

LIST OF PETITIONERS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>No. of Children</u>
M. Kaye	Sydney St.	3
Mrs. W. Allen	King Edward Avenue	2
Mrs. A. Olsen	"	3
Mrs. Warmington	"	4
A. Brooks	"	2
W. J. Montgomery	"	2
Mrs. H. Boorer	"	-
Mrs. A. E. Ellingsen	"	-
F. H. Higgins	"	1
L. Rule	Hertford Road	1
R. Clemson	Burnewang St.	1
F. Bennett	Sydney St.	1
J. C. B. Whiting	"	1
E. G. Nicholls	Drummartin St.	-
F. Firth	"	1
R. Benn	"	4
L. Heid	"	3
J. Beynon	"	2
C. Tebb	"	2
C. Adams	King Edward Avenue	1
R. Roe	Adelaide Street	3
J. McGovern	Sydney Street	2
E. Chadwick	"	1
Chas. Milne	Ridley Street	1
C. Phillips	King Edward Avenue	2
J. Chadwick		-
H. Weaver		-
L. Nayler	Sydney Street	2
J. Searle	"	2
W. Stark	"	2
E. Mounsey	"	1
G. Oke	"	1
A. Taylor	"	1
W. Batten	"	4
M. Hyett	"	1
R. Bartlett	"	2
R. Parlor	"	1
J. Downing	Drummartin Street	1
A. Widdy	Ridley Street	2
E. Silcock	"	1
D. Perry	"	1
C. Hiscock	"	1
A. Cox	King Edward Avenue	3
W. H. Thompson	Sydney Street	2
G. Dobson	Lawson Street	1
S. Adams	48 Coolamon Street	2
F. Lapthorne	Lawson Street	3
J. Hjorth	"	2

List of Petitioners cont.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>No. of Children</u>
R. Weaver	Lawson Street	2
Y. Wilson	"	1
C. Clark	Adelaide Street	4
J. Shorten	Cr. Sydney St. & Ballarat Rd.	3
J. Chapman	Ballarat Road	2
E. Mattinson	"	2
D. Hall	"	3
T. Brown	"	3
Mrs. Skinner	"	2
J. Adamson	Anderson Road	3
Jeffreys	"	3
C. Stark	Adelaide Street	2
C. Legg	"	1
T. R. Barclay	Burnewang Street	2
Edith Ayton	"	2
G. Coulter	Sydney Street	2
D. McColl	Kamarooka Street	1
D. Sutherland	"	2
J. E. Vivian	Coolamon Street	2
L. Hogarth	"	1
W. Lawson	"	2
J. Gwynne	"	3
O. McPherson	Adelaide Street	2
V. Hodge	Coolamon Street	1
E. Evans	"	1
A. Bernoulli	"	1
A. Bunting	Kamarooka Street	3
G. Willaton	"	-
J. James	Coolamon Street	1
G. Brown	"	1
B. Challen	"	1
S. Jones	Burnewang Street	1
A. Clayton	Coolamon Street	3
A. Foxcroft	"	2
Mrs. E. Gallpen	"	-
E. Jackson	"	2
R. McBride	Ferguson Street	1
T. Dyett	Coolamon Street	1
H. Williams	Kamarooka Street	1
A. Marchant	Adelaide Street	1
M. Morrissey	"	4
H. Adams	Coolamon Street	-
A. Anderson	"	2
A. Gillman	"	2
R. Jackson	Adelaide Street	-
H. Andrew	"	1
V. Williams	"	2
J. Noble	Gunnedah Street	-
G. McKenzie	"	-

The Government Valuer was asked to investigate and report on any available sites in the area. The most suitable one was a portion of an area being sub-divided by H. V. McKay, bounded on the West by Launceston (now Albury) Street, on the South by Station (now Derrimut) Street, on the East by Adelaide Street (unchanged), and on the North by an un-named lane or right-of-way which has since been absorbed into the school ground when the adjoining site was acquired in the 1940's. The price of £1160 for 4 acres was considered reasonable, but purchase at this juncture was not recommended.

Having failed in their efforts to have a complete school established in the area, a group of 100 or more local residents, representing in excess of 175 children of age eight years or less, applied on the 18th August 1924 to have a school for children up to 3rd Grade standard established, on the grounds that by providing this the Department would save the very young at least from both an over-long walk to school and the dangers of crossing a busy railway line. Those petitioners are listed on Pages 12 and 13.

This proposition gained the support of the newly appointed D.I., E. R. Davey, who on 19.12.24 advised -

"Ref.1408

ALBION

19.12.24.

Sir,

With reference to the attached petition for a junior school at Albion, I desire to state that after careful inspection and conference with the Head Masters and Committees of the Sunshine Elementary and Technical School, and with representatives from Albion and West Sunshine, the conclusion is forced upon me that to meet the requirements of this rapidly developing locality, and to relieve the crowded condition of the Sunshine schools, an infant school, i.e. as requested, one accommodating pupils to the 3rd Grade inclusive, should be built without delay, on the site shown on the accompanying plan, and approved by all concerned as the most suitable one for the purpose.

The School should, I think, be capable of accommodating 150 pupils, and be capable of extension as development, which is sure to proceed rapidly, goes on.

The site of 4 acres is admirably shown on the blueprint kindly furnished by Mr. Small. Its cost would be £1160.

I am, Sir,

E. R. DAVEY, D.I."

Dr. Leach, now Assistant Chief Inspector, first agreed to the Infant school suggested, and then on 24th January 1925 decided that a building, catering for Grades 1 to V in 1925 and Grades 1 to VI thereafter, should be erected. On 25th March 1925 the Government Valuer requested permission to proceed with the purchase of the site under investigation; this was approved by the Minister almost immediately, and a deposit of £50 was placed on the land. The balance of £1110 (plus £13.17.6) to be paid on the following 15th July. The P.W.D. was authorised to call for tenders for the construction of a new building, estimated cost £3700, on 15th September 1925, to provide accommodation for 150 pupils, with capacity for future extension.

The successful tenderer was P. Rogers, who submitted a basic price of £3561.6.6; to this was added electric lighting by S. Pearce £22.5.0, and £94.14.0 for tar paving surrounding the building. The tender was accepted on 1st December 1925, and the date of completion is given as 30th June 1926. School commenced on 8th July 1926, and the building was officially opened on 26th November 1926, the Sunshine 'Advocate' reporting -

"Albion State School was officially opened by
Mr. J. Hjorth, M.L.A. Jackie Nayler unfurled
the Australian flag presented by Mr. B. M. Challen".

The building consisted of three 26'6" x 24' classrooms, one Head Teacher's office 12' x 11', on 10' x 8' teachers' room, storeroom, lavatory, hat and cloak rooms, all in brick construction. Furniture for 120 pupils had been delivered by the 30th June; that for a further 30 pupils was on order but not yet supplied by the P.W.D. The first H.T., Robert S. Peel, reports taking charge of the building on 7th July 1926 (Wednesday) - the following day being the recorded date of opening; a week later he reports the school as "overcrowded for seating accommodation"; the 120 seating spaces available on 30th June and the 10 dual desks applied for to provide seating for the remainder suggest an enrolment of 140 at least, on that date. In the 1926 Building Report, the D.I. predicts that the classrooms "will be quite full by the end of the year".

By the middle of November, although technically not overcrowded (enrolment 155, accommodation for 158 allowing 12 sq. ft. per child) the D.I.'s report indicated that not only did the school's accommodation promise to be too small for next year, but the school at Sunshine, whose load Albion had been intended to ease, seemed "as crowded as ever". His recommendation was that one large Infant Room with moveable division, capable of taking two grades of 35 each, be added, and also another classroom providing for 50 pupils. He also suggested that a teachers' room be added. (It is probable that the one provided in the original plan had been converted to an additional classroom almost before the paint was dry.) An estimate by the P.W.D., of 5th April 1927, produced almost the same figures for the extensions as those for the original building - £3650. Approval for the building extensions was granted on 20th April 1927, tenders were advertised 23rd September 1927, and that of Messrs. Blease & McPherson, at £2586.2.4 was accepted shortly afterward.

The additions were completed on 30th June 1928, and some asphaltting around the new classrooms added the following April at a cost of £101.16.8. Occupation of the new classrooms was not effected immediately following the completion date noted on the job sheet, despite severe overcrowding. The District Architect's authority to occupy the premises was not given until 10th September 1928. A shelter pavilion to be built to P.W.D. specifications by volunteer labour - the £110 for materials being provided by £1 for £1 subsidy - was also arranged during this period, the most suitable location being decided by the Inspector of Works during the late weeks of November 1927. Claims on subsidy funds dated 19th April 1928 suggest a completion date a few weeks earlier. A floor was added to the shelter pavilion in November of the following year.

Notwithstanding the increase in accommodation, at the beginning of 1951 it was once more becoming evident that available space was inadequate. A short-time lease of the Methodist Sunday School Hall was proposed and approved by the Church Trust, to take effect from the beginning of the 1952 school year, at £2 per week. Also in 1952, the Head Teacher reported on maintenance of a new classroom (formerly shelter shed) and Works Inspector J.R. Nolan notices "the only available shelter pavilion was being used as a classroom/storeroom". Hon. A.E. Shepherd, M.L.A., in a letter of 28th June 1952 says, "The need to use the shelter shed as a classroom is causing some concern". Provision was made for two pre-fab. classrooms, and these were completed in December 1952. Despite this, it was necessary to arrange for the continued use of the Methodist Hall during 1953, as excess pupils from St. Albans region were expected to be transported to Albion by bus.

In the period from mid-1952 to mid-1953 the enrolment had risen from 400 to 520, but although 3 shelter sheds had been allotted to the school, none had been delivered or constructed. At commencement of 1954 year, the D.I. noted that 84 pupils were occupying the Methodist Hall and the converted shelter shed, neither of which was of satisfactory standard as a classroom.

The worst in a long series of acts of vandalism and petty burglary occurred in May 1954. Entry was forced into the office, locked cupboards and drawers were broken into and a large number of handwork and carpentry tools, a first-aid case, and a film strip projector were stolen. Police enquiries were initiated, without result.

In a letter of 22nd November 1954, Head Teacher E. Voce stated that "Provided the two classrooms now being built are completed by 1st February 1955, the Methodist Sunday School Hall will not be required". The rooms mentioned were built as an extension to the west of the existing wooden pre-fabs completed in December 1952, the separate porches being removed and all 4 classrooms being linked by one long corridor along the southern face of the building. These were occupied on 1st February 1955.

After 26 years of persistent applications and equally regular minor repairs, the complete re-tiling of the school roof was completed, with terra-cotta tiles replacing the cement tiles. Repairs to the framework and lining of the roof were also necessary due to the damage caused by continual flooding. Long sustained efforts to have the heating system of the school modernised were rewarded when 'gas thermolator' type heaters were installed on 24th January 1958.

With the opening of Ardeer State School on 17th March 1961, attendance at Albion fell from 556 to 402, thus freeing not only the shelter pavilion and a storeroom (both used as classrooms for many years) but two actual classrooms. One of these the Head Teacher had approved for use as a central library, and initial work on the project was undertaken by November of that year.

Deterioration of the playing area following footpath construction in Adelaide St. led to an inspection by the Civil Engineers Branch of the P.W.D. on 9th November 1962, and some taking of levels before the end of the Year. A little work on the site was carried out during the following year, but much was left to be carried out under subsidy. This included 3500 cubic yards of filling, the removal of a row of gum trees, and some hundreds of feet of drainage. By approximately the middle of the 1969/70 financial year a subsidy of £600 and a direct special grant of £3500

had been negotiated for this purpose, but as it was proving difficult to have a tender approved before the end of that period, a request was submitted that the subsidy and grant be carried over into the 1970/71 financial year.

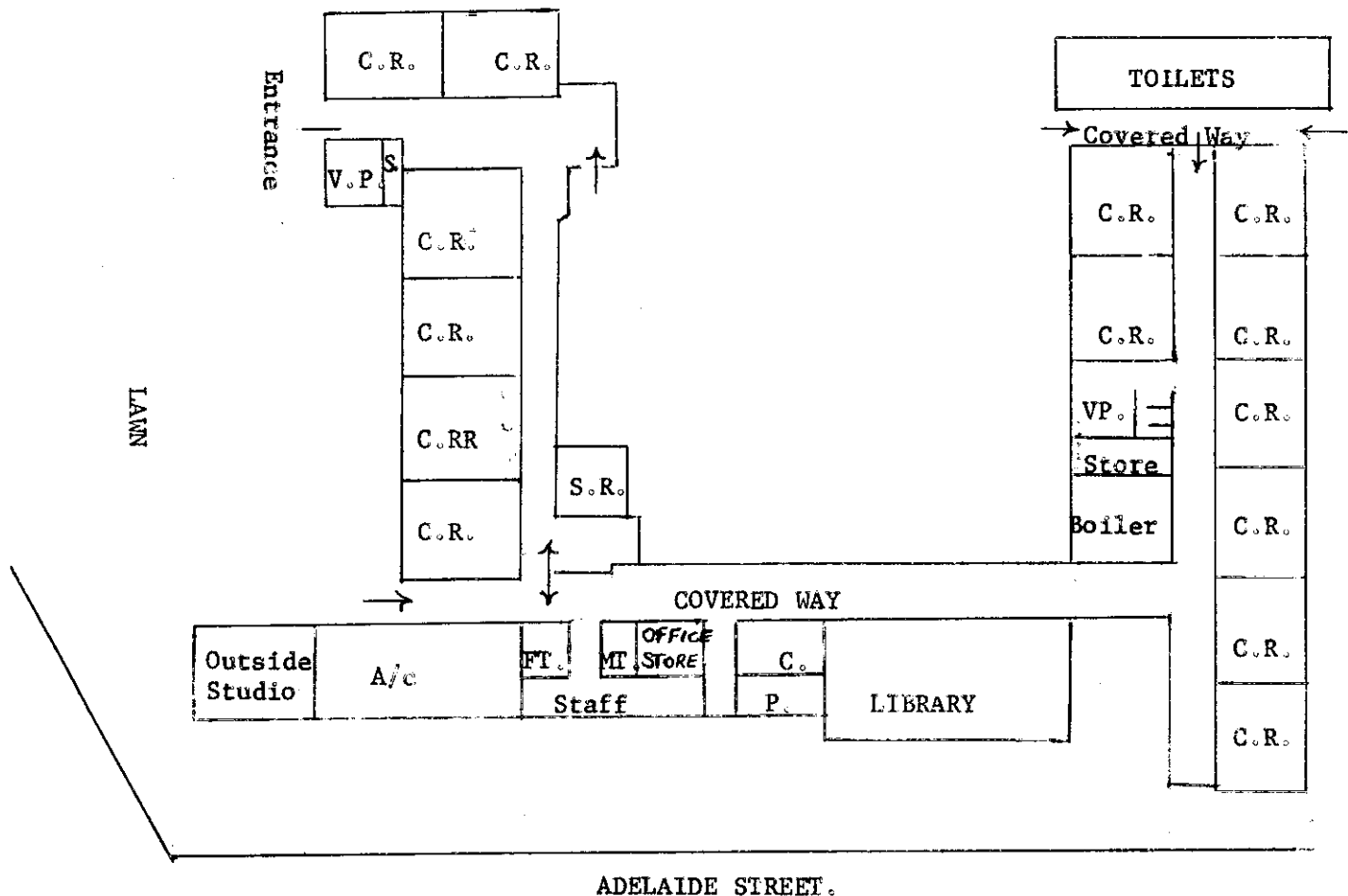
In 1971, a further two classrooms were added, also a new staffroom and toilet.

By 1974 the average attendance was 415, in 12 Grades. Staff consisted of -

Principal - R. P. Clancy,
 Deputy - I. Hughes,
 Vice-Principal
 Infant mistress - Miss P. Lane,
 Librarian - Mrs. C. Ryan,
 Junior Dept. leader - Mr. P. Ryan,
 Teachers - Misses J. Alderson, V. Woodward, W. Tudball, Y. Lau,
 Mesd. M. Hendrickson, H. Wansink, G. Parke, L. Ewels,
 J. Bowie.

Towards the end of 1974 an enthusiastic group of teachers, pupils and helpers, led by Miss Lane, converted a shelter shed into an art room which was occupied in 1975.

PROPOSED PLAN OF FUTURE SCHOOL - Drawn up by Mr. R. Paul Clancy, Principal.



Very little historical material actually exists indicating the exact nature of sport and physical education at Albion Primary School in the early part of the century, though some conclusions can be drawn based on the prevailing educational thought in Victoria at the time.

1. PHYSICAL EDUCATION

At the time of Albion Primary School's first appearance on the scene in 1926 the head of Girls' instruction in Physical Education in Victoria was Rosalie Virtue. In Charge of Boys' instruction were Colonel F. Alderson and Captain W. Dickens. The Army virtually had complete control of Physical Training (P.T.) in Victoria, and, although P.T. itself was left to the individual teacher Physical Training in the schools invariably followed the military pattern dominated by "Army Cadet Drill". The Army's influence even extended to the judging of "marching contests" at school sports by Army Personnel.

In 1931 the services of the Army in Physical Education were dispensed with and during the 1930's teachers and administrators, freed from its domineering influence, began to develop their own ideas on Physical Education. These were gradually directed towards children's interest rather than formal remedial exercises and military drill. Physical Education in schools began to adopt and reflect the aims and objectives of other subjects in the curriculum.

English Physical Education has always had a marked influence on Physical Education in Victorian Schools (and presumably at Albion) and in the 1940's Physical Education began to change from the traditional methods of mass activity (such as drill, folk-dance, displays, command-response gymnastics etc.) to that of creative, individual activity within a group framework.

This change saw its culmination in the preparation and adoption of the 1970 curriculum guides (gymnastics, dance, ball-handling skills) by most Victorian teachers.

A brief quote from the introduction to the Gymnastics guide will illustrate the tone of Physical education in Victorian schools today -

"...in keeping with the general trends in education, gymnastics today is centred on the child as an individual and recognises the need to cater for differences in potential, way of learning, way of learning and varying interests...the teacher..guides each child to his own potential through a natural learning process of exploration, discovery, selection and consolidation..."

2. SPORT

Probably the greatest change that has taken place in sport in the last fifty years in Victorian Schools is the same change that has taken place in Physical Education and in other subjects - that is a strong movement towards catering for the individual differences among children.

In the period surrounding 1926, virtually the only two sports taught and played in Victorian Schools were football in Winter and Cricket in Summer. Headmasters were opposed to the participation of girls in inter-school sport, though gradually, with more advanced thinking and the greater availability of women teachers for instruction and supervision of girls' sport, rounders and basketball were introduced.

Children still however, had no actual choice between sporting activities in Primary schools and this situation remained virtually unchanged until the late 1960's and early Seventies when contemporary thought began to turn away from the concept of moulding the child to fit the curricula, to the more positive approach of changing the curricula to fit the child's needs.

Recognising that not every child can become competent, (or indeed is interested in becoming competent) in the four 'major games', the trend now is to provide as many possible games or activities as possible in an attempt to tap as many interests as possible and to give every child an opportunity to excell in at least one game or activity.

Albion has followed this trend and has also taken the further step of making 'sport' itself non-compulsory - replacing the traditional 'sport' period with a 'clubs afternoon'.

The children 'nominate' themselves into one of the 10 clubs that are available and stay in this club for at least six weeks, after which they have the choice of either staying on, or choosing a different club. Each club is supervised by teachers and volunteer parents with children providing all the necessary materials. The clubs that at available are -

Football, Soccer, Netball, Cookery, Guitar,
Model Building, Collecting and Indoor games,
Dancing and Deportment, Handicrafts and Gardening.

Inter-school sport is still played though on a less formal basis. The 'major games' still form the basis of inter-school sport (teams chosen from the relevent clubs) though where ever possible other lesser known games are played such as Newcomb (-a variation of volley ball), softball, bat-tennis or tabloid sports.

T. GODBER.

PEOPLE

People, people from all over the world,
Greeks, Italians, Japanese too,
Come to Australia to see the view,
Some come to stay and some to go,
Some come to work, some come to play,
Come and go they see us here,
People, people from all over the World.

People, people from all different countries,
People from all over the world,
People to meet and people to greet,
Coming to Australia, people from countries
Like Italy, Greece, Malta, England and India.
In coming and going, they all are migrants.
People speaking different languages and
Speaking English too.

Jasmi Stajanic
6H.

Karen Hickey.
6H.