PARRAMATTA STATE SCHOOL

1927 1977

GOLDEN JUBILEE
FOREWORD

It would be difficult to assess the contribution that Pupils and Teachers of Parramatta State School have made to the welfare and progress of Queensland during the past fifty years. "Giant-size" seems to be an inadequate adjective. Their names are legendary in Cairns and throughout the State the fruits of their labour are many.

During my wonderful period in Cairns, I came to have a high regard for Ray Jones and Kev Whouley who act as samples of each, and readers of this booklet can add many more names to the list. There are too many to be recounted in this foreword, but the booklet will draw attention to some.

The fiftieth anniversary gives a great many people an opportunity to recall the school day episodes of their own childhood. Memories may be a little clouded in some instances, and some stories will have increased in flavour over the years, but the Committee has worked arduously to allow Parramatta-ites a chance to refresh these memories and to sort out the tales.

May I join with the supporters, ex-Pupils and Teachers in congratulating the committee on their sterling efforts? Sincere thanks to Bill Hobbs and Kev Whouley for giving us a useful memento of the fiftieth year of an outstanding school.

Phil Cullen,
Director of Primary Education.

An Appreciation


Parramatta School has reached its present proud community status in this Jubilee year of 1977 and as an ex-pupil let me express the pride and gratification I feel in being the president of the above committee. I trust that my efforts in forwarding arrangements might achieve some success in rendering the celebrations memorable and happy for all those taking part.

The school provided and as such an institution me to pay tribute to some of richness a very formative temporaries. The class of '31 Malone who taught us the and to help others, George put above all else loyalty ability to win, to lose and never wearied of teaching who himself was the epitome principles and honesty of who made us aware of the (and nurtured a little of the many golden years for us all means people, it behoves the fine teachers who en period for me and my con will surely remember Miss real values and joys of life Nix the great sportsman who and mateship as well as the to endure. Bev. Lee who the value of reading and me of self-sacrifice, moral purpose, "Duck" Seaton realities of the adult world rebel in me), Don Campbell, a veritable Mr. Chips, who instilled in us the principles of truth and justice, a fair go for all, the right to put your case, honour and the adherence to the old-fashioned Manners Chart.
Like most primary schools of our day the emphasis was on basic education at Parramatta. The Three R's were the order of the day; no doubt at our celebrations there will a fourth R... reminiscing. Our school is not set in an affluent area yet looking back over its record there is a richness in names when one considers the achievements of many of our old school mates. A remarkable number have become notable figures in the world of commerce, sport, politics and the Public Service. Bearing Parramatta names are bank managers, an Under-Secretary of a Government Department, a space programme scientist, a United Nations advisor, principals of schools, sporting commentators an aide-de-camp to an ambassador, a deputy mayor, councillors, aldermen, editors, and an Australian representative in hockey. One became a singer of world renown. Let us not forget those scholars and teachers who served in the Second World War, particularly those who paid the supreme sacrifice.

Mention must be made of those folk who have laboured to make our celebrations successful. Thanks must go to... The members of the Jubilee Committee especially our Secretary, Jack Burnell and Treasurer, Ted O'Neill... The Principal, Bill Hobbs who has proved himself to be a tower of strength... A past Principal, Kev Whouley who, assisted by Bill Hobbs, took on the job of compiling this booklet... The members of the current P. and C. Association... The Officer in Charge of the Historical Research Section of the Education Department, J. C. Finger... John Eldridge who designed the booklet cover... All the sponsors who, by their generosity, made the publication of this booklet possible.

Finally let me greet old school mates who have not forgotten our humble origins and who well might laud our school and show our affection for it by singing the words of the school song of long ago,

"Come, Parramatta School, come cheer, Cheer till the rafters ring."

The present Principal of Parramatta State School
Mr. W. G. HOBBS
PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

During the last half century, life in Australia has been influenced and moulded by a number of factors including the depression of the thirties, the second world war and the subsequent influx of migrants, the growth of technology, communications, transport and commerce. Such influences have affected our attitudes to the role played by Governments and that of the individual in Society. All our most sacred traditional institutions, the Law, the Church, the Constitution etc. are under critical appraisal, with a view to reducing their limitations on the “Freedom of the Individual.”

Fifty years ago the School had two fairly clearly defined tasks - to inculcate skills in the “Three R's” in order to fit the child into a predetermined niche of an almost static society in which manual labour was considered a worthy, if not a highly respected occupation and to pass on to future generations the morals and beliefs held sacred at the time. When people were more involved in providing accommodation and food for their families they were too preoccupied to face the uncertainty of change.

Today much of the past is being preserved, large areas of National Parks are being gazetted while our urban lifestyle is being questioned and replaced by high density centralized living with its associated human problems. Numbers of families have become itinerants paralleling in some respect those of fifty years ago.

In developing the whole child the Home, Society and the School all play complementary parts. Any variation in the role of one will require a revision of the role of the other. Since society is constantly changing its values, the School must redesign its Curriculum, its, Presentation, its aims and objectives in Education. The Education System which is not geared to the living must at least be decadent. While the School mirrors society its aim must be to relate the individual to the wider field of life.

As I write this a Dental Therapy Unit is being constructed, a Pre School Centre is awaiting the allocation of finance for its construction and special classes have been formed for slow learners and those disadvantaged in learning.

Parramatta State School has been used as a training school for students of the Townsville College of Advanced Education for the past five years during which time the Staff have been proud to have played some small part in their development.

Before closing I must pay my respects to those teachers of past years who set the foundation of the traditions of this school, to the willing parents who supported those teachers in their endeavours, to the pupils of past years who may be found in many fields of endeavour and especially to those members of the Golden Jubilee Committee. On behalf of all members of the staff I wish your celebrations the success they deserve and hope that those who are spared may meet again in the not too distant future.

William G. Hobbs,
(Principal, 1977).
A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE SCHOOL

One of the features of the earliest movements for a school on the south-west side of the railway at Cairns was the very energetic and co-operative committee which led the movement. It was a pity that, due to the problem of acquiring a site, this committee's enthusiasm was not rewarded with the construction of a school until 1927.

On October 23, 1924, the newly elected committee wrote to the Department applying for a school giving an estimate of the number of children who would attend. It was proposed to limit the attendance to those children living on the south-west side of the railway line and it was hoped to obtain part of the Railway Reserve as a site. The public meeting from which these proposals emanated was held on 15th October, 1924 at the Cairns Girls and Infants' School and was attended by Mr. C. Keighley, chairman of the committee of that school. As indicated in the public notice calling the meeting one of the matters discussed was the diversion of £2000 granted to the Girls and Infants' School for extensions to the construction of the Parramatta School. The meeting voted favourably on this rather unselfish proposal.

It was noted from the formal application to the Department for a school that the Parramatta School Building Committee elected on 15th October consisting of J. C. Birch (Chairman), A. J. Verner (Secretary), Alfred Cockram (Treasurer), A. E. Ogden, W. R. Eddleston, J. Loeven, J. Fulton, W. G. Lawrence, F. Curry and J.C. Cole. The exact designation of the site proposed was Railway Reserve R. 26, Section 25A, between Martyn St. and Lily Creek off the Hop Wah Road, consisting of 4½ to 5 acres.

SELECTING A SITE.

In November, 1924 the Cairns City Council gave its support to the proposed school and site and the committee wrote again stressing the urgency of acquiring the site before someone else did. Meanwhile, as indicated in a Departmental letter of 31st October District Inspector Thomas Inglis was on his way to report on the proposal. Mr. Inglis made his investigation on 25th-26th November, 1924, and his report indicated that the matter of a site was not likely to proceed as smoothly as the committee may have hoped, for Inglis felt that the site was too close to the front school and he was also told that the Railway Department would not be prepared to give up part of their reserve. However as an alternative site he proposed Section 37, Portions 9 and 10 which had the advantage of being opposite the sports ground (the present Show Ground).

Mr. Inglis's information on the likely attitude of the Railway Department proved to be correct. On 17th February, 1925, the Railway Department refused to part with the land in question. There followed a good deal of discussion within the Department and with the committee on alternatives. In June, 1925, the Cairns Branch of the A.L.P. wrote giving strong support to the erection of a school at Parramatta. In the same month the Minister for Public Instruction (Mr. T. Wilson), Under-Secretary for Public Instruction (Mr. B. McKenna), Chief Inspector of Works (Mr. Atkin) and Cairns District Inspector of Works (Mr. Tilis) visited the area to investigate possible sites. Mr. McKenna issued a memorandum explaining why Section 37, Portions 9 and 10 was not suitable and suggested that the site on the opposite corner be acquired instead. This site (Section 166, Allotment 1) was owned by Mrs. Ellen Mary Lennon, mother of a Cairns businessman. There were two houses on the section. In addition to this it was proposed to acquire 1.7 acres by enclosing part of Severin Street. The Council agreed to this.

In July the Inspector of Works was asked to inspect and report on the proposed site. He valued one house at £400 and the other at £300 and the land at £350. At the same time the Lands Department obtained a valuation total £1195. As Mrs. Lennon had no desire to sell the question of resuming the land had to be considered. Resumption took place on 9th January, 1926 and compensation paid to the owner. The site was officially proclaimed a school reserve on 3rd September, 1926. The site was then secure.

Building the School.

Unfortunately, the records on this are few and far between. The buildings were erected by the Construction and Maintenance Branch of the Works Department and apparently were completed in December, 1926. The construction consisted of three wings forming a somewhat square U. The base consisted of five rooms and the arms ran towards Severin and Balfie Streets with three rooms in each wing. An office and a staff room were attached to the main wing. These rooms were expected to accommodate approximately 400 pupils.

The School Opened.

Towards the end of 1926 the Committee requested that the Department send a list of teachers who would comprise the first staff so that a suitable celebration could be organised. The Department complied but did not state the dates of arrival of the various members. Added to this the North experienced one of its heaviest rainfalls just prior to the opening of the school and the extensive damage to communications and the main railway line caused a delay in the arrival of the principal. However the school was finally opened on 24th January, 1927 by Mr. Don Campbell. The opening on the 24th was only to effect enrolments and the children were sent home for the rest of the day. The
reason for this was the absence of any sort of sanitary convenience at the school. For the next day, temporary conveniences of a very unsatisfactory type and number were set up. These continued until March when the septic system was installed.

What Should the School be Called?

The Committee had no doubt about this whatsoever and at their very first meeting in October, 1924 they opted for the name “Parramatta”. The Department viewed the matter with a different eye, however. There was an unfortunate tendency for the “Cairns” part of the school address to drop out of sight in letters enclosed in window-type envelopes, with the result that letters meant for Parramatta (Cairns) often ended up in Parramatta (N.S.W.). Early in the life of the school the Department suggested that the name of the school be changed. The Committee flatly refused to do this.

In the early 1930’s the issue arose again. The outcome was that the Department’s Correspondence Branch was enjoined not to use window-type envelopes when writing to the Parramatta School.

Health Problems.

In the early days of the school difficulties arose in this respect due to the fact that the school ground and the adjacent land was so low lying and covered with mangrove growth. After heavy rain or high tides the area was a quagmire, infested with mosquitoes and hook-worm. Strong representations were made by the Committee, Dr. J. St. Vincent Welch and the local member (Mr. O’Keefe) to have the low-lying land filled. However 1927 found the public purse rather slender and with the advent of the Great Depression the job was deferred until 1937 when the grounds were filled at a cost of £750.

School Population . . . Rise and Decline.

It has been noted that the school was built originally to accommodate 400 pupils, yet by June, 1927 the school population had risen to 542. With only eleven rooms at his disposal one can imagine the problems faced by Don Campbell in the early years of the school. Indeed, this vexing state of affairs was to persist until the early 1960’s. In 1928 there was a slight drop in enrolment owing to the fact that St. Joseph’s Convent School was opened in Loeven Street less than a quarter of a mile away. From then on growth was steady until 1942 when there was a drastic drop in numbers owing to the evacuation from Cairns of civilians under threat of Japanese invasion. The post-war years saw a rapid increase particularly with the influx of so many New Australians and the mushroom growth of housing in the Mulgrave Road area. The school population reached its peak in 1957 with an enrolment of 1134 pupils. At that time and for the the next few years Parramatta was the largest primary school outside Brisbane. However with the opening of Balaclava and West Cairns Schools the pressure was relieved. Moreover, from the early sixties onwards there was a tendency for people to migrate to the outer suburbs especially as the Bungalow area was becoming semi-industrialized. From that date each year saw a steady drop in enrolments until at the time of writing Parramatta has slightly less than 500 children.

Accommodation Needs.

Whilst the school was growing there was always a great need for extra classroom accommodation. In the thirties the main wing was extended towards Severin Street, providing another three rooms. Shortly after the war another wing of three rooms was erected parallel to and west of the main wing. In the early fifties the western wing was added with three rooms and in 1958 this wing was extended to provide another three rooms in the direction of Severin Street. Whilst the accommodation problems was at its height in the fifties three army huts were provided in the corner of the grounds adjacent to Mulgrave Road and Baffe Street.

Playing areas were always minimal and the Parramatta School playground during the lunch recess always reminded one of an upturned anthill. It was fortunate that the Cairns Show Association was always sympathetic to the needs of the school and playing areas for major sports such as football, softball, etc. were always generously provided if needed within the Show Grounds. In 1965 an area of ground on the banks of Perfume Creek was declared part of the Parramatta School reserve and the school was given full use of this. Later this ground was fenced and filled and to-day is a valuable sporting area for the school. In the middle sixties a portion of the school ground was excised to provide for the widening of Mulgrave Road. Compensation was provided by granting a portion of Minnie Street to the school. The excision necessitated the removal of the original north-easter wing. This was added to the western wing on the Baffe Street end.

Conclusion.

In fifty years Parramatta has become one of the well-established schools of North Queensland. Its past pupils make up a good slice of the population of Cairns. Many have won names for themselves as fine citizens who have reached the top in many walks of life. This is creditable when one considers that of the 11½ thousand children to pass through the school the great majority of them came from basic wage families and had to rely on a sound education plus their own initiative and industry to succeed. May these pupils continue to be a credit to the old school and may they all proclaim with pride, “I was a pupil at Parramatta”.
An early photograph showing the original buildings. In those days the morning parade was held between the school and the Mulgrave Road fence.

Looking towards the corner of Severin Street and Mulgrave Road. Children at play about 1930. Note that the toilets occupied the site of the present infant wing.

The school buildings today from the Severin Street gate.
SCHEDULE II

Application for the Establishment of a State School.

To the Under Secretary of the Department of Education, under the Queensland Public Schools Act 1902.

1. A meeting of the local inhabitants was held at the school on the 3rd day of October, 1920, at which the following resolutions were carried:—
   a. That this community desires a State School at PARRAMATTA.
   b. That the land and buildings are the property of Mr. G. W. Brown.
   c. That land and buildings are required for the purpose of a State School.
   d. That the names of the local inhabitants are as follows:—
      - James Brown
      - John Smith
      - Mary Johnson
      - Robert Williams
      - Elizabeth Davis
      - Samuel Edwards
      - Maria Gonzalez
      - John Martinez
      - Maria Hernandez
      - David Rodriguez

2. The number of children over the age of five and under fifteen years likely to attend the proposed school is 200.

3. The school is to be situated on land owned by Mr. Brown.

4. The application is supported by the following signatures:
   - James Brown
   - John Smith
   - Mary Johnson
   - Robert Williams
   - Elizabeth Davis
   - Samuel Edwards
   - Maria Gonzalez
   - John Martinez
   - Maria Hernandez
   - David Rodriguez

5. The plans and specifications are to be submitted to the Education Department.

6. The application is in accordance with the provisions of the Queensland Public Schools Act 1902.

7. The application is supported by the following signatures:
   - James Brown
   - John Smith
   - Mary Johnson
   - Robert Williams
   - Elizabeth Davis
   - Samuel Edwards
   - Maria Gonzalez
   - John Martinez
   - Maria Hernandez
   - David Rodriguez

8. The building committee is hereby appointed to carry out the plans and specifications.

9. The application is in accordance with the provisions of the Building Act 1920.

Note: The handwriting and the Departmental comments are not included in the natural text.
THE FOUNDATION PRINCIPAL OF THE PARRAMATTA STATE SCHOOL

MR. DONALD CAMPBELL

During this year, 1977, there will be several gatherings of the public in general and of old pupils and teachers in particular to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the Parramatta State School. Inevitably, on these occasions, countless reminiscences will centre around the various principals who administered the school since its foundation in 1927. Undoubtedly, the man most remembered and discussed with respect and affection will be the late Don. Campbell. The reasons for this are three-fold. First, he was the founding principal. Then he guided the educational footsteps of so many children for so long almost nineteen years. Moreover he was a man who made a tremendous impact on community life beyond the walls of his school.

Donald Campbell was born in Scotland at Inverness in 1877. His parents having emigrated to Queensland he received his education at the old Normal School which in those days stood at the corner of Edward and Adelaide Streets in Brisbane. This was a school which, under the direction of James Semple ("Bully") Kerr, another Scotsman, was noted for its strict discipline and its fine scholastic results. The Normal was a training school for student-teachers to whose ranks Don Campbell was admitted in 1894 at a salary of £10 per annum. There he remained until 1909 when he was appointed a Head Teacher of the one-teacher school at Loch Lomond in the Warwick District. In 1916 he joined the A.I.F. and left for France with 7th/47th Battalion as second lieutenant. Following the declaration of peace he re-joined the Department of Public Instruction in 1919 and served on the staff of the Central Technical College. Later, in 1920, he was appointed Head Teacher at Buderim from which school he was transferred to open Parramatta in 1927. There he remained until his retirement in 1945 at the age of 68. Normally he would have retired earlier but he was happy to help out until the wartime shortage of male staff was overcome by the return from war service of so many teachers.

Don retired to Brisbane where he lived to be an octogenarian, committed to community life and driving his car to the end.

This man was not only a school principal. He was also a valued citizen of Cairns, always willing to pull his weight in making the district a better place for his stay. He was regarded as the father of the Combined Schools Band still in existence to-day, and was closely associated with the Cairns Choral Society, the Cairns Bowling Club and the local branch of the R.A.C.O. It is little wonder that at a farewell function in his honour one public speaker remarked, "Here is a man that Cairns will long remember".
PARRAMATTA PRINCIPALS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Start Year</th>
<th>End Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Donald Campbell</td>
<td>24.1.27</td>
<td>31.10.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wilfred D. Wham</td>
<td>1.1.46</td>
<td>1.1.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Francis Mines</td>
<td>1.1.49</td>
<td>16.8.52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas C. Stevenson</td>
<td>18.8.52</td>
<td>1.7.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frederick J. Routh</td>
<td>1.7.55</td>
<td>1.10.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William C. T. Jordan</td>
<td>1.10.55</td>
<td>1.1.58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hubert G. McCarthy</td>
<td>1.7.58</td>
<td>1.1.59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lionel W. Stevens</td>
<td>1.1.59</td>
<td>1.7.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ross H. Nicol</td>
<td>25.7.60</td>
<td>23.7.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas D. Houston</td>
<td>23.7.62</td>
<td>26.7.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kevin C. M. Whouley</td>
<td>26.7.65</td>
<td>10.12.74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William G. Hobbs</td>
<td>1.1.75</td>
<td>to date</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It is worthy of note that of the above the following were later appointed as District Inspectors of Schools, Messrs. Routh, Jordan, McCarthy and Stevens.

At various times acting Principals were appointed to the school in the absence of the permanent Principals who may have been enjoying long service leave or acting as District Inspectors. These are listed below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>W. S. Baker</td>
<td>1929 (Later appointed District Inspector)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. Goodwin</td>
<td>1955</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. de Gunst</td>
<td>1957</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K. Whouley</td>
<td>1958</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Stewart</td>
<td>1960</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

During its fifty years Parramatta had only one Deputy Principal who occupied that position from 1959 to 1974. This was John de Gunst who was relieved in 1966, 1969 and 1972 by Frederick W. White.
SCHOOL STAFFS — — — PAST AND PRESENT

STAFF AT 24/1/27
CAMPBELL, Donald
GORDON, Edward Albert
McCARTHY, Hubert George
BENHAM, Violet Annie
SIMPSON, Tilly Jane
MALONE, Mary Ada
ROWE, Dorothy Maud
GAMMIE, Josephine Bathia

STAFF AT 24/1/77
William G. Hobbs (Principal)
John R. Copeman
Dennis J. Russell
Jeanette A. Jeffries
Robert C. Burke
Charles H. W. Todd
Baden C. Bennett
Margaret A. Heap
Barbara E. Marsh
Patricia Williams
Lelia M. Trenfield
Robina A. Campbell
Deserley M. Gilpatrick
Barbara A. Hotchin
Gloria M. R. Tento
Valerie Hudson
Kay L. Weeks
Valerie A. Sergeant
Beverly D. Henricks
Gail R. Myhill
Robert H. Malcom
Marian K. Stanley (Visiting)
Edward C. Kelk
Thelma D. O’Beirne
Ronald J. Clarke (Remedial)
Robert Favell (Visiting)

ANCILLARY STAFF
Ralph R. Browing (Janitor-Groundsman)
Susan J. Careless (Clerk-Typist)
Elizabeth J. Mennie (Aide)
Elwyn Markey (Aide)
Shirley Thomas (Library Aide)
Edna M. Buchan (Cleaner)
Jessie M. Bretz (Cleaner)
Flora S. Mulley (Cleaner)
Rosalie M. Berman (Cleaner)

EXECUTIVE P & C ASSOCIATION
PARRAMATTA SCHOOL AT 24/1/77
PRESIDENT
VICE-PRESIDENT
VICE-PRESIDENT
SECRETARY
Treasurer
AUDITOR
Mr. Sam Munro
Mr. Stan Busby
Mrs. G. O’Neill
Mrs. D. May
Mrs. S. Bill
Mr. K. Biggs
MEMORIES OF ONE OF THE ORIGINAL STAFF MEMBERS

Mr. Eddie Gordon, now retired and living in Southport, was a member of the staff which helped Don Campbell open the school on the first day. Of the opening and subsequent days Mr. Gordon has this to say,

"I remember that, on the Saturday afternoon prior to the opening of Parramatta, I was at the Norman Park Cricket Ground when Alf Verner and Dave Jones, two of the Committee members approached me and told me that Mr. D. Campbell, the Head Teacher, was having trouble reaching Cairns due to the fact that rail communications had been cut owing to the recent torrential rains. It appeared that he would not be in time for the opening and that I, as senior member of the staff would possibly have to do the job. We immediately went over to the school and arranged some of the furniture and then on Sunday we set up a lot more of the desks, etc. However, on Sunday night Alf Verner told me that Mr. Campbell had arrived and all would be well. Monday was a hectic day and there was only one other male, Hugh McCarthy, on the staff and by afternoon I suggested we should go for refreshments. So Mr. Campbell, Hugh and myself left the school and went towards town. When we reached the Queen's Hotel Mac said, 'This will do, we can have a beer here.' Mr. Campbell was taken aback as he thought we were going to a cafe. However he proved to be a good sport and we knew that as Head Teacher he was going to be tops. We never at any time had to change our opinion as he proved to be a real friend to all the staff at all times. As the senior staff member I was put on the Scholarship grade, a job I had never done before but here again I was given a great deal of help from the "boss" and although the first year was tough we were able to hold our own in Scholarship passes thanks to the encouragement received from the Head Teacher.

The following story will illustrate how Mr. Campbell reacted to the problems faced by his staff. During the visit of one of the District Inspectors I was given by that person a lesson to be taken on music. This was a shock to me as all I knew about music would fit on the back of a small postage stamp. So off I went to the Head and explained the situation. He listened to me and then said, 'Now you understand the rudiments of the G-clef and notes so get some lines and the clef on the board and start to talk about them and I shall distract his attention while you go ahead.' So the lesson came round and along came the Head and the Inspector who told me to commence my lesson. I had barely started when I noticed Don drawing the Inspector's attention to something over the road from the school. They both went down the stairs immediately. They were away for some time and by the time they returned the lesson was over. The Inspector poked his head in at the door and said, 'That will be enough, Mr. Gordon.' That was the result of some good tactics by my friend the Head Teacher."
There were 396 pupils enrolled on the first day at Parramatta, 24/1/27.
Their names are listed below.

Kuszner, Harry
Fulton, James
Walk, Bernard
Charles, Richard E.
Hughes, Thomas
Bretton, Gordon
Coyle, James
Davis, Leal
Noyanah, Olive
Font, Harold
Wales, Henry
Newton, Lawrence
Johnson, Ernest
Pleasing, William
Ryan, Donald
Moore, Lulu
Norton, Zoe
Bar, Bessie
Squair, Donald
Stewart, Florence
Thomson, Alex
Christensen, Ruth
Challina, Sarah
Kirkpatrick, Irene
Fulton, Sarah
Egar, Ellen
Beaton, Jessie
Hall, Jessie
Olsen, Elsie
Thomason, Madge
Dowing, Ellen
Fry, Phyllis
Dowing, Florence
Winter, Claudine
Horn, Sarah
Taylor, Oliver
Brewery, Arthur
Woolley, John
Carr, Robert
Gill, John
Ashton, Ray G.
von Borries, Richard
Brennan, John
Jensen, Joseph
Smith, Eric
Chatman, Thomas
Donald, Walter F.
Burnett, Thomas
McKillop, Stanley
Moyanathan, Patrick
McKillop, Margaret
Peters, Evelyn
Pollard, Constance
Bretton, Enid
O'Brien, Edith
Hammond, Edna
Knopke, Margaret
Hartley, Verdon
Gaze, Fred
Henderson, Geoffrey
Hudson, William
Rees, Evan
Petersen, Francis
Robinson, Robert
Davis, Mary
Jalladin, Anna
Turner, Melva

Bampton, Ethel
Smith, Dorothy
McCarthy, Merle
Kettles, Isobel
Ragan, Margaret
Gould, Iris
Doolen, Marion
Dingwell, Bessie
Newton, Edith
Jennings, Malcolm
Jones, Joseph
Martin, George F.
Graves, Ernest G.
Kirkpatrick, Thomas
Ward, George W.
Staines, Henry John
Horne, Robert W.
Fulton, Thomas G.
Grizzard, Norma E.
Thomson, Henry
Roberts, Norman H.
Gill, Gordon W.
Frew, Frederick
Howard, John
Burdell, Lucy
Norrgate, Lorraine A.
Anderson, Enda M.
Warde, Agnes T.
Taylor, Myrtle F.
Burke, Edna E.
Helmuth, Dorothy M.
Lee, Eileen J.
Davis, Phoebe
Hammond, Emerald A.
Cole, Olive D.
Bonet, Alice M.
Wales, Edward P.
Burnett, Herbert H.
Rawlings, Gordon
Wadsworth, Kenneth P.
King, Leslie
Manke, John A.
Brennan, Walter F.
Smith, Percival E.
Bragg, William
Bryce, Alwyn
Pry, Maurice S.
Carr, Michael
Woolley, Edward G.
Comino, George A.
Robinson, William F.
Anderson, Ivy M.
Warner, Elsie G.
Sheppard, May E.
Cole, Elsie N.
Staines, Mary A.
Hutton, Ellen F.
Davies, Annie M.
Winters, Olive M.
Kuszner, Jessie
Ogden, Eunice M.
Gliddon, Emma R.
Lawrence, Lilian M.
Gowanlock, Maise
Park, Charles E.
Courtney, Barney B.
Moore, David B.
Murray, Robert E.
Barnes, William
Bolton, Firth R.
van Jorsen, John
Morton, George E.
Strouton, May H.
Thomasson, George
Bampton, Ernest E.
Turner, William J.
Franks, Victor M.
Currie, John
Stevens, Emily A.
Kettles, Jessie A.
Burke, Phyllis M.
Ogden, Evelyn L.
Jolice, Dorothy A.
Franks, Phyllis N.
Birch, Phyllis F.
Olsen, Eileen E.
Richkin, Zena J.
Shiekowski, Norma J.
Wadsworth, Marjorie
Hartley, Helen F.
Hutton, Mehele A.
Wilson, Elsie M.
Henderson, Marion
Totten, Mavis A.
King, Olive A.
Marfield, Luby
Murphy, Ellen
Allison, Mary Ellen
Courtney, Rita May
Anderson, Nellie M.
Gliddon, Glady D.
Davies, Alma I.
Warner, Sylvia M.
Sheppard, Violet M.
Squair, Violet N.
Anderson, Myrtle
Smith, Phyllis A.
Savage, Stanley J.
Collins, William J.
Jenkins, William J.
Eddleston, Albert S.
Harrison, Desmond H.
Gill, Leslie
Bergman, Ernest E.
Jones, Edward A.
Crane, Ronald
Dowing, Joseph A.
Horn, Thomas
Collins, Phillip J.
Turner, George V.
Brennan, Cecil W.
Sperritt, Walter J.
Knopke, John L.
Coutts, Charles F.
Ashton, Arthur
Thygesen, Eric
Frik, Cyril Q.
Strouton, Frederick
Shore, Stanley
Quinn, John
O'Reilly, Darcy
White, Derek
Wardrop, Joseph G.
Hellmuth, Walter
Carron, Leslie
Bergman, Arthur
Staines, Sidney
Christensen, Albert
Swindells, Kenneth
Bretton, Alan S.
Lorimer, William
Saudme, Clara
Totten, Friscilla
Ramsay, Edna H.
Bampton, June J.
Duffy, Noreen M.
Turner, Joyce E.
Thomson, Honor M.
Heideke, Irene E.
Savage, Edna H.
Kirkpatrick, Kathleen
West, Florence
Kettles, Bellie M.
Lambeth, Dorothy E.
Pyne, Marjorie H.
Leary, Phyllis M.
Bretton, Phyllis J.
Nielson, Mary
Barnes, Rita
Dickinson, Jean
Hudson, Margaret
Orthmann, Garth
Phillips, James
Warner, Herbert
Burnell, John
Templeton, Leonard
Arnold, Mary
Murphy, Charles
Coplin, Joseph M.
Gregory, Albert
Franks, Sydney C.
Cole, John L.
Ogden, Raymond
Hudson, Anthony
Schofield, Frederick
Richkin, Nicholas
Paul, Gordon
Furlonger, Walter J.
Quinn, Ernest
Rees, Llewellyn
Marsfinch, Nicholas
Birch, Norman A.
Gould, Stephen G.
Oliver, Kathleen
Lambeth, Iris M.
Petersen, Dorothy
Carr, Gladys M.
Jorgensen, Evelyn C.
Quinn, Hazel
Felder, Lily M.
Totten, Thelma
Speare, Joseph E.
Listed below are the names of those children who were enrolled subsequent to the first day and up to the end of March, 1927.

Ringe, John
Jensen, William H.
Crawford, Lucy
Cockren, Ivy
Ward, Maisie
Gauvin, Irene
Williams, John C.
Cranen, Mary M.
Robinson, Kathleen
Beh, Albert
Phillips, Alice
Collins, Major
Collins, Laura
Jalland, Geen M.
Pleming, Charles
Wennerstrom, Valmay
Diprose, Gordon
Thomas, Ethel E.
Rove, Phyllis
Machan, Thomas
Davies, Kittchen I
Johannes, Charles H.
Parr, Leslie J.
McCarty, Hazel
Williams, Edna J.
Bennett, John C.
Newell, William
Birch, Lucy
Bradford, Stanley R.

Rove, John
Jensen, William H.
Crawford, Lucy
Cockren, Ivy
Ward, Maisie
Gauvin, Irene
Williams, John C.
Cranen, Mary M.
Robinson, Kathleen
Beh, Albert
Phillips, Alice
Collins, Major
Collins, Laura
Jalland, Geen M.
Pleming, Charles
Wennerstrom, Valmay
Diprose, Gordon
Thomas, Ethel E.
Rove, Phyllis
Machan, Thomas
Davies, Kittchen I
Johannes, Charles H.
Parr, Leslie J.
McCarty, Hazel
Williams, Edna J.
Bennett, John C.
Newell, William
Birch, Lucy
Bradford, Stanley R.

Rove, John
Jensen, William H.
Crawford, Lucy
Cockren, Ivy
Ward, Maisie
Gauvin, Irene
Williams, John C.
Cranen, Mary M.
Robinson, Kathleen
Beh, Albert
Phillips, Alice
Collins, Major
Collins, Laura
Jalland, Geen M.
Pleming, Charles
Wennerstrom, Valmay
Diprose, Gordon
Thomas, Ethel E.
Rove, Phyllis
Machan, Thomas
Davies, Kittchen I
Johannes, Charles H.
Parr, Leslie J.
McCarty, Hazel
Williams, Edna J.
Bennett, John C.
Newell, William
Birch, Lucy
Bradford, Stanley R.

Rove, John
Jensen, William H.
Crawford, Lucy
Cockren, Ivy
Ward, Maisie
Gauvin, Irene
Williams, John C.
Cranen, Mary M.
Robinson, Kathleen
Beh, Albert
Phillips, Alice
Collins, Major
Collins, Laura
Jalland, Geen M.
Pleming, Charles
Wennerstrom, Valmay
Diprose, Gordon
Thomas, Ethel E.
Rove, Phyllis
Machan, Thomas
Davies, Kittchen I
Johannes, Charles H.
Parr, Leslie J.
McCarty, Hazel
Williams, Edna J.
Bennett, John C.
Newell, William
Birch, Lucy
Bradford, Stanley R.
Below is a copy of the programme for a concert staged by the pupils of the Parramatta State School at the Hibernian Hall on 23rd and 30th October, 1931.

**GIRLS AND BOYS!**

Which CITY do you like best?
Which STATE do you like best?
WHOSE LOLLIES DO YOU LIKE BEST?

CAIRNS! Why? Because it is our Home Town
QUEENSLAND! Why? Because it is our own State
AND WHY?

MORROW'S!!

BECAUSE THEY ARE MADE FROM OUR OWN GROWN SUGAR, and that keeps our Home City prosperous (and gives us our pennies to spend)
THEY ARE MADE IN QUEENSLAND, and that helps to keep our own State Prosperous (and our Daddies in Work)
THEY ARE THE PUREST, and help to keep our bodies healthy
AND THEY ARE THE NICEST ANYWAY!!!
CAIRNS POST Tuesday 25/1/27.

PARRAMATTA SCHOOL OPENING DELAYED

The opening of Parramatta School for work, which was to take effect yesterday was delayed by the absence of requisites. The building and the furniture are all ready for commencement. About 350 children were enrolled yesterday. The children came to school and after having given their names, ages and qualifications, left again for their houses as the Works Department had not finished the building of outhouses. Temporary arrangements will be made for today and children are to come to school to commence work. The supplies for the school - slates, pencils, chalks, canes and other necessities - have been held up by the floods but possibly they arrived on Sunday night and will be available this morning.

The design of the school has been made especially to suit the climate. The windows chiefly face the south and the verandahs are on the northern side of the building. There are three wings running east and west, two in line with three classrooms each and one in the centre some feet behind the other two and parallel with them has five classrooms. In addition, on the northern side of the centre wing there are rooms for the staff and head teacher.

Forty children are provided for in each classroom so that the school has room for another 100 pupils without crowding.

The west wing has been made in one assembly room and has been divided into 3 classrooms by folding doors.

Underneath the school the ground is concreted and sheltered. Seats are ranged round the sides and rows of wash basins are in for children's ablutions.

The verandahs have porched walls covered with hat and clothes hooks. Verandahs as well as classrooms have been ceiled and ventilation is well arranged.

The head teacher's residence in the centre of the playground is well built and surrounded with verandahs. The playground has built up in parts.

The staff at present consists of Mr. Don Campbell of Buderim Mountain, head teacher, Mr. E. Gordon of Victoria Estate (Ingham), Mr. H. McCarthy, and Mrs. Benham of Cairns Boys School, Misses Gammie, Simpson and Dorothy M. Rowe of Cairns Girls' School, and Miss Malone of Walkerston (Mackay).

CAIRNS COMBINED SCHOOLS BAND

As the formation of the above band was closely associated with the early history of the Parramatta School present members should be interested to read the following letter sent to the Department of Public Instruction on 9/1/32 giving information concerning the initial moves made in forming the band.

Mr. Campbell wrote, "I am sure you will be pleased to know and I feel it my duty to officially advise you of the recent formation of a State Schools Boys' Brass Band in Cairns.

About May, 1931 a Mr. "Jock" Denovan came to Cairns from Melbourne as bandmaster to the local Railway Band. It was expected at the time of his temporary appointment that some work would be offering here for the band could not afford to pay a high wage for a bandmaster. Unfortunately, no work offered and it looked as if Mr. Denovan would return to Melbourne to his family when the happy idea of forming a boys' band was hit upon. A meeting of Head Teachers and their committees was called and Mr. Denovan was invited to give his experience as bandmaster of boys' bands.

At that meeting a committee was appointed with myself as President, Mr. Innes of the Railway Band as Secretary and Mr. Spearritt of my school committee as Treasurer. Meetings were held and later 41 instruments, including 1 bass 1 kettle drum, were ordered from the south; these came to hand about the middle of October. The total cost of the instruments will be approximately £300 divided over 36 monthly payments of £8.50 per month with a deposit of £25.
The practices are two a week, Thursday afternoon and Saturday morning and the cost to each boy 1/- per week. The tuition fees all go to the bandmaster and each school looks after its own. The schools concerned are Cairns Boys; Edge Hill (now Cairns North) and Parramatta. It was intended that each school have 13 instruments but Edge Hill could find only 9 older boys of musical ability and so Cairns Boys' was allowed to take the Edge Hill balance. The instruments were divided in such a way that each school has the making of a balanced band of its own; in fact the Boys' School really has a band. Boys possessing or willing to possess instruments are allowed to join. I have 5 such and other schools have some also.

The three schools are regarded as one whole in the finding of the monthly instalments. A section of the town has been canvassed up to date and several small functions held. So far, financially, our heads are above water. I have no doubt that on the return of school activities, means will be found to get along without financial worries. One combined bazaar or carnival will do a lot towards wiping off the debt. And once the boys appear in public our worries will be lighter.

It was not the best time of the year to embark on something large and new but the opportunity was too good to be missed. During the vacation there are three practices a week. The bandmaster has visited the boys' homes and impressed parents that the little bandsmen must work hard at home.”

Present-day teachers please note that the writer ended his letter in the following fashion,

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Donald Campbell.

Had he not used the above format complete with correct spacing, punctuation capital letters, etc. he would probably have been reprimanded by the Department.

Before the Band had uniforms with "Jock" Donovan

PARRAMATTA PARAGRAPHS

GRAND CHAMPION FLOATS On two occasions, 1972 and 1973 the Parramatta School was successful in earning the Grand Champion Shield for the best floats entered in the annual Fun in the Sun processions. On both occasions the job of planning the floats was in the hands of a committee of teachers headed by Mr. Col Dixon. In 1972 the float represented Humpty Dumpty and in 1973 The Old Woman Who Lived in a Shoe. The old woman was a teacher, Mr. John Cope- man. The floats were the combined work of teachers, parents, children and the janitor-groundsman, Mr. Ralph Browning.
THE WAR YEARS Like most Australian schools Parramatta went through the war years suffering from lack of staff, essential material and a cessation of necessary building extensions. Being in the Far North, a danger area after the entry of the Japanese into the war, Parramatta was closed during February and March, 1942. On the opening of school again the classes were staggered to avoid having all the children at the school at the same time in the event of enemy bombing. The following is an extract from a letter written by Mrs. Stan Cook (nee Doris Renton) who was a pupil at Parramatta during the war years.

"One of my most vivid memories during the war was our air-raid practice. Parents had dug shelters (deep grave shaped holes) in the ground of what used to be called Waterloo Park. At the blowing of a whistle we used to dash down Severin Street to these shelters making sure we had cotton wool to plug our ears and a rubber or cork to hold between our teeth. What would have happened if the raid were real I just do not know as most times the shelters were full of water, Waterloo Park at that time being a very swamplike area. If perchance the shelters were dry there was always the danger of snakes."

THE SCHOOL LIBRARY From its first year the school had some sort of library as most schools had in those days but in 1968 a library conducted on modern lines was established and maintained by a committee of teachers headed by Mr. Matt O’Riley and assisted by voluntary aides from among the parents. Later Mr. Ted Kelk became chairman and was subsequently appointed teacher-librarian by the Department. The library is at present housed in two unoccupied rooms which have been modified by the removal of the dividing partition.

FIRE ALARM The use of a fire alarm system was commenced in the late sixties when warning was given by the striking of large metal triangles. Later, in 1972, the present siren system was donated and installed by the Rotary Club of West Cairns.
QUEEN'S VISIT  The visit of the Queen to Parramatta Park in March, 1954, saw the school in the centre of much activity. On the great day children from the whole district used the school as an assembly point before moving over to the park where hundreds of pupils of primary schools dressed in white formed a huge "Elizabeth II" and entertained the Queen with maypole dancing. Many returned to the school after the visit to await transport to their homes. The principal, Mr. Tom Stevenson, provided very welcome hospitality for waiting teachers and children. Parramatta displayed a large welcome sign on the Mulgrave Road fence and provided three maypole dancing teams.

CAIRNS SHOW  For many years the school was closely connected with the school work section of the annual Cairns Show at Parramatta Park. Much hard work was always put in by the staff who had the job of preparing all entries submitted for exhibition. Later, after the show, the same teachers would bring all the articles back to the school for sorting and returning. Often the number of exhibits was between 3000 and 4000.

THE SCHOOL BADGE  The original badge and colours of the school are depicted on the front of this booklet. The badge and colours were the choice of Don Campbell. Tradition has it that red and black were Don's army unit colours. In 1957 the School Committee decided that these colours were too hot. The Head Teacher, Mr. Charles Jordan, agreed and the colours were changed to blue and white.

TENNIS COURTS  At one stage Parramatta had two tennis courts which provided sport for both pupils and parents. However as the school grew these courts were built over and were sited where the bicycles sheds now stand. It was interesting to note the strata of top dressings when slots were cut in the ground for the bicycle shed foundations. Most of the courts are under the wing nearest Baife Street. The courts were the brain-child of Mr. George Nix, a teacher of the school who was extremely interested in sport. The parents helped to build the courts as well as other folk who had no children at the school but who were school-minded. Some of these were Ken Glasheen, Reg O'Neill, George Robbins Snr. and Harry Thompson. The father of Mr. Ray Jones, M.L.A. was Secretary of the School Committee at the time. Most of the ant-bed for top-dressing was secured from the Trinity and Clifton Beach areas. The courts were in full use in the middle thirties and continued in use until the fifties.

The unveiling of the George Nix Plaque by the Mayor of Cairns, Ald. W. J. Fulton, assisted by the Head Teacher, Mr. Tom Stevenson. The Chairman of the School Committee, Mr. J. B. Crowther, is shown at right of picture.
GEORGE NIX MEMORIAL One of the most respected teachers of the school was Mr. George Nix who served there for seventeen years and who was accidentally killed whilst searching for orchids at Bambaroo near Ingham in December, 1950. George was a leading spirit in all school sport not only at Parramatta but in the whole Cairns District. He was a football referee and was secretary of the Teachers’ Union (Northernmost Branch) and Primary Schools’ Sports Association for many years. The parents of the school decided to perpetuate his memory by the erection of playground equipment most of which is still in use to-day. The dedication ceremony was held in October, 1952. Unfortunately the area occupied by the equipment was excised in the early sixties so that Mulgrave Road could be widened. Originally the equipment occupied the corner formed by Mulgrave Road and Balfie Street.

SCHOOL RESIDENCE A residence was provided for the first Head Teacher who complained bitterly of the mosquitoes which infested the area. However, the Department never seemed to have enough finance to render the residence insect-proof. The yard was a quagmire in wet weather. At one stage the Works Department built raised concrete paths under the house so that the washing could be hung up in the wet weather. In the early sixties the residence was sold for removal and is now situated in Tills Street, diagonally opposite Good Samaritan Hospital. A new residence was erected away from the school in Draper Street.

JUNIOR RED CROSS In years gone by the formation of Junior Red Cross units was a feature of all Cairns schools. Parramatta was one of the leading schools in this respect. A retired teacher, Miss Daphne Jewell who taught at the school for many years has this to say concerning the Red Cross, “I became leader of the Parramatta Junior Red Cross in 1941, taking over from Mrs. Don Campbell, wife of the Head Teacher. This branch was very active especially during the war years when everything was so hard to obtain. It was a large branch and in its last years boys as well as girls became members. Some of the main activities were 1. The collecting of spare coupons from relatives and friends in order to buy sugar, butter, flour, wool and dress materials. 2. Collecting foodstuffs and materials necessary to make sweets, cakes, rag toys and garments for babies and young children. 3. The making of the above with the help of leaders relatives and friends. 4. The setting up of tuck shops and the sale of goods. 5. Special effort was made to collect and make toys and clothes, knitted or otherwise to send to refugees. 6. Doing bundles of sewing for Senior Red Cross. 7. Making wreaths and attending church services on Anzac Day. 8. Collecting suitable reading material and flowers to take when hospital visiting every Friday. A special effort was made to visit any Parramatta children in hospital taking fruit, sweets, books or gifts. 9. Arranging musical items and conducting concerts after school for a small charge of a penny or threepence for those able to pay. No child interested was refused admittance. 10. Holding guessing competitions such as the number of peas in a bottle or the length of a piece of string. 11. Giving donations to the local Senior Red Cross and Junior Red Cross Headquarters in Brisbane. 12. Keeping in close contact with Headquarters and helping with the sale of Red Cross badges and red crosses for veils. 13. Conducting own meetings and arranging all the above activities. 14. Learning elementary First Aid. 15. Senior girls helped with the washing and wiping up for the Red Cross stalls held every Saturday morning.”
Junior Red Cross c. 1948
The Principal at this time was Wilf Wham

RETIRED PARRAMATTA TEACHERS Research has shown that few teachers retired from the school. However those who did all remained in Cairns, all had served in the school for lengthy periods up to three and a half decades. These were Miss Kit O’Callaghan, Mrs. Florence Webb, Miss Daphne Jewell, Miss Annie Rowe and Mrs. Mabel Pearson, teachers who are well-known to all Parramatta-iles as conscientious and highly respected folk, giving their best always in the cause of education. It is interesting to note that one relieving teacher, Mr. Perc Bell, retired from the school in February, 1966.

LEFT: Miss Kit O’Callaghan
PHOTOS OF RETIRED TEACHERS
(At a retirement party, 1975)

BACK ROW  Mrs. Mabel Pearson, Miss Ursula Hancock (Colleague from Hambledon State School, Mrs. Florence Webb.)
FRONT ROW  Miss Annie Rowe, Miss Daphne Jewell, Mr. Bill Hobbs (Principal)

OLD PARRAMATTA-ITES, DO YOU REMEMBER . . . . ?

The day a big mob of us met at Waterloo Park in 1931 to watch a good fight, when “Hoot” Campbell arrived in the middle of proceedings and belted the whole crowd.

The bright pupil who stole a trotter from Parramatta Park stables, took it home and painted his name on its rump, thus hoping to establish legal ownership.

The girl who was caught by the Head Teacher with £20 in her pocket which she had pinched from her fathers betting bag. She offered the Head £10 to keep quiet. He didn’t accept the offer.

The student teacher who noticed one of the outside lights had inadvertently been left on from the night before. She pressed the button near-by to put off the light. However it was the fire alarm button she pressed and the time was mid-lunch recess. Remember her red face.

The child in Grade Four who wrote an account of the Fancy Dress Ball which the school held annually. He wrote, “Our fancy dress ball was held at Parramatta Park.” The careless lad wrote “l” instead of “d” in “held”.

The wonderful education tours planned by Bob Malcolm and John Copeman. These went further and further afield until one vacation we ended up at Ayres Rock. Remember the highlight of our Chillagoe trip when Mrs. Reilly, our teacher, was crossing the creek on her way to inspect her sleeping pupils, slipped and fell headlong into the deep pool.

The magazine produced regularly by Mr. Matt. O’Riley its name was “Tharunka” and the commencement of sales was announced by the blowing of a didgeridoo.
The dinner recess when a stray horse galloped into the ground from Severin Street, tore round and round through approximately eight hundred children playing in the back area and then made its exit without harm to anyone.

Back in the thirties and forties when regular family dances were held in the original wing nearest Severin Street. The oldies played euchre on the verandah. Between dances we youngles used to slide around the floor. This stopped abruptly when young George Robbins slid on his sit-down and chopped an outsize splinter. George Robbins Snr. was our popular M.C.

How in the bad old days of large classes and few male teachers, Mrs. Anne Sutton used to take 100 boys at a time for fretwork.

When the old army huts were demolished. The workmen found 6000 frozen cups in the ceiling. It was easier to throw them up there through the open ventilator than to walk ten yards to the garbage tin.

The times prior to collection by the Council of garbage. We used to take ours down to the back fence and throw it into Minnie Street.

How we used to go over to the Park at Show time and ask for odd jobs around the side-shows and how the Head and the Deputy Head would come over and round us all up.

The Black Commandos and their daring deeds.

The year, 1958 when we scooped the football pool winning the five-stone, six-stone and seven-stone competitions and also the Dunstan Shield for the school winning most points in the overall competition.

When the Minister of Education visited the school in the early sixties. He was Jack Pizzey, a Sheffield Shield cricketer. He was impressed by our house names. Bradman, Gregory, Trumper and Grimmett. He later sent us photographs of the four, together with autographs.

The breaking-up day when the Head arranged the boys into two opposing teams for a water-melon skin fight. Hostilities were to commence on the blowing of the Head’s whistle. A teacher was in No Man’s Land explaining the rules when the whistle was prematurely blown. Do you remember who “copped the lot”?

The Coronation Fancy Dress Ball in 1953 when we handed a message of loyalty to the Mayor, Ald. W. J. Fulton to send to the Queen. Mr. Tom Stevenson was our Head at the time.

The letter that was sent to the Head from a mother. The letter ran, “My boy has been accused of having head lice. This is not true as I do his hair with coconut oil every week and this is good for them.” The Head wrote beneath this comment, “Apparently the oil is good for them as they are the biggest and fattest I have ever seen.”

The District Inspector who examined five grades in different rooms at the one time by running up and down the office verandah calling out spelling and tables as he passed each door. We calculated that he ran ten miles, five furlongs that day.

The character who used to stand out in Severin Street on a Monday morning to listen to the Principal’s announcements, keeping silent until the sports results were given when his stentorian voice would raise above the P. A. system with, “Up the Centrals,” or “Up the Saints.”

When the School Committee under President, Syd Turner, installed ceiling fans in all the class-rooms thus making our school perhaps the first in Queensland to be so blessed.

The School Committee that told the Justice Department and the local magistrate that they would go to jail rather than pay registration fees for running a school fete. For a while it seemed as though the worst would happen. However the Committee had a win.

How George Nix used to keep us after school to puddle wet ant-bed for the new tennis courts. Just as well we used to bring old clothes.
1966 Hockey Premiers with Mrs. Archer (coach) and K. Whouley (Principal)

PROGRAMME OF CELEBRATIONS

FRIDAY, 17th JUNE
Open day at school for visitors and sports programme.
Dinner at 7.30 at "The House on the Hill"

SATURDAY, 18th JUNE
Roll call at the school, display, photograph, museum, stalls, band recitals
and official opening.

SUNDAY, 19th JUNE
Tours of city and district for visitors.
**NAME LIST**

Towards the end of 1926 when it was certain that Parramatta School would open in 1927 the Principals of the Central Boys' and the Girls and Infants were requested to forward to the Department lists of the names of those children who would leave to attend the new school. Below is a copy of one of the lists.

**Return of Children for Parramatta I. School from Cairns Boys**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Age</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jenkins, Robert</td>
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<td>7</td>
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<td>Currie, Jack</td>
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<td>Wardrop, Joe</td>
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<td>Franks, Victor</td>
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<td>Quinn, Jack</td>
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<td>Barnes, William</td>
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<td>Thomas, George</td>
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<td>Graves, Bertie</td>
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<td>Wynne, Douglas</td>
<td>8</td>
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<td>Brenchton, Alan</td>
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<td>Purker, Charles</td>
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<td>Bumpston, Ernest</td>
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<td>Ashton, Cyril</td>
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<td>Carron, Leslie</td>
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<td>Petersen, Peter</td>
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<td>Bergman, Arthur</td>
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<td>Van Dorsen, Jack</td>
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A SPORTS REVIEW

It is fitting in this Golden Jubilee Year to look back on the Golden Past of Sport at the school where a great many teacher-coaches have aimed, not primarily to produce champions (although more than the occasional one has appeared) but to interest boys and girls in games that breed courage, manliness and a love of fair play, games which are builders of character.

The late George Nix is symbolic of the many teachers who believed that if you wish to know children you should take them to the sports field and play with them. The stories of George Nix are now legend. One recalls how George, in 1938 wanted to take a 7stone 7pound team of Rugby League footballers to play in Townsville. Funds were short so, being resourceful he appealed over the local radio station for financial support. To his surprise Airlines of Australia donated passage for the entire team on two Rapide aircraft.

Dick Chant, a member of the team, recalls a newspaper article which claimed this was the first time that a sporting team travelled by air.

The 1927 Rugby League A team (The Terrible Thirteen) was coached by Hugh McCarthy with H. Kuzner as captain. In 1939 the A Grade team won the premiership for the first time in eleven years. Arch James, probably one of the most versatile sportsman to come out of Parramatta, played in this team with Ray Jones, Dick Chant, Pat Sang, Peter Kezillas, Malcom Taylor and Rupert Crossland. Ray Jones was a smart forward and has the Gilbey Medal to prove it.

The Struttons, Wally, and Stan and Arch James were prominent cricketers about that time and Norm McHardie, later to play League for Queensland was also a pupil. Bill Fleming who swam for Australia was a Parramatta boy of the early years.

Parramatta has since 1959 produced some very fine hockey players, particularly amongst the girls. Indeed many are known in hockey circles throughout Australia. Denise Dixon, Georgina Archer, Julie and Yvonne Dalton (now Mrs. Horton) had the honour of being named in the Australian 13 in 1968. The highest honours must go to Annette West (now Mrs. Dombrowsky) who played in Australian hockey teams for five years, was Australian captain and the best centre-forward in the world in 1971-72. However, the hockey "Queen" of Parramatta must surely be Mrs. Rene Archer, a parent who devoted fourteen years of service to hockey at the school.

In the 1970 Cairns Rugby League team which won the Foley Shield were seven past pupils. They were John Jia, Graham Reid, Terry Casey, Peter Lazarus, Ted Mosby, Robbie Henley and Eddie Hansen. Ray Jones (Patron) and Alan Hudson (Selector) were also past pupils of the school.

ABOVE Georgina Archer, Captain of Queensland Team 1976.

LEFT Premier hockey team 1969 Coach Georgina Archer.
An old pupil, Annette West, (Light Uniform) dominating play against a New Zealand Team.

Grade VII about 1960
Teacher John de Gunst

Aussie Rules Team 1976
1941 Team with George Nix and Don Campbell

1928 Team with L. Johnson and H. McCarthy

Early Thirties with D. Campbell and H. McCarthy
Taken during the war years when the Education Department wished to form a thousand-voice choir to raise funds for patriotic purposes. The above is Parramatta's contribution with Mr. A. Moxley (Departmental Representative), Miss Baird (Departmental Pianist), Miss Serow (Parramatta Teacher) and Don Campbell (Principal).

Recorder Group with Teacher Bob Burke
Rugby League Premiership Team 1958. With John de Gunst (coach) and Kev. Whouley (Act. Principal)

Using the Library 1976
About 1935. School choir with Miss Winston-Smith (Conductress) and Miss Johnston (Pianist)

In the thirties - Ladies Committee with some male members of the school committee
PARRAMATTA
CLASS GROUPS
1976

Mrs. V. HUDSON

Mrs. K. WEEKS
Miss D. IRLAM
(Student Teacher)

Mrs. V. SERGEANT
Mr. D. FLEMMING
(Student Teacher)
- - Autographs - -

Jenkins, 81-
Mundie,
No. 221. 2360

Cairns Post Print
GR. 1 PUPILS OF 1977

BOYS
BELUS, David
BINGUL, Shayne
BRAKE, Phillip
BRAH, Lyle
BURNELL, Gary
CORL, Tim
CUTHBERTSON, Kenny
DALLA-TORRE, Glen
DAVI, Darren
DAVIS, Troy
DODDLE, Michael
EICOTT, George
EUSTACE, Colin
EVA'S, Brett
FALLOW, William
GROT, Steven
HEALY, Bruce
HODGES, Darren
JACKSON, Anthony
JOHNSON, Craig
KADEL, Wayne
KLOS, Michael
MARKET, Terek
MOCK, Richard
MOORE, Paul
MORRISSEY, Shane
 McGRATH, Tony
OKAELOTTI, Feil
PALKER, Malcolm
PHILPS, Anthony
POULSEN, Ronald
ROSSER, Louis
ROSE, Terrance
SANDS, Robert
SIBOHOISKI, Antoli
SMITH, Gregg
SNIDER, Lesley
STONE, Aaron
TABUI, Avana
TIFO, Clinton
TONG, Andrew

GIRLS
ANDREWS, Michelle
ARMSTRONG, Sandra
BELL, Donna
BOOTH, Kelly
BOSWELL, Susan
BROWN, Marcia
BURGESS, Suzanne
BUSBY, Leanne
COVILL, Samantha
FIORENZA, Antonina
FOSTER, Jennifer
HARMON, Raelene
HODGES, Rachel
MCLAISTER, Sara
McGONAGIL, Tracey
McFARLAND, Zoc
PANTALEI, Marika
RAILLY, Tina
RICHARDS, Casey
SEMMENS, Patricia
SMITH, Nicoleen
THOMAS, Vanessa
THOMPSON, Henrietta
TILLEY, Lara
TIVO, Yvette
TOGHBO, Lisa
TWINE, Michelle
WATSON, Lee-anne
WEST, Leanne
WILKINS, Karen
ZAHNIT, Yasmin
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