

The Lake School No. 3581



90th Anniversary
Reunion
1908 - 1998

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

On behalf of the school community of The Lake School I would like to extend a very warm welcome to all visitors attending this wonderful event - our 90th Anniversary Reunion.

It is indeed a great pleasure to be Principal of a school that has a long history of strong community support and involvement. After talking to many of the former students during the past few months it is easy to notice the strong sense of pride and commitment that they still hold for our school. It is this spirit that I hope to spread all over the world.

My involvement with The Lake School began in 1987 when I was transferred here as a teacher. This was also the year I married into a School family (the Patersons).

Welcome to The Lake School's 90th Anniversary Reunion.
We hope this magazine rekindles pleasant memories
of your association with the school, and serves as a
lasting memento of your days at The Lake.

Mother's / Parents' Club minutes
Inspectors' Reports.

We would like to thank the members of the school community who have contributed written and pictorial material for inclusion in this magazine.

The spelling and grammar of extracts from the School Committee, Governors' Reports and Mother's Club records have been recorded as they were written in the documents.

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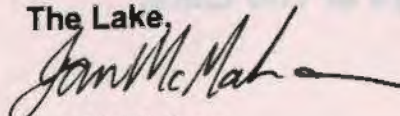
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It is indeed a great pleasure to be Principal of a school that has a long history of strong community support and involvement. After talking to many of the former students during the past few months it is easy to notice the strong sense of pride and commitment that they still hold for our school.

My involvement with The Lake stems from 1983 when I was transferred here as a teacher. This was also the year I married into a Lake School family (the Petschels).

In this time I have met and taught many wonderful people as well as coming in contact with a whole variety of ex-Lakies - it seems everyone you talk to in Sunraysia either attended The Lake or are related to someone who did.

Please take this opportunity to rekindle those memories of State School No. 3581 and once again partake in the hospitality and friendship of The Lake.


Ian McMahon
Principal

SCHOOL HISTORY

A history of the early years of The Lake School appeared in the 1980 and 1987 Back-to publications. The history for this publication has been taken directly from the records of the History Unit of the Education Department up until 1960. Highlights of the latter years are also listed.

To provide a broader picture of The Lake School's early years we have drawn information from a number of historical sources including:

- Personal recollections, records and photographs
- Official School and Education Department documents
- Information from the History Section of the Education Department
- School Committee / Council minutes
- Mothers' / Parents' Club minutes
- Inspectors' Reports.

We would like to thank the members of the school community, both past and present who have contributed written and pictorial information for inclusion in this magazine.

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THE LAKE SCHOOL HISTORY

- as provided by the
History Unit of the Department of Education

In the early 1900's there were four State Schools in the Mildura area - Mildura Central, Irymple, Nichol's Point and Koorlong - but none of these schools catered for the rapidly expanding area west of the Mildura township. Many children were walking long distances to get to school at Mildura or Irymple. A group of parents living in the vicinity of what is now Cabarita, formed a committee to approach the Department of Education for the establishment of a school.

Approaches were made to the Board of Advice No. 393 Maryborough for the establishment of a school. W.H. Geer the Chairman of the Board on 24th July 1908 recommended to the Department that a school be established at the Lake, County of Karkarook.

District Inspector J.C. Lowry was directed to make an inquiry and submit a report on the request to establish a school at The Lake. He in turn requested Herbert W.L. Casey a teacher in the service of the Department to prepare the report. On 20th July 1907 the Inspector presented the report, recommending the establishment of a full-time school and adding that the residents were prepared to erect a 20ft. x 18ft. schoolhouse. He included a list containing the names of 27 children.

The Board of Advice on 27th February 1908 informed the Department that the schoolhouse had been erected and could be occupied. The Department leased the premises at £5 per annum. On 8th April 1908 the board requested that a teacher be appointed.

Head Teacher Herbert W.L. Casey opened The Lake School on 16th July 1908. On the 28th of the month he advised the Department that 34 children had been enrolled and that the enrolment was expected to increase to 38.

H.F. Paul, the Correspondent of the Board of Advice, on 19th May 1909, informed the Department that the school-house accommodation was inadequate and that the structure was unsuitable. He requested that consideration be given to erecting a new and more commodious school-house. He stated further that five acres of land was available at no cost to the Department.

In July 1909 the enrolment increased to 49.

District Inspector James Livingstone was directed on the 13th August 1909 to report on the matter of accommodation at the school.

The Shire Council of Mildura on 31st August 1909 requested the Department to erect a new school-house which could accommodate a greater number of children. The Council was advised that the matter was under investigation.

The District Inspector on 2nd October 1909 recommended that the Department erect a State owned brick school-house to accommodate about 70 children.

Percy T. Park, Solicitor on 29th October 1909 informed the

Department that 5 acres of land was available for transfer. The Crown Solicitor was authorised to proceed with the transfer.

On 13th May 1910 the Head Teacher appealed to the Department to expedite the erection of the proposed new school since the existing structure had developed defects. The reply was: "Matter will be dealt with as soon as funds are available."

The Crown Solicitor on 4th August 1910 advised the Department that the land transfer had been completed.

William McEachern on 4th August 1910 appealed to the Hon. John Gray M.L.A., to prevail upon the Minister for Public Instruction to have the proposed new school-house erected with out delay. He was advised that the matter was under consideration.

On the morning of 17th December 1910 the Education Department's Melbourne Office received a telegram stating that the school-house had burnt down.

Hubert H.E. Barnett on 30th December 1910 offered a galvanised iron building for school use.

Apparently the offer was not accepted since the Head Teacher was transferred elsewhere to occupy a temporary position until a new building had been erected the following year when he resumed the position of Head Teacher.

The new State School building was erected on the original site, Lot 12, Section 49, Block E, opening on 1st December 1911. The school opened with 12 children, Ern Shillington being the first child enrolled.

The Hon. The Minister of Railways, A.A. Billson, visited Mildura on 6th April 1913, and inspected The Lake School. He expressed satisfaction with what he found. The Correspondent of the School Committee on 22nd January 1914 applied for a subsidy towards the construction of a swimming pool on the school site. The estimated cost was £80. The Department asked to be furnish with full particular. Upon being supplied with the information the response was: "...the Department has no funds available at present to enable a contribution be made towards the cost of the proposed swimming basin."

On 24th April 1915 the School Committee wrote that it was intending to erect a windmill on the school site at a cost of £15.0.0 and applied for a subsidy of £7.10. 0. The Department agreed to the request.

The average attendance for two months in 1917 was:

May 26	June 2	June 9	June 23	June 30
66	65	65.8	69.5	67.8

The Head Teacher on 6th May 1920 advised the Department that the enrolment had increased to 78 and that the school was short of seating accommodation. Later in the year he informed the Department that the enrolment had risen to 85, and that the average attendance in October was 81.

On 12th April 1922 the Head Teacher stated that the average attendance was 100 and applied for 10 extra dual desks. The Department promised to supply the extra desks.

On 15th July 1922 the School Committee requested the Department to

add an extra classroom to the existing building to reduce the overcrowded conditions. The Committee then approached the Hon. F. E. Old M.L.A. to present its case to the Department. This he did, and was advised that the District Inspector had been directed to make an inquiry and a report.

District Inspector E.I. Leach on 22 July 1922 recommended: "That additional accommodation (brick) be provided for 50 children on the basis of 12½ sq. ft." The recommendation was accepted.

By March 1923 the contractor had commenced with the erection of the additional room. The contract was completed on 15 October 1923 at a cost of £1086.2.6

In mid-1923 parents embarked upon a move to raise the status of the school so that instruction could be given to the 7th and 8th Grades. They directed the Hon. W.P. Crockett M.L.A., to present their case to the Department. He was presented with a petition addressed to the Right Hon. Sir Alexander Peacock, Minister of Education.

The Minister referred the matter to the Acting Director. A ministerial memo dated 18 July 1923 stated: "The C.I. of Secondary Schools is to visit Mildura next month."

The Head Teacher (Mr. Casey) on 28th July 1925 reported that the attendance that day was 139 and the net enrolment 140. He applied for increased seating accommodation. The application was approved.

In 1926 the School Committee had a shelter pavilion constructed at the school by Messrs. James Moore and Sons Pty. Ltd. The Department subsidised the cost of the work to the extent of £70.16.9 being half of the actual cost.

District Inspector James W. Elijah on 11th December 1926 recommended that an additional classroom be built on to the existing building to accommodate 50 pupils. On 5th January 1927 the P.W.D. was directed to furnish a plan and the estimated cost of an additional room.

In reply to a request from the Department the Head Teacher on 15th March 1928 stated that he had first occupied the additions to The Lake School on the first day of that month.

The Correspondent of the School Committee, D.A. Walters in a letter dated 9th March 1929, informed the Department that the Committee had decided to install a 'Gloria Light', lighting plant in the school premises, costing £20, and applied for a subsidy to cover half of the cost. The application was granted.

The average attendance for June 1929 was 122 and the net enrolment 137.

On 23 April 1936 the School Committee decided to connect the school premises to the local electricity supply and requested approval, which was given on condition that this was done without cost to the Department and the satisfaction of the P.W.D. The installation was completed by 30th October 1936.

The Minister of Public Instruction, the Hon. Sir John Harris, visited the district on 21 May 1936. A request was made that a teacher's residence be provided. The Minister stated: "I think you will get a residence if I get the money."

After many delays and inquiries eventually on 4th January 1938 the construction of a teacher's residence was authorised. The residence was completed on 20th October 1938 at an actual cost of £830.18.7.

The Head Teacher on 29th October 1945 informed the Department: "I am using the pavilion room as a classroom for all picture broadcast lessons, film strip lessons, and 'Music Through Movement' session over the air."

On 16th August 1946 the Minister of Public Instruction accompanied by the Director J.A. Seitz; L.F.C. Garlick M.L.A., and the District Inspector John R. Lyall visited The Lake School. Mr. Buntine (Chairman of the School Committee) urged the acquisition of additional land at the back of and adjoining the school site. The land could probably be leased for ten shillings per acre a year. The Minister suggested that the School Committee approach the Irrigation Trust and submit the matter to the Department.

The Department on 29th November 1948 granted the school a subsidy of £54.0.0 towards the construction costs of £72.0.0 of a shelter pavilion.

On 23rd June 1948 a requisition for £109.8.3 was recommended for the purchase of land adjoining the school from the Mildura Irrigation Trust. The Crown Solicitor on the 15th June 1949 advised the Department that the transfer of 5 acres 0 rods 30.4 perches had been registered.

The Minister, the Hon. R.W. Tovell M.L.A. in company with Mr. N. Barclay M.L.A. and Robert Blackburn (District Inspector), visited the school on 22nd July 1949. Repairs to the building were discussed. The School Committee expressed the desire to convert the recently acquired adjacent land into playgrounds.

The Department on 9th February 1950 granted an additional subsidy on £8.8.2 towards the construction of a shelter pavilion costing £83.4.2. An amount of £54.0.0 had been granted previously on 29th November 1948.

In response to an application for a subsidy towards the purchase of playground equipment, the Department on 11th February 1953 advised the School Committee: "Funds are fully committed." A further application later in the year was successful. On 15th October a subsidy of £50 was recommended towards the purchase of playground equipment costing £100.

On 24th November 1954, the School Committee was advised that a subsidy of £100 had been recommended towards the construction of a bicycle shelter, construction of a cricket pitch and the provision of garden seats. The cost of the three items was £168.9.3. the recommendation was approved on 3rd December 1954.

On 13th November 1956, the Minister of Education the Hon. J.S. Bloomfield M.L.A., visited and inspected The Lake School in the company of Mr. Barclay M.L.A. those present at an interview which followed were:

W.I. Young - District Inspector
A. McGillivray - Head Teacher
I. Dickie - Chairman of School Committee
A. George - Secretary of School Committee

The Chairman of the School Committee presented a case of improvements to the school premises. The Minister replied: "...the Government is spending a maximum amount of money on education the requirements are growing. To be honest this school is in the same situation as many hundreds of schools."

[Compiled by: Vincent Williams, Research Officer - History Section; Education Department, October 1980.]

Highlights of the last thirty years include:

- 1969 - the vines moved to the Dyar Avenue side of the residence.
- 1970-71 - a new oval established on the old vine site.
- 1972 - security lighting installed.
- 1974 - the school becomes part of the Disadvantaged Schools Program. This program injects much needed funds into the school over a 23 year period.
- 1975 - a brick BBQ is constructed (it was removed in 1987) and the trampoline installed near residence.
- 1976 - air conditioning is installed.
 - the school is awarded a Pro Hart print for the 'Most Improved School Gardens and Grounds' by the Australian Natives Association.
- 1979 - Ponyco commences.
 - portable classroom placed near pavilion.
- 1989 - Ponyco ceases.
- 1994 - the school is awarded Regional and State Winner in the Schools' Garden Awards.
 - the pavilion is upgraded internally and the kitchen area renovated.
 - the new plantation area is launched by Mr. Kevin Heinze.
- 1995 - the school receives a major grant to carry out capital works on the school buildings.
 - the old toilets are demolished and replaced with a relocatable toilet block.
 - the school receives a 5 modular (double) classroom.
- 1996 - the school is awarded an Achievement Award for the regional section of the Schools' Garden Awards.
 - major renovations to school buildings are completed.
 - the school residence is sold and moved to Merebin Court, Merbein.

- 1997 - the school receives the Continuous Development Award for the Loddon Campaspe Mallee Region in the Schools' Garden Awards.
 - the school block is extended through the planting of 600 Merlot vines adjacent to the sultana vines.
- 1998 - the school is awarded an Achievement Award for the regional section of the Schools' Garden Awards.
 - the Minister for Education the Hon. Phil Gude visits the school.
 - a shade area is constructed onto the Art Shed.
 - the school celebrates its 90th Birthday with a reunion.

LIST OF HEAD TEACHERS/PRINCIPALS

Herbert W. L. Casey	16.7.1908 - 31.12.1910
School premises destroyed by fire on	16.12.1910
School rebuilt and reopened	
Herbert W.L. Casey resumed	1.12.1911 - 25.5.1929
Louis J. Romeril	1929 - 1937
[Dorothy A. Reed (Mrs. Meyer)	1931 - 1932]
Gladstone A. Olney	1937 - 1940
John A. Spencer	1940 - 1946
Ronald Robson	1946
Michael Fallon	1946
Alan C. McGillivray	1946 - 1969
Neil W. Edgar	1969 - 1970
Ronald J. Neville	1970 - 1971
Neville E. Olsen	1972 - 1974
[Norma J. O'Donnell	term 2 1973]
[L. Schultz	term 3 1974]
John L. Smith	1975 - 1982
Dennis M. Cavanagh	1983 - 1985
Wallace C. Robson	1986 - 1992
Ian R. McMahon	1993 -

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES

In many respects the role of the School Committee has not altered greatly over the years. The following extracts from minutes of School Committee meetings highlight the dedication, resourcefulness and invaluable contributions of the Committee members. The School Committee is now known as School Council.

These early records show us that many of the features and facilities at The Lake School that we now take for granted were made possible through the resourcefulness and hard work of past School Committee members. These include the original brick buildings, the library/pavilion, the layout of the gardens and grounds, and of course the school fruit block.

It is interesting to note throughout the school's history, the number of times land surrounding the school has been acquired and put to profitable use - such as expansion of the school fruit block.

Perhaps we also owe a debt of gratitude to Mr. Herbert Casey whose horticultural expertise helped lay the foundations for the pleasant surroundings we see today.

Some of the early features of the school, such as the swimming pool and the teacher's residence no longer remain. Others, such as the school block and oval have been relocated. Progress and change are inevitable - although not always welcome. Most would agree, however, that The Lake School still retains its unique character and charm.

EXTRACTS FROM SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES

The first recorded meeting of the Lake School Committee was held at the school on December 11th 1911, following the school's reopening on the December 1st 1911. The first rule of the Committee was to hold meetings on the Friday next to the full moon at 8p.m.

The members of the first committee were:

Howard Paul	Chairman
Mrs. Paul	Treasurer
Mr. Setford	Correspondent
Mrs. Harriman	
Mrs. ? Inglis	
Mr. C. Norman	
Mr. J. Bromley	

The committee established a set of ten rules. One rule was that 'The committee requests the attendance of teachers at ordinary meetings of Committee and they shall be allowed to express their opinions on all subjects under discussion but not being allowed to vote'.

Interestingly, the first reference to Mr. Herbert Casey actually attending a meeting was in May, 1919. The motion - moved and carried - 'that W. Casey be asked to attend all ordinary meetings of the committee and he shall be allowed to express opinions on all matters under discussion but not vote'.

The following extracts are taken directly from the School Committee minute books.

- FEB. 7, 1912 Moved and seconded
 ...that the formal opening of the school take place on the day of breaking up for the Easter vacation.
- ...that the department be asked to supply a lamp for lighting the building.
- ...that the children attend at Shire hall Mildura to welcome the Governor General if holiday be granted for all schools and letter be written to ask the arrangements committee to suggest the calling of the Governor's party at the school if convenient.
- MAY 31, 1912 ...that Secretary ask permission from Department to install deodorizers to outhouses out of School Committee allowance if found advisable.
- JUNE 28, 1912 ...that materials be procured for fixing flag pole and large gate.
- AUG. 30, 1912 ...that fly wire be procured for windows and 2 blinds for north windows.



- NOV. 29, 1912 ...that half holiday be granted for the afternoon of Tuesday 17th December for Breaking up picnic.
- JAN. 24, 1913 ...suggested that messages for parents be written on blackboard by Head Teacher so that children could copy and ensure correct messages to parents.
- ...that 6/- be paid for balance of purchase of clock.
- ...that a letter be sent to Mr. Miller stating that his boys were found stealing fruit at The Lake School, also write to Head Teacher asking him to caution children not to enter school grounds.
- JUNE 20, 1913 ...that application be made to the department for contribution to Shelter shed.
- ...that correspondent write asking department if half yearly allowance could be used for luncheon cupboard and ask for extra chair.
- JULY 11, 1913 ... that letter be sent requesting that Mr. Casey be allowed to remain at the school.
- AUG. 15, 1913 ...that tender be accepted from Mr. W. Mitting to erect shelter shed for a sum of 25 pounds.
- ...that consent be given to hold a Sunday School to the Church of Christ Mildura, a charge of one shilling per day to be charged according to departmental rules.
- JAN. 9, 1914 ...that this committee ask the Department would they be willing to assist by subsidising the construction of swimming bath for the school.
- APR. 9, 1914 ...that committee adopt a systematic plan of working vines and trees in connection with school plot and call for voluntary helpers.



- JUNE 12, 1914 ...that application be made to department to erect a tool shed to cost 12 pounds.

DEC. 3, 1914

Balance Sheet of Picture Shows

1914		1914
Nov 16 th	To Amount - Collected	Nov 16 th
	by children 9-15-0	By E.J. De Sario 5-0-0
	taken at - doors 2-1-0	" H. Leptonne 9-0
		" O.E. Telford 1-6
		Balance 6-5-6
	<u>£ 11-16-0</u>	<u>£ 11-16-0</u>

Confirmed 28/1/15
J. M. Paul

- JAN. 28, 1915 ...that W. Mitting's Account of 5 pounds for erection of rack be passed for payment.
- MAR. 4, 1915 ...that the department be asked to subsidise pound for pound to erect a windmill at the school.
- APR. 27, 1915 ...that Mrs. McInnes [sewing mistress] be written to expressing regret at her leaving the school staff and that the Committee wish her future success in her future work.
- MAY 27, 1915 ...that the committee agree to the request of the children that their prize money be sent to fund for Australian wounded soldiers and appreciate their denial and thoughtfulness.

SEPT. 15, 1915

Letter received from Education Department
The Correspondent September 8th 1915
The Lake School No 3581

Sir

I beg to inform you that the district Inspector draws attention to the good work your Committee is doing in improving the school grounds to the interest it is taking in the welfare of the children & to the assistance it is giving to the teacher

The Director desires me to express his appreciation of the interest the Committee is taking in the welfare of the School

I have the honor to be
Sir

Your obedient servant
A. Funnell
Jr. Director

Conforms 2/10/15

Edward Paul

OCT. 27, 1915

...that the correspondent write and ask permission to erect temporary dressing rooms at the lake in consequence of our swimming tank being under water.

NOV. 23, 1916

The net proceeds of Flower Show held at the school was 30 pounds, 3 shillings and sixpence which was sent to department for Repatriation Fund.

MAY 5, 1917

...that correspondent procure prices for scooping out swimming tank.

MAY 31, 1917

...that correspondent and Head Teacher erect swing at a cost of about five pounds.

NOV. 9, 1917

...that the correspondent be nominated to attend High School Council.

Balance Sheet of Flower Show Held Nov 9 1917

Receipts	Expenditure
Totals Competition 6-16-10	General Items 1-0-6
Shuttles 6-9	Printing 4-3-6
Hoop La 2-12-4 1/2	Hoop La 1-16-9
Sweet Stall 5-10-0	Sweet Stall 2-5
Fencing 17-14-9 1/2	Fancy 16-6
Flower 23-13-2	T. Lower 10-17-0
Produce 18-8-3	Produce 13-2
Tickets 6-115-0	Balance 67-2-7 1/2
Soft Drinks 3-17-10 1/2	
Refreshments 2-7-6	
<u>£ 87-14-6 1/2</u>	<u>£ 87-14-6 1/2</u>

APR. 18, 1918 ...that the cultivating and irrigating etc. of school block be let by contract to the Teacher's satisfaction for about 5 pounds per Annum.

NOV. 5, 1919 ...that the amount of 6 pounds be passed for payment to Chislett Bros. for putting in pipe across road.

...that the contractor for the sinking of tank be paid for what he has done 350 yards at 1/- 17 pounds 10 shillings.

AUG. 17, 1921 ...that the Shire Council be allowed use of the Shelter Shed on Election day.'

NOV. 21, 1921 Mr. Woods spoke commending the teachers action in taking the young children down to the shade by the lake during the recent hot spell.

APR. 13, 1922 ...that the Department be written to and asked to supply 10 dual desks immediately (also 2 chairs) as there was over 100 on the roll and only seating for 80.

JULY 5, 1922 Mr. Casey reported great success of shelter shed since its flooring as a classroom for the juniors and was "on the coldest mornings warmer than the school itself, the teaching staff being greatly pleased with it". Mr. Casey reported that Mr. O'Bryan had offered to give moving picture entertainment in the school every other week. In reply to the question from Mr. Walters, Mr. Casey gave a full account of the working and management of the School Horticultural plot and the funds derived from the sale of fruit was under the control of the District Inspector and himself only, and used for the benefit of the School and children.

OCT. 4, 1922 Correspondence was read from Education Department that erection of new classroom had been approved and was in hands of Public Works Office to be carried out as early as practicable.

NOV. 1, 1922 Mr. Casey explained his plan which was to move the windmill down to the bank of the swimming tank and use it as a reservoir. The committee to pay cost of moving, extra pipes etc.

AUG. 22, 1923 ...that the School Committee place before the Inspector their views with regard to 7th and 8th Grades and urge that they be taught at this school in the future.

OCT. 6, 1923 ...that we have a Concert and Social at the opening of New School Room on October 26th. Secretary to write inviting the President of Shire to officiate also to invite the Mayor of Mildura.

SEPT. 4, 1925 ...that secretary circularise all parents re Working Bee and also ask Mrs. Walters to convene a meeting of ladies with the object of forming a ladies committee.

...that the picnic be held on same Haweson spot as last year if the ground is in good order.

FEB. 12, 1926 ...that owing to increased attendances at the school, the Committee discuss ways and means of erecting a suitable pavilion for class teaching.

Mr. Casey brought forward a proposal that we secure a certain piece of land owned by the F.M.I.T. and plant with sugar gums, the profits from same to be used as endowments for scholarships for The Lake School.

JULY 23, 1926 The committee donated a small football for younger boys. The cost was 7/6.

AUG. 9, 1926 ...recorded that secretary write Ladies Committee congratulating them for their fine effort in raising money to build the shelter shed.

MAY 18, 1926 Letter from Department advising that the land has been secured for tree planting. Also asking Committee to go on with swimming tank and that new school room was to be built.

APR. 9, 1929 Letter from Department offering to go fifty up to twenty pounds in cost of light. The secretary was instructed to have lights installed immediately.

JUNE 17, 1929 It was decided to call a working bee to prune the school block on the first Wednesday in July.

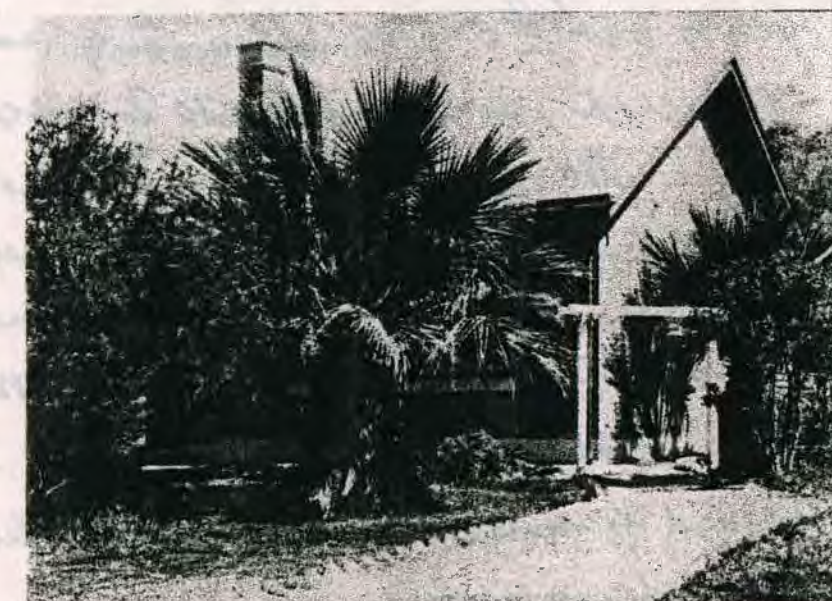
AUG. 15, 1929 Secretary was instructed to make enquires re five acres of land adjoining the school.

DEC. 11, 1929 Mr. Thompson moved Mr. Wilson seconded that secretary write Department suggesting that name of school be altered to Cabarita. Carried.
Mr. Romeril reported that he intended securing a typewriter with monies won at Royal Show.

APR. 9, 1930 It was decided the secretary make enquires re installing telephone at school.

SEPT. 3, 1930 It was resolved on the motion of Mr. Plummer and Mr. Mayne that we sell mill and replace with pump engine.

OCT. 29, 1930 ...that Mr. McGuire be engaged to erect pump and engine.



OCT. 7, 1931 Letter from F.M.I.T. stating they would let us have one acre free.

Mr. Romeril was authorised to obtain cost of material for erection of bicycle shed and storeroom and if price reasonable to order same.

DEC. 3, 1931 It was decided to have a working bee on December 11th to build bicycle shed.

JULY 6, 1931 ...that a charge of one pound be made to Major Goucher for use of school buildings for Scout purposes.

JUNE 6, 1934 Moved by Mr. Mayne seconded Mr. Whiting that piece of land joining fruit block be prepared and planted with currants.

AUG. 1, 1934 Mr. Romeril reported that he enquired from the Coop. Shed concerning the state of the account for the season 1933-1934. The position at the end of June 1934 was as follows:

M. Dickie and fruit from 1933 and 1934 crop.

Currants 1933 £6.9.8. Sultanas 1933 £14.14.10. Lemons £5.08
1934 2.7.4 " 1934 3.4.6 " 1934 1.15.8

Thus the shed had paid up till June 30th 1934 £33.12.8
Main cost in Sept. '33 £1.15.6, in Sept. '34 £1.13.2 = 3.8.8
This left a balance to be divided bet. Sch. and M. Dickie 30.4.0
But M. Dickie had already been paid £4.4.3 + 12/- + £5. = 9.16.
50% of £30.4.0 = £15.2.0 and the
9.16.3, already paid leaves
5.5.9 owing to M. Dickie at
the end of June 1934. Therefore M. Dickie has
yet to get £5.5.9 plus 1/2 of amount paid on the
1934 crop, since June 30th 1934.

M. Romeril mentioned that the Mothers' Club intended to hold a children's Fancy Dress Ball on the evening of Aug. 15th next, and received promises of support.
It was mentioned that Mrs. M. Dickie would be leaving the school on the 17th inst. The Committee decided to work with the Mothers' Club in connection with a presentation.

DEC. 5, 1934 The offer of Mr. Hepworth to furrow out the block to be planted with currant cuttings was received with gratitude.

...the thanks of the committee to Mr. Charles for providing the cuttings.

JUNE 5, 1935 It was resolved to hold a Working Bee on Friday the 14th June, for the purpose of pruning the vines, grubbing out fruit trees, and removing the fence between the old and the new block.

FEB. 6, 1935 ...that a notice be put in the paper warning people from swimming in the pool and trespassing on the School Grounds, that Notices be erected. Secretary notify Police to take action if necessary.

JULY 3, 1935 In response to a request by the Head Teacher, Mr. Bull kindly agreed to give the children instruction in the packing of Walthams. The training of young vines is to form a subject of instruction at the appropriate time.

NOV. 6, 1935 Mesdames Thomson, Brown and Shaw attended to discuss the advisability of enlarging the kitchen at Pavilion. It was decided to enlarge same as soon as money was available.

APR. 8, 1937 It was decided to make a further effort to procure a Residence at the School.

AUG. 5, 1938 ...that Mr. Olney buy basketball for school.
It was decided to have the cracks in the swimming pool repaired.

OCT. 5, 1938

*Accounts Repairs Baths 3/2/6 Library books 3/10/- Electric h
 4/4 Telephone 1/1/- Grage 5/3/- Pictures 5/- Basket Ball
 18/- Freight 7/-*

MAY 5, 1939 Fruit delivered to shed 1939

Currants	6 tons 2 cwt 23 lbs
Sultanas	10. 3. 21
Walthams	2. 3. 3

...that Mr. Olney and Mr. Kneebone buy wireless for school.

JUNE 2, 1939 Wireless licence £1/ 1/-
Wireless set £16/16/-
Payable £3/- down balance in six months

FEB. 2, 1940 ...that we arrange with F.M.I.T. to hold that piece of land north of school for school use.

LJW



Education Office,
Melbourne, C.2.

26th June 1936.

Mr. D. A. Walters
Correspondent,
School Committee No. 3581,
The Lake.

Dear Sir,

I have to inform you that the Minister and the Director have noted with much pleasure the cordial reference in the recent report of the District Inspector to the valued assistance which the members of your Committee are rendering to the head teacher and staff, in maintaining high standards of efficiency in the work of the school.

You are asked to be good enough to convey the thanks and appreciation of the Department to all concerned.

Yours faithfully,

A. J. Graham
Secretary

Received at
Committee Meeting.
July 1st 1936.
L. J. Romeril.
H.T.

MAY 3, 1940

...that Mr. Spencer arrange with Mr. Cannard to effect repairs to suspect mower.

...that Mr. Spencer see Mr. Marrows re Duplicator.

...that we purchase a projector for school.

OCT. 4, 1940

...that this committee cooperate with Mothers Club in small gift to ex-students enlisting for overseas.

JULY 7, 1941

...that six additional rows of sultanias be planted this year.

APR. 10, 1942

...that this Committee consider that washaways at Lake Hawthorn would provide adequate protection in the event of an Air Raid.

...that letter be sent to Secretary, Education Department asking if anything could be done to relieve the tyre and tube shortage as over 50% of children attending Lake School ride to school.

SEPT. 4, 1942

Pipe to empty swimming pool
Correspondent was instructed to contact Mr. Johansen re possibility of putting larger pipe under road.

DEC. 4, 1942

Watering of school garden
...that Herbert Henderson be paid 10/- to water garden during holidays.

NOV. 5, 1943

From
Mildura Coop Fruit Co Ltd Payment 4/11/43 £ 7-10-0
From Mildura Shire Council enclosing cheque for £ 1-0-0 for use of pavilion for Shire elections.

L.W. Meek (Fibrolite Piping)	£ 12-16-7
Electric Light	5/-
Bus Fare	4/-
A. Cannard (Bag cement 9/- Pipe fittings 7/-)	16/-
	<hr/> £ 14-1-7

DEC. 3, 1943

Cricket Bats and Balls. Mr. Kneebone was authorised to spend up to 7 pounds on 2 bats and also to purchase 3 balls.

MAY 5, 1944

Apes.

Cricket Balls	10/6
Child Education	£1. 8. 0
Blackboard Dusters	9/1
Pump Carriage	3/4
N.S.S. Northcultural Society	5/-
Broadway Booklets	3/-
A. Cannard (10th Progress)	15/-
Wood	£5. 0. 0
Mathew Club	5/2
Cricket Balls	£5. 16. 6
Bending	4/4
Electric Light	8/-
	£15. 7. 11

have raised for payment on the motion
of Messrs. Bull, & Whiting
Confirmed H. R. 11

DEC. 1, 1944 ...that the following notice be inserted in Sunraysia Daily on Tuesday and Saturday 'The Swimming Pool at The Lake State School is reserved for scholars only. All other persons are trespassing and are liable to prosecution'.

JUNE 7, 1946 From the Education Department dated 7.5.46 advising the appointment of Mr. Alan McGillivray of Reddell as Head Teacher.

AUG. 2, 1946 ...that the Education Department be requested to approach F.M.I.T. Trust for the lease of land available on North West Boundary of school beyond existing leasehold of Mrs. L. Mayne.

DEC. 6, 1946

Shelter Shed

Shelter Shed Mr. Henderson moved, Mr. Foreman rec.

That Educ. Dept. be asked to furnish plans for Open Side Shed 30' x 20'

3' 6" Walls.

Overhanging roof

Concrete floor

Seab. & narrow tables around walls.

JULY 11, 1947

Sand pit

Correspondent instructed to order 300 bricks and 3 bags of cement. Mr. Thomson was instructed to order two 4yd loads of Gol Gol sand.

AUG. 8, 1947

Accounts

B.P. Barker (Red Loam 6 yds at 12/-)	£ 3-12-0
Merbein Brick Works 300 bricks	£ 2- 8-0
R. Allen & Son (Gol Gol Sand 8 yds @ 18/-)	£ 7- 4-0
W. Farnsworth (Cartage bricks)	12/6

A.R. Pittock (Half payment on Globe)	£ 1-13-7
(Half payment on pictures)	£ 14- 6-0
J. Cannard (Half 4th P.F. payment)	£ 1-15-0

£ 31-11-1

SEPT. 10, 1947

Sign for Swimming Pool

It was decided to get a large sign bearing the following inscription: "This pool is private property. Any trespassers will be prosecuted. By order the School Committee" made and then erected at Swimming Pool.

FEB. 13, 1948

Septic Tank System

...that the department be written to requesting them to install same. They were to be informed that storage tanks could be filled with irrigation water.

AUG. 13, 1948

...the head teacher was authorised to purchase carpet for 9 pounds.

JULY 28, 1950

The installation of wireless and amplification was discussed... Mr. McGillivray to negotiate this matter with Shilliday Bros. if set still available.

JULY 27, 1951

Following a discussion on tree planting it was resolved to write to the Apex Club asking them to plant 12 Pepper trees, 6 Dwarf Sugar Gums and 6 Athol trees.

NOV 28, 1969

...there was discussion on farewell to Miss K. Fregon and other teachers - evening to be at the home of Mr. R. Hepworth on 17th December.

APR 2, 1970 Report on crop by R. Hepworth - 7 ton 8 cwt to winery ... 1140 tins off new vines.

AUG 4, 1970 There was some discussion on new oval area. It was decided to take action at our next meeting.

DEC 15, 1970 ...that the Shire be asked to grade and level the oval site at the estimated cost of \$450.00.

DEC 2, 1971 ...that the secretary buy couch grass seed for the oval.

APR 6, 1972 ...chairman reported that the school block harvested 2,520 buckets of sultanas.

JUNE 1, 1972 ...that security lighting had been installed at the school.

DEC 4, 1973 ...to purchase a rotary slasher for cutting the oval.

...there was a circular from the department to say they had agreed to the quote for renovation for the pavilion and work would start after school Break Up.

FEB 12, 1974 ...that during the Xmas break the committee had constructed a rack for school block.

APR 9, 1974 ...there was 1972 buckets harvested off the School Block.

DEC 10, 1974 ...that the school is putting in for a grant which is available for the school for disadvantaged schools...

DEC 16, 1975 ...the barbecue in the school garden had been completed, and the trampoline was under way.

NOV 17, 1976 ...that cooling (air conditioning) was completed and working.

INSPECTORS' REPORTS

The word 'INSPECTOR' conjures up a number of images and feelings depending on your perspective. There were not many words that would strike fear and trepidation into teachers' hearts, but 'inspector' was one of them.

The word would spread like wildfire that the inspector was in town. A full scale working bee would precede the visit. Classrooms would be tidied, work programs brought up to date, buildings and grounds spruced up.

Inspectors' visits also affected the school children who were threatened with any manner of punishment if they 'put a foot wrong' during the inspection.

One ex-student recalls that during the early years at The Lake the children were not only aware of the pressure to behave but also that they were afraid to respond to questions for fear of giving the incorrect answer.

Although often feared, inspectors performed an important role in providing schools with feedback on, and suggestions for improving their operations.

Inspectors' reports were often long winded (as the following extracts show), but they provide another insight into the history of The Lake School.

Note the reference to 'the three teachers' (Feb. 19, 1959). Many of you will be aware of the long association Mr. McGillivray, Miss Fregon and Mrs. Taylor held with The Lake.

Also of interest is the entry of May 4, 1917, which explains that on some days Mr. Casey had to teach ALL 63 pupils.

EXTRACTS FROM INSPECTORS' REPORTS

JUNE 4, 1914

All the lessons given by Mr. Casey this morning reached the standard of very good. The lower grades are taught chiefly by Miss McInnes, Sewing Mistress, who does good steady careful work and supervises satisfactorily. The Head Teacher also teaches in these grades on necessary occasion.

Considering the advanced school age at which many of the pupils have entered this school and the fact that 3 years ago the School was burnt down and not replaced for a year, and no means of children attending elsewhere, this school is in a very efficient state generally.

Under Mr. Casey's management and teaching, very good work - some of it excellent - is being done at The Lake School. I have no hesitation in recommending this school as a 'model' country school....

I can state with pleasure and confidence that Mr. Casey's school is on the whole, the best managed country school I have seen during my inspecting.

MAY 4, 1917

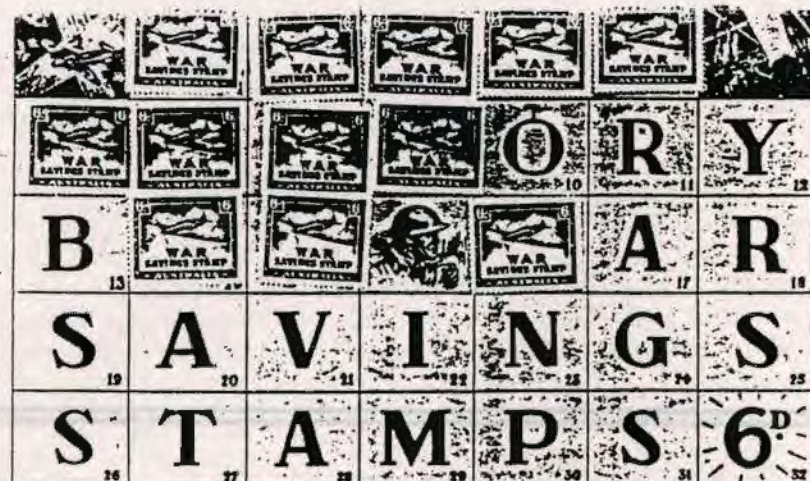
The 63 pupils representing all grades up to and inclusive of the 6th Grade were in the charge of the Head Teacher, as this was one of the days which the temporary sewing mistress is absent.

MAR. 11, 1919

War Activities

The school has responded splendidly in its war efforts. The sum of 326 pounds 19/10 has been paid to the Department's Patriotic Fund.

Flower Day realized 56 pounds 18/3 and a Swimming Carnival approximately 20 pounds while war bonds (adults and pupils groups) to the value of 1,500 pounds were taken up.



Don't be an Onlooker—Be in the Fight...

JULY 12, 1922

Grounds: The site which was formerly a windswept waste block considered practically useless has been well planted with wind breaks, has a nice lawn and garden with good shrubs and a revenue returning plot of one acre of vines. All these improvements added to the aspect it overlooks Lake Hawthorn render it one of the finest school sites to be seen. It is securely fenced but in places the netting needs repair.

From the vineyard 25 pounds was raised for school equipment. The shelter shed is in use as an infant classroom. Water supply is sufficient. Out offices are sanitary.

The Head Teacher is also a leader in an ambitious scheme to beautify Lake Hawthorn by planting its foreshore and by the erection of bathing sheds and pavilions.

APR. 10, 1923

The produce from the vineyards has been dried and stacked, and from its sale money is available for school equipment, and what is more important an all round training is given in viticulture.

The present accommodation is insufficient but the contractor has commenced the erection of an additional room. Now that the weather has cooled off, the Infant department should be housed in the shelter shed in preference to the cloak room.

Maintenance: It is proposed to concrete the swimming pool.

OCT. 16, 1923

A fine new infant room is now in use and is well filled. There are not sufficient desks at present but more are being sent and there will then be seating accommodation for all. Floors and walls are clean. The little lunch cupboard in the main entry might be removed to another position as it is rather unsightly. Children should not be allowed to play about the passages or doors.

...New volumes have been added recently to the school library which is neatly catalogued and nicely arranged.

...Almost every family is provided with a towel and individual drinking vessels are used.

...The children here are alert and intelligent. They speak freely and clearly.

There is rather too much noise in the larger room when all classes are in. Children should be encouraged to work more quietly.



MAY 1, 1925

The Head Teacher has now on hand a fine exhibit of dried fruits which he proposes to exhibit at the next Royal Agricultural Show. ...There are flourishing branches of the League of Tree Lovers, the League of Bird Lovers and the League of Kindness.

SEPT. 7, 1938

...very high standards are set and much excellent work is being done. A noteworthy feature of the teaching is that children are being trained to think for themselves, to have ideas and to express them.

OCT. 20, 1941

The school is cooperating in the district scheme for growing onion seed for Great Britain. The school fruit block, worked on the shares system provides practical training for pupils and also returns on the average about 25 pounds a year for school funds. An additional area is now ready for planting. Very good work has been done in the school plantation.

JUNE 9, 1942

The school has a War Savings Certificate Group. Despite local opposition this school has contributed freely to the V.S.S. War Relief Fund.

Natural slit trenches due to water erosion are close to the school and these are used for 'Air Raid Warning' drills. These drills are carried out very well, and as aeroplanes are constantly passing over, the practices are quite realistic.

Special work has been done by the safety patrol which attends to the safety of children who catch the Merbein and Mildura buses. Needlework is in charge of the 1st F.A. Much good work for war relief has been done by the senior girls. During the last year 163 articles for war relief were sent away. The reports on the quality were excellent.

MAY 5, 1947

The elimination of Grades VII and VIII at this school has enabled the larger classroom to be used as an infant room.

JUNE 23, 1950

A recently acquired piece of land, four and a half acres in area, has been cleared and graded. Plans are in hand for an extension of the school vine block. A new shelter pavilion has been erected. Excellent accommodation is provided in this three-roomed brick building. Satisfactory arrangements are made for heating in winter, and four large air circulators are a comfort in the summer.

Broadcast lessons play an important part in the organisation of the school work.

The school is fortunate in having a detached wooden building wherein lessons in folk-dancing, and the film strip projector can be used.

FEB. 19, 1959

Assemblies are a very good feature. The marching in to the accompaniment of amplified music makes a stimulating start for the following sessions' proceedings.

The three teachers have had a long and profitable association with the school and have a wide knowledge of their school and local problems. The Head Teacher exerts a calm and experienced influence on school affairs and both assistants are loyal and hard-working in support.

Parent bodies association with the school continue to render excellent service.



Mr. A. McGillivray, Agnes Wilson, Barbara Kneebone and Thelma Taylor.

MAY 10, 1961

Assemblies are a stimulating prelude to the day's work. A ten-minute folk-dancing period as a warming-up activity began early and caused no loss of normal time.

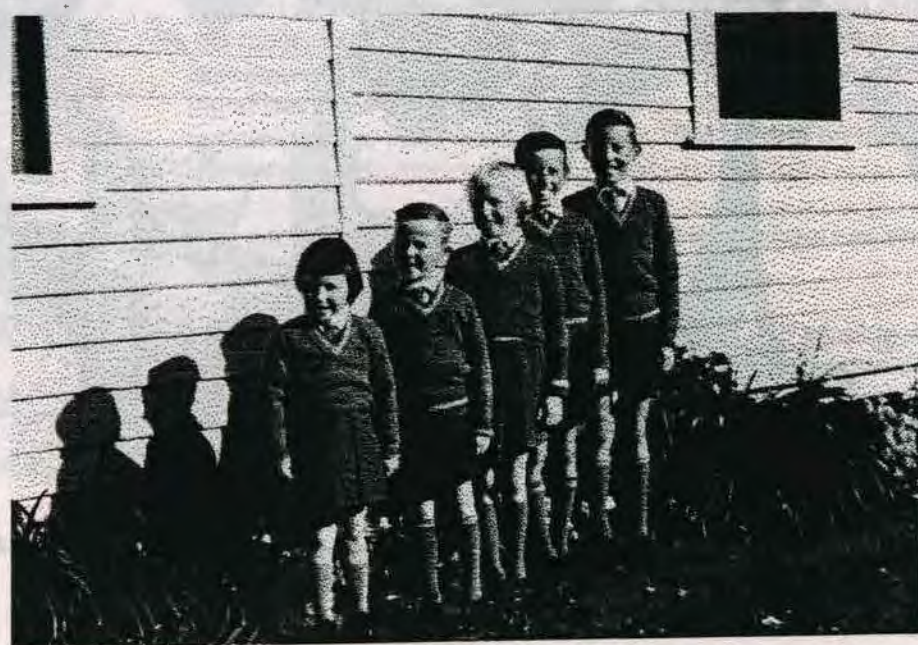
Parent bodies maintain their excellent service support of the school. The visit coincides with the Twelfth Schools' Floral Festival with the school and the Mothers' Club again making full contribution to its success.

THE LAKE SCHOOL MOTHERS' CLUB

The Lake School Mothers' Club was established in September, 1925 and its many members have provided an excellent service to the School over the years.

Like the School Committee members, the Mothers' Club members have proven themselves to be resourceful, dedicated and hard working.

The following extracts provide an insight into the operations of the Mothers' Club from its inception in 1925 to the late 1960's.



The Cupper children in their Lake School Uniform in 1965

EXTRACTS FROM THE LAKE SCHOOL MOTHERS' CLUB MINUTES

SEPT. 16, 1925

The first meeting of the Lake Mother's Club proved asuccess there being upwards of thirty ladies present. Enthusiasm marked the proceedings everyone being anxious to do all in her power for the benefit of the school and scholars.

The voting resulted in the following office bearers being elected:-

President:	Mrs. McCarthy
Vice President:	Mrs. Walters
Treasurer	Mrs. Broadstock
Secretary	Mrs. Casey

A committee of six ladies were elected: Mesdames Norman, Rodwell, McKelvie, Thompson, Woodbury and Brown.

Though this committee was elected it was the unanimous wish of the meeting that all would help conjointly for the success of the club and that meetings be open to all members.

It was then decided to arrange for a Euchre Party and Dance to be held in the schoolroom.

MAR. 28, 1926

...that an account be opened in the State Savings Bank. Cheques to be signed by president and secretary.

...that 2 dozen cups be purchased at Shillidays.

...that a bazaar with a dance to follow be held on the first Friday in June having full moon. This proved to be the 26th.

*Education Department,
Melbourne.*

Statement of Receipts and Expenditure Bazaar.

Gate	£1/17/6	Motor for Band	£1/0/0
Palais.	18/0	Dus	£1/11/0
Shooting Gallery	£1/17/3	Music	£2/ 5/0
Plant stall	£1/ 0/3	Advertising	£2/14/0
Dis	£2/ 0/6	Profit	£60/5/6
Fish pond	£3/ 3/4		
Refreshments	£8/14/4		
Fancy stall	£20/16/4		
Produce stall	£11/17/0		
Sweet stall	£7/17/0		
Cake stall	£7/12/0		

£67/15/6

£67/15/6

AUG. 31, 1927

It was unanimously decided that Mrs. Casey buy a curtain for the stage.
...that a note of appreciation be sent to Mr. Broadstock for making steps.
It was unanimously decided to have a break up party - fancy dress optional.

DEC. 11, 1927

It was decided to have the children's party on Thursday.
The secretary to order

3 large bread - cut
3 butter
at Mr. Collins'

and 3 lb castor sugar at Mr. Hawson's.

OCT. 5, 1932

It was agreed to meet at the school to make final arrangement for the fair.
Mr. Romeril was asked to purchase 4doz rolls of paper for decorating stalls.

Enough soft drinks for the picnic were donated by the ladies present (12 bottles) also tea, sugar, oranges and nuts.
Lollies and bags to be bought. Each mother donating 1/- towards funds for providing same.

SEPT. 4, 1940

...that a bus be engaged for Annual School picnic (at Kenny Park).

...that 3 tins lollies
5/- worth of peanuts and
3 jars of cordial
be purchased for school picnic.

APR. 2, 1952

Treasurer's Report

2 pounds was banked on April 1st making a balance of £ 39-0-0.

Accounts passed for payment were 5/10 for Risbeys for birdwire for Floral Festival and 1 pound for petty cash.

General Business

A design was decided upon for the Floral Festival and arrangements made to get as many flowers and helpers as possible.
Arrangements were also made for a small carpet to be displayed in Shilliday's window on Friday 4th April to advertise the Festival.

DEC. 2, 1953

...that we order 120 flags from Red Cross for Royal Tour.

APR. 7, 1954

...that a vote of thanks be extended to teachers for their wonderful attention to the children on the day of the Royal Visit.

Balance Sheet Floral Festival 1951.

Receipts

Expenditure

Contributions from Schools	10-2-0	Advertising 3M A	12-0
Donations. F. Headland	£5-5-0	Rent of Hall & S. Room	9-10
G. Singh	10-0	Cost of Amplifying System	8-8-0
F. Ransom	£1-1-0	Cost of Circulars Central	1-3-0
Donations for prizes	£1-1-0	Printing	2-0-11
R. Chaffey	£1-1-0	Mildura Ice Works	2-4-5
A. Henshall	10-0	Cost of Prizes	3-11-9
Washington Motors	1-1-0		
Stuart & Harrison	1-1-0		
Lurray Valley	1-1-0		
Coaches	4-14-0		
Stalls	1-1-0		
Flowers & Plant	16-17-9		
Produce	23-13-0		
Ice Cream & Drinks	10-17-10		
Cakes	17-10-8		
Afternoon tea	13-2-7		
Sale of Tickets	87-1-10		
Mildura Central	34-6-0		
Mildura West	26-2-6		
Mildura High	11-7-0		
Irymple	11-11-6		
Lake	9-12-6		
Nicholls Point	3-15-6		
G.W. R. Hiscok	97-2-0		
discount on books	3-9		
Door takings	153-13-4		
	359-12-11		
		Bank Bal	298-0-
			20-17-10
			359-12-11

APR. 1, 1964

...that a Li-Lo lounge had been purchased for children when they are sick, and also curtain material for office.

Discussion then followed concerning a school uniform and the following were adopted:

Grey tunic and white blouse for girls, and grey trousers and shirts for boys. A final decision on ties, pullovers and socks to be made at the next meeting.

APR. 29, 1964

A final decision on jumpers, ties and socks for the school uniform was made. Jumpers - grey banded blue-gold-blue blue tie with narrow gold stripe socks:- grey banded blue-gold-blue for boys and grey or white socks for girls.

A circular is to be sent out to parents before the school holidays.

General Business

After much discussion, a blue check material with a lemon line was selected for the girls' summer uniform....with white buttons, buckles and socks. Boys to wear grey shirts, shorts and socks.

JUL. 31, 1968

General Business

After a lengthy discussion on Scholarships the members decided to still have our scholarships awarded on a competitive basis. It was also decided to increase the value of the scholarship from \$10 per annum to \$15 per annum for 2 years.

*Ordering for Christmas party
1959.*

*No Cordial ordered as
1 1/2 gallons of Raspberry Cordial
1 gallon of Orange Cordial
remained from School picnic.*

*4 large sliced bread.
1 1/2 lbs butter.*

*Ice cream: 3 boxes at 13/10 of
Woppe Soppies. (Adge).
1/4 block of ice for drinks.*

*From parents 1 plate of cakes &
filling for sandwiches.*

SUBJECTS TAUGHT DURING THE EARLY YEARS

There have been many changes in the school curriculum over the years. The following subject titles taken from 1915, 1945 and 1998, demonstrate these variations and changes.

1915 Subjects:

Reading and Recitation
Language
History and Geography
Manual Training and Needlework
Agriculture
Grammar
Spelling
Arithmetic
Singing
Recorded work
Physical Training

(Taken from Inspector's Report July 24, 1915)

1945 Subjects:

Speech Arts
Reading
Written Expression
Writing
Spelling
Grammar
Poetry
Arithmetic
Social Studies
Science and Nature Study
Physical Education
Music
Manual Work (art)

(Taken from Inspector's Report April 5, 1945)

1998 Subjects:

English Language	- Speaking and Listening - Reading - Writing
Mathematics	- Number - Space - Measurement
The Arts	- Visual Arts - Music - Dance - Drama
Technology	
Studies of Society and Environment	
Science	
Health and Physical Education	
Languages other than English	- Indonesian
Library	
Religious Education	

DO YOU REMEMBER.....?

School milk	Tunics
Folk dancing	Swooping magpies
The Oath	The Rainbow Fair
The strap or the cane	Combined sports day
Imperial measurements	Sack races
The swimming pool	Monkey bars
The Maypole	Cuisenaire rods
Broadcasts	The Choral Festival
'John and Betty'	Floral Carpets
Inspectors	Monitors
School ties	Peppercorn trees
The shelter shed	'Playmates' and 'Holidays'
The Grade Readers	School Reports (10 / 10)
Open fireplaces	Potato races
Marching	Spelling lists
Medicine balls	Ink wells
God Save the Queen	Onion seeds
Hopscotch	Elastics
Bicycle clips	Crystal sets
Sou' westers	Yo-yos
Marbles, alleys and Tom Bowlers	Water bags
Riding bikes in the gullies	Knuckles

LITTLE ANGELS !!

As many past pupils and teachers will recall there are times when some children behave 'inappropriately' at school and punishment has always been a part of school life.

During the 70s and 80s a 'Corporal Punishment Register' of pupil offences was kept. This register provides an insight into some of the many and varied offences committed by pupils and the punishment they received.

Perhaps some ex-students can remember similar 'offences' being committed during their time at The Lake.

Please note - Names have been withheld to protect the 'not - so' innocent!

Pupil			Offence	Nature and extent of punishment inflicted.
Name	Age	Grade		
?	8	2	Swearing / kicking	One strap to hand
?	8	2	Disobedience / Lying	Strap to hand
?	10	5	Swearing (at Girls)	4 strappings
?	8	2	Burying child's lunch in sand	2 strappings
?	8	3	Writing on wall	One light strap to each hand
?	8	3	Taking grapes. Leaving school grounds.	"
?	12	6	Singing filthy songs to Grade 6 girls	2 straps on right hand
?	11	5		
?	11	5		
?	11	6	Urinating on other boys	2 straps on each hand

NET ENROLMENTS

FROM 1908 - 1998

These figures are taken from a number of sources including Inspectors' Reports and Department of Education History Unit records.

Due to the fluctuation in enrolments during any one school year, the figures would not have remained static. Occasionally, there was a significant variation in student numbers over a given year.

Events such as the two World Wars and the introduction of Grades 7 and 8 into the school would also have impacted on student numbers.

The original enrolment at the opening of the school on July 16, 1908 was 34 pupils. Upon the reopening of the school on December 1, 1911 - after the fire - the figure was 12 although one source quotes 18 pupils.

1908 - 34	1952 - 79	1990 - 111
1909 - 49	1953 - 87	1991 - 109
1910 - School closed	1955 - 89	1992 - 106
	1956 - 101	1993 - 84
1911 - 12 / 18	1957 - 109	1994 - 95
1912 - 19	1958 - 104	1995 - 97
1913 - 6	1959 - 99	1996 - 110
1914 - 22	1960 - 95	1997 - 109
1917 - 67		1998 - 115 (currently 126)
1919 - 62	1961 - 93	
1920 - 81	1962 - 106	
	1963 - 105	
1921 - 78	1964 - 97	
1922 - 102	1965 - 99	
1923 - 110	1966 - 98	
1924 - 102	1967 - 90	
1925 - 139	1968 - 103	
1926 - 118	1969 - 95	
1927 - 92	1970 - 87	
1928 - 114		
1929 - 137	1971 - 97	
	1972 - 95	
1931 - 112	1973 - 101	
1932 - 106	1974 - 88	
1934 - 139	1975 - 103	
1935 - 134	1976 - 106	
1936 - 123	1977 - 114	
1937 - 106	1978 - 123	
1938 - 116	1979 - 133	
1939 - 111	1980 - 127	
1940 - 95		
	1981 - 121	
1942 - 101	1982 - 107	
1944 - 104	1983 - 94	
1946 - 99	1984 - 95	
1947 - 98	1985 - 82	
1948 - 100	1986 - 100	
1949 - 87	1988 - 113	
1950 - 92		

NOTE: Where more than one figure was available, the highest figure for that year has been given.

FOUR GENERATIONS

Many families have had long associations with The Lake with a number of generations receiving their education at the school.

One such family is the Heaysman family who have been associated with The Lake School (on both sides of the family tree) for four generations, with three descendants - Erica, Rohan and Kurt - presently attending the school.

LOUISE TYSON
(Student)

MRS. WALTERS
(Vice President of first
Mothers' Club - 1925)

LESLIE HEAYSMAN
(Student)

EUNICE WALTERS
(Student)

JILL ANDREW ALAN PETER ELIZABETH
(Students)

ERICA ROHAN KURT
(Present students)

Both Leslie and Eunice's brothers and sisters attended The Lake School as students.

Later, a number of the Walters' children were to return as teachers at The Lake.

Olwen Walters attended The Lake and also taught grades 3&4 from 1936 to 1938 as a student teacher.

Jack Walters taught as a student teacher in 1928 and 1929.

Joyce Walters attended The Lake and later taught as a sewing mistress.

PERSONAL RECOLLECTIONS

This section contains the personal recollections of past students and teachers.

As well as providing an insight into school life from another perspective, the recollections and anecdotes will no doubt bring back memories of your own association with The Lake School.



Mr. McGillivray's Farewell - August 1968

MRS. EDITH YOUNG (TUNKIN)

The following information was supplied on behalf of Mrs. Edith Young (Tunkin), now aged 96. Mrs. Young was born in 1902 and attended The Lake School along with four other members of her family.

	Register No.	Date of Birth	Date of Admission
TUNKIN Edith	27	16. 1.1902	May 1912
TUNKIN Alice	28	22. 1.1900	May 1912
TUNKIN Frances	33	31. 1.1906	July 1912
TUNKIN Bill	81	11.11.1909	1. 2. 1916
TUNKIN Sylve	107	6. 8.1911	3.10.1916

'The Head master was Mr. Bill Casey - who taught the children as well - (He used to belt into the boys).

A sewing teacher used to come in once a week - sister, Priscilla [Tunkin] was the sewing teacher for some time.

The Tunkins lived on Etiwanda Avenue (towards the abattoirs). It was a 3 mile walk through the scrub to get to school. Many times Mum [Edith] has told us this story.....

One morning a well dressed man in a gig passed them walking to school - they called out "No thanks mister we don't want a ride!", only to arrive at school to find it was the school inspector. They were very embarrassed and felt very cheeky and guilty - but has given them lots of laughs over the years.

Mum [Edith] often talks of "wearing her best dress" when they were taken into Mildura to see the first train arrive and the station opened.

What a lot of effort to get them all ready. The Mother was in a wheelchair.



An Early Visit to The Lake - 1912

In September 1912 a Mr. H. B. Williamson, possibly a field naturalist, visited the Mildura area and presented a report to the Field Naturalists' Club of Victoria in 1913. Part of this report mentions our school.

He says: "I rode home past the "Lake" school. This school has a good garden and agricultural plots, so, being interested, I took the liberty of trespassing to inspect them. When I had done so, and was preparing to depart, a lad who was driving past ordered me off the premises in tones more forcible than polite. He got away too quickly for me to let him know, as I wished to, that I was not offended (as his rapid retreat seemed to suggest I ought to be) by his solicitude for the welfare of his garden. We are getting more and more of this - "Our school," "Our garden" - and it augurs well for the rising generation and for the protection of public property. Near the school is a splendid specimen of *Acacia homalophylla*, Myall about 25 feet high, and very symmetrical. It was a mass of bright yellow bloom, and I had to spend several minutes admiring it from various points of view. At the edge of a small lake nearby, trees of *Acacia stenophylla*, Eumong, were noted....In this locality also are to be seen miniature canyons, examples of the work of rapid corrosion of water-courses, the soft clay being carved into narrow gorges ten or twelve feet deep and only a few feet across."

At the end of the report Mr. Williamson acknowledges the support of Mr. H. W. Casey.



MRS. TESS JOLLY (CARNEY)

Mrs. Jolly is aged 85 years and lives in Whyalla Playford, South Australia.

' Mr. Casey was our teacher and has us bottling fruit to send to Melbourne market - always got a good result.

I can still remember the first plane that came to Mildura. We all ran from the class to see it, as it landed very close to the school.'

JOHN DEDMAN

I attended The Lake School from 1922 - 1927. I can only remember 3 teachers: Miss Ray, Mr. W. Carney, and of course the head master Mr. W. Casey.

Lake Hawthorn, in my first years, was a fresh water lake and we went down to it for a swim. Later a dam was concreted in the school grounds for our swimming, without filtration it would not have been ideal, but we enjoyed it.

I remember picking currants on the school block to pay for a hat ribbon, one penny a bucket.

Although it is 70 years since I left The Lake, I remember Mr. Casey's teaching with pleasure, and recall one day planting a tree. I said, "Near enough" and Mr. Casey's voice came from behind me. "Nothing is Near Enough in this world Dedman". I have tried to work that way every since.

John Dedman

JOYCE KNIGHT (THOMAS)

I came to 'The Lake School' around 1937. I was formally from 'Yamba School', South Australia, where our writing was a little different. I remember my first day at school we had spelling and the girl next to me had to correct it. She marked all my work wrong as we did different T's and R's in South Australia.

My teacher at the time was Mr. Olney. Later a Mr. Spencer came as our teacher. About 30 years later I was walking down a street in Bendigo and Mr. Spencer recognised me from all those years ago.

My best friend at school was Lorna Mayne.

Joyce (Thomas) Knight

TOM McCARTHY

The following letter was sent by Tom's mother to Mr. Casey, Head Teacher in 1925:

Dear Bill,

*Please don't give Tom the cuts for being late for school.
Apart from picking up Marg and John Rodwell and Laurel
and Joyce Smith the old buggy had to be greased. Also
the old horse was 15 years old today and is feeling her age.*

*I remain
hopefully yours*

Mrs. McCarthy

TOM McCARTHY'S SCHOOL DAYS, THE LAKE SCHOOL

Driving a 4 - wheel buggy, he travelled first to Rodwells and Smiths, who lived opposite each other. Smiths were usually having breakfast, so a delay there. Rodwells were usually ready.

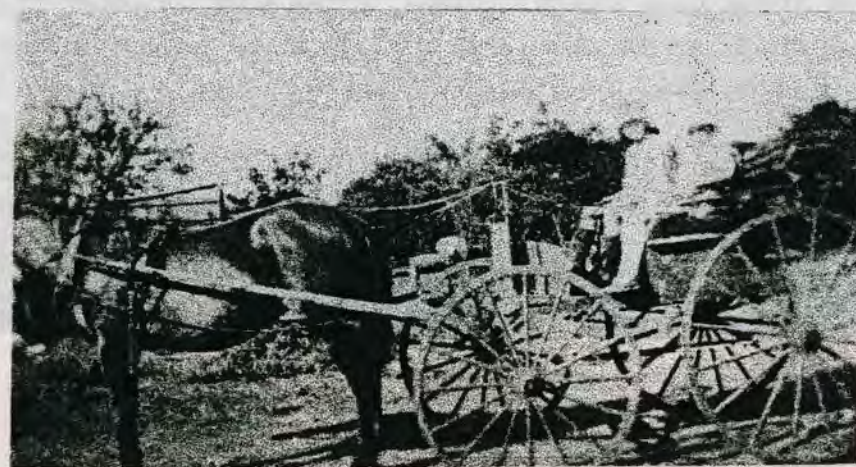
After arriving at school - a distance of about 2 miles, Tom had to unharness the horse - 'Auntie' and later 'Granny'. By that time school was generally under way, resulting in the 'cuts' for being late.

One time Tom had occasion to pick up the teacher, after which the understanding man ceased the punishment.

Tom had matches and was demonstrating to his passengers how he could 'flick' them. Unfortunately, one landed in McGauchie's dry grass and a fire resulted. Tom's father and Uncle were called to help put out this mysterious fire.

Tom later admitted his guilt.

One task for the Senior boys was to dig the holes to take the contents of the toilets, every Friday.



FROM THE LAKESIDE TO THE SKIES.

by Milton Whiting (student 1928 - 33)

I write to put on record some history that dramatically changed the lifestyles of a number of ex-students of my vintage.

With the outbreak of World War 2 in 1939 much discussion took place about which of the three armed services one should apply for.

As Ray Cupper was already a member of the permanent RAAF there was no decision required. Both Ken Cupper and Fred Knudsen held private pilots' licences, so that led them to the RAAF option.

In order of school enrolment, Dick Litchfield, Ron Bailey, John Robbins, Noel Whitney, Colin Bull and I applied for air-crew training and all were accepted. There may have been others of whom I am not aware, or who had moved away from the district and subsequently enlisted as air-crew members.

Of the nine I have mentioned, Dick Litchfield and Ron Bailey were killed in action, while the rest returned to civilian life in 1945/46.

Because of his experience and ability Ray Cupper attained the rank of Squadron Leader. Fred Knudsen, who had spent part of his time as an instructor of trainee pilots, remained in the airforce and had a very chequered career, surviving several near misses, becoming a senior test pilot and attaining the rank of Group Captain - all this without any secondary schooling!

Such is the calibre of a Lake School education!

An early letter

The following is an extract from a letter that 5 year old Max Whiting wrote to his Aunty.

The baker said
the lake hawthorn
school is a very
fine school it's made
of bricks and
plaster But all
that is wrong with
it they have
a crabby old master
X X X X X
X X X X X
but Mase

It reads: "...the baker said the Lake Hawthorn School is a very fine school - it's made of bricks and plaster - But all that is wrong with it - they have a crabby old master."

A commendable effort for a 5 year old.

More Recollections

The following recollections have been taken from letters sent to the 1980 reunion committee, and we felt the information contained would be of interest.

CONNIE MAVOR? (JOWETT)

(Connie's uncle was Harold Hawson, store owner. Her grandfather, Sydney Hawson was School Caretaker.)

'On the 4th of October 1930 my Grandfather, Sydney Hawson (School Caretaker) enrolled me at the Lake School, Mildura and after a few preliminaries with my Head Master, Mr. Romeril, I was taken to a large, light classroom where the Teacher was standing on her platform (she looked enormous). I announced that - "I am Constance Margaret Jowett and I'm five today".

I loved school and soon made friends with Heather Cannard, Edna Lamont, Joyce Watts, Andrew Dickie and Eunice Callas.

I lived with my Grandparents at Cabarita Post Office and always took a packed lunch which we ate sitting in the Pepper trees at the school entrance, near the swimming pool - or in the large Hall (with a stage) where I was once a Japanese girl in a school play.

In 1933 we planted trees in a field adjoining the school.

The good grounding I received in those formative years at the Lake School stood me in good stead as I continued my education in England in 1934.'.....

Constance Mavor 12. 11. 1980

KATH FOSTER (LANGDON)

'... Mr. Blackmore the Methodist minister came for the religious instruction and later with the help of my brother Fred and Bill Thompson formed a Sunday School of school pupils held at the Lake School Sunday afternoons.

Later a church service was started and held in the infant room of the school after Sunday School class. The parents of some of the pupils made up the first congregation...'

Mrs Florence Jenkins (Fairhall)
Teacher 1937 - 41



1939 with grades 5, 6 & 7



1998 with Ainslie Cupper at The Lake.

During this, the School's 90th year, we were fortunate to be able to meet and talk with Mrs. Florence Jenkins, now aged 92, who taught at The Lake School for 5 years from 1937 to 1941.

Thanks to the help of members of the Cupper family, and Mr. McMahon the principal, we were able to arrange for Mrs. Jenkins to revisit The Lake in February this year. Even after more than half a century had elapsed, Mrs. Jenkins was able to recall people, places and events quite clearly.

The following account looks at Mrs. Jenkins' career, her recollections of teaching at The Lake, and her impressions of the present day Lake School.

The article also gives us an insight into school life during the Second World War.

Mrs. Jenkins, (then Miss Florence Fairhall) began her teaching career in the 1920's in Melbourne after completing her junior teacher training.

In 1937, as Mrs. Jenkins recollects, all Victorian state school teaching positions were 'thrown open to anyone'. Many transfers occurred across the state. Mrs. Jenkins took the opportunity to apply for a position. The then Miss Fairhall listed numerous schools in her application, including The Lake School - failing to heed her mother's advice not to apply 'up there' (referring to Sunraysia). Upon hearing of her daughter's appointment, Miss Fairhall's mother commented: "Well there's this about it - you won't stay there long!" After sixty one years of living in Mildura, Mrs. Jenkins recalls this prophecy with amusement.

Miss Fairhall aged 30, began teaching as the infant mistress at the Lake School in 1937. The headmaster at this time was Mr. Gladstone Olney.

Mrs Jenkins remembers The Lake as a happy school where the teachers knew and cared for all the children - not just the children in their classroom. To highlight this point Mrs. Jenkins explained that over the years, when she has met up with ex-students some have said to her: "You taught me at the Lake". In some cases Mrs. Jenkins would assure them that she didn't actually teach them in a grade, although it may have seemed that way, due to the 'family' atmosphere at the school.

The second headmaster Miss Fairhall served under was Mr. John Spencer. Both he and his wife are remembered with respect and affection.

During the 1930's and 1940's school life for children at The Lake was vastly different from the conditions experienced by children today. This was especially so during the war years, when scarcity and sacrifice became a way of life.

Truancy became more common during war time, as a number of families found it necessary to call on their younger children to help at home - driving tractors during picking for example.

Paper was very scarce during the war years, and students were expected to use every space available on both sides of the paper, before another piece of paper was used. Bicycle and tyre tubes were also extremely scarce during this time.

Children did not have access to the variety of foods and drinks children take for granted in their school lunches today. Ainslie Cupper, a pupil of Miss Fairhall's in 1937, remembers, on rare occasions, being allowed to take home-made pies over to the school residence, where Mrs. Spencer, would kindly warm them up. Mr. Cupper recalls the other children 'drooling' as the special treat was being devoured at lunch time.

Children made good use of their ingenuity to create games and play equipment. Mr. Cupper recalls using sardine cans as toy cars - pushing them along in the sandpit, and having car races with other children. Mrs. Jenkins remembers that games like marbles and hopscotch were played in seasons (or crazes as they are sometimes known).

Pupils at The Lake were 'fortunate' to have access to two swimming venues - namely the school pool and Lake Hawthorn - neither of which boasted ideal swimming conditions. Mrs. Jenkins most vivid memory of the pool was the dirty water it contained. Teachers and pupils swam in the 'murky waters'. Mrs Jenkins recalls one ambitious student calling out to her: "Watch me, Miss Fairhall, I'm swimming!" as he slowly sank into the murky depths, before thankfully finding his way to the surface. The water quality of Lake Hawthorn was apparently no better than the Lake School pool.

With regard to teaching conditions during her time at The Lake, Mrs. Jenkins referred to the limited availability of resources and materials for children. For example, reading material was scarce, and the children were offered very little in the way of variety. Many ex-pupils will remember with fondness (or otherwise) the set readers for each grade level.

Mrs. Jenkins also noted the lack of resources for, and information on, children with special needs. She remembers trying to help poor readers to the best of her ability, without resources or guidance. Mrs. Jenkins remembers with affection a child suffering Downs Syndrome, and her attempts to find ways and means of dealing with his education and welfare.

Other subject areas Mrs. Jenkins recalls teaching infants included arithmetic, spelling, physical exercise, handwriting and art. Mrs. Jenkins now questions the value of the art program she followed at the time. Basically, as she remembers it, the teacher would show the children an activity or concept and the children had to copy exactly what they saw - no room for artistic flair!

Large class sizes would also have made teaching a challenge. Many of the class photos of this era show teachers in charge of 40 or 50 children - often composite grades.

During Mrs. Jenkins' five years of teaching at The Lake the most significant event that was to impact strongly on school life was the War. As she put it: "The War upset everything...it ruled everything".

During the war the school program was altered dramatically. As Mrs. Jenkins recalls, everything was geared towards the war effort. Even state school children were expected to contribute to the war effort, undertaking tasks such as sewing and knitting articles of clothing for soldiers and raising money for war funds.

Mrs. Jenkins recalls with amusement, that she pitied the poor soldiers who had to wear some of the finished products from her sewing lessons, as knitting socks proved very challenging for such young children.

Another war time practice was compulsory bomb raid drills. This involved evacuating the school and 'holding out' in the gullies near the school.

With the threat of invasion by the Japanese during the war, came the cancellation of all holidays for teachers. Mrs. Jenkins recalls being unable to visit her family one Christmas. All teachers were asked to remain 'on alert' in case evacuation of civilians further north became necessary, and schools were needed to house evacuees.

As many Sunraysia people still vividly remember, the War was never far from anyone's thoughts, and the familiar drone of Air Force planes flying overhead made the War seem very real. Mildura became a training ground for fighter pilots, providing ideal conditions for low level flying. A few ex-students at The Lake during this time can recall hanging out of the classroom windows, in an attempt to get a better view of the planes flying overhead. After school a few of the more adventurous and inquisitive children would head off to inspect the wreckage scattered around the area.

Sadly, a number of pilots in training lost their lives in numerous plane crashes around the district.

Mrs. Jenkins recalls standing outside her house in Mildura just as two planes collided in mid-air. She remembers vividly the noise the collision made, as well as the relief she felt when the pilots parachuted to safety.

Despite the difficulties of teaching during the 1930's and 40's Mrs. Jenkins enjoyed her role immensely, as she faced the challenges and reaped the rewards of teaching young children.

Judging by her achievements over the years, Mrs. Jenkins was a caring, capable teacher who displayed a genuine love of children and concern for their education and welfare. She still impresses those who meet her today with her genuine fondness for The Lake.

Mrs. Jenkins expressed her gratitude at being able to return to The Lake after so many years. She was impressed by the school and its surrounds, especially the gardens. Mrs. Jenkins was pleased to know, even after all these years that The Lake School still considers itself to be a caring, family school.

JUDI JENKINS (KILLINGBECK)

I remember....

The leeches in the swimming pool and its rough concrete sides.

Getting bawled out by Pop McGillivray after several of us went past the school fence to play in the gullies at lunch time and didn't hear the bell ring for class.

Our dedicated mothers' club had great fetes and used to have lovely matching boy and girl dolls in beautifully hand knitted outfits for the raffle.

One fete night being caught in Pop's office laughing at a magazine featuring Johnny Ray singing 'Crying in the Rain' - rather funny to look at and we got so involved we didn't see Pop come in and yell, "OUT!!". Did we bolt!

ERN GEYER / JEAN GEYER (ALEXANDER)

One thing I remember was how fast we all wanted to get out of school at home time. The reason was if we took the garbage bin up to Mr. Hawson who owned the Post Office on the hill, he would give us a lolly. He must have had a pig or fowls. But it was always a race to see who got the bin, and scored a lolly.

BOB BROWN

Some of my recollections

Headmaster: Alan McGillivray (now deceased)

1. There was a swimming pool in the S.E. corner of the grounds. It was filled in around 1947/48.
2. I can recall being blamed for 'pushing in' a student by the name of Alfred Smith....
3. The football ground was being built around 1948/49....it was a terrible ground at the time...full of 3 corner jacks...and like concrete.
4. Teachers I recall - Miss Kneebone, Mrs. Taylor.
5. I can also remember during my years Infants to Grade 3 printing letters A B C, a b c etc. ..the letter 'T' changed 4 times.
6. I was a 'cheeky young kid' and recall giving John Bull a hard time...he would always chase me, catch me... I would pretend to cry and he would walk away thinking I was scared of him.
7. Some of the students I recall are:
Bill Carney, Coral Carney, Rosalie Carney, Norman Scott, Brian Zrna, Emily Martin, Alfred Smith, Florence Smith, John Bull, Brian Dowdy, Kevin Kranz, Frank Cetinich, Olive Slaughter, Brian Duscher, Bill Axen, Harold Fishlock, Judy Killingbeck, Neville and Joan Taylor, Joe Rocko, Clarke brothers.

LORNA GEORGE

My husband, Basil was secretary of the School Committee for 9 years.

Our 3 children attended The Lake School - Joan, Ian and Peter.

When Ian first started school, his teacher was Miss Kath Fregon, who impressed him. He told us, "She can even play the piano with one finger".

His Nanna played with two hands.

My maiden name was Geyer, but I did not attend The Lake School. I was a member of the Mothers' Club.

Lorna George.

PHIL CUPPER

We all know the song- "Remember The Days Of The Old School Yard".

Well, The Lake School in the 1960's was no exception.

I can recall the number of hours of hard work involved in preparing the boundary line around the old gravel school footy oval. Some of the boys showed great improvisation by physically towing an old furrow shovel to eventually scratch a rough boundary line around the oval.

Marbles of course were a constant source of entertainment and competition with the main rule being not to 'Duck Fudge' because movement of the arm signalled a discreet method of cheating. Some lucky ones brought along ball bearings to replace 'tom bowlers'.

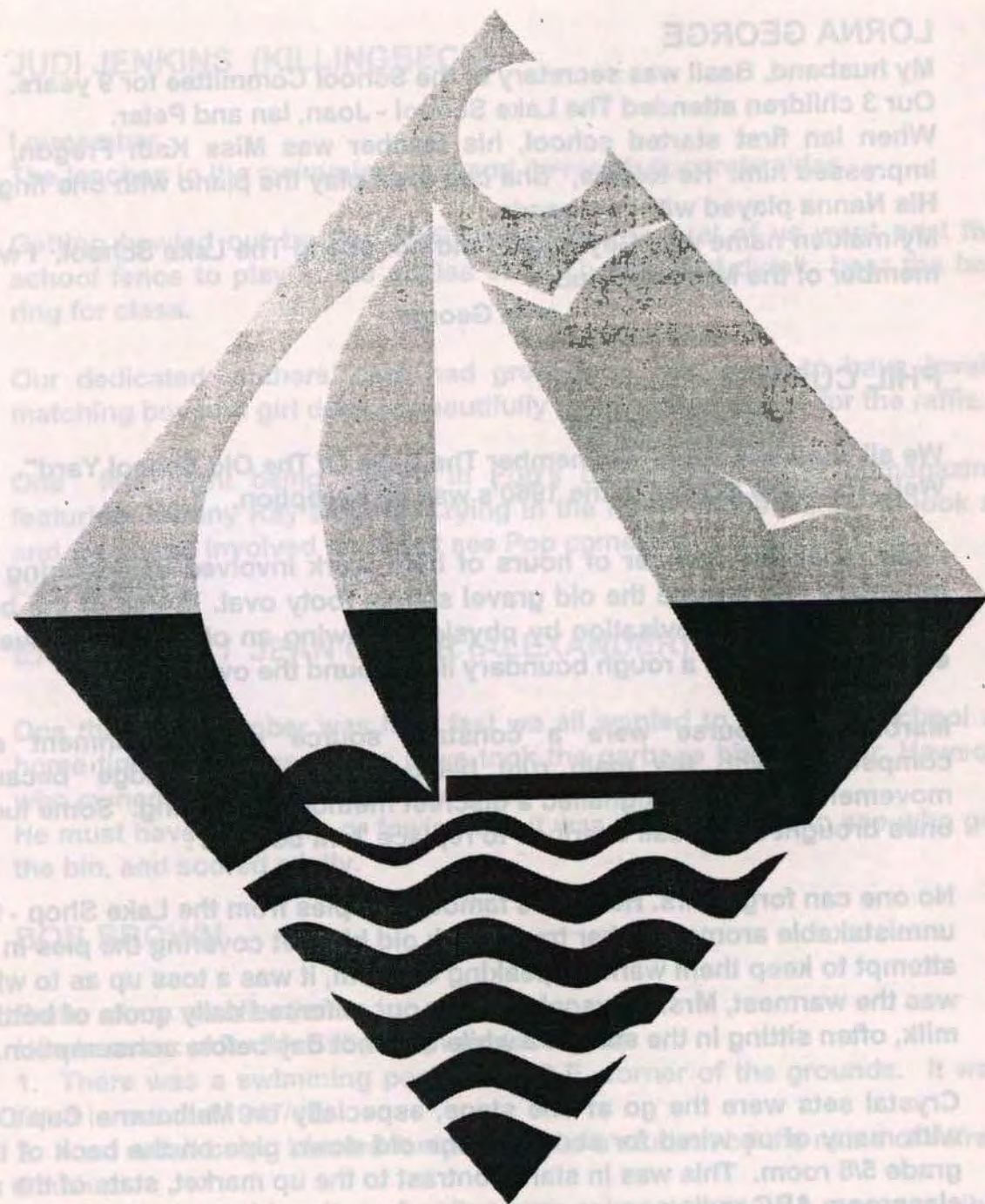
No one can forget Mrs. Hewson's famous hot pies from the Lake Shop - the unmistakable aroma and her trade mark old blanket covering the pies in an attempt to keep them warm. Speaking of warm, it was a toss up as to what was the warmest, Mrs. Hewson's pies or our enforced daily quota of bottled milk, often sitting in the sun for a while on a hot day before consumption.

Crystal sets were the go at one stage, especially on Melbourne Cup Day with many of us wired for sound on the old down pipe on the back of the grade 5/6 room. This was in stark contrast to the up market, state of the art classroom ABC radio service resounding from the old speakers.

Unforgettable memories of the annual 'Sports Day' include the 'Tunnel Ball' contest, often ending in a shambles with the ball escaping, but more importantly, you would hope that the person in front of you at least kept the ball low to avoid painful injury.

Allowing for all of these adversities that we endured in the playground, and due to Mr. McGillivray's renowned strict teaching approach, the graduates from The Lake School invariably performed at secondary school at a higher academic level than most students from other primary schools.

Phil Cupper (Student 1960 - 1967)



This publication was researched and compiled by Sharon Sutherland with the assistance of Joanne Cupper, Heather McMahon and Ian McMahon. Sources include Education Department records, previous reunion publications and notes, former student and teacher recollections, School Committee minutes, Mother's Club minutes and Inspector's Reports. Photographs are from school archives, Wilf Casey and other family collection

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AUTOGRAPHS

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