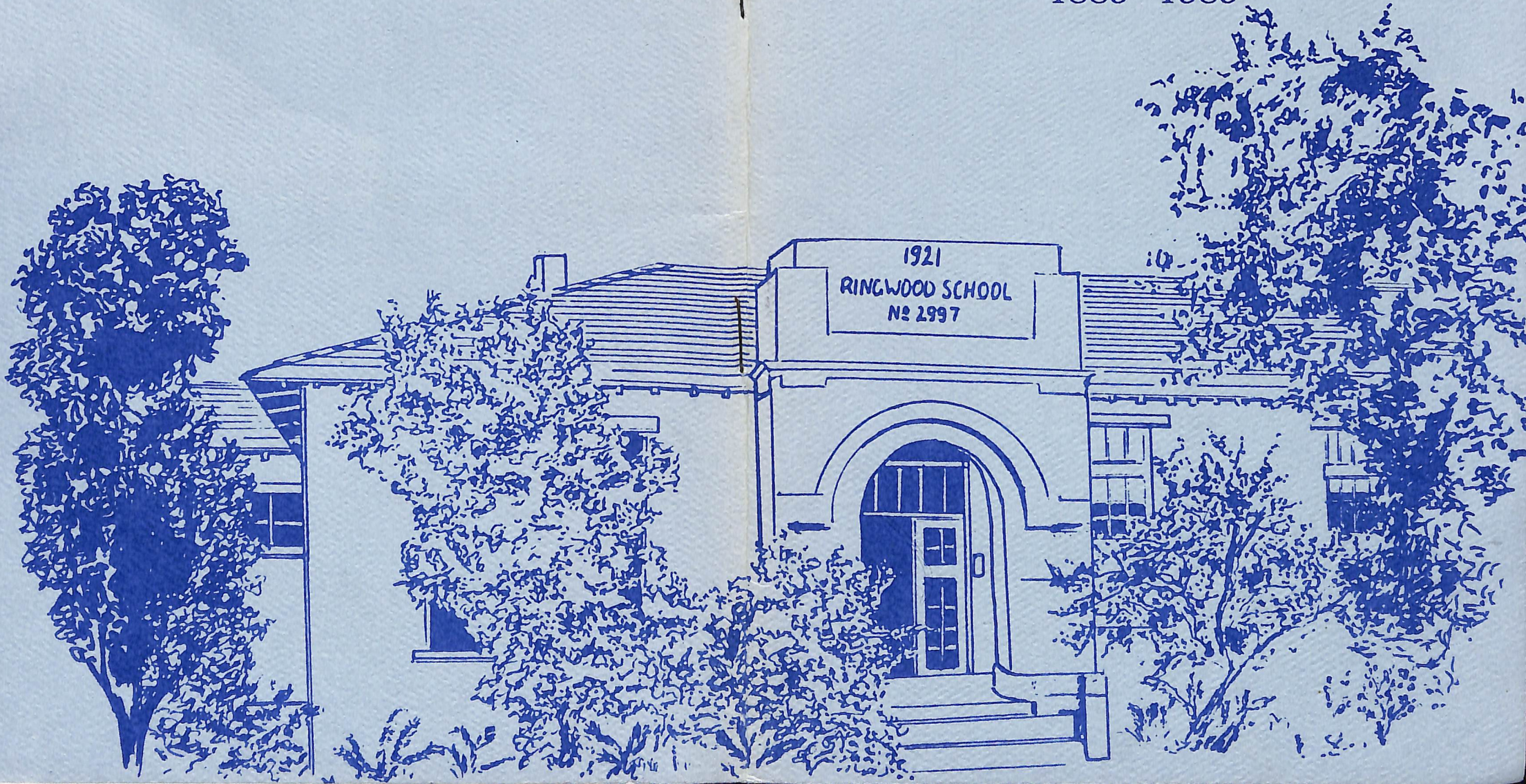


"IN SEARCH OF A
SITE"

No.2997
Ringwood Primary School Centenary
1889 - 1989



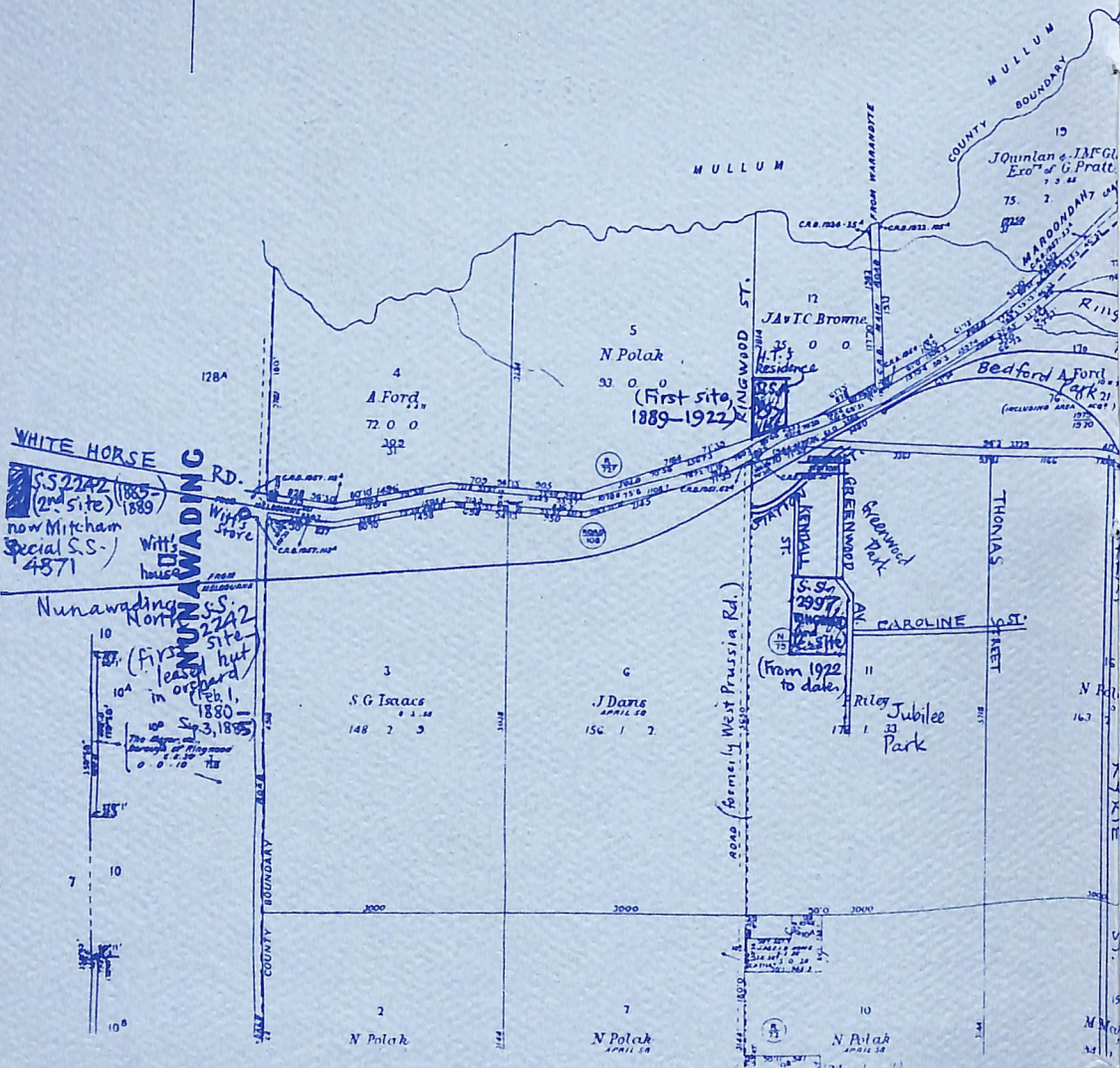
RINGWOOD

COUNTY OF
MORNINGTON

SCALE OF CHAINS



Showing School Sites



Graphics by Nerrelle Williamson
Compiled by Judith Leaney & Glenys Williamson
Printed by Hi-tone Offset, Ashwood Vic.

ISBN 0 7316 7293 3



Compiled for
Ringwood Primary School
Greenwood Avenue Ringwood Vic. 3134

FORWARD

It is with much pleasure that I write the forward for our centenary booklet. A publication such as this has required a great deal of time in research and collation and I congratulate the Centenary Committee, and in particular Glenys Williamson and Judy Leaney, for this valuable historic document.

In a school centenary year the involvement of current pupils and teachers is vital. This has occurred through the development of the centenary path, general beautification of the front garden and entrance, the children's own fund-raising activity and the marvellous historic mural that now enhances the quadrangle.

Many people have commented on our "oval", which has replaced the rather unsightly and unsuitable gravelled area. This lovely grassed area is now enjoyed by all children and is an appropriate school centenary year project. Congratulations to the School Council for taking this decision at long last.

We are in the midst of great change, none more so than in education. School Councils now have more power and therefore a greater responsibility to their school communities. Curriculum choices, once rigidly controlled by the "Education Department" are now, providing they are within the Ministry's core learning areas, very much in the hands of school councils.

The traditional classrooms of "chalk and talk" have been replaced by active learning, the promotion of decision making, the development of co-operative skills and technical competence, all with an emphasis on problem solving. Social issues have become prominent in the curriculum.

In light of the above, teachers are required to be even more energetic, innovative and professional than ever before, having to cater for children from a greater range of cultural backgrounds and social mixes.

We are moving into an exciting and challenging period in education and I believe Ringwood Primary School, while now quite small in comparison to bygone days, is meeting today's challenges, and will move into the future with an educational environment that is supported by the local community.

Geoffrey Osborne,
Principal,
Ringwood Primary School, 1989.

CONTENTS

List of Head Teachers/Principals.

Part 1: Finding a site.

Part 2: Time Line.

Part 3: Miss Daisy Paddock.

Part 4: Anecdotes from former pupils.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

In researching the history of Ringwood Primary School, we would like to acknowledge the valuable information obtained from the History of Ringwood Primary School compiled by Mr. J.A. Baines.

In presenting this booklet we have aimed to present as many facts about the establishment of Ringwood Primary School as was possible with limited resources and time available. We hope you will regard it as a memento and that many fond memories will be rekindled. We also hope that most of the information is accurate, but do not be surprised if your memories are more accurate than some of the facts presented.

Judith Leaney & Glenys Williamson,
Compilers.

Note: The symbol "#" appears in several places. This is to be read as pounds Australian.

HEAD TEACHERS/PRINCIPALS
RINGWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL NO.2997

Edward Feehan CASS (S.S.1451, RINGWOOD) September 16th
1874 to July 31st, 1893.
(Assistant under Mr Sweeney, S.S.2997
August 1st, 1893 to 31st October, 1893.)

John SWEENEY (S.S.2242, Nunawading North, at
Heatherdale)
1888-9; (S.S.2997, Ringwood, at Ringwood Street)
2nd December, 1889 to 12th February 1896, the date of his
death.

James McGREGOR 9th March, 1896 to 2nd June, 1898.
(Miss R.E. Hall, acting H.T. in interim.)

Alfred J. HOCKING 3rd October, 1898 to February, 1917.

William BROBEN 23rd February, 1917 to 8th May, 1931.
(till 1922 at Ringwood Street, then at Greenwood Avenue,
1922-1931.)

L. Horace FENTON 16th May, 1931 to December, 1937.

Donald V. DUNGEY February, 1938 to December, 1944.

John F. MAHER February, 1945 to October, 1947.

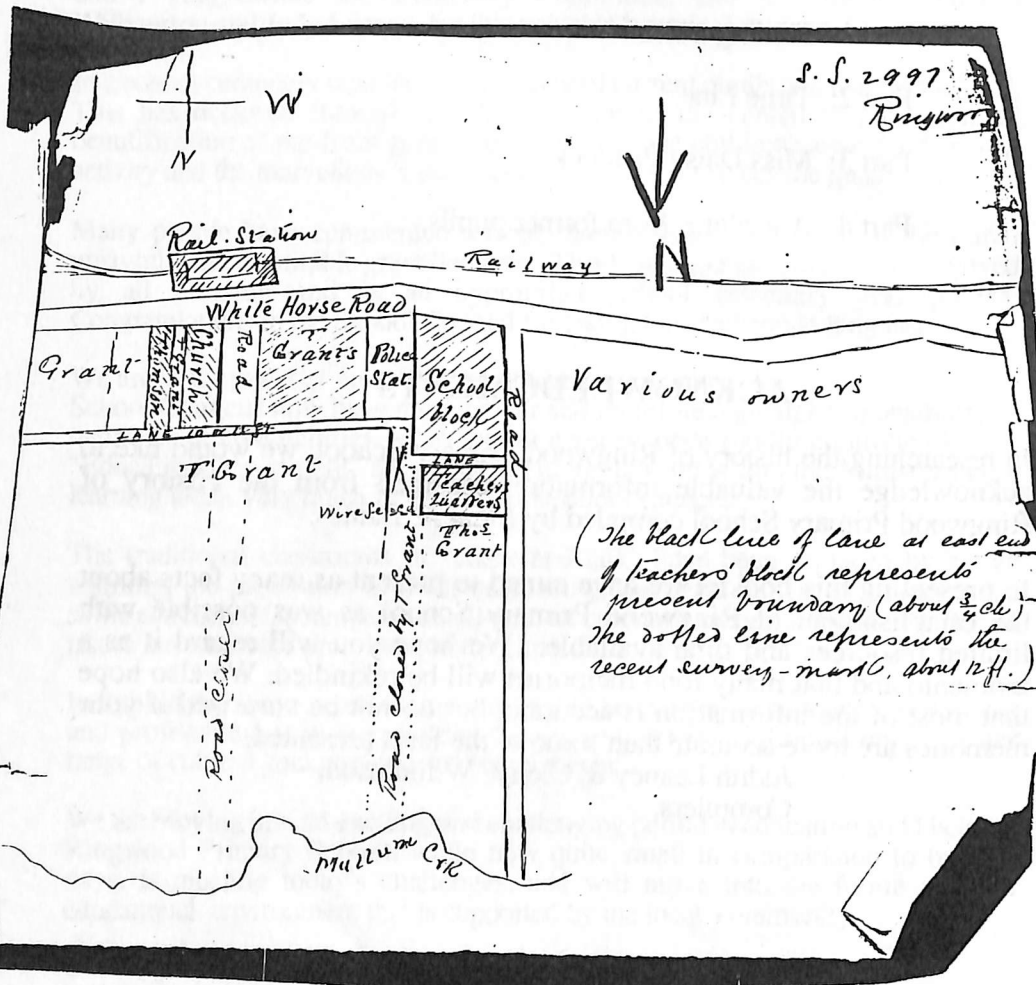
Arthur S JAMES October, 1947 to April, 1951.

Leslie EDWARDS June, 1951 to August, 1954. (Robert E.
Davis acting H.T. in interim.)

Philip F. FRAHER February, 1955 to December, 1956.

Herbert E. CADWALLADER February, 1957 to May, 1960. (David
Roy Anderson and Miss Daisy Paddock, acting H.T.s
in interim.)

Robert W. HALLETT February, 1961 to December, 1965.



Site of Ringwood State School - Circa 1889

- Arthur WILLIAMSON February, 1966 to February, 1967.
 (Roy P. Warriner, acting H.T. March, 1967 to
 19th December, 1967.)
- James Austin BAINES 6th February, 1968 to 31st December, 1970.
- Alexander ENTERKIN 1st February, 1971 to 31st December, 1974.
- Keith TREWARNE February, 1974 to1975 (retired from
 school.)
- Baden CHADWICK 1st January, 1976 to 31st December, 1982.
- Clarence ADAMSON 1st January, 1982 to June, 1987. (Joan Amos,
 acting H.T. July, 1987 to December, 1987.)
- Geoffrey OSBORNE January, 1988 to date.



Original School 1889 - 1922



Mr. CASS and class

PART 1: FINDING A SITE

The opening of an antimony mine in Ringwood in 1869, brought many people to the area. With the sinking of the main shaft in 1874, the need to provide a school for the children became acute. Ringwood State School No. 1451, the first State School in the Ringwood District, was established in 1874, on a five acre site near the intersection of Dublin Road and Maroondah Highway. On September 4th, 1874, Mr Edward Cass was appointed Head Teacher. His wife Mrs Jane Cass was appointed W.M.(Work Mistress) - later known as Sewing Mistress. On Monday 21st September, the first children were enrolled. These 24 were joined by 4 more on the Tuesday.

In February, 1880, as a result of a petition to provide schooling for the children of West Ringwood, another school opened. This was State School No.2242 - Nunawading North. Situated south of Whitehorse Road, off Heatherdale Road, it was a leased wattle and daub hut set in an orchard owned by Mr Witt.

The first head teacher was Miss Eliza McIntosh. Almost immediately the building proved unsatisfactory. Although there was an average attendance of 20 children this was insufficient to justify a new building. Mr Walter Sutton, the next Head-Teacher (1881-1883) wrote to the Education Department that:

"The cottage at present used as a school is most unsuitable and unsafe. The building is of wood and rubble, and has a brick floor. The walls are of clay with wood here and there to support it. In many places the clay has been washed away by the rain leaving great holes on all sides, through which the wind whistles right merrily. The floor consists of such bad bricks, that they grind into powder with the slightest touch.

Consequently the floor is full of hollows and ruts, and the children's clothes, especially the girls' dresses, are constantly dirty with brick dust.

The chimney built of wooden slabs and palings, will soon fall down, and could not be rebuilt.As there is no spouting round the school, when rain falls the water on the chimney side of the house pours down in front of the fireplace, not in drops but in a perfect stream."

Later in 1885, the building was condemned by the local Board of Health. Miss Sarah Light, the H.T. wrote to the department that:

"Falling mortar was a daily occurrence, and the wooden chimney had blown down".

She recommended the leasing of the nearby former general store but the Education Department only leased two rooms. A contract was let for the construction of a new school on May 19th, 1885, on a site previously purchased from Mr. Witt. This site is near the present Heatherwood School. The cost was #439/18/-. The school consisted of a room 30ft. x 18ft. with a three room residence attached. The new school building opened on 3rd September, 1885. In August of the following year it was found that the school had been built on the wrong site, Lot 13 instead of Lot 15. A legal agreement was drawn upon February 14th, 1887, between the Minister of Education, Mr. Pearson, and Mr. Frederick Walter Purchas (butcher, of Melbourne) for the exchange of Lots 15 & 16 for Lots 13 & 14, because of a slight difference in size a sum of #20 was proposed. This agreement was never carried out due to the later closure and subsequent removal of the school buildings.

Melbourne was enjoying a buoyant period during the 1880's and Ringwood was no exception to this land boom. Large numbers of people flocked to the area to find work and the newly opened railway was the hub of local activities.

John Hill, a local resident wrote to the Education Department complaining that children of families living near the station had to travel a mile to school:

"...in the winter the children have to wade through creeks of running water and long grass, the result of which is the children are in a very unfit state to remain in their boots and stockings saturated with water, which was an everyday occurrence with my children last winter."

Three sites were proposed for a new school:

- A: N.E. corner of Dublin Road & Maroondah Highway.
- B: West from Mt. Dandenong Road across Maroondah Highway.
- C: N.E. corner of Ringwood Street & Maroondah Highway.

After much debate the site chosen was (C) on the corner of the present Ringwood Street and Maroondah Highway. The one acre site was purchased in 1889 from Jeremy & Samuel Grant of Port Melbourne and Thomas Grant of Ringwood, Blacksmith. The Grants originally wanted

#300 but the Department obtained it for #100. A one room brick school was built, 50ft. x 20ft. 75-100 children were expected to be catered for. Date of completion was November, 30th, 1889.

State School No. 2997 was opened officially in December, 1889 but on August, 15th, it was considered that the building was sufficiently advanced for the foundation stone to be laid. Before a crowd of 400 people, with the pupils arranged in rows the foundation stone was laid.

It read: **THIS FOUNDATION STONE WAS LAID BY Mrs J.K. TURNBULL on 15th August, 1889.**

"The foundation stone of the New State School at Ringwood, the site of which has been a sore question for a considerable time past, was laid on Wednesday last. Great interest was taken in the proceedings, and there about 400 people present. The school is to be built close to the Railway Station and will be a great improvement to the place when completed. (Lilydale Express, 17th August, 1889)

Mrs Turnbull was an important personage of the district being the wife of the Ringwood Station Master. Mr. Turnbull had been one of the main supporters of the Ringwood Street site.

The families of children at State School No.2242 were so pleased with the teachers that on July 1st, 1889 they wrote to the Education Department:

"We are so highly pleased with the instruction given to our children by the present staff of 2242 that on the grounds of public interest and justice to the teachers concerned, we sincerely hope that the staff of that school should be transferred on its closure to the new school at Ringwood Railway Station". The signatories, with the number of their children bracketed, were:- J.K. Turnbull (Station Master, 3), Mrs Hann (4), Rev. R. Louis Reed (3), M. Murphy (2), M. Dickson (3), A. Kennedy (2), R.C. Sanders (2), A. Roberts (1), John Sherlock (3), Francis Kendall (1), Thomas Henry Swindon (3), Mrs. Wiggin (5), John McDonnell (1), Robert Mashiter (2), Neil McPhee (1), George G. Miller (3), Wm. Dobbin (3). Listed but not signed: Brown (4), Clements (1)."

These teachers were Mr. John Sweeney - Head teacher, Mrs Sarah Sweeney (formerly Miss Sarah Light-former Head Teacher) - Sewing Mistress and Miss Catherine Brown - Pupil Teacher.

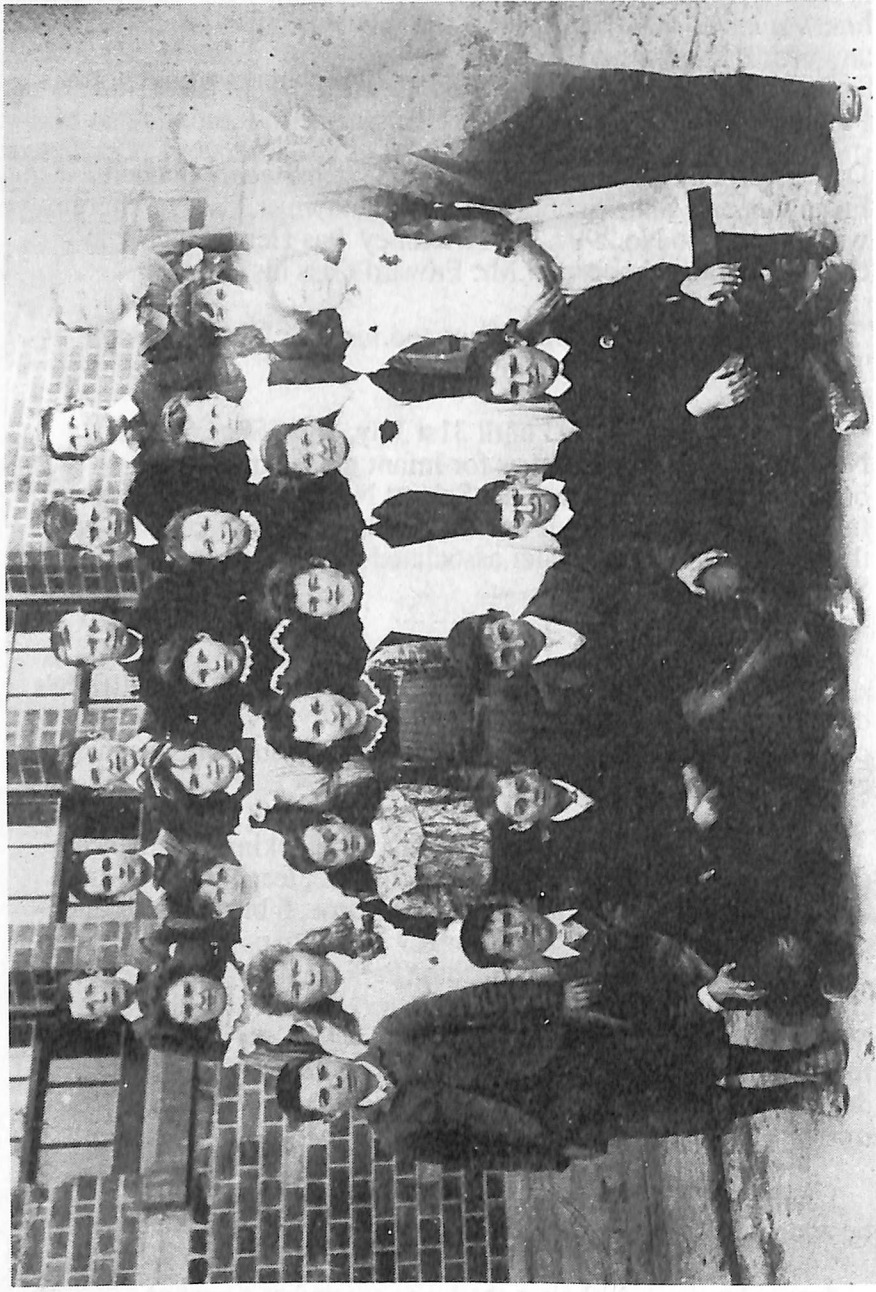
at *Emeraldy North* No. 2242

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When the new school opened Miss Mary Neven replaced Mrs Sweeney, who retired, as Sewing Mistress and joined Mr. Sweeney and Miss Brown. Soon after, Mr. Sweeney stated that he wanted a residence near the school building suggesting that the buildings of State School 2242 would be suitable. Following residents complaints that the school ground was already too small, the Education Department purchased an allotment adjoining the north school boundary for #107/18/6 on 5th October, 1891. The building was finally moved in March, 1892.

PART 2: TIME LINE

- 1889 November, 29th - State School No.2242, Nunawading North, Closed.
- December, 2nd - State School No. 2997, Ringwood, opened. From this date State School No. 1451, known as Cass's School was annexed to No.2997. Mr. Sweeney was Head Teacher in charge of both schools and Mr. Edward Cass his assistant.
- 1893 August, 1st - Mr. Edward Cass and his son, John W. (Pupil Teacher) took up duty at Ringwood St.
- 1894 From 1st August, 1893 until 31st July, 1894 State School No.1451 remained opened as for Infant grades only. The building was removed to State School No.3284 Mt. Dandenong in November, 1900. Four acres of the site was sold in 1903 and the remaining acre was later associated with Ringwood East State School No.4180.
- 1896 February, 12th - death of Mr Sweeney - possible cause Bright's disease. Mrs Sweeney died approximately 5 days later of pneumonia. The school had been closed a number of days due to an epidemic in the area.
- 1898 October, 3rd - Inventory on the day Mr Hocking commenced duty as Head Teacher - 19 long desks, table, teacher's desk and stool, 2 chairs (one had no back), ball frame, 6 blackboards and easels, 1 music board, 7 large maps, 7 small maps (poor condition), Health Manual (by Brodribb), ditto (Parkes), Geography text-book (Longman), ditto (Sullivan), Grammar (Morell), Needlework Manual, Physics (Stewart), writing tables (broken set), diagram of mechanical powers, chart of birds, 1 press, 2 low forms, 7-1/2 dozen inkwells, window glass, door locks (key of teacher's desk missing), tanks, fences.
- 1900 January, 22nd - Mr Hocking requested an additional room to be added to the school residence .
- 1909 date unknown - A shelter shed was erected at a cost of



1900 Class photo

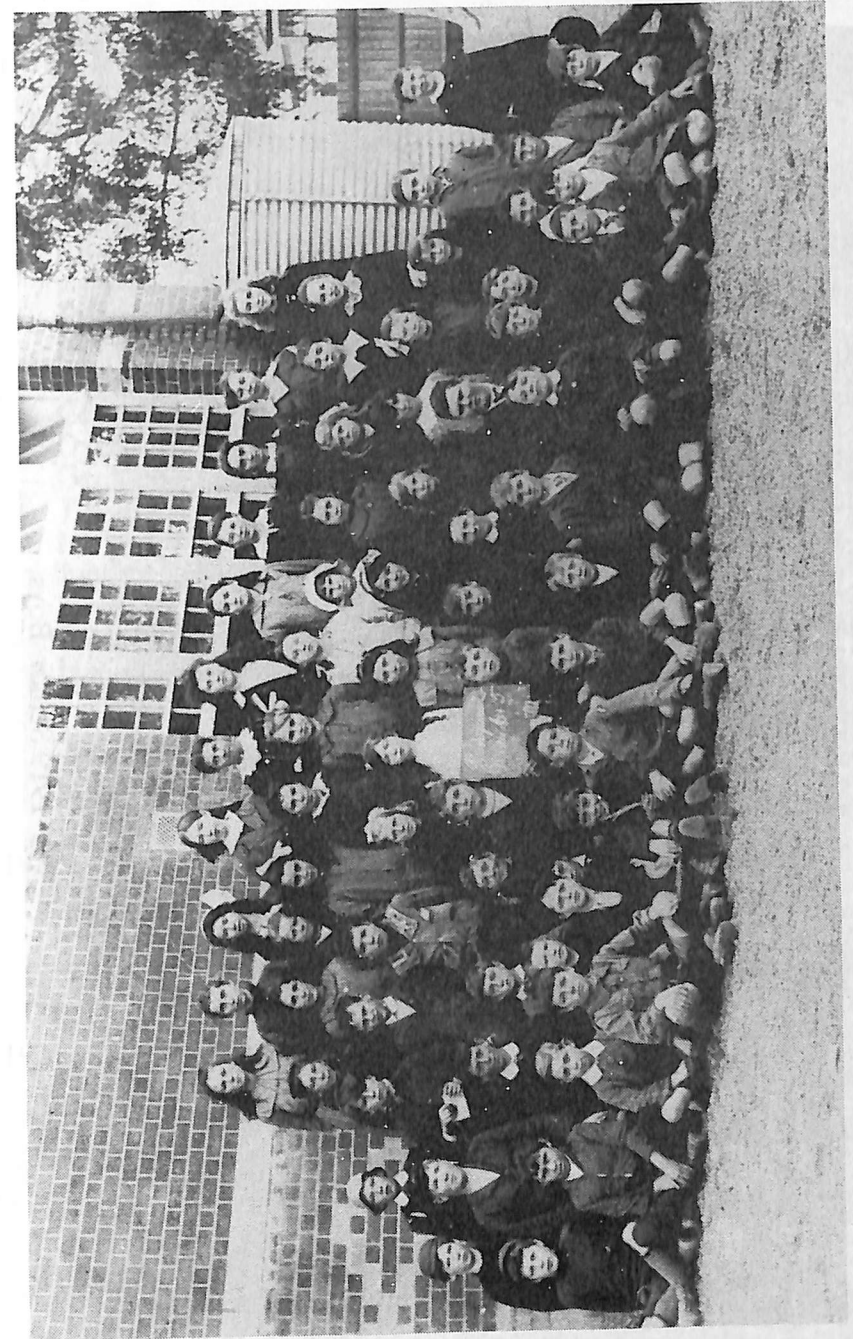


1905 Class photo

#15/15/6.

- 1911 July, 28th - Mr. W. Walker (the school Correspondent, later called the Secretary), stated that after Coronation Celebration organized by school community a surplus of #6/9/4 partially funded an additional shelter shed.
- 1912 November, 6th - Official re-opening of the revamped school. An additional classroom had been built together with the alteration of the original single room into two classroom by the means of a partition. The tiered seats which had been seating for the infants taught by Miss Elsie Davis, were removed during the alterations.
- 1916 October, 30th - Attendance continued to increase and classes were held in the Mechanics Institute in Melbourne Street near the original Town Hall. About 70 children used this annexe.
- 1917 February, 23rd - The new Head Teacher, Mr Broben, immediately moved that the school site was too small for the increasing number of children and proposed either a new school or the extension of the Ringwood Station School. The first alternative was the possibility of using the recreation reserve that adjoined the school site. This was later rejected.
- 1918 Sites offered:
- (a) 5 acres in Mullum Road for #350, owner E.J. Evans.
 - (b) Bourke St. (574') to Bond St. (360') for #1,125, owned by W. McClelland.
 - (c) 5 acres in Government Road for #525, owned by George Pratt.
 - (d) 4 3/4 acres, particulars not specified by agent for #1,125.
 - (e) Police station property, adjoining school, 200' x 70', with villa, #1,700.
 - (f) 3 1/2 acres, near Greenwood Avenue, for \$900, joint owners Count Von Horn and Mr Arthur E. Greenwood.

The Greenwood Avenue site was chosen and contracts were signed on July, 12th for #500.



1913 Grade 6/5



1919 Senior Boys

1919 **ROLL OF HONOUR: RINGWOOD STATE SCHOOL NO.2997, 1914-1918**

Past Scholars of Ringwood School who took part in the Great War.

In Memoriam: Button, A., Hamilton, J., Johnston, H., Mc Cann, H., Mackinlay, H.W., Oates, C., Parker, J.J., Pollard, H.L., Ritchie H., Rooney, E., Thomas, R., Walmsley, R.E.

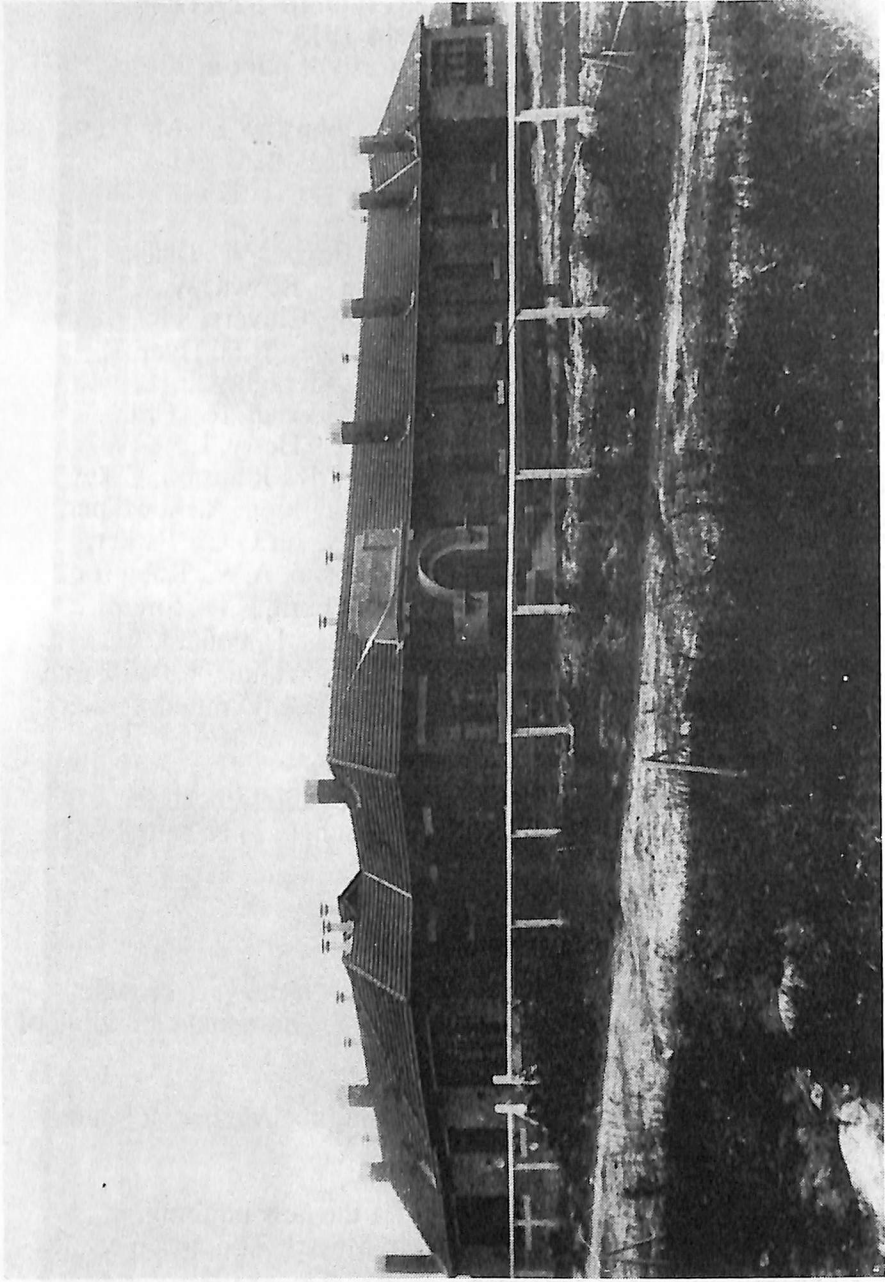
Returned from Service: Addison, W.J., Black J.W., Black, R.A., Blood, R., Broadford, G., Brown, A.G., Brown, W., Buzolich, C., Chenall, C.W., Chivers, A.W., Chivers, S.R., Compton, W., Conley, J., Dawes, F.A., Dawes, L.F., Dyer, J., Dyer, R., East, L., Foster, A., Foster, W.J., Geraghty, F.H., Geraghty, M., Godfrey, A., Goodall, J.H., Goodall, R., Grant, T.W., Hardidge, Bert., Hayes, J.R., Herry, L., Herry, L., Hodgetts, L.F., Hodgetts, W.C., Howship, F.R., Johnston, C.R., Johnston, W.J., Kennedy, G., Kraefft, H., Larking, A.H., Milner, T., Neal, A.G., O'Connor, W., Parker, A., Parker, G.C., Parker, R., Parker, T.S., Reed, R., Reed, W., Robinson, A.W., Robinson, H.F., Rose, T., Sealey, C., Shanks, A., Sherburn, R.D., Smith, C., Smith, S., Taylor, J., Thomas, H., Thomas, I., Pollard, J.L., Venables, H.E., Wadeson, W.G., Walker, F., Walker, T., Williams, W.G., Williamson, T., Wilson, D., Wilson, L.J. (Omitted: Parker, F.)

1920 May - Approval of #8,500 was made by the Education Department for the erection of the new school to be called Ringwood State School.

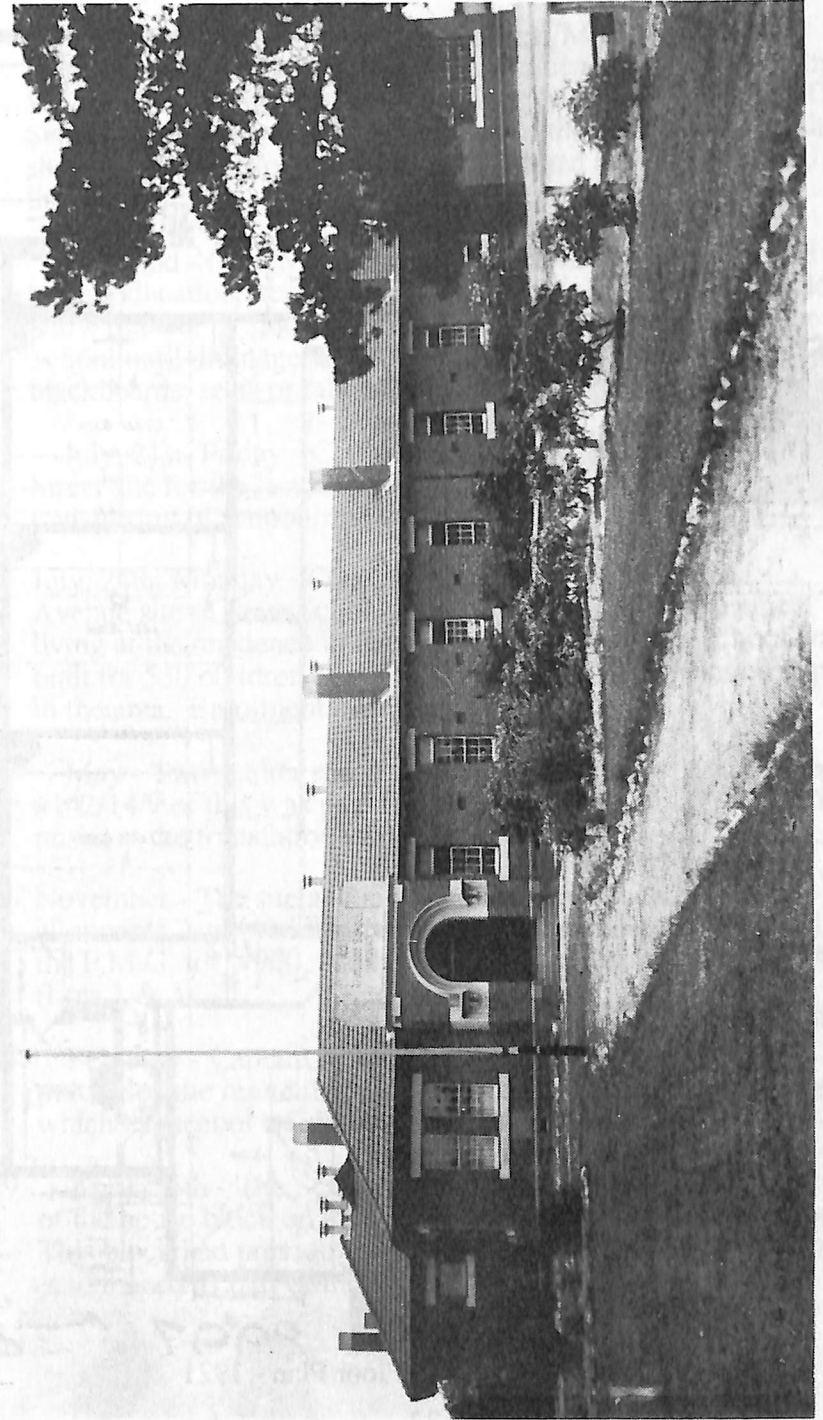
1921 April, 20th - School Committee described the very crowded and bad conditions at Ringwood urging the immediate building of the new school in Greenwood Avenue.

June, 1st - To relieve the overcrowding the Methodist Sunday School was rented for the use of Grade V.

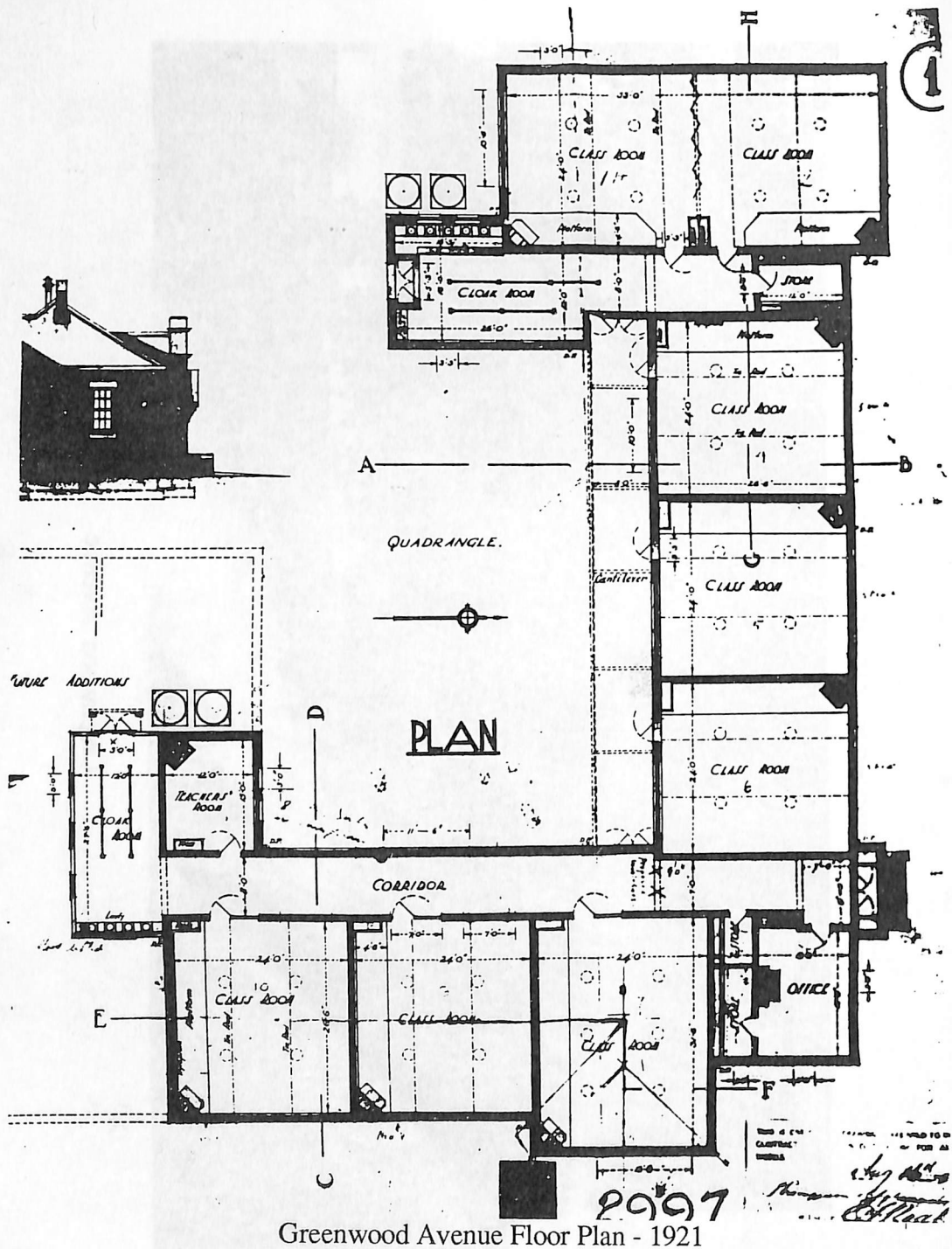
July, 28th - Tenders were closed for the new building. Tender for #8,713 was accepted from Messrs. Thompson & Chalmers.



1921 Greenwood Avenue nearly ready to open



Greenwood Avenue



Greenwood Avenue Floor Plan - 1921

October, 21st - Sir Alexander Peacock, Minister of Public Instruction, laid the foundation stone at a ceremony arranged by the School Committee, the Chairman being Mr. Herman Pump. The School Committee raised money toward the building of two shelter sheds at this function. The shelter sheds had not been included in the original plan.

1922 June, 2nd - Miss May Johns, acting Head Teacher, reported to the Education Department that the School Committee would not allow transfer of students and staff to the Greenwood Avenue School until drainage was completed, the asphalt had set and blackboards, seats or tables had been installed.

July, 21st, Friday - Classes were held at the Ringwood Street site for the last time. The week-end was used for transferring of school property.

July, 24th, Monday - Classes commenced at Greenwood Avenue site of State School No. 2997. Mr. Broben remained living at the residence in Ringwood Street. The new school was built for 550 children allowing for the increase population expected in the area. Enrolment then being 339.

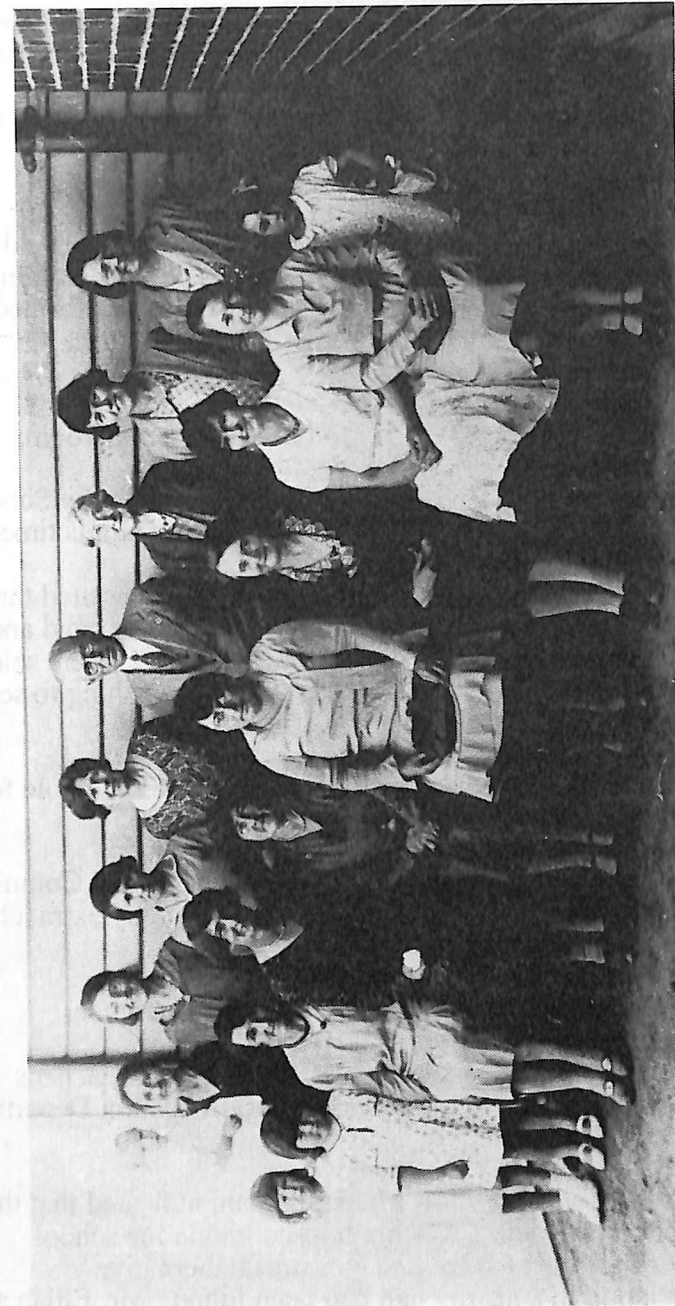
1923 May - Two shelter sheds were erected at a cost of #285/9/6. #142/14/9 of this was paid by the School community from money raised at the foundation stone laying ceremony.

November - The site at Ringwood Street was subdivided into 9 allotments, later reduced to 7 allotments. One was purchased by the P.M.G. for #900, another by the State Savings Bank for #875 (Lots 1 & 3).

1924 February - Captain Edward T Miles, of Warrandyte Road, purchased the remaining sites, with the exception of Lot 7 on which the school residence was built, for #3,000.

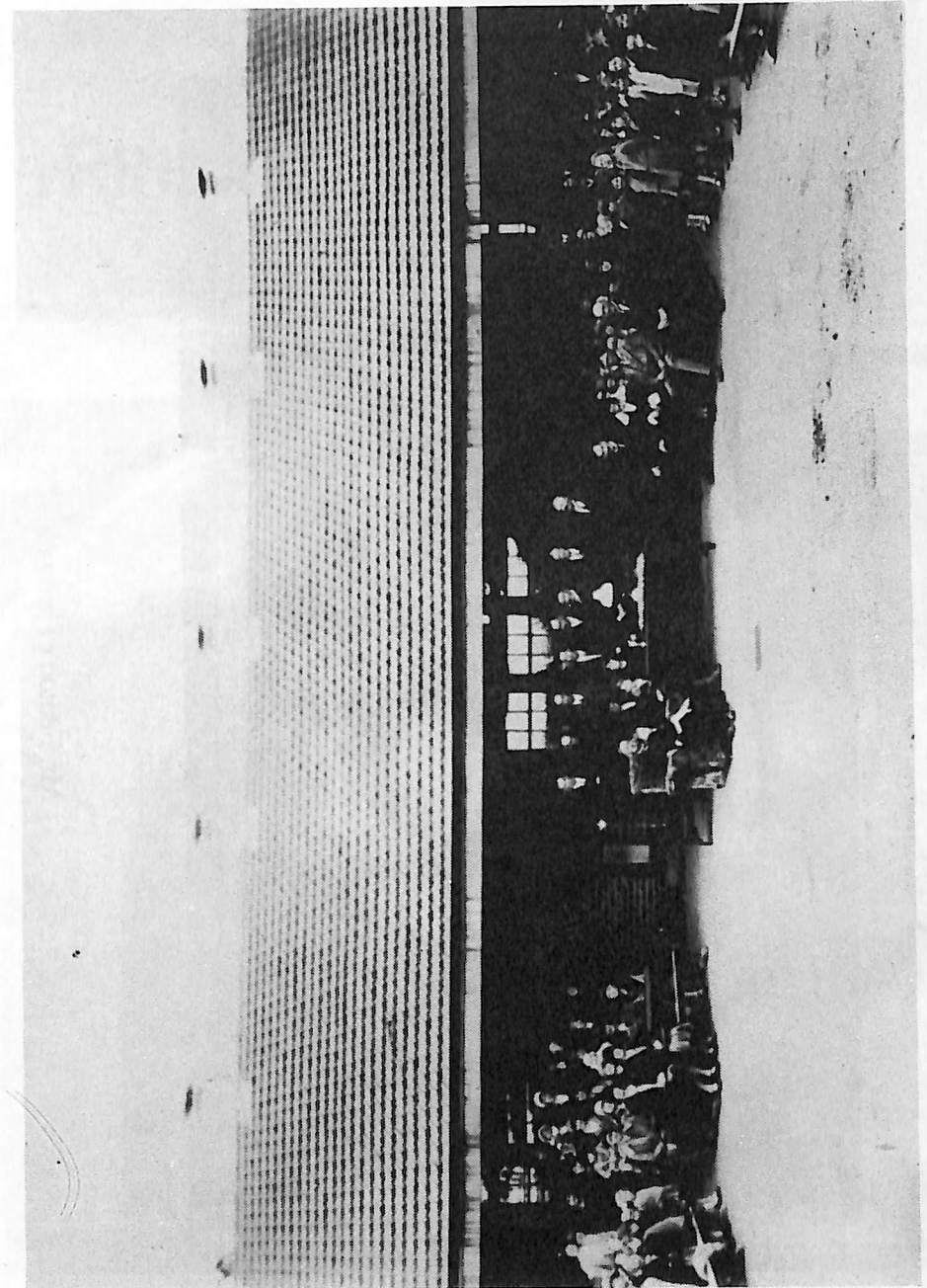
1929 April, 15th - The School Committee organised the purchased of the house block on the S.E. corner of the school ground for #50. This block had previously been planted with young cypress trees and fenced as part of the school ground in error.

- 1930 February - Box Hill High School opened and a number of Ringwood State School students were foundation pupils.
- 1931 June, 31st - The old head teacher's residence in Ringwood Street was let to Mr John F. Maher who was later Head Teacher at Ringwood.
- 1932 November, 30th - Mr. J.W. Gray, school inspector, reported that members of the Junior Red Cross Circle, under the leadership of Miss Paddock and Miss Barron, aided Community Service and assisted in maintaining a cot at the Children's Hospital and that they sent a basket of flowers each week to the hospital. (Inspector's Report Book No.1 p.77)
- 1933 The Head Teacher, Mr. Fenton developed the garden around the school and planted many of the trees.
- 1939 June, 6th - Brick incinerator built behind boy's toilets.
- 1940 July, 2nd - Drum & Fife band formed.
- 1941 April - Establishment of first school library.
- December, 2nd - Trowel used by Sir Alexander Peacock when laying the foundation stone in 1921, was given to the school by Lady Peacock after the death of Sir Alexander.
- 1942 March, 14th & 21st - Working Bees were held to dig trenches for children. 100 volunteers were needed. Trenches, complete with duckboards, were situated on a bush paddock at the corner of Greenwood Avenue and Caroline Street.
- March - Air raid practice held at school. It was most successful, all children quickly going to their allotted positions.
- November - Letter of commendation from Director of Education, Mr.J.A. Seitz, regarding the establishment of the library and how it was supplementing the children's education. (Ringwood Mail, Nov.5th, 1942) School won combined sports for the 4th year in succession.



1931 Ringwood Mother's Club

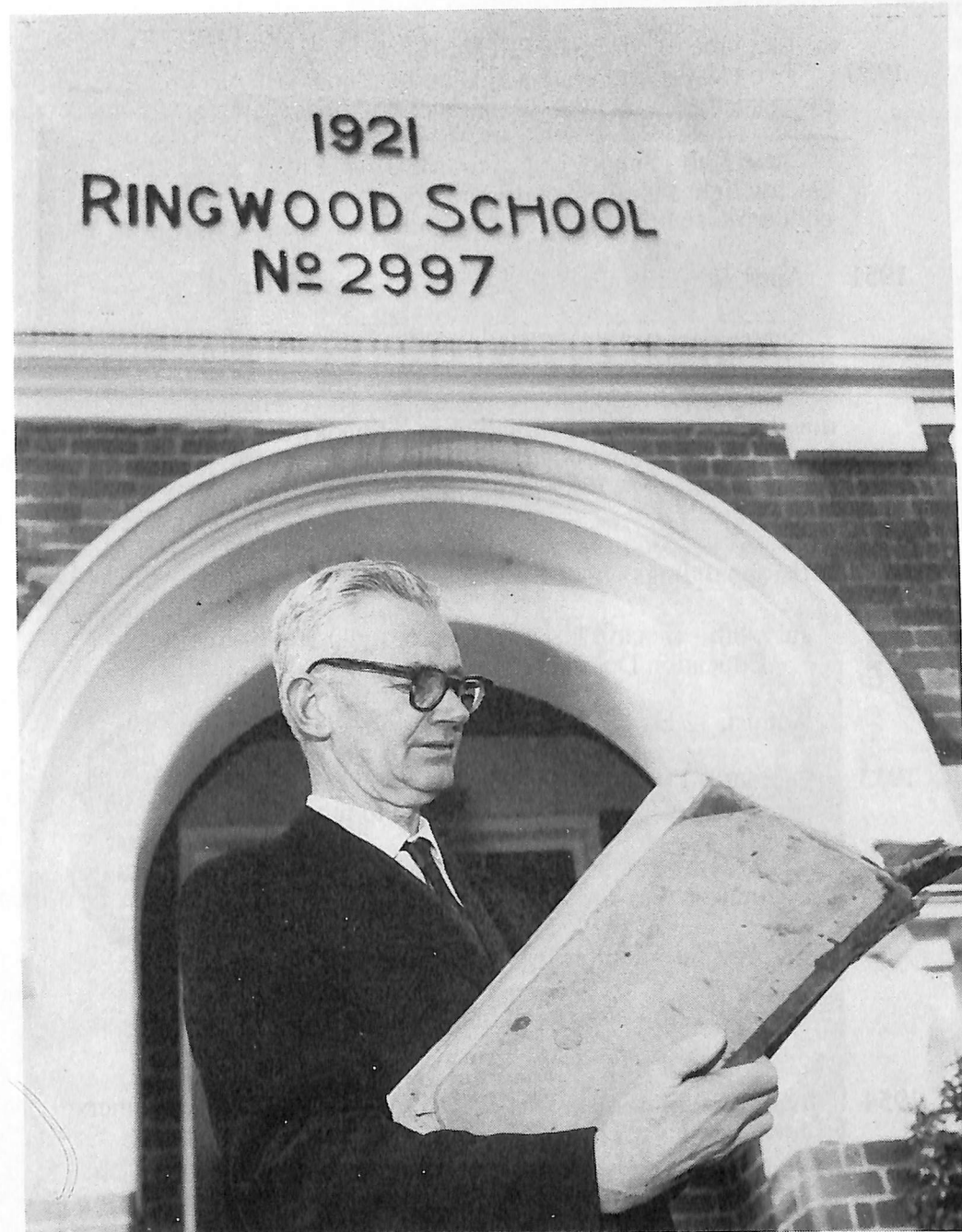
- 1944 March, 3rd - Mr. Dungey authorized by School Committee to purchase a wireless & amplifier set from Oliver J. Nilsen for #100 (half paid by Department).
- 1945 February, 6th - Farewell planned for Mr. Dungey at the Ringwood Town Hall.
- 1947 March, 25th - Recorders were purchased for #17 (1/2 paid by Department). With the help of the Music and Speech Training Staff in the preliminary organization a Recorder Band was formed. This was the first Primary School Recorder Band in Victoria.
- March, 25th - Library books were removed to various classrooms, to permit the library to be used as a classroom.
- July, 8th - Mothers' Club members were informed by School Committee that the school did not need a canteen at this time.
- November - Article in the Educational Magazine stated that Ringwood Primary School possessed a fine recorder band and it had given several creditable performances. Players were selected from all grades down to Grade 3 and it was astonishing to see eight-year-olds sight reading.
- November, 25th - Mr. Storey obtained a scaffolding pole for use as a flagpole.
- 1949 February, 24th - due to influx of population, School Committee stated that it would be difficult to accommodate any extra children under 6 on 1st July, 1949.
- May, 1st - Sandpit constructed by School Committee.
- May, 31st - New heaters to be installed in Head Teacher's office and staff-room. Request was sent to Education Department for the school to be sewerred.
- August - School inspector, Mr. J.L. Elijah, indicated that the junior section of Grade 1 was not housed within the school grounds. Because of increased enrolment alternative accommodation in a nearby hall had been found. Mr. Elijah also noted that kindergarten tables and chairs had been introduced for



Mr. Broben's Retirement



Mr. Fenton's Farewell



Mr. Baines with Original Register

the first time. (Inspector's Report Book No.3 p.7)

1950 Two class-rooms were added to the school. These were designated Rooms 11 & 12. (Bristol buildings facing quadrangle).

June 30th - School Inspector, Mr. J. W. Elijah, stated that electric light should be considered in order to "safeguard the children's sight". (Inspector's Report Book, No.3 p.14)

1951 April, 9th - Electric Bell installed by Oliver J. Nilsen.

September, 1951 - Mr. L. Edwards occupying school residence.

October, 27th - School Inspector, Mr. H. A. Fliegner, stated that due to the overcrowded conditions, 2 Sunday School Halls had to be rented to accommodate students. Enrolment was 637. (Inspector's Report Book, No.3 p.23 & 25)

1952 Three classrooms were added, these were rooms 13,14 & 15. (Bristol buildings)

July, 8th - Electric installation to new classrooms refused by Education Department.

August, 12th - 15 clocks purchased for classrooms for #19.

1953 February, 17th - More instruments purchased for the fife band for #6/7/6/ and #6/15/0 was used to repair the drum.

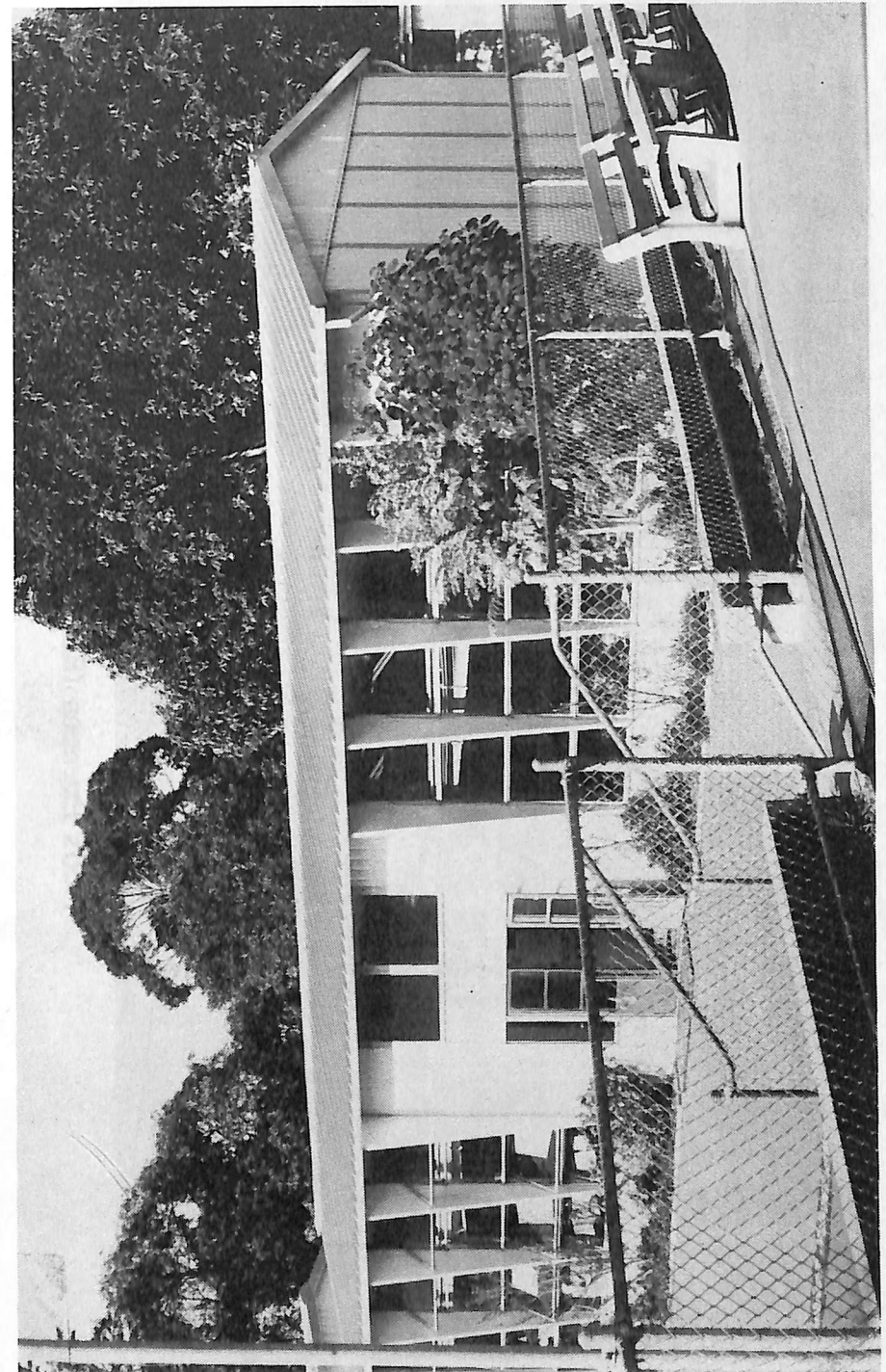
April, 21th - Request to Education Department for water supply to be connected to new lavatory block.

September, 8th - Uniforms for school band were approved.

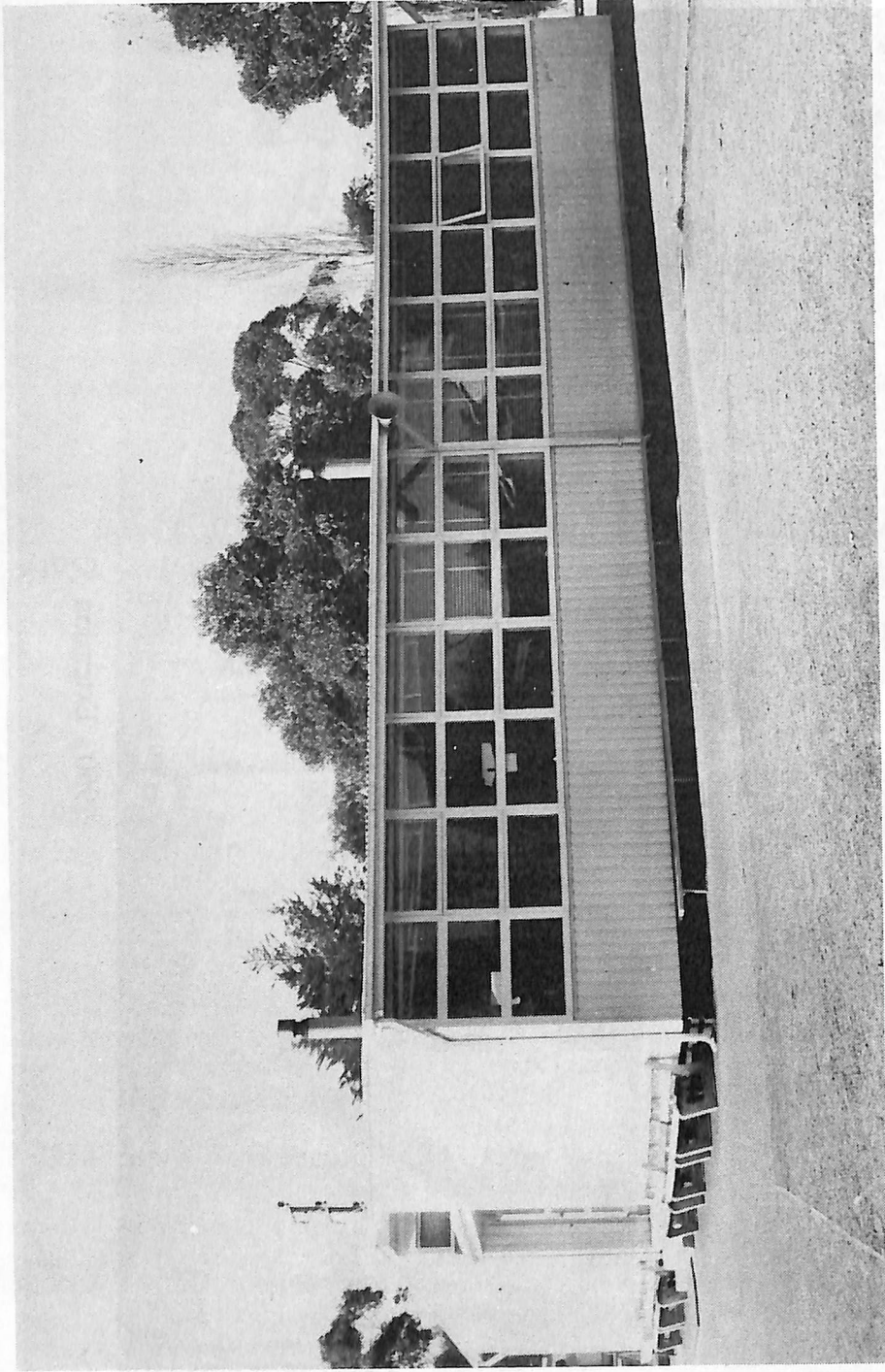
November, 10th - New toilet block completed.

1954 June, 8th - Enrolment was 725 + 45 to be enrolled as beginners on July, 1st, this excluded 5 year-olds because of lack of accommodation.

Two classrooms added to School. These were rooms 16 & 17. (Bristol buildings)

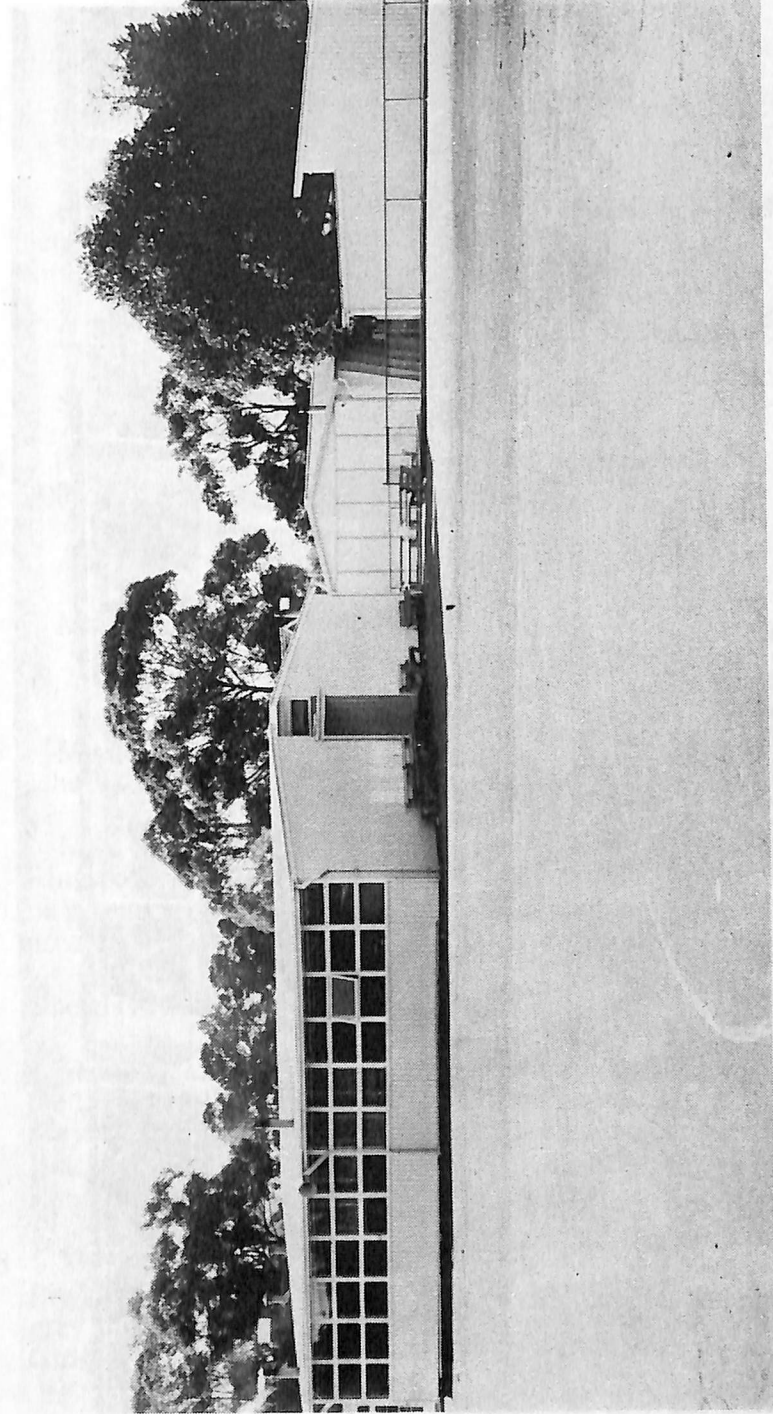


1950's Extension



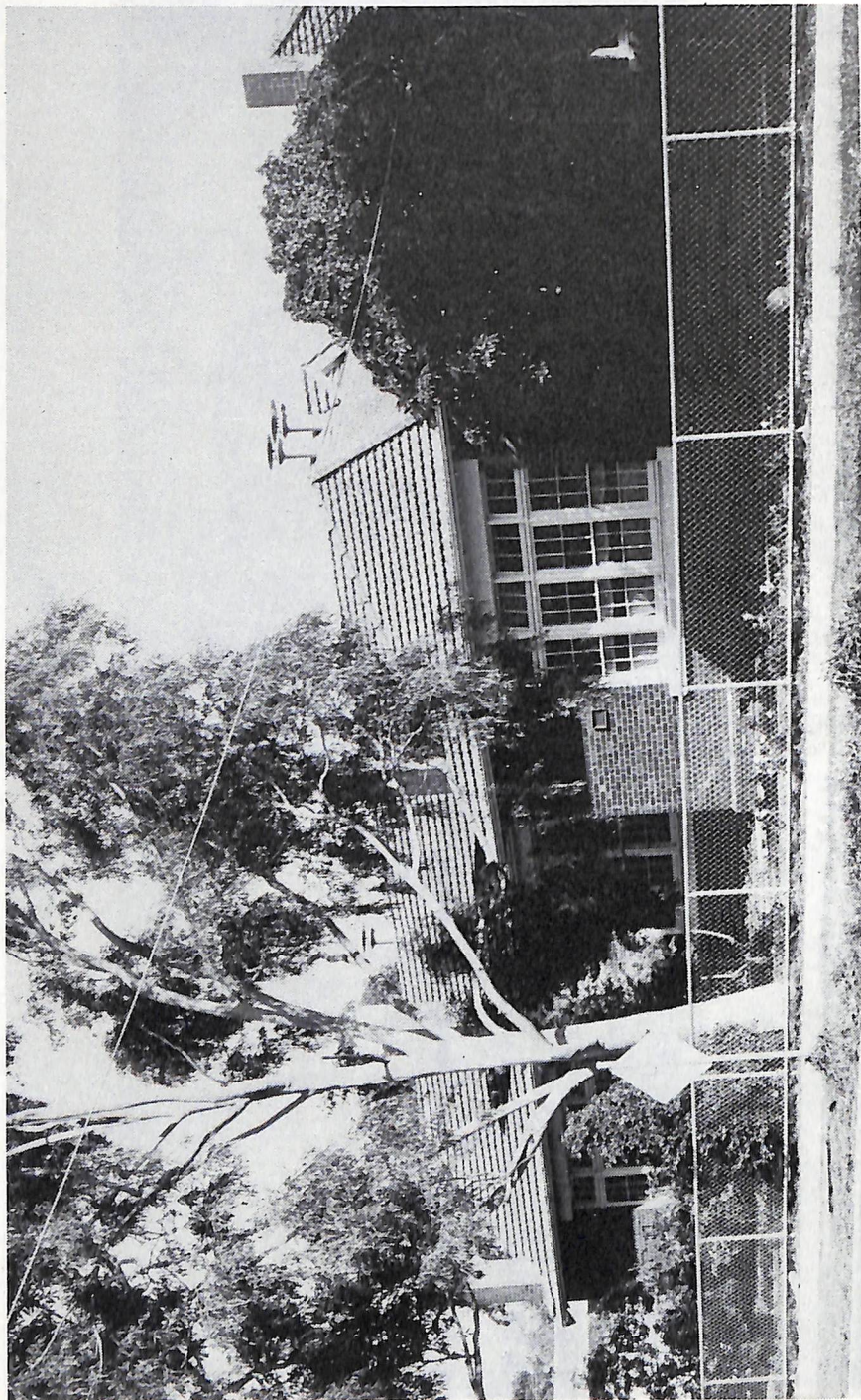
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1950's Extension (Rooms on the hill)



33

1950's Extension



East Side of School in the 1950s

Ringwood High School opened in Bedford Road.

1955 Early in year - Skylights were installed in the main building to increase classroom lighting.

April, 18th - School Inspector, Mr H.A. Fliegner, reported that there were 16 classes with an enrolment of 853.
(Inspector's Report Book, No.3 p.68)

June, 14th - The Scout Hall was used as a temporary classroom.

September, 13th - Piano purchased for #120.

1956 February, 20th - Opening of Norwood State School, No.4736. 200 students transferred to the new school.

April, 10th - New front gate purchased.

May - New public address system purchased.

Miss Daisy Paddock awarded the Lillian Horner Memorial Prize.

1957 March, 12th - The flag pole was removed from the front of the school to the present position in quadrangle.

May, 14th - Letter written to St. Paul's Church of England, Ringwood, requesting the foundation stone of the original school be given to the school committee. The old buildings still being used as a Sunday School.

One classroom added to school. Room 18. (Bristol)

October, 25th & 26th - Ringwood Schools Art Exhibition held in the Lower Hall, Ringwood Town Hall. Display opened by the Mayor of Ringwood, Cr. P. Vergers. Guest Speaker was Mr. John Brack, artist. Most schools of the district, including Ringwood Primary School, contributed to the display.

1958 May, 13th - School Uniform adopted:-
Boys - Royal blue tie, grey trousers, grey pullover, grey socks, grey shirt, black reversible raincoat.
Girls - Grey tunic or skirt, grey ankle socks, white blouse, grey



Miss Daisy Paddock -1956-

pullover, royal blue tie, grey overcoat with hood. Grey cap and beret added in June.

August, 12th - Moves by School Committee to establish a canteen because of the unsatisfactory arrangement at the nearby 'show' which was actually the front room of a house in Kendall Street.

Four classroom added to the school. These rooms were detached from the school and were often referred to as being 'on the hill'. These are rooms 19, 20, 21 & 22. (Rooms 21 & 22 now being the General Purpose Room)

October, 14th - Summer uniform for girls to be blue and white gingham dress.

1959 February, 10th - G.J. Coles presented the school with the foundation stone from the original building in Ringwood Street.

August - Report by School Inspector, Mr. H. Hopkins, stated that for the first time in many years all the pupils are housed within the school. Although still near capacity, relief should come when new schools are built at Heatherdale and Antonio Park.

1960 April, 21st - During annual inspection, School Inspector Mr. H.W. Hopkins, stated that skylights in the old building leaked badly and are unrepairable. School enrolment 968, rising at the rate of 1 child per week. He also mentioned the inadequate staff accommodation and the need for indoor toilets. (Inspector's Report Book No.4 p.38)

March, 8th - Because of accidents and the Education Department's policy, the see-saws were removed.

October - Erection of 'No Standing' signs in Greenwood Avenue.

October - Antonio Park State School opened. 90 children from Ringwood transferred.

November, 8th - Slide & jungle gym purchased for #25/13/4

December, 13th - Plan of proposed shelter shed received from Education Department - Cost #310.

1961 May, 10th - Bird Bath, at the cost of #6/18/6, purchased from Mitcham Hardware.

August, 24th - Enrolment numbers 896. School inspector, Mr. R.J.Chapman, said that although the playing space was barely adequate for the school the planting of 40 new shrubs and an attractive display of primulas and poppies were helping to develop the school entrance.

December - West boundary fence blown down in storm. Urgent repairs were undertaken by contractor who was repairing Southern fence at that time.

December - Retirement of Miss Daisy Paddock.

1962 February - Introduction of Cuisenaire number rods.

September - An entry by 6 girls from Ringwood Primary School won 1st prize in Japanese Industry Fair.

October - 24 new dual desks supplied to school by Public Works Department. (possibly last desks supplied to school)

October, 5th - Public meeting held at the school regarding the Wantirna Road crossing. Council was asked to consider the erection of an overhead footbridge. A suggestion was made that parents could subsidize cost if they were too high.

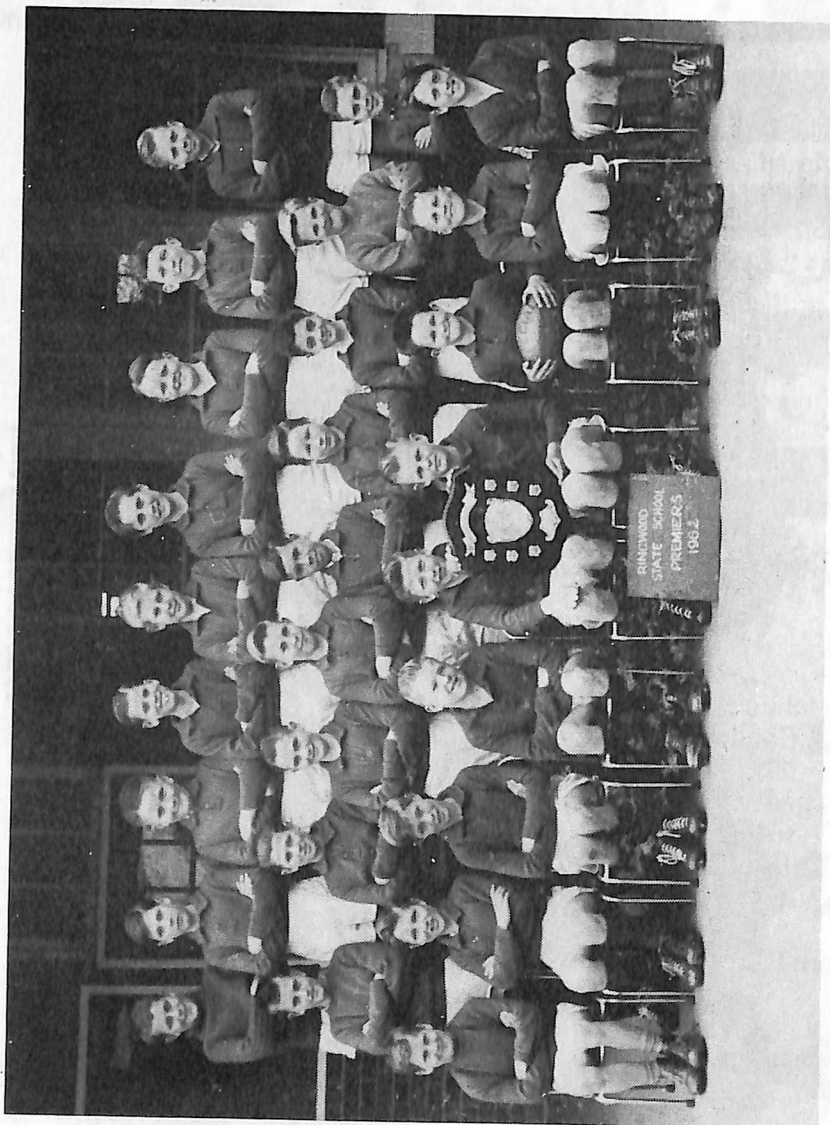
October, 15th - Suggestion made by Mr. Hallett, Head Teacher, that school should have a school emblem and/or motto.

October - Site chosen for the relaying of the original foundation stone. It is to be set in the lawn at the front of the school.

December - Ringwood Council rejected the idea of an overhead footbridge as 'impracticable and dangerous'. The Council stated that the problem would be resolved when Southwood Primary School was built in the near future. (Note: Southwood was not opened until 1965).



1920's Football Team



1962 Football Team - Premiers -

December - Foundation stone set in lawn at front of school. A plaque, presented by the Ringwood Historical Research Society, giving details of the original site. (Plaque attached in May, 1963.)

School awarded an A.N.A. Prize for the most improved gardens and grounds in the Ringwood Inspectorate.

Cricket practice nets were erected, at a cost of #186/10/-, around the new concrete cricket pitches.

1963 April - One of the mothers, who manned the Wantirna Road crossing, was nearly knocked down by a car whilst on duty.

June - A footpath was constructed in Greenwood Avenue in front of the school.

August - Letter received from Education Department regarding the proposed extension to the staff room.

October - Tender for 1st basketball court accepted for \$414.

During the year Grade Va,b,c & d children prepared an audio tape which was sent to the May Moore School in New York State, U.S.A.

1964 A set of steps were built to the upper playground.

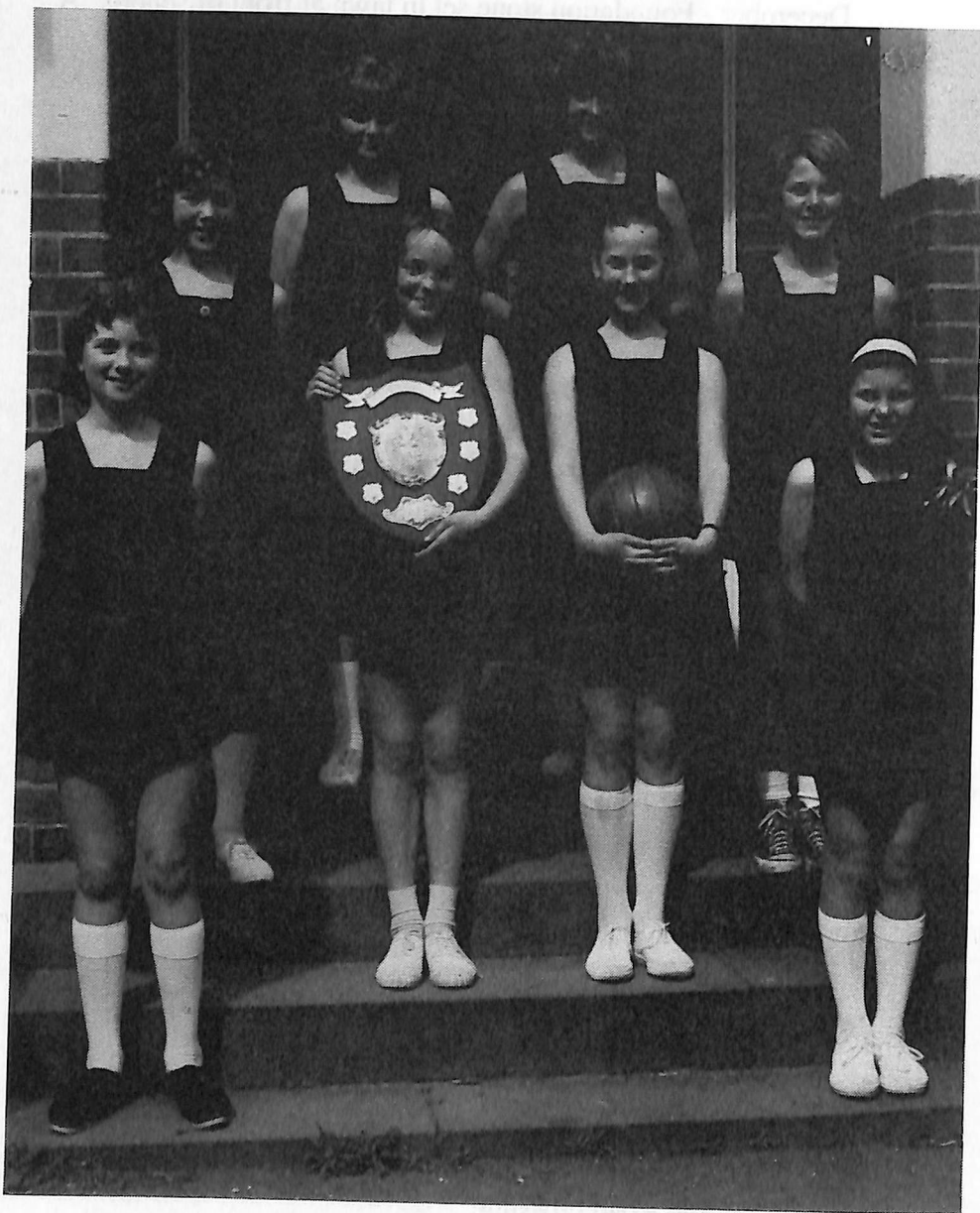
New playground equipment purchased and installed in S.W. corner of playground. Jungle gym #59/10/-, Swing rings #34/10/-, horizontal bars #25/10/-, horizontal ladder #25.

March - Traffic Commission agreed to install lights at Wantirna Road crossing.

June, 3rd - work on new basket-ball court commenced. Completed by June 22nd.

The Mother's Club paid the services of a crossing supervisor at the Wantirna Road crossing.

August, 11th - Notification to Ringwood Council that 7 cypress trees were to be removed from the North boundary because of the



1964 Basketball Team

dangerous condition they were in.

1965 July - The resignation of Mrs Flentje was accepted. Mrs Flentje spent many years, in a volunteer capacity, as music instructor to the school community.

August, 6th - Mr. W. Phillips, Inspector of Schools stated, "The original brick building is near the effective end of its life and provides only bearable working conditions..... However, within these difficult conditions the H.T. and staff have created a very fine school." (Inspector's Report Book No.4, p.73)

Southwood Primary School opened - because of the children transferring to the new school, five classrooms became vacant. Rooms were used for films, physical education and for assemblies; approval was sought for a central library and the conversion of two classrooms into an Art/Craft room. (Inspector's Report Book No.4, p.73)

August - Furniture arrived for central library but did not include tables.

September - Library books and tables arrived.

October - Library prepared for use. Rooms 1 & 2 converted into an Art/craft room - Mr. Mathew, Art/craft teacher.

1966 February - A Divisional Remedial Centre was established in Room 4. Miss Driver (later Mrs Rozenboon) - special teacher. Enrolment 621. Miss Forster 1st full-time librarian.
February - House competition encouraged by H.T. Mr. Williamson. "R.W. Hallett Shield" donated by Mr. Clive Fairbairn.

July - Roofing between Bristol buildings, Rooms 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 & 18, completed. Staff-room enlarged (now Secretary's office) & staff toilets installed. Request to Public Works Department for front fence to be replaced with cyclone wire.

September - sewerage connected to school.

September, 19th - Following the resignation of the paid

supervisor, at the Wantirna Road crossing, the Mother's Club decided they could no longer afford this expense and called for mothers to volunteer to man the crossing.

1967 May - Playground equipment in infant area to be boxed in and area to be filled with tan bark.

May - Church of England applied to use the 4 classrooms "on the hill" (rooms 19,20,21 & 22) as a Sunday School. Fee \$3-00 per quarter.

Notice of acceptance of tender from Public Works Department to supply and fit 21 slow combustion heaters. Cost \$4,429.

1968 May - Tender accepted for erection of chain mail fence at front of school. Fence completed in July.

May - Hurdling introduced to Primary School athletic program. All schools directed to buy 2 sets of 6 hurdles.

May - Mr. J. Baines commenced writing school history for the Education Department.

July, 4th - Infant T.V. purchased

September - As part of a new experiment 35 children travelled to Deniliquin for an interstate inter-school visit. (Ringwood Mail, 2nd October, 1968)

November - Children from Deniliquin made a return visit.

1969 February - Departmental directive that all Head Teachers will be henceforth called Principal.

June - School Committee told that the old cloak room, near the Art/Craft room, appears to be a suitable site for a canteen.

1970 February, 27th - Official opening of canteen by Mayor of Ringwood, Cr. Ben Hubbard. Opened for business 2nd March.

April - Folding doors removed from Art/Craft room.

April - Ringwood Council purchased Captain Cook Bi-Centenary

Medals and presented them to the school children of Ringwood.

October - Fiftieth Birthday of Ringwood Primary School's Mothers' Club. Approximately 150 people attended.

1972 December, 7th - Expected cost of library \$18,000 not including courtyard and carpet.

1974 February - Rooms 11 & 12 used as Ringwood Teacher's Centre.

August, 20th - Death of Miss Daisy Paddock.

November, 23rd - Opening of the Daisy Paddock Library by Sir Ronald East, a former pupil of Ringwood State School.

1975 April, 3rd - Contractor's commenced work on the conversion of room 10 into a staff room. The old staff room was then to be divided into a Vice-principal's office and staff toilets.

1976 February - Enrolment 365. \$1,000 of school funds used for adventure playground.

Direct Recruit Scheme introduced to Victorian Schools because of the lack of trained teachers. American teachers were amongst those recruited and the following taught at Ringwood Primary:-
Miss Susan Morris (California) May, 1976 - 28th August.
Miss Monica Harman (Nebraska) September, 1976 - August, 1977
Miss Mary Medlar (Michigan) February, 1977 - May, 1977.

1977 January - change of title from Ringwood School Committee to Ringwood School Council. 1st President was Mr. John Ashton. New constitution developed and included additional responsibility to the council to work with Principal.

June, 28th - Meeting concerning the Regionalisation of School Councils was held at the Civic Centre. From this meeting alterations were made to the School Council's Constitution.

1978 April, 6th - 1st Annual General Meeting of the Ringwood Primary School Council, under the new Constitution, was held.

April - Children's toilets were re-floored and re-roofed.

Repairs were made to the main building's ceilings and the skylights were removed.

1980 April - Helmets were purchased for use of the school sports teams and available, on request, during recess times.

School Cricket Team won Divisional Grand Final. Some thought contributing factor was the use of protective helmets.

Dark Room was first established with the assistance of parents and the Mother's Club.

1981 May 6th - Special meeting held at Ringwood Primary School attended by the Principal, Mr. B. Chadwick, staff & representatives of parent's groups, together with Principals and staff of many local schools to discuss the cutbacks to financial support to schools, the lack of funds for emergency teachers and funds for minor works.

1982 Dark room redeveloped for the Photography Club. \$49,000 was spent on cyclic maintenance of the school.

January, 16th - Cyclic maintenance commenced. This included the modernising of the toilets and the connection of power and light. \$65,000 was spent on the overall program.

1983 February, 15th - \$1,374 was allocated for the conversion of rooms 21 & 22 into a General Purpose room.

February - Safety House Scheme was initiated in the school area. Ringwood Primary School was included in the scheme.

April - General Purpose room was completed. New phone system installed throughout the school.

May - Electric ceiling fans installed in 5 classrooms.

June - Carpet laid in G.P. room.

July - Netball and football teams won "B" grade premiership the football team went on to win District Premiership.

September - Bat tennis stands were made by Mr. R. Lister at a cost of \$30-00 per set.

September/October - Storage shed erected near cricket nets.

1984 February - Enrolment 171.

March - Instruction regarding use of Safety Houses commenced in classrooms.

During 1984 a Government Funded scheme entitled Government Funded Scheme was used by Ringwood Primary School, Heathmont Primary & Ringwood Technical School. This scheme created jobs for unemployed people and was used by the schools as a source of labour. Ringwood Primary used this labour force to improve the school grounds, in particular the infant area.

October - Information booklets were issued to Prep parents describing the school and its policies as to the new parents.

1985 Rooms 13 & 14 had air conditioners installed and the Prep and Grade 1 classes were re-located in these rooms.

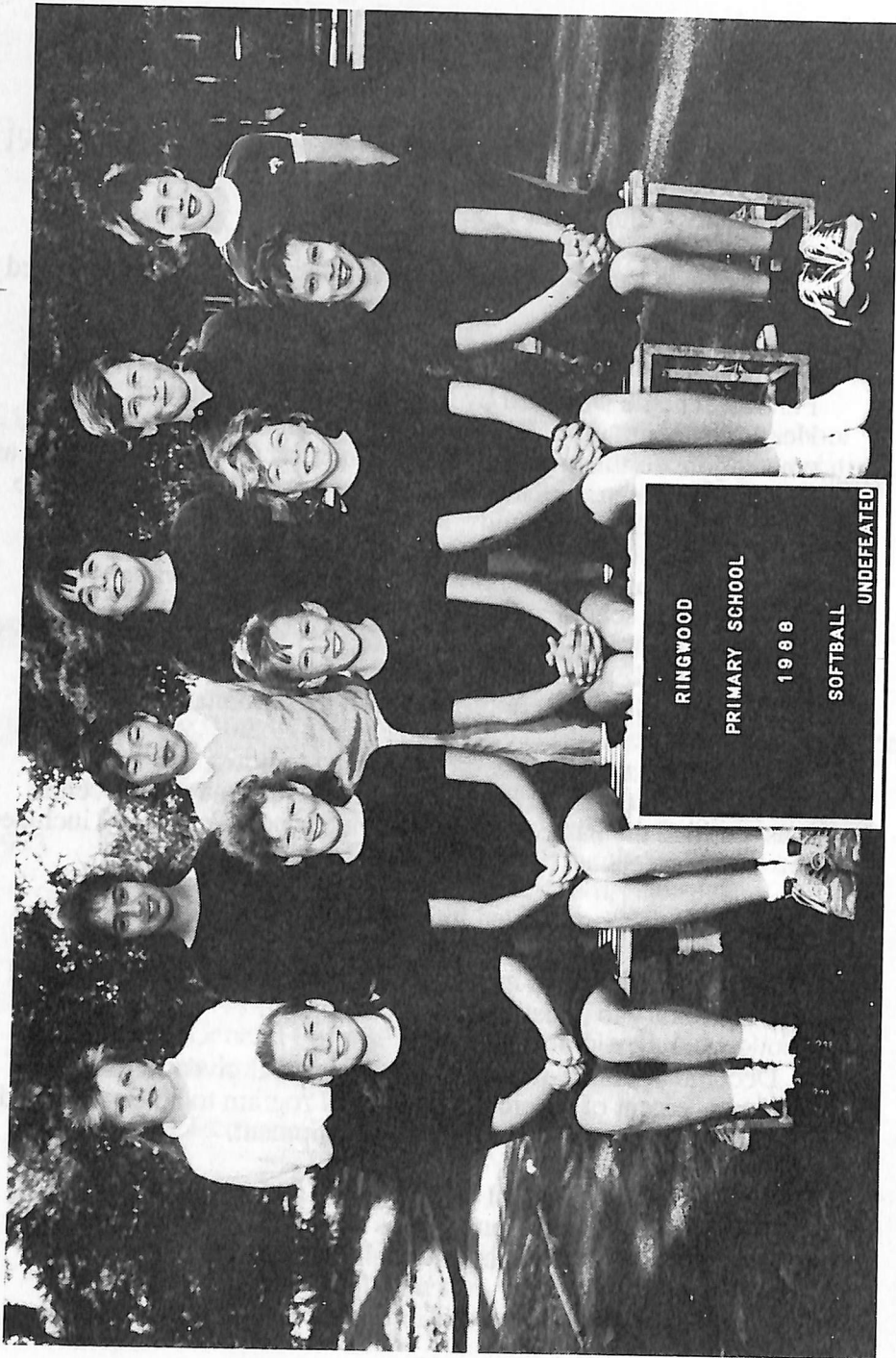
1986 July - Rooms 15 to 18 were converted to house the Special Education Unit and the Ringwood Teacher's Centre. This centre was entitled the Ringwood Education Support Centre and included the Visiting Teacher Services for the Deaf.

1987 May - Staff room moved into the former S.E.U. Room.

August - Computers introduced into the school curriculum and into the library to assist in library cataloging.

December, 15th - School Council approval given for the commencement of a Perceptual Motor Program to be commenced in 1988. \$2,200 was to be spent on equipment.

1988 February, 17th - School Council gave approval to set-up Parent co-ordinators Scheme. This scheme was initiated to encourage parent participation within the school.



March, 9th - Employees' Services move into rooms 15, 16 & 17.

May - Perceptual Motor Program commenced to heighten the perceptual concepts and motor co-ordination of children. (Prep Grade + children with special needs)

September - Grass was planted on school oval.

October - Discussions regarding the establishment of Out of School Hours Centre in rooms 13 & 14.

October - Regional Printer moves into room 18.

1989 **CENTENARY YEAR.**

February - Commencement of Out of School Hours Centre (O.S.H.C.) program.

March - Funds allocated for cyclic maintenance to the school for the 1989/90 financial year.

April - Garden at front of school altered. Original foundation stone re-located so it can be incorporated into the Centenary Path.

April, 26th - Buy-a-brick Day. Present and former students, teachers and parents engraved bricks which, after firing, will be layed in the commemorative path.

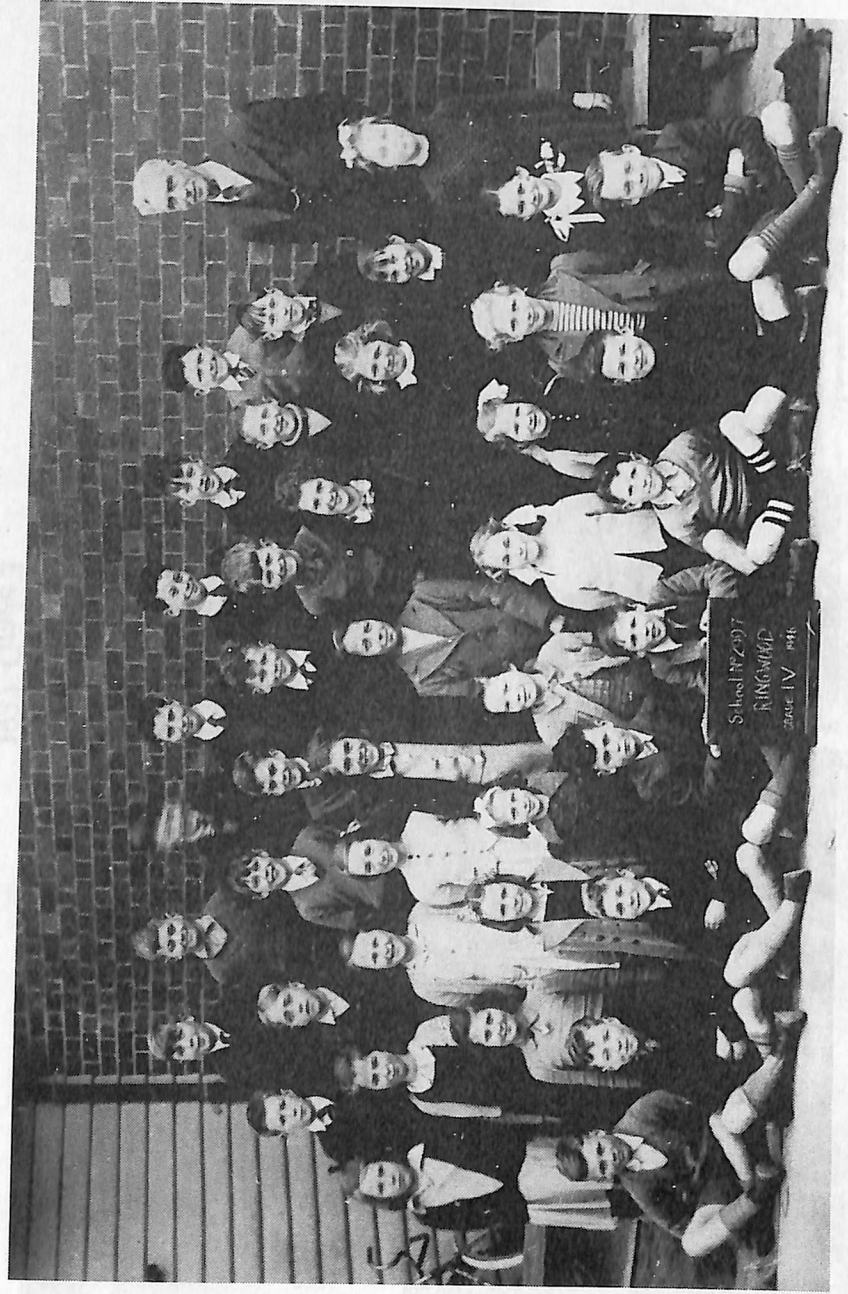
April - Flooding after storm. Children were unable to cross courtyard due to water.



Circa 1920 - Grade 2



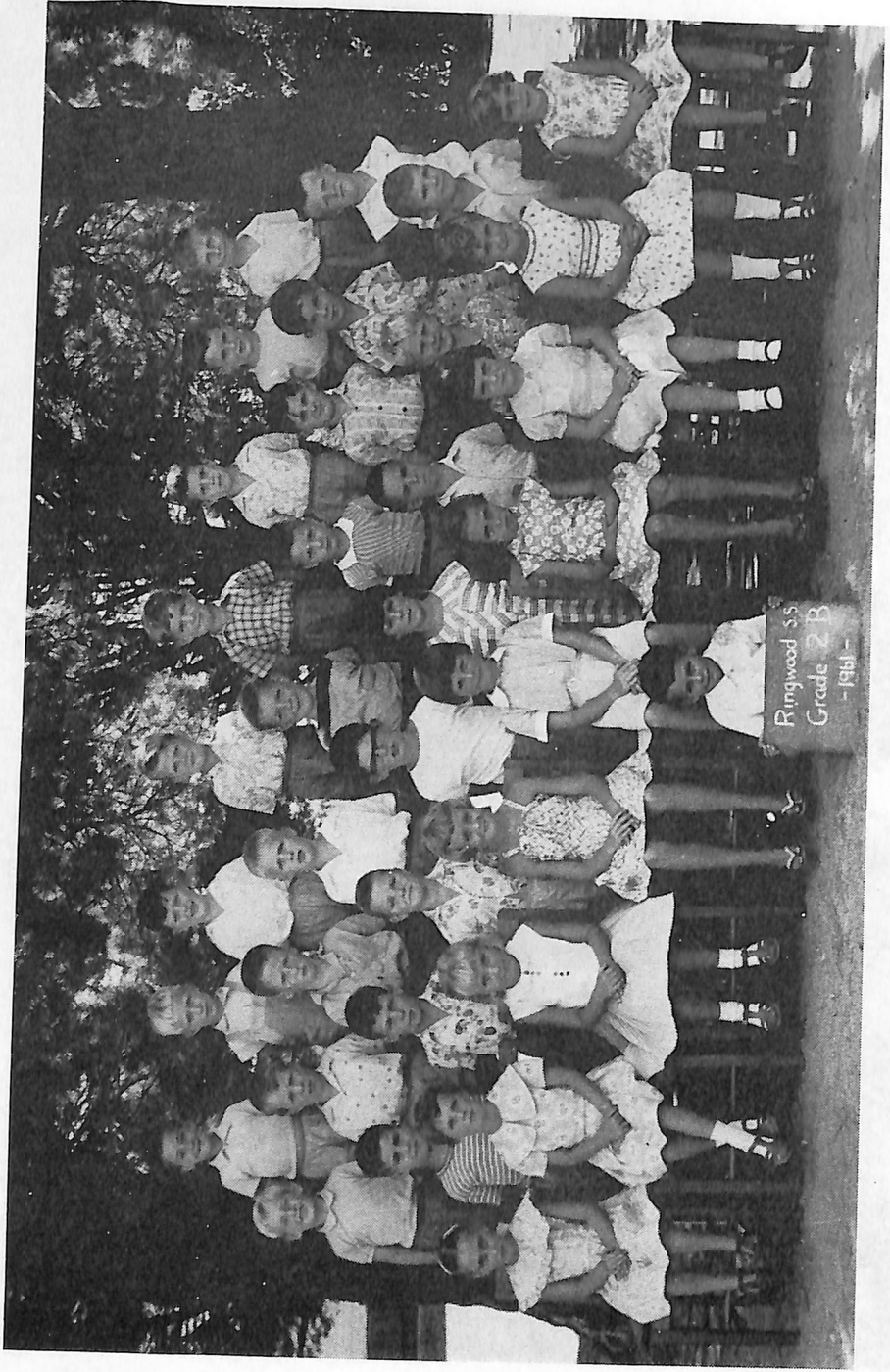
1937 Grade 3



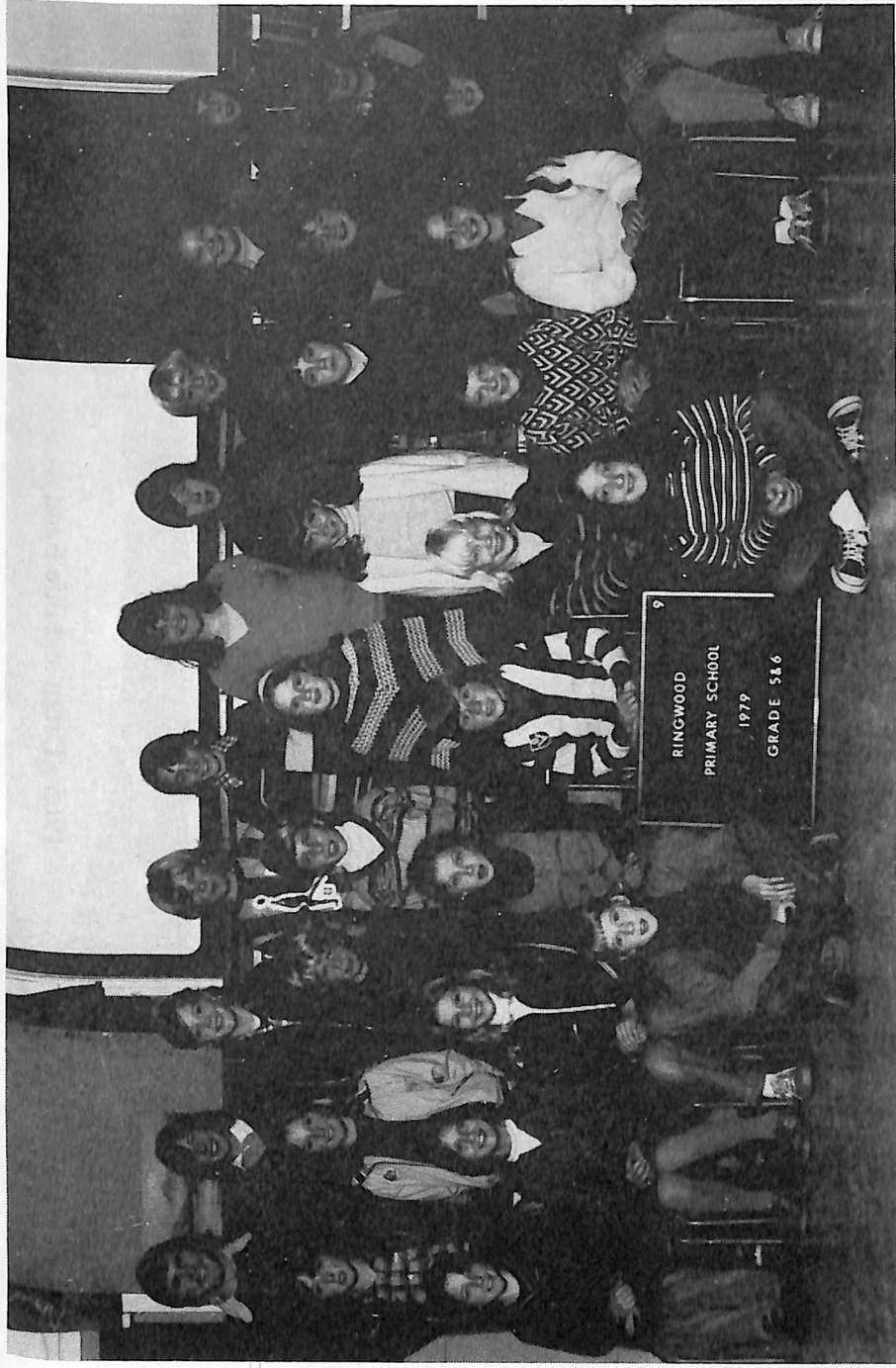
1946 - Grade 4



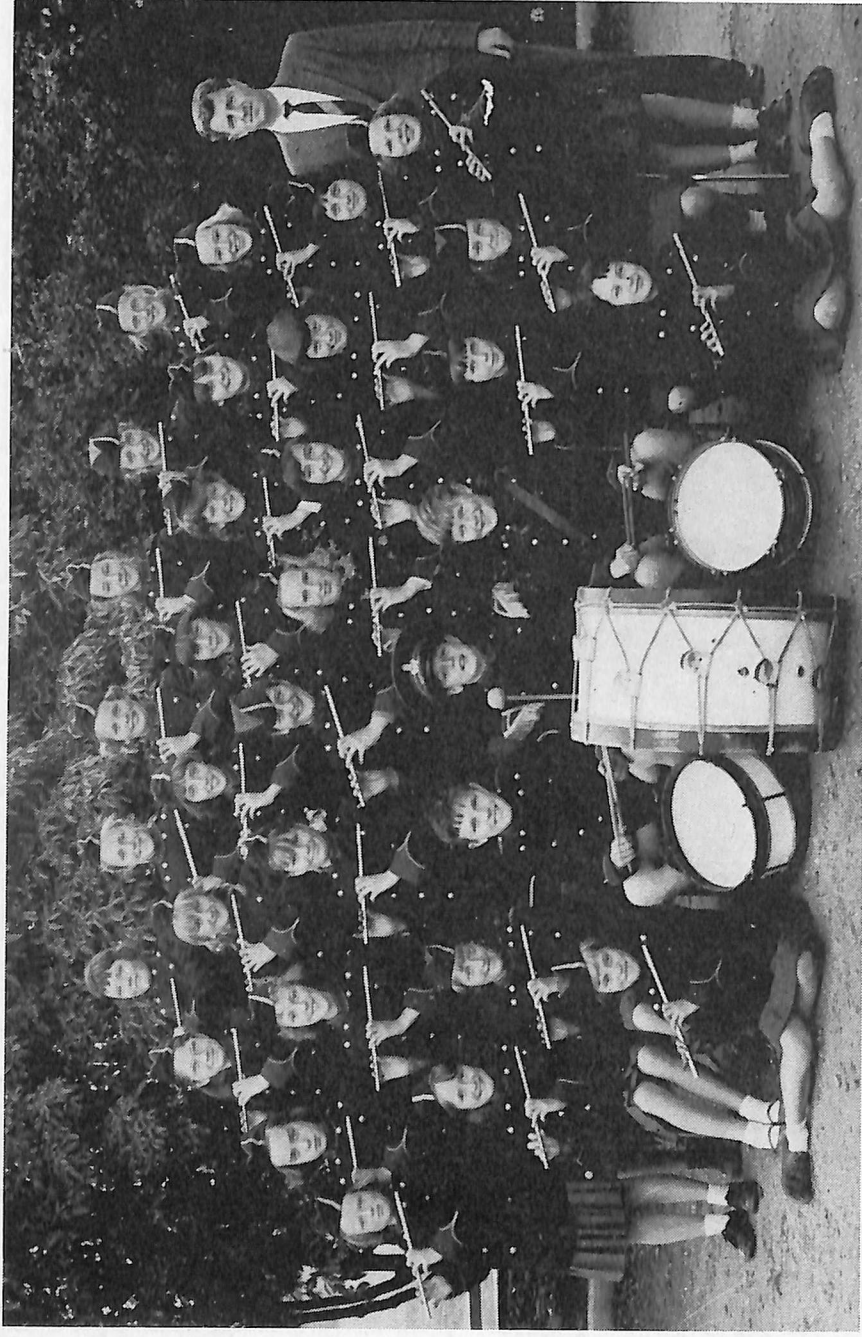
1951 Grade 6



1961 Grade 2B



1971 Grade 5/6



1965 - Drum and Fife Band



1958 - Girls' Marching Team



1965 - Junior Recorder Band



1968 - Recorder, Drum and Fife Band

PART 3: MISS DAISY PADDOCK

Teacher Extraordinary

Miss Janet Daisy Paddock began her teaching career as a Junior Teacher at Lilydale in 1913. She first came to teach at Ringwood State School No.2997 in 1927, as a Female Assistant, Class V, and remained there until 1941.

Miss Paddock return to Rinwood on promotion to the important position of Infant Mistress, and held this job (or rather, in her case, dedicated vocation) with great distinction for 10 years until her retirement from the Education Department on December 18th, 1961. with the 14 years of her earlier career at Ringwood State School , this made a total of 24 years spent in guiding the young lives of many of Ringwood's people, who obviously regarded her with affection and admiring respect and honour. The culmination of her career was the award to her in 1956 of the Lillian Horner Memorial Prize which was given annually to an outstanding Infant Mistress in the Victorian Education Department in memory of Miss Lillian Horner (1873-1938), probably the best I.M.in the history of our school system. (Miss Horner began her career at Castlemaine, but came under notice for her brilliant ideas at Princ's Hill (1915-1932), then at Camberwell No. 888 and Malvern, Spring Road.) The seven award books that constituted her prize were donated by her to the school, set in a glass case suitably inscribed. The prize is now located in the library which bears her name.

On December, 15th, 1961 Miss Paddock received a letter under the seal of Ringwood City Council, thanking her for service and citizenship (a rare honour). In 1967 Miss Paddock went overseas, visiting the British Isles and U.S.A. On her return Miss Paddock returned to her house in Thanet Street and took an interest in her old school until her death in August, 1974, only three month before the opening of the new school library which was dedicated to her memory.

Miss Paddock made a remarkable impact on her pupils during the years she taught at Ringwood Primary School. Her involvement and devotion is a constant reminder to all who knew her, and those who have learnt of her, of how a teacher's dedication can help shape a school and its community. (Taken from School History compiled by Mr. J.A. Baines)

REMINISCENCES OF MISS DAISY PADDOCK

During 1926 I was transferred to Ringwood State School from Coburg as a fifth Class assistant. At that time Ringwood School was the only school in the district. Mr. W. Broben was the H.T., greatly beloved by all. Miss May Wicking, the Infant Mistress, was one of the most dedicated teachers and an inspiration to us all. Mr. George Coghlan was the only male assistant, Miss Mary Childers the other female assistant, and three junior teachers, Joy Martin, Rita Salvana and 'Mickey' Clark. These J.T.'s were all in charge of grades and were responsible for them.

In those days Ringwood was a small place with a population of a little over 2000. I used to walk to and from school through open paddocks. The school was surrounded by open land with bush and orchards in the distance. This bush was alive with wild life, a great natural playground, a delight to both teachers and children. the attendance of the school at that time would be under 300 pupils. Mr. Broben, H.T., taught by 7th and 8th grades, Mr. Coghlan 6th grade, Miss Chilvers 5th grade, while I was in charge of 4th grade, Miss Clark 3rd grade, Miss Wicking 2nd grade, Miss Martin 1st grade and Miss Salvana the Prep. Miss Wicking received prmotion and was succeeded by Miss F. Sinclair. When the latter retired and was succeeded by Miss Naomi Irwin, who in turn was followed by Miss N. Thomas.

Mr. Broben retired in 1931 and was succeeded by Mr. Fenton. After the three junior teacher were promoted to Class V their places were filled by assistants: Miss Ramsay, Miss Barren, Miss Guest, Miss Fulton and Miss Myer. Mr. Coghlan received promotion and was succeeded by Mr. Wickens. I would like to add here that Mr. Fenton did much to improve the school. He was a keen gardener and it was he who really laid out the garden and planted the trees. I was promoted to Class IV at Ringwood. At this time I took charge of the 7th and 8th grades. This was great responsibility. There were 33 children in the 7th & 21 in the 8th grades. However, I received valuable assistance from Mr. Fenton, who taught a large class of 6th grade with the help of a J.T., Mr. Les Paull. In those days the pupils of 8th grade had to sit for the Merit Certificate examination at the end of the year and the pupils of 6th grade sat for the Qualifying examination to gain entrance to a High School. Some time later Mr. Wickens was transferred and Mr. T. Hamilton became the male assistant.

I spent 14 years at Ringwood in my first term there and saw many changes. Schools were opened at North Ringwood, East Ringwood and

the Catholic School in Wilana Street. Ringwood was always good school both in scholarship and sport. Ringwood were generally winners or runner-up in football, basketball and athletic sports. In 1941 I was promoted to Class III and became the I.M. at Lilydale. Then Class II in 1945 and promotion to Class I in 1948. In 1951 Ringwood became a Class I position and I was able to transfer back.

Ringwood's attendance had grown during the ten years from 300 to nearly 900. Conditions were very bad. Children were housed in the Methodist Sunday School, the Church of Christ Sunday School and the Scout Hall. The school was such a contrast to the one I had left at Footscray, with its big assembly hall and large classrooms, but when I began enrolling the children of my former pupils I felt I had really come home, and I could cope with any conditions.

Mr. Edwards was the Head Teacher. His was a very difficult task, with the school so scattered and the grades so large. The eight pre-fab classrooms that were added helped considerably, but it was years before the whole school was on the same block. Mr. Edwards was promoted to the Special Class position at Blackburn, and was succeeded by Mr. Fraher. However in two years' time Ringwood became a Special Class school, so Mr. Cadwallader succeeded Mr. Fraher and became Ringwood's first Special Class H.T. Shortly afterwards I was also promoted as a Special Infant Mistress and stayed on at Ringwood until I retired in 1961. The last ten years were difficult ones with big grades, overcrowded conditions and late enrolments. But I was fortunate in having a dedicated staff. It was through the outstanding work of the staff that I was awarded the Lillian Horner Prize in 1956.

I had spent 24 years of my school life at Ringwood and came to think of it as my own school. All through the years I had been given wonderful help and support by the Mothers' Club and School Committee. I think one of the happiest events was the Break-up Party at the end of the year. For weeks the Infant grades were busy making gifts, hats for the great day. Parents were invited and watched the children dramatize the Nativity scene in costume. Then the happy appearance of Santa - a truly happy time for children, staff and parents. The children then returned to their rooms, where they were given a party by the Mothers' Club.

As I look back over the years, I think one of the biggest changes is the attitude of the District Inspectors to both teachers and pupils. In the early days the visits were an ordeal and dreaded by all. The first inspector I

remember was Mr. Dew. In the later years the inspectors were welcomed as friends and helpers.

The greater part of my school life was spent at Ringwood, and as I look back over the years I feel how worthwhile they have been. I retired as a very happy person. I still live in Ringwood and scarcely a day passes without meeting a former pupil or a mother. It is always a great thrill for me to hear their news and know of their further success. My interest still goes on, and I still feel I belong.

(Communicated to the Principal, Mr. J.A. Baines, September, 1969.)

PART 4: Anecdotes taken from former pupils and teachers experiences.

1. In 1885 the Head Teacher of S.S.2242 Nunawading North, Miss Sarah Light, reported the "falling mortar in the schoolhouse was a daily occurrence and the wooden chimney had blown down. My health is injured I cannot speak above a whisper due to the drenching rain which enters the classroom." (Ref: notes by Mr. J. A. Baines)

2. In 1911 the Coronation of George V was celebrated by the Ringwood State School Committee. A procession was held together with a free dinner, sports for children and a concert.

3. Sir Ronald East, a former pupil wrote of seeing Mr. Griffiths of Griffiths Bros Teas being driven in style in a two horse wagonette from his home in Canterbury Road to Ringwood Station daily. He also mentioned the excitement on the day the Police residence next to the school burnt down in the early years of the century. Sir Ronald also recalled that on one occasion a steam locomotive went too far down a siding and toppled into Wantirna Road. (Reminiscences of the late Sir Ronald East)

4. Mrs Cuthill (Miss Linda Pump), former teacher and pupil, recalls an early teacher, Miss Mawson, who always wore a black apron and sandshoes and who taught sewing to rather unwilling seamstresses.

Mrs Cuthill remembers with affection, Mr. Broben, who always wore his glasses perched on the top of his head. He'd forget where they were and would be reminded by the children saying "On your head, sir!" (Reminiscences of Mrs Linda Cuthill)

5. Mr Henry Pratt, former pupil and pupil teacher, remembers Miss Mawson who used to carry her books in an old billy-cart, which she always pulled around. Mr. Pratt also remember playing cricket and football in McClelland's paddock across the road from the Ringwood Street School. (Reminiscences of Mr. Henry Pratt)

6. Miss Daisy Paddock, former teacher, wrote in 1969 that one of the happiest times she remembered at Ringwood was the end of year Break-up parties. The visit of Santa Claus was the highlight of the day. Parents, teachers and students all always looked forward to this event. (Reminiscences of the late Miss Paddock)

7. Mrs Ellen Gardner (Miss Ellen Adams) used to walk with her grandfather from Ringwood to Croydon to attend church each week.

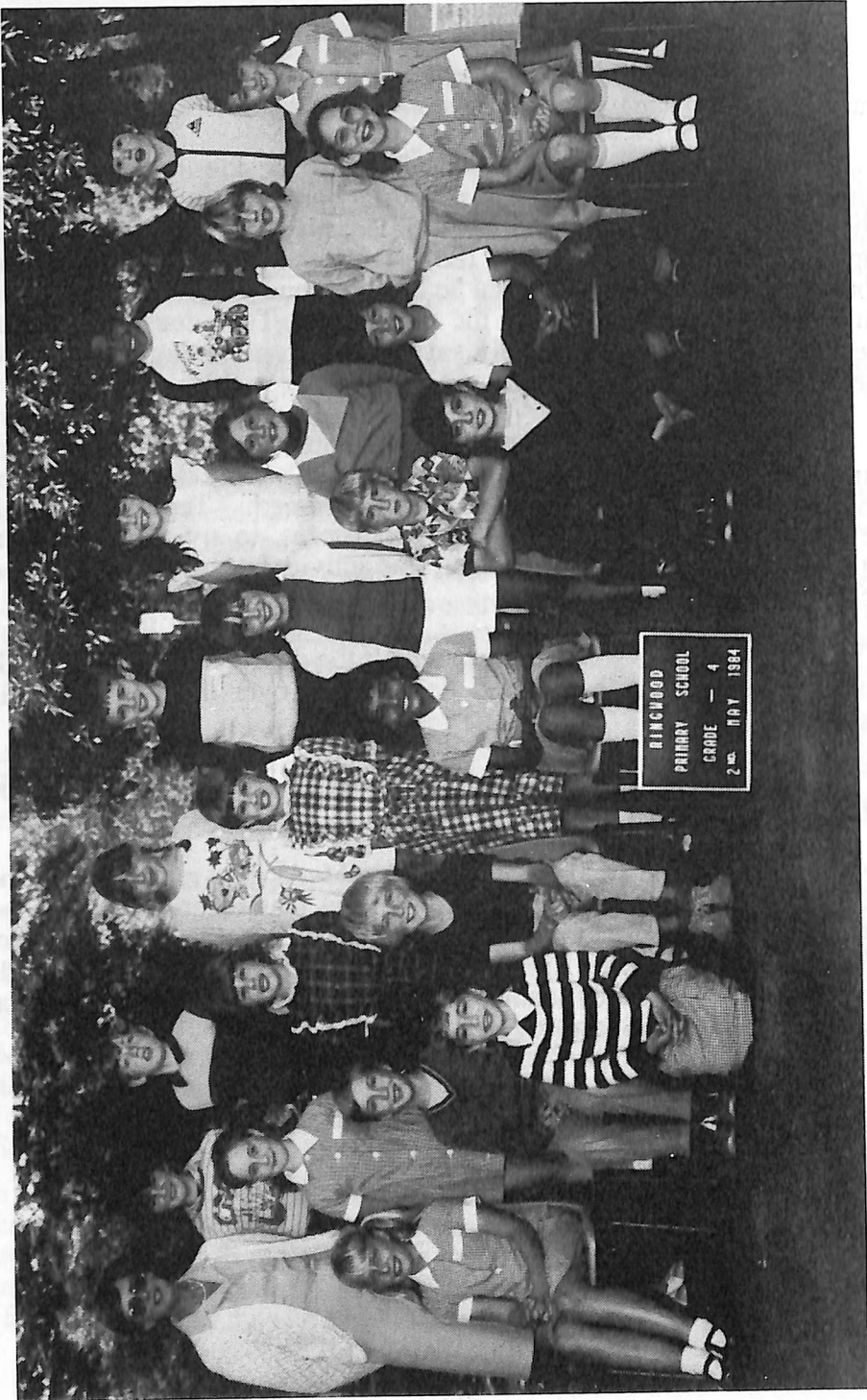
8. Mr Lloyd Tann remembers that the area beside the school, from Caroline Street to Jubilee Park was natural bush and was popular during lunch recess. Children would climb trees, play cowboys and indians; cops and robbers etc. Because of the distance the children would wonder from the school, they would often be late back and would stop and pick a bunch of wildflowers to pacify the teacher. Mr. Tann doesn't think that she believed them, but it usually saved them from getting into trouble. (Reminiscences of Mr. Lloyd Tann)

Mr. Tann also remembers that another popular pastime during lunch time was to visit the stock sales at McLelland's market. The children never tired of watching the animals being auctioned. Together with this the children often visited the nearby coolstores, to try to pinch some apples. Mr. Tann never partook of this activity because his father was the engineer-in-charge.

9. Mrs Carol Archer (nee Webber) recalls the days when the milk bottle broke, spilling the milk that had been heated over the fire causing a 'disaster'.

Mrs Archer also writes of having injections and being given a 'traffic light' lolly after the event.

10. During the 1920's Mr. Mason McAlpin remembers the orchardists' children attending apple packing classes at the Ringwood Cool Store, the instructors being Victorian Department of Agriculture officers. In 1928 & 1929 Ringwood Primary School won the state wide competition in which each scholar packed 2 cases of apples for judging at the Royal Melbourne Show.



Autographs