

H. Carter right

SOUVENIR HISTORY

of

CENTRE ROAD, BENTLEIGH

METHODIST

SUNDAY SCHOOL

1850

—

1954

Centenary Celebrations

Saturday 13th November

to

Sunday 21st November

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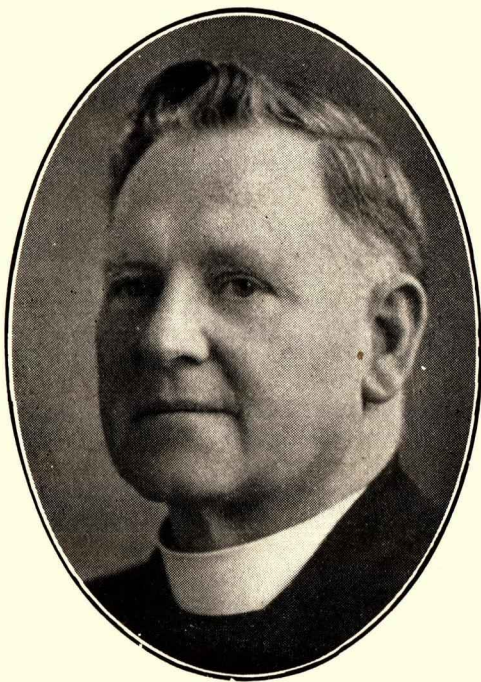
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FOREWORD

(Rev. W. J. Williams)

To write a foreword to this outline of the Sunday School history which covers a hundred years, is indeed my privilege. Here we find a moving story of the heroes and heroines of the Christian faith who laboured for Christ's sake in the spiritual interests of little children and the youth who attended the Sunday School and Church worship.

There are many among us who have links with past generations which mean much to them, and these records will doubtless "Stir up their pure souls by way of remembrance".

Moreover, it will surely prove a profitable exercise for us all to read back into the past and to realise that those who laid the foundations of the work which we are called on to continue, walked by faith in Jesus Christ, Who is the same yesterday and to-day and forever. Now here is our encouragement. Did our fathers labour in vain? The answer is found in the pages of this booklet. We, in our turn, cannot possibly labour in vain if we walk as they walked before the God Who called them in their day, and calls us in this our day.

We are sure that the Centenary services will be Seasons of Grace. A reunion of past scholars with the present teachers and scholars engenders a fellowship all its own.

I take this opportunity of commending the arduous task undertaken by Mr. R. W. Marriott in the research necessary to produce such a splendid record as we now have in our hands. For this service we express our best thanks and appreciation.

— W. J. WILLIAMS, Minister.

CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS — CENTRE ROAD, BENTLEIGH, METHODIST SUNDAY SCHOOL, 1854-1954.

One hundred years of history that has left its mark!

"How true it is that the mind delights to contemplate early history, and the commencement of new life whether of a national or moral character."

It is with a deep sense of gratitude and thankfulness to Our Heavenly Father for all His wonderful blessings during 100 years of service that the pen is taken to pay tribute to our forefathers for their loyal service—their foresight and fortitude—also to those who down through the years have rendered valuable service to the East Brighton (now Bentleigh) Sunday School.

1850:

In those days as we know it, Brighton was covered with dense scrub. The early pioneers ploughed a furrow from Little Brighton, then known as Mill Street (now Hawthorn Road, near to the intersection of Pt. Nepean Road and Hawthorn Road) so that those attending worship could follow the furrow to and from East Brighton (now Bentleigh).

Minutes of British Conference of 1850 Property Report record the erection of a building at East Brighton. This fact coincides with the statement of the late Mrs. C. J. Long (nee Annie Allnutt) that the East Brighton Sunday School was 4 years older than we had shown in our records.

The oversight of this Sunday School was worked from Mill Street—9 scholars constituted the Sunday School, who at Anniversary time had to walk to Mill Street—apparently for 4 years.

It will now be seen that our Centenary Celebrations are long overdue. In the mind of the writer there is no question of doubt that our Sunday School is 104 years old.

The first building on the present site was built from the trees that were cut down and sawn ready for use. The land, 66 x 165, being a gift of Mr. Galloway, who used the building as a day school.

1850-1870—SUPERINTENDENT, MR. THOMAS PORTER.

The earliest records show that the Sunday School in the year of 1854 consisted of 52 scholars.

Amongst those to whom the Sunday School owes its origin we find the names of Messrs. Edward Barker, James Taylor, Peter Barker, Benjamin Bendal, Mr. and Mrs. P. Thorne, Mr. H. Thorne, Mr. and Mrs Thomas Porter.

Mr. Thomas Porter arrived from England in 1848, and took up land (30 acres) at the corner of Patterson and Tucker Road, and was the first Superintendent. He also occupied the position of Secretary and Treasurer. The Secretary's and Treasurer's Book which Mr. Porter used is still in our possession.

Mr. Henry Porter, cousin of Mr. Thomas Porter, was the first official Secretary.

1869:

It is interesting to note that good conduct marks were awarded to the following Scholars August 1st, 1869:—

Edgar Watt, George Porter, Arthur Saunders, William Rattle, William Morley, Edward Williams, Charles Simmonds, George Box, William Simmonds, William Marquis, Samuel Thorne, George Jones, Phillip Jones, William and George Wilson, Joseph Marquis, Benjamin Collins, John Saunders, William Board, Samuel Porter, Winnie Marquis, Catherine Marquis, Minnie Simmonds, Elizabeth Simmonds, Elizabeth Mead, James Mead, James Jones, George Allnutt, and Alfred Watt. Mr. Thomas Porter was Superintendent for 20 years.

1870-1916—SUPERINTENDENT MR. JOHN SIMMONDS

1870:

Mr. John Simmonds was appointed Superintendent—the position he held for nearly 46 years. With his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jeremiah Simmonds, he came to East Brighton at the age of 6 or 7 years. On arrival in Australia, they first lived in a tent in Patterson Road, and later they built the house that stood for so many years next to the Church on the West side of the Highway. Many who remain today gladly join with the writer in paying their tribute to a Great Man of God. A Prince in Israel. He possessed a very jovial spirit. The Faith of our fathers was his heritage. The love and esteem by old and young with which he was held, cemented the influences for good. As he grew older he grew so mellow in his service for the Master. He was ably assisted by a great band of Officers and Teachers.

Secretaries during his Superintendency—Messrs. J. Allnutt, W. G. Learey, W. Phillips, Geo. Learey and Stan Higgins.

1874:

Mr. Herb. Watt and Mr. Charles Saunders, our oldest scholars who are (D.V.) still with us, commenced Sunday School May 24th, 1874.

1882 :

Officers and Teachers on the Roll :—

Supt., Mr. John Simmonds. Mr. Box. Mr. R. Pearson.

Secretary : Mr. W. G. Learey. Mr. Wise. Mr. Phillips.

Librarian : Mr. J. Gurr. Mr. C. Peterson. Mr. Higgins.

Teachers : Misses Gurr, A. M. Allnutt (mother of Mrs. H. Higgins), M. Allnutt (mother of Mrs. A. Longmuir), Elizabeth Simmonds, M. Marquis, R. Box.

Scholars on the Roll in families :—

Learey, Porter, Pelling, Simmonds, Box, Callow, Phillips, Allnutt, Cochrane, Watt, Mabel Hollier (mother of our General Supt., Mr. G. Burgess), Saunders, Green, Wawn, Board, Higgins, Rattle.

1885 :

Minutes of Teachers' Meeting held December, 1885, record the names of the following teachers :—

Misses Allnutt, Box and Garfield.

Messrs. Gurr, Learey, J. Higgins, Robert Marriott, William Marriott, and C. Simmonds.

At this meeting Messrs. W. Marriott, C. Simmonds and W. Phillips were accepted as fully accredited teachers. Messrs. Robert and William Marriott, 1884 and 1885 respectively, were both spared for many years to be associated with the Young Ladies' and Young Men's Bible Classes. The influence of all the abovementioned has made its mark.



Centre Road, Bentlygh, Methodist Sunday School, 1886.

1888:

This will be of interest to the present Officers and Teachers:—

"August 20th—A Prayer Meeting to be held after Sunday School the first Sunday in every month."

This still prevails today. May it continue to be so.

During this period the names of men and women who will long be revered—Mrs. C. J. Long, Misses Wawn and Alexander, Mr. Robert Wawn, Vice-Superintendent; Messrs. Henderson, Purdue, Joyce, appear in the minutes—these, too, have made a great contribution to the influence of the Sunday School in this district.

1890:

Scholars on the Roll, 101. Average attendance, 75.

Teachers on the Roll, 17. Average attendance, 13.

Messrs. Wawn, Matson and Thomas Marriott (eldest brother of Robert and William) were invited as Teachers; also Mr. Callow and Miss Porter and Mr. Sayle. To gain a prize, Scholars had to reach the minimum 250 marks—possible 350.

1891:

Duplicate set of books to be kept, in order that records be kept safely. The reason being in case of fire.

1893:

Income and Expenditure for the year—Income £19/6/1, Expenditure £16/10/4. Balance for year, £2/15/9. (Treasurer of today, Mr. Ken Beach, will be interested.)

Messrs. Strack and Pelling's names are recorded in the minutes. Mr. Strack rendered valuable service as a Teacher, and also Treasurer of the Sunday School. Mr. Pelling, too, as the Conductor for the Sunday School Anniversaries.

1894:

Misses Cochrane, Porter and Callow, and Mr. Phillips appointed collectors for the Sunday School picnic. Mr. Sayle and Mr. Day appear in the minutes as teachers; also Mr. Albert Learey and W. H. Learey.

Misses E. Simmonds, E. Higgins, Mr. Bergin, Mr. Sharman and Mr. Jiggins—they, too, made their contributions. The two ladies are still with us today (D.V.) Mrs. Murfit and Mrs. J. Gillies.

1897:

Resignation of Mr. W. Reid as Teacher. Farewell to Miss Porter and Mr. Sayle on the occasion of their coming marriage, prior to leaving for South Africa. This excerpt taken from Brighton Southern Cross, 7/12/1897.

The inspection of the Minute Books and Roll Books from 1894 to 1908 would gladden the eye of any person—so beautifully written, and the recording of the Minutes is perfect. Mr. George Learey being the responsible person.

1899.

Miss Emma Dunkley received as a Teacher.

1901:

Resignation of Mrs. McKitterick received. Miss I. Jiggins welcomed as a Teacher.

1903:

Teachers Meeting: June 16, 1903.

Present: Superintendent, Mr. John Simmonds, Mr. George Learey and only one teacher, Miss Wawn.

September, 1903: Miss Lena Perry and Mrs. Hosking. (As one of the writer's Teachers, I rejoice that I am spared to pay my tribute to a Good Mother and a Great Lady.)

Mr. Alf Learey appointed Teacher, and Mr. W. H. Learey was appointed Librarian.

1904:

Jubilee Celebrations:

Scholars on the Roll in families—Smith, Ogier, Callow, Higgins, Thompson, Reid, Long, Edwards, West, Monro, Perry, Hosking, Weston, Sharman, Bergin, Scotland, Learey, Marriott, Phillips, Pelling, Green, Powell, King, Wawn, Porter, Sheppard, Love, Knight, Hill, Waddleton and Miller.

Invitation Cards—Interesting to see who can show them.

Reference has been taken from the March issue of "The Spectator", 1905.

For quite a few years very few changes on the Staff of Officers and Teachers took place.

The names of Misses G. Learey and Clinch being recorded, and also the gift of photo by Mr. W. G. Learey, of the Officers and Teachers as a Jubilee Gift.

The numbers on the Roll increasing.

Financial Statement—Income £38/5/4; Expenditure £27/18/10. Balance, £10/6/6.

Jubilee Celebrations: Quite a happy time was experienced during the Celebrations. Many old teachers and scholars returned to join in felicitations. One of the amazing coincidences is the fact that all those who rendered items at the Jubilee Celebrations

OFFICERS AND TEACHERS, 1904



Mr. Long, Mr. E. Pelling (Conductor), Mr. W. Marriott
G. T. Learey (Secretary), W. H. Learey (Librarian), J. Sharman (Treasurer), R. Marriott, A. E. Learey, W. A. Phillips (Del. S.S.U.)
Misses Clinch, Perry, Simmonds, Mr J. Simmonds (Superintendent), Misses Learey, Wawn (Organist), Mrs. Hosking.
Miss Higgins.

have been communicated with, asking would they assist at the Centenary Celebrations, viz., Myrtle Sheppard (Mrs. Dark), Miss Evelyn Sheppard (Mrs. Jones), Mrs. McKitterick, Miss Rene Sheppard (Mrs. Fred Smith).

Mr. Malcolm Henderson, an old Teacher, was given the honour of being the chairman of this very happy gathering, who, in well chosen words, expressed his delight and appreciation of the kind thought of the Officers and Teachers.

Ministers for Sunday Services, November 13th, 1904:

11 a.m. and 3 p.m.: Rev. R. Ditterick.

7 p.m.: Rev. H. J. Cocks.

Old Teachers invited to address the gathering on the Old Scholars' Night, viz., Miss Alexander, Messrs. Henderson, R. L. Balding, Robert Marriott, W. Allnutt and H. Porter.

Prices for the Jubilee Tea Meeting—Adults 1/-, Children 6d.

1905:

Recognition of splendid service rendered by Miss Wawn as Organist, and Mr. E. Pelling as Conductor. Mr. E. Pelling received a Gold Medal suitably inscribed

To Mr. J. L. Smith, for his kindness and generosity in supplying wood gratuitously for the Tea Meetings and Sunday School Picnics. A very valuable service and always rendered in silence. A tribute to a great man of God. Also to Mrs. J. L. Smith, kind in her disposition, ever ready to tell the younger ones of the early days.

Teachers' Meeting decided to close Sunday School on the afternoon of the Tucker Road Primitive Methodist Sunday School Anniversary—this practice continued for many years. Tucker Road at Methodist Union came into the Moorabbin Circuit—but of later years in Bentleigh Circuit.

1906:

June, 1906—Resignation of Mr. C. Long. Mr. and Mrs. Long both rendered yeoman service to our Sunday School. Mr. Long's resignation was received with regret. True it is, these people loved the work. Messrs. E. M. Beach and R. W. Marriott will long remember Mrs. Long for the very valuable information that she was ever ready to pass on to us younger ones, as we prepared the Back to Bentleigh History.

Miss Callow was welcomed as a Teacher.

Resignation of Mrs. Hosking. Received with regret. We will (D.V.) be delighted to welcome Mrs. Hosking to our Centenary Celebrations.

1907:

Mr. Gilbert Learey to accept the position of Conductor for the Sunday School Anniversary. Rev. H. A. Overend accepted to conduct the Services.

1908:

The Sunday School suffered great loss with the removal of the Learey family to Colac (Elliminyt). Miss G. Learey, as a Teacher, and Mr. George Learey tendered his resignation as Secretary October 19th, 1908. Earlier mention has been made of the exceptional manner all records were kept during his term as Secretary of the Sunday School. Our loss certainly was gain for Elliminyt. Miss Elsie Ogier welcomed as a Teacher May, 1908.

East Brighton now to be known as Benteigh. Named after Sir Thomas Bent.

Mr. Stan. Higgins appointed Secretary October 19th, 1908.

1910:

Sunday School maintains steady progress—Miss Q. Long (Mrs. Herb. Higgins) and Miss H. Higgins welcomed as Teachers. Mr. William Marriott elected as Treasurer of the Sunday School. (38 years as Treasurer.)

1911:

Rev. T. J. Cory in the Chair. Mr. H. J. Higgins welcomed as a Teacher; also Miss Ruby Marriott, August 30th 1911.

1912:

Exchange of Library Books—Decided to confer with Moorabbin Sunday School Officials.

Teachers' Meeting decided to appoint a Book Steward for each class, to see that Hymn Books and Bibles are properly cared for.

1913:

Mr. Horace Marriott appointed Librarian in place of Mr. Herb. Sharman. Miss Bessie Long appointed Teacher.

1914:

War clouds gather; quite a number of young men from the Bible Class enter the services.

YOUNG LADIES' BIBLE CLASS



Ettie Reid, Queenie Long, Laura Monro, Mona Larman, Bertha Miller,
Katie Reid, Eva Smith, Robert Marriott, Elsie Ogier, Lil Porter,
Jessie Smith, Gertie Callow.

YOUNG MEN'S BIBLE CLASS



Gus. Callow, Bob Pelling, Otto Wawn, Ernie Matson, Jim Sharman, Bertie Reid.
Clem King, Alf. Higgins, William Marriott, Fred. Porter, Herb. Higgins.
Archie Smith, Eddie Long.

1915:

January 14th: Miss Daisy Marriott welcomed as a Teacher. Miss Daisy has been a teacher and also Superintendent of the Kindergarten for 39 years' continuous service. Many today join together to pay tribute to a life of wonderful service for the Master.

1916:

The names of Scholars (members of the Young Men's Bible Class) and others, suitably inscribed on Honour Board On Active Service.

1914-1918: Great War. We pay our tribute in grateful memory to the fallen.

"Age shall not weary them—
Nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the Sun,
And in the morning,
We will remember them."

March, 1916:

The passing to higher service of our loved Superintendent, Mr. John Simmonds, who had served for almost 46 years. The offer of Mr. Caleb Porter to hang an enlarged portrait of our Late Superintendent in the Sunday School was accepted with thanks.

Mr. Alfred Peterson appointed Superintendent April 18th, 1916. Rev. J. Adams being in the chair. Welcome to Rev. Adams was expressed by Mr. Robert Marriott.

1916-1954

1916-1919:

Mrs. Burgess, Misses Lily Marriott and Ruby Walsh, Mrs. Manfield, welcomed as Teachers. Ruby Walsh appointed Cradle Roll Secretary.

In 1917 there were 71 Scholars, 15 Officers and Teachers.

Mr. Bert Higgins welcomed as Teacher 10/9/18.

Sunday School arranged Welcome to Mr. Tom Henderson from the war.

Mr. Alf. Peterson on tendering his resignation as Superintendent, was thanked for his services.

Mr. William Marriott appointed Superintendent, November 26th, 1918.

1919:

Mr. R. W. Marriott appointed Asst. Superintendent October 23rd, 1919.

Young People's Guild commenced under the leadership of Rev. G. Godbehear.

1920:

Mr. Bert Higgins appointed Secretary on resignation of Mr. Stan. Higgins. Letter of appreciation forwarded to him for his long and faithful service, and for the excellent manner in which he kept the records.

1923:

Began the inevitable rise of Scholars on the Roll. 199 Scholars, 23 Officers and Teachers. As it will be noted, space will not permit to tabulate the names of families connected with the School.

1924:

Changes still continued in the Staff. Mr. Wm. Marriott, Superintendent, resigned, and also Mr. Bert Higgins as Secretary, to be Assistant Superintendent and Secretary, respectively.

December, 1924: Mr. R. W. Marriott and Mr. Ernest Beach were appointed to the positions of Superintendent and Secretary respectively. For 15 years they were spared to work together for the advancement of the Sunday School, and in the Master's Service. My tribute, and many will join with me in paying a great tribute to Ernest Milton Beach for his faithful service as Secretary of the Sunday School.

1925:

6/9/25—Kindergarten officially opened.

Joint Superintendents appointed—Miss Ruby and Miss Daisy Marriott.

1926:

14/3/26—Young Worshipers' League commenced under the leadership of Mr. T. James, assisted by Miss Phyllis Irvine. Members each year graduate up to Intermediate C.E.

Income and Expenditure—

£76/19/7, £67/19/6—Balance. £9/2/10.

1927:

December 5th—Teachers' Meeting welcomed Mr. T. R. Marriott as a Teacher.

1929:

January 7th, 1929—Mr. Alex. Thomas elected as Leader of the Intermediate Christian Endeavour Society, assisted by Ralph Beckett, Robert Ganderton and others. Meeting every Sunday, 10 a.m. The I.C.E. really commenced towards the latter part of 1928, although 1929 officially in the Sunday School records. For 25 years this movement has proved to be the training ground of many of our Teachers in the Sunday School.

SUNDAY SCHOOL PICNIC GROUP



Bill King, Clem King, Oscar Shilton, Arthur Simmonds.
Beattie Porter, Laura Monro, Min. Charles, May Charles, Em. Simmonds, and nephew.
Elsie Ogier, Em. Higgins, Mabel Bent, Bert Higgins.

January 7th, 1932—Mr. Alex. Thomas resigned; Mr. Frank Marriott appointed Leader—holding this position until January, 1934. Our tribute to these two Leaders who laid the foundations of a very fine movement.

1934—Mr. R. W. Marriott took over Leadership. The Endeavour Society has developed into a very strong movement both spiritually and numerically, and is a great tower of strength to the Spiritual life of our Church and Sunday School. Prayer Meeting 9.30 a.m. every Sunday.

December, 1954—we will, God willing, celebrate our Silver Jubilee.

March 10th, 1929—Mr. Victor Sheppard welcomed as a Teacher.

August 5th, 1929—Resolution of Teachers' Meeting. That assistance be given for the commencement of a Sunday School at West Benteleigh. Teachers' Meeting accepted full responsibility of cost of erection of platform for Sunday School Anniversaries in the Church. Total cost—£119/10/-.

1931 :

Scholars on the Roll—232. In 32 classes. 42 Officers and Teachers. Four Departments—Kindergarten, Junior, Intermediate and Senior Departments.

Teachers' Meeting November 30th, 1931. Authority granted to the Officials to form a Primary Department in the Sunday School.

1934 :

Back to Benteleigh Sunday School Reunion of Old Scholars.

Prices submitted to Teachers' Meeting for renovating of Sunday School.

Buildings—

Kindergarten—2 coats, £10.

Kitchen—2 Coats, £1.

Old Church—2 Coats, £14.

Old Sunday School (now Primary Dept.)—

3 Coats, £13.

—Total, £38.

Centenary Celebrations of the State of Victoria, 1934.

Scholars on the Roll—233.

Teachers and Officers—38.

1935 :

Resignation of Mr. Thomas James as Leader of the Y.W.L., but consented to carry on until somebody was appointed.

1938 :

Mr. E. M. Beach resigned as General Secretary to be a Teacher. Mr. R. W. Marriott voiced the appreciation of the splendid service rendered to the Sunday School, supported by Mr. T. R. Marriott. Mr. Les Gill appointed to the position.

1939 :

Mr. Geo. Burgess appointed Superintendent, Intermediate Department. Mr. T. R. Marriott appointed Superintendent, Junior Department.

War clouds gather. Number of our young men enlisting. To those who made the supreme sacrifice, we pay our tribute.

"Age shall not weary them—
Nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the Sun,
And in the morning,
We will remember them."

1942 :

The Sunday School passes through one of those periods of unaccountable poor attendance.

Number of Scholars on the Roll—Boys 81, Girls 93. Total, 174, with an average attendance of 113 Scholars.

September, 1942—The passing to higher service of Mr. Robert Marriott, who had been associated with the Sunday School for almost 60 years. Many join today to pay tribute to a wonderful life of service for the Master.

"For ever with the Lord," a Great Man of God.

Miss Ethyl Ward appointed to the Young Ladies' Bible Class.

1945 :

The pendulum swings to the increase in numbers of Scholars.

February, 1945—118 boys, 120 girls. Total, 238.

Teachers on the Roll—34.

December, 1945—133 boys, 129 girls. Total, 262.

Credit Balance of the Sunday School, £193/7/1.

Mr. Wm. Marriott completed 60 years of diligent and devoted service to the Sunday School.

What a heritage these two brothers, Robert and William Marriott, have handed down to the generation of today.

1946:

Mr. E. M. Beach appointed Superintendent of the Senior Department, now meeting in the Church.

Old Scholars' Reunion to be held in conjunction with the Sunday School. Many old Scholars return to join in the very happy felicitations.

Mr. William Marriott presented with an Illuminated Address from the Officers, Teachers and Scholars of the Sunday School.

1948:

Resignation of our Secretary, Mr. Les. Gill on account of removal from the district. My tribute to a wonderful Secretary. Mr. Norm. Gill appointed to fill the vacancy.

April, 1948: The passing to higher service of Mr. William Marriott. A life of wonderful service and witness for the Master. A great man of God.

1949:

Commencement of Children's Church every Sunday morning.

Purchase of Projector for Sunday School use, and also for throwing the Hymns for the Anniversary on the screen.

Mr. R. W. Marriott completes 25 years as General Superintendent.

1950:

Mr. T. R. Marriott appointed General Superintendent.

1951:

Mr. Don Wheatland appointed General Secretary on resignation of Mr. N. Gill.

Sunday School Building Fund: The sum of £28 was forwarded to the Trust by the Young People for a new Sunday School Building.

1952:

September: It is with deep regret that we record the passing of Mrs. Grimshaw while on holiday in Queensland. The news came as a great shock to all.

Our tribute to a good mother and a great lady.

1953 :

Church Centenary Celebrations.

Committee appointed for Sunday School Centenary, 1954.

During the Church Centenary Celebrations, it is with deep regret that we record the sudden passing to higher Service of our General Superintendent, Mr. T. R. Marriott. For 26 years he rendered yeoman service to the Sunday School. The news of his passing came as a great shock to all. Our tribute to a loyal servant of the Master.

Mr. George Burgess appointed General Superintendent.

CENTENARY YEAR

1954 :

Sunday School Examinations :—

The Scholars who entered this year brought great credit to the Sunday School. Results as follows :—

David Ansell 98, Susan Parker 95, Yvonne Parker 87, Bronwyn Baker 89, Janice Hackett 79, Ailsa McRae 71, Gaille White 85, Anne Peverill 62, Robert Lukie 55, Geoffrey Smith 59, Jennifer Milne 65. Congratulations to the above Scholars for such a fine effort, and also to their tutors, Mrs. Westaway and Mr. Cliff Bennetts.

Mr. Vic. Wheatland appointed General Secretary.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

My grateful thanks to all our friends who greatly assisted me with valuable information in compiling the history of our Sunday School for our first Centenary. What a glorious privilege it is to face the opportunities of the New Century!

PAST AND PRESENT SUPERINTENDENTS



Mr. Thomas Porter,



Mr. John Simmonds,



Mr. Alf. Peterson.



Mr. William Marriott, Mr. Robert W. Marriott, Mr. T. R. Marriott, Mr. George Burgess.

CONCLUSION.

What of the future? Are we prepared to face it with a will to serve and witness for the Master? The Harvest truly is great—but the labourers are few.

Do we realise that our need today is in the following? —

"God give us men, a time like this demands
Strong minds, great hearts, true faith and ready hands;
Men whom the lust of office does not kill;
Men whom the spoils of office cannot buy;
Men who possess convictions and a will;
Men who have honour, Men who will not lie;
Men who will dare to stand for Truth and Righteousness."

"Rise up, O Men of God!
Have done with lesser things;
Give heart and soul and mind and strength
To serve the King of Kings."

"This, this is the God we adore,
Our faithful, unchangeable Friend;
Whose love is as great as His power,
And neither knows measure nor end.

'Tis Jesus, the first and the last,
Whose Spirit shall guide us safe home;
We'll praise Him for all that is past,
And trust Him for all that's to come."

To our Minister, Rev. W. J. Williams, our General Superintendent, Mr. G. Burgess, all Officers, Teachers, Scholars and friends, thank you for the honour of compiling the History of our Sunday School.

"Go forward in the strength which God supplies through His Eternal Son."—

May the Peace of God which passeth all understanding be yours.

In the Service of the Master,
and in Christian Bonds,

R. W. MARRIOTT.

1954:

Present Day Officers and Teachers —

Superintendent Minister: Rev. W. J. Williams.
General Superintendent: Mr. Geo. A. Burgess.
Assistant Gen. Superintendent: Mr. Edgar Marriott.
Sunday School Visitor: Mr. Howard Fry.
General Secretary: Mr. Victor Wheatland.
Assistant Secretary: Mr. Fred. Hunt.
Conductor: Mr. John Waller.
Number of Scholars on Roll: 251.

Senior Department —

Superintendent: Mr. R. W. Marriott, Leader Young Men's Bible Class.
Assistant Superintendent: Mr. Alf Hunt, Leader Young Men's Junior Bible Class.
Miss E. B. Ward: Leader Young Ladies' Bible Class.
Organist: Mr. Colin Cartwright.

Intermediate and Junior Department —

Superintendent: Mr. Edgar Marriott.
Pianist: Miss Lily Marriott.
Intermediate Teachers: Misses Lily Marriott, Emma Marriott, Messrs. Reeves, C. Bennetts, J. Shattock.
Junior Teachers: Mrs. Westaway, Misses Elaine Marriott, Marlene Fry, Gloria Hunt, Merle Burgess, Bruce Vander-
valk, Ted. Grimshaw, Brian Souter, Ray Jones.

Primary Department —

Superintendent: Miss Edna O'Brien.
Pianist: Miss Val. Marriott.
Teachers: Misses Val. Marriott, Naomi Chapman, Betty Seaman, Joan White; Messrs. Don Williams, Alan Richards, Barry Phillips, John Ristrom, Robert Giacometti.

Kindergarten Department:

Superintendent: Miss Daisy Marriott.
Pianist: Miss Kathleen Cartwright.
Teachers: Miss Ida Marriott, Gladys Marriott, Dorothy Higgins, Loris Phillips, Gwenda Waller, Beris Gibbs, Meg Giles, Marina Tyack, Mrs. Shattock.
Organist for Sunday School Anniversary: Mr. W. Bertram.
Pianist: Miss Kathleen Cartwright.

Ministerial Appointments of Ministers who rendered valuable service to the Sunday School during the first Century :—

1850-1892—Brighton Circuit :

Revs. W. Byrnes, E. Sweetman, J. Bickford, T. Taylor, E. King, T. Williams, G. Daniel, C. Lane, J. Watkin, J. B. Smith, W. L. Blamires, J. Catterall, C. Lancaster, R. Brown, W. P. Wells, J. Watsford, C. H. Ingamels, A. Rigg.

1892-1894—South Brighton Circuit :

Revs. R. Fitcher, W. P. Blamires.

1894-1915—Moorabbin Circuit :

Revs. W. P. Blamires, F. J. Watsford, G. Scofield, H. J. Cocks, J. R. Currie, R. E. Hooper, T. J. Cory, C. Fowler, A. Adamson, A. Horton.

1915-1931—New Moorabbin Circuit :

Revs. S. Adamson, J. Adams, G. R. Godbehear, W. A. Millikan, J. Smith, W. T. Lapthorne, A. R. Cocks, E. Griffin, T. B. Harvey.

1931-1938—Moorabbin-Bentleigh Circuit :

Revs. A. R. Cocks, H. F. Delbridge, R. G. Arthur, N. R. Greenwood, K. A. Bennett, F. J. Jennings, E. A. Baker, W. Seamer.

1938-1954—Bentleigh Circuit :

Revs. J. Rees Thomas, W. H. Leembruggen, L. S. Skears-Saunders, W. J. Williams.

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