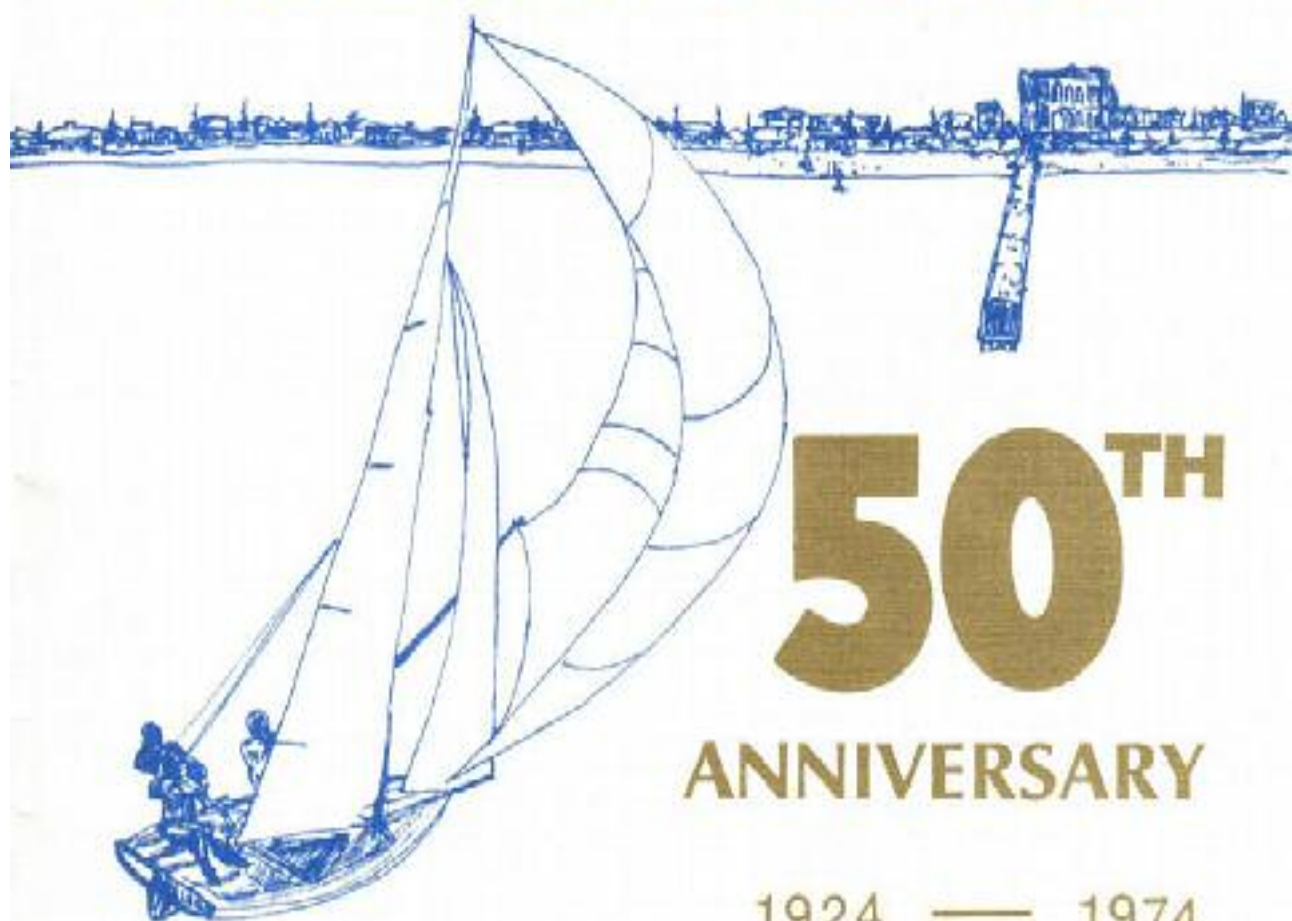


# LARGS BAY PRIMARY SCHOOL



**50<sup>TH</sup>**  
**ANNIVERSARY**

1924 — 1974

## LARGS SCHOOL ADJUNCT

The first meeting of the Largs Bay School Committee was held on August 12, 1919, in the Largs Bay schoolroom. This was the Army drill shed near the Largs station. The first Chairman was Mr. W. C. Beaumont and the head teacher was Miss Pepper.

Apparently an urgent need at the time, one of the first jobs tackled by the committee was to arrange for water bags to supply drinking water for the children.

The first fete was held on Saturday, November 8, 1919. Those in charge of the stalls were; Plain and fancy sewing; Mesdames McLennan, Shearer, Sawford and Triis. Cake and Produce; Mesdames Hawward, Henry, Gould, Bradley and Smith. Sweets; Mesdames Croston, Knapp, Mac Donald and Scandrit (2) Refreshments; Mesdames DeDiar, Clarke and Matthewson & Messrs. Henty, Charman, Dowley and Murch Strawberries and cream; Mr. Kitson, Mesdames Kitson and MacKay Flowers; Mrs. Johnston and Misses Basham, Johnston and Pepper Jumble; Messrs. Martin, Schultz and Dodge The fete raised £80.

On March 24, 1920 a working bee was held on Easter Saturday morning from 8 a.m. to trim the boxthorn hedge around the school.

In November, 1920 there was another prickly problem. At a meeting it was moved that the Members for the district in both the Upper and Lower House should be requested to ask the question "What was the Government's intention re the erection of the Largs School, as the sum of £10,000 had already been allocated for this purpose.

In February, 1923 the School Council Committee decided to purchase, at the request of Miss Pepper, a Montessori. Named after Maria Montessori, it was a method of training young children the basic principles of self-education with the emphasis on training the senses.

On August 9, 1923 it was decided at a meeting to affiliate with the S.A. Public Schools Committee Association.

## LARGS BAY SCHOOL OPENING

The new Largs Bay Primary School opened at the beginning of the school year on January 21, 1924. The headmaster was Mr. Polson. The Association welcomed him and the teachers on February 14 in St. Albans School. The official opening was on March 7, 1924 by the Hon. R. Pascoe.

## HISTORY OF LARGS SCHOOL

On June 22, 1926 a meeting decided to hold an "Ugly Man" Competition. The results were;

Mr. Welbelove	£15/-/10	Mr. Stewart	£12/17/11
Mr. McIvor	£13/9/5	Mr. MacKay	£12/7/-

Also at the June 22 meeting the school council decided to hold a special meeting on July 6 to discuss the possibility of acquiring land for a children's playground. After a general discussion it was moved by Mr. Sandicock and seconded by Mr. Draper that the school Committee arrange to purchase 14 blocks of land at the best possible terms and report to a mass meeting of the school within a month. Messrs. Staite, MacKay and Polson gave 1 guinea each towards the Playground Fund.

In March, 1927 it was reported to the committee that Mr. A. Cane had kindly offered to let the school have the use of his wireless set to allow the children to listen to the Duke of York's broadcast from Canberra.

On June 25, 1927 it was reported to the committee meeting that the additions to the school were nearing completion and arrangements would be made for the Minister of Education to open the building. This was to take place on Tuesday, August 16, 1927 at 10.30 a.m.

At the July meeting, it was suggested to the committee meeting that at the opening it should take the opportunity to ask the Minister to do something about the playground area for the school.

This approach, apparently, was not a triumph. At the September meeting it was reported that the Minister had replied that the Government had no money, would make no promises, but that the committee should keep the question coming forward. (In 1974, it still is.)

On October 18, 1927 the committee was told that teachers' salaries had been cut by 5 per cent. The committee believed that the cuts were illegal and were being made to provide money for high school education. Parents did not think that they should contribute any more money to the school but decided to help the teachers in any efforts to raise funds to cover prize money.

At the opening of the 1942 school year, and in response to a direction from the Education Department, the Headmaster, Mr. Johncock called a conference with the Parents Committee and Mothers Club on the safety of the children in the event of enemy action. The Parents Committee assumed the responsibility to provide trenches near the school for the pupils and make shelters available in the homes of nearby residents. The Mothers Club undertook to supply identification discs with name, address and if possible the blood group of each scholar, and satchels containing first aid pack, sweets, etc. Emergency supplies of sweets and biscuits were also made in bulk.

Assisted by the City Engineer Mr. Simons, the committee marked out the areas to be excavated as trenches, and the school staff sent out a note to the fathers of all pupils asking for their help to dig trenches. The notes to be signed by the parent and returned to school the following day, requested the attendance and labour on the following weekend.

The committee was overwhelmed by the response—more than 70 assembled for instructions. The volunteers were grouped according to the trades and professions, i.e. carpenters, bricklayers, engineers with the remainder as diggers. They returned to their homes for tools, hammers, picks, shovels, etc.

The committee, being temporarily at a disadvantage for materials, Arthur Workman, Alec Cormac and Arthur Weir proceeded to the Tennis Courts at Largs Bay Reserve and commandeered the wirenetting and stakes of the backstops for the trench requirements. Another party collected wirenetting from the Drill sheds on Military Road enclosure. Len Wigan returned with a truckload of wire and stakes and someone provided hessian and sacks.

On May 1, 1942 the Government issued a decree that all householders must provide air raid shelters on their property for use of occupants. The school authorities organised where the scholars were to go in case of warnings and at the same time advised the parents where their children would be sent in case of enemy air attacks.

On December 12, 1944 the A.R.P. regulations were relaxed and the Mothers Club handed over A.R.P. funds to the school fund. The Mothers Club held many functions to raise money for patriotic purposes.

In August 1955, the headmaster, Mr. George Mazure reported at the committee meeting that the wireless system had been installed costing \$459.22. In 1956 an unsuccessful move was made to separate the Infant School from the Primary School. It was reported that 2 acres of land would be required.

At a meeting in the home of Ken Germein, the Parents Journal was begun in June 1956.

In November 1956 the verandah on the first floor was enclosed.

The Chairman of the School Council reported a record attendance at the Annual General Meeting, 70.

The old bell from the balcony was removed in April 1957 and fitted to the front of the school to be used by the Infant School. Mr. McIvor and Mr. Workman handled this task.

In August 1958 an appeal was made to the Education Department about a Tuck Shop. It was intimated that \$2,000 would be required to start the shop.

In August 1965 Mr. Hurst M.P. called at the school at the request of the committee to see the overcrowding—there were 1,099 scholars. At his suggestion a letter was forwarded to the Minister.

In October 1965 it was reported that buildings could not be erected on Almond Tree Flat as the Education Department did not own the ground.

In March 1968, a delighted Chairman Capt. Gillespie announced that the Toilet Blocks and Shelter Sheds had been erected on Almond Tree Flat.

Among the many changes brought about by the new Headmaster, Mr. Mort Pearce in 1967 the Newsletter proved to be most popular and has since proved a valuable aid to communication between Parents, Teachers and Scholars.

In 1969 it was found that the flagpole had dry rot. Once again Mr. McIvor came to the rescue and repaired it.

On July 21, 1969 children were sent home from school to view the lunar landing.

On October 8, 1969 the headmaster, Mr. Lawry, reported that he had received a letter from Mr. Hurst M.P. stating that the temporary classrooms were to be replaced. Unfortunately, as they were not on the priority list, it would be some time before this occurred.

In February, 1970 the school took on its first clerical staff. Mesdames W. D. Inglis and B. Moore.

In February, 1972 the committee again discussed the possibility of a tuck shop and members of the Education Department were invited to meet our representatives.

In April, 1973 a new School Council of 17 people was formed. The Council provides the means for greater parent participation in the education of their children.

The active members of the Welfare and Mothers Clubs on a regular basis provided school lunches 2 days a week during 1973.

Following representation to the Education Department, we have been advised that architects Jansen & Treloar have been engaged to convert a temporary class room into a canteen, while the School Balcony is to be upgraded for use as an open unit.

#### JOTTINGS FROM HEADMASTERS' JOURNALS

12/12/24	Sports Day Almond Tree Flat. Winners Basil Bampton, Ella Bergin
14/8/25	Arbor Day. 18 Norfolk Pines planted
6/7/26	Parents meeting re purchase of Almond Tree Flat as playground
3/5/27	Physical Education Display for Duke of York
1/6/28	Empire Day. The Governor visited the school
May 1929	Chicken Pox epidemic
5/11/29	Epidemic of Measles and Scarletina. School disinfected
June 1930	Whooping Cough epidemic
28/11/30	Visiting Day, record attendance
1931	Depression Days. Balance in School Fund 19/-
28/1/32	Extremely hot. 108°F!
2/8/32	22 pairs of boys and girls shoes to be distributed to needy families
July 1933	Trees planted in Centre Street
March 1934	A hot week 1060, 1100 and 1090
April 1934	Mothers Club 10th Anniversary
Dec. 1934	Basketball Team win Rhodes Shield
June 1935	Whooping Cough epidemic
<i>Headmasters' Journals 1935 to 1945 missing</i>	
July 1946	Mr. Bampton (Pt. Council) inspected Almond Tree Flat with committee re proposed purchase as playground (Wot Again!)
Sept. 1947	A room has been set aside as Library
Oct. 1947	Lieut. Commander Cook spoke to Upper School (Trafalgar Day)
Feb. 1948	No children attended school. Infantile Paralysis
June 1948	No fire yet. Wood and coal supplies delayed

- July 1948 Miss Bickers retires  
 31 Aug 1949 Peter McColl killed on Fletcher Road, Centre Street intersection  
 1951 Football Team undefeated for season  
 1952 Feb. 5 new "Temporary" classrooms erected (Still There)  
 Feb. 1953 Taperoo School Opens  
 1960 Traffic lights installed Fletcher Road  
 1962 Welfare Club formed  
 1963 School divided into Houses for Sports Day  
 Boys won District Football Championship  
 Jenny Thompson broke 2 State Records in Swimming  
 1964 Survey of attendance to see if "Beatle" mania was having an effect  
 Girls won Rotary and Scobie Cup for Basketball  
 Boys won Rotary Shield for Cricket  
 School wins Metropolitan Swimming Championship  
 1966 Gas fires installed  
 1967 Largs North School opens  
 Mr. Coudrey made plate for newsletter  
 Librarian  $\frac{3}{4}$  time appointed  
 Ray Searle 101n.o.  
 Girls win Rigby Shield for Basketball  
 Boys win Hockey Premiership  
 1968 A fine Sporting Year.  
 Girls again win Metropolitan Basketball Championship  
 Boys win district Football and Cricket  
 Soccer boys win Ampol Cup, Port Adelaide District Premiership and North West Zone Cup  
 School wins district Athletics  
 School wins Apex Club Public Speaking  
 1969 Girls win Basketball Championship for 3rd successive year and take the Rigby Shield  
 School Choir and Recorder group in Adelaide Festival  
 School wins \$100 Savings Bank award  
 1970 First clerical assistant appointed  
 1971 New Library set up  
 Milk refrigerator installed  
 Ceiling fans in portable rooms installed  
 1973 New Drink Troughs!  
 Girls win Basketball Championship

#### SCHOOL ENROLMENTS

1924	Primary	257
	Infant	215
1960	Primary	890
	Infant	406
	(Peak year for enrolments)	
1974	Primary	548
	Infant	160

## HEADMASTERS 1924 - 1974

1924 - 1926	George Polson	1955 - 1956	George Mazure
1927 - 1929	Robert Healy	1957 - 1960	Murray Farrow
1930 - 1931	Harry Nadebaum	1961 - 1963	Edwin Brauer
1932 - 1936	William J. Fisher	1964 - 1966	Arnold Parish
1937 - 1938	Sydney Nancarrow	1967	Mort Pearce
1939 - 1941	Alan Rendell	1968 - 1970	Reg Lawry
1942 - 1952	John A. Johncock	1970	Martin Hambour
1952 - 1954	Francis Beech	1971 - 1974	Wally Dawes

## HEADMISTRESSES 1924 - 1974

1924 - 1925	Amy Hastwell	1949 - 1952	Marie Heyward
1926 - 1929	Mary Fitzgerald	1953 - 1954	Melva Sando
1930 - 1931	Gladys Crutchett	1955	Vera Haworth
1932 - 1934	Margaret Smith	1956 - 1961	Renate Duloig
1935 - 1937	Marjorie Kentish	1962 - 1965	Joyce Traeger
1938	Eileen Elford	1966 - 1969	Zona Cornelius
1939 - 1942	Kathleen Dobson	1970 - 1973	Ellen McLagan
1943 - 1946	Anne Milne	1973	Anne Soo
1947	Myra Bennett	1974	Joan Ralph
1948	Rosina Norton		

## 1924 SCHOOL STAFF

Primary	Infant
George T. Polsen; Headmaster	Amy Hastwell; Headmistress
Mabel Harris	Sarah Soar
Beatrice E. Paris	Vera Morris
Anne Sharrad	Jean Sinclair
Caroline Mann	Edith Perry

## 1974 SCHOOL STAFF

Primary  
W. E. Dawes, Headmaster  
R. Ryan, Deputy Headmaster  
Mesdames, McLeodd, Farrelly, Dehtiar, Goed, Leonard, Gallio, Valkeith, Andris, Faletic, Welbelove, Smith, Bayetto and Conrad  
Messrs., Trott, Robertson, Kaiser, Iskov, Johnson,  
Clerical Assistant; Mrs. Inglis  
Teachers Aides; Mrs. Fenson and Mrs. Coward

## Infant

J.F. Ralph, Headmistress  
Mesdames, Harris, Magnus, Black, Anderson, Wright and Gresty  
Clerical Assistant; Mrs. Moore  
Teachers Aide; Mrs. Place

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE 1924**

Chairman, G. Goudie

Secretary/ Treasurer, Mr. Sincock

Committee, Mesdames Weir, Justice and Heywood, Messrs. McIvor and Craigie

**SCHOOL COUNCIL 1974**

Chairman M. G. Inglis

Secretary R. W. Crowe

Treasurer Mrs. G. Hunter

Committee Mesdames Ralph, Salvemini, Waldron, Williams and Bland. Messrs. Dawes, Cousins, Close, Newble, Renfrey and D. Inglis

**PROGRAMME****SATURDAY 23rd FEBRUARY 1974**

- 10.30 am Vintage Cars enter School grounds carrying distinguished guests.  
Welcome to 50th Anniversary Celebrations.  
Eric Freeman introduces 1924 pupils.  
During the morning an opportunity will be given for Inspection of Rooms, Photos and Vintage Cars.
- 12.30 p.m. Barbecue Lunch
- 2.00 p.m. Official Opening  
Introduction of Distinguished Guests.
- 2.20 p.m. 1946 Fife Band  
Fashion Parade
- 3.00 p.m. Afternoon Tea  
During the afternoon an opportunity will be given for Inspection of Rooms, Photo's etc.
- 5.30 p.m. "Old Lang Syne"