

HAS anyone seen the BAGNOO BUNYIP?

### "THE BAGNOO BUNYIP"

Have you ever seen a bunyip?  
They're very hard to find,  
You read of them in fairy tales  
But they're a different kind.  
If you rise up very early  
On a lovely summer day  
And if you have your glasses on  
You may see one come your way!  
It's a lovely looking creature  
With pink cap on its head —  
A basket on one arm we hear  
But we're not easily lead.  
They say it swims with grace and charm,  
'Oft 'tadpole' by it's side  
Who says it's not a mermaid  
Out for a bunyip ride!  
So — if ever you're out early,  
And you come out Bagnoo way,  
Be sure you wear dark glasses  
For fear it looks your way.

by a "Bagnoonian".



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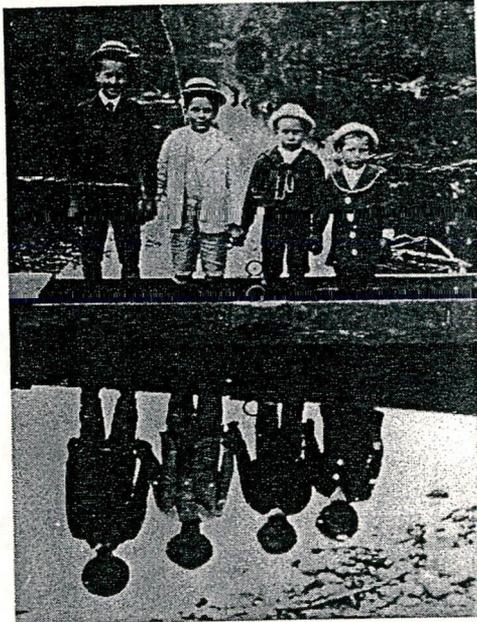
LSVF - Bagnoo

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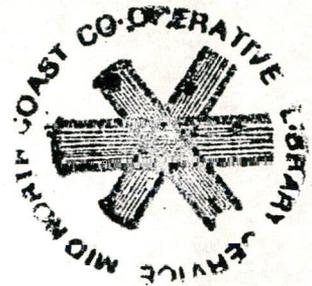


## BAGNOO

The school, known as Llanthony until November 1963, was on the Oxley Highway, west of Wauchope. It was a provisional school from July 1916 until November 1957, when it became a public school until December 1969. Before Llanthony opened, the Blythe's family of three boys, Bert, Bill and Roy received their early education with the three Cameron children, on the veranda of Mrs Cameron's house at Moropo. Et Coglan was the first teacher. The four Blythe boys, Horace was now at school age, were rowed across Moropo Creek by their mother in the white box canoe made by their father and uncle until they were old enough to row themselves



Ben, Bill, Roy and Horace Blythe ready to cross Moropo Creek in their white box canoe



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Mr Ready, the second teacher, rode his pushbike from Long Flat. He was the butt of many practical jokes. Some of the boys put a goanna in the schoolroom. When Mr Ready opened the door, the goanna sprang over his shoulder. There was no school that day. They also tied knots in the long tussock grass so the teacher might trip. Mrs Violet McBroom was married to a farmer, who drove her to school in a sulky. She was in charge from 1929 to 1938. Mrs Freda Lewis was at the school during this time and she sometimes rode a horse bareback or walked three miles with no shoes.

From 1950 to 1960, when the attendance was about twenty, Mr Alfred (Smacka) Trotter was the Head teacher. He was responsible for organising the Upper Hastings Small Schools Empire Day Sports, which involved Bagnoo, Ellenborough, Long Flat and Kindee.

Mr Trotter remembers a Christmas concert held in the church. The generator supplying the power failed and chaos reigned. If the high school bus to Wauchope was not running, the pupils attended Bagnoo.

Early one morning the children hid in bramble bushes. Mr Trotter hunted everywhere. The Postmaster told him the pupils were heading towards the river so he headed there. He also recalls some women carrying hurricane lamps, coming across a swollen river to attend a P&C meeting. During Mr Trotter's time, families attending were

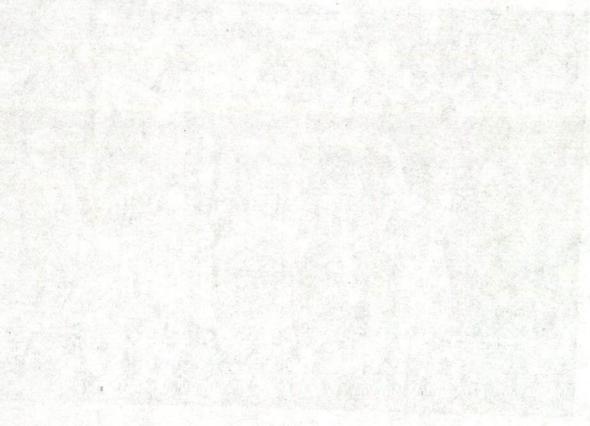
Browning, Christmas, Clayworth, Coombes, Copp, Hari, Lewis, McWhirter, O'Brien and O'Donnell.



Pupils attending Llanthony in 1932. Browning, Coombes and O'Brien families



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