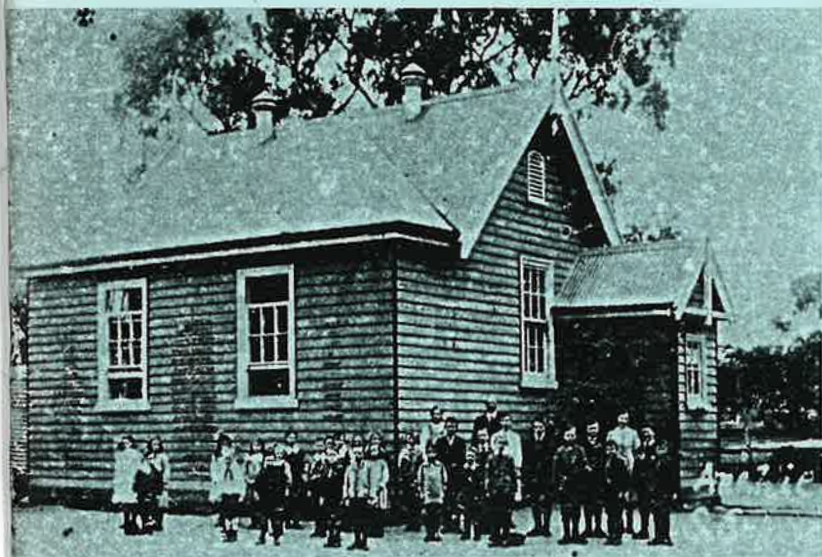


**Anakie  
State School 1910  
Centenary  
1877 - 1977**



**Anakie**

**State School 1910**

**Centenary**

**1877 - 1977**



**Back To Anakie**

**1st, 2nd, 3rd July**

The President and members of the School Centenary a Back-to-Anakie Committee extend to all who have taken interest in the school and district over this last century, and who have attended our celebrations, a very cordial welcome.

K. W. TUCKER, J.P., President

K. W. TUCKER, J.P., Chairman

R. H. TUCKER, Secretary

J. W. BUTCHER, Treasurer

This account of the district and school is intended to convey to the reader some idea of their progress during the last century. It has been compiled from information supplied from many sources. Grateful thanks is extended to all bodies and people who have freely given information.

No doubt some people and families have been overlooked, also some events which have taken place. To the best of our knowledge the book is accurate, but we offer our apologies to anyone who has been overlooked.

The Anakie district in its early days extended from the "Marathon" station property in the south, to Staughton Vale in the north; Bacchus Marsh road in the east to the Brisbane Ranges in the west and north-west.

The Marathon property at the turn of the century was owned by the late Sir Sam. Wilson and extended almost to the Moorabool railway station. Hare coursing was a popular sport on this property, with Mr Simon McDonald, the manager, in charge of the meetings. This property, although now much smaller in size, is owned by Mr Mel. Williams.

Other well-known properties in the district were Peredinia and Clifton, owned now by the Cozens family; Narada, which has been owned by the Armytage family; later sold to Mr W. Sargood and the Browne family. It is still owned by this family; Mr John Browne later developed another property, Narada West. This property at one time extended from Stacey Road to Hannan's Road with some small properties occupying various areas within the overall length of some 13 miles. On the death of Mr W. G. Browne this property was subdivided and sold to many of his share-farmers and others. The home section is now called Narada Park and is owned by Mr Barry Miller, whose father purchased the property from Dr. Dahlenburg. "Lumeah", owned by the Lyle family, is another very rich property around the slopes of Mt. Anakie and the middle hill area. A descendant of the Lyle family, Mr Lyle Hill, still owns this property.

Other early families in the district, on its western side, were Mahon's, Arnold's, Kershaw's, Beale's, Selkeld's, Miller's, Mooney's, Dunsford's, Ward's and Flannagan's. Later Ward's and McMahan's took selections on the Balliang closer settlement about 1908. On the ranges side, one of the better known families was that of Mr Geo. Clark, who was an active person in the development of public interest in the area.

Further to the northern section of the district, the family of Mr and Mrs Charles Tucker settled, approximately where Cave Hill is now. Their sons, Charles, Henry and John, and daughter

Emily (Mrs Bissell) all settled and had properties in the district. Some small properties around the slopes of the Mount from the Church of England north had owners with names of Fowler, Lockwood, Hall, Lynch, Aitken, Ryan, Parkes.

Portion of the original Staughton Vale property came as far as Granite Road. This section north to Hannan's road later became part of W. G. Browne's Narada West property.

## SCHOOL 1910 ANAKIE

(formerly "Anakies")

(Compiled by Walter Spurrell, Research Officer, History Section,  
Education Department — June, 1976)

This school succeeded a non-vested Catholic school, Anakies No. 21, which had been operating in the district since September 19, 1859, when it was opened by H.T. John Byrne. Later (1st January, 1874) No. 21 became a Capitation School; in the same year the inhabitants of Staughton Vale, some miles to the north, petitioned for the establishment of a State school. Inspector John Main not only agreed that a new school was necessary, he recommended the provision of two new schools, one in the Staughton Vale area and another in the Anakies region, about five miles further south; he regretted the lack of Government land in a suitable location, but reported an offer from John Brown(e) (the correct spelling of the surname emerges in later correspondence) to donate or sell one or two acres "in an excellent situation anywhere between Belcher's Store and the Presbyterian Church". Some progress had been made towards having a site transferred to the Department when Mr. Browne purchased a neighbouring property, and having no use for the residence thereon, he offered it and the acre of ground surrounding it to the Department, in lieu of his former offer, as a free gift for educational purposes. Like many gift horses, this one proved in need of drastic dental attention; most of the buildings the Building Inspector dismissed as "past spending money on; only fit for burning", though as an afterthought he conceded "some of the old timber (from them) would make two single seated closets for the school". The main building he recommended as possibly a teachers' residence, not as a school building—but even for this purpose it would need a considerable amount of renovation. The contract eventually signed by John Baxter & Son, of Clarence Street, Geelong, on 12th February, 1877, was for "erecting State School, alterations and additions to teachers quarters, State School No. 21, Anakies". This latter number was not exactly correct, for on a file cover of a few weeks later was minute instructing a Mr Despard to "note as a State School No. 1910 Anakie . . . — Strike No. 21 Capitation School off the roll from 30.6.77"; a few days later, to "appoint Mr Jno. Gleeson, teacher of the Capitation School 21. Instruct him to take over the Department's property at 1910".

Anakies School No. 21  
2 October 1874

Secretary  
Education Department

Sir,

Now that it has been decided to have a State school in this locality I have the honor to inform you that I should like to get the appointment. And as I believe it is intended to keep the above School on as a private school in case it lost the grant — I should like to know as soon as convenient, may I expect it.

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

John Gleeson

Little detail is given of the new school ("24 x 16 school — to be ready 1st July") nor of the living quarters ("Rent — Nil"), though the H.T.'s salary on appointment was noted as £130 per annum. Possession of the residence, four wood rooms, detached one 15' x 12', one 12' x 8' 6", one 8' x 9', and one 8' x 10' 7") was not possible until 6th August, 1877. Rent of £12 per annum was first charged on 1st July, 1878. Towards the end of that year the school site was fenced and gates erected, at a cost of £41, by J. Baxter & Sons. This was partly to prevent sheep escaping from Mr. Browne's property through the school premises, and partly to separate the pupils from a nearby chain of deep waterholes, which the D.I. regarded as a possible source of tragedy.

By 7th May, 1885, falling attendances (average for May, 15) led to postponement of work which was contemplated on the ceiling, and to consideration of part-time working with the neighbouring school of Staughton Vale. This latter idea particularly was resisted by the local residents, supported by Peter Lalor, M.P.

The H.T. in charge of the school at 3rd August, 1886, C. O. Dentry, complained of a gaping crack from top to bottom of the stone facade of the residence, which made two rooms of the building uninhabitable. The sudden death of the Inspector of Works caused delay in the calling for tenders for the necessary repairs. Little appears to have been done in the years 1885 to 1890, during which time the school was for a short period unstaffed, then worked half-time with neighbouring Staughton

Vale, restored to full-time, and once again worked half-time for a period covering part of 1888, all of 1889 and part of 1890 in partnership with S.S. 1286 Sheoaks. From the incoming Head Teacher's complaints of the residence — doors difficult or impossible to open, because of decaying stumps; keys rusted immovably into locks, and floors undermined by rabbits — it appears that the building had been unoccupied for some considerable period prior to 30th September, 1891, the date of his letter on the subject.

During the late August - early September period of 1899 internal renovations were carried out, necessitating the closing of the schoolroom for approximately one week. Repairs to the residence were also carried out, but much of the benefit gained by the latter was lost when a leak in the roof allowed rainwater to damage the newly papered ceiling and walls.

In June, 1902, a proposal was made that this school and 1647 Staughton Vale be amalgamated, but in view of the D.I.'s adverse report, the idea was abandoned. On 2nd July, 1903, the name of the school was officially changed to Anakie, to conform with the Postal and Lands Department spelling of the name, though the final "s" had been (whether deliberately or accidentally) omitted, more often than not, by teachers, Board of Advice officials, and other correspondents, from the mid-nineties onward.

One fact which emerges as a result of a report on the school building dated 7th January, 1907, is that the school roof was constructed of shingles, which by the date of the report had begun to decay and pollute the drinking water. Fortunately the iron roof of the residence provided an alternative source — running water in every room, though not necessarily from a tap. The requisitioning of £50 to overlay the roof with galvanised iron was authorised on 25th April, 1907, and the work carried out on the 9th, 10th and 11th of September, for which purpose the school was closed on those days. Although the school building itself seems to have been generally kept in reasonable repair from the turn of the century, the residence was, by 1911, almost derelict. Rarely occupied by teachers, it was sub-let for brief periods to itinerant farm-workers and similar types, usually being vacated on the grounds that the Department's assessment of rental was excessive, though there was evidently no shortage of other defects: wall-paper and hessian festooning from the ceiling, leaking roofs, lack of verandahs or porches to protect the doors, patches of rot in the floor through which feet or furniture could break with almost no warning, and toilet facilities shared with the scholars. Following a letter from E. J. Hogan,

M.L.A. (later Premier) to the Minister, repairs were carried out to the residence and school, replacement of flooring, and re-papering of part of the residence being amongst the works specified. This was completed at a cost of £30 by 31st January, 1914.

The H.T. at the time, Miss E. Armstrong, regarded the premises as still "unspeakably uncomfortable" and made a number of suggestions for further improvement. The Department obtained an estimate of the cost of this work from the P.W.D., but shelved the matter. However, the intervention of the Hon. E. J. Hogan was again sought by the School Committee in April, 1914; by September that year a verandah, a porch and an outside toilet had been added to the residence at a cost of £46.7.0. In 1916 the Geelong Water Trust, which had some years previously refused to allow its main to be tapped, although it passed the front gate of the school, relented, and the connection of the school to the city water supply was completed at a cost of £18 on 23rd March, 1916.

Late in July of that year a petition was submitted for the extension and remodelling of the school, chiefly on the grounds that although it was designed for a maximum of 32 pupils, it now had 40 on the roll, with another 5 reaching enrolment age by the end of the year; this trend they expected to be maintained for at least 5 years. There were also defects in the building — faulty ventilation, lack of storage, etc. — which had rendered it unsatisfactory since its construction almost 40 years previously. The D.I.'s report confirmed that some form of enlargement was necessary, his personal recommendation being that the existing building be lengthened by 12 feet. The P.W.D., when called on for an opinion, found little merit in his suggestion, and produced a plan of its own by which the necessary floor space for the excess pupils, and a cloak room, could be provided for £98. However, "owing to the financial stringency" (that being the middle of the World War 1 period) "the department regret that the case must be held in abeyance". Considerations of economy were, on this occasion, over-ridden by Parliamentary intervention — the Hon. E. J. Hogan — and an epidemic of whooping cough, attributed to the over-crowded conditions at the school. The work was completed for a few shillings less than the estimated £98, on 14th September, 1917.

The arrival of a new teacher brought the residence into prominence. The previous teacher had never occupied it; and his predecessor had abandoned it in favour of private accommodation some time in 1915, despite a few token additions the previous year. The new H.T., being married, wished to reside with his family as near to the school as possible. With a little

political pressure from the Hon. H. F. Richardson, M.L.C., approval for the addition of two new rooms, and a bath, as well as the jacking up of the sagging floor of the existing rooms and the removal of the less sanitary of the latter, was given. The cost to the Department was £314.15.0, the date of completion 25th June, 1918.

Towards the end of 1923 another population increase was becoming evident. District Inspector J. W. Gray estimated the probable enrolment for the next few years to be at least 64, and suggested that provision be made to accommodate that number. But this, it became evident, was not a matter of tacking another 6 or 10 feet to the end of the present building. The District Architect's examination of the structure convinced him that it was unstable, and unsafe to be extended by anything but complete re-construction. He quoted a price of £850 for a new building to accommodate 70 pupils. The school site also (1 acre) was proving rather cramped for the number of pupils — 67 on May 10, 1924 — and investigations were being made as to the possibility of obtaining at least 4 acres (committee's request) of additional playing area. In addition, temporary classroom provision had to be made for the overflow of pupils; means considered were: renting of a room in a farmhouse a quarter of a mile from the school; renting of a room in the teacher's residence either of these alternatives involved an outlay of £1 per week); and use of the sheltershed, modified by the addition of a door, a little weatherboarding, a floor and a window — which provided a fairly cheap 150 sq. ft. of floor space for an outlay of £13 by the School Committee. The third idea was adopted fairly promptly, but in a matter of weeks the District Health Officer, Dr. Marwood, had to close the school for two weeks as a result of an outbreak of influenza and whooping cough which the parents, whether rightly or wrongly, attributed to the crowding in the school. With warmer weather approaching, they anticipated unbearable temperatures in the unlined sheltershed and renewed their efforts to promote an early start for the new building. Efforts were also made to have a larger building built, although the one approved provided for 70 pupils, as compared with the D.I.'s estimate of a maximum of 64 — a fact which the Department was very quick to point out.

Less reasonable was the departmental opposition to a partition in the classroom, to reduce the interference between the three teachers' lessons. This was requested by the H.T., supported by the D.I. and the School Committee, but rejected at the Head Office. The request for additional playing space was more indulgently dealt with, an area of land adjoining the

school site on the north-west and south-west boundaries was purchased from Miss M. G. Browne (daughter of the donor of the original school site and residence building) for £20. This was not quite the four acres requested by the committee, but at 1 acre 32 sq. perches it more than doubled the total site area. Meanwhile, the P.W.D. had applied for authority to advertise for tenders for the new building on 21st January, 1925, but had been asked to wait until the Department had title to the additional land, on which it was proposed to erect the new building. As soon as occupancy of the newly acquired extension to the schoolgrounds was possible, tenders for the new building were invited, authorised by a memo of 3rd July, 1925. The successful tenderer was L. G. Taylor, and the building, at £608.6.6, was considerably cheaper than the £850 estimated by the P.W.D. in the planning stages. Completion date is officially given as 5th December, 1925, though the Correspondent for the School Committee, requesting new desks on 19th November, 1925, states quite unequivocally, ". . . our school is completed now". The official opening of the building was carried out by the Director of Education, on 25th February, 1926. The nett enrolment at this date was 58, and the highest monthly average attendance 54; the new building provided for 72 pupils allowing 12 sq. ft. per child. The new building apparently sparked off an upsurge of civic pride, as subsidy was sought for a considerable footage of fencing to protect a proposed garden area, shrubberies and hedge to be established in the area fronting the new building, the claim being passed for payment in February, 1927. Although some grades were regularly required to have some of their lessons in the unheated sheltershed, because of the difficulty of three teachers giving lessons simultaneously in one large room, the provision of an accordeon type partition, as a temporary sub-division to avoid such chaotic interlacing of instruction, was "not considered necessary", and was rejected on that ground alone, the Committee being notified to that effect on 27th July, 1927. An entourage headed by the Minister for, and the Director of Education, the local M.L.A. and the District Inspector, visited the school on 11th April, 1930. The available evidence suggests that their visit was in connection with this request, but if so, it produced no alteration in the earlier decision.

Repairs and external painting to the sheltershed, new tanks for the school and residence, and other works to a total cost of £61 were completed on 19th May, 1934. Further work on the residence to a total of £104.13.4 was completed in mid-December, 1937. During the World War 2 years following, minimal maintenance work was carried out. Delayed repairs and additions to the residence, painting of school-house and residence, and fencing which were carried out towards the end of 1946 involved

the outlay of £320 (part of which the Department recouped by increasing the rent on the residence). The installation of a septic system was, however, postponed on the grounds that earlier applications of equal urgency had still to be dealt with.

Meanwhile, the Department indicated a wish to again enlarge the recreational area of the school. In January, 1947, one acre adjoining the school, the property of Miss M. G. Browne, daughter of the donor of the original school site, was settled upon — having been, for the past few years, used with the tacit consent of Miss Browne as an unofficial playground by the school children. The transaction was settled on 28th July, 1948, but it was not until August, 1949, that the H.T. and School Committee, in reply to their query as to whether the Department could see its way clear to attempt to purchase the land recommended by the D.I. some three years previously, were stunned to learn that the area in question had been Departmental property for over a year.

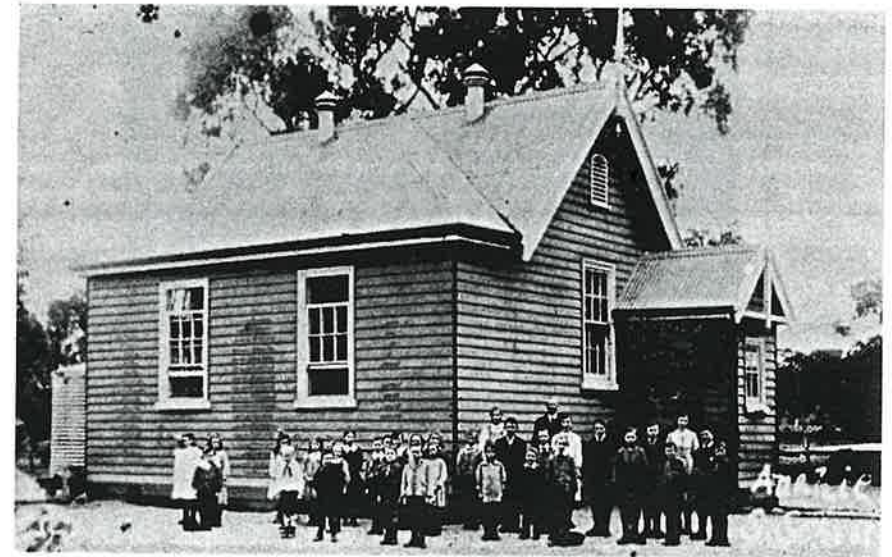
Contemporaneously, the question of septic tank disposal had been brought to notice again. On 21st January, 1949, the H.T. was informed that his request for the installation of such a system had been recorded, but the project was at the moment not feasible, and would be given consideration when the Department was in a position to carry out such works. It was not an approved work for subsidy, so the Committee's plan to speed things up by having the installation done by contractors and 80 per cent. of the expense provided by subsidy funds was ruled out. The Buildings Branch and the P.W.D. were, however, commendably swift in taking initial action, and by May had completed a survey which confirmed the merit of the scheme. By 8th October, 1949, requisition of £450 to finance the work had been authorised. The Inspector of Works indicated in a note dated 30th October, 1951, that the contractor was having difficulty in obtaining labour, but expected to be commencing the excavation works within a week or two. The P.W.D. job slip gives the completion date as 17th September, 1952, and the actual cost as £443.2.9. The system had actually been in use since 7th April, 1952, but only the school side had been connected, the residence at the time was awaiting re-construction and its connection to the septic tank system formed part of the later contract.

Trouble with the water supply over roughly the same period disclosed that "corrosion (was) extensive and beyond repair". As plans of the layout did not appear to have been kept, it was decided to install a complete new system rather than to locate, remove and replace the old one. The tender of Nott & Drew Pty. Ltd. covering the meter connection and the supply and

laying of approx. 380 feet of 1" galvanised piping at a total cost of £90.10.0 was accepted on 20th November, 1951. The work is noted as complete on 14th November, 1952. Plans had been well advanced for the construction of a tennis court to be built on the block of land acquired in 1948, but the transport of post-primary pupils to secondary schools in Geelong reduced the need for recreational facilities for the older pupils, and the plans were abandoned.

Regarding the residence, a summary dated 1st December, 1953, sums the situation up admirably (see photocopy). A questionnaire of 13th April, 1955, discloses that the standard E4 type pre-fab. residence had by that date been erected by day-labour as far as carpentry could take it; further work by bricklayers, plumbers and painters would add three months to give an estimated completion date of approximately mid-July. It was actually 11th January, 1956, before the P.W.D. advised the new residence as "completed and ready for occupation", and 21st January, 1956, when H.T. Thomas McKean notified that he had taken possession of the new building. The total cost of the building, services and amenities was £3905.9.5. The old residence, which was valued by the P.W.D. at £300, was put up for sale and removed; a local resident, Mr W. J. Jolly, being the successful tenderer. An extract from P.W.D. file states that he had satisfactorily completed the work of removal of the residence, and was initialled to that effect on 15th July, 1957. During the previous month the school and residence had been connected to the S.E.C. power supply, for an outlay of £82.7.8.

On 8th May, 1958, the requisition of £385 for internal and external painting of the school, and of £217 for asphaltting of the assembly area and improvements to the drainage, was approved. A requisition of £240 for the external painting of the residence was also approved and recommended in November, 1960. From that time until 1963, no major works were recorded.



1919

Headmaster — W. H. Lee, and a group of children





SUTHERLAND'S CREEK STATE SCHOOL No. 1997

This was the Anakie Primary School. In 1925 the building was moved to Sutherland's Creek, and the present school at Anakie erected.

## LIST OF HEAD-TEACHERS

- JOHN GLEESON: 1st July, 1877 - 15th March, 1880. Died 1887.
- ROSE A. HONOUR (Mrs Kirmsse): March, 1880 - December, 1884. Resigned 1884.
- JOHN KEITH REID: January - July, 1885. Retired 1910.
- JOHN BARDIN: July - December, 1885. Died 1888.
- ROLAND GREAVES: December, 1885 - May, 1886 (temp. H.T., Anakie part-time with 1647 Staughton Vale). Died 1912.
- CHAS. O. DENTRY: May, 1886 - April, 1888 (April, 1888 - May, 1889 half-time with 1286 Sheoaks). Retired 1922.
- FRANCIS W. CLARKE: Relieving during illness of C. Dentry, (March, 1888). Retired 1918.  
School temporarily unstaffed for 2-4 weeks before this.
- JOHN W. CREAN: 23rd May, 1889 - 10th June, 1889 (half-time with 1286 Sheoaks). Resigned 1894 (ordained as Wesleyan minister 1897).  
10th June, 1889 - 17th June, 1889 — returned to full-time working.
- EMMA C. COCHRANE (Mrs Burgess): June, 1889 - August, 1891. Resigned 1899.
- MARGARET PALETHORPE: August - September, 1891 (temp. H.T.). Retired 1922.
- WALTER J. ROSS: September, 1891 - June, 1894. Retired June, 1894. Died 1906.
- ANNIE WILLCOCKS (Mrs Gumley): 2-21st June, 1894. Resigned 1903.  
School temporarily unclassified.
- EMMA AKHURST: June, 1894 - 31st December, 1899 (School still T/U). Resigned 1899.
- GEORGE ROWLAND BUTTON: January, 1900 - February, 1901. (Classification restored.) L-Corporal G. R. Button, killed on active service 12th June, 1901, South Africa.
- ERNEST A. MONTGOMERY: April, 1901 - July, 1903. Retired 1943.
- EMILY PARR (nee Calcott): July - December, 1903 (temp. relieving H.T.). Resigned as permanent, 1893. Last ceased duty as temp. 1904.

ERNEST A. MONTGOMERY: January, 1904 - August, 1912.  
As above.

MARY ELIZ. SALTER: August, 1912 - December, 1912 (temp.  
H.T.). Retired 1957.

ELEANOR E. ARMSTRONG: January, 1913 - August, 1915.  
Retired 1932.

JOHN R. RICHARDS: January, 1916 - March, 1917. Appointed  
D.I. 1929.;

WILLIAM HENRY LEIGH: October, 1917 - February, 1923. Re-  
tired 1923. Died 1931.

WALTER W. JANSON: September, 1923 - May, 1936. Retired  
1963.

ARCH. M. McPHERSON: May, 1936 - January, 1950. Retired  
1970.

THOMAS J. McKEAN: January, 1950 - December, 1969. Resigned  
1973. Now at S.C.V. Geelong, Vines Road. Geelong North  
3215.

GEO. C. SITCH: May - August, 1965. Retired 1971.

ROBERT R. EDMONDS: February, 1970 - February, 1971 (temp.).  
Resigned 1972. Perhaps still care of Australian Provincial  
Insurance, Brisbane, Qld.

ROBERT C. WERRY: February, 1971 - January, 1972. P.S. 1588  
Trentham, Bridge St., Trentham 3458.

EDWARD H. DINGEY: 1st February, 1972 - 8th February, 1972.  
Resigned 1972.

DENISE MILICH: February, 1972 - 21st May, 1972 (temp.). P.S.  
1840 Kalkee, via Horsham 3400.

PETER G. BENNETT: May, 1972 - February, 1973. Resigned  
1975.

GREGORY S. LEE: February, 1973 - February, 1975. 6366 Music  
Branch, care of Special Services Division, 234 Queensberry  
Street, Carlton.

PHILIP J. HAYDEN, appointed February, 1975.

## LIST OF PHOTO-COPIES

1. Application for appointment as H.T. of new school: From  
John Gleeson to Department. 2 October 1874.
2. Protest against half-time working: From Edmund Young and  
others to Department. 21 October 1885.
3. Pupil lists, Anakies and Staughton Vale. Sketch map of  
locality: From H.T. Anakie and H.T. Staughton Vale to  
Department. 14 March 1896.
4. Enlargement of school building: From H. J. Tucker and School  
Committee to Department. 26th July, 1916.
5. Opening of new school building: Memo from Department to  
H.T. 23 February, 1926.
6. Visit to Anakie by Director, Minister, Ms.L.A., etc.: Memo  
from Department to H.T. 10 April 1930.
7. Annual list of repairs: D.I. to Department. 1 June 1949.
8. Summary of postponed works on residence: From P.W.D.  
to Department. 1 December 1953.
9. Block plan for new residence: From P.W.D. to architect.

## NAMES OF ASSISTANT TEACHERS

Aline M. Fowler, Mona L. Boardman, Jean R. Fowler, Lorna  
Gallacher, Clarence F. Kershaw, Mrs Melva C. McPherson,  
Phyllis E. McNaughton, Mrs Florence A. Cashmore, Dawn  
Bourquin, Nola Bourquin, Margaret Bonny, Muriel Hunt, Ruth  
Taylor, Ann Davis, Zola Techezenne, Jan Belcher, Bev McDona'd,  
Prue Gilmore, Eleanor Rudolph, Mrs J. Loomes, Mitzi Biglin,  
Mrs Julie Cairns, Peter Bennett, Mrs Jean Sloots, Mrs Lesley  
Dingey, Geoff Dean.

One of the former pupils of the school, John William Dillon  
(1910-18), has been honored by Her Majesty the Queen by  
bestowing on him the British Empire Medal. The citation reads:  
"For valuable services to the community of Geelong and district,  
also for cycling." Congratulations Jack.

## THE CHURCHES

For well over a century, the local community has been well catered for with churches, Roman Catholic, Presbyterian and Anglican, the first being the Roman Catholic.

In 1857 Anakie, Little River, Werribee and Sutherlands Creek were formed into one parish under the care of a Scottish priest, Father Rankin. The newly appointed parish priest bought a site for the church and erected a weatherboard building with an iron roof, 25 feet by 12. This was used as a church from 1858, under the patronage of St. James. From 1860 St. James was also used as a school. The exact site of this church school is not known, but it is thought to have been on the north or north-east side of Mt. Anakie. Father Rankin died at Werribee about 1865, and was buried in Geelong.

Anakie was served from Geelong, from the time of Father Rankin's death until 1875, when the parish of Meredith was formed and Anakie became part of the new parish.

The first church was moved alongside the Church of St. Brigids, which was built in 1871. Mass was celebrated in the new church for the first time on August 5th, 1871. A collection made after the sermon by Father O'Callaghan amounted to £31.10.0. A small debt was still owed on the church. The old building remained beside St. Brigids until 1880, when it was moved to Staughton Vale.

The original St. Brigids was a rectangular brick building with a porch. In 1904 when Father Murphy was parish priest, the sanctuary was added.

St. Brigids celebrated its centenary in 1971 with a Mass and reunion of past and present parishioners.

Father Neyens travels to Anakie from Meredith every Sunday to celebrate Mass.

Priests who have served the church: Fathers James Hegarty, Gerald Byrne, Daniel Murphy, Daniel O'Reilly, Edward O'Donohue, M. Ryan, D. Kerrin, Thomas Considine P. Carr, Michael Murphy, P. J. Gibbons, T. S. Collins, P. A. Vaughan, M. A. Vaughan, F. A. Conlon, A. E. Hughes, James Clifford, Patrick Egan, John O'Carroll, Sexton, C. J. McCarthy, Jenkins, Cameron, Peter Neyens.

The Presbyterian Church, which is of bluestone, was built in 1865. The foundation stone was laid by Mrs John Browne, of Narada, in January, 1865, when she was presented with a

silver trowel as a memento. Mr D. M. Browne (and his family), a great-grandson of Mrs Browne, now occupies Narada.

Before its erection, services were held in a barn near the site of the present church.

Mr W. G. Browne was superintendent of the Sunday School for 53 years. The pulpit in the church was presented by the pupils past and present, whom he had taught, and dedicated to his memory.

Other gifts to the church include stained glass windows depicting the four armed services — Merchant Navy, Australian Imperial Forces, Navy and Air Force — in honor of those who served during two world wars. An honor board also lists the names of those who enlisted during the first world war.

A window in memory of the late Frances Emily Browne and Thomas Maitland Browne, was given by their family.

A christening font given by Mrs Clement in memory of her parents, Mr and Mrs J. Lyle.

A communion table given by Mr T. M. Browne in memory of his mother.

A brass cross given by Mr A. B. Wood.

An electric organ, in memory of Mr and Mrs W. P. Hill, given by Mr and Mrs Lyle Hill and family.

Also a flower pedestal in memory of Mrs May Boardman, a devoted member of the P.W.M.U. and guild.

Services are held fortnightly and the Sunday school classes are still well attended.

Mr Lyle Hill has been organist for a number of years, prior to that Miss Browne held that position for many years. Others who helped out at various times were Miss Clayton, Miss Fowler and Miss J. Fowler. These people also assisted with the Sunday school.

During 1910-1911 a branch of the Presbyterian Women's Missionary Union was formed with 15 members. Miss Isobel Hope was president, Mrs E. Foot secretary and Mrs S. McDonald treasurer. In 1912 Miss A. Griffin became secretary and in 1913 Mrs Clayton president and Miss Clayton secretary. 1917 saw Miss Browne as president, Mrs T. M. Browne secretary and Mrs E. Foot treasurer.

Over the years many yards of material were made into garments, to be sent to various mission stations, members bringing their sewing machines to the meetings.

The work of the mission still continues, but owing to lack of numbers, the Anakie branch has now amalgamated with Russells Bridge - Sutherlands Creek branch, with Mrs Lyle Hill continuing as secretary.

Ministers who have served the Presbyterian Church are Rev. A. Sutherland, M.A.; Rev. A. Proudfoot, Rev. W. C. Wallace, M.A.; Rev. W. S. Lind, Rev. A. Houston, Rev. W. McCook, B.A.; Rev. E. Baldwin, M.A.; Rev. T. J. Riddle, B.A.; Rev. A. H. Stewart, Rev. E. Day, B.A., B.D.; Rev. N. H. Joughin, M.A., B.D.; Rev. A. McAdam, Rev. Harper, Rev. Johnston and the present minister, Rev. G. S. Sasy.

The Anglican Church of the Holy Redeemer was built in 1891, on land given by Mr Frank Armytage, who at that time owned Narada, and was officially opened and dedicated on January 9 by Bishop Goe.

Mrs Armytage presented the church with a brass lectern, and also the unusual font—a giant clam shell. Over the years, several gifts have been made to the church, among them being the hymn board by the late Mr J. H. Tucker, the brass cross by Mrs O. Steel in memory of her father, the late Rev H. W. Lane (a former vicar of the parish), altar vases in memory of the late Mrs E. J. Fowler, by her family, and communion vessels in memory of the late Rev. J. A. Rowell, by the Ladies' Guild.

The pulpit is in memory of Miss Aline Fowler, and is a district memorial. Miss Fowler was organist for 36 years, and also postmistress for many years as well as sewing mistress for the local school.

The Missell stand is also in her memory and was given by her sister, Mrs C. E. Tucker.

The first marriage to be recorded as in the Church of England, Anakie, actually took place in the Union Church — now the Presbyterian Church — on June 2, 1891, between Percival Henry Devenish and Mary Ann Clarke, a daughter of Mr Edward Clarke, a member of the original committee.

The first marriage in the present church was on May 3, 1895, between Richard Foot and Mary Tucker. The last one was celebrated on May 10, 1974, between Robert Walker and Deborah Roberts.

The Ladies' Guild was formed in 1928 with Mrs W. C. Osborne, senr., as president and her daughter, Mrs H. Jansen,

as secretary. Others who have held office as president have been Mrs K. W. Tucker, Mrs A. F. Osborne, Mrs K. R. Whytcross, Mrs F. G. Bourquin, Mrs C. R. Tucker and again Mrs K. R. Whytcross, who still holds that position. Honorary secretaries have been Mrs Janson 1928-1942 and Mrs C. E. Tucker 1942-1977.

The Church of the Holy Redeemer was the first church in the parish of Lara to have lady members on the vestry. The first secretary of the church was Mr Chas. Tucker, grandfather of the present secretary, then followed Mr Frank Armytage, Mr John Griffin, Mr J. H. Tucker 1918-1945 and Mr K. W. Tucker from 1945 until the present time.

Over the years, the organists have been Mrs Burnett, Miss Frances Griffin, Miss Alice Clayton, Miss P. Clayton, Mrs Milne, Miss Fowler and Mrs C. E. Tucker, with several relievers at different times.

Ministers who have served the church over the years are as follow: Revs. W. G. Marsh, W. E. Percival, A. C. Kelloway, H. W. Lane, C. G. Brazier, J. T. Redhead, H. T. Fowler, C. Macmichael, J. S. Woods, A. C. F. Gates, W. Dexter, G. L. Perry, J. A. Rowell, L. Y. Pace, W. G. Carter, R. L. Butters, A. L. Mills, F. Dearnaley and N. Cocking.

Each year a service for the Women's World Day of Prayer is held, alternately with the Presbyterian Church, when members of all denominations attend.

## WATER SUPPLY

Work on the first reservoir at Upper Stony Creek started in June, 1866, and was completed in 1870, when the first water flowed into the reservoir on May 13th. The contractor was a Mr Jonathon Chappell. The reservoir-keeper at the time was a Mr Blundell and the engineer Mr Henderson.

Later a slip occurred in the embankment in September, 1872 and was repaired gradually over a number of years. However at this time, another dam, known locally as the Concrete Dam, was built at Lower Stony Creek, between 1874 and 1875.

The original pipehead dam was built about 1870 and the cast iron pipeline between Anakie and Geelong was completed in 1872.

The original reservoir-keeper is not known, but one of the earliest was Mr Peter Paterson, followed by Mr J. Clayton; others have been Mr D. Richards, Mr W. Greaves, Mr R. Bell and Mr N. Dyke, the present one being Mr Vin Lynch.

The original works were constructed by the Victorian Water Supply Department. In January, 1908, the works were transferred to the Geelong Municipal Waterworks Trust, which was subsequently reconstructed as the present Geelong Waterworks and Sewerage Trust.

The catchment for these dams is drawn from three watersheds — the upper is situated on the Dividing Range in the Wombat State forest, mid-way between Ballan and Daylesford, and the two lower ones are on the Stony Creek-Steiglitz ranges.

The largest of the dams, the Upper Stony Creek, has an embankment 84 feet high. It may be of interest to state that at the time of its construction in 1867, it was regarded as one of the high embankments of the world.

The water from the reservoir in the upper catchment is brought down eight miles by the Moorabool River to a diversion weir, then by 22 miles of open unlined and pitched channel to Stony Creek. The average fall of the channel is four feet per mile, with a number of vertical drops along the route.

From Stony Creek the water is conveyed in an open brick aqueduct into small pipehead reservoirs at Anakie. The fall of the aqueduct is six feet per mile, and the district, being rugged, it was necessary to construct six flumes and 11 tunnels, the aggregate length of the flumes is 1150 feet and the tunnels a mile and three-quarters.



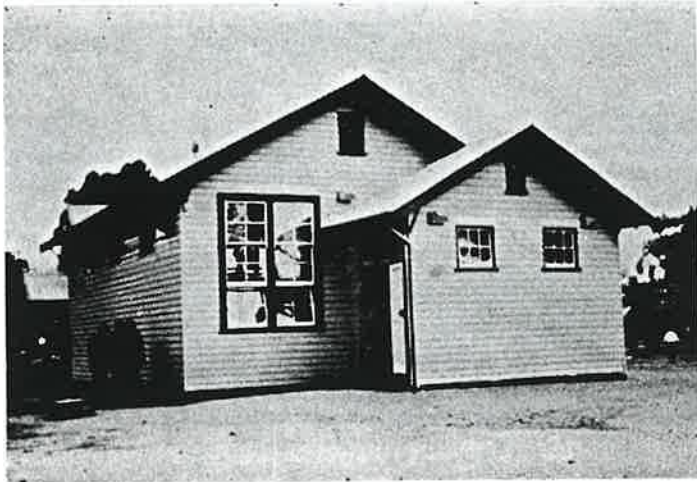
**School and Pupils, 1913**

Back row: L. Clark, E. Johnson, M. O'Keefe, T. O'Keefe, J. Dillon, A. Goodear A. F. Osborne.

2nd row: Miss E. Armstrong, H.T.; A. Hill, K. Kershaw, G. O'Keefe, L. Kershaw, H. Paterson, E. Tucker, E. Kershaw.

3rd row: M. Loveday, F. Clark, J. Fowler, A. Kershaw, A. Hill, A. Flanagan, L. Loveday.

Front: A. Tanner, J. Kershaw, J. Casson, J. Dillon, W. Casson.



This School Building opened in 1926

From the pipehead, the water is conveyed in 14-inch mains to Lovely Banks and thence to Geelong.

No special treatment of the water is carried out other than by screening and sedimentation, the water being drawn off in all cases at fixed depths below the surface by means of floating arms at the service basins.

In later years, a six-inch pipe was laid, to serve the people of Anakie, and the outlying parts of the district.

Water is truly the life blood of any community.

## POST OFFICE

The first post office was conducted by a Mr Barton, and the mail was brought from Bannockburn on horseback.

Later, it came from Meredith to Steiglitz and then brought on either by horseback or horse and cart.

At this period, the post office was run by Mrs Burnett and her brother, Mr Fred Gavin, in conjunction with a general store.

The Staughton Vale mail was at that time conveyed from Anakie two or three times a week.

After some time the mails came by train to the Moorabool railway station and again brought on by horse and cart.

Shortly after the installation of the telephone line, Mr Gavin, who was then in charge of the post office and store, in partnership with Mr J. Flanagan, gave up the post office and it was transferred to De Motts Road with Mrs M. Cashmore in charge.

Mrs Cashmore conducted it until her death in 1937, when Miss Fowler took over, and it was again moved to the main road, where she and her sister looked after it for about 22 years, until her death in 1959.

By this time, the number of telephone subscribers had increased considerably and continuous service was given.

The post office was again moved to the local store in the township, where it remains to this day.

In the intervening years, as the means of transport changed, the mails were brought by car from Geelong. Mail still comes from Geelong, but the latest innovation is roadside delivery and only comes on five days a week.

Since the removal of the post office to the present site, there have been numerous changes in the position of postmaster. The present occupiers are Mr and Mrs D. Knight.

The telephone line was completed in 1915, with six subscribers and a public phone, referred to as Pipehead at the home of Mr H. J. Tucker. The first to be connected were Mr C. A. Lyon, Mr T. M. Browne, Mr W. G. Browne, Mr J. H. Clayton (who was reservoir-keeper at that time), Mr C. Steel and Mr A. E. Cozens.

More subscribers were connected over the years until in 1958 continuous service was provided and still later was changed to automatic.

## WAR SERVICE

During the Boer War the teacher of the local school, Mr Button, enlisted and made the supreme sacrifice, a tablet in the school tells of his enlistment.

During the 1914-18 war, several personnel from this district enlisted in the armed services to serve in the Middle East and France. Some of these men did not return home. An honor roll of all these men is in the Hall. During this war there was a group of workers for the Red Cross, who sent parcels of the necessary gifts to the servicemen.

In the Second World War, of 1939-45, several more men and women enlisted to serve in the various arms of service. Some did not return, either killed in action or lost as prisoners-of-war. An honor roll to these people is also in the Hall. The two matching honor rolls in the one hall is unique.

During these years a farewell and welfare committee operated to send parcels and arrange functions. A branch of Red Cross also operated during this time.

A district memorial to the personnel of wars is in the form of memorial gates at the Recreation Reserve, opened by State president of the R.S.L., Mr M. D. Wilson, on 8-11-1953.

During the 1939-45 war a group of Volunteer Defence Corps was formed in the area under the control of W. Greaves.

In the period of the Vietnam war, some of the local lads served in various fields of service.

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Anakie has been in two shires at different times. Anakie was at one time a portion of the Meredith Shire; Mr Frank Armytage and Mr Chas. Tucker were councillors. The Meredith Shire was later incorporated into the Bannockburn Shire. Later the whole of Anakie, including the Meredith riding, was included in the Shire of Corio. Many local people have served as councillors over the years, with many of them having served with distinction as Presidents.

## DISTRICT ACTIVITIES

About the turn of the century, race meetings were held regularly with the Anakie Cup valued at £50 a valued trophy. Mr Frank Armytage had the track ploughed and sown down. Mr Armytage was at that time breeding remounts for the Indian

Army. An unfortunate accident when a jockey was killed brought racing to a close in that period. Later the Australian Natives Association conducted Easter Monday sports, when horse racing was included.

A Rifle Club was a healthy sport in the early 1900s with a large membership, and its own uniform of khaki and green jackets. They were issued with Marlin and later Enfield rifles. The rifle butts were on the property of Mr Lyle Hill.

A Progress Association was active about the turn of the century up until about 1920. Many and varied interests were helped by the association, including Fire Brigade, Telephone, Mail Services, Road Signs, Noxious Weeds and many more.

## ANAKIE AND STAUGHTON VALE MECHANICS INSTITUTE

One of the most useful buildings in the district is our hall. Though not very impressive from the outside, it is quite a serviceable asset for our residents.

Moves were made shortly after 1900 to have a hall erected and after a lot of deliberations were held, shares were sold to residents to erect the hall, to be controlled by trustees and managed by a local committee.

The official opening took place in June, 1906. The late Thos. Bent, then Premier of Victoria, performed the opening ceremony.

The hall has been extended and improved on a number of occasions since and plans are now in hand for some more very considerable alterations and additions in the future, as the development of the district has necessitated.

In later years the hall has been made over to the Corio Shire, but is still under the control of a local committee, with Ray Tucker as chairman and Barry Miller as secretary.

## RECREATION RESERVE

In the 1920s a move was made to have a reserve in the district to be a base for the sporting clubs which had played in various paddocks in the district for years. Some eight acres of ground was purchased from Mr W. G. Browne and later much hard voluntary labor and some contract work to clear the land of timber, the reserve started to take shape.

A queen carnival was held to raise funds for this work, with Misses Daph Osborne, Ina Bissell and Dot Giles as the princesses.

The reserve today is a credit to the district, with all amenities provided. Hot and cold water, power, septic systems and watered arena. There are two tennis courts, with need for another; cricket pitch and football facilities. The oval is let on many occasions for outside picnics, etc., of a Sunday. It is now owned by the council, with a local committee of management.

## FIRE BRIGADE

Our first brigade was in existence in the early 1900s when the brigade building was situated near the end of Sea View Road. In it was the horse-drawn fire cart and necessary beaters, rakes, buckets, etc.

Later on a Volunteer Brigade was formed among the residents, who supplied all trucks needed for transport. The brigade had some power units stationed at various parts of the district and other farmers had their own equipment.

Following on this the Country Fire Brigades were instituted and a lot of equipment was supplied or subsidised by the Government.

Nowadays there is the fully equipped fire fighting truck located in the C.F.A. station located in the township. Two-way radio now plays a big part in the organising of fighting teams. A district fire spotting tower is now positioned on top of the mount and is manned throughout the summer season. It is financed by the various councils in the region, C.F.A., Forests Commission and National Parks Authority.



## ELECTRICITY

Electricity supply from the State Electricity Commission was connected through the district with the aid of the self-help scheme whereby local residents contributed one-half of total cost. This service has been of considerable advantage to the locality, both in domestic and other rural and industrial activities. The switching on ceremony was performed by the then oldest resident, the late Mr T. M. Browne, on the 7th December, 1956.

## LOCAL INDUSTRY

Though Anakie has been essentially a primary production area, there has always been some other industry operating. During the gold rush days of Steiglitz a large portion of the wood for the boilers was cut in the Ranges. A Mr Hamilton had a saw pit, near the back fence of the school grounds, where he sawed sleepers for the railways. Incidentally, he and a daughter were buried close to the school on the property now owned by Mr Stuart McKenzie. Some gold mining was carried out but with limited success.

In the days of the farm horse and buggy, the late Mr J. H. Tucker carried on a blacksmithing and coach-building business. With the advent of the motor vehicles several local families became involved in the firewood industry, also supply of fence posts, etc.

In more recent times the late Mr L. A. Butcher started a small brickworks. This has been further developed by two of his sons, Don and Jack, who also operate a sawmill in conjunction.

Feather Rock Industries carry on a scorio extractive quarry on the Narada property, where they have quite a large quarry. Scorio from here is trucked to several areas for the manufacture of lightweight pre-stressed concrete. Experiments have also been made in road-making with the scoria.

The newest industry in the district is that of Maltby & Sons, where they have established a winery on the lower slopes of Mount Anakie. Several distinctions have been won with wines from this young vineyard. Some 30 to 40 acres have been planted but all are not yet in production. It is hoped that the winery which carries the Anakie label will further develop with more successes coming its way in future years.

## SPORTING CLUBS

The actual beginnings of the football club do not seem to be accurately known, but it seems to have developed following the construction of the reservoirs for the Geelong Water Trust. Matches were played in a paddock on the Narada property first, then later opposite to the store of the late Fred Gavin. On the completion of the reserve in the 1920s the club has had its headquarters there.

Although the club has been in competitions for many years, only two premierships have come its way — one in the Matheson Cup Association and one in the Woolworth section of the Geelong Football Association. It has competed in four competitions — Matheson, Elliot, Geelong Sub-district League and now the Geelong Football Association.

The Cricket Club seems to have had its commencement around the same period as the football club. Their ground was on the Narada West property near the Church of England. The club also moved to the reserve when it opened. The club has enjoyed considerable success in the winning of several premierships in the various associations, including the Austin Cup Competition, Geelong Senior Matting Association and in later years in different sections of the Geelong Cricket Association.

The Tennis Club began in the 1920s with dirt courts situated close to the cricket pitch in Narada West. The club also moved to the reserve when opened. Several premierships have been won throughout the club's history in various associations in which it competed. These included Browne Cup, Bacchus Marsh, Bannockburn, and the club now competes in the Mooney Cup competition in Meredith area.

A newer club is the Table Tennis Club, which has been competing successfully for a few years in the Morrisons and Mount Wallace area.

## CURRENT DISTRICT ORGANISATIONS

The Australian Natives Association Friendly Society still has a branch, with a membership of some 53. This branch was formed in Steiglitz in 1893 and, with the decline of the gold mining there, the branch became the Anakie branch in the 1940s. This branch started the Group Schools Sports in the 1930s and they are still held annually.

A branch of the Country Women's Association has been active since 1950 and is a part of the Geelong Northern Group.

There is now operating in the district both Cubs and Scouts — and Guide and Brownie packs. They meet regularly in the hall. Plans are in hand to build an extension on the hall as a permanent base for them.

## TOURIST ATTRACTIONS

Perhaps the Anakie Gorge is one of the Geelong district's most natural tourist areas, having been popular for many years.

Visitors visit this spot every weekend and public holidays.

Quite a large portion of the Brisbane Ranges are now incorporated in the National Park existing from the Little River almost to Steiglitz. This park is still being established, with picnic facilities provided in different areas.

Fairy Park, with its many and varied fairy tales, many electrically operated, plus railway system, is well known all over the State. Big crowds of people attend this wonderful attraction throughout the year.

## "ANAKIE"

It's a small country town  
So we'll start with the name Browne;  
T.M. owned the east, W.G. and Marrion the west.  
Over the years they stood the test;  
Now it's David and Val at "Narada",  
With less station hands they have to work harder.  
Then there's the Tuckers, Cave Hill, Macko and Percy,  
Johnnie, "The Smithie" and it's now Harry the Turfie,  
The Shire employed Charlie and Jock,  
Now they have Billie carting the rock;  
There's "Pea King" Nev and also Noel,  
At tennis Noel plays his role;  
Ted has done much for our town,  
Ray, his son, will carry it down.  
Bill Osborne owned the north slopes of the mount,  
But he passed on with the count;  
Tom Maltby has turned the slopes into vine,  
Ron Thompson makes the grapes into wine.  
There's the Jollys, Kevin and Russell his boy,  
If it's show ponies you'd have to see Roy;  
It's Lyall Hill for golf, Ken Whytcross for cricket,  
For firewood see "Smokey"—that's if you'll split it.  
Ron and Doug Laird cart in the hay,  
A lot of our folk work in town through the day,  
Dudley Holroyd became a teacher,  
Clive Butcher a preacher,  
But a doctor or lawyer is yet to be found.  
Alan Butcher grew onions for years,  
Now not one is grown to produce tears,  
For black Angus see Miller  
Or stock transport it's Spiller.  
There is not only farming in the district today,  
For there is Featherrock, Tucksand and bricks  
made of clay;  
We had a few teachers over a time,  
And they all did a good job drawing us to line;  
There was Janson, McPherson and Tommy McKean,  
Now it's Phil Hayden and about six in between.  
We thank you all for coming back to our town,  
Whether your name be Jolly, Tucker, Butcher or Browne.

NAMES — ADDRESSES & NOTES

Ken Jenkin — Print