



BYABARRA

Byabarra was situated twenty kilometres south-west of Wauchope on the Comboyne road. The area was originally known as Sleepy Hollow and as Low Town. The nearest school listed was at Green Wattle; however, the name of the school was Gannon's Creek, ten kilometres away. Records dated February 20 1895 show an average attendance of twelve to twenty pupils at Thone Creek. The name was changed to Byabarra in 1913. Pupils listed were from the families of Blanch, Hayward, Kilmurray, Lewis and Mattan.

A recommendation to site a school on Crown land was made on the May 15 1895. The school was erected at a cost of forty-three pounds and completed in ten to twelve days. It was of stone and bark construction and measured twelve feet square.

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WAUCHOPE BRANCH

From: Walker, A (2006) Barefoot and Blackboards. Port Macquarie: PMHS

The inspector wrote that either a male or a female teacher could be appointed. Travel would be from Sydney to Port Macquarie by steamer, by coach to Wauchope and thence by hired conveyance to Byabarra at an estimated cost of two pounds and five shillings. Christina Faichney was appointed teacher on October 9 1895.

At the end of the year, the Byabarra Progress Committee requested a veranda and a water tank at Thone Creek School. The inspector wrote, "*there is no water supply, and I think it would be useless to provide a tank at present, as the shingles of the roof, while new, would render the water black and unpalatable.*"

Because the children had to bring their water to school in bottles, it was decided that a four hundred gallon iron ship's tank be supplied to the school. The cost was eleven pounds, eleven shillings and sixpence and the tank was installed by the end of 1896.

The school closed in 1903, due to falling attendance, and the building was destroyed by fire in 1905. In 1907 Thone Creek was to be part-time with Gannons Creek as there were now eleven children between the ages of four to fourteen. Nothing came of this offer, as the school at Thone Creek was to be established. In 1914, a new, wooden school with a brick fireplace was erected and it operated as a provisional school until 1919 and a public school from 1920. The building, although modified, is still standing and in use today.



Teacher and pupils 1929-30

By 1930, the school that had accommodation for only forty pupils had an enrolment of sixty-two. The younger children occupied the local hall which the Principal reported as "*a building of galvanised iron throughout, unlined, unsealed and on a hot day almost an inferno.*" Two teachers were necessary at this stage and Margaret Walker taught at the school in 1931 and 1932.

A S Mudford, who was a pupil from 1926 until 1931, recalls the highlight of the school year was the Christmas concert and tree, "*really a gala occasion.*"

F (Bun) Hayward, a pupil from 1926 until 1933, remembers the Public Hall was used. In hot weather, the shade trees were popular for their shelter "*Aeroplanes were the coming thing in those days and at ten o'clock we would be taken out of class to watch the Brisbane Mail go north*"

Esme Cochrane (nee Wade), a pupil from 1930 until 1935, recalls rising each school day at 4.30am to bring the cows in for milking, separating and then feeding the calves. "Oh, so many cows. Our next job was to catch the horse Coopen Koori, our school bus. I rode with my two sisters but kept falling off the back. And then I got my own horse Lily O'Grady."

When Anje Sipkes was in charge from 1979 until 1993, the school consisted of the original timber building, now the administration block plus the library and brick toilet building. Centenary celebrations were held in 1985 and an informative booklet was produced.

Reproduced below is a poem by Anje M Sipkes

BYABARRA PUBLIC SCHOOL CENTENARY

*'t Was in 1895 that Byabarra's older generation
Became concerned about its children's education.
They applied for a school, and received a recommendation
That a school be granted, "in accordance with regulation."*

*Two acres of land on Thone Creek were selected,
And for forty-three pounds school and outhouses were erected.
They filled them with Haywards and Blanch and Kilmurray
Gillis and Mattan and Lewis, from the Parish of Wallibree.*

*The first twenty years were fraught with frustration,
Teachers who couldn't handle the isolation.
The school was closed - low enrolments were the trouble
Then a fire reduced it to a heap of rubble.*

*They built a new school where the old one had stood.
Enrolments were up, prospects were good!
And over the years teachers came and went,
To deal with their students' development.*

*With surnames like Barnes and Schaeffer and Kennedy
And Roach, van Wessum and Dennerley,
And Williams and Sipkes and Janet Geronimi.
We made quite a multicultural family!*

*Those early settlers could scarcely foresee
The delightful place this has grown to be.
Two classrooms and a library - and what is this?
A separate office - oh, what bliss!!!*

*There's books and computers and carpet on the floor,
There's music and drama and bright furniture,
There's play areas and gardens -
all firm attestation
To Byabarra's all-round education.*

*Today our school celebrates its centenary.
It's a bit like Paradise, I'm sure you'll agree.
And now we'll leave it to Janet Geronimi
To steer it into its next century!!*

WASTINGS LIBRARY
LUCHOPE BRANCH





LSVF-Schools-
Byabarra Public
School- 4

LIBRARY
BYARRA

The Byabarra Bulletin



CENTENARY

CENTENARY
CELEBRATIONS
FOR OUR SCHOOL IN 1995!

Centenary
1895 - 1995

EDUCATION WEEK

BYABARRA SCHOOL

"TEACHING AND LEARNING TOGETHER"

This year the theme of Education week is "Teaching and Learning Together". We hope that you enjoy the activities organised today to celebrate Education Week.

During Education week this year, our school will open its "telecommunications learning centre" in the library. This centre will grow over the next six months to include three computers - one with a CD-ROM, one for library cataloguing, one for educational software (purchased by the P&C), a fax modem, a modem and a satellite dish connection. The technology available for our students will be outstanding. I hope to be able to explain the uses of all this hardware to parents during the next six months as it comes into operation. Our school computer ratio per student will be 1:4! (The state ratio at present is 1:19). We will definitely see many changes in the way we use this in our daily education of our students. Please come and have a look when you have the time. Our school is always open to parents and I'm sure your child will enjoy showing you this technology - technology which we never dreamed of when we were kids!

Thanks again for your continued support in your local school. Enjoy Education Week 1994!
regards, Janet Geronimi

STUDENTS OF BYABARRA SCHOOL 1994

Kindergarten

Brad Hunter, Corey McMillan, Mitchell Roy, Blake Lyon, Kate Walker.

Year 1

Elizabeth Gerke, Tegan Schmitzer, Samantha Weller.

Year 2

Jared Hunter, Michelle Anderson, Ellen McIntyre, Kristen Walker.

Year 3

Steven Hunter, Oliver Field, Brianna Pickering, Shame Vallette, Amaya Vecellio, Kate Geronimi.

Year 4

Grant Anderson, Daniel Gerke, Magenta Axam, Misti Roy.

Year 5

Louise Hunter, Lizzi Roberts, Paul Blain, Shaun Walker.

Year 6

Kurt Wittenburg, Hamish Axam, Eleanor Allen, Reuben Field

Plans are underway for the celebrations of our School's Centenary. Easter Saturday 15th April has been chosen for our day of Celebration so that many people as possible will be able to come back to Byabarra to visit the school over the Easter break. Many ex-pupils have been sent invitations and ex-pupil profile sheets. We now are receiving these back.

The school's history has had it's ups and downs, in numbers and in fortune. At one point the school's population had dropped to only 7 pupils! And at another point the there were 90 students between only two teachers!

Byabarra Public has had an amazing past, come and share it with us, hope to see you at the celebrations!

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And MUCH MORE !

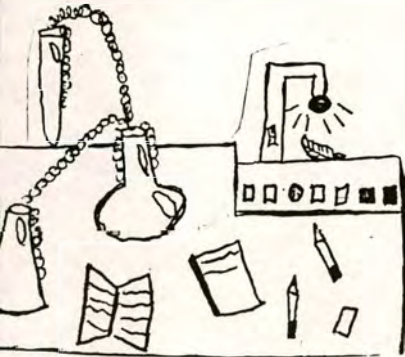
Reports page

Science

Success in science!

In June this year, 7 of the senior primary students chose to take part in the University of New South Wales, "Australian Schools Science Competition". This is a national competition held each year for senior primary and secondary students.

The results were very pleasing with two of our students (Reuben and I) receiving awards. This was the first time our school had entered in this competition and we all enjoyed it!
By Lizzi Roberts.



	A	B	C	D
1.	0	0	0	0
2.	0	0	0	0
3.	0	0	0	0
4.	0	0	0	0

Human Society & It's Environment News

National Rock Wallaby Competition

During term two the primary class studied the yellow footed rock wallaby. This is an endangered species. For example colonies of this wallaby are estimated to have decreased by 40% between 1990 and 1991, with only 80 counted in the last survey. Years 3 and 4 were involved in producing a poster for the national Rock Wallaby competition. Only three students entries were allowed to be sent in from each school. Over 350 schools entered the competition in Australia That amounts to thousands of entries!

Two students from our school were selected as runners-up in NSW. What an achievement! Here are their reports. (Congratulations of course!)

Kate Geronimi, Daniel Gerke (me) and Brianna Pickering had the posters we drew sent away for the national rock wallaby poster competition. We all got a certificate at the end of month assembly.

Kate and I were also runners up in the competition and we received a recycled rock wallaby T-shirt and cap, we also received a free pass to enter Taronga Park Zoo to see the unveiling of the rock wallaby display (which includes our posters).

By Daniel Gerke Yr4

MY TRIP TO THE ZOO

On the 7th of July I went to the zoo for a free entry because I was a runner up in the Rock Wallaby Competition. I got a T-shirt, a hat and some stickers. At the zoo I saw tigers, giraffes, zebras, monkeys, Australian birds and elephants. The 30 runners-up from all over the state were invited to the zoo for the launching of the National Rock Wallaby Month. All the runner-ups posters were displayed in the main building. There were many men in suits and ties, the Minister for the Environment, National Parks and Wildlife people and many many speeches! After that we had a big Aussie lunch supplied for us all, including lamingtons and pavlova.

The girl who won the competition won a computer for herself and her school and a holiday to Frazer Island. What a prize! Her name was Kristen and she even got on the news. Wow!

By Kate Geronimi Yr3.



TIME IS RUNNING OUT!

**Lake Keepit
Sport and Recreation
Centre**

**Workshop With
Author Allan
Baillie**

**Byabarra school
camp**

In late February, 6 students from Byabarra School went to a camp at Lake Keepit. These are some of the things they did: sailing, canoeing, archery, abseiling, fencing, kayaking, ropes-course. We stayed there for about a week. I must admit I thought the food was wonderful! There was a swimming pool there and sometimes after we did the activities we were allowed to swim in the pool.

After about 3 days we all went into the bush. We found a place we liked in the bush and then we all got a bag full of food like onions, tomatoes, meat, carrots and lettuce. My group made hamburgers. About one day before that, we did a rope course. It was great fun and when we finished that, we got to have a go on a flying-fox.

On the last day we bought some souvenirs. There were lots of different things like boomerangs, key-rings, rulers, hats, T-shirts and a lot more. I think the camp was **really great!**

By Magenta Axam Yr3

**Our Trip To
The CWA.**

On Monday 25-7-1994 Reuben, Louise, Grant and Brianna went to receive 2 books for doing some Austrian projects. The books were "Worry Warts" and "The Paw Thing". Huntingdon School were singing, we were late, so we didn't hear them but I'm sure they were terrific.

Afterwards, we took a look at the projects and we got two cookies and a cup of cordial each. They were delicious. Last but not least I would to thank Mrs Ann Hunter for providing transport.

By Louise Hunter Yr5

Recently four children from Byabarra PS were invited to a workshop with famous author Allan Baillie. When we first got there we had to go into the Wauchope library, then the librarian gave us nametags and then we went upstairs.

We waited for a while, then came Allan and he asked us what we wanted to write about. We had a vote and a murder won, then we were about to go on to the next step and it was time to go, so we went outside and came back to school.

I personally liked he talked and expressed all of his words. It was all so interesting!!

By Shaun Walker Yr5

In November Byabarra Primary School will be going to Port Macquarie Environmental Appreciation Centre (P.M.A.E.C.). Every second year the whole school goes on an overnight excursion. The year before last we went to Pappinbarra. Once again this year is the year for that excursion! And it's only 6 minutes from the centre of Port.

Roughly 45 people will be going. Hope to see you there!!!!

By Oliver Field and Steven Hunter



WHY?

Entries in the 1994 Dorothy Mackellar Poetry Competition

Why?

*Why do horses neigh?
 Why do cats purr ?
 Why do dogs bark?
 Why do birds chirp?
 Why do frogs jump?
 Why do rats hide ?
 Why do rabbits hop ?
 Why do spiders bite?
 Why do wallabies jump?
 Why do cows moo?
 Why do pigs like mud?
 Why do rock wallabies like rocks ?
 Why do all these things happen?*

By Brianna Pickering

Why?

*Thomas and I fight.
 Why?
 Because Thomas annoys me
 sometimes so I hit him.
 Why?
 Because he annoyed me.
 Why?
 Because he acts stupid sometimes.
 Why?
 Because he goes hypo sometimes.
 Why?
 I do not know.
 Why?
 Because he is the only one who
 knows.
 Why?
 Because he is himself.
 WHY?*

By Daniel
Gerke

AAAAA



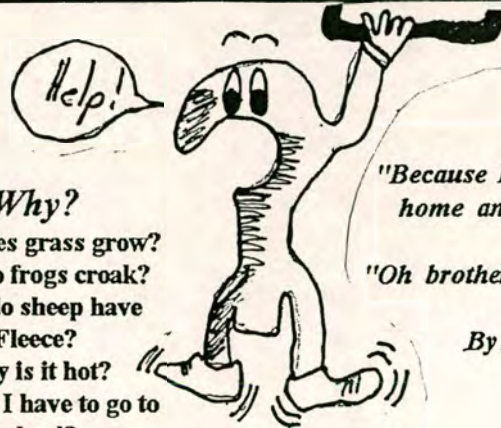
Why?

*Why does grass grow?
 Why do frogs croak?
 Why do sheep have
 Fleece?
 Why is it hot?
 Why do I have to go to
 school?
 Why are pigs pigs?
 Why do spiders have 8
 legs?
 Why do I have to use a
 pencil?
 Why do cows moo?
 Why do crocodiles
 have cold
 blood?
 Why does this have to end?*

By Grant Anderson

Why?

*"Timmy get dressed or we will be
 late."
 "Why?"
 "Because I don't want you to stay
 home all day watching T.V."
 "Why?"
 "Because you will get overweight."
 "Why?"
 "Because you're not doing any
 exercise."
 "Why?"
 "Because you're watching T.V."
 "Why?"
 "I guess you like it."
 "Why?"
 "Because it's funny."
 "Why?"
 "Because the actors act funny."
 "Why?"
 "Because they get paid to act
 funny."
 "Why?"
 "Why do you keep asking me
 why?"
 "Because I'm a kid and that's my
 job!"
 "Well get dressed or we'll really be
 late."*



"Why?"

"Because I don't want you to stay
home and get over weight!"

"Why?"

"Oh brother ! Here we go again!!"

By Hamish Axam.

Why?

*Why are some roses red?
 Is it because the others poke them
 with their sharp thorns and make
 them bleed ?
 Why do Poppies pop ?
 Is it because they can't wait to get into
 the world of sunshine and rain ?
 Why are Lasiandras purple ?
 Is it because they have been holding
 their breath for so long ?
 Why are Christmas Bells called that?
 Is it because Santa Claus liked the
 look of them and named them after
 his special event ?
 Why are Flannel Flowers called that?
 Is it because Aborigines used the
 petals to wash themselves ?
 Why are Marigolds called that?
 Is it because the golden sun lightens
 up their gentle petals?
 Why are Everlasting Daisies called
 that?
 Is it because they live after all their
 nature friends are wilted?
 Why are flowers so pretty with their
 delicate petals and long stems?
 WHY ?*

By Lizzi Roberts Yr 5



-Continued over-

Why?

Why do people watch T.V.
It only makes them stupid?
Why do kookaburras laugh its annoying?
Why do animals make noises?
Why do I have to get my knee cut open?
It's going make me stop playing football.
Why does the sky throw lightening?
Why do people believe in ghosts?
Why do people kill whales?
by Kurt Wittenburg

WHY?

Why the cackling laughter of a kookaburra?
Why the ridiculous crow of the rooster at 3 o'clock in the very early morning?
Why the trampling noise of a beautiful stream of wild horses?
Why the screeching noise of a wicked-eyed plover swooping the dark night sky?
Why the midnight howl of a skinny looking wolf waiting for it's midnight snack?
Why the beautiful chirping noise of a blue chested robin dancing around on the branches?
Why Why WHY these curious noises of animals around the farm?
I wish they could tell us!

By Eleanor Allen.



WHY?

Why have I got friends?
Why do I have to do this?
Why can't things be opposite?
Why can't people be good?
Why can't the world be peaceful?
Why do things cost money?
Why am I eight?
Why can't everyone fly?
Why can't you live forever?
Why does Greg and Louise bash me up?
Why is everyone good at something?
Why does this have to end?
By Steven Hunter

WHY?

Why is there school please, please, please tell me?
Why, why don't I fit in with everyone else?
Why is it so had being a kid?
I want to have a proper life
By Amaya Vecellio

WHY?

Why did Eve eat off the enchanted tree?
Why did God make the world?
Why did he make Mars?
Why did he make animals?
Why did he make me and you?
Why did he make people smart?
Why did he make all of these things?
By Oliver Field

WHY?

Why does the teacher always get up me and no-one else even if I'm being good?
Why can't kids get jobs when they are young?
Why do us kids get these small uncomfortable plastic chairs and the teachers get big comfortable padded chairs?
Why do we have to do maths?
Why does one of my fiends want to be a teacher?
By Paul Blain

WHY?

Recently I lost my aunt, she was a lady of the land, a real Australian gal, in heart and soul and hand.

She ran for mayor of Alice once, 'vote I Bynes, Dianne'; she owned in partnership the Glen Helen Lodge, she always thought 'I can'.

She was a real survivor, the Lodge had burnt down twice, But she always rebuild from scratch, and it always looked real nice.

She drove an outback tour bus, through the Olgas and Palm Valley, but then she got cancer, it's strange and uncanny.

She was a real survivor, a woman with real guts, she stuck it out in this harsh land, then her life went nuts.

She was a great person, the best a skip could be, but then she had to die, still I ask the question.... Why.... Why.... Why

By Reuben Field Yr6

WHY?

Why do cows moo?
Why do dogs bark?
Why do birds fly?
Why do horses neigh?
Why do bears roar?
Why are there people?
By Sharne Vallette

WHY?

Why do babies cry?
Why do women have the babies not men?
Why do babies drink milk?
Why do babies wear nappies?
Why do babies dribble?
Why do babies get all the attention?
Why do babies die of cot death?
By Louise Hunter

World News

The Best Of Our BTN Reports

WAR THREATS FROM NORTH KOREA

10-6-'94

Recently, North Korea has been in the news a lot. Due to their President Kim Il Sung making threats of war. For forty years Korea has been split in two by a terrifying border of barb wire, men with guns and checkpoints all along! South Korea is a progressing country with a good economy, most well known for hosting the Olympic Games in their capital, Souel in 1988. North Korea on the other hand, has a terrible economy and is very poor.

It is believed now that North Korea has been making nuclear weapons including a atomic bomb.

US President Bill Clinton believes that North Korea has been taking plutonium (used in atomic bombs) from their nuclear plants. In fact it is believed that they enough plutonium for 3 to 4 bombs. They are also not letting UN inspectors in to investigate. Because of this, the US is telling all countries not to trade with North Korea or have any contact with them.

Since Kim Il Sung heard this, he has threatened to go to war, and the whole world is scared, because we have seen the affects of North Korea at war in the Korean War of the 1960's. They attacked South Korea that year, and people say that they will do the same if war does happen. But Kim Il Sung has agreed to have a meeting with South Korea's President and with any luck it will all just blow over.



No more
poaching

TIGERS 2-8-'94

In the wild there used to be 100,000 tigers, now there are only 6000! Why? Because of poaching and illegal hunting. The hunters are killing the tigers for there bones to put in medicines and tablets. If only a few thousand people take this medicine the tigers will be extinct in 5 to 7 years. Three tiger species are already extinct and four more are on their way.

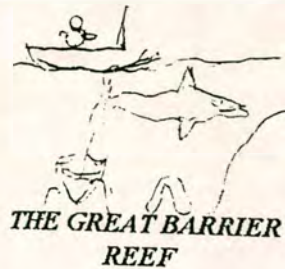
It is a hard task to stop the tiger population going down, so some people in zoos are trying to breed tigers in the zoos, but it is not as easy as it sounds.

By Lizzi Roberts Yr5

VIOLENCE IN SPORTS 17-5-'94

In the last year violence in sport has greatly increased. Two weeks ago 50 children ended up in hospital after receiving serious injuries while playing sport. Two teenagers died and one broke his neck playing football. Football has the highest injury rates of injuries in the country. Some parents have pulled there children out of these sort of sports and put them into less dangerous sports such as basketball

Some doctors are moving to change this by making mouth guards and head gear compulsory, but unfortunately not many sports people like the idea. If the doctors plan goes ahead, hopefully our games will be safer in the future.



THE GREAT BARRIER REEF

For many years scientists and tourists have enjoyed exploring the beautiful coral reefs. Some careless people have just thrown down anchor not worrying about the things below that they are starting to destroy. There are about ten that need protecting. Some of the coral reefs that have been destroyed have much chance of growing back.

People should not be allowed to throw down there anchor where the coral is growing. Many types of fish have been dying of starvation because they feed on the reef and there is no place to hide when danger is near. In the future hopefully people will be a lot more careful.

By Louise Hunter Yr5

POPULATION EXPLOSION

By the year 2050 there will be 11 billion people living in on the earth. Heaps of people are calling it the population explosion.

Every year Australia is sending the poor black people \$300,000. Many black people have no homes. By the year 2050 we will have to triple the food that we give now. There will be a meeting on the population of people very soon.

By Hamish Axam



PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Tennis with Greg Alchin.

Every Monday Greg Alchin comes and coaches at Byabarra School. He starts at 12:30 pm and goes till 3:00pm. At the end of the year he gives us trophies for "The Most Improved" and "Best Player." We also play in competitions against Yarras, and Greg helps us practise. He also teaches people on Sundays, kids lessons start at 9:00 am to 10:00 am and adults go from 10:00am till 11:30 am. It costs \$4 per person and all welcome!

We would all like to say thanks for teaching us, and we learned a lot from you, and we will learn a lot more in the near future. So Once again THANKS GREG!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

By Hamish Axam.

Thursday Afternoon sport.

On Thursday Mr Price takes years 3,4,5 and 6 out for sport, we play all different sports each week. At the end of month assembly Mr Price presents a sports award to one kid, either for joining in or improving and things like that. Last assembly Amaya Vecellio got the sports award.

Student Initiative Grant, from DSC (Disadvantaged School Component)

This year we were able to ask for \$300 from DSC for whatever we liked. When we got the money we had to vote for what we were going to buy. People voted for computer games more equipment for the playground more trees and sports gear. But sports gear got the most votes. I'm proud the sports gear got it because I love playing sports and there is hardly any sports gear. And today Mr Anderson is putting up the backboard. We got three hundred dollars to spend on sports gear. We got seven basketballs, one good soccerball, one football and a backboard, ring and net for the basketballs.

By Kurt Wittenberg Yr 6

LIBRARY NEWS

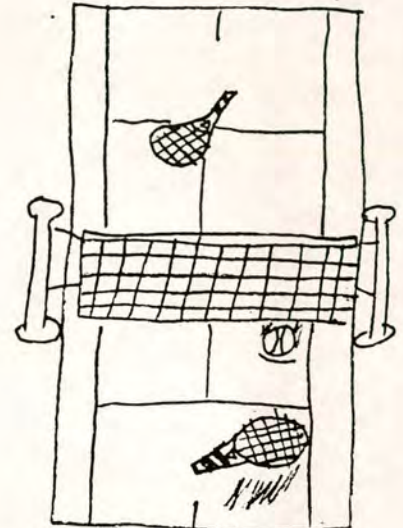
BOOK WEEK

Book week is from the 20th of August to the 26th of August. On the Wednesday we had a book fair. As a reward for having the fair we got around seven special books. Over \$100 worth of books were bought at the fair. Parents turned up. Kurt, Eleanor, Shaun, Louise were chosen as a committee to decorate the library. They did an EXCELLENT job. The library looked great.

We also had a book character parade. It was fun. We got to say who we were and what book we were from.

We had a great day!

By Misti Roy



Riddles and Jokes



Q: What has one horn and doesn't need more because the people run when it comes with a roar?
A: A truck

Q: What is the scariest thing you could see on your shadow?
A: A gorilla!

Q: Why do gorillas have horns and scars?
A: Two gorillas!

Q: It's right behind you, creeps on the ground, follows you home, better not turn round!
A: Your shadow!



Q: What was howling and yawling all night long?
A: It was the wind!



by Daniel Cierke

Letters to the Editor.

Editorial

Education Is For Life

Not long ago I heard two elderly partners discussing "our slack schools, not teaching the three R's we used to take such pride in." This really annoyed me, and this is the view of many of the students of yesterday's schooling.

Opinions like these I totally disagree with, this attitude is not an informed one.

In fact students of the nineties are taught a far greater variety of information and learning than could have been dreamt of only twenty years ago let alone eighty or a hundred years ago! Students today learn more about team-work and leadership qualities and develop character and talent as well as "reading, 'riting and 'rithmetic". I think these people's views are inappropriate and I can only hope this editorial will make them think again.

The other issue I wanted to write about was the appalling number of children who treat school as just a waste of time. I strongly believe it is a far cry from being a waste, but more of a privilege. We are lucky to have such ready and great education, because education is the source, everything comes from it, careers, lives, everything. My point is, school isn't somewhere your parents send you to get rid of you for six hours, it's an opportunity to make the best, or worst of life. Because you get to choose if you'll try hard or not, but what you choose determines how it turns out. So even if your no good at something, stick with it because education brings it's own rewards.

The last Thing I wanted to bring up is the republican issue, my view is that Australia is an independent country with plenty of guts and doesn't need a monarch looking over its shoulder, that is to say I strongly believe we should become a republic! Thank you for reading.

By editor and dedicated student Reuben Field.

Dear Editor,

I think there should be more area for the kids to play in Byabarra. Like a playground, some place near to the tennis

courts so kids could have somewhere to go on the weekends. It would be more of a fun place for kids and even for adults.

By Brianna Pickering Yr3

Dear Master Editor,

I think we should have a park in Byabarra, because people that visit Byabarra use the school grounds. So we should get people from the area to help build a park near the barbecue, between the hall and the tennis court. It could include some swings slides, tunnels made from large cement pipes and a rope climbing activity. So tourists will have more fun and come back.

Regards,

Eleanor Allen Yr6

Dear Editor,

I think our playground would really benefit from two flying foxes. Why? Because some other schools have them.

By Kate Geronimi Yr3

Dear Editor,

I would just like to say thanks very much to Greg Alchin for teaching us tennis at school and on Sundays. He comes to Byabarra on Mondays, and teaches everyone from 12.30 to 3p.m. On Sundays he coaches anyone for \$4 an hour. Kids start at 9a.m. till 10a.m., then the adults have coaching from 10a.m. till 10:30a.m. So I think everyone would like to say a big thanks to Greg!

Regards,

Hamish Axam Yr6

Dear Editor,

I think the school should have more playground and especially flat ground!

It's to crowded in the school yard and there's not much flat ground for the hockey and soccer players. The ball goes down the hill and out the fence, and the players don't like it!

By Grant Anderson Yr 4

Dear Sir,

I am writing this letter to ask you a few things. I hope you like being editor and I hope you are organised. You know once you put your mind to doing things sometimes it's a lot of fun, like I'm thinking when I'm in sixth grade or fifth grade I might volunteer to be the school newspaper editor.

Another thing, if you see a white and ginger striped cat with a cut on his head and a cuteish fierce looking face, it's my brother's Thomas. It's been missing for about two months now Marmalade has been the only cat at my place. Well, if you see Ginger, tell me please and give it to me when ever you can.

From Daniel Gerke Yr 4

Dear Editor,

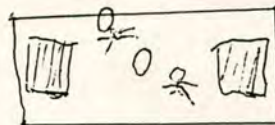
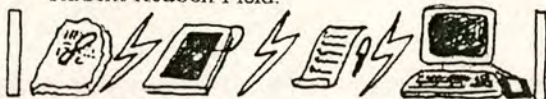
why are people fat, why are people skinny, why are people middle sized, it's really very silly.

I wonder..... if the person that invented school was already 50, then by the time he or she finished school they would be 62!

I would like to say thanks to Mrs Witchard for coming and cleaning up the pig sty we leave each day!!!!

Regards,

Shaun Walker.



INFANTS

THOUGHTS



When we went to see "We're Back" it was funny. The dinosaurs names are Rex, the T-Rex, Woog, The Triceratops and Dweed the Hadrosaurus and Elsa the Tenadactyl. When a spaceship came, Rex was a normal T-Rex. An alien came out and Rex tried to eat him. The alien flew into the spaceship and Rex got stuck. The alien put two things into Rex's mouth. He ate some brain grain and changed into a funny T-Rex. Then he met Woog, Dweed and Elsa. They were having hot dogs. Woog had some hot dogs on his horns. Then they went to the city. They had to hide. Woog looked out and slobbered on a cake shop and Rex pulled him back. Rex put out his foot on the footpath and a man tripped on it. "Watch where you put your foot!" Elsa flew away with the boy and came back with a girl. There was a parade with balloons. Then Rex started singing a song. All the people ran. The police went after them. Elsa got chased by the police in helicopters. She hid in between two statues and the police went straight passed. Rex was on a truck at the side of the building. Woog and Dweed got on a side car motor bike. They drove through a station and on a train. They drove down the middle saying "Hi! How ya doing! Hello! Goodbye!" and all that kind of stuff. Rex was still in the truck and getting chased by police cars. When the police in the helicopters went passed Elsa looked up and laughed. The movie was very funny.

Jared

The pussy was up the tree because a lion was roaring at him. The pussy stayed up the tree because the lion stayed there. The boy climbed up the tree to save the pussy.

By Corey.

The big tree is a cubby house and it has furniture and a chimney.

By Brad

Tony went fishing. He caught five fish. Then he went home and cooked the fish for all of us.

By Mitchell

My dog can fly a space ship in the sky.

Corey

I put a birthday cake in Dad's tent.

Kate

We went to the show and saw Rex jump on the truck and Rex went up the building. Woog went on the motorbike. He went through the Post office.

Brad

My dad bought an apple tree. I planted an apple tree. It grew and it grew and it grew. The next day there were six apples on my apple tree. Every day and every night I ate an apple. But one day the apples were all gone. I went back inside and told mum. She said to tell dad. I did. Dad said that he was watching my apple tree and he saw a little mouse climb up the trunk of my apple tree and get an apple. He saw the mouse family waiting under the tree. I went back inside and told mum the story about the apple tree. She thought it was funny. She laughed when I finished telling her about the apple tree. I went into my bedroom and played with my best toys which were Big Ted and the others.

Tegan

When I was running in the forest I saw a friendly ghost and he was alone. It was going to be my friend and so I brought him home with me. When I got home, mum said, "Did you have a nice day in the forest?" I said, "Yes." One night the ghost said "Can I hop in bed with you?" "O.K." I said. "As long as you don't muck up." "I won't." said the ghost. "Good," said the girl, "Now go to sleep." "O.K." said the ghost, so he went to sleep. In the morning I went out for a walk, and my ghost saw mum and mum saw the ghost. Then mum fainted.

Elizabeth

My cat is called John. He climbed a tree to get away from the big bad watchdog. John couldn't get away because the big bad watchdog wouldn't go away. He boy climbed the tree to save his cat.

By Blake.



One day I think we are going to the Sydney Harbour Zoo. It is a big zoo. It has giraffes, elephants, zebras and all other animals. I like Sydney Harbour Zoo. I hope you go to it too.

Tegan

One day Blake went out to play. He got chased by two dogs, so he climbed up a tree so they couldn't get him. He was still in the tree because he was scared. Jared came along in a boat to get Blake, so he wouldn't fall in the water.

By Mitchell.

I can see superman going up to heaven. He crashed into a big meteor rock and came back down. He made a big hole.

Blake

My mum and dad went out for a walk. They saw a snake. The snake bit me, but it didn't bite dad. I wasn't dead. Kristen was a baby in mummy's tummy. Mummy had to go to the doctor's to get her out. She got her out and brought her to church with some new clothes. But I was still sick from the snake bite.

Kate

One day I was going on an adventure. I was excited, but I was getting cold. I saw King Penguins and seals. It was very exciting. I went into a cave, it was scary. Little raindrops were falling. One dropped on me. I found a secret door on the other side of the cave. I went to the secret door. I looked at the writing. It said "Go up." It was Italian. So, I went up. There was a box. I pushed it. I found gold in all places. But the door closed. Water came in. I climbed up the wall. The water was coming up. At once I jumped up. I saw people in a cage. There was a fierce monster. A door was loose. I fought the monster. I saw some ants. I said, "If you make a cage for the monster, I will give you food." So they did. When the cage was around the monster I jumped. I just made it. If I did not make it I would fall in the lava. Everyone that lived there was talking about their adventures. How would they get their food. We were running out of food. We had to go and get everything we needed. "We might need rope," I said, "and sticks." So we sat on the rocks. We were scared. I said, "We have to fight." We did. We got the door open at last. We swung with the rope. We went down. We walked through the tunnel. We slept. We got up. Everyone could see sunlight.

Kristen

One night my cow had twins and in the morning Jason had to carry it to Betsy. That's the cow. They were both girls. Jason had to chain them up so they wouldn't get lost. The next day Dad took the chains off them. I went to see if they had ticks on them. They did, so I tried to pull them off but they kept moving. After one day one of our other cows had a calf. It was a girl too. I'm going to look after them now.

by Michelle.



The boy was cold and hungry. The boy went inside and found a sausage. He sat down in front of the fire to cook his sausage. As the boy was cooking his sausage a skeleton came down the chimney. He wanted to know if the boy would share his sausage. The skeleton sat down beside the boy and waited. The boy took a bite of the sausage and then gave it to the skeleton. Then the skeleton went up the chimney and the boy went to sleep.

By Ellen.

Last Sunday I sprained my ankle. I cried a lot. Dad came running. He got me off the trampoline. I couldn't walk. Then I tried to get up. I got up and hopped inside. We had afternoon tea. While we were having afternoon tea Dad got some ice on the sore. But the sore wasn't a sore. It was a bump. The next day it was a school day. When I went to school I had a shoe on one foot and a sock on the other. The next day was also a school day and my foot was a bit better.

By Samantha

One day Dad got two calves. One of them was mine. Mine is a black one. They always came when it was feed time. Jenny's one is a white one. But Dad hasn't got one.

By Samantha

Once upon a time there lived a ghost who was scared of light. When he saw one tiny speck of sunlight he went silly. One day when we went on camping I slept in while Mum, Dad and Brad went for a walk in the bush. I woke up in surprise and all I could see was a ghost. I yelled "Ghost!" and fainted. Mum, dad and Brad ran back. They fainted too. The ghost laughed. I opened my eyes. So did mum, dad and Brad. I turned on the light and the ghost went silly. "It's only a light" I said. The ghost said, "I'm scared of light." "Why?" I said. "I don't know," said the ghost. I taught him not to be scared.

By Jared

Yesterday I went to my old next door neighbour's at the caravan park. I walked along the shore and I saw a dolphin. You have to walk on the path. I went along another path and I saw a school and a Sunday School. We sat down and had lunch. We had a look at Cabin Number Three. We are thinking about camping on the weekend. We got chicken for tea. The next day it was Monday.

By Ellen.

On "Home and Away" Sally and Angel write a story all about the things that Sally said. In her story Sally isn't happy. Angel was going to go and see Sally but Sally wasn't happy. When Angel came to her home she wanted her to go away. Angel wasn't happy. So Angel went back home. Then Angel went into her room to think what she should do. Then Angel made a cake for her, but it still didn't work for her. So then she didn't have any friends. She didn't know how to make her happy. So now Sally doesn't like Angel anymore. So Angel wanted to make a coat for Sally and Sally liked it. So Angel is happy with Sally now. Everything is back to normal again.

By Michelle



I wish I was in the dinosaur ages because I like dinosaurs. One day I was at home and I touched a magic branch and it took me to the dinosaurs. I got to hold a baby Brontosaurus. I saw a Dimatradon and a baby Dimatradon. I hopped on a Brontasaurus back and it was fun. I brought some food with me and a drink. I stayed there for ever and ever.

Elizabeth

When I went to my cousin's place we went to the beach. I jumped over the waves. Then I took a board to catch a wave. It took me right in. I was getting cold so I got a towel. Then I went to my cousin. My sister and I made a castle. There was a place for shoes and blankets. On the top I put rocks. The boys came up. My mum said, "There's the red ball." They rescued the red ball. It was on the rocks. It was time to go home.

Kristen

The cat climbed the tree to get away from the dog. The cat couldn't get down. The boy saw a little cat in the tree, so he got him down. He cuddled him and took him home.

by Kate



LSVF-Schools

Byabarra Public

School - 3

NEW SCHOOL TEACHER FOR BYABARRA

The Secretary of the Byabarra P. & C. Association has received information of the appointment of a new teacher for the local school. He is Mr. L. W. Ahearn, from Seghenhoe, near Aberdeen. Mr. Ahearn will follow Mr. J. Barnes who has resigned from the Education Department owing to ill-health.

In appreciation of past services, the P. & C. Association presented golf sticks to Mr. Barnes, while the girls from the sewing class presented Mrs. Barnes with a savoury dish. Mrs. Barnes instructed the sewing activities of the school for many years.

What a contrast in weather conditions! Sunday and Monday had temperatures reaching 92 deg. A sudden drop on Tuesday brought welcome light rain, gradually increasing in intensity and continuing yesterday. Pastures were starting to brown off, so the rain was doubly welcome, with tanks now full and crops and pastures benefiting from the moisture.

The Xmas Tree on 19th December, 1959, was very well patronised, only standing room for quite a few in the main hall.

Santa Claus arrived on time at 8 p.m. with his sleigh full of presents for all the children, then sweets and ice cream for everyone young and old. We would like to sincerely thank Mr. Des Curran who generously donated the sweets, and a big "thank you" to Mrs. R. Buxton who did so much with a novel fish-pond which everyone enjoyed, and for donating a doll. The proceeds from the fish-pond and the doll amounted to £25, which was handed over to the Secretary of the P. & C. Association — a pretty good effort. The doll was won by Mrs. H. McWhirter, and the cake, which was made by Mr. Ralph Worth, was won by Mr. Tom Hayward.

Quite a few of our local residents have had a bout of "summer flu," and amongst those not so well are Mrs. H. Mudford, Mrs. Jane Gleeson, Mrs. Pat Gleeson, Mrs. C. E. (Ted) Gillis and her two children Cheryle and Peter, also Masters Brian Hayward and Terry Manton. To all these we wish a speedy recovery.

Visitors to the district over the Xmas holidays were Mr. and Mrs. W. Torrens and two children, Judith and Stephen, from Parkes, visiting the J. Gillis'; Mr. and Mrs. J. Mackay, Barbara and Robert, up to see Mrs. Pat Gleeson; Mr. Bruce, Stan and Robert Kennett to see Mr. and Mrs. Cooper; Mrs. F. Towle had her sister and brother-in-law and two children as visitors from Sydney; Mr. and Mrs. J. Watson and two sons up from Wollongong to stay with Mr. and Mrs. F. Hayward; also Miss Elaine Bransdon and her friend arrived on Monday to spend a few days with her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. F. Hayward; Mr. and Mrs. E. White and two

children visited the Mudford family (Mrs. White will be remembered as Lil Mudford, and 25 years have passed since her last visit to this district).

Mr. J. W. (Phillip) Gillis spent Xmas in Sydney visiting his two sisters; also Mr. J. Gillis had a week in the city, while Rex looked after his interests on the farm; Rex and Renie Gillis and two children, accompanied by Mrs. Mullard, left by car for Mt. Isa on Sunday afternoon, after spending six weeks' holiday in this locality.

Miss Anne Gillis returned to Sydney on Monday, taking little Vicki Strutt home with her. Vicki has been holidaying with her grandparents.

Mrs. H. Blanch journeyed to Sydney last Tuesday to visit her sister and brother-in-law, Mr. Keith, who is not so well at present.

Valda Gillis journeyed to Gosford to stay with her sister, Mrs. Moffit; also Carol spent a week at Taree with Mrs. R. Tisdell.

Noticed Mr. Tom Hayward at the wheel of a rather good sort of Ferguson tractor.

We want to see a good roll-up of members at the Fire Brigade meeting tonight (Thursday) at 8 p.m. — some important business to be transacted.

Hastings Shire Gazette

21st January 1960



Schools VF 10

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Byabarra Public
School - 2

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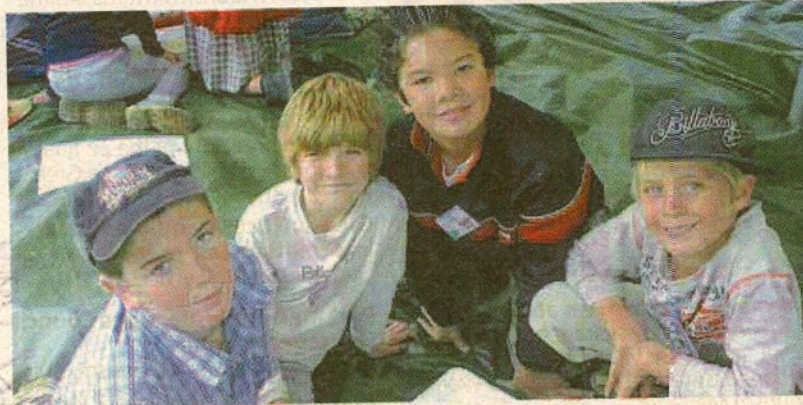
School "monitors" take on a 21st century role

Mention pH, turbidity salinity or macro-invertebrates to the students at Byabarra Public School and they will know exactly what you're talking about.

Port Macquarie-Hastings Council's WaterWise education team visited the school recently to present its two-day WaterWise Enviro Schools program.

As a result, the Thone River will be under close watch from 27 newly-inducted 'water detectives' who, as a part of their important role, will monitor aquatic life, check for leaky taps and ensure their peers are using the resource wisely.

The interactive education package, incorporating strategies promoted through the government-sponsored WaterWatch program, provides students with a greater understanding of the water cycle, the importance of a healthy river and practical methods to save water and use the resource more



Deon Turner, Thomas Last, Tayden Cornish and Cassidy Pollard of Byabarra Public School

efficiently. WaterWise educator Meredith Robertson says students are able to use specialised water-testing equipment to find out how healthy their local waterways are.

"The children took water samples from the Thone River and tested for pH, turbidity, salinity and temperature. From there they were able to determine the health status of the

river," Ms Robertson said.

And then the fun began! Students, armed with nets, jars and ice cube trays, conducted a water bug survey.

The presence or absence of particular bugs in a waterway reflects the health of the catchment. When water becomes polluted or disturbed, sensitive water bugs become less prevalent than others.

Students enjoyed a visit from Whizzy the Water Drop, watched a DVD documentary on the Cowarra Dam project, and shared some great ideas on how to save water at home.

The school is extending its participation in the program by booking students on a Port Macquarie-Hastings Cowarra Dam tour later this year.

The WaterWise education team also visited Beechwood Public School where students there, too, were able to conduct water sample testing, meet Whizzy and become leak detectors.

From:
Port Macquarie Hastings
Council Community
Newsletter "October 2006

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