A Rictorial History of Celopea Rark School



1923 - 1983

A Rictorial History of Telopea Rark School 1923 - 1983



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The New School, 1923



Telopea Park School, 1926 showing extensions

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Telopea Park School showing two additional wings, 1928

By courtesy of the National Library of Australia.

Foreword

Telopea, 1923 to 1983, and beyond, how far we cannot know. Nor need we. It is sufficient to know that what we set down will contribute to the form of the future and therefore all that we do should be creative rather than restrictive or destructive. Australians have only recently realised that the actions of ordinary people and groups of people become, in time, the history and the heritage of the nation.

As this pictorial history shows, the Canberra community has developed considerably in the period of Telopea's sixty years of serving that community. Changes are evident; some popular at the time, others not so; some applauded later, others regretted; all in response to different pressures, perceptions of needs and approaches available. Telopea has also undergone change: in student population, buildings and other facilties and in style of presentation. But, like the Canberra community it seeks to serve, Telopea still has firm goals for its students, those young people moving from a position of dependence towards independence. We aim to be faithful to the responsibility an extended family has for its youth "to give them roots and develop their wings"

The efforts by the researchers have resulted in an excellent and valuable contribution to the historical record of the development of the city of Canberra and Telopea's history is inextricably woven into the fabric of the city. The name, Telopea Park, is shown in Walter Burley Griffin's plan of the city.

In gathering together the history of Telopea we were struck by its centre stage role in education throughout its 60 years and now its new form under the "new" name of Telopea Park School is continuing this role. Thoughts such as "events have come full circle", "history repeats itself", "we've been there before" or more colloquially "been there, done that" occur as one reads the history of this school and considers its future.

Of course, any time there is a change, to the people involved — students, parents and staff — the experience is new, it is innovative, it is stimulating and as such it is of immense value in personal growth and loses nothing by any earlier associations; rather gains can be made by learning from that history. The danger of ignoring history is that those who do so are condemned to repeat its errors.

Telopea, the first school designed and built by the Commonwealth, was described as ushering in a "new era in education in Canberra" at its opening ceremony on 11th September, 1923 and when it opened its doors to students on the 2nd October of that year. It is so described now with its new binational and bilingual system of education for Kindergarten to Year 10 students which commences in 1984. We still have some of the junior primary chalkboards in operation as now we commence, in 1984, the second sixty years of Telopea as for the first sixty years — a school catering for both primary and secondary students.

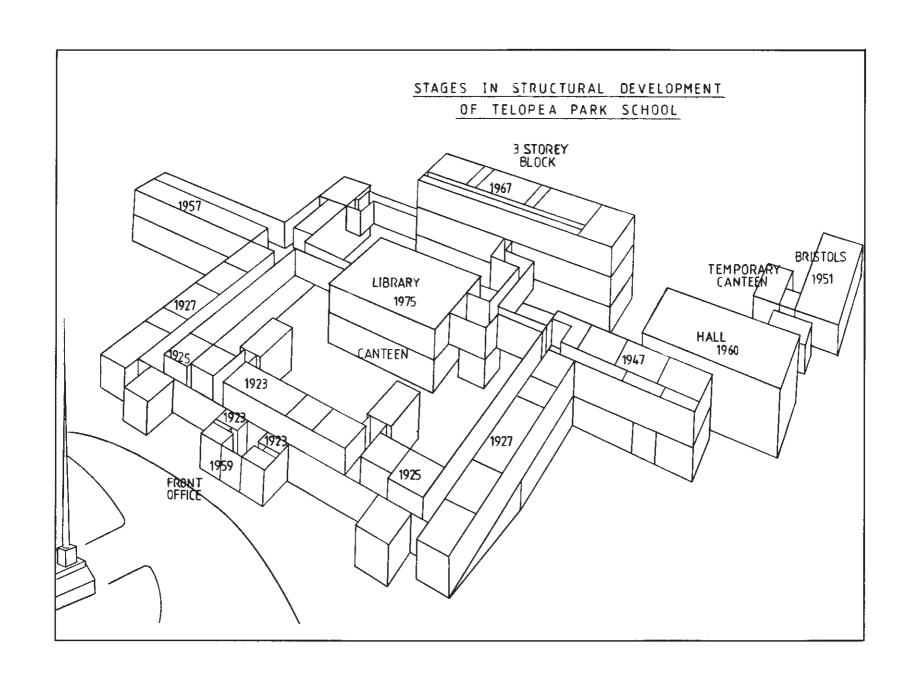
The photographs give life to the text and bring out the people of our history. The text suggests some stories still to be printed such as Telopea's role in the establishment of Technical and University education in Canberra, but above all must come the realization of what is many a student's (and staff member's?) dream, the conduct of classes within the Wellington Hotel, fascinating stuff yet to be told.

Two features above all others, which mark Telopea as a distinct school are (i) its history of providing a full spectrum of education for its students, (kindergarten to university) and (ii) its broad spectrum of school community, and from this its facility for change in the ever present interaction between a school and its community with the school being at the one time an agent for change, a respondent to change and an interpreter of history.

Happy Sixtieth Birthday — Telopeans.

John Wells,

Principal.



Introduction and Acknowledgements

When we set out to prepare this book we had in mind a definitive history of the school, but the limited time and facilities available for research and preparation did not permit that to eventuate.

We are well aware that there are aspects of the School's history which we have not covered and that we may have omitted to mention many whose achievements at Telopea Park were perhaps even greater than some of those recorded in this book. We hope that those who have not been mentioned will understand our dilemma.

We have not attempted to include the achievements of our students after they left school, as it would be quite impossible to cover their outstanding record in the fields of public service, the arts and sport, and the contributions they have made to the Canberra community and to Australia.

It is our hope that this rather brief pictorial history will create sufficient interest to encourage someone to write a full, definitive history of the School at some later date. We certainly hope that readers who have additional information or who are able to provide names of people in the various unnamed photographs will lodge such information with the School so that it will be available for future use — perhaps for the 70th or 75th Anniversary.

Photographs, information and assistance have been provided by many people. It is impracticable to mention them all individually but we appreciate the assistance given by students, ex-students, teachers, and the Parents and Citizens Association.

In particular we wish to thank Tom Hodges, Edna Hopkins, Pat Horner, Kieu Hynh, Yvonne Landsdown, Clive Monty, Pat Moon, Jeni Murdock, Barry Northam, Jan Pengilley, Barbara Porteous, Fred Pilcher, Margaret Robbins, Margaret Roscoe, Eve Shaw, Val Smith, Bet Thompson and Sandra Whichelo for their contributions and assistance.

K. Power L. L. Gillespie A. J. McPherson



Teacher James Abernethy, his two daughters and pupils, Old School House, St. John's Church, 1872.

By courtesy of the National Library of Australia.



Teacher Ewan Cameron and pupils at Weetangera School circa 1880

Early Education in the Canberra District

The earliest reference which has been found to education in the area which is now the Australian Capital Territory was in a letter written in 1839 by Rev. Edward Smith to Judge Barton, who was enquiring into education and religion in New South Wales. Referring to the Canberra Queanbeyan area, a district of about 750 square miles, Rev. Smith wrote "There is no schooling of any description in the district" but added "It is my first object to establish a church and a school".

At that time the only schools in existence in New South Wales were private schools and those conducted by the churches.

The 1841 census clearly demonstrated the need for at least two schools in the vicinity of the present Canberra. The three major stations in the area Duntroon, Yarralumla and Palmerville (Ginninderra) had populations of 85, 108 and 68 respectively. There were 25 children under 14 years of age at Duntroon, 6 at Yarralumla and 19 at Palmerville. At Charnwood adjoining Palmerville there were 6 children under 14 of a population of 32. Surprisingly, at Springbank at the foot of Black Mountain there were 7 children under 14 of only 11 people in all on the property.

The need for educational facilities at Duntroon and Palmerville was met a few years later. About the same time as the Church of St John the Baptist, Canberra was completed in 1845, a Church of England denominational school was opened in a building adjoining the church, provided by the Campbell family of Duntroon. A little later another Church of England denominational school was opened at Palmerville in premises provided by George Thomas Palmer. As far as can be ascertained these were the first schools in what is now the Australian Capital Territory. However, the Returns of the Colony 1843 indicated that there was a private school at Queanbeyan with 24 pupils and there were two at Yass with a total of 38 pupils. Surprisingly, Goulburn had eight private schools although the total number of pupils was only 74.

In January 1848 Governor Fitzroy appointed a

Board of National Education comprising three parttime members to establish "common" schools based on the Irish system. The Board faced a formidable task for it began with no administrative machinery and no teachers, text books or buildings and the places where schools were needed were scattered throughout the settled area, often with difficult access and slow and uncertain means of communication. The new system depended greatly on local initiative, for the parents had to apply for a school, provide one-third of the building costs, guarantee an average attendance of at least 30 and pay school fees, which formed part of the teacher's salary. Nevertheless there was an enthusiastic response and the Board opened one school in 1848 and 14 in 1849.

The denominational schools continued to operate and these predominated until some time after the Public Schools Act of 1866 came into force. This Act placed the Church schools under a Council of Education of five part-time members who took control of all schools which received government funds. Teachers of the certified denominational schools became employees of the council of Education and the schools were subject to inspection to ensure that they met the standard and attendance required for government schools.

The Public Schools Act lowered the minimum attendance required for a public school to 25 and provided for provisional schools (minimum attendance 15) and half-time schools (average attendance of two groups of 10 or more pupils required).

The earliest national school in the Canberra district appears to have been that at Yarralumla, which was closed in 1854. A Roman Catholic School was operating in Canberra in 1858 and a Church of England School opened at St Paul's Church, The Glebe, Ginninderra in 1862. Another School was opened at St Francis' Roman Catholic Church, Ginninderra in 1872.

During the 1870's several government schools were opened in the district including Weetangera,



Students at Narrabundah Public School, 1906 (Left to Right)

Back: D. Vest, B. Bell, J. Corkhill, P. Corkhill, T. Corkhill
Middle: L. Kaye, K. McInnes,, M. Taylor, M. Wilden, E. Kaye
Front: R. Wilden, I. Wilden, K. Corkhill, D. Vest, G. Kaye,,



Narrabundah Public School



School bus early in the century



Gungahleen School circa 1914. Teacher Jackson

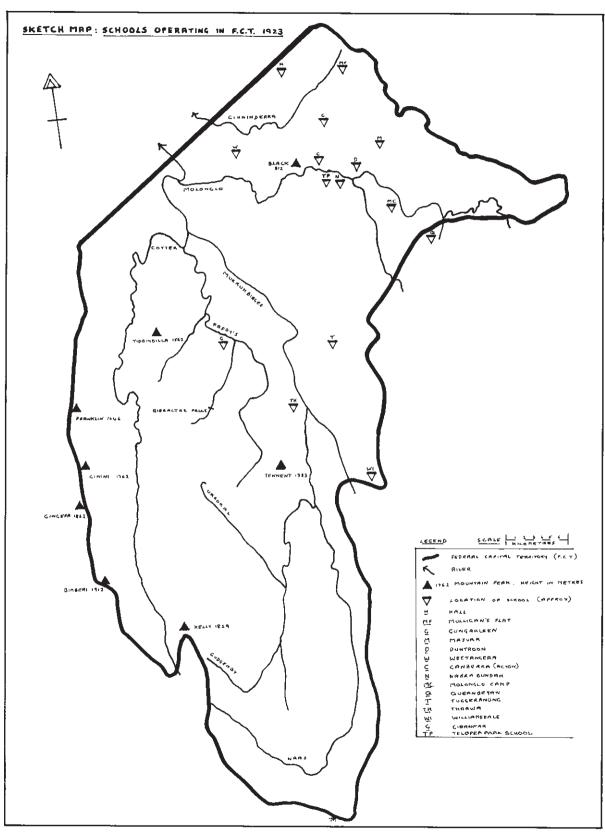


(By courtesy of Miss Evelyn Curley)



Mulligan's Flat Public School, 1912

By courtesy of the National Library of Australia.



Stone Hut (at Gungahlin) Yarralumla, Majura and Tuggeranong.

In 1880 the Public Instruction Act came into force. Under this Act the State assumed full responsibility for primary education and accepted some responsibility for secondary education. The part-time Council of Education was replaced by a department under a Minister for Public Instruction. More generous funding of education was provided and the next two decades saw the opening of numerous new schools in the district. The scattered nature of the population resulted in a proliferation of small schools the status of which often changed as a result of increases or decreases in the attendance. Many were conducted on a half-time basis because the attendances were insufficient to justify full-time schools

In places where the numbers did not warrant the provision of a public school the parents usually had to provide a building. Consequently many of the school buildings were, by today's standards, very poor indeed. Even the schools erected by the Department of Public Instruction were designed to minimal standards to reduce costs. In some places schools were even conducted in tents. This occurred at Ginninderra from 1882 to 1884 pending the erection of the new public school there and at the Cotter Camp while the dam was under construction.



Early Gungahleen School

In the last two decades of the nineteenth century numerous small schools were opened in the area now covered by the Australian Capital Territory. These included Barnes Creek, Church Rock Valley, Gibraltar, Ginninderra Private, Gungahleen, Kowen, Little Tinderry, Majura, Malcolm Vale, Mulligans Flat, Naas, Narrabundah, Rob Roy, Tharwa, Tinderry Vale, Waterholes and Williamsdale. There were numerous others just outside the present border

of the Australian Capital Territory. In 1911 Hall Public School was opened, Ginninderra Public School closing at the end of the 1910 school year.

Canberra itself had depended largely on the school at St John's Church from the time it opened in 1845 until 1880 when it was closed due to the declining attendance. In the same year a state school was established at Springbank, Canberra and this continued to serve the Canberra community for some years.

By 1894 the Duntroon School was opened and operated half-time with the existing Canberra School. However, when Canberra School became a public school in 1895 Duntroon School was closed. It was reopened as a half-time school in 1901 and became a provisional school in June 1902. At the end of 1904 it became a public school and the name was changed to Narrabundah. The location of this school was not at Duntroon nor at Narrabundah as the names suggested. It was situated where the old Forrest fire station now stands and was sometimes referred to as the Crossroads School. However a school was later located at Duntroon.

After the Federal Capital Territory was ceded to the Commonwealth by the New South Wales Government the New South Wales Education Department continued to operate the schools in the



Old Narrabundah School

Territory. By 1923, when Telopea Park School opened, it appears that the schools still operating in the Territory were Canberra (Acton), Duntroon, Gibraltar, Gungahleen, Hall, Majura, Molonglo Camp, Mulligans Flat, Narrabundah, Tharwa, Tuggeranong, Weetangera and Williamsdale. Canberra (Acton) School closed as a result of the opening of Telopea Park and Gungahleen School also closed in 1923.



Official Opening of Telopea Park School by Sir Austin Chapman, 11 September 1923.



Part of crowd at official opening

A New Era in Education at Canberra

The need for better educational facilities was recognised when the Commonwealth was about to take over from New South Wales the area which was to become the Federal Capital Territory. On 15 December 1910, the Secretary, Department of Home Affairs, prepared a submission to his Minister on the organisation and administration of the Territory, which was soon to be taken over by the Commonwealth. The submission stated inter alia that: "Ample provision for the education of the children is requisite, consequently schools should be erected and constructed". The Minister, the Honourable King O'Malley, approved this on the following day.

Section 7 of the NSW Seat of Government Surrender Act 1909 provided that the Crown lands within the Territory would be granted to the Commonwealth without payment, hence the school sites and premises in the area passed to the Commonwealth as a free grant.

From 1 January 1911, when the Commonwealth assumed responsibility for the Territory, to late in 1912, the New South Wales Government appears to have carried on the provision of education as in the past but on 18 November of that year the Premier of New South Wales forwarded to the Prime Minister a report by the Director of Education, Mr Peter Board, outlining proposals for the control of education in the Territory. His proposals envisaged that the NSW Department of Education would continue to administer education in the Federal Capital Territory

- (i) the appointment and control of teachers;
- (ii) inspection of schools;
- (iii) maintenance of existing school buildings;
- (iv) direction of instruction in accordance with the Public Instruction Act 1880 and Regulations; and that
 - (a) all new school buildings were to be erected by the Department of Education but designs to be submitted to the Administrator of the Territory for approval;
 - (b) all charges for salaries, new buildings and

maintenance were to be paid in the first instance by the Department of Education and be later reimbursed by the Commonwealth.

The Prime Minister (Mr Andrew Fisher) replied on 4 January 1913 agreeing to these proposals with the exception that he desired the erection of new buildings and repairs and maintenance to be carried out by the Department of Home Affairs and the cost borne directly by the Commonwealth. The Premier of New South Wales accepted this variation to his proposals in a letter of 12 February 1913.

Thus, from the beginning, the Commonwealth undertook the responsibility for the erection of buildings and, in consequence, the determination of standards for these buildings.

Before the Department of Home Affairs had made any plans for the erection of a new school, John Murray, the local baker, whose bakery was situated close to the river a short distance from St John's Church, wrote on 20 August 1911 to the Hon. Austin Chapman, M.P. suggesting that in view of the probability of a fairly large population settling in Canberra in the near future, something should be done in the way of providing for a more advanced school than the existing schools. While no immediate action ensued from Mr Murray's representations, it was less than four years later in 1915 when the Administrator of the Territory, Colonel David Miller, recommended to the Minister for Home Affairs that an area be set apart for a school and grounds and that the building and facilities be designed on the most modern lines incorporating a gymnasium, sports ground, swimming pool and miniature rifle range.

The growth of Canberra was greatly retarded by the intervention of the war which also drained the financial resources to such an extent that funds available for the development of Canberra were substantially reduced. As a consequence nothing came of Colonel Miller's recommendations.

On 27 February 1920 the Commonwealth and New South Wales Governments entered into a formal agreement which was virtually a continuation of the

arrangements previously agreed between the Prime Minister and the Premier of NSW.

It was not until 1921 that the Federal Capital Advisory Committee came forward in its first report with grandiose plans for education in the Territory. The second report of the Committee, of which Sir John Sulman was Chairman, issued on 17 August 1922 stated that:- "Drawings for the first section of a primary school building in brick construction have been completed and tenders for its erection have been invited returnable on 22 August 1922".

No time was lost in getting construction of the new school under way and in February 1923 the Molonglo correspondent of the "Queanbeyan Age" reported in the following terms: "The work in connection with the new school at Telopea Park (near the Power House) is being pushed on. It is supposed to be ready by April 1".

While it was not ready by April 1, the construction time was certainly not unduly long.

The erection of the new school was received enthusiastically by the Canberra community and as early as May 1923 consideration was being given to the arrangements for the opening of the school. A meeting was held in the Church Hall at Eastlake near the Power House on 14 May 1923 to consider what steps should be taken to assist the administrators and the Federal and State Governments "to make the opening of the new school one worthy of the occasion". A local committee for the celebration of the opening of the school was formed with the following office bearers:

President — Mr H.M. Rolland (Director of Works) Vice President — Mr J. McRae Dunn

Honorary Secretary — Mr A.T. Cameron

Honorary Treasurer — Mr R. Shannon

Committee —

Acton — Messrs Fussell, Horsburgh, Richmond and Sheaffe

Civic Centre — Messrs Johnston, Force, Waterman and Daniels

Molonglo — Messrs Wright, Webb, T. Boag and Murray

Eastlake — Messrs Dunn, Shannon and

Cameron

Westridge — Messrs Newbold Senr., Lea and Hobday

There is no doubt that this Committee and the local authorities left no stone unturned to ensure a successful opening of the new school on 11 September 1923. That day was a red-letter day in Canberra's history and the community turned out en

masse for the occasion. The ceremony is well described in the "Queanbeyan Age's" report:

"Telopea Park School official opening Tuesday last was a day that will live in the memories of the children of the Federal Territory when a thousand other days are forgotten in the years to come. There were fully 600 children from all parts of the Territory brought by cars to the ceremony. Many kindly came to the assistance of the Committee and gave the use of their cars and vehicles. The Commonwealth Government made available all transport they could spare but provision for the entertainment and feasting of the children they left to a good working local committee, who canvassed the workmen and others and raised sufficient money to provide full and plenty for the children. parents and visitors. A good sports programme was carried out, the prizes being keenly contested for.

"The official opening took place at 3 pm, the ceremony being performed by the Hon. Austin Chapman, who was accompanied by Mrs Chapman. The official party also included Hon. A. Bruntnell, State Minister for Education, Mrs and Miss Bruntnell, Mr T. Mutch, M.L.A (ex Minister for Education) and Dr Radford, Anglican Bishop of Goulburn. Others in attendance were Revs. A.J. Carter, F.G. Ward, S.J. West, Capt. C.E.W. Bean (Historian A.I.F.), Mr J.T. Goodwin, Surveyorgeneral and Mr H.M. Rolland, Director of Works who received the party who were introduced by Mr Goodwin. Mr Rolland presided over the function.

"The school children were under the charge of their teachers, and for the first time in the history of the Territory teachers and scholars were united in one gathering. There were three lady teachers and seven gentlemen teachers present, children coming from Gibraltar, Tharwa, Royalla, Weetangera, Hall, Acton, Narrabundah, Duntroon, Molonglo and Westridge and other places. Under Mr Jones. Headmaster of Duntroon School the scholars were marched from their splendid sportsground and formed a guard of honour for the official party. The breaking of the Union Jack by the Hon. A. Bruntnell was followed by the singing of the National Anthem and three cheers lustily given to the accompaniment of waving miniature flags. which were supplied by the Committee, followed by breaking of the Australian Flag by Mr Mutch the children singing two verses of Advance Australia Fair. The weather was ideal".

The school opened its doors on 2 October 1923 with Mr Cecil L. Henry as Headmaster and one assistant Mr James Newman. On 2 and 3 October fifty eight pupils enrolled, Ernest Freeman being first in the Boys' Register of Admission and Mabel



Students at Telopea, c.1925



Part of crowd at official opening, 11 September 1923

Freeman first in the Girls' Register. Other pupils who enrolled in those two days were Arthur Freeman, George Hart, James Neiass, James Stephens, Hector Horsburgh, Leonard Cameron, Jack Horan, Edward McNamee, Bejamin McNamee, Hubert Blewitt, Frederick Blewitt, Alan Ware, Alan Hobday, Harold Quigg, Walter Sharp, Eric Brown, Darcy Horan, Gordon Jolly, Robert Lillico, Edward Quigg, Joseph Hammond, Richard Turbit, Leslie Blewitt, Harry Trevillian, Allan Lea, Garnet Lea, Jack Sharpe, Stanley Kelly, Hilary Clear, William Patrick, Richard Brackenreg, Dorothea Neiass, Joan Horsburgh, Effie Lillico, Kathleen O'Malley, Enid Cameron, Jean Lea, Kathleen Oldfield, Dora Horan, Annie Moore, Alice Townsend, Jean Boyd, Hazel Turbit, Ettie Moore, Dulcie Turbit, Ethel Sharpe, Jean Oldfield, Ethel Peacock, Phyllis Peacock, Myrtle Blewitt, Joyce Sharpe, Lois Eggleston, Jean Harriott, Violet Blewitt, Nellie Freeman, Clara Kaye.

By the end of the school year there were 120 pupils on the roll. Most of the pupils were children of construction workers, brickworks employees and officers of the Department of Home Affairs but there were some who were members of pioneer families of the district such as the Kayes, Blewitts and Browns. Many of the early pupils of the school are still residents of Canberra.

Telopea Park School was so named because of its location, the area being shown as Telopea Park in Walter Burley Griffin's plan of the city. Telopea speciosissima is the botanical term for the New South Wales waratah, which formed part of the original school badge. The word Telopea is derived from the Greek word "telopos", meaning "seen from afar". The School badge also incorporates a stylised version of the rising sun with the words "spectans orientia solis lumina", a quotation taken from Virgil's "Aeneid", which means "looking towards the rising sun". This motto was adopted by the School in 1931.

Headmaster Henry seems to have established a degree of popularity immediately, as the Eastlake correspondent of the Queanbeyan Age wrote in the following terms in December, 1923:

"Mr Henry, the Headmaster of Telopea Park School is certainly a live wire and we are indeed fortunate in having secured such a man for the important post he has undertaken on the Territory. He is stimulating sporting competitions amongst the pupils, being a thorough believer in this means of moulding the character of the boys under his charge . . . Arrangements are being made to install a school library . . . It was also agreed to have a photograph taken of the fifty-odd children who attended the school on the opening day as this will have historic value in the years to come".



Telopea Park School, 1924

By courtesy of the National Library of Australia.



Chief Fire Officer P.F. Douglas, (at the wheel) Mr and Mrs Cyril Murden and Mrs Douglas on the opening day.

By courtesy of the National Library of Australia.

An Infants teacher, Miss Constance Amy Forsyth, was appointed in February 1924 and by the end of 1925 the number enrolled had grown so quickly that there were eleven teachers on the staff.

The original building could accommodate 200 pupils and it soon became necessary to proceed with the two wings which were planned to increase the accommodation to cope with 500 pupils. A local paper reported in May 1925 that: "The new wing of Telopea Park School is completed and awaits the arrival of school furniture, desks etc. prior to being handed over for occupation".

The Federal Capital Advisory Committee on 25 May 1926 issued a further report which stated:-

"The Advisory Committee found that a number of small schools were being maintained in the neighbourhood of the city site, and it proposed that these should be supplanted by one central and modern school where children would have the advantage of tuition by a more competent and specialised staff; and it suggested that, if necessary, upon the closing of the separate schools the scholars should be conveyed to the central school.

"The scheme for the erection of the school was approved, and the building has been constructed at Telopea Park.

"The school which is of brick construction, has been designed after consultation with the NSW Education Authorities, who have direct charge of schools in the Territory on behalf of the Commonwealth Government.

"The cost of completing the centre portion of the school was £9,263; the additional wings are estimated to cost £3,400 each, bringing the total estimated cost to £16,063.

"The completion of this additional accommodation will enable the school to provide for tuition from kindergarten to the school leaving age."

Thus it is evident that Telopea Park School was intended at the planning stage to provide for secondary education and, in fact, secondary students were accepted from the outset. The school had successful candidates for both the Leaving and Intermediate Certificates in 1925. Following the completion of the two wings, one was given over solely to secondary education.

On 26 July 1926 Mr Henry wrote to Mr G. Dart, Inspector of Schools, Yass, seeking an Infants Mistress in order to relieve the congestion at the school stating that "Every room used for the four primary classes is now crowded". This did not bring

immediate results but on 28 May 1927 Inspector C.B. Newling recommended to the Chief Inspector that the primary section of the school be organised into two departments — infants and primary — and that an Infants Mistress be appointed. The Chief Inspector recommended that a separate infants department be formed from 1 July 1927 and this was approved.

While the school had provided for secondary education from the outset it remained as a Public School until July 1927 when it was raised to District School status. The Acting Director of Education, Mr S. Lasker wrote in the following terms to Sir John Butters, Chairman of the Federal Capital Commission:-

"With reference to the question of providing higher educational facilities for children at Canberra, I have to inform you that this Department has decided to raise the status of the Telopea Park School to that of a District School from Monday next 11th July.

"As soon as the prescribed conditions are fulfilled the question of making the school an Intermediate High School will be considered. In the meantime arrangements will be made for the immediate introduction of subjects of the High School Course, including Latin and French".

Mr Henry was to enjoy the higher status of his school for a short time only as he was transferred elsewhere at the end of 1927 and Mr Harold J. Filshie became Headmaster in January 1928. This ended the first phase of the development of the new School — the first high school in Canberra and at that time one of the most modern schools in Australia.

A School Tragedy

In August 1933 a fatal accident occurred at Telopea Park. Numerous pupils were standing in line waiting for their bus in front of the steps on the southern side of the main entrance, when the brakes of a bus, which had entered the school grounds, failed and the bus careered into the line of children.

One schoolgirl, Rae Joyce Holden, aged 11 years, was struck by the bus and was killed instantly. A number of other children, fortunately, managed to scramble out of the path of the bus.

At the subsequent inquest it was revealed that mechanical tests had shown that the footbrake of the bus was out of adjustment and was useless. Following the inquest the then Minister for the Interior ordered an inquiry into the matter.

The Changing Scene

The year 1927 was one of great importance for Canberra as in that year it became the seat of Government. The opening of Parliament, a great ceremonial occasion, took place on 9 May 1927 and Telopea Park School played an important part in the arrangements. On 23 February 1927 Mr H. Waterman, Secretary, Royal Visit Section, Federal Capital Commission, wrote to the Director of Education. New South Wales, suggesting that Telopea Park School be closed from 2 May 1927 to 10 May 1927 inclusive because of the ceremonies associated with the opening of Parliament. He mentioned that the school was admirably suited to the requirements of a temporary base hospital and would be required for that purpose from 2 to 10 May 1927. He pointed out also that the bus service would be disorganised over the period concerned by the requirements of the preliminaries associated with the settling in of troops, etc. The closing of the school as proposed was approved. Of much more significance than this temporary closure was the transfer from Melbourne of the Parliament and the transfer of large numbers of public servants and their families to Canberra with consequent demands on the educational facilities.

The need for additional school accommodation had been foreseen. Soon after it was established in 1925 the Federal Capital Commission had set about planning a primary and infants school on the northern side of the Molonglo River. It was decided to build the infants section first, this to be used by both sections until the primary section could be built. Ainslie Primary school was opened by Prime Minister Bruce on 19 September 1927.

It was announced early in 1927 that the Commission proposed to make extensive alterations at Telopea Park School with a view to avoiding congestion following the planned transfer of public servants from Melbourne to Canberra in the spring of that year.

Although Telopea Park had opened as a primary school, secondary students were accepted from the outset and by mid 1927 it was declared a district school in recognition of the fact that secondary classes had been formed and one wing of the school

had been given over to secondary education.

In the following year Mr Harold John Filshie became headmaster and on 6 June the Prime Minister (Mr S.M. Bruce) opened the Telopea Park Technical and Trades School and the Kindergarten and Infants wing. Mr Bruce referred to the Trades School as one of the most up-to-date in the Commonwealth. At the ceremony the Chairman of the Federal Capital Commission, Sir John Butters intimated that it was hoped to reach a still higher standard of education in the near future with the foundation of the Canberra University College.

Telopea Park also became host to an adult Evening Continuation College in 1928 and in 1930 the Canberra University College, the establishment of which Sir John Butters had foreshadowed, began to make use of the school after hours. In the early days of the College Dr Allen had classes in English and Latin and Professor Maurice Hayden had classes in French and German. Both were from the Royal Military College at Duntroon. In addition a special day class was introduced to prepare girls for entry to the Commonwealth Public Service as typists — the forerunner to a course now conducted at the T.A.F.E. College. Thus the Telopea Park School building housed numerous educational activities at their genesis and later years were to see several more originate within its walls.

Despite the opening of Ainslie Primary School and the further additions to Telopea Park, overcrowding became a continuing feature of the school's existence. Enrolments, which had soared to 460 in 1926, reached 600 in 1929 and 720 by the end of 1932. The school magazine reported in 1931: "Accommodation is so limited that all sorts of nooks and crannies have been used as classrooms". Overcrowding was such that it became necessary to hold the 1931 Certificate examinations at the nearby Hotel Wellington and in the following year one class was transferred to that location.

During the depression years funds for educational purposes were limited and secondary education suffered most as it was still regarded at that time as the prerogative of the elite and was, to a considerable



School Assembly, circa 1926



Opening of Technical and Trades School, 1928.



Technical and Trades School, 1928 By courtesy of the National Library of Australia.



Fitting and Machinery Section, 1928
By courtesy of the National Library of Australia.



5th Class, 1928, (in Room II)



Pupils leaving assembly, 1929



Prefects, 1931 (Left to Right) Back: A. McLung, A. Marshall, W. Rees, A. Cumpston Front: M. Barrie, H. Tillyard, Mr Filshie, M. Borrowman, N. Forbes

extent, catered for by private shoools. In 1932 the Chief Inspector of Primary Schools asked Inspector Fraser to report on the accommodation situation at Telopea Park. Mr Fraser recommended the provision of two additional classrooms in each of the primary and secondary departments.

In 1933 consideration was even given to accommodating the commercial classes in a marquee erected in the school grounds but the idea was abandoned because of the risk of damage to or theft of the typewriters. Another proposal for the removal of certain buildings from Duntroon also did not proceed and it was not until May 1935 that tenders were called for the erection of a separate brick building in the quadrangle to provide additional classrooms. Work on this building commenced in June 1935 and it became available for occupation in 1936.

During these years of accommodation problems pressures had been mounting for the provision of a separate high school in Canberra. Both the Department of the Interior in Canberra and the Education Department of New South Wales had such a proposal under consideration. As early as November 1935 a recommendation was put forward in the Education Department that "a Headmaster be appointed to be in charge of the Canberra High School, which should be of the 'omnibus' or 'polytechnic' type and be constituted from the beginning of 1936". It was envisaged that the school would continue to operate in the same building but there would be Headmasters for both the primary and secondary schools.

This recommendation was passed on to the Minister for the Interior and he conveyed his concurrence by telegram. As a consequence of the change the Headmaster, Mr Filshie was promoted to Erskinevil-

le, a primary school, and Mr C. Hill, First Assistant, was transferred to another school. When this became known to the community a number of local residents including Dr Cumpston and Mr Knowles made representations to the Minister for the Interior that Mr Filshie be allowed to remain, stating that he had conducted the secondary school at Telopea Park to the entire satisfaction of the parents.

These representations resulted in the Minister for the Interior, the Hon. T. Paterson, M.P., telephoning the Acting Director of Education, Mr B.C. Harkness, indicating that he had not been aware that his agreement to the establishment of a separate high school at Canberra would involve the transfer of either Mr Filshie or Mr Hill. He asked that the status quo of the school be allowed to remain for at least the year 1936. The matter was placed before the Minister for Education by the Acting Director on the following day. He decided to allow the establishment of a high school at Canberra to remain in abevance and that the existing arrangement — an intermediate high school under the control of Mr Filshie — should continue for the time being. Thus Telopea Park School which had been designated an intermediate high school in 1928 remained as such until the end of 1937.

On 29 November 1937 the Director of Education, Mr G.R. Thomas, wrote to the Department of the Interior indicating that the status of Telopea Park Intermediate High School had been again under consideration. He stated that the enrolment at Telopea Park exceeded that of several full high schools in New South Wales and proposed, in view of the fact that the erection of a new school building for secondary pupils at Canberra had been approved by the Department of Interior, that the secondary portion of the present Intermediate High School be constituted and staffed as a full high school from the beginning of 1938. The Secretary, Department of the Interior wrote on 10 December 1937 indicating that the Minister for the Interior concurred in the proposed change.

Mr Andrew Watson was appointed as Headmaster, Canberra High School and the school was temporarily located in the Telopea Park premises pending the availability of the new building which was to be erected at Acton. Accommodation at Telopea Park was not sufficient to accommodate both the new high school pupils and those of the Telopea Park Primary School, it being necessary to transfer some high school classes temporarily to the new Ainslie Primary School which opened in 1938, the former Ainslie School becoming the Infants Department.

Mr Filshie was promoted to Headmaster of Woollahra Public School and Mr Richard McDonald Fry to Telopea Park Primary School. Mr Filshie, who had been a very popular headmaster, was farewelled by the pupils and ex-pupils at the annual speech day and prize giving on 15 December 1937. Mr Jack Israel, President of the Ex-Students' Association presented him with a gold cigarette case, while Geoff Piggin, on behalf of the pupils of the school, presented him with a school banner and a wristlet watch.

It was not until 21 August 1939 that the Canberra High School moved to its new building at Acton. Secondary classes again formed at Telopea Park Primary School in 1940, the beginning of the selective system which operated for the next 18 years. This system of enrolling students, based on a student's academic achievements in primary school and his/her intelligence quotient, was the practice in New South Wales and had been a feature of the English Education Act of 1944.

Secondary enrolments at Telopea Park School grew to such a extent that by 1945 it was classified as a central school.

The next significant change at the School came during the period 1950-1952 when the west wing was extended and Bristol demountable buildings were erected to cope with the ever increasing enrolment, which peaked at about 1400 in 1952. These buildings were manufactured by the Bristol Aircraft Factory which found itself with insufficient work after the war and diversified its activities to include the manufacture of modular buildings. Some of the buildings were imported to Australia, providing a very suitable means of quickly increasing classroom accommodation to meet rapid rises in enrolment.



Prefects, 1936



Super Primary Students, 1938 (Left to Right) Back: Hector McMillan, — Peterson

Front: M. Cumpston, I. Filshie, R. Crawley, H. (Sunny) Tillyard



School uniform, 1938-1944



Primary School Class 3A, 1938



First Fifth Form — Canberra High School, 1938

(NB: Canberra High School was established at the beginning of 3rd term, 1938. Classes were still held at T.P.S. until Sept. 1939)

(Left to Right)

Back: D. Beattie, I. Jones, J. Laurey, R. Pollard, M. Knowles, R. Baker, J. Duffy, C. Pont

Middle: D Merrilees, J. Bolton, I. Ingram, G. Daley, G. Piggin, J. Colwell, K. Hollins, D. McGuinness, J. Maunder Front: J. Easterbrook, D. Murphy, E. Stirling, J. Cameron, M. Gray, L. Garrett, H. Mollison, J. Daley, I. McFeeters



Class 3B, 1938
(Left to Right)
Back:, P. Carrodus,, B. Pedvin, D. Stuart,, B. Dawson,, B. Barrenger,
Third: F. Barber, G. Callaghan,, L. Saunders, N. Day, E. Kestel, M. Margules, B. Napthali
Second: N. Mauger,, O. Evans,, Gumley,, B. Dullard, M. Barakat, E. Purcell
Front: J. Burden, J. Chandler,, B. Dickinson,



6th Class, 1938 (Left to Right)

Back Row: Eric Morcombe, Geoff Yeend, Frank Hammond, Ray Stuart,, Ray Margules, Mr R. McD. Fry

Third: Pat Harrison, Betty Fowler, Winifred Austwick, Enid Mauger, Lavinia Wallace, Jeanne Tonnoir, Shirley Barber, Nancy Daley, Norma Grinsdale, Joan Forbes

Second: Beth Fisk, Betty Egan, Isobel Barakat, Betty Tucker, Marie McFadgen, Denise Haslam, Ellestan Dusting,, Lois Gandy, Shirley Mitchell, Yvonne Perry

Front: Bruce Harding, Roy Warren, Bob Shelton, Noel Brown, Alan Norgrove,, Fred Archer, Bill Stanley.



Class 4b, 1938 (Left to Right)

Back: T. Saunders, J. Stevenson, D. Phillips, I. Bennett, B. Hodgson, S. Norgrove, A. McFadyen, A. Vince, S. Hutchison Third: T. Horan,, E. Hancock, M. McJannett, B. Goodhew, L. Mahoney, H. Reidy, D. Muir Second: C. Grinsdale, P. Tierney, J. Spence, T. Hartas, J. Tuson, J. Daley, M. Cole, J. Hormann, Front: K. Parr, A. Baxter, C. Denton, M. Hill, D. Fyfe, A. Hawke, B. Boyd



Secondary Students, 1939



Class 6B, 1940 (Left to Right)

Back: B. Dwyer, J. Knight, B. Hobday, J. Hungerford,, T. O'Rourke, S. Campbell, J. Caldwell, R. Brodie, I. Bennett, L. Hay,, B. Hodgson

Third: G. Bailey, J. Tuson, I. Banks, E. Hamilton,, B. Bagnall, E. Hancock, F. Reece, N. Moore, B. Welsh, H. Green Second: K. Knowles, J. Daley, S. Tonnoir, R. Rogers, L. Bush, J. Spence, P. Tierney, W. Stuart, J. Shannon, L. Pascoe, L. Mahoney, M. Cole, G. Christie

Front: J. Stevenson, T. Wardle, B. Rose, B. Dundas, N. Hope, B. Jones, K. Parr, N. Pollard, D. Fyfe, M. Hill



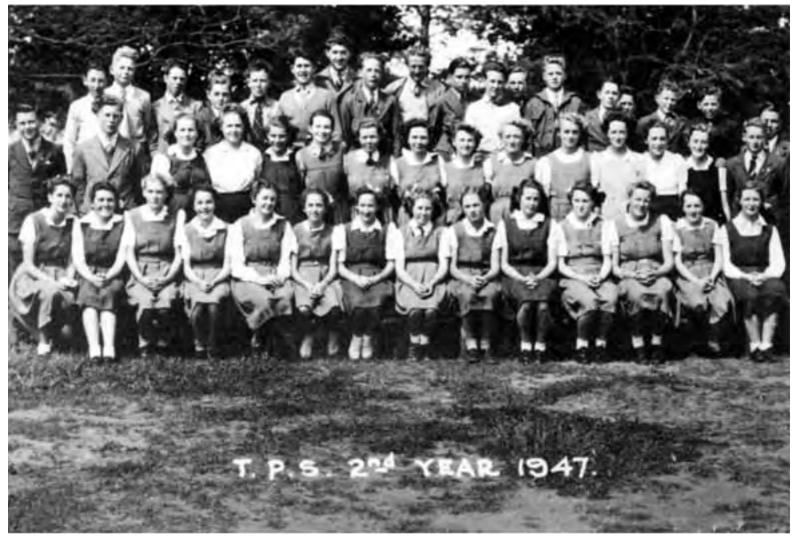
(Left to Right)

Back: A. Gallagher, S. Hutchison, P. Spencer,, P. Wilson, D. Stuart, B. Murray,, Hawke

Third:, H. Reidy, B. Goodhue, J. Adamson,, J. Rockley, F. Barber, T. Hartas

Second: N. Mauger, A. McKinnon, E. Cargill, M. Oldfield, M. Hart, E. Kestel, J. Spence, B. Napthali, B. Dullard, M. Baraka.,,

Front: J. Burdon,, G. Edwards,, J. Chandler, J. Rowling,, K. Johnson, B. Barrenger



T.P.S. Second Year, 1947



T.P.S. Junior Red Cross, 1947



Prefects, 1947, with Mr Fry



Mr Hurrell and class 6A, 1948



Class 4K, 1952



Class 3A, 1952
(Left to Right)
Back: R. Grabb, A. Kile, R. Mayo, P. Bradley, M. Kent, D. Miller, B. Rumble, I. Sullivan, C. Martin, Morris, K. Gumley, R. Ogilvie
Middle: A. Makin, S. Johnson, J. Notaras, J. Morgan, B. Goggen, K. Searson, A. Vinstra,, H. Bosdowic, J. Cheyne
Front: H. Bodman, B. Hawke, P. Bingley, G. Wecht, P. Cheyne, W. Myers, J. William, C. Cameron, R. Burden, J. Griffiths



Class 6A, 1955 (Left to Right)

Back: R. Parkes, G Stewart, P. Carrol, I. Cameron, W. Upton, T. van der Putten, G. Harriett, D. Harding, M. Gascgoine, B. McIntosh Fourth: S. Baker, B. Wrigley, G. Stansfield, M. Watson, E. Gray, H. Loomes, J. Lightly, M. Love, P. Lee, M. Reseigh, S. Elsom,.......

Third: I. Collins, G. Bates, K. Shoobridge, M. Prior, C. Clarke, L. McClintock, R. Rollason, G. Thistlewaite, M. Featherstone, D. Callaghan, A. Kaye

Second: S. McDonald, L. Campbell, A. Almond, N. Meadows, C. Bishop, P. Said, A. Crawford, G. Vilks, S. Chamberlain, H. Stubbs, P. Powley, D. Davies, R. Brown

Front: R. Bodman, R. Pye, G. Hall, M. Cirulis, J. Collings, A. McMahon, M. Keenan, R. Dinnerville, A. Cameron.

Teacher: Mr Hyslop



Prefects, 1949, with Mr Fry



Kindergarten I, 1954 Teacher: Mrs Mavis Woods

Telopea Park Achieves High School Status

By 1952 the total enrolment of primary and secondary students at Telopea Park High School reached 1450 and plans were in hand to construct new schools and move out the primary students. In 1955 the secondary classes were classified as a High School with Mr Rex Crawford as Principal, to provide education to the Leaving Certificate standard. Some infants and primary classes became the Griffith Primary School with Mr George Hurrell as Principal. He moved to the new school in Griffith at the end of the year, leaving other primary classes still at Telopea to be accommodated elsewhere. These were relocated in 1958 at the then new Forrest Primary School under Principal, Mr Les Williams.

Classification as High School meant a major change in staffing arrangements and for the first time masters and senior staff were appointed to several subject departments at Telopea Park High School. Full advantage of this could not be taken immediately because Telopea Park High School continued to enrol only those secondary students who could not gain entry to the Canberra High School under the selective system operating since 1939.

By 1955, however, it was under severe criticism wherever it operated. With the commencement of the rapid expansion of Canberra leading to over-crowding at the Canberra High School and the need to open new high schools, such as Lyneham High in 1958, the selective system was clearly becoming inappropriate for this area and was abandoned, not without great controversy in the press and in Parliament

So, from the beginning of 1958, Telopea Park High School enrolled secondary students who lived on the south side of the Molonglo River as well as those graduating from the rural primary schools of Tharwa and Uriarra, and any other students wishing to study agriculture, which had begun at Telopea in 1956 using a plot of ground on York Park for experimental projects.

During 1958, new toilet blocks and change rooms were built and the east wing of the school was

remodelled and extended to provide accommodation for the sciences, needlework, home science, music and commerce. In 1959, the administration offices were reconstructed, the existing entrance and foyer was provided and a new library established in what is now the staff common room.



Front of school after remodelling 1958-1959

At a Parents and Citizens Association meeting on 29 February 1960 the President said in his annual report: — "The 'new look' given to the school by alterations in the entrance to the building, the library, toilet blocks and the provision of shower and change rooms had made Telopea High one of the show places of Canberra".

Mr Crawford was transferred to a Sydney school at the end of 1959 and Mr Alec McPherson was appointed Principal of Telopea in 1960. The Assembly Hall was completed in that year, so the School at last had suitable accommodation and a highly qualified staff to cater for students with a wide range of needs and abilities.

There was to be no undue concentration on academic performance; in fact, the practical subjects of art, home science, manual arts and agriculture have featured prominently in the school curriculum throughout the years.



Sunny corner formed by the old Trades Wing and the East Wing.



East Wing built, 1958

Top floor: Home Economics, Commercial Room (later the Language Laboratory),

Music Room.

Bottom floor: Kitchens, Laundry, Flat.

The school enrolment was 900 by the end of 1960, with 42 students in the final year, and once again there was a shortage of rooms at the School.

Continued progress characterised the School's development at this time. The extent of this was revealed when the Leaving Certificate Examination results for 1962 showed that Wendy Hoy had gained first place amongst all students from N.S.W. and the A.C.T. Susan Falk, Marc Marshall, Sally Borthwick and Richard Dash also figured amongst the first 150 in aggregate. These students, together with scores of their colleagues who had performed with distinction at that examination had enrolled in 1958 following the abandonment of the selective entry system. They had also set high standards of achievement as goals for students in following years.



Wendy Hoy, 1962 School Captain

John Trowbridge, William Wilson (1963), Pat Cain, John Horn, Catherine Borrie, Anne Bridgman, Heather Kuskie (1964), Caroline Furlonger (5th in aggregate) and Graham McKay (1965) were some of the outstanding students amongst the several hundred who accepted the challenge and brought credit to themselves and Telopea Park High School before the last normal Leaving Certificate Examination was held in 1965. Special classes were held at Telopea Park in 1966 for those students, mostly from other schools in Canberra, who needed to complete the Leaving Certificate Examination before the new system was introduced.

From the beginning of 1962 the introduction of the Wyndham Scheme was commenced. This plan for the organisation and content of courses had resulted from the studies of a committee formed in 1953 under the Chairmanship of Dr Wyndham, the Director-General of Education in New South Wales. Basically it provided for secondary education to be spread over six years instead of five, with the first year of secondary schooling designed to allow a smooth

transition from the primary school, an external School Certificate Examination to be held at the end of the fourth year and a Higher School Certificate Examination at the end of the sixth year.

New syllabuses of instruction over the full range of subjects in the junior years were introduced to allow for the study of courses at different levels of difficulty in an attempt to cater for the varying aptitudes and interests of students. Compulsory exposure to courses in music, art or craft, health and physical education for all students in the junior school was a major change, with implications for time-tabling, staffing and accommodation.

The scheme was phased in progressively with the first School Certificate being held at the end of 1965 and the first Higher School Certificate at the end of 1967. It was fortunate that the Narrabundah High School which opened in 1961 shared enrolments on the south side of Canberra so that numbers in the junior years at Telopea Park remained at approximately 200 in each year with the total school enrolment just over 900. Accommodation difficulties arising from the greater emphasis on the sciences, art and music in the new courses were not overcome until the construction of the three storey building and the remodelling of the existing science areas were completed early in 1967.

The Assembly Hall was used to the maximum extent. Health, physical education and gymnastics classes shared the facility with regular drama and public speaking groups. Major changes in the School's procedures, including the scheduling of sport for seniors and juniors on different days, and the transfer of some pupils to the new Deakin High School in 1965 helped with accommodation at that time.

Problems arising from the inability of schools to retain suitably qualified teachers, who were being attracted by the better prospects in other occupations, and to engage adequate replacements, added to the school's difficulties in fully implementing the Wyndham Scheme. The shortage of teachers was Australia-wide and vigorous recruiting campaigns were being undertaken overseas. Some of the newcomers established themselves as valuable members of staff but others were quite unsuitable, especially those whose command of English was deficient. Graduates, untrained as teachers, were recruited for some subject areas as casual teachers on a full or part-time basis. Many of these developed quickly as excellent teachers and without their contribution the School would have had great difficulty in functioning properly. That was a period of improvising and compromising while adapting to



Aerial photograph showing Tetopea Park School with York Park and the school Agricultural Plot in foreground.

the special requirements of the Wyndham Scheme as it applied to the senior classes.

The results of the School Certificate and Higher School Certificate Examinations were not published in a form which allowed for comparisons with the performances of students from other schools. However, the attainments of individual students compared with their own, their parents and the School's expectations, indicated that the school had coped well with the introduction of the new scheme. Richard Whitelaw's gaining of five first level passes, the highest possible achievement at that time, was an outstanding performance in the first Higher School Certificate Examination.

By 1968 the enrolment in the school had grown to more than 1,000 with 300 students in the final two years. Two relocatable classrooms were provided and several more three years later. It became necessary to organise the school effectively as a junior and a senior high school on the same campus to make better use of the school's staff and specialist accommodation. These arrangements were continued satisfactorily for the next few years while preparations were made for the changes in administration and content of education in the A.C.T. to be put into effect.

In 1969, an Agriculture Laboratory comprising glass-house, animal room and meteorological plot was constructed in the school grounds. This facility meant that the agriculture plot in York Park was no longer required and the 200 or so students studying the subject could be housed more comfortably.

Another important advance at this time was the formation of a special class for the teaching of English to those students whose mother tongue was not English. For many years the school had made some provision for such students from its own staffing resources and as the school continued to enrol more and more students who came with their parents from overseas, including those from the Diplomatic Community, the need for assistance was officially recognised. As early as 1965 the problem was of major proportions and at least 22 different languages were spoken by students born overseas of non-Australian parents. A specially qualified teacher was appointed in 1968 to develop procedures for the group and by 1970 the special English classes were catering for 70 students whose ages ranged from 12 to 20 years.

At the beginning of 1970 a special Opportunity Deaf class was formed to meet the needs of 6 students in the junior school. One room was furnished and equipped with appropriate facilities to enable the permanent teacher to help those students with impaired hearing. In previous years they had relied on the assistance of an itinerant teacher of the deaf who visited the School once each week

The Wyndham Scheme had not contained detailed guidance for the development of courses for the final two years of secondary schooling. The contents of courses and requirements for the Higher School Certificate Examination were developed as the scheme was being introduced in the junior school. Unfortunately they were strongly oriented towards preparation for tertiary education and university entrance. As a consequence there was a great deal of dissatisfaction amongst students and parents who found much of the senior study somewhat irrelevant.

This disquiet within the school coincided with the expression of strong community interest and concern in education and there was a growing demand for an autonomous education authority for the system of public education in the A.C.T.. At the same time consideration was being given to the restructuring of secondary education under such an authority. The outcome of this was the establishment of the A.C.T. Schools Authority in 1973 and the move towards four year high schools and secondary colleges for the final two years of secondary schooling.

Mr Wal Wardman replaced Mr McPherson as Principal at the beginning of 1972 and took the first necessary steps in the change from control by the N.S.W. Education Department to that of the A.C.T. Schools Authority.

It was during this period that the battle for Section 36, Forrest, was fought, and won, by the school. This vacant block, site of the former Manuka Tennis Courts, had long been a "secret" place for the lunch-time student smokers. The controversy arose when it was announced early in 1974 that the National Capital Development Commission had allocated the site to the Masonic Club, the Manuka Football Club and the Eastern Suburbs Rugby Union & Amateur Sports Clubs. The Principal, Mr Wardman, the newly established Interim School Board, the staff, parents and students protested publicly, maintaining that the acquisition of this block was essential for necessary extension to the school grounds. At the time the student population was 1,000 and the school had only half the area of other High Schools with similar numbers of students. The Methodist Hall was leased and used once again for overflow P.E. classes. The argument was stated in "The Canberra Times" editorial of 21st February that Section 36 was "absolutely their last opportunity for vital extension of the Telopea School grounds". In April, the National Capital Development Commission

announced that the block should be shared by the school and the sporting clubs, the school section being for tennis courts and a gymnasium. Plans for the gymnasium were drawn up, but further objections were raised by the school representatives and finally, despite letters to "The Canberra Times" and talk of legal proceedings by the clubs, the school was granted use of the whole of Section 36 and the clubs were allocated suitable sites elsewhere. There were further delays before the block was cleared and developed with four tennis courts, two softball fields. one hockey field and a change room block. It was officially opened on 13 December, 1978 by Mr John Haslem, M.P., and named the K.R. Montgomery Playing Fields after Kevin Montgomery, an Assistant Principal who had first come to the school in 1959 and who died at the end of 1976. It is perhaps interesting to note that, with a current school population of 450, the need for open-air playing space is less than it was in 1974 — and the school still has no gymnasium.

Mr Robert Devine came as Principal in 1975. He saw the last Higher School Certificate Examination candidates pass through the school in that year and Telopea Park High School established as the first Year 7-10 high school in the A.C.T. from the beginning of 1976.

Activities

In the 60's and early 70's the Parents and Citizens Association was particularly active in its support of the school. It encouraged the school to involve its students in a very wide range of extra-curricular activities to supplement classroom instruction. Year after year various groups attended exhibitions, lectures, displays, plays, films, orchestral and dramatic performances; others participated with considerable success in competitions in mathematics (A.C.T. Mathematics Association), science (A.C.T. Science Association), French (Alliance Française de Canberra) and German (Goethe Society). Inter-school debating and public speaking groups, the chess club, inter-school Christian fellowship, madrigal groups, school choir and orchestra, and school cadets received the School's support and encouragement.

Amongst the Parents and Citizens most successful fund raising efforts, the Waratah Fair was clearly the leader. Weeks and weeks of preparations by students, staff and parents preceded the function held on the school grounds on a Saturday in mid-autumn. The friendly rivalry in the competition between the

Houses and the variety of entertainments provided, combined to create the atmosphere of the function which was considered at that time in Canberra's development as a major event on the calendar. By the late 60's similar functions were conducted by the growing number of secondary schools in the A.C.T. and the Waratah Fair was not held on an annual basis.

From 1961, after the completion of the Assembly Hall, the weekly school assembly could be held indoors and the opportunity was taken to bring matters of special significance relating to the developing school to the attention of students. These gatherings, conducted in a very formal manner as befitted the time and circumstances, did much to encourage enthusiasm for the school's sporting teams and the performances of individuals who were bringing great credit to the school. Marked growth in the School's enrolment in the mid 60's led to the holding of separate assemblies for juniors and seniors and some features of 'whole school' assemblies were no longer appropriate.

The nature of school socials changed with the type of music considered appropriate for such functions. At first, a small group of musicians with piano, drums and trumpet or saxophone provided the music for the girls in party frocks and boys in neat attire (a tie had to be worn) who performed the old-time or modern dance routines which they had been taught. These socials were held in the Albert Hall from 1955 to 1960 but were transferred to the Assembly Hall in 1961. During the middle 60's the music came from drums and guitars through massive amplifiers, to the annoyance of neighbours. The dress was neat casual wear and the dancing, rock and roll. This was followed by the prevailing recorded discotheque-type music for students in fashionable jeans and T-shirts performing the latest 'jive' gyrations with lights flashing and enthusiasm abounding. For a number of reasons school socials have not been held since the late 70's.

The demise of the Fifth Year Farewell, a formal dinner with speeches, followed by a dance, was to be expected with the introduction of the Wyndham Scheme and the older students preferring to arrange their own celebrations. The occasion remains, however, as a significant event in the memory of those students who experienced it. The first of the High School's Fifth Year Farewells was held in the Masonic Temple in Barton; later the classroom area in the old canteen block was decorated in marvellous fashion with great difficulty to provide a suitable location. From 1961 the Assembly Hall was used. There was always much ado about the problems of catering, the interminable discussions on the choice

of evening gown, the seating arrangements, who was going with whom and what parties were to follow. In 1968 the Sixth Formers chose to arrange a function for themselves at a public venue, the first being held at the Hotel Ainslie Rex. Members of staff were always invited to the farewells and the enjoyable functions conducted with much dignity were a pleasure to attend.

A feature of the end of year celebrations in which Sixth formers displayed some extra-ordinary talents was the concert held on their last official school day. They changed in character from 'bulbous balloon bosoms' to clever sketches of school activities and staff peculiarities, all in good fun. The departing students were clapped as they filed out of the hall for the last time.

Speech Night was appropriately the final event of the year when an account of the year's activities could be provided for the community and attention drawn to marked changes in education and students' reactions to them. Prizes and special awards were presented to outstanding students in the various fields of school endeavour and the programme usually concluded with a display of some school activity or performances by the school choir.

Special days, such as Anzac Day, and other significant occasions continued to be observed at school ceremonies but, in line with community practice, some like Commonwealth Day (formerly Empire Day with a half-day holiday) were no longer specially noted.

The construction of the School Assembly Hall in 1960 and the provision of appropriate screens and lighting allowed for more ambitious dramatic projects than had previously been undertaken. Numerous plays were produced by class groups and successfully presented to student and community audiences. A major change in this type of activity was introduced in 1969 with a spectacular presentation of "West Side Story". An undertaking of that nature had never been attempted by the school before and, involving a large cast of fifth form students, orchestra and production crew, was able to succeed only with the co-operation and understanding of the whole school. It set the pattern for succeeding years when other musicals involving large numbers of fifth form students were produced:

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"Guys and Dolls" - 1970
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Attitudes

During the years since 1955 several thousand students have entered the classrooms of the Telopea Park High School and they have been taught by some hundreds of teachers. Probably nothing reflects the gradual changes in the relationships of the teachers and students to each other and the students' attitudes to authority better than the changes in the wearing of school uniform and the acceptance of them by teachers.

In the 40's and 50's the basic uniforms consisted of grey tunic, white blouse and blazer with crest on the pocket for girls, and grey slacks, white shirt, blazer and striped tie for boys. Following the establishment of the high school in 1955 in an attempt to foster a new image, the uniform was changed to include a new royal blue blazer with a waratah emblem on the pocket, blue shirt or blouse and maroon tie.

The list of approved items of apparel was handed to all enrolling students and the co-operation of parents sought to ensure their children had the correct dress and wore it. There was an insistence upon detail and check-ups covered the wearing of lace-up shoes and the measuring of hem-lengths where these met with disapproval. The students, on the whole, wore their uniforms with considerable pride, in spite of the duress experienced by some. The school badge and additional items in school colours bearing the Telopea Park emblem, the waratah, were prominently displayed.

The School at that time functioned in a very formal manner. There were few written rules but the do's and don'ts were declared repeatedly at school assemblies. It could be said that discipline was strict and that students were reserved in their relationships with the teachers and at times even in awe of them. School prefects played a significant role in providing checks on dress and discipline and were in effect regarded by most students as semi-official staff. That acceptance of prefects by many students was to change markedly in later years and the importance of the prefect system was brought into question. Their role changed significantly in the late 60's and the system was abandoned in the early 70's.

Towards the middle of the 1960's changes in attitude of students become apparent. The questioning of established practices, an unwillingness to conform and the challenging of authority became more direct and more widespread. Unfortunately this period occurred when staffing problems were being experienced by the School and students tended to feel

[&]quot;Orpheus in the Underworld" - 1971

[&]quot;Tom Jones" — 1972

[&]quot;Kiss me Kate" — 1973

[&]quot;Sweet Charity" — 1974, the last Fifth Form Production.

they were being let down and authorities did not care. Some students, anxious to identify themselves with popular cults of the time, sought to demonstrate their independence in various ways. Long and untidy hair for boys, non-leather footwear and items of casual wear mixed with school uniform were calculated to provoke a response from authority. The confrontations occurred at home as well as at school and mirrored changes in behaviour in the wider society. The effects of television and radio programmes which publicised the more general student protest elsewhere were being felt.

Those most involved at first were the students in the middle years of secondary schooling but they carried their protests through to the senior school in succeeding years. Teachers, some reluctantly, were forced to recognise that schooling would no longer proceed in the strictly formal atmosphere of earlier years and adapted their procedures actively to seek more co-operation and less confrontation in the classroom. The changes came gradually over several years during which parents, students and teachers were also fully aware that consideration was being given to making major alterations to the provision of

secondary education in the A.C.T. This knowledge assisted in the acceptance of compromises. A senior common room was provided in a section of the canteen block, areas were set aside for car parking by students, permanent lunch passes were issued to sixth formers and seniors used their library for study purposes on an honour system.

The unsuitability of existing uniforms for final year students now a year older on average than previous groups was apparent by 1969 and more appropriate garments were designed by students and staff for the girls, while neat attire was required of boys.

The school blazer had ceased to be a regular item of school wear because of cost and fashion and by the beginning of the 1970's the school tie was less in evidence. A few years later skirt lengths conforming to the prevailing fashion, slacks for girls in winter, new style footwear, hair length, the discreet use of make-up and the occasional beard were accepted by teachers as being of not much consequence, as there were other matters of greater concern. The acceptance of casual attire has not meant the approval of untidiness, inappropriate dress or misbehaviour.



Class 3B, 1955. Teacher, Mr Collins



Class 1E, 1955. Teacher, Mrs B. Thompson



Prefects, 1957, with Mrs B. Thompson (Girls Supervisor), R.N. Crawford (Principal), and W. Price (Prefect Master)



Class 2A, 1959 (Left to Right)

Back: D. Hoffman, R. Gilhome, J. McIntyre, M. McIntosh, R. Caffin, R. Jessop, M. Marshall

Third: D. Mackenzie, M. Moore, R. Hughes, A. Preston-Stanley, T. Gascoigne, P. Jack, G. Walters, J. Kingley, P. Geier

Second: W. Wilson, J. Holland, M. McClintock, A. Berry, A. Pritchard, S. Truce, L. Fowler, A. Reid, P. Gotlieb

Front: S. Faulk, E. Cranston, B. Swan, S. Borthwick, W. Hoy, S. Upton, H. Golding, S. Geach, E. Armstrong, H. Ridgewell, L. Davis, I. Brown



Fourth Year, 1959 (Left to Right)

Back: R. Wilson, G. Dawes, I. Hill, J. Anderson, P. Murphy, J. Hourigan, J. Holland, D. McFeat, D. Palmer, S. Murray, J. Burke, O. Hillhorst, D. Kelly, R. Holtsbaum, J. Allen

Third: C. Newcombe, I. Collins, J. Coombes, P. Kerr, N. Wilson, K. Shoobridge, M. Scott, D. Wilson, P. Komerowski, B. Arthurson, A. Arthur, I. Prowse, E. Kruger, K. Biebel, J. de Plater, N. Nowak

Second: D. Cory, J. Barrett, L. Gunn, H. McLaren, T. Vajda, S. Baker, S. Berry, M. van Deyk, J. Mayson, M. Watson, B. Ainsworth, C. Bishop, V. Strutt, S. Cooke-Russell, E. NoremburgFront: G. Truesdale, J. Samuels, G. Lipman, R. Annesley, G. Goodwin, D. Callaghan, R. Weatherstone, R. Done



Prefects, 1960. (Left to Right)

Back: O. Hilhorst, R. Done, J. McGovern, J. de Plater, I. Hill, G. Dawes

Front: H. McLaren, M. van Deyk, M. Watson, W. Price Prefect Master, S. Cooke-Russell, Mr McPherson,

D. Kelly, Mrs Thompson, B. Ainsworth, L. Gunn



School Captains, 1960
Dennis Kelly, Suzanne Cooke-Russell, Mr A. McPherson (Principal)



Class ISS 3, 1966
(Left to Right)
Back: P. Darvill, G. Binkhurst, R. Fergie, L. Ikenhaut, T. Duffus,, R. Hill, D. Hulward, C. Duffy
Third: R. Poscar,, C. Mitter, M. Grey, R. Hamer, T. Bowen, N. Mackenzie,, K. Cross, C. Campbell, T. French
Second: B. Kindon, R. Will, S. Davies,, P. Hill, H. Ramsy, M. Holland, J. Smith, J. English
Front: C. Wall, V. Mower, P. Holborow, L. Medbury, N. Woods,, A. Hancock



Class 2A, 1963 (Left to Right)

Back: A. Eggins, T. Stewart, A. Harris, B. Jones, P. Cusbert, G. Flowers, G. Harders, R. Andscombe
Third: K. Stewart, K. Watson, J. Crackford, K. McKinnon, L. Rif, H. Schumack, W. Craik, A. Hill, E. Maiden, B. Arndt, J. Louden, D. Price, J. Horn
Second: D. Newman, P. Alexander, P. Franklin, G. Kingston, D. Brown, K. Chamberlain, L. Waine, M. Johnson, I. Howard, L. Howe
Front: M. Birkett, S. Boyle, J. Prosser, H. Horner, J. Price, L. Gladwin, A. Gurnett-Smith, F. Hurrell, A. Hoffman



Prefects, 1964 (Left to Right)

Back: D. Callaghan, I. Preston-Stanley, M. Hohen, K. Gladwin, M. Berry
Middle: M. Bates, E. Aitchison, B. Walsh, P. Cain, H. Kuskie, G. Hingee
Front: W. McKay, M. Turnbull, P. Meckiff, Mr W. Price, A. Bridgeman, J. Elsom. S. Rose, A. Piper



School Assembly, 1965



A Third Form class, 1965 Teacher: Mrs R. Newman



Class 6E2, 1967 (Left to Right)

Back: R. Cooper, A. Eggins, P. Alexander, G. Harders, K. Lovell

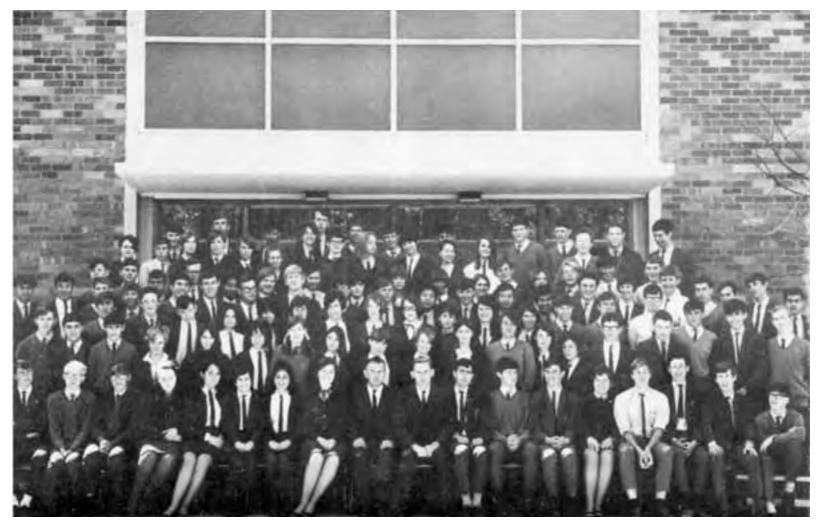
Third: P. Jabolin, D. Brown, T. Rossiter, D. Newman

Second: J. Horn, J. Preston-Stanley, A. Hill, K. McKinnon, R. Chamberlain

Front: J. Thompson, L. Armstrong, A. Hoffman, D. Hyslop, J. Price, N. Robertson



Fifth Year Farewell, 1955 (first 5th year since 1937) (Left to Right) Georgina Kalmar, Stephen Morris, Margot Smidmore, Miss G. Tozer



The whole of Form 6, 1967, with Mr MacPherson and Mr Forster



Half of First Form, 1973 (Left to Right)

Back: P. Rae, I. Oldfield, R. Gurney, P. Morrison, M. Kelly, P. Noakes, D. McCollum, T. Campbell, D. Ivill, P. Hudson, M. Flynn, W. O'Brien, M. Stanilewicz, G. Williams, D. Heddles, D. Morete, S. McAllister, H. Heino

Third: I. Laurie, M. Nethercote, D. Hine, T. Sherwin, G. Ridden, J. Francis, P. Schmidt, H. Griffiths, S. Sutton, R. W. Campbell, R. H. Campbell, R. Lejsek, A. Rees, E. Lamptey, A. Shaw, M. Smith, D, Brown, W. Macintosh, B. Miller

Second: R. Shortt, H. Eikenhout, J. Taylor, E. Byrnes, K. Robbie, C. Wright, S. Moore, S. O'Brien, H. Ratford, M. Tintun, A. Flor, W. Boulton, B. Trezise, B. Bernard, N. Emerson, A. Ray, M. Radjenovic

Front: G. Clark, P. Hain, G. Barnes, H. Matthews, J. Braakman, L. Quince, D. Hammond, K. West, M. Watt, N. Kibria, S. Rothanavibhata, D. Ziebell, J. Ball, J. Murphy, S. Radovanovic, K. Champness, P. Crisp, D. Lawson, C. Hamon



Half of Fourth Form, 1973 (Left to Right)

Back: D. Balaam, R. Whelpton, R. Moir, D. Beveridge, T. Thurbon, J. Bailey, A. McCarthy, P. Allen, C. Posselt, F. Flanagan, R. Conrad, K. Gloster, R. Broers, B. Farlie, I. Worth, G. Jones, G. Stone, J. White

Third: J. Kocic, S. Tyszkiewicz, M. Shields, C. Mower, M. Margules, N. Craddy, J. Leighton, M. Clarke, M. Harris, J. Clark, D. Betts, L. Coombs, G. Lazarus, M. Bradshaw, M. Scully, E. Pretty, P. Keet, R. Nelson

Second: V. Pollock, G. Dauni, J. Korobka, I. Sutarno, E. Clendenning, C. Hekela, R. Cullen, M. Southwell, J. Muckle, A. Boehme, J. Cooper, P. Corry, H. Udy, J. Woodbury, J. Gardner, D. Blommers, C. Trebilco, M. Hayden, M. Pryor

Front: V. Pires, B. Clark, S. Leal, N. McCarthy, S. Lambert, K. Gallagher, L. Campbell, P. Crawley, B. Moorby, R. Macdonald, K. Hrabe, D. Whittle, D. Leslie, L. Watt, J. Hansen, S. Vantol, P. Rowe, A. McConnell, S. (C.B.) Wasserman, A. Sykes



Half of Fifth form, 1973 (Left to Right)

Back: N. Roberts, S. Ball, L. Carrigg, D. Day, V. Middleton, I. Dickinson, L. Stewart, J. Costin, A. Sax, A. Tasning, D. Clayton, R. Phillips, P. Bruce, T. Smith, K. Eikenhout

Third: R. Russell, J. Topfer, M. Fisher, P. White, P. Wetherley, C. Lambert, J. Quinn, C. Linehan, C. Ritchie, M. Keirmaier, P. Hartman, Farukh Sazegar, S. Laohachai

Second: D. Hendy, P. Koenig, K. Kalivoda, G. Fletcher, C. McMaster, D. Muir, B. Ashley, M. Dukic, S. Belic, B. Jones, D. Senior, R. Johns Front: P. Chao, G. Simpson, B. Brown, L. Miller, R. Flor, M. Toganivalu, B. Davis, J. Gamble, T. Worth, A. Kourvelis, P. Costin, G. Medbury, J. Muir, A. Marques, B. Osborne, S. Manning, R. Constance



Staff 1983 (Left to Right)

Back: Peter Marsden, Fred Pilcher, Peter Monday, Peter Hobbs, Susan Bleach, Margaret Russell. Wendy Coutts, David Pitchford, Bill Paton, Ray Coutts-Smith. 3rd Row: Subhash Jalota, Kate Coombe, Elizabeth Rothwell, George Kasparek, Josie Devienne, Sue Bessell, Kate Power, Jean Crossfield, David Yeoman, Sandra Payne, Kevin Patrick Tom Bardsley.

2nd Row: Jeannette Vervoorn, Marie Vialette, Jean Binks, Brian Dunkley, Sue Northmore, Jan Pengilley, Barbara Ruker, Heidi Davis, Steve Padgham, Eve Shaw. Front: Jim Doyle, Sue Snell, David Turner, Pat Moon, Barbara Porteous, Aubrey Sweeney, Jeannette Leith, Judith Anson, Libby Gray, Debra Waser, Madeleine Rutzou, Jeni Murdock, Kevin Donaldson.

Insets: Ruth Woodham and Margaret McGlynn.

Missing: John Wells, Elizabeth Savage, Sally Osborne, Don Gamble, Barry Northam, Brad Coulton, Zelda Storey, Sandra Whichelo, Dorothy Hopkins, Ruth MacAfee, Lea Pilley, Robyn Middleton, Lois Roberts, Joyce Kent, Fred Skerbic, Bart Kersten.

The School Staff

Telopea Park School commenced its existence with a staff of only two teachers, the Headmaster Mr Cecil L. Henry, and his assistant, Mr James Newman. On the day of opening — 2 October 1923 — and the following day 58 pupils enrolled and by the end of the year the enrolment had increased to 120.

An infants teacher was appointed at the beginning of 1924 and by the end of 1925 the staff had grown to eleven. There were twenty five teachers on the staff in 1932 as is shown in the extract from "Telopea", the School magazine of that year, at page 60. The enrolment had reached 720 by December 1932.

The School was staffed by the New South Wales Education Department and teachers were promoted or transferred from and to schools in New South Wales as the Department saw fit. There is little doubt that Telopea Park School fared very well and it appears that special attention was given to the provision of teachers for the National Capital.

Even the Secretary of the Public Service Board felt constrained to inform the Director of Education in June 1934 that the Board's success in securing suitable appointees from local residents per medium of competitive examinations was largely attributable to the Telopea Park School which had furnished the Service with a large number of persons well trained for the positions to which they had been appointed.

At least three of the teachers of that period are still residents of this area. They are Mrs Barbara P. Gilhome (nee Ritchie), Dr Hope Verity Fitzhardinge (nee Hewitt) and Mrs Eunice M. Hughson (nee Farmer). Mrs Gilhome was transferred to Canberra High School when it was established and in her many years of teaching in Canberra there is little doubt that she would have taught two generations of numerous families. Miss Farmer who was at the school from 1936 to 1938, married another teacher Mr G.J. Hughson. She returned as Mrs Hughson in 1959, staying on this occasion until 1972, thus accumulating seventeen years' service at Telopea Park.

Another teacher who had seventeen years service

was Mr William (Billy) Ifor Price, who commenced at Telopea Park School as its first English Master in 1955, remaining until the ned of the 1971 school year.



mr Cecu Henry, Telopea's first Headmaster ''Canberra Illustrated News'', 1926

Telopea Park Intermediate Kigh School

THE STAFF

HEADMASTER Mr. H. J. Filshie, B.A. FIRST ASSISTANT C. C. Linz, B.A. INFANTS' DEPARTMENT MISTRESS - Miss I. Witchell.

SECONDARY DEPARTMENT

ENGLISH

H. J. Filshie, B.A. Miss G. Boland, B.A., Dip. Ed. Miss K. Nyman, B.A. Miss V. Hewitt, B.A.

HISTORY

H. J. Filshie, B.A. Miss V. Hewitt, B.A. Miss J. McKenzie, B.A.

LANGUAGES

 FRENCH
 ...
 ...
 ...
 ...
 Miss
 E. Wilson, B.A., Dip. Ed.

 Miss
 K. Nyman, B.A.

 LATIN
 ...
 ...
 ...
 Miss
 E. Fryer, B.A., Dip. Ed.

 Miss
 G. Boland, B.A., Dip. Ed.

MATHEMATICS

C. L. Ferrier, B.Sc., Dip. Ed. H. J. Filshie, B. A. J. Lenehan, B.Ec. Miss G. Parker, B.Sc., Dip. Ed.

SCIENCE

T. Tasker, B.Sc., Dip. Ed. C. L. Ferrier, B.Sc., Dip. Ed.

GEOGRAPHY

Miss J. McKenzie, B.A.

ECONOMICS AND COMMERCIAL

J. Lenehan, B. Ec.

HOME ECONOMICS AND NEEDLEWORK Miss M. Simpson. Miss Daley,

DEPARTMENT OF MANUAL TRAINING H. S. Randall.

SPECIAL BUSINESS CLASS
Miss G, Cupitt.

PRIMARY DEPARTMENT

6.A.	C. C. Linz, B.A.
6B.	Miss O. MacDonald.
5th	CLASS Miss E. Davidson
4th	CLASS W. Murty, A. Winstanley.
3rd	CLASS Miss Reilly.

INFANTS' DEPARTMENT

Miss I. Witchell (Mistress). Miss L. Moore, Miss N. Lesley. Miss N. Lee.

The Principals



John Wells 1979 to date



Cecil L. Henry 1923-1927



Harold J. Filshie 1928-1937



Robert P. Devine 1975-1978



Richard McD.Fry 1938-1954



Walter J. Wardman 1972-1974



Alec J. McPherson 1960-1971



Rex Crawford 1955-1959

The longest serving teacher at Telopea Park School is Mr Barry Northam who has been with the school since the beginning of 1954. His record is closely followed by that of Mrs Betty Thompson who served twenty eight years from 1953 and Mr Don Gamble who arrived only a short time after Mr Northam and is still with the School. Mr Kerry Smith taught at Telopea Park for twenty five years from 1945 to 1969 inclusive.

Others on the present teaching staff who have had lengthy service with Telopea Park High School are Mrs Sandra Whichelo (nee Shumack), who came in 1966, and Mrs Kate Power, who arrived in 1967.



Mrs Hughson

Of the ancillary staff Mrs Joyce Kent, a former pupil, has been Home Economics Assistant since 1968 and Mrs Jean Binks, Clerical Assistant has been with the school since 1970.

In 1959 the teaching staff comprised 42 teachers as shown in the extract from "Telopea" at page 69. While the enrolment at that time was about 900, ten years later in 1969 the teaching staff had increased to 64 (as listed at page 72), with an enrolment of 1118. The teaching staff in 1983 is 69 but the enrolment has declined to 480.

In its sixty years of existence Telopea Park School has had only eight Principals, one of whom, Mr Alec McPherson, has continued to reside in Canberra since

his retirement. The Principals (formerly referred to as Headmasters) of the School since 1923 have been:

1923-1927
1928-1937
1938-1954
1955-1959
1960-1971
1972-1974
1975-1978
1979-to date

The present Principal, Mr John Wells, was first associated with the school in 1969 and became Principal in 1979.

The Principals of the following Schools and Colleges in Canberra were formerly members of the staff of Telopea Park School:

Michel March	Narrabundah College
John Morrow	Phillip College
William White	Woden Valley High School
Allan Forster	Belconnen High School
Robert Devine	Weston Creek High School
Clive Monty	Woden Special School
Clifford Burnett	Canberra High School

Telopea Park School has had a number of teachers who excelled at sport — Messrs Clem Hill and Bob Hundt come to mind in particular, the former being a Sheffield Shield cricketer and the latter one of the leading tennis players of his time in Canberra. Others who showed a keen interest in the sporting activities of the School were Messrs Jack Lenehan and Allen Thornhill who each served for considerable periods as sportsmasters. The latter, who died in 1982, was a pupil of the school and later served for a lengthy period as a teacher, being sportsmaster for ten years.

Over its sixty years the number of teachers who were attached to the School was quite large. Those known to have taught at Telopea Park from its opening in 1923 up to the end of 1939 are:

Aitken, Alec
Anderson, Miss Jessie May
Archer, Miss Daphne Inez
Austin, Miss Elsie Myra
Berry, Miss Majorie Gwendoline
Bieri, Miss Adele Celia
Boland, Miss Glen
Brodie, Miss Gertrude
Brown, Harold Bird
Brown, Miss L.
Cheetham, Miss E.
Clements, Miss E.M.
Cottrell, Miss Elizabeth
Cox, John Bruce
Cupitt, Miss Grace May Elsie

Cusack, Miss Ellen D. Daley, Miss Davidson, Miss Caroline Eunice Dunnicliff, Miss Helen Edmunds, Miss Irene Agatha Edwards, Donald Herbert Evans, Miss M. Farmer, Miss Eunice M. Ferrier, Charles Filshie, Harold J. Fitzroy, Miss Dorothy Forde, Miss Daisy Louise Forsyth, Miss Constance Army Frv. Richard McDonald Fryer, Miss E. Gamble, Miss Edna Garden, Miss Edna Catherine Gilhome, Percy W. Gray, Miss Marjorie Green, Miss Madeleine Greenaway, A.L. Gregg, Miss Lucinda Ellen Henry, Cecil L. Hesketh, Miss Dorothy Anne Hetherington, William Raymond Hewitt, Miss Hope Verity Hill, Clement John Holdsworth, Miss Peggy, Holmes, Miss Jean Elizabeth Hope, A.D. Hughson, G.J. Humphries, Miss Olive M. Hundt, Robert Whitelaw Jacobi, Miss Jennings, Miss Nancy Louise Jones, Miss M. Goldie Kaye, Miss Eva Dorothy Kave, L.W. Kellerman, M.H. Kemp, Miss Isabel A. Klein, Miss Hilda Knowles, Miss M. Laird, Miss Enid May Leach. Miss Jean Lee, Miss N. Lenehan, John Edward Lesley, Miss N. Linz, Clive C. MacDonald, Miss O. McKay, Miss Margaret Isabel McKenzie, Miss J. McRae, Miss Jeanne

Martin, Arthur James

Maxwell, Miss Martha M.

Maxwell, Miss I.

Maxwell, Miss Ray Arnot Middleton, Miss Edna Middleton, Miss Emma Evelyn Moore, Miss Lilian Morison, Miss Alathea Grace Morris, Kenneth Lionel Morrison, Mrs Moss Percy Curtis Murray, Miss G.A. Murty, Walter Newman, James I. Newton, Miss Kathleen Nyman, Miss K. O'Rourke, Augustine Francis Parker, Miss G. Peart, Miss Ella M. Purnell, Miss Olive Emily Randall, Harold S. Reed, Miss M.C. Reid, Miss Margaret Reilly, Mrs Barbara Richards, Miss Elsie Riley, Edward Thomas Ritchie, Miss Barbara P. Rix. A.R. Russell, Charles Herbert Ryan, John Francis Schaefer, Mrs Eva Simpson, Miss M. Smyth, Miss Mary Southwick, George R. Stanner, Miss Margaret Patricia Steele, Miss Dorothy Barbara Tasker, Thomas Taylor, Miss E. Thompson, Miss Edith Clive Tynan, Miss Gladys Eden Wallace, Miss Irene Grace Waring, Mrs Dorothy Wilson, Miss E.M. Winstanley, A. Witchell, Miss Irene G. Woods, Miss M. Wyndham, Miss Nancy E.

From the early days of the School, teachers joined in with the pupils in various social activities but it was not until 1960 that the staff began to celebrate at the end of each year at a luncheon to farewell departing members. For the first five or six years a home science room was used, the catering being undertaken by the Home Science Department. As staff numbers

grew the gathering was held in the assembly hall and more recently in the staff common room.

The occasion provided the opportunity for farewell speeches to be delivered and presentations to be made. Bill Price could always be counted on to recite appropriate verses. Tom Hodges who replaced him as English Master carried on in similar vein.



Barry Northam



Mrs Betty Thompson



Don Gamble



William Ifor Price



Headmaster, C.L. Henry and Staff, 1927

By courtesy of the National Library of Australia.



Staff, 1948



Staff, 1949



Staff, 1952



Staff, 1955 (Left to Right)

Back: K. Smith, R. Crittenden, R. Foster, B. Toohey, A. Thornhill, N. Constance, N. Street, R. Backhouse, E. Shields Middle: E. Fry, J. Wilson, R. Mulholland, J. Caldwell, P. Thompson,, G. Tozer, P. Fleischer, B. Northam, M. Williams, J. Clark

Front: D. Mulholland, W. Price, N. Forster, L. Vousden, R. Cooper (Deputy Principal), R. Crawford (Headmaster), B. Thompson, L. Cameron, M. Loneragon, M. Beggs, N. Pridmore

STAFF

Headmaster:

R. N. CRAWFORD, B.A. Dip. Ed.

Deputy Headmaster:

E. W. McGANN, B.Sc.

English: History:

W. I. PRICE, B.A. Dip. Ed. (Master)

MRS. E. M. HUGHSON, B.A. Dip. Ed. (Librarian)

K. R. MONTGOMERY, B.A. MRS. M. G. McCASKER, B.A. Dip. Ed.

MISS M. T. SMALL, B.A.
MRS. B. L. THOMPSON, B.A. Dip. Ed. (Supervisor of Girls) D. B. WEBSTER, B.A., Dip. Ed. MRS. A. WATERS, B.A., Dip. Ed.

Mathematics:

E. V. L. CAMERON, B.A. (Master)

R. E. FOSTER, B.Sc., Dip. Ed R. A. BACKHOUSE, B. Sc., E. W. McGANN, B.Sc. B. A. ROBINSON

Science:

M. J. CUSBERT, B.Sc. (Master)

R. BURTON, B.Sc. Agr. MISS A. GRANT N. S. STREET N. J. WALLACE

Commercial:

L. S. MULHOLLAND, B. Comm., A.A.S.A. P. L. KELLY, B.A., Dip. Ed. K. SMITH A. R. THORNHILL

Languages:

B. G. McGRANE, B.A., B.Ec., A.A.S.A. (Master)
MRS. E. D. IRZYKIEWICZ, M.A. MRS. E. A. WATSON, B.A., Dip. Ed. D. B. WEBSTER, B.A., Dip. Ed.

Manual Arts:

L. C. VOUSDEN, A.S.T.C. (Sc. & M.A.) (Master)

J. CLARK, A.S.T.C. P. H. FLEISCHER S. J. CLARK, A.S.T.C. A. D. GAMBLE K. A. FLOÝD B. W. NORTHAM M. T. WILLIAMS

Home Economics:

MISS N. E. NORRIS, (S.S.A.) MRS. K. C. ROBERTS

MISS J. M. ADAMS MISS J. E. SMITH

Physical Education:

MISS Y. FLYNN, D.P.E. (Sportsmistress)

C. B. McNAB, D.P.E. A. R. THORNHILL (Sportsmaster)

Music:

MISS R. COLMAN, A. Mus. A.

Art:

A. W. J. MORRIS

MRS. N. PARKER

Class Teacher:

School Secretary:

R C. PATON

MRS, B. COOPER

SCHOOL STAFF 1959

as set out in "Telopea", the School Magazine.



Staff, 1960



Staff, 1963 (Left to Right)

Back: A. Penketh, R. Hamilton, P. Fleischer, G. Chorik, P. Kelly, R. Backhouse, N. Street, M. Martin, M. Williams, C. McNab, J. Rooney, D. Ball Third: A. Grant, B. Northam, R. Hill, K. Montgomery, B. Robinson, A. Thornhill, R. Donaldson, D. Gamble, J. McElroy, K. Smith, E. Evans Second: R. McIntosh, A. Leslie, E. Hughson, B. Gilhome, M. McCasker, R. Smyth, Miss Hughes, B. Walton, D. Forsythe, Mrs Roberts, J. Smith, G. Martin, C. Hinder, M. Falk, M. Rehak, C. Michalak

Front: M. March, B. Price, B. Thompson, C. Burnett, A. McPherson (Principal), E. McGann (Deputy Principal), J. Cusbert, N. Norris, G. Sutherland, G. Barbour

STAFF 1969

Principal

A.J. McPherson, B.Sc (Syd.)

Deputy-Principal

Mr A.G. Forster, B.Sc (N.E.) Dip. Ed. (Admin)

Department of English

Mr W.I. Price, B.A., Dip. Ed (Syd.) Master Mrs S. Chown, B.A. Dip. Ed. (NSW) Mrs R. Edwards, B.A. Dip. Ed. (NSW) Mrs F. Fowler, B.A. Dip. Ed. (Syd.) A. MusA. (Syd.) Miss S. Gordon, M.A. (Bris.) Mrs L. McLoughlin, B.A. Dip. Teaching (Adel.)

Mr K. Montgomery, B.A. (Syd.) Mrs K. Power, B.A. Dip.Ed. (Syd.) Mrs E. Hopkins, B.A. J(Q'land) Mrs G. Richardson, B.A. (W.A.) Mrs C. Robson Mrs B. Thompson, B.A. Dip.Ed.(Syd.) Mrs R. Williams, B.A. (Syd.)

Librarian

Mrs E.M. Hughson, B.A. (Hons.) Dip.Ed. (Syd.)

Library Assistant

Mrs D. Hobart

Department of History

Mr T.R. Latham, B.A. Dip.Ed. (Syd.) Master Mrs E.J. McFarlane, B.A. Dip.Ed. (Syd.) Mr J.J. Rooney, B.A. (ANU) Miss S. Atkins, B.A. (UWA)

Department of Mathematics

Mr M.E. March, B.Sc. Dip.Ed. (Syd.) Master Miss P. Barnsley Mrs M. Brennan, B.A. (ANU) Dip.Ed. (Syd)
Mrs H. Bridge Mr R.L. Crawford, B.Sc (NSW) Mrs A. Cook, B.Sc. Dip.Ed. (Syd.)
Mr R.L. Feltham, B.Sc. (ANU), Dip.Ed. (NSW) Mr A.G. Forster, B.Sc. (NE) Dip. Ed. (Admin) Mrs W. Gerrity, B.A. (U of Sask., Can.)

Department of Science

Mr M. Harris, B.A. (NE) (Master) Miss R. Binns Mr E.V. Crohn, M.Sc. (Melb.)
Mr G. Harris, B.Sc. Dip.Ed. (NE) Mrs C. Hughes, B.Sc. Ph.D. (London) Mrs K. Jones, B.A. (Double Hons.) (Keele)
Mr I. MacDougall, B.A. (Syd.) Dip.Ed. (NE) Mr A. Ramiz, B.Ag.Sc. (Cairo) Mrs E. Richardson, B.Sc. (ANU) Dip.Ed. (NE)
Mr G. Rogers Mrs K. Seeuwen, B.Sc. Dip. Teaching (NZ) Mrs E. Myles

Department of Languages

Mr G. Barbour, B.A. J(Hons.) Dip.Ed. (Syd.) Master Mrs J. Aitkin, B.A. Dip.Ed. (NE) Mrs Higgs, B.A. (Syd.) Miss P. Jaason, B.A. Dip.Ed. (Syd.) Mrs S. Whichelo, B.A. (ANU)

Department of Commerce

Mr D. Asquith, B.A. (Newcastle) Master Mr P. Darmody, B.Ec. Dip.Ed. (Syd.) Miss P. Kelsey, B.A. Dip.Ed. (NE) Mrs A. Lapins Mrs D. Mildern, B.A. Dip. Ed. (NE) Mr A. Thornhill T.C. (STC) Mr J. Towsey, B.A. (ANU) Dip.Ed. (NSW) Mrs C. Watson, T.C. (NSTC-NZ)

Department of Manual Arts

Mr G. Sutherland, ASTC Master Mr R.O. Donnison Mr D. Gamble Mr J. Everett Mr B. Northam

Department of Home Science

Miss M.A. Gordon (Rel. Mistress)
Miss J. Smith, Dip. of Women's Handicrafts
Mrs L. Jackson Mrs M. Sowak

Art

Mrs B. Brinton Mrs W. Zirngast Mrs D. Cooley, Dip. of Fine Art (R.M.It.)

Physical Education

Mr C.B. McNab, Dip. P.E. (Syd.)
Mrs W. Milton, Dip. P.E. (Budapest), Sportsmistress
Mr T. Riles, Sportsmaster
Miss J. McClintock, Dip. P.E. (Syd.)

Music

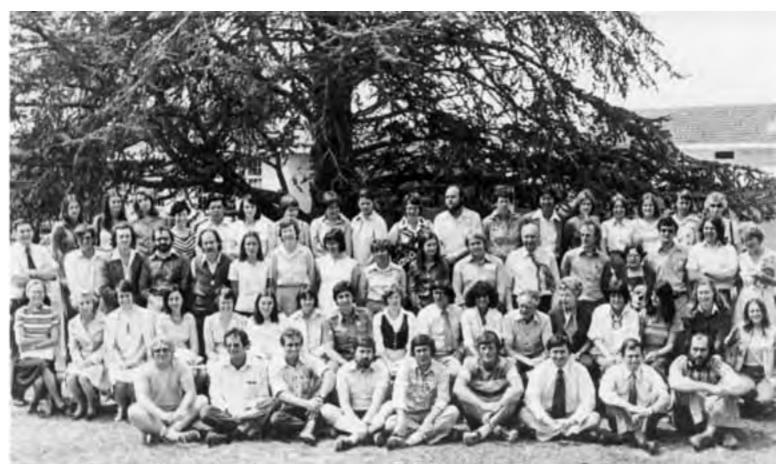
Mrs A.E. Kendall, Mus, Bac. (Melb.) Mrs M.L. Skinner, B.Sc. (Syd.) AID

Clerical Assistants

Mrs M. Carmody Mrs E. Peppercorn

School Counsellor

Mrs D. Renwick, Dip.Ed. (Syd.)



Staff, 1977 (Left to Right)

Back Row: J. Crapp, R. Brydie, G. Broeder, R. O'Callaghan, M. Tan, R. Steep, K. Pierce, B. Merrony, J. Pengilley, M. McGlynn, J. Bate, J. Thornhill, W. Leong, D. Stuart, L. Prattl, P. Crawford, S. Whichelo, D. Casimir.

Third: J. Kennedy, D. Turner, A. Brooks, H. Cook, R. Cookson-Hills, J. Brown, A. Cameron, J. Yeats, M. Freer, A. Weir, J. Dickenson, T. Bardsley, P. O'Hara, R. Saillott, A. McNab, A. Westley, J. Brent.

Second: K. Power, A. Lund, J. Murdock, C. Fleming, J. Ford, E. Hammond, J. Macoustra, A. French, E. Fleming, R. Devine, M. Owens, D. Gamble, B. Thompson, V. Baker, J. Donovan, P. Brigden, A. Cornish.

Front: K. Owen, I. Searle, M. Lavers, J. Steep, G. Wearne, G. Anderson, R. Verburgt, J. Doyle, C. Fowler.

Missing: J. Kovacs, E. Shaw, B. Northam, P. Marsden, D. Broomhall, C. Robertson.



Get Set School sports 1925



Swimming Carnival 1934
Teachers R. Hundt and J. Lenehan standing behind diver.

Recreational and Sporting Activities

Successive Headmasters at Telopea Park School seem to have believed in the old saying "All work and no play makes Johnny a dull boy", for sporting activities were encouraged at the school from the outset. As early as December, 1923, Mr Henry was reported as "stimulating sporting competition amongst the pupils"

The school had not long been in existence when inter-house competitions in sport were introduced, the two houses at the time being Monaro and Yarralumla. In 1955 the number of houses was increased to four and the names changed to Campbell (Red), Moore (Green), Farrer (Blue), and Throsby (Gold). These were named after Robert Campbell (1769-1846), owner of Duntroon Station and a prominent merchant in Australia's early days; Joshua John Moore (1790-1864), who established the first settlement Canberra in 1824; William James Farrer (1845-1906), the well-known wheat experimentalist at "Lambrigg" and Charles Throsby who was responsible for the discovery of the Canberra region in 1820 and who discovered the Murrumbidgee River in the following vear.

Cups were donated for inter-house competitions and were fiercely contested. There was also keen rivalry between the Houses to see which would raise the most money at the Waratah Fairs. The House system lapsed in the 70's, but was re-introduced at the Athletics Carnival at the end of 1981, and the names Campbell, Moore, Farrer and Throsby have been retained.

Inter-school competition took place from the early days of the School. This was arranged in various ways but the major event of the year from the 1920's was the All Schools Sports. The larger schools of the area took part and it was the practice to close the participating schools for the day to enable the pupils who were not competing to attend as spectators. This required the approval of the New South Wales Education Department, as is indicated by a minute written by the Headmaster, Mr Filshie, on 3 July, 1936 in his role as President of the F.C.T. All Schools Sports Committee, to the Inspector of Schools, Goulburn seeking authority to notify schools

participating that they may close on 7 October of that year for the All Schools Sports Carnival.

Matches in the various sports were frequently arranged directly with other schools of the district and representatives from Telopea Park School often travelled interstate to compete in carnivals and other events. The year 1936 seems to have been quite a busy one in this respect for Mr Filshie obtained approval for a team of girls, with Miss J. Anderson in charge, to compete in the Combined High Schools Carnival (Girls), a team of boys, with Mr P. H. Gilhome in charge, to compete in the Combined High Schools Carnival (Boys), both in Sydney, and to send a team of Australian Rules footballers, with Messrs. J. E. Lenehan and W. H. Hetherington as managers, to the Centenary Football Carnival in Adelaide.

The main sports in which the school participated in its early days were cricket, tennis, Australian Rules, and Rugby League football, athletics, swimming, hockey, basketball and other ball games. Many students spent most of the lunch hour participating in games of some kind. According to the season there would be football or cricket on the oval, ball games, jacks or skipping for the girls and some of the boys found marbles or rope quoits an interesting way of passing the time. Even Mr Filshie sometimes joined the boys for a game of marbles — he had obviously played before as few of the boys could match his skill. A frequent practice of a few of the more troublesome lads when the bell rang at the end of the lunch hour was to say, "Smugs when the bell goes!" grab the marbles from the centre of the ring and run off with them. Needless to say, this didn't happen on the days when Mr Filshie joined the game, so his presence was always appreciated by the players. It was good to see a Headmaster join his students for a game.

After the Manuka Swimming Pool was opened, swimming carnivals became annual events and in the summer time swimming was one of the options on Wednesday sports afternoons.

Apart from competition with local schools, exchange visits were arranged with more distant



Gymnasts, 1966 (Left to Right) Back: Inr. A Grou

Back: Jnr. A Group — J. Tonissen, L. Margules, J. Deans, K. Macfarlane, K. Deans, A. Pomroy Middle: Jnr. B. Group — M. Hall, G. Kirkland, M. Dukic, C. Dukic, R. Johnson, H. McNab Front: Jnr. C. Group — C. Frencham, R. Leslie, L. Shields, E. Klug, S. Kingston, C. Headford



T.P.S. First XI Hockey, 1947

schools such as Goulburn, and for several years after 1955 Cootamundra and Telopea Park Schools made exchange visits, competing for several trophies in a number of sports and in debating.

In the late 1950's the local inter-school competition involved only six schools — the two Grammar Schools, Canberra High School, St Edmund's College, St Christopher's School and Telopea Park High School. With the few schools involved, the suitable playing fields all centrally located and public transport readily available, the arrangement functioned smoothly and intense rivalry developed. This satisfactory state of affairs could not be maintained into the 1960's as the number of secondary schools in the A.C.T. grew rapidly with the expansion in Canberra's population and the demands for transport and suitable playing fields could not be met.

The resulting division of the A.C.T. into two zones for the purpose of inter-school sport in the middle 60's and the almost complete withdrawal of the non-government schools from the mid-week games caused a change in the nature of the competitions and a lessening of their appropriateness. The matching of teams from the newly established schools against those from the older schools with much larger enrolments proved an impossible task.

Schools then tended to place greater emphasis on 'house' competitions arranged within the school and able to be accommodated on sporting fields within easy reach. This re-organisation did not have the success expected as it was accompanied by a period of extreme teacher shortage and the inability of many replacement teachers, either through lack of expertise or enthusiasm, to make an effective contribution to this important part of the school programme.

To overcome these difficulties and also to make greater use of the school's specialist facilities in science and the crafts by having some students attend lessons during the traditional sports afternoon, the "split" sport arrangements were introduced at Telopea in 1965. Additional physical education teachers were appointed to the school and sport for students in the first three forms was integrated with the physical education and health programmes. Basic skills were taught more effectively and better use was made of grounds, equipment and staff.

Specialised coaching by teachers enabled many junior students to acquire competitive skills in a wide variety of sports. These included Rugby, soccer, Australian Rules, tennis, softball, basketball and cricket for boys, and volleyball, hockey, netball, dancing, softball and basketball for girls. Senior

sport, carried on in traditional fashion while the juniors were at lessons, included —

For winter:

Boys: Rugby, hockey, squash, yoga, basketball, soccer, golf, tennis

Girls: (Competitive) Softball, hockey, netball, tennis, volleyball (recreational) squash, judo, yoga, cycling, dancing, swimming

For summer:

Boys: Cricket, basketball, tennis, yoga, baseball, rowing, sailing, squash, golf and life-saving Girls: (Competitive) Softball, basketball, volleyball, tennis (recreational) yoga, judo, cycling, sailing, squash, golf, swimming, dancing.

In 1961, gymnastics was introduced as a sport for girls. This followed the completion of the Assembly Hall (a suitable space for the activity) and the purchase of specialist gymnasium equipment by the P & C Association. The growth of the sport at the school corresponded with the increasing interest elsewhere in Australia. Within a few years the Telopea gymnasts were to perform with great distinction at State and National Championships. Individual and team performances in the N.S.W. State Gymnastic Championships in 1965 were particularly outstanding. Jan Tonnisen went on to become New Zealand Gymnastic Junior Champion and Kirsty MacFarlane was third, reflecting great credit on their coach Mr Colin McNab. Glowing international careers were forecast for these girls at the time.



T.P.S. C grade Tennis, 1947



Senior Athletics team, 1934 (Left to Right)

Back: . . . , Max Hill, Ted Jones, Noel Gamble, W. Hall

Middle: Joan Bale, Leila Ramsay, Mary Fairhall, Lorna Colwell, "Sunny" Tillyard, Jean Rees

Front:, Geoff Hill, Ian Stirling, Alan Gamble, Edgar Fulton



T.P.S. Boys Athletics, 1947 Coach: R. Mullholland



T.P.S. Junior Football, 1947 Coaches Left: K. Smith Right: R. Mullholland

As a result of the efforts of Sportsmaster A. Thornhill, Telopea was the first school in Canberra to introduce rowing as a sporting activity. It was instrumental in establishing the Head of the Lake Championship and won on two occasions, 1966 and 1968. In 1968, the school's crew went on to win the N.S.W. combined High Schools Championship and gained fourth place in the Australian Championships at Murray Bridge in South Australia. Despite the loss of the senior students in 1975/76, rowing has continued as an important sporting activity. The Club, now the Telopea/Narrabundah Rowing Club, is much more broadly based than previously, and many girls participate. The Club has adapted to changing community attitudes in that there is more emphasis on individual participation such as sculling, less on team competition. Two recent ex-students who have really excelled in rowing are James Galloway and Paul Thompson who came fourth in the Junior Pairs at the World Rowing Championships in Italy in 1982.

School carnivals in swimming and athletics have always been highlights of the school's own sporting calendar. As the enrolment grew, it became necessary in 1967 to run each carnival for two days instead of one. The inter-house competitions always provoked the keenest friendly rivalry and the standards of performance and numbers of students participating were most satisfactory.

The inter-school carnivals which were of major importance during the early years of the high-school's existence were reduced in significance from 1968 when the large number of schools with participants meant that only very few spectators from each school could attend. As a result, school-wide enthusiasm for these events waned.

Sport in the four-year high school has continued to have a prominent place in the curriculum. There has been a closer integration of the sport and physical education programmes and a greater opportunity for interested students to develop their skills in activities of their choosing. Participation in inter-school competitions remains as a desirable school activity but difficulties in arranging transport at suitable times and the distances between schools are major restricting factors.

Zone carnivals have been re-organised. They are currently held every Wednesday afternoon after school, and are designed to give students of every ability level a chance to compete. Students of marked ability are entered in the A.C.T. Secondary Schools Sports Association's Knock-Out Competition, from which students are chosen to compete at a national level. In the last three years, Telopea students have been so chosen in Australian Rules, Rugby Union, soccer, swimming, athletics, tennis and squash. A recent development has been the outstanding success of Telopea students in A.C.T. junior and senior badminton and table-tennis.

Wednesday afternoons are no longer "Sports" afternoons, but "Activities" afternoons — a change which reflects the move away from making sport compulsory to encouraging more general leisure activities, such as photography, film-making and puppetry.

Students may still choose a sport, but the emphasis is more on the individual games such as golf and squash rather than competitive team games. Very many of the students take part in week-end competitions.



T.P.S. First XV Football, 1947



T.P.S. Boys Hockey, 1947



Athletics team, 1940
(Left to Right)
Back: June Tuson, Hilary Pierson,, Gloria Cleaver, June Spence,, Helene Mair, Marjorie O'Brien, Pat Tuson
Middle:, Jill Lenehan, Barbara Lamidy, Ruth Rogers, Mary Barakat, Valerie Benson,, Meryl Bishop Front: Betty Napthali, Nalda Mauger, Pat Spence,, Beth Dusting, Marcia Stanley, Wilma Stewart.



Marching Squad, 1940 (Left to Right)

Back: M. Smith, J. Shannon, B. Goodhew, N. Day, J. Adamson, E. Hancock

Middle: L. Davidson, M. Cole, S. Tonnoir, T. Hartas, J. Strachan, L. Mahony, N. Moore, A. Dinnerville, R. Bronoski Front: J. Daley, H. Reedy, L. Bush, S. Ginn, I. Banks, P. Hiland, V. Archer, M. Reece, B. Welsh



T.P.S. Basketball, 1947



T.P.S. C Grade Basketball, 1947



Boys Hockey team 1951, A & B Grade Premiers Coach: R. Mullholland



Girls Basketball, 1952 C Grade Premiers, 1952 — (Showing sports uniform for Secondary Students)



Tunnel Ball Teams practising for the Telopea Park Thirtieth Anniversary Sports, 1953



Junior Athletics Premiers, 1953



Ballgames Premiers, 1953 (Showing sports uniform for Primary Students)



Telopea Park Ballgames Teams, 1954. Coaches Left M. Loneragan. Right D. Mulholland



Telopea Park Hockey — B. Grade Premiers, 1954 Coach: M. Loneragan



Telopea Park A Grade Hockey, 1954 Coach. D. Mulholland



Telopea Park Athletic Teams, 1954. Coaches — Left R. Mulholland. Right P. Thompson



Telopea Park A Grade Hockey, 1954 Coaches: Left R. Mulholland, Right R. Backhouse



A Grade Girls Hockey Team — Premiers, 1956



A Grade Boys Hockey Team, 1956



Telopea Park 6-7 A Grade Football — undefeated Premiers, 1954 Coach: A. Thornhill



C Grade Girls Hockey Team — Premiers, 1956



B Grade Boys Hockey Team — Premiers, 1956 Coaches: Left Ron Foster Right John Clarke



Athletics Team, 1955 Coaches: Left — Mona Loneragon, Rusty Mullholland Right — Pat Thompson, Betty Thompson



6.7 A Grade Football Premiers, 1955 Coach: Alan Thornhill



Senior Boys Hockey Team, 1960

(Left to Right)

Back: J. Hill, S. Hardy, E. Kruger, J. de Plater, G. Dawes,

(Coach: R. Backhouse)

Front: R. Winter, E. Hingee, R. Jessop, N. Collings,

C. Charavastra.



Cricket Team, 1956.

Coaches: J. Wilson, J. Caldwell

Back: . . . , S. Morris, J. Skuja, O. Dent, L. Butterworth

Front: J. Edlington, R. Evans, R. Brown, H. Chalker, H. Bartholemewz, , J. Webb



Tennis Team, 1961. Left to Right — Laurie Manning, Barbara Elliott, June Elliott, Barry Turly



Girls First Hockey Team, 1960 Left to Right

Back: C. Dawes, S. Upton, S. Cooke-Russell, Miss Y. Flynn (Coach) Front: S. Falk, H. Andrews, C. Bishop, V. Strutt, M. Tys, J. Randell, D. Selway



Girls First Grade Hockey Team, 1965



Senior Australian Rules Football Team (circa 1960) (Left to Right)

Back: A. Rowe, K. Gladwin, H. Thomas, , J. Rickard, B. Lea, A. Jesaulenko, P. Holbrook Middle: C. Mitchell, R. Dickinson, T. Kearney, P. Fleischer (coach) J. Makin, R. Gilhome, T. Wharton Front: . . . , F. Nysinski, B. Smith, S. Moss, W. Bennett, G. Apps, P. Collins, G. Roberts,



Rugby Union First Grade Team, 1963
Left to Right
Back: G. Anderberg, A. Capp, D. Dickenson, G. Apps, C. de Haas, G. Roberts, G. Hingee
Middle: J. Dunning, R. See, D. Schodt, P. Deck, P. Castle, B. Smith, B. Wilson
Front: P. Collings, J. Trowbridge, J. Davis, J. Macgregor, W. Muddle, J. Wharton, P. White
Coach: Max Martin



Rowing First Four, 1968-1969 Cox: L. Binkhurst, Stroke: C. Allen, T. Redfern, P. Simpson Bow: F. Verlato, Coach: M. Lowrey



Rowing First Eight, 1968-1969
Bow: I. Wood, D. Owens, P. Redfern, M. Birch, A. Butterfield, T. de Luca, R. Gustafson
Stroke: P. Ayrton, Cox: M. Barnes, Coach: T.J. Hirsch



Rowing Tub Four, 1968-1969 Bow: S. Lambert, C. Carden, P. Smith Stroke: P. Marshall, Cox: J. Fisher, Coach: A. Thornhill



Year 7 and 8 Rowing Four (Left to Right) Caroline Jenkins, Gina Van Hest, Jodi Williams, Paula Piccinini, Fiona Smith



Gipsy Ballet Concert, 1935 (Left to Right) Honor (Sunny) Tillyard, Shirley Crease, Leila Ramsey, Lorna Colwell, Mary Fairhall, Joan Bale



Negro Ballet, Concert, 1933

Outside the Classroom

From the beginning there were many extracurricula activities at Telopea Park. School socials, Christmas parties, plays and concerts were held from the early days. Teachers and students alike put a lot of work into these activities, which were held either in the Albert Hall or the Capitol Theatre before large audiences

The first performance of the Dramatic Society was held in the Methodist Hall in 1930. It consisted of two one-act plays — "The Grand Cham's Diamond" and "Rory Aforesaid," with several additional musical items by Rekka Johnson. The leading players were Ken Ingram, Norm Chapman, Una Fawcett and Allan McClung. These talented players took part in a more memorable performance held in the Capitol Theatre in 1931. The main play was "The Man in the Bowler Hat" and the players were Una Fawcett, Gough Whitlam, Alan Cumpston, Betty Warren and Tom Eddison. The title part was played by Norm Chapman.* The play required sound effects of a gunshot — an effect achieved by a gun and ammunition borrowed from Duntroon. The resulting allegations, which spread around the town and were reported in the Melbourne press, that shots had been fired at the Headmaster, were completely unfounded. Another item at the concert was "Bishops and Bootleggers' a clever parody written by Ken Ingram with words set to melodies by Gilbert & Sullivan. The press report spoke of a play written by Ken Ingram, a well-known playwright of the time.

Still another occurrence has made this concert memorable for those who participated. An item performed by the girls "In a Quaint Old-fashioned Garden", ended with the shepherd (Una Fawcett) clasping the shepherdess (Margot Wetherstone) in "his" arms. The curtain stuck for several minutes, much to the embarrassment of the two girls.

The Dramatic Society again presented a number of plays in 1932 and 1933. The 1933 productions were two bright plays, "The Other Side" and "The Visit of Dame Durden", an absorbing drama, "Thread O'Scarlet" and several scenes from Shakespeare's

"A Midsummer Night's Dream". Some of those who played important roles were Harry Grey, Alan McEwan, J. Smith, M. Bennett, Wallace Hall, Jack Israel, Leila Ramsay, E. Campbell, Joan Bale and Hector McMillan, who has made a name for himself for his work in drama in Canberra

In 1935, the school presented a Jubilee Concert at the Albert Hall in honour of the jubilee of the King and Queen. The concert was presented on Wednesday, May 8th and Thursday, May 9th and consisted of a jubilee pageant, two plays and some choral items — "a programme of exceptional merit, well up to the standards of previous concerts" (according to the report in "The Canberra Times").

(A much later Royal occasion in which students figured prominently occurred during the Queen's first visit in 1954. Students participated in the display at the Manuka Oval but also spent a great deal of time running to and fro to line the various streets in the vicinity of the school every time the Queen and Prince Phillip passed by.

The Seventh Annual Concert held at the Albert Hall on Thursday, 6 May, 1937, is typical of the concerts at this time. It can best be described in the words of "The Canberra Times" critique:-

"The concert opened with a ballet number, 'Flashing Blades', the brilliant costumes of the girls and their clever dancing meeting with warm approval. The ballet was produced by Mr J. E. Lenehan and comprised Joyce Kay, Lena Garrett, Anna Bolton, Jean Waring, Estelle Peters, Norma Rose, Betty Filshie and Margaret Gray. A modern and it might be said sophisticated version of 'Julius Caesar' was presented by the ex-students of the school The piece was written and produced by K. Ingram and was played by W. Hall, K. Ingram, J. Garrett, L. Blair, J. Israel, R. Crawley, F. Piggin, J. Cassidy, G. Robertson, R. Murden. Ballet girls were Misses U. Fawcett, J. Bale, P. Clark, E. Cassidy, P. Blair, B. Townsend, M. Israel, E. Mollison, M. Fairhall, B. Gourgaud, E. Turner, L. Bain, J. Clydesdale, S. Crease, and M. Dullard. The music was arranged by Miss L.

^{*}Tom Eddison and Norm Chapman were both killed in W.W.II.



Christmas Party, 1937



The Maypole dancers at the Jubilee Celebrations, 1935

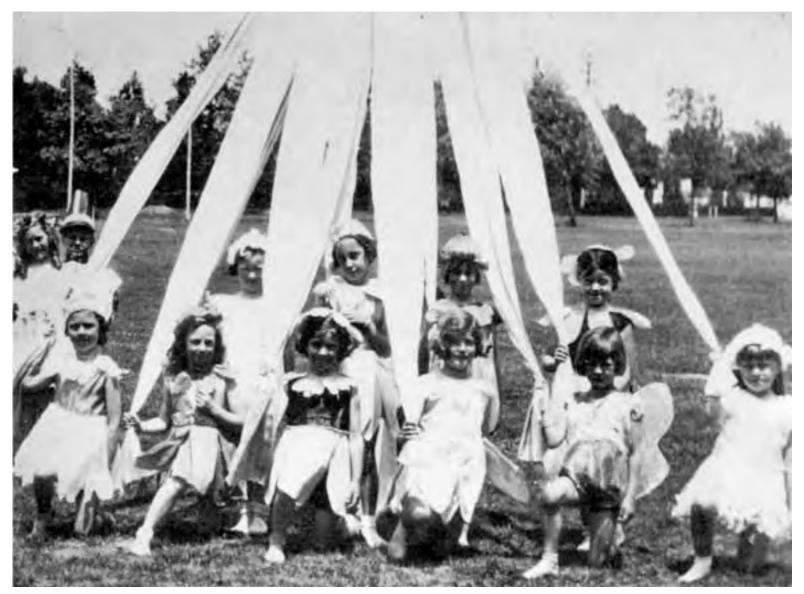


School Choir, 1939 (Left to Right)

Back: P. Lamb, D. George, M. Beebee, M. Smith, B. Yeend B. Jackson, J. Millet, E. Wetherstone, N. Lind Middle: S. Eldridge, P. Gray, M. Eldridge, A. Gray, B. Merrilees, M. White, D. Marshall, L. Alder, G. Brown Front: V. Walsh, J. Lenehan, G. Brown, P. Campbell, F. Thomas, E. Mitchell, G. Israel, M. Kellaway, B. Turner, B. Tetaz



Infants Play, 1940



Maypole Dancing, 1940

Colwell and the ballets by Miss Una Fawcett. "Under the baton of Mr P. Gilhome the school children rendered a bracket of three numbers, 'Humoresque', 'Sapphic Ode' and 'Shadows Over the Sea'.



Noel Gamble and Joan Bale in 'The King and I''. Knave of Hearts, Concert, 1932

"Miss Austen and Miss Farmer produced two Milne one-act plays, 'Bad Sir Brian' and 'The King's Breakfast'. The players in the first were Jean Rees, Gwen Jackson, Josie Wallace, Noeline Wallace, Lorna Gibbs, Heather Lucas, and in the second Marcia Parbery, Helen Strong, Nancy Tetaz and Noeline Wallace.

"A play depicting the adventures of a young man in a wood near Stratford-on-Avon when he encounters characters from Shakespearian plays concluded the first part of the programme. The play was produced by Mr W. Hetherington and was played by Jack Parker, Bob Parker, John Hill, Jack Easterbrook, Joyce Booth, M. Parberry, Elsa Perry, Shirley Eldridge, Miriam McAndrew, Joyce Gown, Joan Cameron, Gwen Cumming, Dorothy Murphy, and Isa McFeeters.

"A burlesque on nursery rhyme characters was an instantaneous success. It was produced by Mr R. Hundt and played by Messrs. L. Ingram, J. Colwell, E. Fulton, A. Gamble, G. Hill, D. Adams, R. Brack, R. Cummings, G. Piggin, and R. Baker.

"The school choir again repeated their previous success in the second group of songs they presented which included, 'Clouds', 'Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring', and 'Nymphs and Shepherds'. A piano solo rendered by Estelle Peters was particularly well received.

"The true story of the 'Knave of Hearts' was excellently told in the next play, which was produced by Mr J. E. Lenehan. The players were Kathleen George, J. Alexander, W. Cottingham, J. Torrance, A. Crawley, H. Samuels, R. Shanahan, R. Smith, N. Osmond, S. Ransome, B. Tetaz, E. Yandell, V. Conron, P. Filshie, T. Holdsworth, and N. Eagleton.

"The concert concluded with a colourful presentation of an Egyptian ballet, "Waters of the Nile". The ballet was arranged by Mr R. Hundt and the dancers were Chrissie Stirling, Peggy Stevens, Erica Campbell, Gwen Barford, N. Holdsworth, Joyce Reidy, Winnifred Hunt, Joan Cameron, Helen Mollison, and Margaret Grooms.

"Music for the concert was provided by Pogson's Orchestra."

A Musical Society was formed in July, 1931, at a general meeting presided over by Mr Filshie. The office bearers appointed were: President Mr H. J. Filshie, Vice-President Miss K. Nyman, Secretary George Knowles, Treasurer, Margaret Cumpston and Committee Una Fawcett, Mollie James and Campbell Gray. Members of the Musical Society provided the music and some of the entertainment at plays and concerts.

By 1935 the school had a choir, with Mr P. Gilhome as conductor and in that year the choir went to Goulburn to compete at the Liedertafel Hall. We have no knowledge of how they fared in the competition, but in 1936, Mr Gilhome and Miss Farmer took a choir of 38 pupils to Sydney to take part in the Sydney Eisteddfodd.

Annual Speech Days were held in December each year in the Capitol Theatre at Manuka, later in the Albert Hall and in more recent years in the Assembly Hall at the School. Presentation of prizes took place at these functions and Principals presented their annual reports. It was customary in the early days of the school to invite some local dignatory to present the prizes.



Cadets rifle team, 1949



Cadet Camp at Ingleburn, 1956



T.P.H.S. cadet Unit, 1960 (Centre Front: Lts. Thornhill and Gamble)

Empire Day was another occasion which was celebrated each year. Most students were indeed proud to belong to one of the countries of the great British Empire but some looked on it as a day when they could escape some lessons.

From 1948 to 1970 the School had its own cadet unit which for some years was under the command of Lieutenants A. Thornhill and D. Gamble. By 1960 the Australian Cadet corps had units in 320 schools with a total enlistment of some 3,300 cadets.

The Telopea cadets attended annual camps of about two weeks and selected personnel were sent to army N.C.O.s' and Officers' courses.

Dine-in Nights were a feature of the unit for a number of years. They followed the Annual Ceremonial Parade and were very formal. Exservicemen on the staff were invited, along with the fathers of the cadets. The Cadet Unit was disbanded in 1970 due to declining interest and lack of sufficient numbers.

Writing of cadets reminds us of a wartime activity - evacuation drill. Trenches had been dug in a location approximately where the Assembly Hall now stands and regular evacuation drill was arranged. Without prior warning the alarm bells would ring and everyone would hurry to the trenches. Each child was required to have a small draw-string bag containing a book and a peg. The peg was to bite on to prevent the effects of bombing shock waves causing clamping of teeth and biting of tongues. Fortunately real bombing never occurred in Canberra but to introduce a little realism a mock attack was arranged on one occasion with a large aeroplane flying over the school and dropping flour bombs. There were no casualties as far as we are aware but the pupils thought it was great fun.

At the end of the war, the whole school marched across to the Capitol Theatre for special thanksgiving services.

An ex-student reminds us "that things were tough in the war years — the girls had buttons on their bloomers as elastic was virtually unprocurable because of the shortage of rubber." We are also told that a few years earlier, when Miss Austin was Supervisor of Girls, the girls were required to assemble for inspection to ensure that they were wearing the regulation style of bloomers. This concern for conformity carried on into later decades, when the Girls' Supervisor regularly measured the gap between knee and hemline to ensure that no girl's uniform was too short. Many a student was hauled over the coals for having socks turned down, for wearing the wrong sort of shoes or for not wearing a tie.

Other aspects of school life which feature prominently in ex-student recollections are the drilling and exercises on the school oval and the formal Monday morning assemblies when the Anthem was played and the flag raised to mark the beginning of the school week; and again, the cold — cold classrooms, freezing winds blowing across the bare plains of Canberra, the funny old donkey heater, the necessity for students to run around the oval to get warm before going to classes.



Julie Korobka as Charity in the last of the Form V Musicals "Sweet Charity", 1974.



Julie Yeend and Anna Boehme in "Sweet Charity", 1974



Fred Flanagan as Big Daddy with Ian Thomson in ''Sweet Charity''

Another memory for many was the lunchtime visit each day of Mr Wilkinson's (popularly known as Wilkie's) pie cart. This was an old red car which had been converted to a van. Wilkie always pulled up at an entrance to the school grounds on the Barton side and students would queue up for their meat and apple pies for lunch.

Perhaps the comment most frequently made by ex-students is that the friendships and relationships they established while at Telopea have lasted throughout their lives.



Maypole Dancers, circa 1953



Mr Jim Fraser M.P., reviewing Cadets at a Ceremonial Parade at Telopea Park High School, 4.10.67



Telopea Park School Choir on the steps of Capitol Theatre, 1938



T.P.S. Choir which came second in the Australian Amateur Hour, 1951



Form 6 on their last day, 1972



Fifth Year Farewell, 1962, held in School Assembly Hall. Elizabeth Armstrong dancing with David Hoffman



Telopea's Pop Band in the early 60s



The old Library when it was new

Special features of the school

The Library

In the early 1930's Telopea laid claim to several libraries — the Secondary Library, the Gorman Memorial Library, the Science Library, the Fiction Library, and the Reference Library. There is no evidence to suggest these libraries were any more than collections of books housed in cupboards in various parts of the school. They were cared for by students elected as Library Prefects, but it is not known just where they were located. The main reference source used by senior students at this time was the Commonwealth National Library at Parliament House.

Accession Registers dating from 1939 provide details of the books acquired from different sources. By the fifties these books found a home when the library was allotted several rooms along the front corridor. Since 1953 a total of twelve librarians have been employed. Nora Forster, Val Baker, and Jo Needham all worked as librarians during the period from 1953 to 1958, and in 1959 Eunice Hughson returned to Telopea to begin her fourteen years as librarian.

The book stock began to increase rapidly. The library expanded to an area equivalent to three classrooms. Long working hours were necessary to cope with a work-load that consisted of weekly library lessons for each secondary student in Years 1 to 4 and lunchtime supervision of a busy library, in addition to the purchase and processing of up to a thousand books a year.

The introduction of the Wyndham Scheme necessitated a Senior Reference Library and this was included in the three storey block completed in 1967. Bet Thompson cared for this library as part of her teaching duties.

The first full time library assistant, Mrs Doris Hobart, arrived in 1969. After Eunice Hughson retired in 1972 Val Baker returned to Telopea as librarian, and in 1974 was joined by a second

full-time librarian, Chris Pratt. Two library assistants were appointed as well — Barbara Porteous and Carmel Barton. This facilitated the development of the audio-visual collection.

In 1976 the new library/canteen complex was opened and the Junior and Senior Libraries merged. However in 1984 Telopea will again have two libraries — the introduction of the bilingual primary school has meant the provision of a new primary library.

The future promises more change, especially in the technological area. Our hopes for an even better education for our students are built on the contribution made by so many people in the past in providing both foresight and finance, and by librarians such as Eunice Hughson and Val Baker, who between them contributed over twenty years of service.

English as a Second Language

Telopea Park High School has had a long association with the teaching of English as a Second Language.

From 1955, Mr Crawford supervised the Migrant English Evening Classes in Canberra, Queanbeyan and Cooma on behalf of the Commonwealth Department of Education. Mr McGann and Mr McPherson carried on this work until a permanent officer was appointed in 1968 to oversee the classes.

Because of its geographical situation many students from other countries have attended this school. In many cases, English was not their mother tongue, and staff in all subject areas did their best to supplement by special efforts the process of osmosis by which it was commonly assumed that children "pick up" English.

In 1968, a more enlightened policy saw the appointment of a specialist teacher of English as a Second Language, whose time was to be shared with Narrabundah Primary School. Mrs Edna Hopkins



Erection of Temporary Canteen (1975) to make way for the new Library.



International Costume Parade, 1977



Burmese Dancers

initiated a programme for 40 identified students in Forms 1 to 6, from 16 countries: Argentina, Austria, Cambodia, Czechoslovakia, France, India, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Pakistan, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey, USSR, Vietnam and Yugoslavia. From the beginning of 1969, it was recognized that each of the schools needed a full-time E.S.L. teacher, and Mrs Hopkins remained at Telopea Park High School.

Numbers grew steadily, and in September 1970, Mrs Diana Gourley joined the staff as an E.S.L. teacher. By March 1974, the E.S.L. staff had grown to become a Department in the School, with 3 full-time teachers, including a Band 2 teacher. As the Department grew, it became possible to refine student grouping so as to enable students who had progressed beyond the first level of "survival English" — basic oral and written communication — to participate more fully in mainstream subject areas by familiarizing them with the concepts, content and language appropriate to Maths, Science, Social Science and other subjects.

It was seen as important to encourage newcomers to participate fully in the life of the School, not only to learn from us, but also to share with us some of their rich cultural traditions. International celebrations, such as United Nations Day, became a feature of the life of the School, the School has been fortunate in the generosity and enthusiasm with which parents from other countries have co-operated in activities designed to widen the horizons of all our students, and raise our consciousness of belonging to one world.

Other countries from which students have come over the years include Bangladesh, Belgium, Brazil, Burma, Canada, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Denmark, Egypt, Fiji, Finland, Germany, Greece, Holland, Hong Kong, Hungary, Iran, Israel, Italy, Japan, Korea, Lebanon, Mexico, Netherlands, Nigeria, Noumea, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Roumania, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Tonga, Uruguay and Venezuela.

Quite early it became clear that our non-English-speaking new arrivals would be better served by attending a full-time intensive course than by a withdrawal programme. However, it was not until 7 June 1976 that, thanks to funding under the Innovations Programme of the Schools Commission, the School was able to open the Introductory English Centre in two rented rooms in the National Methodist Centre, with Mrs Alice Buckley and Mrs Diana Gourley in charge of the classes. After a year, during which the Centre operated under difficult conditions

and searching scrutiny, the A.C.T. Schools Authority agreed to take over the continued funding and support of the Centre as part of the system. Since then, the English language needs of secondary beginners for the whole of the A.C.T. have been provided by the Introductory English Centre, under the authority of the Principal of Telopea Park High School. At present, Mrs Pam Nielson, the Senior Teacher, and a specialist staff of 10 full time and 2 part time teachers, with the assistance of 2 bi-lingual aides and a band of highly competent and dedicated volunteers, provide an intensive course in English, as well as an introduction to our education system.

Meantime, the 3 E.S.L. teachers in the Special Education Department in the School cater for graduates of the Centre and non-English speaking background students who need special assistance to improve their English skills.

Telopea Park High School continues to play an important role in the Australian community which, particularly since the arrival of refugees from Indo-China, has been learning to come to terms with the diversity of cultural patterns which go to make up our pluralist society.

The O.D. Unit

The year 1970 saw the establishment at Telopea Park High School of the ACT's first secondary level O.D. Unit (Opportunity for the Deaf Unit — i.e. special classes for hearing-impaired students). Prior to the establishment of the Unit at Telopea, the only provision of schooling for such students was for those of primary age. Students of secondary age were visited by the itinerant teacher of the deaf. Mrs Lola Forster, who played a leading role in working for the establishment of a Secondary Unit. The Unit at Telopea was an educational experiment as, in other states, severely and profoundly hearing impaired students attended special schools. At Telopea, the whole range of deafness was to be catered for within a regular High School. The choice of Telopea for the location of the Unit was logical, as it was the neighbourhood High School for all but one of the original students. Another important factor was the sympathetic attitude of both the Principal, Mr Alex McPherson and the Deputy Principal, Mr Alan Forster.

In 1970 the Unit commenced operations with 6 students and one teacher, Mrs Beryl Smith. The Unit



Staff of Introductory English Centre, 1983 (Left to Right)

Back Row: Ross Garfoot, Ian Johnson, Harry Samios, Felicity Sienkowski, Diana Gourley, Cath Blackburn. Front Row: Arminel Ryan, Pamela Oldmeadow, Jackie Hartley, Pam Nielson, Barbara Thompson, Christina Burzynski, Kieu Huynh



A group of students in national dress outside the Introductory English Centre.

was at first located in a double classroom area on the bottom floor of the three-storey building but after a short while was transferred to Room 103, which had been specially equipped with an under-carpet radio loop. The students were of different ages and were allocated to a normal roll class, where they took part in the various specialist or practical subjects. For the core subjects of English, Mathematics and Social Studies, the students remained as a group with Mrs Smith, who also followed up work done in the mainstream classes and liaised with the other staff members who taught the O.D. students.

The work of the Unit was innovative in more than its basic concept. It had a "whiteboard" instead of a blackboard — the first of its kind in Canberra; the class had its own lunch-hour pop music sessions; work experience was a feature of the programme and Paul Johnson was the first deaf student to move from this programme to full-time work at the Australian National Library.

Because of the language difficulties associated with deafness, an approach was made to the N.S.W Department of Education to take this into consideration in the marking of deaf students' papers in the School Certificate Examination. As a result of the School's approach, the students' papers were marked for content only, and this was a major breakthrough. Another such gain was the agreement of publishers to alter the format of covers and title pages of certain text books, so that the students working at grade levels lower than their age peers did not have unfavourable comments passed about their textbooks.

The O.D. class increased in size in 1973 to 11 students; an additional part-time teacher was employed and Room 104 was equipped with desk-top radio microphones, with a special volume indicator on the teacher's desk.

In the intervening years the number of students in the Unit has remained fairly constant, but there has fortunately been recognition of the special staffing required for these students if they are to be able to follow successfully a programme of studies similar to hearing students. This year there are three full-time and one part-time teacher for eight students, and this enables the students to join mainstreeam classes and have the support of a special teacher in the classroom.

In order to encourage further the integration of the students in the O.D. Unit, a special 7 week Unit in Australian Sign Language is undertaken by every student in Year 7.

Bilingual School

Planning for the Telopea Park Bilingual School began in 1972. For two years prior to this the Petite Ecole Française had operated at Red Hill Primary School catering for the pupils from kindergarten to year 6. In 1973 the need for a secondary programme was officially recognised by both the French and Australian governments and Telopea Park High School was selected as an appropriate location.

The establishment of the secondary Bilingual School was achieved through the co-operation of many different bodies: the Australian Department of Education which approved recognition of the French study courses, provided administrative support and supplied the location; the French Department of Education, which approved recognition of the Australian study courses and supplied staff and courses through the facilities of the Centre National de Télé-Enseignement de Rouen (a Correspondence School); the Parents and Citizens Association of the French-Australian School of Canberra, which provided the principal administrative and financial support and the New South Wales Department of Education, which provided the school and the necessary teaching staff to extend the proposed correspondence course.

In September, 1973, largely through the work of M. Salon, the French Cultural Counsellor, M. Carbonato, the French Cultural Attaché, Mr Wardman, Principal of Telopea Park High School and Miss Noonan, Language Mistress of Telopea Park High School, the Bilingual School opened with ten students and two teachers, Mme. Saillot (French) and M. Esnault (Mathematics).

The aim of the programme was to provide a continuity of education in French and English from primary to secondary level for students who had attained a very high degree of proficiency in written and spoken French. The clientele included French native speakers, French educated students from all parts of the world, students who had spent some time in France or a French-speaking country and pupils graduating from the primary programme at Red Hill. Some of these students aimed, simply, to maintain and/or develop their present level in French while others needed to continue their studies in accordance with syllabuses established by the French Department of Education, leading to the French Baccalaureat. For the latter students assistance was provided by the teachers but all their work was sent to France for assessment.

Over the next ten years the programme expanded and developed the flexibility to cater for the needs of a great variety of students. The French Baccalaureat students who had been restricted to studies in French and Mathematics were offered additional courses in Physics and History/Geography and, in 1980, the Continuing French course was introduced to meet the needs of students transferring from the Petite Ecole Française.

In 1983 there were forty students in the School which was now referred to as the French-Australian Sub-School. The staff had increased to include the co-ordinator of courses, responsible for the total French-Australian School from Kindergarten to Year 12, who was also a teacher of Mathematics, a further full-time teacher of Maths/Physics, a full-time teacher of French and a full-time teacher of French/History/ Geography. These teachers were responsible to the Principal of Telopea Park High School in the area of general administration.

In 1982 planning began for a further major innovation in bilingual education involving the creation of a new school on the site of Telopea Park High School. July, 1983 saw the signing of an Agreement between the French and Australian governments to establish

TELOPEA PARK SCHOOL

A binational school
incorporating
Telopea Park High School
The Australian-French School
l'Etablissement Franco-Australien

In the terms of the Agreement the new school was to continue to provide secondary education for the neighbourhood in addition to providing binational, bilingual education for pupils from kindergarten to Year 10 from the A.C.T. and district. The binational curriculum was to be developed jointly by the French and Australian education authorities who would each supply four extra-to-formula teachers.

The new school will commence operations in 1984 with up to 300 primary level and approximately 500 secondary level students.

Evening Classes

Adult Evening Classes began in Canberra in the early 1940's as part of the N.S.W. Evening College system. Classes were held at Canberra High and were mainly of a recreational nature until near the end of the war when the C.R.T.S. scheme came into

operation for ex-servicemen. Returned soldiers gaining 4 passes in the N.S.W. Intermediate Certificate were granted equality with Leaving Certificate Candidates for entry to the Third Division of the Public Service.

The provision of Leaving Certificate, Intermediate Certificate and Hobbies courses continued until the late 1950's when the Public Service October clerical courses were included. In 1959 Mr Russell Rix replaced Mr Frank Jones as Evening College Principal and held this position until his death in 1966 when Mr Ralph Wilson was appointed in charge of the Evening College.

In 1968 wood hobbies classes started at Telopea Park High although they were still under the direction of Canberra High. With the closure of Canberra High at Acton, the Evening College moved to Campbell High for 1 year in 1969 and then in 1970 Telopea Park assumed responsibility for the Canberra Evening College with Mr Wilson remaining as Principal.

Classes for slow readers, Koomarri adults, migrant English, typing for the blind, and metal hobbies were included in 1970. The rapid expansion of Canberra resulted in other Evening Colleges opening at Dickson and Deakin High. Higher School Certificate Courses moved to these schools, leaving Telopea responsibility for the Public Service October Clerical Courses, School Certificate, and Special Classes.

With the commencement of evening classes at Canberra High in its new location, Mr Kevin Montgomery became Principal of Telopea Park Evening College, a position he held until his death in 1976 when he was replaced by Mr Barry Northam.

Changes to the entrance requirements for Third Division resulted in a falling off in demand and the eventual closure of the October Clerical courses at the end of 1979. At the same time more recreational type courses were offered, resulting in a gradual increase in demand with a total of 27 classes and 443 students in the first 2 terms of 1983.

As each school became more autonomous in the late 1970's the responsibility for the operation of evening classes in each of the 7 selected schools and colleges became greater. The position of Administrator was introduced in 1970 and the title "Evening College" was changed to "Evening Classes" to identify it more closely as an extension of the day school rather than a separate "college".

In the 14 years of "night class" operation at Telopea there have been many changes, many success stories and some well earned rewards. Hopefully Telopea can continue to provide this valuable service and satisfaction when yet another change takes place in 1984.

The 7-10 High School

In 1975, the fourth form students of 1974 enrolled at Narrabundah College instead of staying at Telopea. In that year too, the students from primary who would have previously enrolled at Narrabundah came to Telopea, so that there were 259 students in First Form compared to 141 in Fourth Form. So it was a year of change — a large first form, no fifth form students at all, and 95 sixth formers — the last sixth formers at Telopea — the last of Telopea's students to sit for the Higher School Certificate or for any public examination.

Other changes came about as a result of the school autonomy introduced by the Schools Authority. All through 1974-75 a Curriculum Committee, inspired and led by Betty Richardson of the Science Department, had met regularly to discuss the most desirable curriculum for the new Telopea, once it was freed from the restrictions of the N.S.W. examination system. Weekly lunch time meetings were held in Betty's laboratory, and staff from all faculties discussed the most desirable possibilities for the new curriculum. All recommendations had to be approved by the School Board, another innovation introduced by the Schools Authority.

The first Interim School Board consisted of three parent respresentatives — Mr Alan Ashley (Chairman), Mr S. Harris and Mr Bob Box; two staff representatives — Betty Richardson and Kevin Montgomery; two student representatives, M. Thomson and C. Kukathas. The Principal, Mr Wardman, was the Executive Officer.

The participation of two elected students as full voting members of the School Board was indicative of the changed role of the student leaders in the school. The idea of consultation, which had started, perhaps a little reluctantly in the 60's, developed sufficiently to enable the formation of a Student Representative Council in 1974, and the Council has functioned successfully since then. There had been earlier attempts to form such a body, but they had failed while the system of School Captains/Prefects operated. The Student Council representatives are elected annually by each English class and the Executive is elected by the Council. The Council meets regularly and reports back to the student body

in English classes. Examples of the Council's activities include drawing up guidelines for student dress and behaviour; deciding which charities the school will support and organising fund-raising; introducing and providing money for a Needy Student Fund; surveying student opinion and making recommendations to the Principal on a wide range of matters but particularly on development of recreational and other facilities for students.

The year 1976 saw the completion of the new library and canteen block and commencement of the 7-10 High School with all its many changes. Student achievement is now measured by continuous assessment and not by public examinations. Courses are organised on a semester rather than a full year basis and this has enabled students to have a greater choice of units of study. There is, however, a compulsory core in English, Mathematics, Science, Physical Education, Australian History and Geography and Consumer Education.

Except in Mathematics, students are no longer streamed into class groups according to ability levels, as had been necessary under the Wyndham Scheme. Changes in the way students are taught have ensured that students of all ability levels can achieve their potential — a basic tenet of the School philosophy. For students with learning disabilities, the main emphasis has been on integration into mainstream classes where possible, and in 1979 a Resource Teacher was appointed to provide classroom support for students needing it.

In the A.C.T. system, the number of Assistant Principals has increased from one to three, and their roles clearly reflect the increased complexity of school administration under the new system. Autonomy has brought greater freedom, and also greater responsibilities. Each school must take full responsibility for its finances, for allocating funds to each faculty, as well as for allocating funds to mend broken windows, and buy stamps. Each school is responsible for developing its own curriculum, for writing and evaluating courses, for counselling students in courses of study appropriate to their needs and abilities. With the increasing incidence of social



Year 10, 1977 — The first Year 10 of the new Year 7 — 10 High School (Left to Right)

Back: M. Symons, P. Maher, C. Jenkins, M. Bowers, S. Zec, A. McCoombe, D. Ramsey, H. Stanilewicz, A. Headford, D. Mills, J. Thompson, G. Adams, R. Srejic, M. Symons, A. Birkett, R. Cameron, V. Brooks, C. Fry, G. Nerdal

Third: D. Terry, K. Holgerson (obsc), H. Toro, C. Champoopet (obsc), Y. Wiryono, B. Kershaw, G. Stoneman, G. Ogilvie, P. Abigail, R. Billingham, B. Pike, R. Burden, P. Boyle, T. Robbie, P. Shafron, B. Brennan, D. Greenless, D. Kyburz, J. Lorimer, K. Irvine

Second: S. Hay, A. Kral, S. Savage, L. Walker, J. Olsen, T. Talbot, J. Evans, C. Newman, M. Grossbechler, J. Dixon, C. Samundsett, K. Elliott, W. Finn, S. Turner, G. Andrew, L. Lawrence

Front: V. Byrne, J. Atmanagara, L. Cass, J. Droop, T. Hughes, R. Mahler, P. Mullins, K. Blewitt, A. Roberts, A. Baines, J. Cevaal, M. Jones, K. Flaherty (front) P. Mather, H. Dunn

problems in the community and the changed expectations of what a school should do for its students, the welfare role has increased significantly.

As with the Assistant Principals, so the provision of ancillary staff to the school is also indicative of the increased complexity of the school organisation. Mrs B. Cooper was the first ancillary staff member, appointed in 1959 to help the Principal. By 1970 the number had increased to six including Science, Home Science and Library Assistants. In 1975 the first Registrar was appointed, and in 1983 ancillary staff now number twelve. This may seem to suggest that ancillary aid has grown out of all proportion. It does, in fact, reflect the growing complexity of school administration in that ancillaries are now responsible for school accounts, keeping the master rolls, first aid, school day-to-day maintenance, printing and duplicating, and, of course, wrestling with computer records and the word processor. Add to this list the keeping of audio-visual equipment, keeping of minutes for the School Board and the traditional Science and Home Science areas which have remained virtually unchanged, it means that the amount of time available to individual teachers or faculties has altered very little.

There have, of course, been many new courses introduced in the 7-10 High School — courses such as Japanese, Computer Studies, Legal Studies, Living Skills, Transition Education. However, the old courses are still offered, and many of the extracurricular activities have continued, sometimes in an altered form.

For instance it has been necessary in recent years for fund-raising activities to be revived. The successor to the Waratah Fairs of the 50's and 60's is an International Food Fair, at which is sold food of the many countries with students attending the school.

The farewells to graduating students continue to be quite similar to those of earlier days. A dinner — dance is held at the school for the Year 10 students. The students cater for the function with the help of the Home Economics Department; the venue is decorated; the students dress up and staff are invited. On their very last day at school, there is a gathering in the Assembly Hall at which the departing students perform some skits, farewell speeches are made and the students are clapped as they leave the hall. A week after their leaving, the formal graduation ceremony is held in the Assembly Hall, at which students are presented with their Year 10 Certificates.

Other continuing traditions are the weekly assemblies and the Annual Speech Night. Because of

the aging population in the inner suburbs, Telopea's enrolment figures have declined in recent years. The current school population is 480, including 75 at the Introductory English Centre. With this number, it is possible to have full-school assemblies each week in the Hall. Speech Night, which is now called Awards Night, because the speeches are fewer and shorter, is held each year in the Assembly Hall. The function is a formal occasion at which short musical items are performed. Certificates are presented to students for high levels of academic achievement, for sporting excellence and for public service. Certificates are now also awarded to those student who have made great effort in any particular field.

One activity which has taken on a new image is that of the inter-school visit. Instead of Telopea's students visiting Cootamundra in N.S.W., our exchange school now is the Collège Baudoux in Noumea. In 1974, Telopea students studying French visited Noumea and this became a biennial event. In 1980, a more formalised cultural exchange took place, with the Collège Baudoux students coming to Canberra and our students going to Noumea. The students visit the host school, sit in on classes and stay with families. Two visits in one year proved to be too much and the custom is now for schools to play host in alternate years.

Drama has continued to be an important part of school life. Because of the departure of the senior students, there could be no more Fifth Form Musicals. The major presentation for the year became "Entertainment Night" — a large-scale display of dance, song, individual acts and one-act plays. The multicultural composition of the school population was evident in exotic dances from Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines, to name but three of the countries.

After a few years, the emphasis changed again with a major production of "The Importance of Being Earnest" which was performed by the Year 10 elective drama class of 1979. Since then, there have been full-scale productions of "The Pied Piper of Hamelin" and the old favourite "Sweeney Todd". The latter production was held in the new multipurpose room created in Room 7-8. But generally, the emphasis in drama has moved from the one big production each year to a variety of dramatic activities as part of normal English classes or of elective units.

In music, the developments have been more in the nature of turning the clock back. In the late 70's the popular music courses were in guitar and small group

performances were in vogue. In 1983, there are two school bands — beginners and advanced — covering the full range of brass and woodwind instruments, a full choir and a mini-choir of approximately 15 students who specialise in close harmony singing.

Telopea students still participate in debating, still enter the Maths Competition, Alliance Française and Goethe Competitions as they have done for years past. The students of the 80's also participate in the Duke of Edinburgh Award, the Young Achievers, the Lions Club Youth of the Year, the A.C.T. Maths Quiz and the A.C.T. Maths Project.

Mr John Wells, appointed Principal in 1979, is Principal of a High School which currently has fewer students than at any time since the early years and in which there is, at long last, sufficient accommodation. In 1984, Mr Wells will still be Principal, but the school will not be a High School. It will have students in all years from Kindergarten to

Year 10— and the indications are that the old story of shortage of accommodation is about to start again. The primary and secondary playgrounds will be quite separate, as they were in the 30's and 40's.

Currently, the school buildings are being upgraded. Plasterers and painters are renovating the 1923 corridor; new parquetry tiles are being laid in the 1947 Maths wing landing and in the 1959 foyer (the 1927 brick floor remains untouched). The brand new Home Economics area has been constructed — the old Home Economics area has been gutted to make way for the kindergarten and primary classrooms for the new Telopea Park School of 1984. Next year the school becomes the first Government K-10 Binational School in Australia. Another first for Telopea! To many this may seem to be a great change but for Telopea it is, in some ways, coming full circle. Sixty years of change, but Telopea Park School continues.



Old Art Block (Demolished to make way for three storey block)



1983 — Year 7 — Advisory Groups 1, 2, 3, 4

Back Row: Anne-Marie Sinclair, Catherine Lander, Eliana Bonfini, Inge Black, Karen Evans, Fiona Richardson, Tara Jordens, Jodie Kennedy, Tessa Barbara, Natacha Baldwin, Lisa Keena, Karine Landuren, Tina Mandy

Third: Kirstie Gordon-Douglas, Paul Carn, Ian Goudie, Carl Schrodel, Conrad Pengilley, Simon Booth, Ting Lee, Huon Procter, Justin de Booy, Manfred Klinghor, Tom Jenkins, Jamie Branson, Kim Belovic, Sonja Georgievska

Second: Andrew Ivens, Daniela Simeonova, Thanh Nguyen, Anthony Polinelli, Julian Bradley, Ben Harris, David Mann, Grant Brooks, Zvonko Hodak, Michael Brooker, Martin Lascelles, Kevin Jeffrey, Warwick Smith, Ricky Miller, Kylie Wall, Maria Arcaya

Front: Monica Guglani, Kaylee Walker, Rosemary Guerrero, Fiona McQueen, Sonja Masson, Fiona Campbell, Janine Cuskelly, Anna Olsen, Nirupama Sharma, Valerie Teofanov, Sally Kyaw Myint, Melissa Colman, Donna Walters.



1983 — Year 7 Advisory 5, 6, 7, 8, 9

Back Row: Alexandra Patterson, Samantha Leonard, Gina Davidson, Marie-Therese Landy, Tania Spurek, Zoe Chappell, Louise Rickard, Peta Field, Wendy Lincoln, Sharon Kimpton

Fourth: Jennifer Kettmann, Trish Gray, Amanda Young, Damian Barnes, Brett van Cornewal, Jeffrey Church, Peter Himbert, Majid Syed, Denis Redonnet, Linda Losanno, Melissa Jurd, Wendy Herron

Third: Charles Merimee, Vishvanathan Venkatakrishnan, Sarah Kirby, Gayle Joyce, Rudi Zarka, Pierre Geromboux, Hao Ha, Julian Bell, Patrick Keating, Karen Rosas, Catherine Consadine, Tara Hughes, Ben Barton

Second: Michael Leader, Steven Corby, Jonathan Russell, Gilles Fourestier, Aysun Solmaz, Kylie King, Omar Ibrahim, Scott Thorpe, Thirawud Cholasuek, Martin Helmreich, Hong Ha, Sophie Craig, Karen Archer, Tony Dy, Michael Sullivan, Amin Rashid, Thomas Boulton

Front: Samantha Bunney, Jody Smith, Keri Duncan, Lan Tang, Rebecca Kenyon, Martine Simmonds, Mrs Waser, Caroline Noble, Georgina Nobbs, Bridget Wyborn, Yvonne Davidson, Sarah Jolly, Liz Gray.



1983 — Year 8 — Advisory Groups 1, 2, 3, 4

Back Row: Chris Milner, Justin Hayes, Trevor Davis, Nadim Heneine, Peter Brooks, Matthew Meli, Jason Corsini, Takashi Kotaki, Matthew Booth, Michael Werner, John Marlow, Simon Brasier, Peter Migotto

Fourth: Jezeel Ibrahim, David Selway, Ricardo Alberto, Lisa Rayner, Tamsin Walker, Susan Staples, Katherine White, Joanne Bale, Marianne Foster, Terry Jaquier, Darren Sims, Adrian Jacobs

Third: Jeffrey James, Jenny Perceval, Rachel Gray, Inge Vitenbergs, Cathy Short, Catharina Lewis, Deborah Percival, Anita Lai, Gillian Greig, Carol Kegley, Roslyn Joyce, Ian Grossbechler

Second: Tina Gray, Loan Huynh, Sabina Rashid, Amanda Hawker, Jane Da Deppo, Donna Spurek, Georgia Whiley, Toni Spurek, Tui Davidson, Nitaya Vatanakovit, Diane Davidson, My Tran Tang, Iolanda Cattoi

Front: Alex Ivens, Ngo Chi Long, Johannes King, Lisa Kane, Helen Pinchback, Andrew Welch



1983 — Year 8 — Advisory Groups 5, 6, 7

Back Row: Douglas Mackay, Sung Hoon Park, Suvath Manyloun, Warwick Fyfe, Hylton Brewer, Shawn Fysh, Mark Arthur, Thanh Nhan Tran, Anthony Mayo Third: Kevin Allen, Cameron Barton, Jane Elliot, Keely Branston, Samantha Chappell, Catriona Henderson, Katrina Stone, Yvette Antunovic, Bernadette Landy, Lazlo Porcz, Ravin Panyaniti

Second: Craig Page, Carl Binning, Paul Masson, Patricia Taylor, Anna Hueneke, Melissa Blunden, Emily Whitten, Narelle Byatt, Sandro Barisic, Edward Ariston, Jason Troth, Scott McLaughlin

Front: Anne Kennedy, Linda Van Hest, Jayne McKay, Kerri Dixon, Gabrielle Aitkin, Chieh Lou, Dinithi Somaratne, Lynn Gray, Victoria Smith, Julia Nagy, Bridget Gilmour-Walsh, Janet Balistreri, Tara Gutman.



Some Special Education Students (Left to Right)

Back Row: Arum Kana, Toni Meli, Laurie Riley, Bruce Coffey, Tim Brown, Maritsa Suarez Rueda Front: Yenny Deradjat, Kim Au, Vicky Malik, Alenka Bonic, Kayo Tamai, Sia Boulom, Rachel McAdam



1983 — Year 9 — Advisory Groups 1, 2, 3, 4

Back Row: Caroline Jenkins, Natalie Newcombe, Marica Barisic, Heather Sampson, Tiffany Fretwell, Fiona Smith, Alison Durbin, Christiane Gerblinger, Miranda Robertson, Anna Strandberg, Alison Lander, Caitlin Collaery, Viktoria Kovacs

Third: Andrew Sbroja, Craig Kirk, Stephan Pluschke, Andrew Campbell, Jason Schofield, Ralph Whitten, Anthony Hourigan, Philip Randall, Andres Silva, Wayne Maloney, Subramanyam Venkatakrishnan, Ricardo Luat, Darren Simons

Second: Bruce Macafee, Kunlek Thongyai, Robert Tonna, Stewart McQueen, Hernan Munoz-Galindo, Eddie Spurek, Shawn Jacobs, Michael Kane, Novica Vujic, Tapani Glad, Tim Heseltine, Robert Black, Stephen Thomas

Front: Jenny Sullivan, Janice Dwyer, Tania Reid, Carolyne Grosbechler, Joanna Walker, Cordelia Ilieva, Gulbahar Akcal, Penny Townley, Chandanary Hafner, Stephanie Joyce, Sonya Gregg, Larissa Stoljar.



1983 — Year 9 — Advisory Groups 5, 6, 7, 8

Back Row: Victor Thornhill, Derek Ross, Hanif Ibrahim, Nicky Fox, Richard Barratt, Nathaniel Wapshere, Simon Sharwood, Michael Tillack, Stuart Craig, Tom Bettle, David Jenkins, Jonathan Walker, Bill Keating, Max Venchiarutti

Third: Satwik Kamtekar, Murat Sahinbas, Yin Chan, Michael Koruga, Charles Ariston, Yogi Istadi, Kiho Kana, Hieu Huynh, John Taubenschlag, Kanya Khanthavongsa, Bounseum Boulom, Puran Singh, Asiful Khan

Second: Raphael Young, James Easteal, Adam Rose, Carroll Ratford, Gwynfa Morgan, Silvana Basileo, Catherine Snow, Tiggy Hall, Lisa Belovic, Mirjana Bevanda, Lee-Anne Gwynne, Tomoko Mizuno, Joanne Martin, Ross Cattoi, John Wyborn, Gareth De Mar

Front: Jaana Kukkonen, Jane Dixon, Kathleen Smith, Aye Aye Maung, Natalie Hodak, Sophie Powell, Janine Southwell, Melissa Eassie, Beate Himbert, Lucy Ward, Manju Chouhan, Jenny Lipscombe, Louise Russell.





1983 — Year 10 — Advisory Groups — 5, 6, 7, 8

Back Row: Prasit Boulom, Guy Hunt, Huy Ho, John Barisic, Matthew Schmidt, Scott Teys, Massimo Camponeschi, Peter Masa, Shane Richards, Ngiep Lam Third: Jane McMichael, Asad Hussain, Trung Nguyen, Dani Prabawa, Sandro Bonfini, Geoff Taylor, Lindsay Smith, Patrick Walker, Suriya Manyloun, Amy Shegog Second: Nana Binning, Katarina Zirojevic, Zelda Sims, Samantha Nelson, Jodi Williams, Leila Peerun, Katrin Helmreich, Rebecca Eardley, Sue Williams Kym Simons, Vesna Georgievska, Lea Goudie, Jenny Anderson, Danielle Dumpleton

Front: Marina Seville, Evelyn Himbert, Toni Dwyer, Neelum Gupta, Fiona Wall, Amal Quzag, Barbara Beatty, Gina Van Hest, Oravin Senthavysouk, Phuong Pham, Beverley Thompson, Jasna Rogic

In Lighter Vein

Over the sixty years of the School's operation there were many occurrences of a humorous nature, though in some cases they may not have been regarded so at the time by the persons involved. The cane seems to have been administered rather freely by some teachers and as may be judged from some of the stories following the recipient was not always the guilty party.

Tom Hopkinson tells a story of being sent to Clem Hill's office one day when the primary classes were assembled. Tom wasn't sure what his misdemeanour was but when Mr Hill called out the name "Hopkinson" he reported to his office as directed. After receiving his punishment (six strokes of the cane), Mr Hill said "What are you here for?" Tom had taken the punishment which was intended for his brother.

On another occasion a Headmaster, who shall be nameless, learned of misbehaviour among members of a school football team which had visited Queanbeyan for a match. The miscreants were called to the Headmaster's office to receive their punishment but as they were being caned one lad on the end of the line attempted to offer an explanation. He only got as far as "But..." when the Headmaster said, "No buts!" and administered the cane. It transpired that the lad had left the school a short time previously to take a position as telegraph messenger with the Postmaster-General's Department and he had come to the Headmaster's office to deliver a telegram.

Another football match between St. Christopher's and Telopea Park School gave rise to a somewhat similar occurrence to that recounted above. A fight developed on the field and several offenders were sent to the Headmaster's office. It was not realised until after they had been caned that one of the lads was a St. Christopher's student. Next day the details reached his own school and the unfortunate lad received a second punishment.

A popular smoking place at one time was under the arches, through the door and up around the corner under room 12. After the Queen's visit in 1954, the left-over bunting was stored in this area. One group of students left their candle burning when they left their hide out. Some time later, the Janitor discovered

smoke billowing into his room. He ran to the front of the school to report the matter, but the Headmaster, busily engaged on what he thought were more important matters, left the Janitor to wait his turn for an interview. There was quite a blaze by the time the Fire Brigade arrived.

In 1967, the first year of the sixth form under the new Wyndham Scheme, senior students who presented a written request from parents were allowed out at lunch time on foot. They carried a small gold pass (cardboard) which had to be shown on demand. Reports in Sydney and Melbourne newspapers implied that the leave allowed students to smoke outside school limits.

In 1955 the Governor-General, Sir William Slim, was invited by the then Principal, Mr Rex Crawford, to open the first Waratah Fair. Unfortunately it was a very wet day and, as the official party was hurrying across the quadrangle, the strains of the National Anthem rang out. True to protocol the Governor-General and his party stood stiffly to attention in the steadily falling rain. The Governor-General was not amused!

Yet another caning story relates to an Assistant Principal, who was very tall. However, the height of the ceiling of his office did not match his tallness and the boys soon learnt when they were being caned to hold their hands high so the Assistant Principal couldn't get much force into the strokes.

One unfortunate lad at the school suffered because of his skill. The teacher asked the class to draw a straight line meaning that it be drawn freehand. When he saw the line drawn by the lad in question he said: "I didn't mean you to use a ruler!" and gave the lad a solid whack. The teacher then asked him to draw a line as originally requested. The lad responded by drawing a perfectly straight line without using a ruler. It is not surprising that this lad is now a signwriter.

Much amusement was caused by a lass who used to hide under the trapdoor in room 16. During French lessons she would make mooing noises much to the consternation of the French teacher who apparently was mystified about he source of the strange sounds.

Then there was the little boy who was told not to use the public toilets, so, after he enrolled in the Infants School, he used to run home across Telopea Park. One day, on such an errand, he got his foot caught in a hole and had to be rescued by the Fire Brigade and Parks and Gardens workers.

BEMMEN'S COMMENT

Permission to smoke





Telopea's Gold Pass — Cartoons in the Metropolitan press

An item of equipment installed in the new animalplant room, which formed part of the new wing completed in 1960, was an alarm bell to ring when the temperature and humidity in the building exceeded certain limits. The alarm invariably sounded about 2 o'clock in the morning somewhat to the annoyance of the residents in the vicinity. The School Principal was always summoned to come and unlock the building to switch off the alarm. As he drove up to the School past the irate neighbours standing in their front porches it was not 'applause' that he heard. He was much more popular later when the School provided the nearest neighbour with a screw driver to jam under the clanger to stop the noise.

'Student pranks' became a feature of the end of the year activities for Sixth Formers in the late 70's. Some caused amusement, others temporary annoyance. The one which caused the greatest

confusion was the wiring of the mechanism in the cistern of the toilet in the ladies staffroom to the period bell system. Every time the toilet was flushed the period bell sounded. Some chaos resulted. The culprits have since made fortunes in the electronics field.

The School Song

Shortly after the school opened the students were asked to write something about their new school. Marie (Bonnie) Dunn wrote this poem. Mr Henry, the headmaster, was so pleased with it that he set to music, and it was used as the school song. We can date it easily by the line 'A year ago the fields were clear'. Later, Mr Henry changed it to 'some time ago'.

It was dictated to us by Mr Gordon Kaye.

Its red roof crowns a hill of green Its walls are white and cool. From every point it can be seen Our new Telopea School. A year ago the fields were clear The sheep grazed on its site. Today we come from far and near To learn to read and write. We're happy in our fine new school At work or at our play, And though we sometimes break a rule, We start afresh each day. The day will come when I must leave A sad, sad day for me. But hours spent there, I do believe, Will live in memory.

But the post-1955 School song was sung to the tune of 'Tannenbaum'

We pledge to thee, Telopea Our loyalty forever To strive for honour, truth and fame, For, aye, we will endeavour. The blazing of the waratah. Shall e'er be sighted from afar A symbol of our school's true worth, An emblem ever standing. On sporting fields, our name is known A school of great ambition. In scholarship we'll keep aloft Telopea's tradition. May we forever strive to do True justice to the red and blue. We pledge to thee, Telopea Our loyalty forever.

The Staff - September 1983

PRINCIPAL

JOHN WELLS A.S.T.C., M. Ed.

ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

Margaret McGlynn (on secondment)
Tom Bardsley
Elizabeth Rothwell
Ruth Woodham

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Dorothy Hopkins Jean Binks
Ruth Macafee Lea Pilli Jeanette Leith
Robyn Middleton Lois Roberts Barbara Porteous
Joyce Kent Fred Skerbic Kieu Huynh
Christina Burzinski Margaret Crozier

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Pam Nielson - Senior Teacher Cath Blackburn Ross Garfoot Elizabeth Craven Harry Samios Dianna Gourley Barbara Thompson Pam Oldmeadow Ian Johnson Arminel Ryan Jaqueline Hartley Felicity Sienkowski Robyn Hughes

FRENCH - AUSTRALIAN SUB - SCHOOL

Jean - Pierre Causer - Co-ordinator Michelle Marqui Marie Vialette Josi Devienne

EVENING CLASSES

Barry Northam - Administrator

CANTEEN

Mrs. Griffiths Mrs Woods

DEAF UNIT

Brian Dunkley Jeanette Vervoorn Susan Bleach Robyn Kerr

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Wendy Coutts - Senior Teacher Sue Bessell Jean Crossfield

ENGLISH / HISTORY

Kate Power - Senior Teacher Madeleine Rutzou- Senior Teacher Eve Shaw Kevin Donaldson Jan Pengilley David Yeoman Ruth Woodham Libby Gray

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INDUSTRIAL ARTS / ART

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Tom Bardsley Barry Northam Brad Coulton
Zelda Storey (on leave) Kate Coombe

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LIBRARY

Pat Moon Libby Gray

MATHEMATICS

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RESOURCE / REMEDIATION

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SCIENCE

Peter Marsden - Senior Teacher Heidi Davis Aubrey Sweeney George Kasparek Judith Anson

SOCIAL SCIENCE

Peter Hobbs - Senior Teacher Jim Doyle Jeni Murdock Peter Monday Elizabeth Rothwell

COUNSELLING

Elizabeth Savage

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