



Willow Grove Primary School
2520
(Formerly Latrobe River State School &
Willow Grove State School)
1883-2023



1940 - 1950 From the Newspapers

Wednesday night, August 13, was a gala night for the children of Willow Grove and district. To aid the State Schools' War Relief Fund, a fancy dress ball was organised, - with Mrs T. Fowler as president, and Mr. R.C. Cordingley (head teacher of the Willow Grove School) as secretary. The gross takings and donations were £17, and it is hoped to clear £13.

Appropriate decorations- red, white and blue streamers and flags- were erected by Messrs. Fowler and Cordingley. For about five weeks the children were taught to dance by Mrs. Cordingley, who was assisted by Mrs. I Stewart and Mrs. Hunt as pianists. They were trained to dance the Lancers, as well as other dances, and at the ball performed splendidly. ... In judging the fancy costumes, of which there was about 40, Mr. and Mrs. H. Campbell and Mrs. P. Watson, of Trafalgar, had a big task... They made their decisions as follows: -

Most Original Boy- Bob Brown "Camp Creek Miner"

Most Original Girl – Betty Brown "Britannia"

Best Costume (Boy) – Fred Cordingley "Drummer Boy"

Best Costume (Girl) – Betty Fowler "Pink Lady"

Best Sustained Character (Boy) – Master Threlfall, "Baker"

Best Sustained Character (Girl) – Hazel Robinson "Departed Spirits"

Best Couple – Eileen Nix and Jean Gibson – "Bride and Groom"

Best Costume, 6 years and under – Janet Mitchell, "Red Cross Nurse."

Special Prize went to Gordon Irvine, "Soldier", Beryl Wilson, "Drummer Boy", Wenda Cordingley "Fairy", Ted Fowler, "Parson", Trixy Fowler, "Torch Girl".

A waltzing competition, which was judged by Mr. Rogers, was won by Mr. and Mrs T. Brown.

John Irvine and Bett Fowler were the winners of the children's lucky spot dance.

Novelty dances for the adults resulted as follows: - Monte Carlo, Mrs. Keogh and Mr. W. Robinson; line dance, Miss D. Pentland and Mr. Ted Burgess.

The prizes were presented by Mr. J.C. M. Balfour, who earlier in the evening had opened the function, and referred to the splendid work being done by the State School in raising fund for the war relief....

A very nice gesture was the presentation by the children of posies of daphne and violets (made by Mrs. Wilson) to the judges and ladies who had trained the children.... *(The Narracan Shire Advocate and Yallourn Brown Coal Mine, Walhalla an Thorpdale Lines Echo, Fri 22 Aug 1941)*

The Coalville school, at which there are now seven pupils, was, on Tuesday, reopened ... The former teacher, Mr. A. R. Moorfield, was transferred to the Willow Grove School. *(The Narracan Shire Advocate and Yallourn Brown Coal Mine, Walhalla an Thorpdale Lines Echo, Fri 12 Mar 1943)*

Mr. A.R. Moorfield, B.A., who has been in charge of the Willow Grove School for some years, has transferred to the secondary division of the Education Department. (*Narracan Shire Advocate, Fri 13 Dec 1946*)

Willow Grove School was among a number of local schools that were part of the Narracan Shire School's Group Library

Hill End and Willow Grove football and basketball teams which competed at the Trafalgar district schools sports recently. (*The Weekly Times, Wed 7 Sep 1949*) – (top right hand picture)



SCCESSFUL SCHOOL BAZAAR

Last Friday, a very successful bazaar raised £50/17/3 for the Willow Grove State School, and the head teacher and pupils are very grateful to all those who assisted. Donations were received from many tradespeople of Moe and from Melbourne firms. Special congratulations and thanks go to the members of the Mothers' Club, who did all the hard work. (*Narracan Shire Advocate, Fri 23 Sep 1949*)