

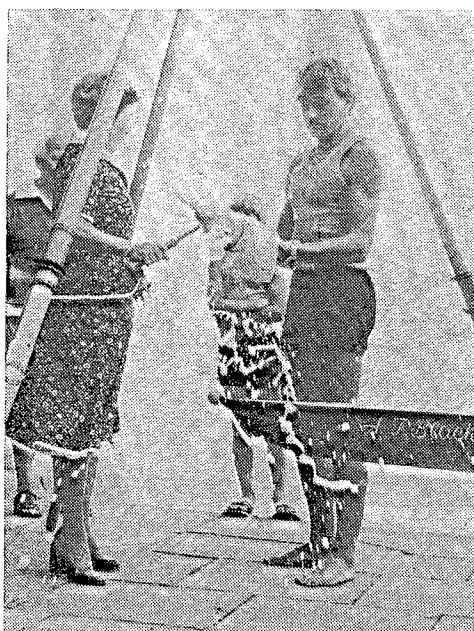


"Picture by courtesy The Sunday Times".

They brought back to the School for the first time in twelve years, the Challenge Cup. It was indeed a fitting reward for both the crew and their coach, Murray McHenry who has not only represented Western Australia in King's Cup crews but coincidentally, rowed in the No. 6 seat in the last Church Christ winning crew, when we dead-heated with Scotch College in 1967.

All in all, this year's Regatta proved to be an excellent morning's competition and all boys who represented the School in crews are to be congratulated for their efforts.

This was the seventh time that we had won the Challenge Cup since joining the competition in 1957. In fact, in that time, only Aquinas College can better our performances on the River. This is indeed a record of which our boatshed can well be proud.



Mrs. Blackwood naming the new Four assisted by Julian Harding, Captain of Boats.

ROWING—THE CHALLENGE CUP RETURNS TO CHRIST CHURCH

The Public Schools' Association of Western Australia held the 80th Annual Rowing Regatta on the Narrows Course, on Saturday, 7th April this year.

The programme of events commenced with an Under-16 Fours race over 1,000 metres. This event was won convincingly by Aquinas with the all-gold colours of Christ Church filling second place.

The next six events were also won by strong Aquinas crews and it seemed, with only one event remaining, the First Eights, that Aquinas had a chance of completing yet another clean sweep of the River.

After a good start all crews worked particularly hard in an endeavour to gain the initiative in the first 1,000 metres. At the half-way mark Christ Church led narrowly but still any one of six crews could have won. Passing the old brewery, Christ Church led clearly from Wesley with Hale and Aquinas putting in a determined bid for victory. At this point Trinity, Scotch and Guildford could not win. Over the remaining 200 metres Aquinas finished powerfully but were beaten on the line by half a canvas, by a very courageous Christ Church crew.

The Stroke, David Hay, his Coxswain Geoffrey Gribble and the crew consisting of Stephen Downs, Julian Harding, Christopher Strauss, Richard Kirby, Edwin Sinclair, Simon Cox and Tim Flaherty, are to be congratulated on a fine effort.



Mrs. Price with sons Stuart and James on the occasion of the unveiling of the plaque.

THE ROGER PRICE TENNIS COURTS

A simple ceremony was held during the first week of this term to commemorate the name of one of the School's benefactors.

Mr. Roger Stuart Price had been associated with the School since 1954. He was the Treasurer and Vice-Chairman of the School Council when he passed away on September 13 last year. He had served the School in these capacities since 1968.

Being a regular member of the Council tennis team and having played at the age of 68, it seemed fitting that the six new hard courts should be named after him.

The Roger Price tennis courts are a "walk-top" surface, and are available for use all year round. The wall at the south end of the courts has been set up to be used as a bumping board, and to date has proved extremely popular with the boys, particularly the boarders.

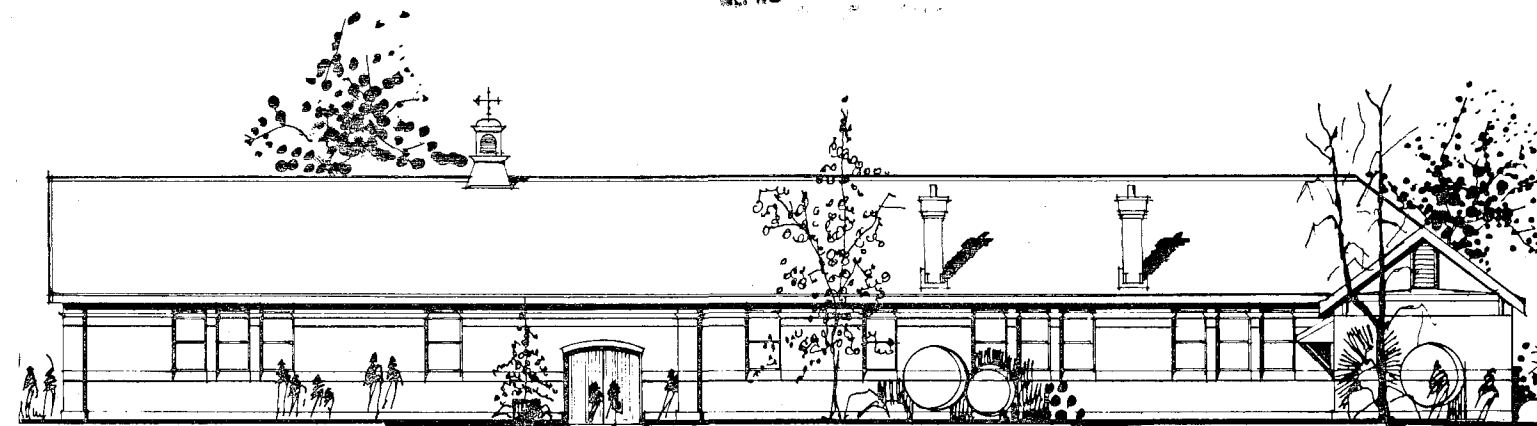
Along with ten "plexipave" cricket wickets that were laid at the south end of the main oval, the hard courts were an ambitious, but necessary, project undertaken by the School Council. The School was indeed fortunate that a hard-working, enthusiastic Parents' Association was able to make a very generous donation towards the final cost of these tennis courts.

Both of these areas have had extensive use since their completion. The cricket players are no longer frustrated by "sticky wickets" and the tennis players have commenced training as early as 7.00 a.m., in order to accommodate all groups.

For the first time this year we saw the introduction of a tennis coaching group under the guidance of Western Australia's leading professional, Mr. Rob Casey. As this proved a successful venture, it is hoped to continue with a similar group during the winter term.

In Second Term the hard cricket wickets will be used for a full-scale senior school volleyball programme. This area is also used for Preparatory School and senior inter-house volleyball.

Christ Church Chronicle



additions ← → existing building

THE BROOKING MANUAL ARTS CENTRE

The extensions now under way are the workshop for motors and machines, the laboratory and classroom for applied technology, design and drawing.

THE HEADMASTER REVIEWS ENROLMENTS 1951-1979

The history of enrolments at Christ Church since 1951 is not merely a matter of figures, it is an absorbing study reflecting the growing stature of the school, Commonwealth and State Government policies, the development of the School in accordance with the Council's policy and direction, and parental thinking on the importance of a full secondary education. The downturns in the economy have not brought about a reduction in numbers though the patterns have changed. Even the boarding enrolments have remained steady during the drought years.

The story of the growth of the School at four year intervals is illustrated in the following tables:

TABLE A

Year	Preparatory School	Education Special	Secondary School	Total Enrolment
1951	150		109	259
1955	167		204	371
1959	249		396	645
1963	232		557	789
1967	246		594	840
1971	281		589	870
1975	212	14	621	847
1979	204	17	663	884

TABLE B

Year	Year 11 & 12 Enrolments Inc. in secondary figures	Boarders Primary & Secondary
1951	22	123
1955	41	141
1959	107	141
1963	176	144
1967	218	166
1971	213	181
1975	222	175
1979	249	176

In 1952 Christ Church became a member school of the Headmasters' Conference of Australia and in November 1956 it was invited to join the Public Schools' Association for the numbers in the Secondary School had increased to 242 and the Association decided that Christ Church would now be able to field teams

in all sports and add to the competition. To cope with the growth in numbers the Council purchased twenty acres at Mt. Claremont for playing fields and built classrooms and science laboratories. By the mid-60's the enrolments had passed the 800 mark. Knutsford, now McClemons House, and the present Headmaster's house were purchased at this time. These new properties made it possible to improve the boarding facilities increasing the numbers of boarders to 170 +, to set up the music and art departments and to revise the master plan and proceed with the appeal and building programme of 1967-1973. It was in this period that Sandover, the swimming pool, the School Chapel and the Physical Education Centre were built, and the Special Education Centre and Koorngal were established.

BOARDERS

Boarding enrolments have remained steady throughout the years 1951 to the present day. All places have been filled and in the Secondary School the ratio of boarders to day boys throughout has been 1 : 3. Table B shows the increase in the years which followed the setting up of McClemons House and the building of Sandover but does not point to the reduction of numbers in Parry and Walters and the consequent improvement in study and living conditions. The number of boarders of primary school age has decreased in the last five years due perhaps to the building of additional country primary schools but more to Governments reducing boarding away from home allowances' and taxation concessions for school fees. The Council is continuing its policy of renovating and improving the boarding facilities and the extensive reorganization and renovating of Walters House should be completed in Second Term this year.

PREPARING FOR THE 1980's

In 1975 the Council resolved to limit class sizes in the Secondary School to 28-30 boys (many were 34-35 at that time) and to increase the number of classes to five in each year. The building programme undertaken in late 1974 allowed for this. The first phase was completed in time for the 1976 school year,

the second during 1978 and the final phase will be finished in November this year. Class sizes were reduced and enrolments were increased as places became available and this year at Year 8 and Year 9 there are 146-150 boys at each level which means that we will have only one or two vacancies, if any, at Years 9 and 10 in 1980. There are now very few places in Year 8 for next year but the position does change from month to month. The Secondary School will reach its optimum enrolment within a year or so.

Preparatory School enrolments fell away in the years following 1973 owing to rising fees brought about by inflation and the Commonwealth Government's decision to reduce drastically the taxation concession for school fees. The figures for 1975 and 1979 cannot be directly compared with that of 1971 for Special Education Centre enrolments are included in it. It was in 1974 that the Centre became a separate entity. However, there is now an upward trend in Preparatory School enrolments and the Council decided to add a third Year 7 class for 1980 so that all boys on the waiting list could be offered places. The optimum enrolment has been fixed at 250 and there will now be vacancies at most levels next year.

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ENTRANCE SCHOLARSHIPS

The School Council offers a number of scholarships to boys who will be entering Year 8 in 1980, and are under 13 on 1st January 1980.

Each scholarship is valued at one half of the tuition fee and is tenable for five years subject to satisfactory reports on the boy's work. Bursaries may be offered.

Applications close on Wednesday, 8th August 1979 and this examination will be held at the School on Tuesday, 21st August, 1979.

Enquiries should be directed to the Headmaster's Secretary.

