth, cuts the cake with student council member Ashlee Outram, 16.

Student councillor Brandon Coghill, 16, and former student James McClements place a time capsule in the ground.

■ Mitchell Smith

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Former Governor-General Sir John Kerr’s visit to Newman Senior High School in 1976.