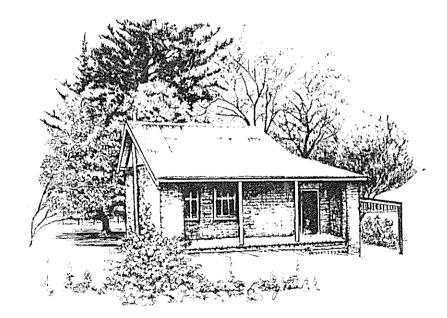
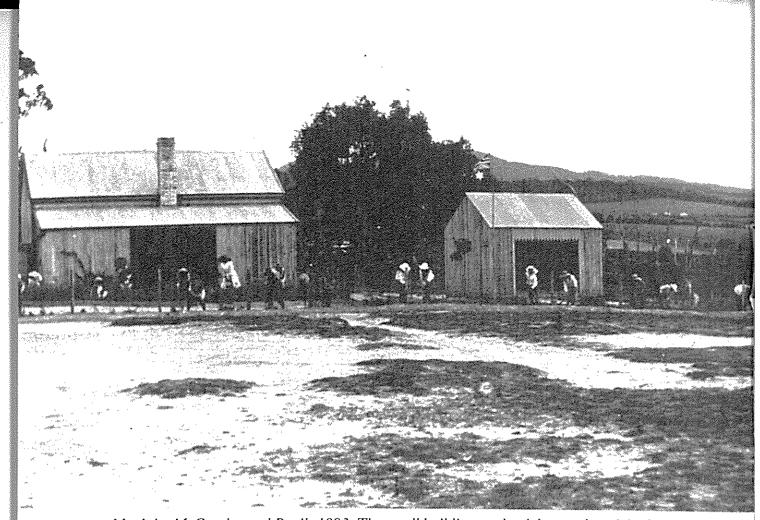


NASHDALE PUBLIC SCHOOL

1888 - 1988



September 30th October 2nd, 1988



Mr. John McCamley and Pupils 1893. The small building on the right was the original 1888 Germans Hill School and the larger building on the left was the Caves Creek School which was transported to the site and was burnt down in 1923.

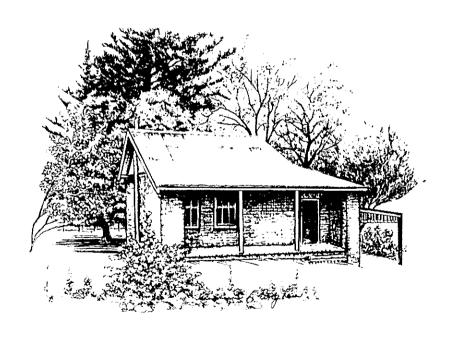
About 1903 Mr. Wylie





NASHDALE PUBLIC SCHOOL

1888 - 1988



MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL

I am delighted to be associated with this special publication produced for the centenary of Nashdale Public School. The celebration of your 100th birthday is being marked in a tangible way and I am sure that the book will be of great interest to everyone who has been involved with the school.

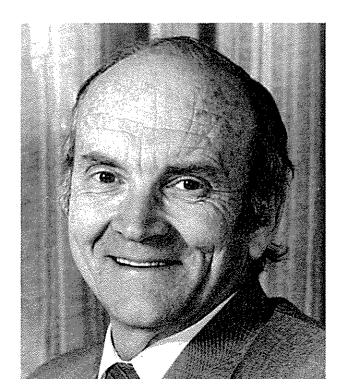
A centenary is more than an occasion for celebration. It is an opportunity to reflect upon all of the good things that have been achieved at your school over all those years and to nominate the goals that should be set for the future.

Consider for a moment the work of the many dedicated teachers who have guided hundreds of children through their formative years at Nashdale Public School. It has been the task of those teachers to prepare children to take their places in society and they have carried out their duties with distinction. Teachers play an invaluable role as those with knowledge and the ability to pass it on to others really help determine the level of our future standards.

Small schools play an important part in the network of the public education system — a fact which is not always recognised. But there is consolation of those teachers involved because the reward is in the doing, not in the saying.

I extend my warmest greetings to you all on the occasion of your centenary, my congratulations to everyone involved in the production of this book and my best wishes to all who will strive to impart and acquire knowledge at Nashdale Public School in the coming years.

(Dr) F.G. Sharpe Director-General of Education



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Preparing for Nashdale School's Centenary celebrations has been an interesting and rewarding experience. Some fascinating stories and facts have emerged from the old documents used to compile this history. It was also satisfying to see the pleasure gained by the older members of the community as they shared the memories of past school days and life in the district.

I found it particularly gratifying to be part of the organising process that saw so many different people working together toward a single goal. It is clear that there is a strong community spirit in the Nashdale area and this manifests itself in the positive and continuing support for the school.

Over the past 100 years, dramatic changes have taken place in educational theory and practice, facilities available to pupils and society attitudes. One constant during this period of change has been the importance of a close liason between parents and school staff. When a child sees his parents and teachers working together for his/her benefit, the outcomes can only be positive.

I trust that the pupils, teachers, parents and interested citizens connected with Nashdale School enjoy many more happy and productive years together.

Barry Cohen

Years 4,5,6 1988

Back L to R: Lisa Bentham, Sarah Wilton, Michael Chapman, Mitch Wilkins, Megan Sims, Gillian Penrose, Samantha Chalmers, Rory Larsen, Steven Centofanti.

Middle L to R: Brenda Wright, Meredith Brogan, Adrienne Penrose, Lowenna Schell, David Wilton, Tricia Watts.

Front L to R: Ann Solling, Claire Smith, Michael Glasson, Luke Cantrill, Erica Treweek, Mark Cantrill, Kerry Watts, Karen Darley.





Years 2 & 3 1988

Back L to R: Caitlin Sims, Cassie Wilkins, Emma Chalmers, Linda Forrester, Kylie Darley, Rebecca Davidson.

Middle L to R: Tony Glasson, Kate Solling, Helen Smith, Christopher George, Matthew Roweth, Adam O'Connor.

Front L to R: Jodie Collison, Evan Stevens, Georgina Shave, Lee MacKenzie, Matthew Thomson, Claire Fox.

Kinder - 1st 1988

Back L to R: Gilbert Watts, Luke Buttenshaw, William Peate, Stevan Forrester,
Alice Furze, Holly Hardy, Nicholas Vardanega, Louis Fardell.
Middle L to R: Caroline Solling, Jamie Chapman, Paul Peate, David O'Connor,
Elishima Read, Lynda Centofanti, Emily Erwich, Garrett Baird, Adam Knight.
Front L to R: Sam Fox, Stacey Roweth, Adam Davidson, Kim MacKenzie, Emily Cantrill,
Rachel Provost, Hayley Glasson, Patrick Treweek.



INTRODUCTION

In compiling this book we have endeavoured, as far as possible, to verify to the best of our ability, all the information contained therein. Having said that, let us contemplate the 'vision splendid' that lay before that great explorer, Major Thomas Mitchell, as he stood atop Mt. Canobolas, and surveyed the virgin land that spread into seeming infinity in all directions.

Concentrate if you will, upon the country to the North, North East and almost West. The area that is now known as Nashdale, and Lidster, and towards Cargo. What vision of development did Major Mitchell foresee? Could he have foreseen such variety of agriculture in such a small area?

What great changes have been made to that scene of rolling timbered hills and sparkling, clear, fast flowing creeks; and what of the unique animals and birds that once were in abundance in this fertile, friendly environment. Many of the birds are still with us, but what of the Koala, sugar glider, or flying possum, bandicoot, wombat and native cat (so called).

This area now offers a still pleasing, but very different sight from our perch on top of "The Old Man". We now see a colourful patchwork of varied greens, of pasture, crop, fruit trees and pine forest, replacing the grey-green of the native 'gums'. In spring we see the pinks and whites of the orchard trees, and in autumn the reds and golds of not only the fruit trees, but the many fine ornamentals that are the pride and joy of so many of our residents, whose home gardens they grace.

Yes, many and great are the changes that have taken place, and what a great debt we owe to those before us who laboured through good times and hard, to bring these changes about, and leave us such a pleasant and beautiful place in which to live, work and enjoy.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This Centenary Booklet would not have appeared without the assistance rendered in many ways by many people. While it is not possible to thank personally all of those people, the Committee wishes to express its gratitude to all who have contributed material for inclusion, advice in the preparation stages and hard work in the presentation of the book.

We would like, however, to make special mention of our debt to: Mr. J. Fletcher, Historical Research Officer, Division of Planning, Department of Education. N.S.W.

Compiled and Edited by Deardrie Mutton

Book Committee: Morrie Dally, Val McDonald, Betty McDonald, Ian Ward.

NASHDALE PUBLIC SCHOOL CENTENARY 1988.

Nestling at the foothills of Mt. Canobolas, lies the picturesque village Nashdale, comprising of a Community Hall, Post Office and the Nashdale Public School, which in this Bicentennial year 1988 will celebrate it's 100th year Centenary.

The busy highway and the crossroads at the Village lead onwards to a very active and committed Orchard and Farming community, spread around in great numbers.

It is our intention in the following pages to bring the History of the School and the various activities of the residents, both past and present to your attention, as each in their own way contribute to the wellbeing of the School and its students.

The land on which the school is sited has a history all of it's own. The name of the village has a separate history with two changes of name from Germans Hill to Lidster, to a further change causing consternation and dividing its residents.

The first District School has a History so surprising that we can be grateful today that the distinctions between religious denominations have settled into a peaceful "live and let live", let us work together for the good of all, attitude. As this History preceded Nashdale School, but forms the background for Nashdale School being a necessity in the year 1888, a separate history will be added.

THE SCHOOL SITE

The site on which Nashdale Public School was built originally belonged to Mr. Michael Gough, who purchased the Grant of Land on the 5th day of February, 1863. It was later sold to Mr. James Augustas Hall Poulton of Orange, in 1875 and a mortage was taken out on the land to Andrew Taylor Kerr of near Orange. In May 1878 the land changed hands, being sold to Mr. T. Beirne and mortaged to Patrick Kenna, a hotelkeeper of Orange. The mortage was discharged on the 3rd of April 1882 and apparently was sold on the same day to John Lyster and mortaged to Robert Frost of Orange. This mortage was discharged on the 8th April, 1889 and mortaged again on the 29th April to the Hon. John Smith of Molong. Finally, with the consent of the Mortagee, 2 acres was sold to Her Most Gracious Majesty, Queen Victoria, on the 30th day of May, 1889 for use as a Public School, under the Public Instruction Act of 1880.

It is obvious from the Survey Map taken from the Land Board Map, that the Land had been surveyed for this very purpose on the 8th November, 1888, despite the fact the school had been by this time built and the students were in attendance in the month of September, 1888.

The cost of the Land was £24.0.0.

BACKGROUND OF THE GERMANS HILLSCHOOL

Prior to 1848, education was provided by the various religious denominations, subsidised by the Government. Most Provisional schools established by the Council of Education after 1866, were usually governed by a Board of Local residents made up of prominent citizens who were representative of the Religious denominations of the children in attendance. The Board was supervised by a Council of Education, Inspector of Schools. Provisional Schools were smaller than Public Schools. From Department of Education History records, and an extract from St. Joseph's Parish, Orange, Diocesan Paper, the following information is written, to show how, the first school at Germans Hill, came to being and ended up at Cave Creek and how St. Josephs Convent materialised.

Sadly in this era, there was great rivalry and bitterness between the various religious groups, even in small communities, as events will show as the story unfolds.

Thomas Mitchell, one of the oldest members of St. Joseph's Parish, who died a few years prior to 1983, begins his story with the settlement that had sprung up around Cave Creek and Germans Hill (now Nashdale) more than 90 years ago.

Most of the people in the land rush at Germans Hill had large families, there was no school and no church, Mass was "said" in the Mitchell home as it was the largest home, by Father Walsh who rode on horseback from Orange.

Fr. Walsh was concerned that the large number of boys and girls in the district, were growing up without any schooling. So he called a meeting of the parents, and told the Men, that if they would build a school, he would find a teacher.

They all set to the task with axes and saws and cut timber, which was dragged out of the bush by John Brett and Bill Monaghan. "There were bells ringing, whips cracking and dogs barking— and the school was soon up, but no seats, desks or slates. A picnic was arranged and the money for these soon came in". Fr. Walsh sent the teacher, Miss Mara, out the following week.

The Council of Education agreed to the Provisional School being established at Germans Hill, on the understanding, that within a short time, the school would organise a larger enrolment so that the school could be upgraded to a Public School.

The cost of a Provisional School was borne by the Local community, and a Public School, with a larger attendance, was paid for by the Council of Education.

Germans Hill community, which was situated 2 miles from the present

Nashdale, towards Cargo, both Catholic and Protestant alike, contributed about £50.0.0 which was used to erect the 30 by 16ft. building, part of which was partitioned off for a bedroom for the teacher. The term Germans Hill applied to a wide area around the Hill and the school was erected on a site at Fern Creek, on land given by the Department of Lands to the Council of Education, who also paid the Teachers salary.

The school was opened to all children in the district, but it soon became apparent that it was really a Catholic school, as the teacher and most of her pupils were Catholics and the Catholic Priest, took a keen interest in the school and held religious services in the building. As a result few children of the Protestant section attended the school. Towards the end of the year the Council of Education asked the school board at Germans Hill what progress had been made towards converting the school to a Public School. The Board replied that it would be a waste of taxpayers money to make the school into a Public School. The inspector of schools discovered that those who opposed the establishment of a Public School were also trying to get the site transferred to the Catholic Church for church purposes. The Council of Education was determined that the school should remain a Public school and when the local board refused, the Council stopped paying the teacher's salary, this effectively closed the school at the end of February 1874.

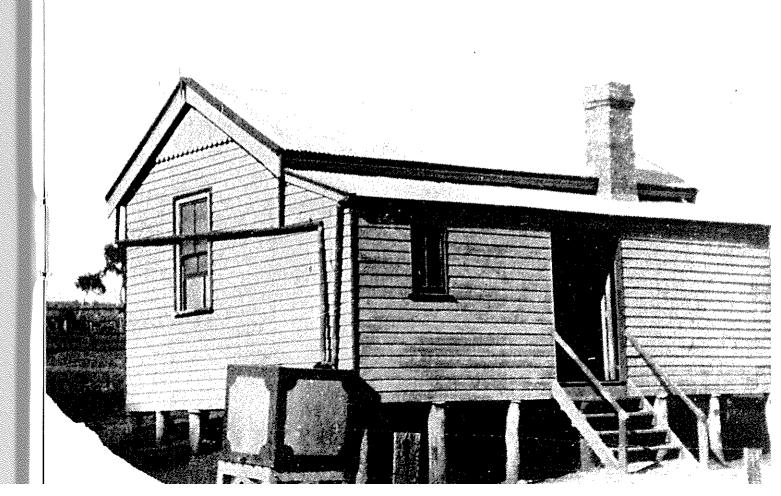
In the following year the Inspector, at the request of the Parents for the re-opening of the school, visited the district and was astounded to find that the school building was occupied, by, as he put it "certain Ladies – Nuns of a religious order in connection with the Roman Catholic Church". They were the Sisters of St. Joseph who were conducting a school in the building, having moved in when the Council of Education withdrew aid from the Provisional School. When the Inspector told them that the land and building belonged to the Council of Education and that they were trespassing, they replied that the ownership of the building was a matter about which they knew nothing. In the months that followed there was a long dispute over the ownership of the building, the catholic community feeling that they had contributed the majority of the money used to construct the building, that they should be the owners of the property. When the Council looked like it might lose both the land and the building. it decided to cut it's losses, and pay the £52.0.0 to the Catholics for the building and opened a Public School in it. The protestant community were angry that the money had been paid out and demanded £20.0.0 as their share of the contributions. Feelings ran high for a long time. The Catholics used the £52.0.0 to build a school and during the time it took to have it built, the children were housed in Ned Houlahan's stable, they called it "Bethlehem", and stayed there until it burned down.

Meanwhile the Public School, not having any catholic children to attend, reduced its enrolment and the Council had the choice of closing it down or working it on a part-time basis with an equally struggling school in the district. Residents rejected this idea and suggested that more children would attend if the school was moved to a more central site, about a mile and a half further away from Orange on the Cargo Road, next to the Church of England church and rectory, and it was expected that an enrolment of about 25 would be maintained in that place. A new school and teacher's residence was planned but instead the school closed in 1878.

When the school re-opened in 1880 it did so, not on the site it had used during the 1870's, but in the Church of England building next to the new site which was in the process of being acquired. As the school was now definitely at Cave Creek, in fact the creek almost ran beside the Church of England building, and not in the vincinity of Germans Hill, the name Cave Creek was adopted. The old building on Fern Creek was burnt down in 1882, at the same time the school moved from the Church of England building to a tent on the schools final site.

After struggling with two other schools on a half-time basis for a number of years, Cave Creek school finally closed in 1896.

Caves Creek School



ANNEX TO APPLICATION FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF A PUBLIC SCHOOL

We, the undersigned, Parents (or Guardians) of children residing within the undermentioned distances from the site of the proposed Public School at Litzman Hill hereby undertake that our children whose names are inserted below, shall attend the said School regularly and punctually :-

Name of Parent or Guardian. (*To be written by himself.)	Distance from proposed School.	Distance from nearest existing State School.	. Fu	ll name of Child.	Age.	Religious Denomination
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• If the Parent or Guar	dian be unable	to write, bis m	urk must be	witnessed by one of the	nromote	rs of the School

[·] If the Parent or Guardian be unable to write, his mark must be witnessed by one of the promoters of the School.

Vame of Parent or Guardian.	Distance from proposed School.	Distance from nearest existing State School.	Full Name of Child	Age.	Roligious Denomination.
John Gook	3/4	3	may boo,	4 9	Church of Engl
James Guldund	3/4	-1	Comma Cook	1 /	
James Caldwell	3/4	· 3	Jerge Cu	Shull 11	Prestilyrien
George Waxon	1/4	2/\$	Mary John	ursich XI	Prestitogrien
					ý.

James Roland Nash District Postal Inspector of Bathurst. After whom Nashdale was named.



NASHDALE PUBLIC SCHOOL

HEAD TEACHERS Lillian Brown	DATE APPOINTED 28.8.1888
Jane Venters Mary Lynch John McCamley Andrew Wylie William Dennes	25.3.1889 10.1890 10.1893 15.1.1903 13.12.1909
Leslie Keech Kathleen Gosper	4.2.1913 21.9.1917
Annie Borden Margaret Murray	17.1.1919 9.9.1920
John Mangnall John Grant	5.9.1924 2.1.1936
Arthur White Edward English	11.1.1943 27.1.1943
Allan Jones Edward English Noel White	13.5.1943 29.6.1943 14.7.1943
Hilary Davy Alexander Taylor	4.1.1945 20.7.1945
Norman Bales Dennis Mullen Barry Cohen	29.1.1957 1.1.1967 4.1985

(This list does not include relieving teachers who were temporarily in charge of the school during the absence of the head teacher.)

The school was originally known as Germans Hill until 3 January 1916, then Lidster until 16 February 1927.

THE HISTORY OF GERMANS HILL-NASHDALE PUBLIC SCHOOL.

In 1887 a Petition from the parents of the children of Germans Hill was sent to the Inspector of Schools, Orange, respectfully requesting him to bring to the attention of the proper authorities, the great hardship being felt, having no convenient Public School for their children to attend. The passing of the Public Instruction Act in 1880 allowed for the construction of a Public School in a community who could support it with the attendance of 20 pupils on an average, this necessitated an approximate number of 40 children of school age to keep the average up and this small community which had developed in the present area of Nashdale, knew that they had 44 children aged between 4 and 14 years. It was also stated in the Petition, that Mr. John Lyster had promised a site, centrally situated, on Cargo Road where the School could be established.

A formal Application form was sent to the parents and returned to the Department of Public Instruction on the 17th October, 1887 with the following information:-

- 1. That there was no other school maintained by the State within 2 miles of the proposed site of the School.
- 2. The nearest State School was 3½ miles away.
- 3. The only other School was 2½ miles away and was St. Josephs Convent.
- 4. The number of children in the community aged from 4 to 14 years were, 20 Boys and 24 Girls, a total of 44 children, the numbers included 27 school aged children, there being 11 Church of England, 10 Roman Catholics and 6 Presbyterians.

On the Annex to Application for establishment of a Public School at Germans Hill the childrens names were listed.

It is well to remember, that the reason small schools were so close together in the District, was, the children had to walk to school over very bad roads and lanes. In the case of Germans Hill area, there were very steep hilly areas with many creeks to cross and in the bad weather this was very dangerous, crossing the swollen creeks, which crossed the roads, and the extreme cold caused great hardships to young children.

In a memorandum to the Chief Inspector, the District Inspector, Mr. A. Lobban, advised that he had visited Germans Hill on October the 8th with regard to the establishment of a Public School and interviewed all the families involved, with the exception of Mr. Lyster, and took a sketch of the School District in his note book. On the evening of the 12th October, a deputation consisting of Messrs. Astill, Murray and Cook, waited on him at Orange and handed him a paper from Mr. Lyster, which Mr. Lobban regarded as a Grant of Land to the Department, for a school site, and acting on this assumption he was prepared to recommend the establishment of a small school.

Mr. Lobban had all the preliminaries arranged, when subsequent correspondence showed that Mr. Lyster was only willing to sell the site. As Mr. Lyster was a promotor of the school, Mr. Lobban felt some doubt about the matter and requested Mr. Assistant Inspector Thomas, to make an ordinary inspection of the Caves Creek School, and in passing Germans Hill, to find out if there was any suitable Crown Land, centrally situated, which could be used instead. Also to inquire into the value of Mr. Lyster's land.

On receiving Mr. Thomas's report, in which he states, that the Land Board considered the site to be favourable and to be valued at £12.0.0 an acre, and as there is no doubt of the permanency of the Settlement, and the farmers are doing well, the only consideration is that a considerable portion of the population are Roman Catholics, on whose support, the school would depend to keep the numbers up, and because there is a Catholic Convent in the area, there may be some problems.

This thought was shared by Mr. Paul, a member of the Local Board, and Mr. Nisbet, a Presbyterian Minister, both of whom knew a great deal of the locality, and agreed, that the prospects for a Public School did not look too good. However on the other hand, Mr. Whiley, an Orange Publican, who formerly lived in the area, the Sargent of Police, all staunch Protestants, and a Trooper, who is a Catholic himself and regularly visits German Hill, think the school would be certain to succeed. There is no Government Land within 1 mile of the site and the nearest is closer to the Convent and not at all central, besides being cut off regularly in wet weather through swollen creeks.

On the whole summarised Mr. Thomas, there is a large element of doubt in the matter and suggest holding over for further inquiry in the New Year. On the other hand, it would not be well to leave the Roman Catholic School as the only Educational establishment in the area.

Mr. Lobban shared this opinion with Mr. Thomas, but felt that something could be done for the people, who only had a Convent School to send their children to, and as Mr. Lyster's site was desirable, and if the land could be purchased at the lowest, he would accept, then Mr. Lobban, should then recomment that a Temporary weatherboard building, capable of seating about 20 children be erected.

The following copy of Mr. John Lyster's "offer" of Land would no doubt, be taken by most people as an offer—not a sale. Judge for yourself.

"I, the undersigned, hereby certify that I will give sufficient Land for a site for a Public School, provided same shall be granted within six months from date hereof:

October 8th, 1887. Signed: John Lyster.

Witness: A. Murray, John Cook.

Mr. Chief Inspector McCredie requested a further report from Mr. Lobban early in January of 1888, and it appears, while on one hand, he had a good argument with himself for the school's existence, Mr. Lobban, nevertheless recommended,

(a) That a Public School be not established at Germans Hill.

(b) That the site offered by Mr. Lyster be not purchased at present.

(c) That the applicants, through Mr. Astill, the Postmaster at Germans Hill, be advised that Aid would be granted towards a Provisional School, providing Mr. Lyster is willing to give, for a term of years at a "Peppercorn Rental", a lease of the site now offered for sale by him, for the purposes of a school and is willing also to allow the Government, the right to purchase the site if necessary, during the said tenancy, at £12.0.0 per acre.

Fortunately good sense prevailed and Mr. McCredie submitted a report to the Undersecretary on 28th February, 1888, suggesting that this would be asking too much from an individual resident, and recommended the purchase of the land at £12.0.0 per acre, and the erection of a Provisional School with the usual conditions. The Undersecretary advised Mr. McCredie to instruct the local authorities to arrange for the erection of the necessary building, also to advise Mr. Astill and Mr. Lyster of the establishment and purchase of the land and requested Mr. Lyster's written consent and deeds. Tenders were called and in May of that year, tenders were accepted. The contractors were Messrs. Job and Harding, Builders of East Orange, their tender was £60.0.0 for the building and furniture, and an additional £3.0.0 was paid for 2 extra cedar forms provided by them.

Chief Inspector McCredie inspected the finished School on the 5th September, 1888 and declared "the work has been carried out in a very satisfactory manner, and the building site to be an excellent one".

The School was finished—it's measurements, 17 feet long, 14 feet wide and 9 feet high, constructed of well seasoned timber, the walls of well dressed Slabs or Weatherboard in sawn pine, rebated or tongue and grooved, well closed and have strips of Zinc nailed over joinings. The floors to be of tongue and grooved timber, the roof properly pitched, Gable ended and covered with Galvanised Iron. A fireplace and chimney were part of the building.

The School was built to accommodate 24 pupils, seated at 4 long desks, 6 pupils to each desk, and 2 extra forms in front of the first row.

The Teacher, Lillian Brown, was appointed on 28th August, 1888 and obviously the school opened sometime during the next month. An average of 28 children was catered for.

In February of the following year, Assistant Inspector, Mr. Thomas, advised the Department, that an average of 21.7 pupils attended the school during the previous quarter and recommended that Germans Hill

be converted to a Public School. This recommendation was rejected on the grounds that, the unpopularity of the Teacher at Borenore School, had caused the withdrawal of 12 pupils and should the Teacher be withdrawn, then these pupils would return to Borenore, as they had an additional one to two miles further to walk to school and thus deplete the average at Germans Hill. By April of this year the average had increased to 22.5 in attendance, and on this occasion the school was advertised, noted and established as a Public School from 1st April, 1889.

By 1893 the first generation of pupils reached the school leaving age and left school. The same pattern was occurring at places such as Caves Creek and Boree Cabonne.

Rather than close these schools, when the numbers dropped to a point that they were no longer workable with a full time teacher, the Department tried to find them partners within the district with whom they could work half time. This meant that a teacher would be appointed to teach at one school during the morning and at the other in the afternoon, or on a day about basis. Cave Creek school and Boree Cabonne were in this situation and had been partners since 1888, but by 1893 Cave Creek numbers were so low that it was forced to close, leaving Boree Cabonne without a partner. As Germans Hill was struggling to keep up with enough pupils it was decided to work the two schools as part-time.

By 1895 Cave Creek had revived and as it was closer to Germans Hill these two became partners, (The Old Germans Hill with the New Germans Hill) and Boree Cabonne was paired off with Fair Hill.

With enrolements climbing at Germans Hill in 1896, it was reclassified as a Public School and has remained a Public School ever since. The other three all closed for good within a few years of each other.

By 1898, the School had become too small and unfit for it's purpose. This claim was made by Mr. Jas. Caldwell, to Mr. H.W. Newman M.L.A. of Lucknow, who contacted the Education Department on Mr. Caldwell's behalf. It was claimed the school was "very draughty in winter and too hot in summer, there were 29 scholars on the roll, the school has no well or tank water, nor does it have a shelter shed. Some of the children will leave unless an alteration is made".

Mr. Caldwell also advised that Caves Creek School was closed, and if this building was removed to Germans Hill, it would, with very little alteration, meet the requirements of the district, being a more suitable building. The cost would not be great, as the building was made of wood and the distance only 4 miles on a good road.

In speaking with Mrs. Bill Caldwell, nee Enid Harrison, we were informed that the school was freezing in the winter and boiling hot in the summer as there was no ceiling to protect the children from the iron roof and the walls were unlined.

Apparently Mr. McCredie agreed with these complaints and advised that he had intended to see about having some changes made, he recommended the following changes:-

That the School buildings, including out offices at Caves Creek be removed to Germans Hill, the existing buildings at Germans Hill be sold, and the works be carried out under the supervision of the Chief Clerk of Works. The Undersecretary concurred, but decided that instead of selling the old buildings, they had best become the property of the Contractor, who would reduce his price in consequence.

In January, 1899, the Clerk of Works advised that he would be shifting the Caves Creek School building to Germans Hill. The building was 20'6" x 14'6" inside measurement, with a wooden partition dividing a room 9'0" x 14'6" on the end of the schoolroom, providing a sleeping room for the teacher. The Clerk of Works advised that he would re-erect the building, removing the Partition and by removing a door at the right hand side, would be able to build a "snug fireplace" near the centre of the room. New foundations would be required and about 14ft of new wall boarding would be needed to replace that damaged by white ants. The building would require painting inside and outside. There was a 400 gallon water tank and the outhouses were soold as to be useless to remove.

As the building at Germans Hill was of Cypress Pine, quite good condition, but very brittle timber, no one would give much for its removal, as it would damage the materials to do so, he recommended that the building be left and used for a weathershed by removing the chimney and fireplace and replacing with two small windows. The two existing outhouses would serve, there was sufficient furniture in fair condition at Germans Hill and with the addition of two extra 8'6" desks and forms, the Germans Hill School would give "good accommodation for a long time to come". The probable cost of this work would be £100.0.0. Approval was granted for the work to be carried out.

While all this information may be slightly boring, it has been recorded owing to the fact, that there were several small schools built, burned down, in the area and surrounding districts, that until this research was carried out very few people actually knew which school was the original school, as some of the Photos owned by the district residents, were of the Caves Creek School, the Original School. The School at Caves Creek which was burned down, and even the Convent School.

In 1908 a memorandum from the Senior Inspector at Bathurst, to the Chief Inspector, told the story of the great improvement made to the School site by the teacher and pupils, they had thoroughly cleared the site of all stones and stumps, formed an excellent Cricket and Football field, made a Tennis Court, erected a neat brush-house for ferns and enclosed, with a low fence, a garden plot close to the school, but as the school site only had two sides of boundary fence, the improvements were at the

mercy of straying stock. An estimated £8.2.0 would provide for the necessary 9 chains of fencing to remedy this problem. Sadly however, the department, after commending the teacher and pupils on their effort, advised that present funding would not permit any of but the absolutely urgent works.

In July 1915, the teacher in charge, Mr. Leslie Keach, wrote to the Department of Instruction on behalf of the Parents and Children of Germans Hill School, requesting that the name of the School be changed from Germans Hill to Cargo Road School, on Patriotic Grounds. This was during the Great War. The residents wrote to Mr. J.C.L. Fitzpatrick M.L.A., with their requests. Realizing that there was considerable anger at the word "German", moves were made to request the Postal and Public Instructions Departments, to agree to a name change, but as there was opposition to the name Cargo Road by the Lands Department, as the town of Cargo was already established, and it was felt that there would be too much confusion, the names of Warneford or Anzac were proposed. After many meetings of the residents and Mr. Nash, the District Postal Officer at Bathurst, Mr. Keech wrote to advise the Department, that the residents, Mr. Nash and Mr McBride from the Lands Department. mutually accepted the name of "Lidster" as a name change from Germans Hill. The name Lidster being that of the first local boy to enlist and who had fallen on the field of Battle. Being a very popular young man, his name had been put forward by his many admirers, which included the whole community, and so it was the common concern that the Department of Instruction accept the name of Lidster, so that the school would be known as "Lidster Public School". The Undersecretary approved of the change of name on 30th December, 1915.

An important part of the History of Lidster School took place with the information that the School had been burned down in October, 1923. The following extracts of the Trial, of the man accused of the setting fire to the School, was reported in the Orange Leader during the middle of October, Eckford Frith, a respectable looking man of around 60 years of age, pleaded not guilty to maliciously setting fire to Lidster Public School. Constable Dunn deposed, that when he interrogated the accused with regard to the fire, he said he had been in Orange, and whilst returning, he saw a light in the Porch of Lidster Public School. On going over he discovered a couple of fruit boxes in flames. He then went to the tank and endevoured to secure a bucket to put the flames out, but as he did not succeed in extinguishing the blaze, he continued his journey to Rock Lynn. He also stated, he did not have any matches in his pockets on his way home, but had a supply in his bag but had lost all his rations in the flames.

Margaret Murray, Mistress of the School testified that she had extinguished the School fire and carried the ashes outside to a place of safety prior to the school closing for the day. The building and contents

were valued at £250.0.0 and were the property of the Department of Education. The building was not insured.

Mr. Frith had been seen by a number of witnesses, who identified him as being near the School. Mr. Frith admitted to entering the School porch with the intention of having a rest, after having walked 14 miles during the day. He laid down to have a sleep and awoke to find a fruit case on fire and threw it outside but the porch was well alight. He lost all his provisions and boots, and denied absolutely to setting fire to the School, even though the Head Mistress said that the wind came off Canobolas, but was not from the direction where the ashes were placed. After a brief retirement, the Jury returned a verdict of not guilty of maliciously setting fire to the School.

However this left the children of Lidster without a School and the 24 pupils were firstly housed in a dark shed without windows adjoining a stable on Mr. A. Hawkes property and in the hot summer months they were "turned out" in the school grounds, doing lessons under a rough structure of poles with gum bushes on top for a roof and were exposed to the heat, dust and flies, then an offer by Mrs. Darley for the children to use her wash-house was accepted but in an angry letter to the Minister for Education, Mrs. J. Watts of "Mt. Lofty" described the wash-house as being "about big enough for a monkey cage with one small window".

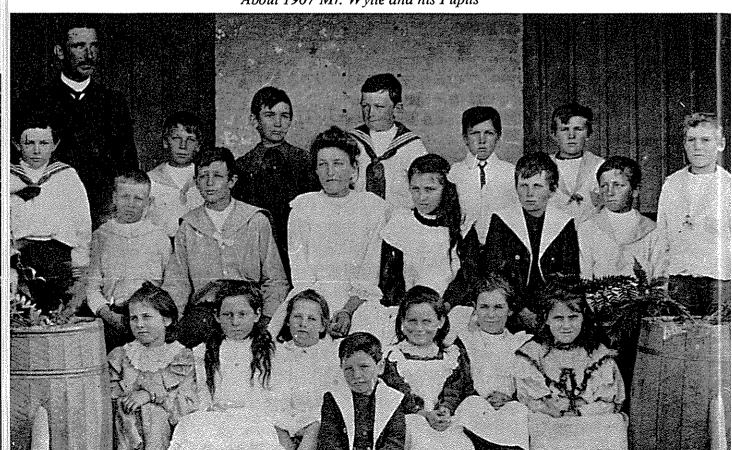
On the 27th October 1923, a meeting of Parents and Citizens interested in the welfare of the children at Lidster District, was called together at the School Picnic, and at the proposal of Mr. Beasley and Mr. Hertschel, the assembly formed themselves into a Parents and Citizens Association—Lidster. Mr Beasley was elected President of the Association and Mr. and Mrs. H.E. Dally elected as joint Secretaries. The first General Business of the Meeting, was to deal with matters affecting the erection of a New School Building, and an application was immediately sent to the Department of Education for a new brick School building with Residence attached. It was decided to write to Mr. J.C.L. Fitzpatrick M.L.A. to request his support and also to the Orange P. & C. Association to help them in their effort to expedite the erection of the School.

When it became a rumour, that the Department was contemplating transferring the old wooden buildings from the old Cave Creek School which closed down in the late 1890's the P. & C. Association strongly objected, and the Secretary Mrs. Dally wrote to Mr. J.C.L. Fitzpatrick, "The building is in a most dilapidated and tumbled down condition, the doors and windows being broken and age has left its withering hand on its timbers". Mrs. Dally also stated that the building had been moved once, a good many years ago, to the site it now occupies and was hardly worth the removal and even if it was intact it was insufficient to meet the growing demands of the child population. The P. & C. further requested a brick building.



Teacher: Mrs Murray 1923
Top Row: Ron Carr, Les McLennan, Mary Murray, Molly Wilkinson, Marg Watts,
Doris Carr (deceased), Pearl McLennan.
2nd Row: Mag Darley, Rita Delaney, Tressa Delaney (deceased), Jean Bennett, Edna
Nicholas, Ena McLennan, Nita Harrison.
3rd Row: Paul Murray (son of teacher no relation), Noel Darley, Jack Darley (deceased),
Norm Delaney (deceased), Dave Watts (deacesed).

About 1907 Mr. Wylie and his Pupils



A Deputation was organised to the Education Department's Chief Inspector when he came to Orange on business and the case was put to him on the urgency of the matter and received a very sympathetic hearing. hearing.

A new brick building was finished ready for the children to move into in September 1924. It had been erected by W. Fuller of Dubbo at a cost of £760.0.0. It was not possible to have a Teachers Residence as only urgent works were being carried out. The new schoolroom was built to accommodate 30 children and was 20' by 18', attached was a Hatroom and Verandah. The teacher at this time was Mr. Mangnall and was warmly welcomed at the next meeting of the P. & C.

A proposed new Post Office for Lidster caused once again, a change in name for the small community. Postal business in the Lidster area was serviced by a small Post Office about 3 miles further out towards Cargo and all residents who lived on the road, closer to the School had their mail deliveries made via a Mail Bag simply labelled "Cargo Road", and left at Dally's Corner, from which local residents collected their mail. As this was not satisfactory the local Agricultural Bureau took action to obtain a Post Office and specific name.

The name chosen was "Nashdale" after Mr. James Roland Nash, District Postal Inspector, in recognition for the help he had given and who was about to retire.

This meant that if the name "Nashdale" was adopted, the Railway Siding and the School would also have to be changed and this caused quite a division amongst the residents because it was obvious from a Department Memorandum from Inspector B. Price to his superior, "to all intents and purposes the School stands at present as a Memorial to one of our sacred dead, and in the substitution, under the circumstances, of the name of a Public Official, however respected, appeals to me as a act of sacrilege". That the Inspector was not in favour of the change and instructed the teacher to hold a meeting and to ask the parents if they favoured a name change and explaining the Origin of the name of Lidster, many of whom as new settlers were ignorant of the Origin and as a large number of Cecil Lidster's family, naturally, opposed the name change, then the parents rejected the name change. However Mr. Lowenthal persisted and the Lands Department resolved to seek an expression of opinion of the Local Shire, and it is reported that at a specially convened Public Meeting, which was attended by 40 Residents, a motion was carried adopting "Nashdale" as the name of the new Post Office. There were only nine dissenting votes to these resolutions. Since the opportunity had been open to all and a decision having been made the Department of Education withdrew any opposition and in 1927 "Lidster" became "Nashdale".

Permission was given by the Department for the P. & C. to use the School for any function intended to assist the P. & C. and to construct at

Pupils Enrolled at Nashnale P. School -14-3-1930.

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no expense to the Department, a Tennis Court at the School for the use of the pupils but must not be used on a Sunday.

In 1929 a request by the P. & C. for a weather shed resulted in a promise of materials supplied by the Department if the P. & C. would erect the shed. These wonderful parents came through once again.

Another attempt to have a Residence built in 1932 was unsuccessful. A list of the names of the 37 children, who lived in the area, but were not presently at school, was forwarded with the petition, showing the growth rate for the future of the School. The Original list is shown. (See Official Document).

There was very little action in the following years, due to lack of funds because of the Great Depression, World War II and in the middle Forties, while Peacetime and Industry resumed. The children at the School assisted in knitting socks and woollens for the army and all in the district carried out their respective "War Effort".

In 1946 the lower classes were conducted in a portion of the Nashdale Hall, and a second teacher was appointed, which would have been a great relief to the Headmaster, Mr. Alexander Taylor, and the 50 pupils, who previously were all in the one room. A Gould League Branch was formed, as well as a Red Cross Circle and a School Bank.

By 1953 enrollments were down to a level that the school was bach into the two school buildings.

The 75th Anniversary of the School was held with an Ex-Students Reunion and Mrs. Bales reports that 400 Invitations were sent out. A joyful day was held, during which the children entertained with a programme of singing, dancing and plays. At the conclusion of this programme Mr. J. Caldwell, presented to the School the "School Motto" which replaced the original lost in the earlier school fire, and Mr. A Feltham presented a School Photo. Afternoon tea was served and followed a planting of 30 trees which had been selected by Mr. Vic Campbell. These activities were followed by a buffet tea and the evening spent in reminiscing "Old Times", dancing, cards and general getting together. The children were catered for in Mr. Welsford's packing shed with a programme of games and films. At the end of the year Nashdale Fete was held for the first time, and resulted in the "biggest and best financial year ever" for the P. & C. The amount of £221.13.3 was raised.

The "fifties" was rounded off with a delegation being sent to the Federation requesting Dental and Medical attention for all pupils, action taken to have the school painted, the yard sealed and a new classroom. A Radiogram and speaker system were purchased, a telephone installed and a Sports Uniform with the colours of Green and Brown; Mr. Mangnall's army unit colours being chosen, the kindergarten to have their own playground and pupils took part in the Orange Eisteddfod. Mention was made of a water supply for the School.

Mr. Charles Cutler M.P. was approached to support a move for a Teachers Residence to be built adjacent to the school. This would allow the teacher to become, caretaker as well as supervise the arrival and departure of children from the school. To this day no residence has ever been built. A new classroom had been promised but by 1960 due to a change in policy on the new building, the Department had decided to enlarge the classroom and build on an Office and Storeroom.

It was decided by the P. & C. to endeavour to have Septic toilets installed at the School, and to finance a water supply "Subscription List" was opened and it was decided to appoint Mr. Watts as Publicity Officer, and to obtain as much publicity as possible towards this goal, the name of the appeal to be called "The Nashdale P. & C. Water Supply Scheme". The Orange Town Clerk was approached regarding obtaining a water supply from Lake Canobolas, as this was to prove too costly, the school joined in the District Supply Scheme, with five of the district Orchardists, Mr. Bales was appointed Secretary of the District Water Scheme. The school was committed to £300.0.0 as its share of the cost.

The children from Nashdale School were invited to join in with the Orange Schools for the Orange Centenary celebrations.

The official opening of the new building was held in August 1961 with the children rendering some items of entertainment, the school song, written by Mrs. Bales, was one of the Special items performed. During this period a Recorder Band was formed and playground seating provided.

A Tree planting, in a small site of 2½ acres, alongside the re-aligned Cargo Road, was planned by the Canobolas Shire, and the School requested that they be allowed to take part. Mr. Vic Campbell was called upon to advise on trees suitable and best methods for growing. The site would hold 80 trees and shrubs.

When the old weather shed blew down, and the Department erected a shed, it was built facing north, in line with the school, and eliminated the cold winds off Canobolas. A Mothers Club was formed to assist the teachers, children and P. & C.

By 1964 there were 77 pupils enrolled and a third teacher was requested, along with a new classroom. As Nashdale School was the biggest District School in the Orange District, representations were made to the Area Director and Mr. Charles Cutler to assist their cause, and as 81 pupils were required, for a third teacher to be appointed, another 8 children aged 5 years, could be "mustered" (after the August holidays) to build the numbers up. The third teacher, Mrs. Thornberry, was appointed in September, and once again, the Hall Suppersoom was in use as the 3rd classroom, but no news was forthcoming on a new classroom.

Finally the park area had been planted, and would in future be called "The Nashdale Grove". Approval was received from the Area Director for the school to join in the water supply.

A tree planting to commerate the 50th Anniversary of Anzac in 1965, to honour old soldiers was carried out, trees being planted along Post Office Lane, £50.0.0 was donated by Shire Council to be used for tree guards.

The water pipes had been connected to the school at long last and moves were made to have Septic Toilets installed. Among equipment purchased at this time for the school were a Tape Recorder, a Radio for the small children and a Refrigerator to keep the milk fresh. The children from "Buna Vista and Croaghpatrick" to be invited to the annual Picnic, a portable copper was purchased for use, for all functions in the district, a site was to be found to form a soccer field. Many thanks were given to Mr. Ian Ward who provided the site. It was decided to give all 6th Graders an Oxford Dictionary as an outgoing gift.

Sadly to report Mr. Bales became very ill and in their next meeting, the P. & C. made mention of the special work done by Mr. Bales. A relieving Headmaster, Mr. J. MacDonald, had been appointed during Mr. Bales' absence, a second relieving teacher was Mr. K. Phelan – Mr. Bales was too ill to return to the School.

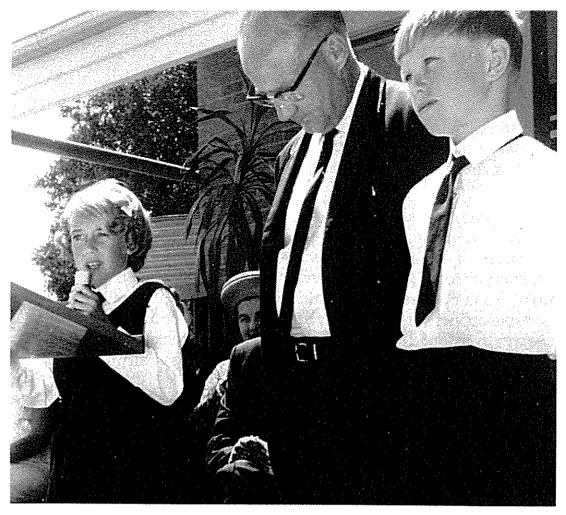
In 1967 a new Headmaster, Mr. D. Mullen was appointed, also a Miss Hunter. A Recognition Dinner was held for Mr. & Mrs. Bales to express the appreciation of the Parents and Children of Nashdale for the extra work put into the School and District over and beyond their designated duties as Headmaster and Co-Teacher.

Finally the toilet block was finished. Mr. Harry Welsford after 19 years of being President of P. & C., retired. The incoming President thanked both Mr. Welsford and Mr. H. Collins as Treasurer, for their long service to the P. & C. Religious instructions were to be given on alternate months by Rev. Buxton and Rev. Reeves. A new piano was purchased and a new classroom was started. Life membership of the P. & C. were given to Mr. Harry Welsford and Mr. Harry Collins.

An application was made for a 4th classroom and a 4th Teacher. The playground was to be levelled. The P. & C. would celebrate their 40th Birthday. Miss Perry would leave at the end of the year.

The new School Building was opened on 8th March 1969. Mr. Charles Cutler officially opened the Building and as there were 102 pupils in attendance at the school Mr. Mullen had made a request for an additional teacher to the Inspector Mr. Wolf and had shown him Mr. Cutler's letter regarding an extra classroom, but the request was placed on the priority list.

The new Building consisted of a Classroom, the Principals Room and a Store Room. The New Classroom had been badly needed as 100 pupils had been using 2 classrooms, and the small supper room at the Hall. Miss McCarron was welcomed as Miss Perry's replacement.



School Captains.
Susan Spurway, Phillip McLennan
Teacher: Denny Mullen

Choir 1969. School opening.



Wood drives were held to raise funds for the P. & C. and the Sports Uniform was changed to Brown and White. Approximately 2 acres had been gazetted across Post Office Lane for a Sports Area. The new Classroom had been built on the Tennis Court and extra space was needed. Miss Hunter left at the end of the year and Mrs. Mengenson had replaced her.

The Library and Sporting equipment had been built up, but a sand pit and Gym Equipment was required. The P. & C. would build this project.

A new classroom was approved and would be erected in the next 12 months; and that the entrance hall in the old building could be used as a Canteen.

Mrs Hall was quite happy to have a temporary fence erected around the Sports Ground and for the children to use this area. Mrs. Ludwig replaced Mrs. Mengenson.

The children over the years took part in swimming classes, small schools sports meetings, attended Anzac Day school marches since 1964, 2 drums were purchased for the use of the children when they marched and on sports day marches. Mrs. Pearce has been appointed to replace Mrs. Cartwright.

The School had been very successful in the 1971 Country School Sports winning 3 cups and had come 3rd in the Marching. A working bee was held to level the ground and pour concrete for the cricket pitch and covered with Malthoid. Mr. L. Jennings and Miss Scott-Irving have replaced Mrs. Pearce and Mrs. Ludwig and there were 66 pupils for the year 1972.

New Tennis and Basket Ball Courts were built. A Duplicator has been purchased and the Mothers Club were willing to purchase a Photocopier. As there had been a change in teaching methods some new Text Books would be required and \$200 was allocated for Text Books and Library Books, also a new T.V. and Record Player.

A Federal Grant of \$1000 was given in the first term of 1974, and a further grant of \$2,400 in the second term. The money had to be spent as specified by the terms of the Grant. Mr. Mullin reported that the Department had purchased an additional acre of ground from Mrs. Hall. As Books and T.V. are eligible to be purchased with Grant money \$310 worth of Library Books were purchased also 2 new T.V.'s.

Each year the Nashdale School children are invited to share with the C.W.A., their International Day, and the children have posters and projects judged and displayed, on the Country which C.W.A. have taken on to study for that particular year. They attend the tree planting ceremony at the school each year, when C.W.A. members plant a tree related to the Country studied, on United Nations Day.

With 65 years of service behind them, the P. & C. can be proud of their achievements, not only do they buy the equipment needed for Libraries, Teaching Aids and Sporting Equipment, they give freely of their time and energy to raise funds, mow grass, fix fences and many dozens of other items to numerous to mention. No school could operate without this invaluable help.

The School moved onward from strength to strength during the following years.

Mr. D. Mullen retired in April 1985, after 18 years of service to the children of Nashdale. A Testamonial Dinner in his honour was tended at a combined District Testamonial as he had spent most of his teaching career in the Orange District. With him went the best wishes of all on his retirement.

Mr. Barry Cohen was appointed Headmaster during April, 1985 and is our present Headmaster, carrying on the tradition of service and interested participation, the many teachers who preceded him, have given to the school. Many successful students have passed through the doors of Nashdale Public School and without this dedication of its teachers, the pupils could not have attained their success. We salute them.

A demountable classroom has been added in 1986 since Mr. Cohen's arrival. With an enrolment of 76 pupils and the arrival of new families to the district saw an additional 11 pupils commence school in our Centennary year, 1988. The future of the School appears to be full of promise.

Top Row: L. Cantrill, D. Magnell, H. Mullins, D. Spurway, S. McLennan, B. Paul, G. Pieslev.

Second Row: B. Carr, L. McLennan, A. Armstrong, T. Evers, J. Armstrong, B. Lowenthal, T. McLennan, E. Mullins, Mr. Magnell (Teacher).

Bottom Row: L. Lowenthal, E. Levitt, D. Levitt, J. Gifford, C. Cantrill, B. Armstrong, D. Spurway, L. Levitt, M. Dally, ?, K. Pettit.



NASHDALE SCHOOL SONG

In youth's glad springtime now we sing Of schooldays and the joys they bring; Of games we share and friendship true, To cherish our whole lives through. We strive to walk in learning's light; With loyal hearts and honour bright; Our school's fair name our chief delight; And when our schooldays soon are past, Our Nashdale motto will last - Pro Deo et Patria - For God and Country.

Each day we sing a joyful lay,
As home from school we wend our way;
Each season brings our hearts delight,
With colours rich and bright Autumn's crimson, russet and gold,
Then winter's white so crisp and cold,
Lovely spring with blossoms fair
Brings summer fruits beyond compare.
From grateful hearts we sing Pro Deo et Patria,
For God and Country.

SPORTS SONG

Hurrah! The classroom door has closed behind us, And set us free, and set us free, Of lessons you are not now to remind us, We sing with glee, we sing with glee. We march with eager steps and clear eyes shining, To play the game, to play the game, And win or lose there'ss be no sad repining, We'll cheer the same, we'll cheer the same, Nashdale! Nashdale! Raise your colours high, Nashdale! Nashdale! Flaunt them to the sky, The brown, the green, the fairest seen, We wave them proudly marching by, Win or lose we'll always choose To cheer and not to sigh.

ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

The following awards are presented annually to the pupils at Nashdale School:

Citizenship Honour Board - Donated by Cabonne Shire Council, 1969.

Dux Board – Donated by Don and Julie Peck, on behalf of their Children, Linda, Andrew and Richard. 1980.

Perpetual Trophy—Donated by Rod Nash, for the Dux of the School in conjunction with the Dux Board.

Sportsmanship Award - Donated by Mrs. Betty McDonald

Ian Armstrong Memorial Award – Donated by Cliff and Yvonne Armstrong for the 3 most improved students.

A REAL REPORTER



Luke Cantrill, has scooped the pool with his logo for the Midstate Observer Section. Luke, in Year 6, at Nashdale Public School, entered his drawing in a competition run at the school, to design a special logo, which will be used in the Junior Observer, every week.

RULES FOR TEACHERS 1872

- 1. Teachers each day will fill lamps, trim the wicks and clean chimneys.
- 2. Each morning teacher will bring a bucket of water and a scuttle of coal for the day's session.
- 3. Make your pens carefully. You may whittle nibs to the individual taste of the pupils.
- 4. Menteachers may take one evening each week for courting purposes, or two evenings a week if they attend church regularly.
- 5. After ten hours in school, the teachers may spend the remaining time reading the Bible or any other good books.
- 6. Women teachers who marry or engage in unseemly conduct will be dismissed.
- 7. Every teacher should lay aside from each pay a goodly sum of his earnings for his benefit during his declining years so that he will not become a burden on society.
- 8. Any teacher who smokes, uses liquor in any form, frequents pool or public halls, or gets shaved in a barber shop will give good reason to suspect his worth, intention, integrity and honesty.
- 9. The teacher who performs his labour faithfully and without fault for five years will be given an increase of twenty-five pence per week in his pay, providing the Board of Education approves.

Mr. and Mrs. Bales and the children singing Christmas Carols for Mrs. Ward at "Brookley".





Nashdale 5th & 6th Class 1971

Nashdale 2nd, 3rd & 4th Class 1971

