

## Awatere Schools

Altimarlock
Aotea
Awatere
Blind River
Cape Campbell
Dashwood
Dashwood Pass
Jordan
Marama
Marathon
Richmond Brook
Sea View
Seddon
Starborough
Starborough Downs
Taylor Pass
Tetley Brook
Ugbrooke
Upton Downs
Vernon
Waireka
Warwick Run
Waterfalls (Waterfall)
Weld's Hill

### Altimarlock (1906-1912).

On a side road on the Awatere Valley Road near Aotea

1906	4	Altimarlock	Mulgan	Arabel M		Female	£	24.00
1907	6	Altimarlock	Wilson	Flora		Female	£	42.00
1908	6	Altimarlock	McGill	Cassandra		Female	£	36.00
1909	6	Altimarlock	Bigg-Wither	George	B4	Master	£	36.00
1910	7	Altimarlock	Bigg-Wither	George		Master	£	48.00
1911	3	Altimarlock	Jones	Henry D'Arcy		Master	£	42.00
1912	4	Altimarlock	Craven	Leslie A		Master	£	30.00

### Aotea (1899-1906)

On the Awatere Valley Road towards Molesworth Station

1899	3	Aotea	Pickering	E A		Female	£	15.00
1900	3	Aotea	Neuman	Alice		Female	£	15.00
1901	5	Aotea	Neuman	Alice		Female	£	25.00
1902	5	Aotea	Dixon	Lucy		Female	£	25.00

1903	6	Aotea	Crosbie	Constance		Female	£	25.00
1904	6	Aotea	Smith	P O'Hara		Female	£	30.00
1905	5	Aotea	Neumann	Alice		Female	£	36.00
1906	6	Aotea	Whitty Mrs	E S A		Female	£	36.00

1891/658	Elizabeth Augusta	Sophie	Ferens	Thomas Gerald	Whitty
1915/4237	Whitty		Elizabeth Augusta	Sophie	45Y
1895/7925	Whitty		Thomas Gerald	Elizabeth Augusta	Sophie Thomas Gerald

Thomas Gerald Senior had been married before and had two daughters before his wife died. It appears he went to Australia while still married to Elizabeth. Their son Thomas Gerald died aged 25

#### Papers Past

14<sup>th</sup> June 1899 AWATERE. Mr A. C. McRae, Awatere, wrote asking for assistance for the establishment of an aided school at Aotea. There would be an attendance of five children at first. He recommended the appointment of Miss Pickering as teacher. — The request was granted, the usual conditions to be observed

14<sup>th</sup> May 1900 The appointment of Miss Alice Newman at the aided school Aotea was approved

15<sup>th</sup> January 1901 School furniture was granted to Aotea Aided School (Awatere)

14<sup>th</sup> October 1902 The appointment of Miss L Dixon at Aotea was approved

10<sup>th</sup> February 1903 The appointment of Miss E Causeycas teacher of Aotea was approved

9<sup>th</sup> February 1904 Miss Smith appointed. Miss Newman at Nydia Bay

### Awatere (1895-1896)

In Southern Marlborough, presumably in the Awatere Valley

1895	7	Awatere	Winchester	Alice		Female	£	33.00
1896	6	Awatere	Winchester	Alice	E3	Female	£	29.00

### Blind River (1895-1923)

Just north of the Lake Grassmere and south of Seddon

1895	15	Blind River	Wood	W F		Master	£	60.00
1896	11	Blind River	Wood	W		Master	£	48.00
1897	23	Blind River	Wood	W F		Master	£	78.80
1898	24	Blind River	Wood	W F		Master	£	80.10
1899	23	Blind River	Wood	W F		Master	£	78.10
1900	25	Blind River	Wood	W F		Master	£	81.00
1901	20	Blind River	Wood	W F		Master	£	67.10
1902	27	Blind River	Wood	William F		Master	£	105.15
1903	26	Blind River	Wood	William F		Head	£	112.10
1904	12	Blind River	Barak Mrs	Mary C	E2	Female	£	121.00

1905	12	Blind River	Barak Mrs	Mary C	Female	£	70.00
1906	11	Blind River	Waters	Janet F	Female	£	72.00
1907	12	Blind River	Waters	Janet F	Female	£	78.00
1908	8	Blind River	Waters	Janet	Female	£	72.00
1909	10	Blind River	Waters	Janet F	Female	£	66.00
1910	11	Blind River	Waters	Janet F	Female	£	90.00
1911	11	Blind River	Waters	Janet F	Female	£	90.00
1912	12	Blind River	Waters	Janet F	Female	£	90.00
1913	6	Blind River	Waters	Janet	Female	£	94.10
1914	3	Blind River	Mapp	Elsie	Female	£	90.00
1917	7	Blind River	Malitte	Constance	Sole	£	40.00
1919	12	Blind River	Malitte	Constance	Sole	£	140.00
1921	10	Blind River	Malitte	Constance	Sole	£	190.00
1923	14	Blind River	Watson	Annie E Mrs	D-199	Sole	£215.00

BARAK- -OXBY-- Feb. 12. 1901, at St Michael's and All Angels, Christchurch, by the Rev A. W. Averill, Marcus, second son of Major Barak, to Mary Caroline, eldest daughter of Mrs Oxby, Etonville, Glebe Point. Sydney

Taught at Tauherenikau (Just North of Featherston 1906 to 1909)

1908.16561	Barak	Victor Sidney	Mary Caroline	Marcus
1901/12529	Barak	Gertrude Mabel Montefiore	Mary Caroline	Marcus
1904/10580	Barak	Joseph Montefiore	Mary Caroline	Marcus

22<sup>nd</sup> March 1902 At a special meeting of the Broadfield (*Canterbury*) School Committee held on Thursday evening, it was decided to commend Mrs M. Barak for the position of mistress of the Broadfield School.

Montefiore became a Rhodes Scholar

1944/24015	Barak	Mary Caroline	73Y
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1915 Teaching at Warea Taranaki

Mr Marcus Barak was an itinerant jeweller and watchmaker who appeared in court a few times either complaining about or being charged with financial matters. He was also arrested on returning from Suva

12<sup>th</sup> November 1910 Marcus Barak some time ago conducted a small jewellery business at Clevedon, and on some days worked at Papakura. Presently he disappeared, and it was alleged he took with him articles entrusted to him. Barak was eventually located at Suva, and was brought back to Auckland. He appeared at the Court to answer charges of obtaining, by false pretences, 15s in money, a gold watch, valued at £4, and jewellery valued at £2 10s, and 7s 6d in money. The accused pleaded not guilty, and was committed to the Supreme Court for trial.

Marcus Barak moved to Australia and died there

24<sup>th</sup> January 1905 Pieces From Article. Even the contiguous Blind River estate, which at its initial settlement was a failure through causes that might have been avoided, is now on the path to success—a success that will be hastened by the settlement of the bordering Flaxbourne estate. Blind River settlement was a failure because of the original farms being made too small. Let the authorities beware lest they handicap the Flaxbourne settlement with prohibitive rentals

11<sup>th</sup> April 1905 The Inspector suggested that the school at Blind River be transferred to the Upper Awatere, and the existing residence at that place be used as a household school. Mr Ferguson said that the school attendance at Blind River was on the increase. He added that there was a likelihood of the population at the proposed new site increasing rather than going back. The application was approved, the Department to be asked in due course for a grant.

18<sup>th</sup> April 1905 Smaller subdivisions had been tried in the Blind River settlement, and had been found impracticable. On that property 120-acre sections had had to be increased from time to time up to 900 acres. Furthermore, the people of Starborough had said that 800 acres was necessary to make a living

13<sup>th</sup> November 1905 The action of the Board's school authorising the removal of the water tank was approved

10<sup>th</sup> September 1906 Miss J F Waters appointed

13<sup>th</sup> August 1907 Blind River.—The Board's Architect reported on the condition of the Blind River school building, which the Inspector had drawn attention to at last meeting. The building had certainly bulged, but there was no danger of collapse, and repairs were necessary. As the situation was exposed, he suggested the planting of trees on the south side.—

24<sup>th</sup> October 1907 Our correspondent writes: —The concert, given by the children attending the Awatere schools, assisted by adult friends, last night, was most enjoyable. The items were numerous and varied, and included action songs by the Seddon children, dumb-bell and wand drill by those belonging to the Richmond Brook and Blind River schools; a song, nicely rendered, by Miss Doris Masters; an instrumental duet, "The Parade March," by Misses Brewster and A. Masters, played excellently another by Misses Brewster and I. Cameron, "Mandolinata," also showing pains and skill; a nigger song by four darkies from the old Blind River, very amusing; recitations by Misses E. Masters, I. Barnes, M. Snowden and Master A. Gunn, and four Blind River children, all given with clearness and expression. The Misses R. and C. Foster gave an instrumental duet that delighted their hearers; and Miss Daly, whose clear voice showed no traces of the flue," charmed the audience in two songs that admirably suited her, "Killarney" especially bringing the house down. The hall was crowded, and after the concert both children and adults were regaled with good things supplied by the parents. The Rev. J W. Finlayson, chairman of the Committee, briefly thanked children, teachers, parents and other assistants for their help in making the concert a great success. The proceedings wound up with a dance the music being supplied by Miss Elsie Batty.

14<sup>th</sup> July 1908 Blind River also wanted a tank

21<sup>st</sup> December 1908 Prize Giving BLIND RIVER. Standard '6, L. Waters (competency certificate). Standard 4, 'K. Fissenden. Standard 3, P. Fissenden, I. Waters, B. Dowling. Standard 2, R. Waters, J. Batty. Standard I,' J. Waters C Evans; infants four.

14<sup>th</sup> June 1910 BLIND RIVER. Mr R. M. Roberts wrote informing the Board that Mr Freeman had completed the fence between the Board's property and his at Blind River, and had also used wire netting, for which he desired the Board should allow him payment. It was

pointed out that Mr Freeman had kept the fence in order ever since the school was erected at Blind River. The Board decided to return the netting at the expiration of Mr Freeman's tenure. (*Rabbits were a real problem*)

10<sup>th</sup> August 1910 A STOVE. The Blind River School Committee wrote applying for a stove, at an estimated cost of £5 10s. A letter was also received from Mr C. Fergusson certifying to the need of this stove. It was decided to vote the sum required for the stove.

25<sup>th</sup> April 1911 Blind River: Messrs C. Ferguson (chairman), R. Dysart, J. E. Rogerson, J Batty, jun., and P. Fissenden.

3<sup>rd</sup> May 1911 The internal conditions have become much brighter and more attractive since the Board adopted the policy of painting the interior. The neatest and best adorned were those at Riverlands, Blind River, Marshlands, Omaka, Spring Creek, and St. Joseph's Girls' School (private)

16<sup>th</sup> April 1912 At the instance of Mr Fergusson two desks and a clock were ordered to be supplied to Blind River

11<sup>th</sup> June 1912 The Blind River Committee asked for the usual subsidy on a sum of £8 donated towards the establishment of a school library. In reply to the chairman, Mr Ferguson said that the money, or some j of it, had been saved out of the Committee's funds. The Chairman said that he did not think capitation money could be subsidised. Leave was granted to expend the £8 on the library, the Board to give the usual subsidy on any money shown to have been otherwise raised. The sum of 24s was granted for a grate.

11<sup>th</sup> June 1912 There is too much spoon-feeding of some of our School Committees," said the chairman of the Education Board yesterday during a discussion in which the cost of cleaning the Havelock School was compared unfavourably with that recorded at Blind River. Mr Reader did not think that the Havelock Committee had been extravagant

11<sup>th</sup> April 1913 "A pasture sown with happy faces and with holiday," aptly described the Seddon Domain when the children of Seddon, Marama, Blind River, Sea View, Tetley Brook, Waterfalls, Ward, and Grassmere assembled one day last week for the purpose of holding a combined sports meeting and a picnic. At the instance of the Seddon School Committee a movement was set on foot to have as an annual event a gathering of all the school children of the Awatere and Flaxbourne districts, together with their parents and friends. A strong committee was appointed. Mr W. J. Marfell proving a very efficient secretary, and all worked well to make the meeting a great success. The people of the various school districts subscribed most liberally to the fund for providing the children with prizes, and needless to say, the ladies catered in a thorough manner for the vigorous appetites of young and old. After a hearty lunch had been partaken of, a start was made about one o'clock with the day's programme.' During the afternoon dozens of races and competitions were got off, Messrs F T. Rhodes and H. Fuller acting as handicappers and Messrs Ferguson and Lawrence as judges. Some valuable prizes were given for the principal events, and nearly all the boys and girls were able to take home with them some memento of the day's outing. The races were kept going without intermission until after five, so that everyone was ready to do full justice to the good things that the ladies had provided for tea. A feature of the day was the running of the Rev. A. W. Stace, who outdistanced all competitors in the committeemen's race. No official time was taken, but several bystanders were heard to remark that it was easily a record It is the intention of the committee to hold the next picnic on the 1st of November. The following are the results of the main events:

Senior Boys' High Jump: H. Bell 1, E. Cunliffe, and Lawrence (equal) 2.

Junior Boys' High Jump: T. Cunliffe 1, F. Barnes 2.

Boys' Three-legged Race: W. Kane and E. Waller 1, F. Barnes and X Western 2.

Sack Race: T. Smith 1, W. Dick 2, F. Barnes 3.

Hop, Step and Jump: J. West 1, E. Cunliffe 2, H. Bell 3.  
Boys' Race, 440 yds: A. Linton 1, J. West 2, B. Maher 3.  
Senior Boys' Race, 220 yds: I. Barnes 1, T. Cunliffe 2.  
Junior Boys' Race, 220 yds: J. Dick 1 A. Fleming 2.  
Senior Boys' Race, 120 yds: Schwass 1, F. Barnes 2, J. West 3.  
Senior Boys' Race, 100 yds: A. Kearns 1, F. Barnes 2, E. Cunliffe 3.  
Junior Boys' Race, 100 yds: T. Morrin 1, W. Kane 2, C. Monton 3.  
Senior Girls' Race, 100 yds: J. Ryan 1, A. Rounsell 2, D. Jermyn 3.  
Junior Girls' Race, 100 yds: J. Lothian 1, J. O'Connor 2, M. Francis 3.  
Three-legged Race: M. Dick and F. O'Connor 1, E. McIsaac and I. Mc- Isaac 2.  
Sack Race: J. O'Connor 1, V. O'Connor 2, M. Dick 3.  
Girls' Race, 50yds: J. Ryan 1, D Jermyn 2.

Teachers' Race: Miss Waters 1, Miss O'Leary 2, Miss Fleming 3.

3<sup>rd</sup> May 1913 Owing to the paucity of attendance at the householders' meetings at Nydia Bay and Blind River, school -committees" were, not elected.

15<sup>th</sup> July 1913 The Blind River Committee wrote requesting the Board to pay half the cost of repairing the playground fence and of tree planting. It was stated that the estimated cost would be about £4, and the Committee had agreed to plough the ground.—It was decided to grant £2 towards the work.

12<sup>th</sup> August 1913 Miss Janet F. Waters wrote resigning the Teachership of the Blind River school.—The resignation was accepted, with a month's leave of absence, and it was arranged to call for applications for the vacancy.

14<sup>th</sup> October 1913 Blind River Mrs Smart

11<sup>th</sup> November 1913 The Department, replying to a letter from the secretary, stated that it did not appear that grants were, made for the teachers' residences at Renwick and Blind River. The secretary was instructed to apply formally for the grants due, which 1 were estimated roughly to be £700.

9<sup>th</sup> December 1913 Mrs Jones. Marshlands, applied for twelve months' sick leave from December 1<sup>st</sup>, on account of ill-health.— The granting of the request was recommended by the committee, the members of which desired the retention of the services of Mrs Smart. The application was granted, and Mrs Smart was appointed to fill the vacancy. As Mrs Smart had been appointed to Blind River, it was decided to call fresh applications for the teachership there.

13<sup>th</sup> January 1914 SCHOOL RESIDENCES. The Under-Secretary of the Department wrote intimating that the Minister considered it to be out of the question to make grants in respect to the residences erected at Renwicktown and Blind River several years ago. The secretary was instructed to interview the Under-Secretary at Wellington and convey to him the Board's protest.

10<sup>th</sup> February 1914 Miss Mapp Blind River

1<sup>st</sup> May 1914 BLIND RIVER. Mrs Francis (chairman, secretary, and treasurer), Messrs E. A. Langridge, H. W. J. Williams, P. Fissenden, and T. B. Francis.

15<sup>th</sup> September 1914 The Chairman and Inspector were empowered to deal immediately with the positions that had arisen at the Sea View and Blind River schools, where' the attendances had fallen to almost disappearing point

12<sup>th</sup> January 1915 On the recommendation of Mr Ferguson, it was decided to ask Mr H. Williams to take charge of the Blind River property for the use of the grounds

9<sup>th</sup> January 1915 Mr H. W. J. Williams was appointed caretaker of the Blind River school

15<sup>th</sup> April 1915 A DIFFICULT PROBLEM. The solution, of a scheme to meet the education requirements of the Seaview, Blind River, and Starborough Downs districts has occasioned the Education Board considerable difficulty, and each month the problem becomes more bristling with perplexities. At present the Seaview school is closed owing to the insufficient number of pupils, and, in consequence, the Department was recommended to shift the building to a central position so as to meet the requirements of both the Starborough. Downs and Seaview districts, the existing building in the former locality being very unsuitable for school purposes. This proposal met with opposition, and recently the Board recommended the Department to make a grant for additions to the Starborough Downs school, considering that the cost of this work would only be equal to the expense of removing the Seaview building to a central position. At the Board's meeting on Monday Messrs T. A. Verry and J. Casey, Seaview settlers, were in attendance, and objected to the establishment of the main school at Starborough Downs, as it would probably mean the permanent closing of the Seaview school. They preferred the removal of their building to a central position, but they were keenly desirous of protecting the interests of their own, district. A general discussion, occupying nearly, 1 ½ hours, ensued, the outcome being that the following motions by Mr. McCallum were carried "That the Department be informed that of the scattered district surrounding both the Blind River and Seaview schools neither school should be permanently closed.. The proposed building at Starborough Downs will meet its own requirements and those of the adjoining schools until the number of children of school age is materially ..increased." "That the parents at Starborough Downs are prepared to contribute to the cost of erecting the building there, and it is estimated that a, suitable building will cost something; like £200." "That a. deputation from the Board wait upon the Minister and put the matter before him."

10<sup>th</sup> August 1915 It was decided to rent the school residence to a suitable tenant

18<sup>th</sup> March 1917 The reestablishment of a school at Blind River was approved

1<sup>st</sup> May 1917 School Committee C Ferguson (Chairman) W O'Dwyer, W Clode, R Dysart, J Costello

8<sup>th</sup> February 1928 Blind River J McPherson

1<sup>st</sup> November 1932 Miss A M Roche Sole Teacher

20<sup>th</sup> March 1936 Miss J M Kearney appointed

21<sup>st</sup> September 1937 It is Intended to adopt the consolidation policy to a further degree in one area in the Seddon district. Seaview, Marama, Blind River, Grassmere, and Tetley Brook Schools will be closed as from the beginning of the new school year. The attendance rolls at Ward and Seddon Schools will be increased from 86 to 111 and from 91 to 145 respectively. Education Board representatives commented that in a very great majority of cases parents appeared to agree with the Minister and the Wellington Education Board, which was strongly in favour of the scheme. The policy had been in operation in a number of districts in the North Island, and a start had also been made in Canterbury. This was the first occasion that anything of the kind had been attempted in Marlborough.

## **National Archives:**

1897 600 square Foot

Section 2 Area 9 acres 1 rood 23 perches

Gazetted 1912

Ventilation improved 1933

Residence 1901 4 rooms Scullery

1926 Bathroom washhouse added

1939 Let

### Staffing

1<sup>st</sup> February Appointment of Mrs A E Service holder of a 'D' Certificate and has had 15 years' service

The services of Mrs Malitte has been terminated under the Board's policy of replacing uncertificated wherever qualified persons are available

In the meantime Mrs Watson has been requested to report on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> as a temporary teacher until we hear from the C. Letter to Mr Dysart chairman of Blind River

7<sup>th</sup> February School Committee approves of Mrs Watson's appointment

12<sup>th</sup> October 1923 Letter from Mrs A E Watson and Mr Dysart confirming ay for the Marlborough Show

25<sup>th</sup> February School closed for Annual picnic

18<sup>th</sup> July 1924 Letter from the Secretary Wellington Education Board to Mr Dysart suggesting that Blind River and Grassmere be together as a part time school

Where Mrs Watson taught say Monday, Wednesday and Friday at Blind River and Tuesday, Thursday and SATURDAY on the other days.

This arrangement was worked at 2 schools in the Wairarapa and between Resolution Bay and Endeavour Inlet in the sounds

25<sup>th</sup> July 1924 Reply from Mr Dysart to above letter included

- a) Cannot approve amalgamation and is a great injustice to the Blind River school because it would be unfair to sacrifice the education of 19 children for the welfare of 4
- b) The 4 children could be transported to Blind River a distance of 4 miles They could come by train

Staff Officer sent correspondence to the senior inspector reestablishment of part time schools

- a) Blind River and Grassmere
- b) Jordan and Camden

25<sup>th</sup> August 1924 Mr Bird, Inspector withdraws his suggestion re Blind River and Grassmere Schools

Grassmere has a satisfactory teacher who is prepared to stay there until the end of the year

10<sup>th</sup> January 1924 Annie E Watson writes re lower roll numbers were entirely about lower roll numbers because a number of children were away because of epidemics

Chicken Pox 6 children some away for over 40 school days

Whooping Cough 1

Measles 1 Total number of children away 293 half days

29<sup>th</sup> July 1925 A letter from Blenheim asking that a new appointment to Blind River be a male teacher

10<sup>th</sup> August 1925 Mr P R Kennedy Licensed Teacher 5 ¼ years' service Ratanui (Owaka Otago)

21<sup>st</sup> August 1925 Any accommodation for Mrs Dryden relieving teacher Permanent teacher available First September

24<sup>th</sup> August 1925 Mr E S Burchett appointed Sole Teacher

26<sup>th</sup> August Lodging available for relieving teacher, "No washing done" with respectable family. These are the only conditions under which I can obtain lodging close to school

25<sup>th</sup> August 1925 Temporary appointment of Mr R L Matthews as teacher

19<sup>th</sup> November 1925 Mrs M Sinclair appointed 8 years' service unemployed

26<sup>th</sup> May 1926 Letter from Wellington From Mrs Sinclair asking for another couple of days for holidays as one of her children are sick

28<sup>th</sup> January 1927 Miss M R Russell appointed ex Fiji 26 years' service

1<sup>st</sup> February 1928 Telegram to Mr Costello was not called for states Post Office

10<sup>th</sup> October Miss N P Fisk teacher applying for Marlborough Show Day

8<sup>th</sup> December 1931 LETTER FROM Miss Fisk I have three Standard seven (Form III) pupils and the parents cannot afford to send them to secondary school and the trains are not suitable  
If they took a secondary correspondence course could they attend school as they would do better with a teacher than their parents  
Reply The children could attend but they would not be on the roll

12<sup>th</sup> September 1932 Appointment of Mrs S A Stewart 25 ½ years' service Presently at Mangaroa (Upper Hut) School as Sole Teacher

19<sup>th</sup> September 1932. School Committee have no problems but want a teacher who will live in the residence

17<sup>th</sup> Set Miss Fisk leaves at the end of the month. Mrs Stewart is not coming as Mangaroa School has retained its grading. We will readvertise the position at Blind River

27<sup>th</sup> September 1932 Miss L Henderson appointed relieving teacher

19<sup>th</sup> October 1932 Mrs D G Turvey appointed 8 years' service presently assistant teacher at Pongaroa School.

6<sup>th</sup> February 1933 Mrs Turvey applies for a day for the school picnic

16<sup>th</sup> February 1934 Mrs Turvey applies for a day for the school picnic

31<sup>st</sup> October 1934 Mrs Turvey appointed to Longbush School out of Carterton . The roll will be down to 8 .Of the thirteen The two standard 7 pupils will be leaving. The standard 6 boy going to Nelson College and my two children will have left

3<sup>rd</sup> December 1934 7 families signed a memorial to the fact they would supply Board and Lodgings for a teacher as the school had dropped in grade

7<sup>th</sup> January 1935 Chairman of School Committee A J Dick has checked school residence and found everything in good order

29<sup>th</sup> January 1935 Miss D F Edwards is taking up Sole Teacher at Blind River

20<sup>th</sup> September Letter from Dorothy F Edwards anticipate being called into town as her mother was sick could other ex teacher's replace here. Reply Mrs Barton could replace her

12<sup>th</sup> December Asking about roll and what were the 3 standard 6 children next year?  
Reply all are leaving and only one new pupil is expected all year

15<sup>th</sup> July 1936 As Miss Kearney's wage is over 100 pound you do not have to provide her with Board and Lodgings

14<sup>th</sup> April 1937 Miss Kearney is applying for leave for the Ward Show

6<sup>th</sup> October 1947 The school and site sold to the Awatere County Council 6<sup>th</sup> for £605

### Buildings

22<sup>nd</sup> February 1901 Application for new house 3 chains from railway and on the Great South Road  
5 rooms Sitting Room 12 x 13 two bedrooms 12 x 13 and 10 x 13 Dining room 16 x 13 match lined.  
Kitchen 10 x 10 Range and brick chimney- Verandah and passage. Double brick chimney with  
grate in each

Wash house, coal house, store room, W. C

No of families 18

No of school age children 32

Seddon 4 miles Richmond Brook 12 Miles Flaxbourne 15 Miles

Site School reserve 10 acres

Estimated cost £287.17. School first held in a room for 3 years- two years ago Education Board  
built a large school The attendance is 32 with a good prospect of a large increase when the  
Government acquires the Flaxbourne Estate as the Blind River Estate is contiguous

10<sup>th</sup> October 1913 Marlborough Education Board w=asking how much was paid for residences at  
Renwick and Blind River. Department replied it doesn't appear they ever made

16<sup>th</sup> April The debate goes on The Department says they never promised in 1900 and the  
Marlborough Education Board says yes you did. There is a lot of two and froing and no evidence

14<sup>th</sup> April 1915 Improvements were being made to the residence

31<sup>st</sup> July 1933 The building is very old 16 studs and the Windows 4 with the windows touching the  
top plate

Health Inspector I consider the Blind River School quite unsatisfactory from a health point of  
view Ventilation is inadequate the windows are wrongly placed and difficult to manipulate Of the  
13 on the roll 4 have been definitely tuberculosis contacts and 2 others a history of a deceased  
father who had pleurisy several times

I recommend new windows be installed for £4016<sup>th</sup> March Department authorises new windows

31<sup>st</sup> January 1936 Notes Minister of Education for his visit

Sole Teacher Miss D Edwards. Average attendance 10. Area 9 acres 1 rood 23 perches

School built in 1897

Residence of 4 rooms erected 1901. Bathroom and washhouse were provided in 1926

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## Cape Campbell (1892-1902, 1906,1907)

A sheep farming district and lighthouse at Southern end of Clifford Bay

1892		Cape Campbell	Winchester	Alice	Female	£	21.00
1893	5	Cape Campbell	Winchester	Alice	Female	£	25.00
1894	6	Cape Campbell	Winchester	Alice	Female	£	29.00
1895	5	Cape Campbell	Jeffries	Alice	Female	£	25.00
1896	6	Cape Campbell	Jeffries	Alice	Female	£	29.00
1897	2	Cape Campbell	Gill	Celia	Female	£	10.00

1898	7	Cape Campbell	Dow	Agnes	Female	£	33.00
1899	6	Cape Campbell	Middlemiss	Millicent	Female	£	29.00
1900	9	Cape Campbell	Middlemiss	Millicent	Female	£	41.00
1901	9	Cape Campbell	Middlemiss	Millicent	Female	£	41.00
1902	6	Cape Campbell	Neumann	Alice	Female	£	56.00
1906	3	Cape Campbell	Tutt	Alfred	Master	£	18.00
1907	4	Cape Campbell	Tutt	Alfred	Master	£	24.00

Cape Campbell Lighthouse is a lighthouse at Cape Campbell in the Marlborough region of the South Island of New Zealand. It is owned and operated by Maritime New Zealand. The original lighthouse at this site was first lit on 1 August 1870. Wikipedia

#### Papers Past

14<sup>th</sup> February 1895 CAPE CAMPBELL aided school teacher wanted, salary Thirty Pounds per annum, with free Board and Lodging. Apply at once to W. CUNNINGHAM, Cape Campbell, via Flaxbourne.

15<sup>th</sup> May 1895 The appointment of Miss Alice Jeffries as teacher was approved

15<sup>th</sup> April 1902 Provision was made for the continuation of the aided school at Cape Campbell lighthouse

23<sup>rd</sup> October 1908 Wanted a lady teacher for the Cape Campbell School

11<sup>th</sup> January 1909 A TEACHER is required for the Aided School at Cape Campbell Lighthouse. Salary. £36, and freeboard and lodging. Apply to Secretary, Education Board.

28<sup>th</sup> September 1909 A teacher is wanted for Cape Campbell School

14<sup>th</sup> December 1909 The correspondent of Cape Campbell school has advised that Miss Leonard had been appointed

#### National Archives:

6<sup>th</sup> November 1919 Application for a school

4 Families with 13 children

Grassmere 9 miles Blind River 9 Miles Ward 13 Miles

6 Miles away from Hauwai Railway Station

No building suitable as a school

Section Available Section 7 Cape Campbell SD 2177 Acres F J Rutland Freehold will give one acre to the Board

Rimu Timber can be obtained at Blenheim for 28 shillings per 100 feet

Transport by Rail and Cart 3/- per 100 foot extra

Site fairly level grass and tussock paddock. 1 chain (22 Feet) fronting public Road

Three houses are within half a mile of proposed site where teacher could have board and lodgings for 12 shillings per week. If the Board subsidy was insufficient we would make the remainder up

The settlers will build the school and hand it over to the Board with 1 acre of land free of charge if the Board will pay the teacher

Nearest Post Office Grassmere

Application signed by F J Rutland and Thomas Neal listed as correspondent

Family	Occupation	Distance from Proposed school	Children's Names	Age	
T Neal	Farmer	1 Mile	Ethel Linda	13	

			Herbert Percy	9	
			Donald Ernest	5	
			Lilian Ruby	3	
T Mackie	Manager	Adjoining	Charles Fitzpatrick	5	
			Henry James	3	
			Ellen Mavis	2	
			Florence Edith	10 weeks	
F H Rutland	Farmer	Adjoining	Kathleen Bridget	10	
			Joshua Douglas	4	
J Cunningham	Farmer	No residence yet			
Mathew Bros	Farmer	2 Miles			
			Betty Crupp	6	
			Kerrin Crupp	4	
			Lorraine Crupp	2	

Nearest School Grassmere

28<sup>th</sup> September 1920

Letter to Mr T Neal included

- a) No reply as letter went to Department
- b) The question of an appointment is now receiving attention and hope to send someone in a fortnight's time.
- c) Miss Nieper has been appointed to another school (Brancott)
- d) Presume there will be at least 6 children
- e) This means the Wellington Education Board will pay £72 pound per annum
- f) The Parents will have to provide £28 with addition of fee board and lodgings

Footnote Miss Fisk sent to take temporary charge 1<sup>st</sup> October

25<sup>th</sup> November 1920 T Neal writes that only 1 child goes to school at present. Thinks it should be closed

Letter from Thos. Fraser of Marlborough Office of Wellington Education Board that school is down to One. I intend to send Miss N Fisk as relieving assistant to Seddon on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> inst  
7<sup>th</sup> June 1920 Proposal to open school

G H Rutland 1 mile from school, ward of Seddon nearest school Children all on Correspondence  
Lilian Margaret 11, Frances Elizabeth 8, Lauris Jennifer 7, Gina Mavis 1

C R Tapp Farm Managers Arthur Robert 5, Valerie Margaret 4

Ward 16 miles, Seddon 16 miles, Blenheim 32 miles

Temporarily or duration of the war. New house under construction

Accommodation single room for teacher in furnished house ¾ mile away £1.00 per week

10<sup>th</sup> June Only four children are eligible for a school to be established/ the minimum number is five

SENIOR inspector NOTICE to a Miss Ahern that the school could be opened when roll reached

Valerie Tapp will be 5 on the 18<sup>th</sup> November this year

18<sup>th</sup> November Mr C R Tapp writes to Wellington Education Board pleading for a school as they haven't the time to transport children

12<sup>th</sup> December 1940 School approved provided Mr Duckworth Wellington Education Board member approved of accommodation

10<sup>th</sup> April 41 Mr Duckworth reported

- a) A new house was being built but the Builder Mr Rutledge went to war. We suggest it be finished with a room and kitchen for the teacher
- b) Work has been recommenced and will be ready for the 5<sup>th</sup> February
- c) We suggest a male teacher for the role
- d) Rutledge will furnish the room and one or the other of them will provide the teacher with a hot meal a day. Also they will take him into town when they go which is approximately once a month

8<sup>th</sup> February 1941 Letter from R Ryan to Senior Inspector Wellington

- a) I have been appointed Sole Teacher
- b) I have been advised by Mr Duckworth to apply to spend a week at the Spring Creek School

Footnote from Inspector Any untrained teacher should be given an opportunity to visit an approved school soon or before his appointment

27<sup>th</sup> February Letter from Mr C R Tapp stating they are unanimous (All 2) in approving Mr Ryan's visit to Spring Creek

17<sup>th</sup> May 1941 Mr Tapp writes to Wellington Education Board asking what materials are supplied for setting up a Grade 1 school

2<sup>nd</sup> September Average roll was 5

28<sup>th</sup> May 1959 Removed from the land register

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### Dashwood (1934-1936}

23<sup>rd</sup> July 1934 Miss E Tully Sole Teacher Dashwood

27<sup>th</sup> May 1935 Miss L H Hill appointed

27<sup>th</sup> January 1936 Miss A L Gainsford appointed

National Archives

29<sup>th</sup> October 1933 Application to start a school

Head of Family	Occupation	Distance from Seddon	Child	Age	
E F L Snowden	Farmer	3 Miles	Reta Snowden	6	
R A Marfell	Farmer	3 ½	Paul Marfell	7	
			Douglas Marfell	5	
A Berry	Farmer	3 ¾	Naomi Berry	12	
F C Inkersell	Labourer		Margaret Inkersell	5	
R J McRae	Farmer	4 ½	Robert McRae	7	

G Allen	Farmer	8	Noela Allen	12	
			Jeffrey Allen	11	
			James Allen	9	

*Awatere Bridge dangerous for small children*

14<sup>th</sup> January 1938 Wellington Education Board to G Allen Box 18 Seddon

Included If suitable transport cannot be got for children to travel to Seddon then school will have to reopen and a temporary teacher be employed

It is understood your child travelled to Dashwood school (5 Miles) on a pony and if this is so he could continue to ride the pony in order to meet the conveyance

If you have a large car capable of moving seven or eight children would you care to submit a tender to convey the Dashwood Children

You could board the boy in Seddon and receive a boarding allowance of 10 shillings per week

16<sup>th</sup> June 1938 Letter from Wellington Education Board to F B Stratford who wanted to purchase building The Dashwood school building is privately owned

We do not know if it is for sale

11<sup>th</sup> October 1933 Letter from J McRae to Wellington Education Board in reply to correspondence from Board included

1. We would prefer a teacher than allowance for conveyance to Seddon
2. In your letter you say it is possible to have a fully paid teacher with 6 children
3. We wish to apply for one at the start of 1934
4. Then there will be six children one of whom is five and will not turn six till later in the term
5. The teacher we have has decided to stay to the end of the year
6. The children have been doing the correspondence lessons from Wellington so if you send us a suitable teacher also they would be subject to examination by your Inspector
7. We have a little school building with desks and will be able to get any equipment necessary

30<sup>th</sup> October Letter from Wellington Education Board to Mr. McCallum Member of Wellington Education Board that Mrs McCrae has not sent back required forms

(Also a note re Miss Graham relieving teacher at Okaramio it would be advisable if Mr. Kennington the chairman of the School Committee to suggest to Miss Graham take an interest in children outside the school

School was on a site beside the Dashwood Railway Station

A lot of correspondence between Mrs McRae and Web re ages of children

29<sup>th</sup> October 1933 Application for a school Seddon Scholl 2 ½ miles from proposed site

Private School 10 foot x 12 Foot on E Snowden's place free of charge

Settlers provide Board free for the teacher.

29<sup>th</sup> January 1934 Inspector approves application for a school at Dashwood

24<sup>th</sup> February 1934 Donald McCallum board member writes about establishing a school at Dumgree

26<sup>th</sup> February 1934 Department approves of a school at Dashwood

28<sup>th</sup> February 1934 Letter from Mrs McRae saying now they know the school is to be open they can erect the school in about three weeks

With regard the teacher could she Board in Seddon and bicycle to school If wet the to take turns to take her to school

Reply that teacher must live in district and not live in Seddon as above

14<sup>th</sup> March 1934 Dashwood school will be opening in about a fortnight. Would you please arrange for furniture for 8 children to be sent (Furniture is to be loaned)

23<sup>rd</sup> March Letter from Mrs McRae

- a) School will be ready after Easter Holidays
- b) We will have 9 children starting
- c) We need to know arrangements so we can meet the train etc.

10<sup>th</sup> April We cannot guarantee a male teacher

Miss C Smart who at present is at the Huritini School near French Pass

Please arrange open Dashwood School near Seddon next Monday instead returning Dillon's Point telephone Mrs McRae Dashwood re time of arrival

16<sup>th</sup> May 1934 Letter from Wellington Education Board to Mr. A Berry Chairman of the Dashwood School Committee There is no capitation as such but the Board does supply chalk, pens and ink etc.

28<sup>th</sup> June 1934 Letter to Mrs J McRae Dashwood Correspondent In view of the fact that Miss Brooker has declined appointment I am enclosing a copy of a letter I have sent you Miss Tully

29<sup>th</sup> October 1934 Miss M Wastney appointed as relieving Sole Teacher

26<sup>th</sup> November 1934 Letter from Elizabeth Tully resigning as from 2<sup>nd</sup> December 1934 Parents are anxious about a replacement

3<sup>rd</sup> December Wellington Education Board has no relievers, best close the school for the rest of the year Letter to Mrs J McRae

15<sup>th</sup> January 1935 Letter from A Berry Secretary Roll will be 8

Will you kindly address all mail to A Berry

23<sup>rd</sup> January I cannot find the daily register, What Miss Tully has done with it I do not know. A Berry

23<sup>rd</sup> January A Berry writes I have posted to you the school register which was found by my daughter at the school

30<sup>th</sup> January 1935 Miss I Price relieving Sole Teacher appointed

6<sup>th</sup> February Letter from A Berry asking that Miss price be made a permanent teacher

If Miss Price applies and is the highest graded applicant she will be appointed

20<sup>th</sup> February State School Westport Letter from Miss Tully enclosing a form. Her mail had not been sent on to her

9<sup>th</sup> April 1935 letter to Miss B Gibbs Sole Teacher at Dashwood changing Easter dates

20<sup>th</sup> May 1935 As Miss Souter has another appointment with another Board we are now arranging for Miss L Hill to be appointed

12<sup>th</sup> September 1935 Miss Hill writes that the roll is now 10

29<sup>th</sup> October 1935 Letter from A Berry asking that Miss Hill be appointed until December 1936

Reply It is impossible to do this but she will certainly continue until the end of the year

11<sup>th</sup> December 1935 Miss A L Gainsford appointed 10 years service at present infant mistress of Taylorville school

31<sup>st</sup> March 1936 Artha L Gainsford writes to Board Re not sending in a return that did not apply to Dashwood School but still had to send it in

School picnic was held on 12<sup>th</sup> February

16<sup>th</sup> October 1936 Miss Gainsford writes school closed for Blenheim A and P Show

5<sup>th</sup> April 1937 Miss Gainsford writes school will be closed so children can attend the Elaxbourne A and P Show

17<sup>th</sup> December 1937 Three pages of foolscap listing all Furniture Tools Apparatus in Dashwood school including a long list of library books

Written by Artha L Gainsford writes that she is leaving Dashwood School

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### Dashwood Pass (1891)

1891 8 Dashwood Pass Old JJ Master £ 28.00

On State Highway 1 Between Blenheim and Seddon

7<sup>th</sup> April 1891 Mr Gridley waited on the Board respecting the education of his children. He had engaged Mr Old as tutor. It was decided to make his dwelling at Vernon a household school, under the title of "Dashwood Pass Aided School." The appointment of Mr Old as teacher was confirmed.

19<sup>th</sup> February 1892 DASHWOOD PASS. The teacher at this school reported having left the school, and claiming a small amount due. The money was passed for payment

See Vernon School

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### Jordan (1910-1923)

A long way down Awatere Valley Road towards Molesworth Station

Jordan 1912 192 Square Feet

Closed by Marlborough Education Board 1938

Part Section 13 Block 16 Hodder SD Area 1 acre

1910	8	Jordan	Moore	Bertha H	Female	£48.00	
1911	9	Jordan	Moore	Bertha H	Female	£90.00	£10.00
1912	10	Jordan	Moore	Bertha	Female	£90.00	£10.00

1913	10	Jordan	Moore	Bertha	Female	£90.00	£10.00
1914	7	Jordan	Moore	Bertha	Female	£ 99.00	£10.00
1915	6	Jordan	Moore	Bertha	Female	£ 108.00	£10.00
1917	7	Jordan	Clunies Ross	I C	Sole	£48.00	
1919	6	Jordan	Clunies Ross	I C	Sole	£84.00	
1921	8	Jordan	Aroa	Lilian M	Sole	£120.00	
1923	9	Jordan	Kerr	Frank W	B-209	Sole	£195.00

14<sup>th</sup> December 1909 A NEW SCHOOL. An application was received from the Jordan settlers for the establishment of a school there. It was pointed out that there were already eight children, ranging from five to 12 years of age, who would commence, school immediately one was established. The Board granted the application, and decided to ask the Government to take the school over as soon as an average of twelve-children had been maintained for three months

12<sup>th</sup> January 1910 THE JORDAN SCHOOL. The secretary of the Jordan School Committee notified the Board that the settlers had decided to erect a school on a site donated—Received

17<sup>th</sup> June 1910 JORDAN AIDED SCHOOL. A TEACHER is required for the Aided School at Jordan; one able to teach music preferred. Sixth Standard Proficiency Certificate necessary. Salary, £36 and free board and lodging. Apply to— SECRETARY, Education Board.

26<sup>th</sup> April 1911 The Molesworth coach was late in arriving at Blenheim last night owing to the flooded state of the rivers beyond the- Jordan. The driver of the coach, Mr C. Attwell, was unable to cross the Hodder River, and was obliged to pack the mail from the Jordan to Molesworth. He packed the return mail from Molesworth to the Jordan yesterday, a distance of 40 miles, in seven hours, and arrived here with the coach at about 8.30 p.in. Mr Attwell thinks that a waterspout must have burst on Mount Tapuaenuka, as the water seemed to be confined to the one locality, and the rivers in other parts were not flooded to any extent

15<sup>th</sup> August 1911 A NEW SCHOOL. Mr Dalziel asked the Board if it would give a subsidy on £23 collected for the erection of a school at the Jordan. It was decided to inform Mr Dalziel that an application was to be made to the Land Department for ten acres of land for a school ground; and to the Education Department for a subsidy for the erection of this proposed school forthwith

13<sup>th</sup> February 1912 The Land Board notified the setting apart of five acres at Jordan for school purposes.

13<sup>th</sup> March 1912 The Land Commissioner stated that he would visit Jordan shortly, probably with the Inspector of Schools, and a suitable school site would be selected.

14<sup>th</sup> May 1912 Mr Dalziel wrote that an acre of freehold was available for a school site at Jordan for £8

9<sup>th</sup> July 1912 JORDAN. Mr -John Dalziel wrote: advising that Mr Oswald was prepared to sell an acre of land for a school site for £8, subject to a right-of-way.—The matter was referred to the Inspector and Secretary to make the best possible arrangement.

10<sup>th</sup> September 1912 Mr. Dalziel reported as to the timber on hand' for the erection of a school at the Jordan.

11<sup>th</sup> March 1913 It was resolved that the Jordan Committee be asked to submit an estimate of the cost of rendering the ceiling and walls free from draughts.

15<sup>th</sup> April 1913 The architect was instructed to have the work of improving the lining of the Jordan school carried out at once

19<sup>th</sup> February 1920 Miss D Waiti Jordan (aided)

16<sup>th</sup> September 1920 Miss L Aroa Jordan (aided)  
7<sup>th</sup> March 1928 M A J Duggan Sole Teacher Jordan  
3<sup>rd</sup> February 1931 Miss F W Climo Sole Teacher Jordan  
27<sup>th</sup> May 1935 Miss K L Cutler Sole Teacher at Jordan  
30<sup>th</sup> November Mr C S Insley (Sole Teacher) Jordan  
15<sup>th</sup> February 1938 Mrs GL Flannery Sole Teacher Jordan

National Archives: 1912 192 square feet

Removed 1951

Part Section 12 Block 16 Hodder SD Area 1 acre

Site transferred to Crown 1957

Closed in 1938

30<sup>th</sup> January 1922 Miss Aroa was three weeks late in giving her resignation hope a teacher can be employed

8<sup>th</sup> February 1922 Miss West will meet train Friday night and look after Miss Wiseman

29<sup>th</sup> January 1923 Temporary appointment of Mr. F W Kerr as sole teacher

30<sup>th</sup> January Telegram has a teacher been appointed to Jordan

30/1<sup>st</sup> 1923 Mr. Kerr appointed leave Wellington Fridays steamer 1<sup>st</sup> February Telegram Please advise Kerr come Seddon Morning car advise me which day

2/2/23. Kerr leaving Wellington Wainui Saturday morning will telephone you on arrival Blenheim

27<sup>th</sup> February Mr. Kerr 21 years 4 years' service. Training college studentship 2 years

At present a temporary appointment

5<sup>th</sup> March Letter from Walter L Oswald saying they are quite satisfied with Mr. Kerr as teacher and hope the appointment will be confirmed.

6<sup>th</sup> August 1923 Letter from Mr. Ker asking to postpone school holidays so he could sit University Term papers for BA

2<sup>nd</sup> February 1923 Mr. Kerr advises he has another appointment in the Wellington area and has resigned

We have found a man teacher much more suitable to the district and would like a man appointment if possible

22<sup>nd</sup> January 1924 Telegram from Oswald asking if an appointment has been made

28<sup>th</sup> January Telegram from School Committee If Teacher crossed Friday night could met Blenheim Saturday otherwise awkward

29<sup>th</sup> January 1924 Mr. E G Caigou approved

30<sup>th</sup> January Mr. Slater selected as permanent teacher Endeavouring arrange him proceed Friday's boat instead Caigou

Mr. Slater 2 years' service Grading 224

24<sup>th</sup> April 1924 Letter from Mr. Oswald asking what happens as roll has dropped, Average attendance for past year was 8.7

23<sup>rd</sup> May 1924. School dropped in roll Mr. Slater gone Mr. A G Lambert appointed

29<sup>th</sup> May Slater authorised proceed Jordan secure books etc. proceed immediately afterwards to Tunakino

10<sup>th</sup> June Letter from Mr. Halliday Camden School asking for two We would be willing to convey the teacher we find at Camden the "Mail Course" (*Correspondence*) puts a lot of work on parents

1<sup>st</sup> July Half time schools approved by Wellington Education Board. Work is to best for other 2 days so children can do work at home thus having 5 days

7<sup>th</sup> July Roll at Jordan upto 8 there for not wanting to have part time school

25<sup>th</sup> August 1925 Inspector reported included

a) Jordan attendance 6.9. Camden 2

b) Don't think number of children at Camden warrants a part time school

19<sup>th</sup> September After a lot of questions over compliance of paying Grade O Teacher's salary

21<sup>st</sup> January Letter from Wellington Education Board stating that Mr. Lambert's salary has not been made for the minimum amount required £7.10.0 and he needs to be paid

25<sup>th</sup> January I am understanding that Mr. Lambert is resigning his position and will the Board supply another teacher

I anticipate there will be 9 children

23<sup>rd</sup> January 1925 Wellington Education Board No reply will be sent until you answer the letter re paying Mr. Lambert's balance

25<sup>th</sup> February 1925 Letter to Mr. Oswald included: That the parents at Jordan be notified that the Board will have to consider closing the school unless it gets a written undertaking that its bylaws will be adhered to

21<sup>st</sup> March Letter stating the parents will comply with the Bylaws

24<sup>th</sup> April Miss Hamilton appointed

22<sup>nd</sup> May Telegram re Miss Hamilton Oswald will meet Miss Hamilton at Club Hotel Tuesday morning

Many further letters written

17<sup>th</sup> April 1926 Term holidays altered Teacher Miss T Hamilton

13<sup>th</sup> April 1926 Miss Hamilton still teaching. Oswald's would be away and the only place Miss Hamilton could stay is with them so holidays altered

24<sup>th</sup> June Miss Hamilton Transferred to Pukenui Ruakokopatuna half time school South of Martinborough and Jordan children will go onto correspondence

26<sup>th</sup> June Roll Now 8 what will Wellington Education Board do?

29<sup>th</sup> June 1926 Miss Foster leaves Wellington Friday

1<sup>st</sup> July Telegram Will met Miss Foster 11 am Saturday Newman's Garage

2<sup>nd</sup> July Miss Foster now not available

3<sup>rd</sup> July Have secured teacher who requires accommodation for self and daughter. Lodging for daughter will be paid for

5<sup>th</sup> July Mrs Barclay's Daughter aged 11

6<sup>th</sup> July Lodging arranged will be Newman's garage 11 Thursday Morning

29<sup>th</sup> August Mr. Oswald wrote a long letter about Mrs Barclay's behaviour

2<sup>nd</sup> September Telegram from Barclay asking to open school

Circular In Teachers of Household schools. Teachers are not expected to provide household services except keeping her own room

2<sup>nd</sup> December 1926 Teacher's do not have to clean the school in Household schools

17<sup>th</sup> December Miss E P Dougherty appointed

2<sup>nd</sup> February Miss Doherty didn't understand why returns hadn't been received from Kahana (*Presumably in the sounds but I couldn't find a reference to it*) School as they had been posted at Pictou

4<sup>th</sup> March 1927 Mrs Barclay ran up costs of 11 shillings and 11d to School Committee at Jordan

15<sup>th</sup> March Mr. Grandville bookseller put wrong address on the account

13<sup>th</sup> January 1928 Oswald to Wellington Education Board Opening roll is seven

3<sup>rd</sup> February 1928 Miss Goulton takes temporary charge

2<sup>nd</sup> April 1928 Miss McIntosh can't start until 11<sup>th</sup> April

2<sup>nd</sup> April Telegram from Oswald. Understand Miss Goulton is staying

16<sup>th</sup> May Miss C E Goulton appointed

28<sup>th</sup> November 1928 Miss Goulton writes that there is some problem with accommodation

1<sup>st</sup> December Angry reply from Mr. Oswald stating that none of the matters had been discussed with Miss Goulton

31<sup>st</sup> May 1929 Mr. D V Banks head teacher is asked for returns

6<sup>th</sup> February 1930 Miss Thompson appointed

*File not completely finished but the same problems went on until closing*

23<sup>rd</sup> February 1938 School closed from end of month

11<sup>th</sup> May 1949. Letter to Mr. L A Rule Christchurch included

- a) School was built in 1912
- b) The roll number would probably vary between 15 to 9
- c) The school was closed on 28<sup>th</sup> February 1938 due to lack of pupils
- d) The school is periodically inspected and maintained (*Yeah Right!*)

17<sup>th</sup> June 1969 Section transferred to the crown Part Section 13 Block XVI Hodder Survey district. 1 Acre. Also on site was a small one roomed school

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## Marama (1911-1923)

On the Southern Bank of Awatere River South West of Seddon Name changed from Richmond Brook

1897 315 square feet

1911 168 square feet added

Section 6 Block XXI Taylors Pass SD Area 27 acers

School buildings to be made available to Seddon probably to dismantle and use towards erection of a hall. The hall to be made available for school purposes if required

Residence

1897 2 rooms 1928 Bathroom added

379 Square Feet

1911	28	Marama	Greig	Arthur Gray	C4	Master	£ 155.00	
1912	23	Marama	Greig	Arthur G	C4	Master	£ 160.00	
1913	19	Marama	Greig	Arthur G	C4	Master	£ 165.00	
1914	21	Marama	Greig	Arthur G	C4	Master	£ 175.00	
1915	17	Marama	Mallitte Mrs	Constance		Female	£ 126.00	£20.00
1917	14	Marama	Greig	Arthur G	C-77	Sole	£190.00	
1919	10	Marama	Smith	Margaret	C	Sole	£140.00	
1921	16	Marama	Strack	Elsbeth Mrs		Sole	£170.00	
1923	16	Marama	Woodhouse	Elizabeth C	D-223	Sole	£195.00	

14<sup>th</sup> November 1911 MARAMA GLEBE. Arthur G. Greig, teacher at the Marama school, applied for the lease of the school reserve. The application was endorsed by the committee, with a suggestion that the teacher have the reserve free, and that a teacher's residence be built on it. Mr Greig was allowed 10 acres, as soon as the land was available

1952/31074 Greig

Arthur Gray

66Y

Associated with Foote Family

Arthur Greig went from Marama to teach at the Carluke School

Served In World War 1 Certified Unfit in 1917 returned to NZ

22<sup>nd</sup> April 1912 rooms at Marama and Flat Creek were enlarged

15<sup>th</sup> October 1912 TEACHERS' RESIDENCES. A request was received for the erection of a teacher's residence at Marama. The Secretary reported that he had forwarded an application to the Government for a grant.—A grant was made for a cupboard. (*Not sure if that was for the teacher's bed?*)

17<sup>th</sup> April 1913 Inspector reports that Marama needs an improved teacher's residence

13<sup>th</sup> May 1913 Messrs J Jermyn and J Maher joined School Committee

9<sup>th</sup> July 1913 Awatere County Council: A communication from the Marama School Committee concerning the damage done to the fences surrounding the school property by horses owned by the Council's teamsters was held over

9<sup>th</sup> September 1913 MARAMA.

The teacher wrote with reference to the necessity for better residential conditions. The secretary mentioned that the Minister for Education had intimated that all applications for teacher's residences would be considered this month. In this case an application had been made about two years ago. It was decided to inform the teacher that all correspondence relative to school requisites should be forwarded through the local committee.

9<sup>th</sup> December 1913 MARAMA,

The Committee wrote with reference to additions to the teacher's residence which had been promised by the Board some time ago. It was stated that application had been made to the Government for a grant., for the work about two years ago.

On Mr Mackay's motion, the secretary was instructed to apply to the Department for a grant for the work.

16<sup>th</sup> April 1914 The secretary was instructed to make a formal application, for the quarry reserve of six acres between Marama and Seddon for a school site

13<sup>th</sup> April 1915 TEACHERSHIPS. It was decided to arrange for a temporary teacher at Marama, Mr A. Greig having volunteered for service -with, the New Zealand Expeditionary Force

14<sup>th</sup> September 1915 The chairman- oi the Marama School Committee wrote asking for improvements to the-school-residence.— It was decided to put the matter before the Department immediately.

21<sup>st</sup> March 1923 Mr T G Reader resigns

11<sup>th</sup> February 1926 Mr N Hayes appointed

21<sup>st</sup> September 1937 It is Intended to adopt the consolidation policy to a further degree in one area in the Seddon district. Seaview, Marama, Blind River, Grassmere, and Tetley Brook Schools will be closed as from the beginning of the new school year. The attendance rolls at Ward and Seddon Schools will be increased from 86 to 111 and from 91 to 145 respectively. Education Board representatives commented that in a very great majority of cases parents appeared to agree with the Minister and the Wellington Education Board, which was strongly in favour of the scheme. The policy had been in operation in a number of districts in the North Island, and a start had also been made in Canterbury. This was the first occasion that anything of the kind had been attempted in Marlborough.

*National Archives:*

1897 -1930

Original 315 square feet

1911 Added 168

Section 6 Block XXI Taylor Pass SD Area 27 acres

Residence 2 rooms 1926 Bathroom added

349 Square feet

1950- 1959

3<sup>rd</sup> April 1950 Seddon School approved the Marama School Building to Domain Seddon

8<sup>th</sup> May 1950 Wellington Education Board writes to Director saying building is one classroom and small teacher's living quarters The building is over 50 years old and in a bad state of repair. It was previously condemned as not fit to shift and place in Seddon School as a classroom

Marama School Site Section 6 Block XXI and Part section 9 Block XXIII Taylor Pass SD 27 acres 3 roads

Mr. Cragg is tenant of the site and also tenant of the Waterfall School site

*Staffing*

1921-1926

25<sup>th</sup> January 1921 Telegram HAVE HEARD NOTHING APPOINTMENT NEW TEACHER CHAIRMAN MARAMA

31<sup>st</sup> February 1921 PINCKNEY CHAIRMAN MARAMA Requesting Miss Fisk take temporary charge Marama School Should report about Wednesday

17<sup>th</sup> February 1921 Mrs Stack appointed Marama Instructed to report as from March 1<sup>st</sup>

4<sup>th</sup> July 1921 Mr. J Jermyn Chairman writes to Wellington Education Board

- a) The accommodation is too small for the teacher to keep a companion
- b) It would not be wise for a young person like herself to live on her own

c) Considering that she has to Board out. We think £30 per year is too much to deduct from her salary

Department replies through Education Board that there is no way we cannot deduct if accommodation is provided

17<sup>th</sup> December 1921 School has just broken up to allow the teacher to attend school in Blenheim writes Mr. Jermyn. The committee is very well pleased with Mrs Strack she takes a great interest in the children Would you please keep her in our school

9<sup>th</sup> February 1922 The final decision has not been made re uncertificated teachers so Mrs Strack can continue at your school in the meantime

27<sup>th</sup> January 1923 Miss Theo G Reader at present on the staff of Blenheim School. Mrs Strack who has temporarily filling the position for some time has been informed accordingly

2<sup>th</sup> April 1923 Mr. Jermyn writes I went to the school today. It is a great credit to her she left everything so clean. She got the big boys to clean out the tank and we are sorry she left There is no water at the school at present.

5<sup>th</sup> April 1923 Has a teacher been appointed? Mr. Jermyn to Wellington Education Board

9<sup>th</sup> April Wellington Education Board trying to arrange Miss Dorothy Wilkins of Blenheim School as a temporary teacher

19<sup>th</sup> April 1923 Miss C Woodhouse appointed 6  $\frac{3}{4}$  teaching Present Relieving

? 1924 Miss N Fisk Temporary appointment Marama. Mr. T W Denton now School Committee chairman

19<sup>th</sup> June 1924 Miss J Harford appointed 7 years' service Teacher under Auckland Board

25<sup>th</sup> June 1924 Miss Harford not eligible to move from Auckland Board as she has only served 2 months not the year that is required

Miss S M Cranmer appointed 3  $\frac{1}{2}$  years' experience Relieving Teacher

Mr. Denton writes there have been so many changes in teachers that the children are not getting along as well as they should

5<sup>th</sup> March 1925 Miss Cranmer advised the Education Board that there is some problem in getting accommodation. She is not able to get a companion to live with her and doesn't want to live on her own

12<sup>th</sup> March 1925 Mr. Denton replies no accommodation available

30<sup>th</sup> March Wellington Education Board replies to Mr. Denton School will be closed if no accommodation is provided

16<sup>th</sup> April Mr. Denton writes we did find accommodation at some of the best houses in the district. Rather than threatening the school the Education Board should appoint a teacher who is prepared to reside in the school residence

24<sup>th</sup> April 1925 Mr. Cranmer has resigned

29<sup>th</sup> April The Board has appointed Miss Currie who is in Auckland to proceed immediately and take temporary charge

29<sup>th</sup> April 1925 Board found one pound per week Denton

29<sup>th</sup> April 1925 Miss Gallop relieving teacher leaves Wellington tomorrow steamer

20<sup>th</sup> May 1925 Miss M R Lamb appointed 2 years' service Relieving Teacher

25<sup>th</sup> May 1925 Miss Lamb is going to reside at the school Mr. Denton

24<sup>th</sup> August 1925 Muriel Lamb writes to Board wanting some record forms

27<sup>th</sup> January 1926 Miss E E Lucas appointed 4 years' service. At present at Otago Training College

1<sup>st</sup> February Mr. Heyes permanent teacher will report as soon as possible. Miss Lucas now not available

8<sup>th</sup> February 1926 Norman Heyes writes to Education Board asking if attendance at Dunedin at the Dominion and South Seas exhibition

9<sup>th</sup> October 1926 Norman Heyes wants to open on Labour Day and close for show day

16<sup>th</sup> August 1927 Mr. Heyes asking for change of term holidays again for show day

17<sup>th</sup> October 1927 Mr. Heyes writes asking about how long children with German Measles should be away from school

28<sup>th</sup> January 1928 Mr. Heyes writes from 1 Brunswick St Lower Hutt stating he is a witness in a court case and won't be able to open the school on 1<sup>st</sup> February but will be able to open on the 2<sup>nd</sup> February

27<sup>th</sup> March 1928 Mr. Heyes wants to close school for Ward A and P Show

31<sup>st</sup> August 1928 Mr. H Clarke appointed relieving teacher

3<sup>rd</sup> September Mr. Gallagher relieving teacher proceeding from Wellington today

8<sup>th</sup> September 1928 Mr. R McL Ferkins appointed 3 ¾ years teaching Relieving

25<sup>th</sup> February R McL Ferkins writes that Awatere School Picnic to be held on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 1929 Telegram from Ferkins wanting to have leave to attend capping make up Saturday next approved by Education Board

25<sup>th</sup> September 1930 Miss B Kernahan appointed relieving teacher

11<sup>th</sup> October 1930 Mr. J S Barwell appointed 7 ½ service at present unemployed

22<sup>nd</sup> October 1930 Mr. Campbell Secretary School Committee writes they are happy with Miss Kernahan and could she stay on until the end of school exams

28<sup>th</sup> October Miss E Bishop appointed 4 ¾ years' service relieving Mr. G Gee Chairman of Marama School Committee

30<sup>th</sup> January 1934 Miss E Mc Callum appointed relieving teacher

23<sup>rd</sup> February 1934 Miss G E Morrell appointed teacher 9 ¾ years' service Presently Sole Teacher at Nopera Bay School

26<sup>th</sup> MARCH 1936 School to be closed for Flaxbourne School Miss G E Morrell

9<sup>th</sup> October 1936 Miss G E Morrell asking to close school for 2<sup>nd</sup> day Blenheim show

#### Building and Sites 1910-1950

##### Richmond Brook

16<sup>th</sup> May 1910 Wanting to extend Richmond Brook by 8 feet Room would then be 22 foot by 21 foot

When the Minister of Education visited recently the need for a new school was drawn to his attention

The room is 316 square feet and the roll 36

The Richmond Brook school was erected in 1897

18<sup>th</sup> June 1910 Department grant £100 for enlarging school

21<sup>st</sup> September 1910 Marlborough Education Board Telegrams Department asking them for their plans back

13<sup>th</sup> July 1911 Richmond Brook school name changed to Marama

9<sup>th</sup> November 1911 Establishment of new residence

Number of families in district 25

Wood brick chimneys Iron Roof

About 2 acres of school site

Total cost £370

Two living rooms 12.6 x 12 and 12 x 8 are attached to the school but the teacher Mr. Greig finds them insufficient for his requirements

One room at present is used as a kitchen and 1 as a bedroom A Male teacher who is unaccustomed to bachelorising can make no use of them. A better residence is urgently required

16<sup>th</sup> December 1912 Department delays decision for 6 months

20<sup>th</sup> January 1912 Department wants to know what the Marlborough Education Board are going to do with the old residence Marlborough Education Board replies it is a lean to and should not be removed it was thought it might be used for special lessons or as shelters

9<sup>th</sup> December 1913 Marlborough Education Board writes to Department urging the necessity of a residence

17<sup>th</sup> September 1915 The Marlborough Education Board again asks for replacement of schoolhouse

The present teacher is a widow with a daughter 11 years of age and the settlers are unable to accommodate them

7<sup>th</sup> October 1915 The teacher can now rent a four roomed house between 2 and 3 miles from the school can she have a house allowance instead of building a new one

23<sup>rd</sup> November 1915 A temporary house allowance granted and is in place until the teacher changes

7<sup>th</sup> July 1921 Inspector Warren of the Wellington Education Board writes that the two bedroom accommodation for which the Board charges £30 a year is too much. It should be at least half

1917 Roll 12 1918 15 1919 19

1920 13

3<sup>rd</sup> February 1926 Asking for erection of a bathroom in the schoolhouse

Teacher is a single Male. Money asked for £85

19<sup>th</sup> April 1926 Department approves

1<sup>st</sup> March 1929 Wellington Education Board passes final cost for improving accommodation

18<sup>th</sup> February 1936 Application for a urinal for the boys there was not one at present

26<sup>th</sup> August 1943 The Flaxbourne Rabbit Board want to lease the school

5<sup>th</sup> July 1950 To be transferred into Seddon

## Marama school Log Book

### 1915

2nd April 1915 Posted at Seddon quarterly return and conveyance claim Dicks £3-15-8, Jermymys £3-16-6

One week Jermyn's absent – Scarlatina

2nd and 5th April Good Friday and Easter Monday- School closed

7th April Received cheque (March) schedules re house and committee allowances and salary of pupil teachers

9th April Post Salary Voucher- Notify Secretary of Education Board of date (17/4/15) of leaving for Trentham- Jermymys two weeks absent- Scarlatina

10th April Call Board Office re temporary teacher during absence

16th April Jermyn's three weeks absence- Scarlatina

Arthur G Greig

20th April Commenced duties as relieving teacher E Mason

10th May 1915 The attendance last quarter was affected by the absence of the Jermymys (Scarlatina) and the Mahers. Was advised by Mr. Hylton (*Secretary Marlborough Education Board*) to remove their names from the roll this quarter (1st week) and readmit them on their resuming school.

Four Jermymys were readmitted at the beginning of the seventh week but was notified that the Mahers were attending the Convent School in Blenheim

10th May J Weston left this school at the end of the sixth week. Number on the roll at end of week- 19

14th May Received from Education Board two boxes of Permodelle and papers for paper folding

7th June 1915 Commenced duties as Temporary teacher A Jeffries

1st July School closed for a fortnight's holiday. The average attendance for the quarter being 15. The roll number was 20

19th July 1915 Resumed work after winter holidays. E Maher was readmitted first week making the roll number 21

9th July Commenced duties as temporary teacher C P Mallitte

12th August Annual Visit Roll 20. Present 18 David Sturrock (*Inspector*)

31st September Sent quarterly return to the Secretary Education Board

November Received 1 box of chalk from Secretary Education Board

December Stuart Gardner, Eugene Maher and Tom McMarrin? Did not attend school for a fortnight They had their proficiency exam in August. Blenheim Show and Anniversary Day being this quarter brought the attendance down, Number on roll end of year 19

### 1916

February Number on roll beginning of term 14

Pearl Gardner did not attend 1st week being in Wellington also Hazel Jermyn the third week.

Florence Gunn left

6th March Three of the Dicks were away a week on account of Jaundice

April May We had some very wet weather. John Owen came the 5th week and Lilian Ross the 6th was readmitted having been to Picton for some months

1st July School closed for mid-winter holidays for a fortnight during which time the school house was repapered

Number of roll at end of quarter 15. Average attendance 13

August Two very days this month, creeks flooded no school

25th August The inspector visited the school. Mavis Dick got her proficiency certificate  
September Admitted Margaret Pinckey 1st week in August  
27th September Attended lecture on Physical Culture in Blenheim  
October Harold Jermyn away three weeks  
November Two days holiday this month. Anniversary Day, Blenheim Show  
26th November Notified Jermym's had scarlet fever so were absent until end of term  
16th December School closed for midsummer vacation. 15 on the roll 8 Boys, 7 girls. Average attendance for quarter 14.9

## 1917

30th January School reopened after Summer Holidays  
February Attendance for this month very small. The Jermymys away (4) on account of Scarlatina . The Dicks away and Mahers harvesting and sickness  
March Number on roll 14. Mavis Dick left for the High School Blenheim last month  
Received 1 dozen boxes of paint and brushes from Wellington Education Board  
6th 9th 10th April Easter  
May Notified John Maher and Willie Maher had chicken pox. Absent 5 and 6 weeks  
June Mid-Winter Holidays 22nd June to July 10th. Number on roll at end of quarter 14  
17th August 1917 Returned to school Arthur G Greig  
Marathon Flat Private School Pupils return to Marama  
24th September Dominion Day School closed  
22nd October Labour Day  
1st No Anniversary of province  
14th November Agricultural and Pastoral Show  
20th November Examination Holiday School Closed for all three days  
21st- 31st Portion of School Holidays  
Miss Blackburn visited school in November- Drill Instructor

## 1918

1st January to 14th November Portion of Midsummer holidays. School opens 5th February  
11th March School closed. Used as polling booth- Election Licensing Committee  
28th March to 5th April Easter school closed and opened day earlier than usual  
Quarter Aver 13.84  
8th April School reopened admitted 3 boys (8th and 9th)  
19th April Children and Mothers afternoon tea at school  
23rd April David Sturrock Inspector Present 17 Roll 18  
25th April Anzac Day School Closed  
27th May Agriculture Instructor  
3rd June King's Birthday- School closed  
12th June Drill Instructor Visited School  
12th November to 5th December Armistice Day. Influenza Epidemic

## 1919

27th May Inspector  
25th June Agriculture Instructor  
30th June Complete Daily and Weekly Registers and Quarterly Returns  
Arthur G Greig Sole Teacher Richmond Brook- Marama  
1st July 1910 to 30th June 1919  
1st July Commenced duties as relieving teacher at Marama Attendance 9 M Smith  
Pupils are good at Arithmetic and Spelling but Poor at Reading and Writing

2nd July Received notice from Board re overdue return for March Quarter. Refilling

Must of missed a page

1920

7 Queen Bee and Honey Bee. 1 Little Girls and Aunt Bessie

3rd March Hellen Earl attended school but have not yet placer her name on roll owing to her uncertainty of her stay here

5th March Received notice from Board re number of pupils who passed the sixth standard in 1918

8th March Inspector visits school

15th March Agriculture Inspector visits school. Placed Hellen Earles name on roll

17th March Holiday for St Patrick's Day

18th March Received Journals

30th March Received Flower and Vegetable seeds

31st March Break up for Easter Holidays

9th April Raining Heavily. No Attendance

20th April Received Journals

10th May Holiday for Prince of Wales Visit

11th May Extra holiday for the occasion

14th May Prince's Wales Holiday

31st May Received Journals

3rd June King's Birthday

31st May Admitted Winnie Higgins

1st June Received notice from Board regarding holidays. Referred matter to Committee

18th June Broke up for winter holidays

5th July Reopened school today. Nine pupils present E Clunie Ross

6th July Received Journals s a copy of the Kingdom of Tane

12th July Received notice from A A Wedde Organising Teacher re his visit

20th July Received notice re Teacher's Classes

6th August Closed the school in order to attend the Teacher's Classes

6th September Reopened the school today 14 pupils present

14th September A A Wedde Organising teacher

17th September Completed visit A A Wedde

Following points are recommended to the teacher

- (1) Careful and systematic preparation of each day's work the day before. This will be shown in the work book. A space of Blackboard should be allotted on which every afternoon after 3 O'clock will be entered the next day's work (This is absolutely essential)
- (2) Plenty of BB (*Blackboard*) work in all subjects especially writing and reading. Group 3 to 6 in BB reading and insist on proper phrasing, stopping, expression, pronunciation and enunciation
- (3) Grouped mental arithmetic at first confined to tables an concrete examples in money etc.
- (4) All primer work to be concrete if possible especially number work. The teacher will need a great variety of counters and play boxes to carry out the work successfully
- (5) Oral expression must be in full
- (6) Written Composition
  - (1) Preparation
  - (2) Reading to Give
    - (a) Introduction Paragraphs

(b) Body Paragraphs

(c) Conclusion Paragraphs

Also insist upon the mental process being complete before the written is attempted. The child must know from Capital to Fullstop what he means to say or write

27th September School holiday Dominion Day

27th October School holiday A and P Show Day

1st November School holiday Anniversary Marlborough.

Mr. Warren (*Inspector*) visited the school on October 19th

26th November Pupils sat for their proficiency at Seddon

16th December Closed school today School Picnic 15th E C Clunie Ross

1921

3rd February School reopened today Attendance 7 No. On roll 9

Barnes away, blood poisoning

4th February Visit from Mr. Pinckney school representative. Received school journals

14th February Received parcel from Education Board Wellington

24th February A visit from the medical doctor

2nd March Commenced Duties E Strack During Month enrolled 6 pupils. Pupils total 15

30th March A A Wedde Organising Teacher

8th April Completed Visit

Recommendations

1. Keep the register up to date
2. Use schemes as drafted
3. Show the development of schemes from day to day in the daily work book
4. Prepare beforehand each day's work and outline the same on Blackboard each afternoon
5. Keep to this outline regularly so as to avoid haphazard and impromptu teaching
6. Use the B B Freely for reading recitation, writing, drawing, grammar, primer's work etc.
7. Make primers work concrete so far as possible
8. Give mental every day
9. Insist on full oral expression
10. Demand a high standard in all written work

25th April Anzac day. School closed. On Friday previous told children about the Dardanelles and why we were observing a holiday. They subscribed and bought a wreath for Lieut Craven a fallen Anzac

26th April Agricultural Instructor visited school Chairman of Committee ploughed a piece of ground for a garden

May Received new school bell from Duthies

3rd June King's birthday Roll 14 present 13

13th July The Physical Instructor visited our school today

18th July A A Wedde visited

22nd April AAW completed visit

8th August Agricultural Instructor and Truant officer visited the school today. Agricultural Instructor discussed plants and insects

15th June Committee completed fence around a garden plot

18th August At request of Committee the school was closed today instead of the 19th August. It was decided to commence the holiday a day early and open on 5th instead of 6th September. The reason for the above was that the children were attending a Fancy Dress Social in Seddon on the 18th September 5th September School reopened today

19th September Mr. Warren examined the pupils of the Marama School today

23rd September Teacher granted leave of absence on account of sickness  
4th October Returned to school today Full attendance 11 scholars  
5th October Received notice of Mr. Wedde's intention to visit the school 10th- 14th October  
19th October Weather very rough. Chairman of Committee sent word children unable to attend.  
Labour Day  
24th October 17th October 1st November School closed Show Day  
1st November Received word that tools for our.....  
Next page in log is an advertisement Do you want help in Teaching? A Monthly magazine paid for by teacher  
..... school have been forwarded to the Blenheim Borough School  
31st November Received tools from Education Department through Blenheim Borough School  
7th December Closed school to attend teacher's summer school  
8th December proficiency exam in Seddon The candidate J Jermym was successful in obtaining a Proficiency. Owing to an injured eye he will probably not continue studies

## 1922

7th February reopened School Today  
Eight pupils present Two absent for tonsil operations H and D Jermym. I Lissmore heavy cold and J Barnes required at home during the harvest season  
14th February Mr. Lawton Agricultural Instructor visited our school and expressed pleasure at our progress in gardening. He gave valuable advice and extremely helpful criticism of our work and as it is the first time the garden has been planted we hope for a better garden next season. We were advised to keep seeds for exchange with other schools  
22nd February Acting under instructions for the committee, Mr. Denton and His sons cut the school grass  
23rd February Received Journals and notice of holding of exams in August  
13th April School closed at the request of the Committee. The scholars gave an entertainment on the evening of the 12th inst, the proceeds being intended for books for a school library  
14th – 19th April School closed Easter Vacation  
24th April Election of School Committee Mr. Jermym re-elected chairman,  
The teacher was requested to consult the inspector re a proposal that a platform should be erected under the B.B. used by the scholars  
16th April A wreath of laurel and poppies was placed on the grave of an Anzac (Lieut. Craven) Each child contributed 1/- towards the cost of the wreath  
12th May School closed  
5th June School reopened 13 pupils  
29th June On account of heavy snowfall pupils did not attend this day  
30th June Admitted 4 new pupils during the month  
7th July School closed teacher attended the annual Institute meeting at which there was a large attendance, the discussion on the teaching of composition and the helpful advice of the inspector were much appreciated  
1st July 1922 Part of school was ploughed ready for the planting of trees  
23rd July Received word to expect Mr. Wedde on 31st July  
3rd August As the five girls were driving to school on this day, the horse bolted and on reaching the school gate the vehicle was smashed up. Five children were injured and as one had to be removed to the hospital the school was closed to enable the teacher to accompany her  
4th August As a result of the previous day's accident none of the girls were able to attend school

4th August Mr. Wedde did not visit our school this week, but as he intended remaining here until August 11th he will probably be here on Monday

August 8th Mr. Wedde has not arrived

25th August Planted corner of ground with 200 pinus insignia trees

School closed for two weeks

13th September Owing to the teacher having to obtain three day's extra leave on account of illness of a near relative, school was not reopened until today. 12 pupils out of a roll number of 12 were present. The Thirteenth scholar who is the one who was hurt in the accident of August 3rd is still in the hospital. We were very sorry to hear she will be detained in the hospital until Xmas

25th September This being Dominion day was observed as a holiday

26th- 27th September Owing to the weather being exceptionally rough on these days there were no scholars at school

2nd October At the beginning of last quarter the roll number was 16. This quarter has commenced with only 13 names on the roll. Those marked off were :-James Barnes who has gone to stay with his sister in Featherston He may be away for two or three months and so is attending school there Noel White who has for some months been staying at the home of Mr. F Barnes has now returned to Murchison

Clifford Field who was for some months staying at the school with the teacher, returned home to Canvastown during the vacation

3rd October A number of seeds were planted in the vegetable garden

10th October Gardening as above was continued

7th- 10th November A A Wedde Organising teacher present. 13 completed today

26th October This being the day of the Marlborough Show the scholars were granted a holiday so that they might attend

30th October 2nd November. The teacher being very ill was obliged to go to Blenheim to Dr. Bennetts

20th November Mr. Barnes, Physical Drill instructor visited our school today

13th November Owing to severe colds the scholars did not attend as is usual

1st November (*Dates and Order as in Log*) The pupils took place in the Seddon Combined Schools Sports

20th November Dr Keith visited the school this morning. Owing to ill health only eight pupils were present. Of those two were found to have defective eyesight

Mr. Denton and Mr. Higgins were requested to take Ralph and Jim to have their sight attended to. Alan Denton had a perfect mouth but the others were instructed to attend a dentist

## 1923

T G Reade. Roll number was 15. Received school journals

8th February Douglas and Harold Jermym have been absent in Blenheim during the past week having their teeth attended to. Received Scheme of work and weekly Work Books from Education Board

9th February Mr. Lawton instructor in Agriculture visited the school. He inspected the school garden and spoke to the children about different weeds growing near the school

20th February Mr. Laughton Truant officer visited the school today. He said that Noel Richmond must attend all day instead of only half a day

3rd March Received supply of handwork material ordered in 1922

13th March School closed for licensing committee election

16th March Mr. Bakewell Senior Inspector visited the school this morning

22nd March Received a note from Mr. Jermym in which he suggested the school should be closed for the Easter Holidays on Wednesday March 28th instead of Thursday March 29th. This is done to enable teacher to catch the train for Blenheim on the Thursday. There is not any train to Blenheim on Good Friday

28th March School closed for the Easter Holidays Roll Number 18

12th April. Commenced duties as relieving teacher. School closed since Mar 28th as no teacher was available. Dorothy Wilkins

## 1924

1st May 1924 Commenced duty as permanent teacher (*Unnamed*)

7th May Big Flood School closed 7th, 8th and 11th

30th July Influenza prevalent date of holiday changed to from August 6th to August 22nd

10th September School closed two days owing to stormy weather

17th December Proficiency examination Seddon

21st December School closed for Xmas Holidays

## 1925

5th February School reopened

22nd February School Picnic

7th March Visit to Chatham and Picton Freezing works

31st May Resigned from position of teacher of Marama School

2nd June Commenced duties as relieving teacher R M Harford

School has been closed    days on account of rough weather

1st August Commenced duties as permanent teacher On 1st and 4th school closed owing to severe influenza colds. S M Cranmer

3rd October Mr. McKenzie inspected school

22nd August Holiday began for term vacation after examination

9th September Reopened- was a Tuesday. Monday allowed

13th September Teacher ill no voice with bad cold

23rd October Show day Holiday

24th October Labour Day Taken

4th December Mr. Barnes Drill Instructor visited us

18th November Mr. Lawton garden inspector visited here

19th December Broke up for Christmas Holidays

## 1925

8th May Reopened Marama School

10th May Mr. Massey's death school closed on May 11th and 14th No on roll 11

30th June Relieving teacher Miss Gallop left

1st July Commenced duties as permanent teacher Muriel Lamb

4th August The school was closed on August 4th for the term holidays and reopened 20th August

23rd September Owing to an exceptional storm the school was closed on September 23rd

12th October Mr. Lawton visited the school on October 12th

19th October Alfred Cowles Inspector signs the log

## 1926

2nd February Marama Public School reopened at 10.45 am. Thirteen children present

Insufficient warning by the Board prevented by (sic) arrival to open on February 1st but by taking a car from Blenheim it was possible to open in the morning and to put in 3 ½ hours work

4th February New registers and scheme books arrived  
5th February received intimation re material for 1926  
10th February material received  
10th March Intimation re material received  
11th March Mr. Lawton visited the school  
12th March Alfred Cowles inspector signs the log  
24th March Survey Tests  
2nd- 7th April Easter Holidays  
4th – 7th May Term examinations  
12th May School closed on suggestion of Chairman to allow the children to attend the Ward show  
14th May The term vacation started today  
31st May Second term started today. Full attendance Visit of Mr. Logan Clerk of Works to Wellington Education Board  
3rd June King's Birthday  
7th August Mr. Lawton visited the school Talked to children on Forestry and Balance  
10th August 2nd term examinations  
10th August Mental Tests  
20th August End of 2nd term  
6th September Third term commenced Attendance of 11 Wet day  
24th September Visit of Governor General to District Left at 2 pm for Seddon  
27th September Holiday requested by Governor General in honour of his visit  
25th October Labour Day holiday not taken transferred to  
28th October Marlborough Show Day- Blenheim to give the children the opportunity to attend  
29th October Proficiency examination during PM Inspector Cowles visited the school  
8th November Mr. H W Lawton Agriculture Instructor visited school in the morning  
25th November Annual Examination commenced  
2nd December Tests for survey of Marlborough District held. Papers posted to Blenheim 2nd December  
13th December visit of Mr. Webb Physical Drill Instructor  
17th December end of 3rd term 1926

## 1927

1st February School reopened Present 11 scholars  
Primers 1. Standard 2 3. Standard 3 2. Standard 4 2. Standard 6 3.  
9th - 10th School closed  
9th Children taken to Blenheim to visit of Duke and Duchess of York  
10th Holiday granted to commemorate the visit  
4th April Visit of Mr. Lawton Agricultural Instructor  
15th 10th April Inclusive. Easter Holidays. Thursdays holiday not taken as notice received too late.  
Application to take holiday for Ward A and P Show on April 27th  
21st April Invitation received through Mr. Denton for school to attend the Anzac Service at unveiling Ceremony of War memorial at Seddon on Monday 25th April  
26th April. Full school attendance. War Memorial Unveiling ceremony, on Monday 25th. Two wreaths placed on memorial after ceremony  
27th April Holiday transferred from Thursday April 19th with consent of Education Board to April 27th to enable children to attend Ward A and P show. Two competed and 9 attended  
4th May Inspector (Mr. Watson) visited the school  
6th May First Term Vacation commences

24th May Second term commences Present 13/14  
3rd June King's Birthday. School closed  
18th July T Barnes Physical Instructor Christchurch  
1st August Visit of Mr. H W Lawton Agriculture Instructor to school  
26th August End of 2nd term  
13th September Third Term commenced. Full attendance of 13  
13th October Visit of Mr. H Watson to school proficiency test  
27th October Holiday for Blenheim A and P Show. Very low attendance October 17th- October 28th on account of measles (German) and other sickness  
29th October- 7th November School closed to enable teacher to sit University Examination in Blenheim  
24th November Visit of Nurse and Doctor and Examination of Children 11 present  
12th August Visit of Mr. H W Lawton Agric Instructor  
16th December School closed for year 1927 F (?) Heyes

## 1928

2nd February School reopened Attendance of 10. Classes n open as interior of school is being repainted  
6th 7th 8th march School closed to enable teacher to attend at a Wellington engagement Special Leave granted by Education Board  
19th March Mr. H W Lawton Agriculture Instructor visited school for the afternoon  
2nd April Visit of Mr. A N Burns School Inspector  
19th April School closed to allow children to attend the Ward A and P Show  
25th April Anzac day School closed. All children attended central service at Seddon and placed a wreath on the war memorial  
28th April Saturday School open to finish tests Full attendance. Attendance marked for May 21st  
24th April Visit of Drill Instructor P M Mr. Price  
4th May First term vacation commenced  
21st May Second term opened Full attendance 12  
27th August End of term  
4th September Took charge this day as relieving teacher I Gallagher  
20th September Began duties as new teacher R McL Ferkins  
1st October Visit of Mr. Price Drill Instructor  
22nd September Holiday- Labour Day  
25th September Holiday Show  
26th September Visit of Inspector Mr. Blackie  
1st November Holiday Anniversary day  
2nd November Holiday Teacher absent for B A Exam  
3rd November Visit of Mr. Lawton  
7th November Holiday Teacher absent for BA exam  
14th November School closed for Booth in Polling  
13th December Visit of Mr. Longworth and Mr. Price –Physical Drill  
19th December School closed for Christmas

## 1929

4th February School Opened Roll 14  
27th February School closed for picnic of Awatere Schools Education Board notified  
9th October School closed for holiday granted by Gov General  
16th October School closed in morning to allow teacher to attend University Exam in Blenheim

24th October School closed Blenheim Show

28th October School closed Labour Day

*Entries as per log*

## 1930

2nd October Began Duties as relieving teacher B J Kernahan, School closed September 30th October 1st

3rd December Commenced duties as permanent teacher

19th December Closed school for Christmas Holiday E M Bishop

## 1931

2nd February Reopened School All present Roll 15. 8 Boys 7 Girls

26th February closed school for school picnic

27th February received material from Education Board

9th March Mr. Lawton visited school

11th March Dr McIlwraith visited school

2nd April Closed school for Easter

15th April Closed school for ward show

20th April Mr. Price visited school

8th May Closed school for 1st term holiday

25th May Reopened school for second term 15 present

21st August Closed school for 2nd term holiday

8th September reopened school for 3rd term

2nd October Nurse visited school and examined pupils

9th October Children taken to see film "Africa Speaks"

19th October Mr. Lawton visited school

4th November Dr. McIlwraith visited school. Only 7 pupils present out of 15 owing to Whooping Cough

1st December Nurse and Doctor visited school. Thorough examination taken

19th December Closed school for Xmas holidays

## 1932

1st February Reopened school 19 children on roll

21st February Mr. Lawton visited school

2nd March Mr. Stubbs inspector visited the school

12th April Holiday for Ward Show

20th May Reopened school for 2nd term 20 children present

2nd June King's Birthday holiday

18th June Mr. Lawton visited school and left carrot seed for experiment in 1932

20th June Committee put concrete around school and fitted the shed with seats and concrete flooring, also paths. This was done in June 1931

9th August Closed school for 2nd term vacation

5th September Reopened school 19 children present

19th September Mr. Stubbs inspector visited the school

4th October Western children leave the district

19th 20th October Mr. Lawton visited school

2nd December Proficiency Exam held

16th December School closed for Xmas holidays

## 1933

1st February School reopened 14 children on roll, 10 present  
3rd March Mr. McCaskill visited the school  
12th February School closed for school picnic at Picton  
24th February Mr. Lawton visited the school  
12th April School closed for ward Show  
26th April Anzac day School closed  
5th June Mr. Lawton visited school  
19th June Dr Irwin and nurse visited the school  
18th August Closed school for 2nd term holiday  
4th September Reopened school 17 children present  
8th September School closed Marlborough Schools Holiday  
17th October Mr. Lawton visited the school  
19th October School closed Blenheim Show  
23rd October School closed labour Day  
1st November School closed anniversary day  
2nd November Its part of proficiency exam held  
5th October Mr. McCaskill Senior Inspector visited school  
30th November Proficiency Exam held. 2 candidates  
20th December School closed for summer vacation  
E M Bishop 20-12-1933  
NB Order as in Log

## 1934

5th February Began duties as relieving teacher. 13 children present including one newly admitted.  
Three children still to come  
7th February Mr. Lawton visited school checked number of garden tools and science apparatus  
14th February School picnic at Picton Teacher attended Drill refresher course at J H S Blenheim  
21st March Visit of J S Polson Inspector  
30th March to 3rd April Easter Holidays  
18th April Flaxbourne A and P Show. School closed  
25th April Anzac day- school closed (Sale of Poppies realised £1.8.0  
4th May School closed for term holidays. E M McCallum  
21st May Commenced school as permanent teacher. Seventeen pupils present- seven boys and ten girls. Don Gee returned after being away ill for some weeks  
4th June Closed for King's Birthday  
6th June Mr. Lawton visited the school. This will be his last visit as he will be retiring at end of the term  
Received two pieces of green plasticene from Education Board  
3rd July There was a fairly good attendance considering the bad morning. It snowed enough for us to have snowballing  
3rd August Joyce Cameron commenced work with the correspondence School The roll is now seven boys and nine girls  
16th August The concert was quite a success. The committee members and pupils assure me that they do not remember ever seeing more people at a school concert before. We took up a collection and also sold a few sweets made by some of the pupils. Thus we obtained £2-2-6 for handwork tools etc.  
17th August A very wet day with only 9 pupils at school. The school was closed for the term holidays

3rd September The school opened with sixteen pupils on the roll. Josephine Higgins will be away about six weeks. During the holidays she was operated on for appendicitis . Nora West has not returned from her home yet

4th September The pupils tell me that Nora West has left

5th September Opened up the tools etc. bought in Wellington with the concert money  
 1 Spoke shave, sand paper, 1 wood rasp, 2 pencils, 1 plane, 1 hammer, Tools 15/- (15 shillings)  
 1 basin, 2 pts, 3 bowls, 1 grater, 1 egg beater, 1 kettle, 1 scone cutter, 3 spoons, 2 tins  
 3 skeins of wool (1/6d) 1 tennis racquet 3/-

11th September Josephine Higgins sent some arithmetic and English work along to be marked. These were corrected and returned

24th September Josephine Higgins attended today for the first time this term

3rd October As the creeks were impassable through heavy rains I was unable to reach school on October 2nd

18th October Inspector Watson visited today

1st November Anniversary day

2nd November History, Geography and Science examination

December Proficiency examination- no composition paper set

December Composition paper received late

18th December Closed for the holiday

## 1935

5th February Reopened school. As two families have left the district, five of the pupils have left. One pupil is absent with a bad throat and maybe away some time. Roll 11 present 10  
 As the creek is dry, we are very disappointed to miss our swimming especially with so hot weather 86° F (30 degrees centigrade) in the school today

24th February Olive Rutland returned today

11th March Inspectors Watson and McCaskill visited in the afternoon

13th March Agricultural instructor visited in the afternoon

13th February School picnic in Picton No half days taken, when very hot lessons such as sewing etc. Are taken out of doors under the pine trees

18th March The three Smith girls Margaret, Maureen and Denise left to take up a correspondence course

10th May School closed for the Ward Show

18th April School closed for the Easter holidays

6th May School closed for the King's Jubilee

10th May School closed for the first term holidays

The average attendance was nine

27th May School opened with nine pupils on the roll Patrick Ryan being admitted

29th May Keith Wiffen admitted maybe for the rest of the year as Kekerangu School has no teacher at present

3rd June King's birthday so school was closed

28th June Don Gee attended for the last time. Their farm has been sold. Don will be attending the Junior High School in Blenheim

Keith Wiffen attended for the last time as Kekerangu school has a teacher appointed from July 1st. This leaves roll at eight. It is doubtful if the average will be kept up

5th July Josephine Higgins away with a bad cold which is thought to be whooping cough

12th August Mary Rutland away

23rd August School closed with eight on the roll. Josephine Higgins not having attended since August 1st. This leaves the average attendance 8.33334

9th September School opened with eight on the roll. Four boys and four girls

10th September Owing to heavy rain the creeks were flooded and the teacher was unable to reach school. None of the children went either

16th- 19th September Terence Higgins away with Flu

17th- 27th September Josephine Higgins away with the flu

19th September Patrick Ryan was sick just before dinner so was sent home at the lunch interval

23rd September Mary Rutland away ill

29th October Inspector Watson wrote Entries too full. No need for admissions lefts Only summary needed

Mr. Brockett Science adviser

28th October Labour Day

1st November Anniversary Day Marlborough Province

29th November Proficiency Examination

19th December Closed for Christmas Vacation

## 1936

Mr. Brockett visited

Mr. Boden Visited

1st December Four proficiency pupils attended at Seddon. Rest had a holiday

18th December School closed for the summer holidays

## 1937s

22nd Arrived at school No pupils to attend till March 1st

Last log entry

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## Marathon (1915,1917,1919)

Off Marama Road after Waterfalls Road

1915	11	Marathon	Woodhouse	Ivy	Female	£ 110.00	£20.00
1917	11	Marathon	Woodhouse	Ivy G	Sole	£117.00	
1919	7	Marathon	Woodhouse	Ivy G	Sole	£170.00	

1893/7420 Woodhouse Ivy Gladys Christina Amelia James

1985/51922 Woodhouse Ivy Gladys 20/4/1893 92Y

12<sup>th</sup> May 1914 Miss Woodhouse appointed Marathon School Seddon

14<sup>th</sup> July 1914 The secretary was instructed to take the necessary steps for the establishment of a school.

### MARATHON

The Inspector of Schools reported having visited the site at Marathon on which it was proposed to ask the Department to establish a school. He was of opinion that the site was too near to Seddon for the Department, favourably to consider an application for another school in this locality. The distance was only 1 miles.—The matter was held over till next meeting.

15<sup>th</sup> September 1914 Mr Ferguson also made a plea for a new school at Marathon; but after discussion the question was held over

12<sup>th</sup> January 1915 The Under-Secretary of Education notified that the Minister could not see his way to recommend a grant for the establishment of a school at Marathon.

15<sup>th</sup> June 1915 Marathon: The Department wrote stating that it was unable to give a grant for the establishment of a school at Marathon.—The letter was referred to the ward members for a report, after consultation with the settlers concerned

13<sup>th</sup> July 1915 A letter was received from Marathon residents asking for a continuance of the school there. It was decided to continue the school in the meantime, and lay the circumstances before the department, as contained in the letter 'from Mr. Rutland.—Mr. Ferguson put in a plea for the little back-block schools of Marlborough as against the centralisation of schools. It was not so easy as the Department made out to carry children to the larger schools in these out-of-the-way places.

9<sup>th</sup> October 1915 The Marlborough Patriotic Fund thanked Marathon school for soap, pipe, tobacco, cigarettes, handkerchiefs, chocolate, cholera belt.

National Archives: Yes

Building and Sites 1914-1915

9<sup>th</sup> November 1914 E. N. Gibbes Secretary of Education asking whether a school should be established at Marathon because of small number of children and close proximity of other schools

29<sup>th</sup> August 1914 Application for a new Marathon School

Mr. F. Rutland Farmer Children go to Seddon George 11, Jean 9 Kathleen Bridget 4

Mrs. Carswell Farmer Seddon Janet 12, Phyllis 10, Rosie 9, Thelma 6, Kina 5

G. Boyce Farmer Gemma 9, Ivy 7, Robert 4, Mabel 2 Gilbert Ginger

Francis and son Dorothy 7

W. Hounsell Annie 14

4 Others with children under 5

Seddon 2 ¾ miles Marama 3 ½ miles Waterfalls 4 miles

The current room can be available for 12 months or more from Mr. Rutland

There is about 6 acres of abandoned gravel reserve

Timber available in Blenheim 19 miles away

The site is level and dry

We will board the teacher between us at the rate of 12/- per week at present she boards with Mrs Rutland

Nearest Post Office Seddon

The Marathon school was established on 19<sup>th</sup> May 1914 in a building owned by Mr. Rutland The number of children on roll is 10

Average attendance 8

20<sup>th</sup> October Mr. Sturrock Inspector said that Marathon School was too close to Seddon School

10<sup>th</sup> December 1914 E. Townsend did a long review for the Secretary of Education it included

- a) Most parents stated that the older children would go to school elsewhere if there was a pupil teacher at the school
- b) Mr. and Mrs Rutland owner of the present building state there is no immediate need for a school to be built
- c) He recommends that the Marathon school be not built because of other schools close by, The terrible crisis the nation is passing through at the moment

21<sup>st</sup> December 1914 Minister unable to make a grant for a school

11<sup>th</sup> May 1915 Secretary for education writes to Education Board asking them to close down the school at Marathon as they were not going to build a school there

26<sup>th</sup> July 1916 The Wellington Education Board replies

There are 11 pupils on the roll, 10 of whom are girls, the ages running from 5 to 12 years. Six are under 10 years

The school is about ¾ mile of the main road

The children are a distance from the nearest school Seddon Boyce 2 ¼ Miles to Francis 2 ¾

The Board is of the opinion the school should continue as at present

Inspector Sturrock recommended the school at Rutland's continued

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### Richmond Brook (1901-1910, 1914)

Richmond Brook Road 11 Kilometres South West of Seddon In 1911 Renamed Marama School (see)

1901	13	Richmond Brook	O'Brian	Agnes		Female	£	54.00
1902	14	Richmond Brook	O'Brian	Agnes		Female	£	72.00
1903	13	Richmond Brook	O'Brian	Agnes C		Female	£	76.00
1904	16	Richmond Brook	O'Brian	Agnes C		Female	£	72.00
1905	16	Richmond Brook	O'Brian	A C S R	Licensed	Female	£	81.00
1906	22	Richmond Brook	O'Brian	A C S R	Licensed	Female	£	110.00
1907	22	Richmond Brook	Tindill	Bertha M		Female	£	110.00
1908	22	Richmond Brook	O'Brian	A C S R		Female	£	117.00
1909	25	Richmond Brook	O'Brian	A C S R		Female	£	121.10
1910	28	Richmond Brook	Greig	Arthur G	C4	Master	£	150.00

1967/38908 O'Brian

Agnes Cawthorn Scott  
Robertson

84Y

28<sup>th</sup> February 1901 Teachers are required by the Marlborough Education Board for the new school at Richmond Brook,

20<sup>th</sup> March 1901 The Department notified the passing for payment of the sum of £174 as an additional grant for the erection of schools at Starborough and Richmond Brook

4<sup>th</sup> April 1901 A meeting of householders was held on Tuesday last to discuss the question of formation of new school district. Messrs McCallum and Parker, members of the Education Board, attended, and after considerable discussion, it was practically resolved that there be for the present one school district, comprising Starborough, Blind River, and Richmond Brook.

15<sup>th</sup> April 1901 The appointment of Miss Agnes O'Brien as teacher at the Richmond Brook School was approved.

20<sup>th</sup> April 1901 Census Return Richmond Brook Estate Males 33 Females 15

22<sup>nd</sup> April 1901 At the last meeting the Education Board adopted the proposal to form a central School Committee at Seddon for the Starborough, Richmond Brook, Blind River, and Kekerangu districts, and, accordingly, fixed the meeting of the householders of those localities to be held at Seddon on May the 6th. A notice to that effect is advertised.

22<sup>nd</sup> February 1909 In a recent paragraph we notified that Alexander George Dunn was a winner of the Duncan scholarship. The successful student was a pupil of the Richmond Brook school, of which Miss O'Brien is mistress.

10<sup>th</sup> June 1901 An application from Seddon for grates for Starborough, Richmond Brook, and Blind River, a stove for Starborough was held over for consideration at next meeting

9<sup>th</sup> September 1901 RICHMOND BROOK. The Board expended over half-an hour on a question as to payment for fencing on that portion of its reserve at Richmond Brook leased to Mr Leslie, who waited on the Board. The Land Board had charged Mr Leslie, and it was resolved to ask that body to adjust the matter.

1<sup>st</sup> January 1902 Education Board pay for coal for Richmond Brook

16<sup>th</sup> April 1902 Farewell Gathering.—A pleasant gathering took place recently at Mr Barrett's Hotel, Seddon, to say goodbye to Mr Richmond, of Richmond Brook, who is leaving the Awatere to take up his residence at Nelson. The meeting took the form of a smoke concert, and was well attended considering the shortness of notice

9<sup>th</sup> June 1902 The Seddon Committee notified the appointment of correspondents for Richmond Brook and Blind River schools.

14<sup>th</sup> July 1902 Mr Armstrong, representing the Seddon Committee, waited on the Board with regard to the readjustment of fencing at Seddon and Richmond Brook. —The Secretary was instructed to ascertain from the Land Board whether a section of land is vested in the Education Board, and it was resolved that the Committee carry out fencing at Seddon and Richmond Brook.

8<sup>th</sup> August 1902 On Richmond Brook Estate \$ne improvements by eleven selectors were at the time of last inspection valued at £3402, an excess over the amount required of £2,104. The settlers' stock consists of 6000 sheep, 26 head of cattle, and 40 horses. Not much cropping is done. The total population is twenty nine school attendance eighteen

8<sup>th</sup> December 1902 AIDED SCHOOLS. Mr J. W. Brown wrote and asked for the usual assistance for an aided school proposed to be established at Ugbrooke. —The Chairman of the Awatere Committee wrote recommending the application, which the Board granted. A similar application from Waterfalls, seven miles from Richmond Brook, was granted

11<sup>th</sup> May 1903 Mr Gunn waited on the Board on behalf of the Richmond Brook Committee, and asked that the school reserve be fenced in for accommodation of the children's horses.—It was resolved that notice be given to Mr Leslie that his occupancy of the reserve would cease on September 18th.

14<sup>th</sup> July 1903 The Chairman of the Richmond Brook Committee forwarded an estimate of the cost of fencing the school reserve. —The question was deferred.

11<sup>th</sup> July 1905 Messrs Gunn and McConway waited on the Board with regard to the proposed fencing of the Richmond Brook school reserve.—The sum of £25 was granted to the Awatere School Committee to do the work, and the Committee were empowered to expend the revenue from the property. The Board promised to give attention to the question of painting the school building

13<sup>th</sup> December 1905 STARBOROUGH NOTES.

(Our Correspondent.) your report of the Awatere Schools concert is not quite correct, will you kindly publish the programme as rendered by the children:-Wand drill and dumb-bell exercises (Richmond Brook) duet, Misses Gray and Gunn (Richmond Brook); action song, (Seddon); pianoforte duet, Misses Avery (Sea View); dance, by schoolchildren (Sea View); Japanese Dance Misses Hay (4); song, Miss O Dwyer Blind River); song, Miss G. Gunn Richmond Brook) All the items were creditably rendered and at the conclusion of the concert the Chairman Mr G M. Gunn, thanked the teachers and Mr R Hay for the preparation of the children. He also thanked Miss McCabe, who played most of the accompaniments, and all

those-who had assisted to make the concert a success. The School Committee has decided to take all the children in the district to the Sounds on Tuesday, 19<sup>th</sup> December

9<sup>th</sup> July 1906 Seddon—The Chairman of the Committee reported that the work at Blind River and Richmond Brook schools had been done satisfactorily. It was desired that Mr Bailey, the Board's workman be authorised to paint the inside of the kitchen of the teacher's residence at the latter place.—Agreed to

24<sup>th</sup> April 1907 A teacher is wanted at Richmond Brook

4<sup>th</sup> May 1907 Last night, at the school-house, Richmond Brook, Miss Agnes O'Brian, who has resigned the teachership of the school to enter the Wellington training-college, was the recipient of several presents. From the children she received a gold brooch set with pearls and rubies, and a gold tiepin with horseshoe attached; and from the School Committee a sum of money. In spite of the unfavourable weather there was a large attendance at the gathering, and expressions of regret at Miss O'Brian's departure and appreciation of her work were made by the speakers.

4<sup>th</sup> April 1908 Starborough is progressing. A third motor car has made its appearance, being a Stuart 4-cylinder, supplied by Mr E. Parker, Blenheim, to the order of Mr J. W. Barnes, Richmond Brook.

24<sup>th</sup> July 1908 On Saturday last a football match was played between the boys of the Richmond Brook and Seddon schools. The match was very interesting and resulted in a win for Seddon by 38 to 13. Mr W. Julian refereed in an impartial manner. The return match is to be played shortly.

21<sup>st</sup> December 1908 RICHMOND BROOK.

A. Gunn (proficiency, 1907), Winnie Jermyn (competency, 1908), James West, F. Dick, M. Snowden, L. Jermyn, J. Ryan, L. Ryan, J. Morrin, W. Dick, J. J McIsaac, D. Hodgson, Ed. Snowden, M. Jermyn, J. Barnes, H. Gunn, P. McIsaac; infants, G. Barnes, N. Maher, D. Jermyn, T. Morrin, E. Maher, F. Barnes, J. Barnes, H. McIsaac. J. Ryan. Attendance: Hilda Gunn (never absent) and Winnie Jermyn.

15<sup>th</sup> March 1910 RESIGNATIONS. Miss A. O'Brien tendered her resignation as teacher of the Richmond Brook School, which was accepted with regret

5<sup>th</sup> March 1910 RICHMOND BROOK.

TO THE EDITOR,

Sir,—I trust I shall not be offending my friends and neighbours around Richmond Brook if I take exception to the manner in which that name is used by them as their address. Richmond Brook" is the old family name given many years ago to my property in the Awatere, and now that the Government has acquired a part of this property I cannot see why the name of the portion taken should not be changed, as in the case of Scarborough and Flaxbourne, although in these instances objection was made at the time (and rightly so, I think) to changing such old-established names. In my case, however, things are different, and the Government possesses only a small portion of the Richmond Brook estate; and it is for this reason that I do not like the settlers giving the name Richmond Brook as their address. It was also the reason for my representing the case to the Chief Postmaster in Blenheim, who at once saw the matter in its proper light, and altered the name of the post and telephone office there to Marama a name selected, thanks to the services of Archdeacon Grace, which means an open plain. I did hope when the announcement of this change in name was made the settlers would note it, but I see they are still giving Richmond Brook as their address, although as a matter of fact there is now no such office (so this in itself is misleading). I take it that my correct address to-day in Marlborough is "Richmond Brook," Marama. Will not the settlers round about name their holdings, and also give themselves correct addresses accordingly? I suppose after all the whole thing is a matter of sentiment, but whether that is so or not I for one do think old family names should be cherished. I would be the last person to offend in any way the worthy

settlers I have round me at Richmond Brook (and I am sure they know that), and I trust this letter will not give offence, but on the contrary put before them matters in connection with the name of Richmond Brook which probably have not occurred to them before. I may say, in conclusion, that the multiplicity of the name of Richmond Brook has moreover on more than one occasion caused inconvenience to "Richmond Brook" proper. F. H. RICHMOND. "The Cliffs," Nelson.

12<sup>th</sup> April 1910 The Richmond Brook School Committee advised the Board that they had selected Miss M. Steedman for the position of teacher at the school.

26<sup>th</sup> April 1910 For the coming year the most important requirements are better teaching conditions at Riverlands, Nopera Bay, Onauku, Grassmere and Richmond Brook, Inspector's report

10<sup>th</sup> May 1910 The chairman of the Richmond Brook School Committee wrote informing the Board that Miss Steadman had been selected for the position of teacher at that school, with Miss Sylvester and Mr Greig as third and second choices respectively from the applications forwarded by the Board.

14<sup>th</sup> June 1910 Mr Arthur Greig was appointed teacher of the Richmond Brook school

21<sup>st</sup> June 1910 Monday. A very pleasing function took place on Friday last at Richmond Brook, when parents, children, and friends met in the schoolroom for the purpose of farewelling Miss O'Brian, who had been teacher of the school for many years., After a very enjoyable tea, the Rev. W. Finlayson (formerly chairman of the united Awatere district), at the request of the chairman of the School Committee, Mr J. B. Dick, was asked to express the regret of the Committee and parents at the departure of Miss O'Brian, and to present her with a purse of sovereigns, accompanying the gift with best wishes for her future welfare. This Mr Finlayson did in his usual happy manner. Miss O'Brian was also presented with a handsome dressing-case by the children, Miss B. Barnes making the presentation. Miss O'Brian, in a few choice words, thanked all for the kindness shown to her at all times; for their handsome gifts, and for their kindly expressions for her future. The Rev. A. W. Stace also spoke briefly in eulogy 'of the guest, and at the same time tendered a few words of advice and encouragement to the children. In conclusion, I may say that Miss O'Brian has proved herself one of the best teachers in Marlborough, and it is to be regretted that ill health has compelled her to abandon a profession in which her abilities would have procured her rapid promotion.

25<sup>th</sup> February 1913 Agnes O'Brian passed her D Examinations for a teacher

22<sup>nd</sup> December 1915 Agnes Cawthorn O'Brian, of Blenheim, and Miss Margaret Cheyne, of Woodville (Hawkes Bay), left. New Zealand. early in the year and went to England via America. Since their arrival they have toured Ireland and Scotland, and they now propose to be in Loudon for some time before setting out for home about February next.

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## Sea View (Seaview) (1902-1913, 1917-1923)

Just south of Awatere River mouth, North East of Seddon

### 1902

1902 4 Sea View Stratford Laura Female £ 20.00

14<sup>th</sup> January 1902 An application from Mr A. Avery for the necessary assistance for the formation of an aided school at Sea View, Awatere, was favourably considered and referred to the Starborough Committee.

11<sup>th</sup> February 1902 The communication from the Seddon Committee being favorable, the application for assistance for the establishment of an aided school at Sea View was granted

Laura Stratford came from Tira Ora school

### 1903-1904

1903	6	Sea View	Stratford	Laura	Female	£	20.00
1904	6	Sea View	Stratford	Laura G	Female	£	30.00
1905/5367		Laura Gertrude	Stratford	David William	Foote		

### 1905

1905	5	Sea View	O'Sullivan	Frances	Female	£	36.00
1900	34		Havelock Suburban	O'Sullivan	Frances		Sewing
1901	33		Havelock Suburban	O'Sullivan	Frances		Sewing
1904	5		Scarborough Run	O'Sullivan	F T		Female
1905	5		Sea View	O'Sullivan	Frances		Female
1907	14		Omaka	O'Sullivan	Frances		Female

1<sup>st</sup> April 1905 The necessity for a school at the Sea View end of Starborough, was in full evidence last week. When driving to school, some four miles, Mr R. Marfell's children were thrown out of the trap, and, although they escaped with a good shaking, it shows how young children might meet an untimely end, because their parents who wish to have them educated cannot always spare time to convey them to school so long a distance. If a school were erected at Sea View end, the children could walk—then the minds of the parents would be easy as to their safety.

11<sup>th</sup> April 1905 A pleasant function took place recently at the Seaview School when Miss Stratford, who has resigned from the teachership, was presented by the pupils and parents with a tea-service. The presentation was made in terms of personal regard for Miss Stratford and of appreciation of her services as teacher for three years. At a general gathering of friends, regrets were expressed that Miss Stratford had relinquished her position, but mingled with their regrets were good wishes for her future happiness. Miss Stratford thanked all for their kindness while she had been at Sea View and for their several useful and valuable presents. Miss O'Sullivan, the newly-appointed teacher, should find her surroundings very pleasant

9<sup>th</sup> May 1905 The Inspector having made a report, it was resolved to apply for a grant of £215 for the erection of a new school at Sea View, Lower Awatere

13<sup>th</sup> June 1905 A reply from the Department stated that the request for provision for an aided school at Sea View (Awatere) would receive attention,—The Secretary was instructed to write urging expedition

11<sup>th</sup> July 1905 The Chairman said that the Board had not yet obtained a definite reply to its application for £297 for a school required at Sea View (Awatere). Mr Hogben said that probably the matter was waiting on the results of enquiries from the Lauds Department with respect to the permanency of settlement in that locality. He asked whether the conditions were favorable for the application of those regulations under which 4d per head was granted for the conveyance of children from outlying parts to a central school The grant for 22 children would work out at £66 per year. This suggestion was worth considering, not only in the financial interests of the Department but also in the interests of education, for attendance at a larger school meant more efficient teaching. Mr Ferguson said that the practice of driving from Sea View to the Seddon School had been attended by several accidents, the road not

being good; but the conveyance grant might provide for an experienced adult driver. He would place that point of view before parents

14<sup>th</sup> August 1905 The Education Board received a communication this morning stating that a sum of £207 10s had been granted for the erection of a school at Sea View in the Awatere district Tenders are to be called for the work

15<sup>th</sup> August 1905 recommended to set aside instead a site at the plantation fronting Duncan Street, It; was remarked that with the erection of a school at Sea View (for which work the Board had received a grant of £207 10s there would be four schools within a radius of 15 miles if two were put up at Flaxbourne. Would not that be too many?

The Chairman said that the distance between the Flaxbourne township and Lake Grassmere was 10 miles. It was suggested that the Blind River school should be shifted nearer to Flaxbourne, The completion of the railway would help matters. Mr Litchfield remarked that in the case of Flaxbourne there might be a good opportunity of centralising the school system on the American principle. One central school to which the children living over a considerable area could be conveyed would be better staffed and more efficient and economical than several small schools scattered over the district,

9<sup>th</sup> October 1905 Mr W. Carr's tender of £219 15s for the erection of a school at Sea View (Awatere) was accepted; and the question of desks was held over. The only other tender was: Evans and Boswell £238 13s.

9<sup>th</sup> October 1905 The grant for the erection of a school at Sea View (Awatere) has been increased to £250.

13<sup>th</sup> November 1905 Sea View: The architect advised that Mr Carr would commence the construction of the Sea View (Awatere) school at once.

13<sup>th</sup> December 1905 (Our Correspondent.) As your report of the Awatere Schools concert is not quite correct, will you kindly publish the programme as rendered by the children:-Wand drill and dumb-bell exercises (Richmond Brook) duet, Misses Gray and Gunn (Richmond Brook); action song, (Seddon); pianoforte duet, Misses Avery (Sea View); dance, by schoolchildren (Sea View); Japanese Dance Misses Hay (4); song, Miss O Dwyer (Blind River); song, Miss G. Gunn (Richmond Brook) All the items were creditably rendered and at the conclusion of the concert the Chairman Mr G- M. Gunn, thanked the teachers and Mr R Hay for the preparation of the children. He also thanked Miss McCabe, who played most of the accompaniments, and all those who had assisted to make the concert a success. The School Committee has decided to take all the children in the district to the Sounds on Tuesday, 19<sup>th</sup> December

## 1906

1906 7 Sea View Bell Susie Female £ 42.00

12<sup>th</sup> February 1906 Mr -Ferguson wished to know why there had been delay in the erection of the Sea View School.—It was stated that the timber had gone out from the town.—On the motion of Mr Ferguson, the Secretary was instructed to write to the contractor (Mr Carr) asking him to expedite the work.

16<sup>th</sup> February 1906 One day last week the whole of the Sea View School—even the bricks for the chimney—was transported, in sections, in one trip, from the workshop of the builder at Blenheim to the site of its erection. Two waggons,, drawn by an engine, were the means. The paint will go out later

12<sup>th</sup> March 1906 SEA VIEW. The architect reported visiting the site of the new school, which was nearly most completed. The school had been started at the wrong place, and then required shifting. The contractor had intimated that he would claim compile inspector said he had told Mr Casey to explain the position of the site. He thought a word from Mr Ferguson would settle the whole Mr Ferguson undertook to fix the lines for fencing, etc.

14<sup>th</sup> May 1906 Sea View—The Architect reported favourably upon an inspection of the completed Sea View school, and recommended the payment of the contract price, £221

10<sup>th</sup> September 1906 Miss S E Bell appointed to Sea View

10<sup>th</sup> October 1906 **Sea View**—The Chairman of the Seddon Committee urged the. necessity of a teacher's residence at **Sea View**.— It was decided to make application to the Department for a grant

14<sup>th</sup> November 1906 Sea View. —It was decided to ask the architect to report upon some matters at the new school complained of.

## 1907

1907 9 Sea View Weaver Helena Female £ 54.00

4<sup>th</sup> March 1907 Miss O'Sullivan lately teacher at Sea View is the newly appointed teacher at Omaka

10<sup>th</sup> April 1907 **Sea View**.—It was decided to transfer heater from Flat Creek to **Sea View**, pending the Inspector's report on the school requirements.

7<sup>th</sup> June 1907 Applications are invited by the Education Board for the position of teacher at the Sea View school

9<sup>th</sup> July 1907 The Awatere Committee wrote with reference to the provision of lodgings for a teacher for the Seaview school— It was decided that board must be provided before a teacher will be sent.

10<sup>th</sup> September 1907 Mr Weaver (*actually Miss Helena Weaver*) wired from Kaituna to state he would leave for Seaview next Saturday.—The Awatere Committee again urged the erection of a teacher's residence at Seaview.

1906	5	Ravenscliff	Weaver	Helena	Female	£ 36.00	
1907	9	Sea View	Weaver	Helena	Female	£ 54.00	
1908	11	Sea View	Weaver	Helena	Female	£ 66.00	£10.00
1909	11	Wairau Pah	Weaver	Helena	Female	£ 90.00	
1910	16	Wairau Pah	Weaver	Helena	Female	£ 90.00	
1911	8	Wairau Pa	Weaver	Helena	Female	£ 108.00	

## 1908

1908 11 Sea View Weaver Helena Female £ 66.00 £10.00

*The £10 was paid because there was no housing provided for the teacher*

## 1909

1909 11 Sea View Jeffries Emily V E4 Female £ 90.00 £10.00

13<sup>th</sup> July 1909 Miss H. H. Weaver, teacher at Sea View School, applied for leave of absence, owing to ill-health, until her medical adviser pronounced her fit to resume her duties. Granted

10<sup>th</sup> August 1909 The Board was informed that Miss Weaver had resumed her duties at the **Sea View** School on July 19th. An account for repairs to the school was also received from the correspondent. —It was decided to pay the account.

12<sup>th</sup> October 1909 Mr H. Rore, Chairman of the Wairau Pa Committee, wrote advising the Board that Miss Helena .Weaver had been selected .as teacher for the school. It was decided that Miss Weaver's appointment be endorsed.

19<sup>th</sup> October 1909 Teachers are wanted for the Grovetown and Sea View schools.

14<sup>th</sup> December 1909 SEA VIEW. The correspondent of the Sea View school Mr Arthur Avery, wrote recommending Miss Stratford for the position of teacher at that school. It was decided to approve of Miss Stratford's appointment, and to forward a request for a school residence -to the Minister for Education.

## 1910

1910 9 Sea View Farnell Florence M Female £ 90.00 £10.00  
[John Reuben Marks \(1889-1946\)](#)

m. (4.11.11) Florence Mary Farnell b.23/3/1888 at Castle Donnington, UK (died .January 1976)

15<sup>th</sup> February 1910 NO LODGINGS AVAILABLE. The correspondent at **Sea View** wrote complaining of the difficulty experienced in obtaining board for the teacher there. The Board decided to inform the correspondent that he would have to recommend some sixth standard scholar to fill the position temporarily

10<sup>th</sup> May 1910 APPOINTMENTS APPROVED. Mr Avery advised the Board that Miss Farnell was ready to take up her duties as teacher at Sea View.—Approved *The Farnell family were involved at Havelock Suburban School*

11<sup>th</sup> May 1910 There appears to be some misunderstanding amongst the householders in the Sea View school district as to the conditions governing the election of a School Committee. Not having the requisite number of children attending their school to enable them to have a School Committee of their own, they thought they were entitled to representation on the Seddon School Committee, and accordingly attended the annual meeting of householders there in full force, and by their votes succeeded in electing Mr Marfell to represent them. Nothing was said at the annual meeting regarding this matter, but when Mr Marfell went to take his seat the other members objected, pointing out that he was not a resident of the Seddon school district, and therefore was not eligible to sit. Mr W. B. Parker has represented this matter to the Education Board, who have decided to inform the **Sea View** residents that when they have an average attendance of 16 pupils they will be entitled to a committee. It is understood that the present attendance at the school is 14.

21<sup>st</sup> May 1910 The householders at Sea View are entitled to elect a committee similar to that at Deep Creek. A committee having full, powers under the Education Act can be recognised only in the case of properly-constituted school districts. New districts are constituted when a school has returned an average attendance of not less than 16 for three consecutive months.

11<sup>th</sup> October 1910 Mr C. Ferguson moved at the Education Board's meeting yesterday: "That the Board's regulation No. 21 be amended, so as to-enable Blind River and Sea View to be constituted new school districts. He contended that this would, enable them to conform with the Education Act. There were a large number of householders in these proposed districts, and so far as he could make out, this clause of the Act was in conflict with these districts. Mr McCallum seconded the motion, but the debate on it was adjourned until next meeting to enable all the information possible bearing on this question to be procured

## 1911-1912

1911	9	Sea View	Farnell	Florence M	Female	£	90.00	£10.00
1912	9	Sea View	Farnell	Florence	Female	£	90.00	£10.00

## 1913

1913	5	Sea View	Harris	Margaret	Female	£	90.00	£10.00
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14<sup>th</sup> January 1913 Sea View Mrs Florance (Sic) Marks (*Nee Farnell*) resigns

11<sup>th</sup> February 1913 Miss M Harris appointed

11<sup>th</sup> April 1913 A pasture sown with happy faces and with holiday," aptly described the Seddon Domain when the children of Seddon, Marama, Blind River, Sea View, Tetley Brook, Waterfalls, Ward, and Grassmere assembled one day last week for the purpose of holding a combined sports meeting and a picnic. At the instance of the Seddon School Committee a movement was set on foot to have as an annual event a gathering of all the school children of the Awatere and Flaxbourne districts, together with their parents and friends. A strong committee was appointed. Mr W. J. Marfell proving a very efficient secretary, and all worked well to make the meeting a great success. The people of the various school districts subscribed most liberally to the fund for providing the children with prizes, and, needless to say, the ladies catered in a thorough manner for the vigorous appetites of young and old. After a hearty lunch had been partaken of, a start was made about one o'clock with the day's programme. During the afternoon dozens of races and competitions were got off, Messrs F T. Rhodes and H. Fuller acting as handicappers and Messrs Ferguson and Lawrence as judges. Some valuable prizes were given for the principal events, and nearly all the boys and girls were able to take home with them some memento of the day's outing. The races were kept going without intermission until after five, so that everyone was ready to do full justice to the good things that the ladies had provided for tea. A feature of the day was the running of the Rev. A. W. Stace, who outdistanced all competitors in the committeemen's race. No official time was taken, but several bystanders were heard to remark that it was easily a record. It is the intention of the committee to hold the next picnic on the 1st of November. The following are the results of the main events:

*(For sport's results see Seddon School)*

10<sup>th</sup> June 1913 The Chairman reported having visited the Scarborough district with the secretary. He now recommended the Board, to let the school at Sea View remain in its present position, and that a side school be equipped at the corner of Mr Barnes's farm as soon as the settlers provided the room.—These recommendations were adopted

9<sup>th</sup> September 1913 SEAVIEW.

A petition signed by several Seaview residents protesting against the removal of the Seaview school from the present site to Starborough Downs, about 1 1/2 miles away, was received. Messrs J. Casey, T. Avery, and M. Casey waited upon the Board, and explained the matter. They asked that the Board investigate the whole matter.

On the motion of Messrs Mackay and McCallum it was decided to postpone consideration of the matter, the Board to visit the locality on Monday, October 13th, leaving Blenheim at 9 a.m.

14<sup>th</sup> October 1913 STARBOROUGH DOWNS

It was reported that a number of members of the Board journeyed to the Awatere district that day to acquaint themselves with the reasons for and against the continuance of the Starborough Downs aided school, which, was the subject of a deputation received at the Board's last meeting from the Sea View Committee.

It was generally agreed that the school at Starborough Downs served the convenience of a considerable number of children and that it should be continued.

After a protracted discussion, it was resolved that the matter be deferred till next meeting and that in the meantime the secretary obtain information as to the standing of the school from the Department's point of view.

11<sup>th</sup> November 1913 The secretary presented a written report on the visit recently paid by members of the Board and himself to the Awatere district in connection with the request of the settlers that the privately-erected aided school at Starborough Downs be taken over and a public school established there. The members came to the conclusion that the application should be granted, and the fully equipped school at Sea View be still maintained, in view of the fact that it was in the centre of several large farms which were likely to be cut up in the near future for closer settlement. It was resolved that the report be forwarded to the Minister

### 1914-1916

1913	9	Starborough Downs	Foley	Cecily	Female	£	90.00	£10.00
1914	10	Starborough Downs	Foley	Cecily	Female	£	90.00	£10.00
1915	12	Starborough Downs	Foley	Cecily	Female	£	110.00	£20.00

10<sup>th</sup> February 1914 The Secretary reported 'that he interviewed the Secretary for Education at Wellington in regard to the demand for the erection of a public school at Starborough Downs, and was informed that the Department's decision was arrived at in accordance with the advice tendered by the Commissioner of Crown Lands.

It was decided that Messrs Fulton, Storey, and Ma-okay, who are members of the Land Board, urge" the Commissioner of Crown Lands to review the circumstances, and, if-he thought fit, represent to the Department the need for a central public school at Starborough .Downs.

21<sup>st</sup> April 1914 The buildings generally are in a satisfactory state, but increased accommodation is required at Redwoodtown side, at Starborough Downs,

12<sup>th</sup> May 1914 The Department notified that the proposal to provide school accommodation at Starborough Downs could not be dealt with until the Board submitted a fresh proposal in favor of removing the **Seaview** school to a new position. Members agreed as to the inadvisability of adopting the Department's suggestion, and on the motion of Mr McCallum it was decided that the Department ,be informed that the Board cannot see its way clear to depart from its original intention to build a school at Starborough Downs. Mr Mackay considered that the removal of the Seaview school, which was by no means an up to-date one, would probably be more costly than the erection of a new school on the property donated by Mr Casey at Starborough Downs..

9<sup>th</sup> June 1914 **STARBOROUGH DOWNS.** The Education Department intimated that it could not see its way to make a grant for the erection of a new school at Starborough Downs, but was prepared to provide a reasonable allowance to remove the Sea, View School to a more suitable site. Mr McCallum moved, and Mr Ferguson .seconded, that a reply be expressing the Board's :convictions that the Sea View School should remain where it was, and that a new school should be erected at Starborough Downs; intimating that if a grant was not forthcoming: the Board would have to face the question of establishing a school at the latter place out of its own depleted funds; and asking the Minister to visit the district and look into the position, or, if he was not able to make a personal investigation, receive a deputation at Wellington

9<sup>th</sup> June 1914 The changing distribution of population in the Awatere district has brought about a peculiar set of conditions as regard the Blind River, Sea View, and Mirza schools. The facts were .brought under the notice of the Education Board yesterday by Mr D. A. Sturrock, .Inspector of Schools. The commodious school erected on the Blind River settlement several years ago is now attended by only four children; and at Sea View two of,

the pupils have reached an advanced stage of education, and one is a visitor, leaving only one child under the absolute jurisdiction of the Board. What the position really amounted to, said Mr Sturrock, was that the Board was spending £100 a year or so for one child. Six or seven children were attending the Mirza School, but they were that in that case also the vanishing-point would be reached in the near future. The Board, having the prospects of extended settlement in mind, had decided not to shift, the: Sea View School; but it was suggested that the Mirza School building, which is in sections, should be removed to Starborough Downs, and the few children in the outlying localities mentioned be conveyed to central schools. It might be possible to save £350 a year in this way, and at the same time serve the cause of efficiency by saving the present waste of teaching power. The members generally agreed that the present position appeared to untenable, and agreed to a motion that the Executive Committee, with the ward members and the Inspector and secretary, investigate the conditions and make recommendations. Mr R. McCallum said that he could see the merit of the Inspector's observations so far as the national aspect of the question was concerned; but he was not at all enamoured of the idea of making readjustments which would save the State a lot of money now being paid out in salaries, but would burden the Board with the expense of conveying the children to a central point. The State allowance for the expenses of conveyance was quite inadequate.

20<sup>th</sup> June 1914 At Sea View, said the chairman of the Education Board yesterday, "there is one pupil and one teacher." "One pupil and one teacher!" ejaculated the Minister for Education in surprised tones. "Yes," answered the chairman, "not one man and one vote—one pupil and one teacher." The Minister joined in the laughter, which was increased when the chairman added: "I might say that that pupil is over school age." It was represented to the Minister that, though centralisation was suggested for the Awatere district, the Board did not desire to have the Sea View School building removed, as there was a good prospect of closer settlement being effected in that locality-in the near future.

The Hon. James Alien, Minister for Finance, Defence, -and Education, had a strenuous time yesterday

The Minister visited Starborough Downs, to which place it is proposed that the Mirza School-house should be removed,

11<sup>th</sup> August 1914 The Under-Secretary for Education, in a communication received by the Education Board yesterday, regretted that the Minister was unable to see his way to make a grant for the erection of a school at Starborough Downs. With regard to the proposal to move the building at Mirza, that structure might be further required by the Public Works Department as the railway extended further south. The Board decided to give the matter further consideration later in the quarter

15<sup>th</sup> September 1914 The Chairman and Inspector were empowered to deal immediately with the positions that had arisen at the Sea View and Blind River schools, where the attendances had fallen to almost disappearing point

THE AWATERE DISTRICT. Mr Ferguson brought up the question of improving the school accommodation at Starborough Downs. It was resolved that, the Department having refused a grant, the Board call for tender® for the erection of a school similar to the one to be built at French Pass, the work to be paid for out of the Board's own funds.

12<sup>th</sup> January 1915 On the- motion of Mr Mackay. it was resolved that the members visit **Sea View** before the next meeting and discuss with the settlers the suggestion that the school building be removed from that place to Starborough Downs

9<sup>th</sup> February 1915 The question of the site for the Sea view school was referred to the town executive for a report to next meeting of the Board, pending the result of negotiations with the interested settlers as to the most suitable locality for school purposes.

10<sup>th</sup> March 1915 The vexed question of the situation of the schools in the Starborough Downs and Seaview districts cropped up at Monday's meeting of the Education Board, as per usual, it might be added. The interested settlers have manifested a good deal of vacillation in their choice of sites, and the latest development which surprised the Board was the intimation that several Seaview settlers were averse to the shifting of the local school to a site which would be central to both Starborough Downs and Sea view settlers. This notification was all the more surprising as the Board was led to believe at its previous meeting that the interested parties had practically agreed upon a central site. Mr C. Ferguson deprecated the lack of finality about the matter, and moved that the Board take steps to have the Seaview school removed to the suggested site. The chairman (Mr J. J. White) seconded the motion. Mr A. Mackay considered that it was a menace to the interests of education and the health of the children that so many pupils should be quartered in, such a "packing case" as at Starborough Downs. Mr E. H. Penny suggested that the Board apply to the Minister for a grant of money, equal to the cost of removing the Seaview school to Starborough Downs, for the purpose of making necessary additions to the Starborough Downs building. He moved an amendment to this effect, and Mr H McCallum, who heartily commended the proposition, seconded!. The amendment was carried

15<sup>th</sup> April 1915 A DIFFICULT PROBLEM. The solution, of a scheme to meet the education requirements of the Seaview, Blind River, and Starborough Downs districts has occasioned the Education Board considerable difficulty, and each month the problem becomes more bristling with perplexities. At present the **Seaview** school is closed owing to the insufficient number of pupils, and, in consequence, the Department was recommended to shift the building to a central position so as to meet the requirements of both the Starborough Downs and Seaview districts, the existing building in the former locality being very unsuitable for school purposes. This proposal met with opposition, and recently the Board recommended the Department to make a grant for additions to the Starborough Downs school, considering that the cost of this work would only be equal to the expense of removing the Seaview building to a central position. At the Board's meeting on Monday Messrs T. Avery and J. Casey, Seaview settlers, were in attendance, and objected to the establishment of the main school at Starborough Downs, as it would probably mean the permanent closing of the Seaview school. They preferred the removal of their building to a central position, but they were keenly desirous of protecting the interests of their own, district. A general discussion, occupying nearly, 1 ½ hours, ensued, the outcome being that the following motions by Mr H. McCallum were carried "That the Department be informed that on account of the scattered district surrounding both the Blind River and Seaview schools neither school should be permanently closed.. The proposed building at Starborough Downs will meet its own requirements and those of the adjoining schools until the number of children of school age is materially increased.

That the parents of Starborough Downs are prepared to contribute to the cost of erecting the building there, and it is estimated that a suitable building will cost something like £200.

That a deputation from the Board wait upon the Minister and put the matter before him."

15<sup>th</sup> June 1915 At Starborough Downs the children were being taught, in a packing case A quote from chairman of the Marlborough Education Board

10<sup>th</sup> August 1915 SEAVIEW.

A deputation of residents of Seaview district waited on the Board, in connection with, the Board's proposal to shift the Seaview School to Starborough Downs. Mr A. Avery started by saying that the Board had rounded on the settlers. He always had advocated one school, to be

placed in the centre of the district. The site proposed by the Board was not the central position. They were satisfied to have the school at Seaview and not at Starborough Downs. He thought that it had been definitely settled, but he found that it had not been, as apparently the Board had turned round and said definitely that the school should be shifted to Starborough Downs. He could not understand this action, and thus the deputation waited on the Board, me Commissioner, he understood, had fixed on Seaview as the central position.

Mr J. Casey said that, taking the district from one end to the other, he thought that the central position should be taken. That was all he asked and that would satisfy him. That would be as fair to one as the other.

The Chairman said that the Commissioner of Crown Lands had given his scientific advice that Starborough Downs was the most central position. He would not discuss his reasons for coming to that decision.

Mr C. Ferguson said that the position was that the Seaview School had to be shifted to the most central position, and the Board was advised by the Commissioner that the central position was Starborough Downs, the Board had no option but to act upon the advice.

Mr Avery asked that the matter be held over till next Board meeting. He wanted to prove that the Board was wrong. The Starborough Downs site was not the central position. Mr Mackay detailed the methods by which the Commissioner measured up the distances and came to the conclusion that Starborough was the central position. The Department had given an undertaking that it necessary a school would be established lower down on some future occasion.

Mr Price, Commissioner for Crown Lands, waited on the Board to clear up what was evidently a misunderstanding. In fixing on the site he had complied with the regulation which set out that, a school would have to be four miles from the Seddon. School and he did not take into consideration the most central site of the school district. Barnes's corner was a very good position, there was no doubt about that. Taking the boundary of the school district, Barnes's corner was not the central position, but if they took Seddon School as their base it was the central site. It was midway between Seddon and the sea.

Mr Ferguson said that the Act made it very plain, that the school should not be within four miles of the Seddon School.

Mr Price said that working from Seddon School as a base, he would recommend Barnes's corner as the most suitable site. Mr Price was thanked for his courtesy, and he then retired.

The petition objecting to the removal of the school from Sea view to Starborough Downs was then received.

4<sup>th</sup> September 1915 The Marlborough "Education Board invites tender for moving the 'Sea-View School, etc.

14<sup>th</sup> September 1915 SEA VIEW SCHOOL, A tender was received for the removal of the Seaview school to Starborough Downs. During the discussion Mr McCallum suggested that he should wait on the Minister and ask for a grant of £100 for a new school at Starborough Downs. If that were done there would be no need to shift the Seaview school at all. This suggestion was agreed to.

12<sup>th</sup> October 1915 SEA VIEW OR STARBOROUGH?

The Secretary for Education wrote in reference to the disputed site of, the Seaview school, stating that one school should suffice for the district and that the Minister consequently desires to make it clear that any application for a second school will not be entertained. It appeared clear to the Department that to a school about a mile and a-half from the Seddon district boundary would not be the best solution of the difficulty. The Minister for Education wrote to Mr R. McCallum on September 30 in reference to the proposal to erect a school at the Starborough Downs at a cost of £89 10s, stating that the Board's proposal was to remove the Seaview School at a cost of £75 18s 6d. The Minister stated that he could only deal with

the Board's proposal. Mr McCallum sent a telegram stating that he was again going to interview the Minister in the matter, when he would do his best to have a settlement of the whole question.

Mr Mackay moved that the executive's suggestion be adopted—that the previous decision of the Board be adhered to. Mr Ferguson moved as an amendment that Mr White be empowered to do his best, possible in the matter with Mr R, McCallum, M.P. on his forthcoming visit to Wellington. They would then have something definite to go upon. Mr Storey seconded the amendment. Mr Mackay thought that Mr McCallum's suggestion which was sent to Wellington had made matters worse. He thought that the best thing to do would be to go back to their previous suggestion and remove the Seaview School to the other site.

Mr White said that he would not advocate in Wellington the maintenance of two schools, which he was sure that the Department would not sanction. He would have a clear understanding with Mr McCallum before they interviewed the Minister. He would undertake to put the whole facts of the matter before the Hon. Mr Hanan.

Mr Conolly thought it would not be good business to remove the old building, as it would be smashed up if shifted. Why not ask for £80 to build a new school at Starborough?

Mr Ferguson also said that it would be a risk to remove the Sea View school.

Mr Fulton gave an instance of the danger of removing old schools. He suggested that the Department sell old schools. He suggested that the Department sell the old Seaview building. The amendment was put and lost, and the motion was then put and was declared lost.

The matter was then held over till next meeting.

9<sup>th</sup> November 1915 SEAVIEW SCHOOL

Mr McCallum reported non-success with the Minister over the disputed question of the Seaview school. The matter is under consideration, but he was satisfied that it was no good expecting anything from the Minister. He suggested that, the secretary be authorised to take steps towards securing Mr Costello's site, and that the school be removed there.

Mr Mackay did not agree. It was a stupid thing to shift a school a couple hundred yards further away. It would be better to leave it where it was. Starborough Downs was the ideal site. In my case the previous motion filing on Starborough Downs would have to be rescinded before any further motion could be taken.

The chairman suggested that the matter be left over till next meeting. Mr McCallum moved in that direction, and it was so decided.

14<sup>th</sup> December 1915 and five weeks' holiday to Miss. C. Foley, of the Starborough Downs School.

31<sup>st</sup> December 1915 Miss Jeffries, Starborough Downs, relieving teacher: Appointed

11th January 1916 Miss Snowden was appointed to Starborough Downs,

4<sup>th</sup> December 1916 Tenders are invited for the removal of Sea View school and outbuildings, and re-erection on Starborough site

## 1917

1917	11	Sea View	Snowdon	E M	Sole	£110.00
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30<sup>th</sup> May 1917 Miss C Foley resigns from Seaview School

In 1919 Cecily Foley was teaching at Nydia Bay and In 1923 she was relieving teacher at Wairau Pa School

## 1918-1919

1919	9	Seaview	Monkhouse	Grace I	Sole	£150.00
1915	3	Mangapari	Monkhouse	Grace	Female	£ 18.00

1917	9	Waterfalls	Monkhouse	Grace J	Sole		£ 110.00
1921	65	Ward	Monkhouse	Grace j		Assistant	£ 200.00
1923	13	Whiteman's Valley	Monkhouse	Grace J	D-219	Sole	£ 195.00

17<sup>th</sup> April 1918 Miss B. M. Snowden, sole teacher, Sea View resigned  
 17<sup>th</sup> May 1918 Mr C J Monkhouse's (Sic) name to Seaview  
 14<sup>th</sup> June 1918 Miss G J Monkhouse (Temporary appointment)  
 20<sup>th</sup> June 1918 During the year the **Seaview** School as removed to a position midway between **Seaview** and Starborough, thus serving the purposes of two districts. Report of Wellington Education Board

### 1920-1921

1921	11	Sea View	Waiti	Dora	Sole	£170.00
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31<sup>st</sup> July 1920 Miss Monkhouse attends A training class for young teachers in the Marlborough district, especially for those in the Sounds, will be held in Blenheim, commencing on August 9th. The class will be of three weeks' duration. The instruction given will be of a practical nature and specially arranged to meet the difficulties with which these teachers have to contend in their own schools

16<sup>th</sup> September 1920 Sea View Miss D Waiti appointed

1919	6	Wakatahuri	Waiti	Dora	Sole	£ 160.00
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1922/8792 Dora Neta Waiti Charles Fredrick Marfell

### 1922-1923

1923	9	Sea View	Atkinson	Walter F R	C-213	Sole	£195.00
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### Post 1923

23<sup>rd</sup> July 1934 Miss M M Cave Sole Teacher Appointed

27<sup>th</sup> January 1936 Miss I Dent Sole Teacher Sea View

21<sup>st</sup> September 1937 CONSOLIDATION MARLBOROUGH MOVE SEVERAL SCHOOLS CLOSED

It is Intended to adopt the consolidation policy to a further degree in one area in the Seddon district. Seaview, Marama, Blind River, Grassmere, and Tetley Brook Schools will be closed as from the beginning of the new school year. The attendance rolls at Ward and Seddon Schools will be increased from 86 to 111 and from 91 to 145 respectively. Education Board representatives commented that in a very great majority of cases parents appeared to agree with the Minister and the Wellington Education Board, which was strongly in favour of the scheme. The policy had been in operation in a number of districts in the North Island, and a start had also been made in Canterbury. This was the first occasion that anything of the kind had been attempted in Marlborough

### National Archives

*Buildings and Sites 1906 Building 382 Square feet Still the same at 31<sup>st</sup> February 1951*

*Closed end of 1917. Opened again 1918*

*Proposed to remove to another site Section 15 Block XI Clifford SD area 2 acres Reserved*

*Gazette 22<sup>nd</sup> May 1919 Page 1490*

1<sup>st</sup> November 1917 Removed to new site for a cost of £159. 12s

Closed 1930 Deducted 1931

Re-entered 1938 Deducted 1938

2<sup>nd</sup> September 1936 New Sheds built for £ 113.12

Staffing 1922-1937

19<sup>th</sup> September 1922 Letter from Inspector Warren (Based in Blenheim ) to Wellington Education Board If no one better is available I suggest you send Miss Fish to take charge until end of year  
21<sup>st</sup> October 1922 Mr. W F R Atkinson appointed, currently a teacher college student with 3 years teaching experience

29<sup>th</sup> May 1923 Letter to Wellington Education Board from Mr. W F R Atkinson Sole Teacher Sea View School included

- a) The school is used for church on the afternoon of the third Sunday of the month
- b) Last service on May 20<sup>th</sup> during school holidays
- c) On opening school at start of term I found all my work on the blackboard had been rubbed off by some kind person trying to beautify the place
- d) As most of this work was important and entailed a great loss of time and work
- e) Is it fair to have people solely for the purpose of Christian worship interfering with my work and my cupboards
- f) It has been rumoured that my cupboards are in a disgraceful state
- g) As there are no locks on my cupboard and drawer it is no easy matter to keep my affairs away from prying gossips

1<sup>st</sup> June 1923 Wellington Education Board bring the School Committee into notice

14<sup>th</sup> December 1923 Mr. I Buchanan appointed Sole Teacher from Training College Course

29<sup>th</sup> January 1924 Miss Foster leaving Fridays Boat to take charge of Sea View Please meet her at Blenheim Station Friday Evening or Criterion Hotel Saturday Telegram to Mr. D Brown chairman School Committee

1<sup>st</sup> March 1924 Telegram to Mr. Brown Miss Martin Teacher proceeding Mondays Boat Please arrange accommodation

2<sup>nd</sup> March Miss F C Martin presently relieving teacher Sea View appointed with 2 years' service

9<sup>th</sup> April F C Martin writes to Board I am very sorry to have kept the Board waiting for my quarterly returns. I had no idea any returns were necessary before the end of the term

27<sup>th</sup> February 1925 Letter to Mr. D Brown starting school has dropped in to Grade O school and Miss Workman has been appointed Vice Miss Martin

18<sup>th</sup> November Daniel Brown writes to Wellington Education Board including

- a) There are 10 children for the Sea View School
- b) There are 9 permanent and the 10<sup>th</sup> is a lady housekeeper for a little girl

27<sup>th</sup> March Residents will have to provide free board and lodgings until roll is secure

Miss Workman is being paid a Grade O Salary

1<sup>st</sup> March 1926 Letter from J A Smith stating that school is going up to Grade 1. There are at present 9 children attending as three are getting ready to leave the school will go back to a grade 0 school The parents wish to keep Miss Workman at the school

22<sup>nd</sup> March 1927 Wellington Education Board Keep school at Grade 0

6<sup>th</sup> November Sea View allowed to take Labour Day on a different day

10<sup>th</sup> February 1927 Miss Workman instructed to return immediately. Decided reappoint her meantime

18<sup>th</sup> May 1927 School Committee write school can start at 9.30 on Monday's as long as time is made up

3<sup>rd</sup> April 1928 Miss Workman writes that present roll is six and there are no more children of school age near the school

7<sup>th</sup> September 1928 Letter to Mr. Smith from Wellington Education Board Miss Workman has been advised not to travel to Sea View on the 3<sup>rd</sup> as there was some difficulty regard to Board

16<sup>th</sup> September 1928 Geo. Marfell writes to Wellington Education Board

- a) School has not reopened as no board is available
- b) There are only two family's attending and no spare room
- c) We have canvassed the district but had no offers
- d) One family with no children at school have boarded the teacher since Christmas
- e) There is nothing against the teacher she is well liked

17<sup>th</sup> December 1934 Another letter from Mr. Marfell included

- a) The names of families and school has been closed for a number of years
- b) The names of a number of families and dates of births of children enclosed
- c) Marfell, Brown, McConway, H Marfell, G Cameron, J Smith including 17 children

10<sup>th</sup> March 1934 Mr. Marfell formally asks for school to be reopened

23<sup>rd</sup> March 1934 Wellington Education Board approves reopening of school from Monday 21<sup>st</sup> May . children to be enrolled Harold Brown, Mary McConway, Trevor Marfell, Alec Cameron, Betty Cameron, Gordon Smith, John A Smith, Lewis Cameron, Joyce Marfell, Ian Marfell and Lindsay Marfell

If they all enrol then there will be a grade 1 school and the parents will have to provide the teacher with Free Board and Lodgings

23<sup>rd</sup> April 1934 Mr. Marfell replies in a long letter

- a) Some of the parents with children going to Seddon School have taken up an unsatisfactory position
- b) The parents of Lindsay Marfell, Joyce and Ian Marfell and Lewis Cameron will not take their children away from Seddon School

9<sup>th</sup> May another states if school is reopened the parents will provide Board and Lodging for the teacher

17<sup>th</sup> May Wellington Education Board The school will be reopened but there is no available teacher and the position will be advertised

29<sup>th</sup> May 1934 Mr. T Lambert is appointed. He is presently in charge of Omaka School

11<sup>th</sup> July 1934 Miss M M Cave teacher asking for Journals

21<sup>st</sup> September 1934 Mary M Case writes to Education Board asking about Marlborough show as she is a newcomer

Approved by Board and Anniversary Day

16<sup>th</sup> August 1935 Mary Buckley teacher writes that she lives in Masterton so as to have days at home could she rearrange the dates of the school holidays approved

16<sup>th</sup> September Miss Buckley writes that the Roll is 10 with one perspective student

16<sup>th</sup> October 1935 Mrs C E Flynn appointed Sole Teacher Newman School North of Eketahuna 8 ¾ years' service

2<sup>nd</sup> November 1935 Mrs Flynn is not coming Wellington Education Board will advertise again

11<sup>th</sup> December Miss I Dent appointed 14 years' service Assistant at Addington School

12<sup>th</sup> February 1936 Miss Dent writes advising of the school picnic with Seddon School at Picton

6<sup>th</sup> May 1936 Ina G Dent writes to Board writes re cuts made in teacher salaries and asking for a window cleaner's ladder

21<sup>st</sup> October 1936 School closed for Blenheim Show

16<sup>th</sup> April 1937 School closed for Ward Show from Ina Dent

1<sup>st</sup> October 1937 School closed for Blenheim Show

11<sup>th</sup> October 1937 Miss Dent writes

- a) 1st October roll is 12
- b) Consolidation is assured can I apply for positions anywhere in the Dominion?
- c) Will the children be starting in February or will I be returning here for a time?

15<sup>th</sup> October 1937 The Board will transfer you to another position on amalgamation

### Buildings and Sites 1905-1936

1905 application for Sea View School Lower Awatere

Eight families

No railway

Nearest School Seddon 6 miles roll 25, Blind River 6 miles 12, Sea View 2 miles Household

School prepared to be closed 2 miles away

School room is 20 foot x 10 foot with a porch 10 foot x 8 foot

Room is a wooden building with iron roof

Section 5 Block XI

Site is granted by neighbouring householders on 1 acre

Cost of building £170, Furniture £20, Fencing £15, Outbuildings £10

25<sup>th</sup> May 1905 Mr. E Gibbes Secretary for Education as for someone familiar with area to inspect the site

Inspector D Strachan of the Marlborough Education Board writes a long note re Seaview School

- a) Children from this district have had accidents when driving to Seddon School (Reads as though children wer actually doing the driving)
- b) Mr. Grant offers land free

c) The proposed site is in the Scarborough Estate

16<sup>th</sup> November Department of Lands and Survey inform Secretary of Education that facts in Mr. Strachan's letter were accurate

11<sup>th</sup> January 1908 Grant of £207. 10 authorised for Sea View School by Department

2<sup>nd</sup> September 1908 Marlborough Education Board writes that cheapest tender was £250

Then a long series of letters between Board and Department on who is holding up who and has not returned plans etc. As job is finished and Marlborough Education Board wants to pay contractors

6<sup>th</sup> June 1914 Board will not open a new school at Scarborough Downs but will remove current Sea View to a more suitable place

24<sup>th</sup> July Still a question re moving the school and the site of 1 acer had not been registered or officially passed to the Marlborough Education Board

2<sup>nd</sup> November 1916 Parents approve of new site on Mr. Marfell's land 2 acres

14<sup>th</sup> July 1917 School to be moved to Mr. Marfell's site as agreed to when the Minister visited

15<sup>th</sup> September School has been shifted and asked for costs as agreed to by the Minister on his visit are eleven children of school age and many younger ones coming on

1<sup>st</sup> November New site needed a shelter shed as the position is exposed

23<sup>rd</sup> March 1934 School is reopened as there are eleven children of school age and many younger ones coming on

### Starborough Downs

12<sup>th</sup> April 1913 Application for school at Starborough Downs

Cameron, Barnes, Marfell, Webster, Brown, Dance and McConway 19 children

5<sup>th</sup> December 1913 Form included

Starbro (Sic) Downs

Seddon 4 miles away, Blind River 5 miles, Sea View 2 ½ miles

No railway Station No building available

¾ acre Freehold available owned by G Barnes

No Timbre available locally

Building materials carted from Seddon 5 shillings per ton from Seddon to site

Corner Section

Teacher accommodation will be arranged between settlers

Settlers will fence site

Signed George Thomas Athol Barnes Sea View

27<sup>th</sup> November 1913 Marlborough Education Board approves application Building to be 18 foot x 16 foot with a porch

Concrete Piles 2 out offices (Toilets) 1 Shelter and fuel shed

Part Section 3 Block XI Clifford Bay SD

18<sup>th</sup> December 1913 Application for a school at Starborough Downs actioned

30<sup>th</sup> December 1913 There are only 5 families interested in a school

12<sup>th</sup> January 1914 Secretary of Education recommends that Sea View School be moved to a new position between two areas

There are only 3 children at Sea View . The settlers have already built a "small affair" at Starborough Downs

20<sup>th</sup> April 1914 Secretary of Ed to Marlborough Education Board that they must supply a new submission

15<sup>th</sup> May 1914 Marlborough Education Board don't want to shift Sea View school as more land is being developed further on

6<sup>th</sup> June 1914 Department won't agree to a new school at Starborough Downs but wants to remove Sea View School

12<sup>th</sup> March 1915 Marlborough Education Board offers to build a school at Starborough Downs for £100 the cost of removing the school from Sea View

24<sup>th</sup> March 1915 Secretary of Education Blind River is down to 3 children If Starborough is built it will have an empty school on both sides of it

16<sup>th</sup> April 1915 Letter from Marlborough Education Board to Department included

- a) That Neither Blind River or Sea View should be permanently closed
- b) Parents at Starborough Downs are prepared to contribute
- c) That a deputation meet the Minister

14<sup>th</sup> May 1915 Minister refuses to build Starborough Downs

16<sup>th</sup> June 1915 Marlborough Education Board decides to move Sea View School

3<sup>rd</sup> September Secretary of Education where an injustice is done to the complainants please furnish the Department with a full plan of their for settlement of eh conflicting interests of the district

20<sup>th</sup> September 1915 Only one tender received for shifting Sea View to the Starborough Downs Site at £75.18. 6d

30<sup>th</sup> September 1915 Secretary of Education to Marlborough Education Board if new school built there will not be another built at Seaview

27<sup>th</sup> September 1915 From R McCallum Esq to Mr. Hanna Minister of Education arguing to hurry up the decision making

Much mail between parties about what was best seeing 2 schools had been closed in the area

13<sup>th</sup> October 1915 William Massey Prime Minister now involved stating that £8 910-0 will be given for a new school and the householders find the rest if needed for rent

Last letter in File 19<sup>th</sup> July 1916 where Mr. Hanan Minister of Education states he is going to visit the school to sort out the district's schools

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## Seddon (1908-1923)

Prior to 1903 called Starborough

1900 600 square foot building  
 1909 300 square foot added  
 1913 6 rooms , bathroom, washhouse, scullery  
 Area 1043 Square foot  
 1936 Removed 20 square foot  
 Area 5 acres 1 rood 32 perches Section 1,8.and 9  
 29/3/39 Transfer of 32 roods to PWD for roading  
 1939 1 room 624 square feet  
 1951 1 room 624  
 1952 1 room 624  
 1953 1 room 624

1894/4162	Helen Mary	Brown	Frederick Haslam Frescheville	Bakewell
1935/23179	Bakewell	Frederick Haslam Freschville		76Y

1883	7	Starborough	Bakewell	F H F		
1884	8	Starborough	Bakewell	F H		
1885	12	Starborough	Bakewell	F H T		
1886	409	Masterton	Bakewell	Thomas	Assistant Master	£150.00
1887	467	Masterton	Bakewell	F H	Assistant Master	£150.00
1888	479	Masterton	Bakewell	F H	Assistant Master	£150.00
1889	482	Masterton	Bakewell	F H	Assistant Master	£150.00
1890	339	Thorndon	Bakewell	Frederick	Assistant Master	£220.00
1891	375	Thorndon	Bakewell	Frederick	Assistant Master	£220.00
1892	358	Thorndon	Bakewell	Frederick	Assistant Master	£220.00
1893	325	Thorndon	Bakewell	Frederick	Assistant Master	£220.00
1894	372	Thorndon	Bakewell	Frederick	Assistant Master	£220.00
1895	383	Thorndon	Bakewell MA	Frederick	Assistant Master	£220.00
1896	205	Greytown	Bakewell	Frederick	Headmaster	£285.00
1897	209	Greytown	Bakewell	F H	Headmaster	£285.00
1898	217	Greytown	Bakewell	Fred H	Headmaster	£285.00

Fred was born Frederick Haslam Freschville Bakewell in London in 1858, to Robert Hall Bakewell, a surgeon and his wife Arabella. The Bakewell's were a prominent family involved in "intellectual thinking", his grandfather was a preacher and his great grandfather was one of the developers of "psychiatry". His father was a fascinating character and I copy this from an article I found on the web

""He served as a military surgeon in the Crimea, was invalided home with cholera, then dismissed from the army for writing to The Times criticising conditions at Scutari. He then practised in Deptford, married Arabella in 1856, took the family to Cuba (1862), back to Staffordshire, six years in Jamaica (1866-72), then in 1873 to New Zealand as ship's doctor on the emigrant ship Charlotte Gladstone. He practised in Dunedin, the West Coast, Nelson and Christchurch, finally settling in Auckland in 1887. In the Anglo-Boer war he was again (at age 70) an army surgeon, claiming (wrongly it turns out) to be

the only man to have served in both those wars. Inventor (he designed an airship), botanist, controversialist (“a thorn in the side of his own profession”) and lecturer, he wrote voluminous letters to newspapers and private correspondents (including Charles Darwin), a host of chatty articles, a lively autobiography, many medical papers and pamphlets, two stories published (under pseudonyms) as newspaper serials, and an unpublished drama — “but I have never descended so far as to write verse”. He came from a literary and intellectual Dissenting family, especially on his mother’s side — Marianne Haslam published widely on education and child rearing and her niece Frances was the grandmother, and literary catalyst, of Jorge Luis Borges”

His father also converted the family to Catholicism which was incredibly rare in those days  
Research by Grandson Sam

4<sup>th</sup> November 1935 The death occurred at Paekakariki last night of Mr. Frederick Haslam Bakewell, M.A., formerly senior inspector of schools in the Wellington Education district. The late Mr. Bakewell was born in Kent, England, in 1858, his father being Dr. R. H. Bakewell. He was educated at Queen's College, Trinidad, in the West Indies. .and later at the Otago Boys' High [School and Otago University, where he graduated M.A. in 1896. Mr. Bakewell commenced to win his way in the world by working in the bush and later as a sheep-farmer, but met with an accident while serving in the New Zealand Armed Constabulary in Taranaki and turned his attention to school teaching. He began in the teaching profession at the bottom of the ladder, being in charge of a small aided school in Marlborough in 1893. He was later appointed first assistant master at Thorndon, and rapidly rose to the position of headmaster at Greytown. He joined the inspectorate in 1898, his many attainments making him particularly suited to the position. He became senior inspector in 1917, and retired in 1924.

Mr. Bakewell was a member of the Victoria College Council, a member of the University Senate, a member of the Council of Education, and was a member of the Wellington Hospital Board about ten years ago. He married Miss Helen Mary Brown, of Hawera, and is survived by his widow, two sons—Dr. R. F. Bakewell, of Christchurch, and Dr. R. A. Bakewell, of Petone—and one daughter. Dr. Helen Bakewell, of the Health Department.

5<sup>th</sup> November 1935 TEACHERS' FRIEND

THE LATE F. H. BAKEWELL

AN INTERESTING LIFE

The late Mr. Frederick Haslam Bakewell, whose death occurred at Paekakariki on Sunday night, was a man whose scholarly reputation and educational associations were in striking contrast with more adventurous phases of his early life. He was born in Kent in 1858, the second son of Robert Hall Bakewell, M.D. He was educated privately and at the City of London School under the famous Dr. Abbott, and later at Otago Boys' High School and Otago University.

Part of his early youth was spent in the West Indies in Cuba, Venezuela, and Trinidad, where his father held various medical appointments under the Imperial Government. Of his life there he had a most vivid recollection, particularly of a rising among the negroes on account of the strenuous measures taken in a smallpox epidemic.

As a young man Mr. Bakewell worked on the land, principally in the Mc- Kenzie Country (South Canterbury), and later in Motueka, but his ambition was to become a soldier. At the age of nineteen he joined the Armed Constabulary and was stationed at the Opunake Redoubt, where he saw considerable service during the Maori troubles. He was a member of the force which, under Lieutenant-Colonel Roberts, marched to the Parihaka Pa and to whose demand Te Whiti surrendered. He was on the point of proceeding to England to enter the

Army when he met with a tragic accident. When firing at the butts a gun burst and shattered his hand.

Having to turn to another way of life he chose the teaching profession, and to that for over forty years he gave of his best. Of outstanding ability, Mr. Bakewell rose rapidly, and in 1899 was appointed to the Inspectorate of Schools in the Wellington district. In 1917 he became chief inspector.

Personally knowing the trials and troubles of a teacher's life, Mr. Bakewell was ever ready to help and advise the teachers of his district and his appearance in a school was not looked upon as that of a cold, critical judge, but that of a warm-hearted, understanding friend. Few men have served their generation more ably than he and asked less in return. Few men have been more conscientious in the discharge of their duties and few indeed have earned from their subordinates such affection and respect. When, on his retirement in 1924, the teachers met to farewell him, the spontaneous expressions of affection, appreciation, and regret proved that he had not laboured in vain in his profession.

But his labours were by no means ended. He continued to serve the cause of education, as a member of Victoria University' College Council, and as a representative of that body on the Senate of the University of New Zealand. In 1925, at the request of the Imperial Government, he was appointed a member of a Royal Commission on Education in Fiji. In collaboration with Mr. Frank Tate, Director of Education in Victoria, and representative Fijians' and Indians, he drafted a scheme of education to meet the many difficult problems due to the varied racial and, .religious conflicts. In a letter to the Education Department from Downing Street his good work was recognised and he was appropriately thanked.

In the councils of educators he was always effective. He spoke only when the occasion demanded it, and he spoke to some purpose. It was always he who, when some problem had got out of hand and nerves were frayed, rose and very briefly and humorously said precisely the right thing, thus straightening out the difficulty and restoring the good humour of the meeting. His sense of humour, his keen and ready wit were never employed to hurt, but 'always to adorn a tale or restore a harmony.

He was a fine Latin scholar, apt in quotation, and widely read. His special study and interest, however, was military history, on which he was a recognised authority. Lectures given many years ago on the "Characteristics of the British in War," are still remembered by the men then in training, for their scholarly appeal, and their wealth of historical analogy. Such was the man whose passing leaves an ache in the hearts of all who knew him, a scholar, a teacher, a wise councillor, but above all a great friend

## 1883

1883 7 Starborough Bakewell F H F Master £ 21.00

3<sup>rd</sup> April 1883 Mr Stace, of Scarborough wrote, stating that Mr Bakewell had been appointed master of the school there, and applied for assistance. Mr Parker said he was at Starborough the other day, and there were six children there besides Mr Stace's own children. Mr Seymour could answer, that the same sort of thing was Wanted -at Flaxbourne. The application, on the motion of Mr Parker, seconded by Captain Baillie, was granted, subject to the conditions imposed by the Act

17<sup>th</sup> May 1883 Wool.— We have to congratulate Mr H. J, Stace, of Starborough, upon having again obtained the highest price realised at the late wool sales, for wool grown m this province. The highest prices tor wool grown m this province ranged as follows — Starborough, 37 bales a 1s 4d

## 1884

1884 8 Starborough Bakewell F H Master £ 24.00

5<sup>th</sup> February 1884 From the Starborough School re audit of accounts

## 1885

1885 12 Starborough Bakewell F H T Master £ 49.00

2<sup>nd</sup> June 1885 Letter from Mr Stace, applying for four desks for the Starborough school. The Architect was instructed to provide them

30<sup>th</sup> June 1885 The largest sheep owners in Marlborough for the year 1881 were as follows Clifford and Weld, Flaxbourne, 52,959 Symons, Keckerangu, 51,800; Thom. Carter, Wairau Valley, 45,200; R Beaumont, Starborough, 32,500;

## 1886

1886 11 Starborough Hughes Leonard S Master £ 33.00

8<sup>th</sup> March 1886 Teachers' Certificates.— The young teachers of Marlborough keep up their reputation for intellectual ability, industry, and application to study. The result of the certificate examinations held in Dec. last has come to hand. Miss Mary Bary and Miss Maud Lucas have passed, the first obtaining a partial D and the second a full E. Mr Bakewell of Starborough has also passed his full D. That so young a lady as Miss Bary should obtain a high certificate of a D does her very great credit

21<sup>st</sup> April 1886 In the Property-tax Valuation, Starborough £ 77,454,

4<sup>th</sup> August 1886 Blenheim School Committee Letter read from Secretary of the Board enclosing applications for the appointment of second master and stating that the Board considered Messrs Bakewell's and Ogilvie to be the most suitable

14<sup>th</sup> September 1886 F H Bakewell classified as D3 certificate. E being the Lowest and A the Best

18<sup>th</sup> November 1886 MR BALLANCE TN THE AWATERE.

During his trip into the Awatere yesterday the Hon. Mr Ballance visited Starborough, and was conducted by Mr Beaumont, the owner, over the portions of the run which, when cut up into small holdings, would be suitable for Village Settlements. Mr Ballance also inspected the 150 acre block of land at Starborough which Mr Beaumont occupies under the Crown, and which is the only Crown land lit for settlement in that district. Nothing can be done towards establishing a Village Settlement in the Awatere, until the Government obtains statutory powers to take land for that purpose, in the same way as it is now taken for Public Works

## 1887

1887 13 Starborough Hughes Leonard S Master £ 36.00

17<sup>th</sup> January 1887 THE CLARENCE BRIDGE.

[by our special reporter] The formal opening of the Clarence Bridge took place last Thursday. Over 400 persons were present on the occasion. Kaikoura was well represented by most of its leading men, Mr. Lance, M.H.R., being among the number. Messrs Dodson, M H.R., S. J. Macalister, and H A. W. McKenzie were the only visitors from Blenheim. Considerable disappointment was expressed at the absence of Mr Henry Redwood and Mr Joseph Ward, two gentlemen who for many years had been connected with the progress of the province. The majority of those present rode from Kaikoura, the steamer Wakatu landing about 40 at the Boat Harbour. A full description of the structure, which spans the Clarence River at the

ferry has already appeared in these columns. The opening ceremony took place about 1 o'clock.

## 1888

1888 13 Starborough Hughes Leonard S Master £ 28.00  
14<sup>th</sup> January 1888 Teacher's and Civil Service Examinations The teachers' examinations throughout New Zealand commenced on Monday last, and terminates next Tuesday. The Supervisor in Blenheim is Mr John T, Robinson, assistant Supervisor, Mr C. W. Budge, Examiner in Music, Rev. J. Crump Examiner in Needlework, Mrs Cowley. Included Leonard Hughes

25<sup>th</sup> February 1888 Mr Hughes passed Class D

7<sup>th</sup> March 1888 Starborough (Aided school), —Mr Hughes. On roll 14, present 13. This year's examination caused no interruption of the unbroken record of success at Starborough, every standard scholar, from the first to the sixth, getting a pass. The children had evidently been carefully and sensibly taught

## 1889

1889 7 Starborough Hughes Leonard S Master £ 28.00  
15<sup>th</sup> March 1889 Starborough (aided school) Mr Hughes present 9 on roll 9. There was no interruption of the hitherto unbroken success of this little school. The work was good all round, two of the scholars passing the Sixth Standard with credit. The regularity with which the children here attend, in spite of difficulties that elsewhere are considered insurmountable, shames the laggards who will not, in many cases, walk half -a- mile in showery weather. Half of the scholars trudge daily four miles and a half to school, and study to some purpose when they get there. One collateral advantage should be put to the credit of such tiny schools as Starborough. They give young man of promise opportunity and leisure for reading up for the teachers' examination. Two of the teachers of this school in succession have gained the D certificate at the first trial, and without extraneous coaching

Leonard was born Leonard Sonstadt Hughes in 1865 in Loughborough, Leicestershire to Henry Hughes an engineer who employed some 200 people in his works. The whole family emigrated to NZ in 1882. He applied for the Assistant Master position at Westport Boys in 1885 but I'm unsure whether he was successful. He then of course went to Starborough which appears to have been his only teaching position. In 1891 he is accepted to University College London to study Medicine, graduating with honours in 1896, upon which he is appointed to work at University College Hospital. He returned to NZ after his father's death later in 1896, setting up practice in Gisborne. In 1898 he married Mabel de Lautour, daughter of MP/Solicitor Cecil De Lautour. They would have 3 children. Leonard continued practicing in Gisborne until around 1902 when he returned to London to further his studies, eventually in 1904, graduating and being made a fellow of University College, a very prestigious honour. However he returned to NZ in 1905 where he took up practice in Fielding, where he died suddenly of a heart attack in December that year. His widow outlived him by 61 years, never remarrying she died in 1967. From all accounts he was a very, very good doctor and it appears he was a skilled teacher as well. Unsure why he would choose to teach rather than immediately studying medicine though.

Research by Grandson Sam

## 1890

1890 9 Starborough Vacant

2<sup>nd</sup> April 1890 Starborough (aided school).— Mr L Hughes. On roll 8, present 8. As usual I found no scholar unequal to the work taken up. It is only to be regretted that so competent a teacher as Mr Hughes should not have a wider field for his energies than can be afforded by the handful of scholars under his charge

3<sup>rd</sup> December 1890 Mr Hughes, teacher at Starborough wrote resigning his position. Resolved to inform the Committee of the fact and request them to forward the name of his successor

## 1891

1891 9 Starborough Broadhurst F Female £ 31.10

19<sup>th</sup> August 1891 Mr Inspector Smith last week paid a visit to Kekerangu, and Starborough schools, and was much pleased with the work that is being done there. He hopes shortly to get to the Sounds, and then he will pretty well have completed the rounds of his first visit

In 1892 Mr Frederick Broadhurst was at Endeavour Inlet

## 1894

1894 10 Starborough Wood W Master £ 45.00

7<sup>th</sup> November 1893 Mr P. Fissenden wrote from the Awatere asking to have an aided school established at Starborough. The residents would provide a building, and the number of children entitled them to aid. It was resolved to grant the request.

## 1895

1895 14 Starborough Ensor May Female £ 45.00

30<sup>th</sup> March 1895 There is an oil painting of considerable merit, and prettily framed in the window of Mr Fowler's shop in Market Place. The subject is "The Devil's Armchair, from Timms Creek Northbank Station, Wairau Valley." The artist is Mr Broadhurst, late schoolmaster at the Starborough Station. are represented most creditably. The price affixed to the picture is £2 10 shillings, but we should say it would be a bargain at a much higher figure.

10<sup>th</sup> April 1895 STARBOROUGH. Mr J. McKenzie applied on behalf of himself and other residents that the aided school be re-opened. Mr Foster, manager of the station, had suggested that Miss Ensor, now Governess at his place, be appointed teacher. There were nine children to teach. Mr Parker suggested that the school to which Mr Fissenden sent his children be amalgamated with the proposed aided one. The request was granted.

## 1896-1897

1896 14 Starborough Ensor May Female £ 45.00

1897 14 Starborough Craig A B Female £ 57.00

8<sup>th</sup> July 1897 A BIG TRANSACTION.

(Palmerston North Standard.) Our telegrams from Wellington oi Saturday evening conveyed the intelligence that negotiations are on foot, and proceeding satisfactorily for the purchase under the Land for Settlement Act, of the Flaxbourne and Starborough runs, Marlborough altogether about 100,000 acres, Should this purchase actually take place it will rank m

importance even before that of the famous Cheviot estate, as the area and value involved are greater, although the circumstances surrounding it may not be quite so sensational

14<sup>th</sup> July 1897 Starborough The appointment of Miss Craig as teacher at an aided school was approved, and a small expenditure for procuring desks was authorised. *Anna Buller Craig married 1904*

## 1898

1898 16 Starborough Craig A B Female £ 62.10

In 1897 J W Humphreys was head teacher at Collingwood

28<sup>th</sup> May 1898 The purchase by the Government of the Starborough Estate has been the subject of favorable comment throughout the district, and the price agreed upon—

^£104,000— seems to be regarded as reasonable. The estate consisting of 33,000 acres, this price is at the rate of about three guineas an acre a§ against an average of less than £1 an acre paid by the late Mr Beaumont years ago

## 1899

1899 12 Starborough Humphreys Joseph W E2 Master £ 51.00

14<sup>th</sup> February 1899 Barrett waited on the Land Board yesterday with reference to a petition to have the sections m the township of Seddon (Starborough), put up for ballot, and was informed that the survey is proceeding with all despatch. As we explained recently, though it has been arranged that the disposal of a large number of Starborough sections should take place on March the 14<sup>th</sup>

The Chairman called attention to the fact that Tuesday, 14th March, which was the date fixed m the ordinary course for the Board's next meeting, was also the date on which would be received the applications for the Starborough Estate. Three members of the Education Board were also members of the Land Board, and the latter body had to meet to examine the applications for Starborough sections, and that business would occupy them for at least two days. It was decided to hold the next monthly meeting on Saturday, March 11<sup>th</sup> .....

16<sup>th</sup> February 1899 The Chairman of the Education Board pointed out at the last meeting that only one school site had been reserved by the Government on the Starborough Estate, and that this would not be sufficient to meet prospective educational requirements. It was resolved to represent to Mr C. W. Adams, Commissioner of Crown Lands, the advisability of reserving another school site at the southern end of the property, or near Richmond Brook.

25<sup>th</sup> May 1899 Bro J W Humphreys was giving a reading in the Blenheim lodge of Good Templars

19<sup>th</sup> June 1899 Mr J. W. Humphreys, certificated teacher, who has had a good deal of experience teaching m the Nelson district, notifies that he will commence evening classes if sufficient inducement offers

25<sup>th</sup> July 1899 Mr J. W. Humphreys has been temporarily appointed teacher of the aided school at Starborough, and eaters upon his duties forthwith .

29<sup>th</sup> July 1899 Bro. J. W. Humphreys, who is going to reside at Starborough, took the opportunity to say a few words of farewell, thanking the Lodge for their kindness

23<sup>rd</sup> August 1899 Miss A. B. Cray has resigned her position as schoolmistress, preferring the quiet of private tuition to a public school, and has been succeeded by Mr Humphreys, who with his family is now domiciled here. The school attendance, though not large (20), will

increase, and, as there is only Beating accommodation for 20. it will be absolutely necessary for the school board to erect additions to the present school, or, what would be more advisable, erect a school house. I am also informed that the reporting school board officer, Mr McKenzie, has resigned, holding the office pro tern till the appointment of a successor. It would, it is generally admitted, be wise now to appoint a school committee.

31<sup>st</sup> August 1899 At the conclusion of the business appertaining to the rate question, Mr Humphries, schoolmaster, suggested that the time was very opportune for the election of a school committee, which suggestion was endorsed by the Chairman, Messrs Foster, Armstrong, and others and, a resolution being carried to that effect the following gentlemen were appointed to act in that capacity Messrs McKenzie, Allen, Woodward, Foster, Reid, Francis and Barrett. Meeting of Awatere Road Board

2<sup>nd</sup> September 1899 Secretary, in a few well chosen remarks, presented Bro. J. W. Humphreys with a handsomely framed member's diploma, in token of regret of the Lodge at his removal from Blenheim to Starborough. Bro. Humphreys, in reply, thanked the Lodge for their many kindnesses, and promised to do all in his power to further the interests of Good Templary in his new location

5<sup>th</sup> October 1899 STARBOROUGH.

TO The EDITOR. Scattered over this isolated district are about seventy men whose lives could be greatly improved and brightened by something to read; and in Blenheim and neighborhood there must be many persons who have more books, etc., than they know what to do with. Long evenings and wet days are very trying to men in camp, and reading matter of any kind would be truly a God-send. I would, therefore, appeal to those who have books, magazines, papers, etc., to forward them to me, and I will catalogue and circulate them. The smallest contribution will be thankfully received and acknowledged through the Express. Those contributing will have the satisfaction of knowing they are giving a real pleasure to a number of their fellow-men whose lot in life is laid in hard places and the good that may be done, and the evil that may be prevented— for Satan still finds work for idle hands to do— no one can tell. I am, etc., J. W. Humphreys. Schoolhouse, Starborough.

10<sup>th</sup> October A request from W. Chisnell for an aided school at his residence, Starborough, was ordered to be forwarded to the correspondent at Seddon for his report.

14<sup>th</sup> November 1899 The request from Mr Chisnell for capitation for an aided school in the Awatere was granted also the request for furniture for the Starborough School.

25<sup>th</sup> November 1899 Starborough.— Our correspondent writes as follows A well-attended meeting of settlers and others was held here on Saturday night, when it was decided to hold sports meetings annually, the first [to be known as the Seddon sports) to be held on Boxing Day. A strong committee was elected to carry out the sports— the following gentlemen comprising it— Messrs B. Allen, Liasinno, D. Fleming, A. Fleming, P. Maher, Puller, Mullen, Dollar, Hay, Thomas, Howard, Hodgkinson, Barrett, Chisnell, Dalziel, F. Barnes, F. Aroa, Herd, F. Sharp, and P. Chapman. Mr J. W. Humphreys was appointed Secretary and Treasurer. Nearly £9 was subscribed in the room, and it is hoped to raise another £30. A programme was drawn up by a sub-committee appointed for the purpose, and will be submitted to a meeting of the general committee to be held on Saturday

11<sup>th</sup> December 1899 It was decided to ask for £350 for a school on Starborough, and £300 for school and residence on Richmond Brook.

It was resolved that Mr Allen be authorised to put up a wicket gate in connection with the Starborough school to give issue convenient across to the school (sic)

15<sup>th</sup> December 1899 We are pleased to notice that the Board has applied for £350 for a new school. Such a building is required not only for school purposes, but religious purposes,

meetings, etc. Improvements are gradually being made, and several buildings are showing the prosperity of their owners by receiving Christmas boxes in the shape of new coats.....

## 1900

1900 17 Starborough Humphreys Joseph W E2 Master £ 65.00

22<sup>nd</sup> February 1900 At a meeting of the Awatere Settlers' Association held on the 10th inst, Mr Humphreys was unanimously elected Secretary and Treasurer, vice Mr H. Lissaman, resigned

6<sup>th</sup> April Mr J W Humphries was one of 7 applicants for an assistants position at Blenheim Boys', Didn't win position

21<sup>st</sup> April 1900 Humphries.— At the schoolhouse, Seddon, on the 12th inst., the wife of J. W. Humphreys, of a son

10<sup>th</sup> April 1900 A stove was granted for the Starborough residence. The suggestion was made that one school district should be made for the Seddon, Richmond Brook, and Blind River schools.— The Secretary was instructed to report at next meeting on the wishes of the residents, and supply other data.

9<sup>th</sup> July 1900 AWATERE. The architect forwarded plans, estimates, &c, for school buildings at Seddon and Richmond Brook.— Consideration of the matter was postponed, and the plans and specifications were referred to the Works Committee for examination, with power to instruct the architect to call for tenders.

13<sup>th</sup> August 1900 For the Starborough School Wemyss, £413 Fawcett, £492. The creation of a school at Starborough was postponed for six months

21<sup>st</sup> August 1900 STARBOROUGH. A telegram from the teacher giving the size of room used as a school, and urging the Board to reconsider its decision with regard to a new building. Mr Parker gave notice to move at next meeting that the resolution postponing the erection of a new school at Seddon be rescinded. It was also resolved that the Architect be instructed to furnish estimates of the respective values of the buildings that are to be erected at Seddon and Richmond Brook. (At the previous meeting no tender for the Seddon School was accepted as the figures were considerably in excess of the Government vote.)

10<sup>th</sup> September 1900 STARBOROUGH. Mr Parker moved, according to notice, that the resolution postponing the erection of a new school at Starborough for six months be rescinded. Mr McCallum, in seconding, explained that postponement for six months was not intended by those who passed the above-mentioned resolution, the minute being an error. The motion was carried. Mr Parker then moved that Mr Wemyss's tender, £413, be accepted. Carried.

11<sup>th</sup> September 1900 SEDDON, A request was received for school conveniences at Seddon. It was resolved to write and ask Mr Foster to take up the position of correspondent at Seddon, and to attend to the above matter.

17<sup>th</sup> October 1900 On the representation of Mr Humphreys, acting on behalf of the workmen and settlers, the sale of postal notes at the Seddon post office has been authorised by the Government. There is no doubt the Seddon Government is always willing to comply with the wishes of the people as far as it is able.

17<sup>th</sup> October 1900 On Friday last the annual examination of the school took place, the Inspector examining all except the first and second standards. The results were satisfactory. I will not trouble you with the names of all who passed which seems to be the usual custom

but one boy, Oliver Dalziel, deserves special mention for obtaining full marks in the Sixth Standard arithmetic paper.

17<sup>th</sup> October 1900 J. W. Humphreys wrote asking to be allowed to graze horses on the Recreation Reserve, Seddon.— Mr Humphreys allowed to graze two horses on condition that he keeps the fence in repair.

10<sup>th</sup> December 1900 Mrs Humphreys was awarded £8 for her services as sewing mistress at the Seddon school. Resolved to ask Mr Armstrong to act as correspondent at Seddon, and to report on the school fencing

## 1901

1901 20 Starborough Humphreys Joseph W E2 Master £ 74.10

16<sup>th</sup> February 1901 The householders of Starborough are invited to attend a meeting on Saturday next in connection with the establishment of a school district, A meeting to establish a library, and another of the Awateres Setters Association will also be held on the same date

20<sup>th</sup> March 1901 The architect was instructed to have a gate erected at Starborough and the fence removed according to his report

25<sup>th</sup> March 1901 School District.—A meeting of the inhabitants of Blind River, Richmond Brook, and Starborough has been convened by the Secretary of the Education Board for the 2nd April, at 8 p.m. The object of the meeting is to consider the formation of a new school district.

25<sup>th</sup> March 1901 The new school has just been finished and it reflects the highest credit in the first place on the architect, Mr H B Huddleston, C.E., who has provided a handsome structure with all necessary requisites for a school—plenty of light plenty of ventilation, lavatories, desks, blackboards, outbuildings, etc., etc. Mr J. Wemyss, the contractor, deserves great praise for the faithful and excellent manner in which he has carried out the contract. The painting and varnishing was done by Mr Iremonger, and the plumbing by Mr Adams. The new building is to be opened next Friday with a concert and dance, and there is talk of a tea for the scholars in the afternoon. For the concert an excellent programme has been issued, singers coming from Picton and Blenheim to assist our local talent.

3<sup>rd</sup> April School Commute Election. A meeting of the Starborough householders was held at the Schoolhouse, Seddon, last evening, for the purpose of considering the petition recently sent to the Education Board. Mr J. G. Armstrong was voted to the chair, and Messrs McCallum and Parker, delegates from the Board, explained the position, and that it was desirable to amalgamate the management of the three schools. It was unanimously resolved to respectfully request the Board to cause the election for a School Committee to be held at Seddon instead of Keckerangu.

4<sup>th</sup> April 1901 STARBOROUGH NOTES

The concert in aid of the School Prize-Fund duly came off last Friday, and the new school proved unequal to the crowd who attended, there being about 250 in the room, and at least another 20 outside. Mr J.G. Armstrong, Chairman, in a few words stated the primary object of the entertainment was the celebration of the opening of the new building; and he hoped there would be several more openings as the settlement progressed. He also called attention to the support of the public library which, was about to be established. The concert began with an overture on the piano, excellently played by the Misses Fuller. Then followed an action song by the school children, which was very well done, and much appreciated by the audience. A duet, by Miss Leigh and Mr R. Hay, "Life's Dream is O'er," received great applause. "Betsy Snowflake," by Mr R. Hay, with banjo accompaniment was vociferously encored. Mr Wilmott's rendering of several songs delighted the audience; and Mr Edwards' comic singing fairly brought the house down. Miss Humphreys, in "Jessie's Dream," though

rather nervous, acquitted herself well. A clog dance by Mr J. "Wooster jun., was highly applauded.' In the second part another action song by the school children greatly pleased the audience. I Don't Want to Play in your Yard," by Misses M. Humphreys and Dalziel, was well rendered with appropriate actions. The duet, Larboard "Watch." by Messrs Hay and Hutt, was one of the best items of the evening One of Mrs Candle's curtain lectures was well read by Mr J. W. Humphreys, and highly amused everyone. A duet by the Misses Fuller showed careful training, and was faultlessly rendered.; The Happy Policeman, in character, by Miss Leigh and Mr Banks. was very good indeed, and would have been better, still if the singers had been word perfect. Songs were given by the Misses Fuller, and they were well received. I believe I have now mentioned everything except two items. One was the "Blue Alsatian Mountains," by Miss Buckhurst, which, by unanimous verdict, was the gem of the evening, the young vocalist having a charming, carefully trained voice, j which only requires strengthening by time. The other item was The Hen Convention," by Mr E. Hay, who was admirably got up as a Shanghai rooster, and who fairly convulsed the audience with his antics. Miss Fuller proved a most. able accompanist, At the conclusion of the concert the Chairman called for a vote of thanks to those who had travelled so far to assist, and the same was carried by acclamation. The concert was followed by a dance, which was too-well patronised for the size of the room. The net proceeds of the evening amounted to six guineas. A meeting of householders was held on Tuesday last to discuss the question of formation of new school district. Messrs McCallum and Parker, members of the Education Board, attended, and after considerable discussion, it was practically resolved that there be for the present one school district, comprising Starborough, Blind River, and Richmond Brook.

15<sup>th</sup> April 1901 AWATERE,

Mr McCallum reported that Mr Parker and himself visited Seddon, and met about fifteen householders to discuss the question of forming a central school committee there for the Awatere district. Objections were raised by those who thought that Seddon might appropriate for its own benefit money that should be expended on other parts of the district; but eventually it was unanimously decided to form a central committee and give it a trial for one year. It was resolved that the notice for the holding of a householders' meeting at Kekerangu on the 22nd be cancelled, and the Secretary give notice that a -general meeting would be held at Seddon on May the 6th.

20<sup>th</sup> April 1901 Owing to the courtesy of the Chief Enumerator for Marlborough (Mr W. Armstrong) we are able to publish the following returns

	Males	Femal	Total.
Starborough Estate ...	92	58	150
Town of Seddon ...	52	24	76
Richmond Brook Estate	33	15	48
Blind River Estate ...	61	43	104

14<sup>th</sup> May 1901 The Seddon Committee asked for a grant for the erection of a fence round the school. —It was resolved to send it a copy of the regulation , and to inform the Committee that the capitation would be forwarded in due course

10<sup>th</sup> June 1901 An application from Seddon for grates for Starborough, Richmond Brook, and Blind River, a stove for Starborough was held over for consideration at nest meeting. The Secretary was instructed to write for an estimate of cost for a porch asked for.

9<sup>th</sup> September 1901 AWATERE. Mr Parker reported a visit of inspection to Richmond Brook and Starborough. A number of requirements were ordered to be supplied to Richmond Brook, and the fencing of the grounds at Starborough was authorised, the cost not to exceed £10.

15<sup>th</sup> October 1901 The Seddon Committee asked the Board to endeavor to obtain the use of adjoining ground for the paddocking of children's horses.—The matter was referred to the Land Board.

6<sup>th</sup> December 1901 Gratifying news has reached us concerning a water-supply for Seddon, the Hon. C. H. Mills having wired to Mr J. W. Humphreys, the Secretary of the Awatere Settlers' Association: The Minister of Lands informed me arrangements are being made for water supply." I need not say how grateful we are to the hon. gentlemen for what they are doing.

The weather—well, let us hope there will be a sudden and quick change in it.

The school children's treat will be held on Friday, 20th instant, and active preparations are being made for the occasion.

23<sup>rd</sup> December 1901 The railway will probably be opened as far as Seddon by about March

## 1902

1902 24 Starborough (Seddon) Humphreys Joseph W E2 Master £ 114.00

14<sup>th</sup> January 1902 An application from Mr A. Avery for the necessary assistance for the formation of an aided school at Sea View, Awatere, was favorably considered and referred to the Starborough Committee.

A supplementary grant of £13 12s 6d was made for repairs, etc., at the Seddon school,

11<sup>th</sup> February 1902 The communication from the Seddon Committee being favorable, the application for assistance for the establishment of an aided school at Sea View was granted. With regard to the question of payment for sewing mistresses, it was resolved to reply to the Seddon Committee that they would be remunerated up to the end of the year, and the Board could not depart [from its regulations with respect to the requisite attendance at the school.

11<sup>th</sup> March 1902 Some time was spent in discussing a difference that had arisen between the teacher at Seddon and the parent of a boy who had been expelled from the schools on the grounds of bad behaviour. The question was submitted to the Board by the School Committee.—It was resolved that the Committee be referred to Section 87 of the Education Act

15<sup>th</sup> April 1902 The school at Starborough cost the Marlborough Education Board £455 to build (\$80,278.35 equivalent in December 2015 terms)

2<sup>nd</sup> May 1902 Seddon. —At the annual meeting of householders at Seddon Mr G. M. Gunn was voted to the chair. The following gentlemen were elected a Committee for the ensuing year:— Messrs Fissenden, Gray, Armstrong, Allan, Sanies, White, and Barrett. At a meeting of the Committee held subsequently Mr Armstrong was elected Chairman. The Seddon Railway Station.—In the course of his address in Ewart's Hall last night, the Hon. C. H. Mills read a telegram from the Minister for Public Works informing him that the tender of Messrs May and McKinley, £1802 12s 5d, had been accepted for the work of erecting the railway station buildings at Seddon.

10 May 1902 The school Committee election resulted as already reported in your columns, the only result worthy of note being the fact that two gentlemen who were supposed to be dissatisfied with the present teaching staff were placed at the bottom of the poll.. Teachers feel an inch taller in consequence.

13<sup>th</sup> May 1902 The Seddon teacher -was granted leave of absence on account of sickness. A letter was received from the Chairman of the Seddon Committee.—The suggestion re administration of the Blind River and Richmond Brook school affairs by the Seddon Committee was adopted.

9<sup>th</sup> June 1902 The Seddon Committee notified the appointment of correspondents for Richmond Brook and Blind River schools

24<sup>th</sup> June 1902 Kiddies generally are looking forward anxiously to Coronation Day. They are to take part in the procession in Blenheim, and march behind a brand new banner. Then they will be feasted on the fat bullock. What a glorious time they will have—and what a treat in store next day for their mothers removing the grease

14<sup>th</sup> July 1902 Mr Armstrong, representing the Seddon Committee, waited on the Board with regard to the readjustment of fencing at Seddon and Richmond Brook. —The Secretary was instructed to ascertain from the Land Board whether a section of land is vested in the Education Board, and it was resolved that the Committee carry out fencing at Seddon and Richmond Brook.

18<sup>th</sup> August 1902 The appointments of Miss E. Brydon as teacher at Starborough (Sounds) and Miss P. Newman at Saratoga were approved. (*Scarborough Run A farm between Miritu Bay (Bay of Many Coves) and Mint Bay Endeavour Inlet. Probably later renamed Dryden Bay*)

19<sup>th</sup> August 1902 The Land Board notified that section 9, Block XII., Seddon, had already been vested in the Education Board as an education reserve.

11<sup>th</sup> October 1902 BLENHEIM SEDDON RAILWAY.  
OPENING OF THE LINE.

A SUCCESSFUL FUNCTION.

Perfect weather—sunny and delight fully temperate prevailed for the ceremony wish which the Blenheim- Seddon railway was opened yesterday; to public traffic, and the event was of an entirely successful nature. A. public holiday was observed in Blenheim, and the three trains to Seddon wore crowded with picnickers, about 1500 people travelling along the line. The detailed plan and the working of the railway arrangements reflect the greatest credit on Mr Edwards, the local manager.

## 1903

1903 23 Seddon (Starborough) Humphreys Joseph W E2 Head £ 114.00

10<sup>th</sup> February 1903 Mr J. W. Humphreys, Seddon, re capitation earned but not payable under the new regulations.—It was resolved to recommend Mr Humphreys to send his letter to the Marlborough Educational Institute

14<sup>th</sup> March 1903 A very pleasant outing was spent by the children attending the Waitohi school, their parents and friends, at the rising township of Seddon yesterday. The weather was all that could be desired to enable the picnickers to enjoy tb.3 ride in the train and view the varied scenery en route.. Many of the scholars, and some of the adults, paid their first visit to that little township, and were quite delighted to have places which they had frequently heard of pointed out to them. Mr and Mrs Robertson were indefatigable in their efforts to make the outing a thorough success; while Mr Humphries, the school master at Seddon, and his pupils, received the visitors. At the conclusion of a friendly game of cricket between the two schools, cheers for the hospitality of the Seddon residents and the youthful cricketers were given in. a hearty manner. After lollie scrambles it was time to rejoin the train for home.

The thanks of all are due to our most courteous Traffic Manager and his staff, who materially helped the outing to pass off successfully.

12<sup>th</sup> May 1903 Marlborough Education Board meeting: Correspondence was received with reference to the cutting of trees on the Seddon plantation. One report from the Department of Lands and Survey stated that live trees had been cut; another report stated that only dead trees had been removed. —The matter was referred to the Committee.

11<sup>th</sup> September 1903 Entertainments have been scarce this winter, nothing else in the way of amusement but a dancing class. No doubt the reason of this is the want of a suitable hall. This is very much felt, and is one that the young men of the place should take in hand at once. The School Committee intend to hold some sort of entertainment next month to raise funds for the school prize fund.

28<sup>th</sup> September 1903 The teacher at Seddon wrote urging the claims of his wife for payment of her services as sewing mistress during 1902, It was resolved that the Board obtain particulars of such services rendered by sewing mistresses, and apply to the Department for a grant at the rate of 10s per annum per pupil under the Manual and Technical Instruction Act.

7<sup>th</sup> October 1903 The following pupils of the Ugbrooke School passed their respective standards at the annual examination held at Seddon on Monday last: Standard IV May Coward, Grace Satherley; Standard 111., Geo. Satherley; Standard 11., Josie Brown, Maude Coward, Nellie Satherley; Class P., Hilda Brown, Trixey Coward, Edwin Satherley, and Frank Satherley. This school has only been open eight months, and the teacher (Miss Foley) is to be congratulated on the result of her labors. No list of Seddon passes!!!

4<sup>th</sup> November 1903 Seddon.—A concert in aid of the Children's Treat Fund" was held in the schoolroom on Friday (writes a correspondent), and from every point of view was a most unqualified success. Mr G. M. Gunn, the energetic chairman of the School Committee, ably assisted by Messrs Armstrong, Hodgson, and Dick, made all the necessary preparations. The ladies of the district provided a nice supper at their own expense for the dance which followed the concert, so that the expenses might be practically nil. The concert itself was of a high class character, and the various numbers were rendered with marked ability. The children of the Seddon school had been trained by Miss F. Fuller, and acquitted themselves in their action songs splendidly, reflecting the highest credit upon their teacher. Miss McCabe played all the accompaniments with her usual brilliancy, and the success of the concert was in a large measure due to her kind assistance. The piano was kindly lent by Mrs Walden. The following took part in the /concert: —Misses Wakelin, Dick, Foster, Hay, O'Brien, Daley, Gunn, Skinner, M. Barnes, Truman; Messrs Craig, Cooke, Fraser, Hay; Masters G. Hounsell and G. Skinner. After the concert dancing was kept going till 4 a.m. Altogether a more enjoyable evening has never been spent in Seddon.

28<sup>th</sup> November 1903 School Excursion,—The Awatere schools excursion from Seddon to Picton and Torea Neck will be held on Wednesday next, December 2nd. The train leaves Seddon at 8.30 a.m., and Picton at 6 p.m.

## 1904

1904 25 Seddon Humphreys J W E2 Head Master £ 110.10

8<sup>th</sup> February 1904 The Department notified, the payment of £5 as capitation on account of a school class for needlework at Seddon for the year ending 1903. If capitation was desired for 1904 it would be necessary to make an application on the proper form as soon as the work

was commenced' An annual rent of 10 shillings for a connection with the railway water supply at Seddon was agreed to

9<sup>th</sup> February 1904 Seddon was last with 25% in the list of schools in their success in Arithmetic. Havelock Suburban were top with 89.4 per cent

9<sup>th</sup> August 1904 deed giving the Board the right to tap the railway water supply at Seddon was received from the Railway Department, and was duly signed

A resident of the Seddon district, living some six miles from the nearest school, applied for the regulation assistance for the education of two children at his household.—The application was granted

14<sup>th</sup> September 1904 list of books for cue **school** library was submitted for the Board's approval. —Agreed to, and the usual subsidy ordered to be paid.

3<sup>rd</sup> December 1904 Seddon Concert.—The concert in aid of funds for the Seddon School took place last night in the schoolroom, which was packed with an audience that showed its appreciation of the lengthy programme in a manner that must have been pleasing to the performers. The singing of Miss Truman and Miss K. Daly was very much enjoyed, being much above the average The children's items reflected great credit on the Misses Fuller for the pains they had taken in coaching them, and all went home with a feeling that even better things may be looked for from the youngsters in future. A pretty dance was given by the Hay family. A unique item was a violin solo by Mr Hay on a violin made by Mr Rutland from Blenheim

grown on Mr Foster's property. The other performers were: Misses O'Brien, Grey (2), Keys, Woodward, Barnes, Daly, Hardon (2); Mesdames Barrett and Walden; Messrs Keys, Hutt, Walden, Palmer, Longmire, Birch, and Quelch , who all received a fair share of applause. On Miss McCabe devolved the playing of the major part of the accompaniments. After thanking Mr Humphreys for the pains he had taken over the concert, Mr Gunn, Chairman, announced that the floor would be cleared for dancing, which was indulged in by old and young till the "wee smal oors."

## 1905

1905 26 Seddon Humphreys J W E2 Head Master £ 130.00

28<sup>th</sup> February 1905 During the year (1904)the following schools of grade 1 and upwards recorded 90 per cent, of attendance: Keckerangu 92 per cent., Robin Hood Bay 93 per cent., Ugbrooke 95 per cent. Six in grade 0 maintained 100 per cent, of attendance. The following schools showed the lowest averages:— Seddon 76 per cent.. Grove 77 per cent., Blenheim Boys 78 per cent., Cullensville, Havelock Suburban, and Blenheim Girls, each 79 per cent.

1<sup>st</sup> April 1905 The necessity for a school at the Sea View end of Starborough, was in full evidence last week. When driving to school, some four miles, Mr R. Marfell's children were thrown out of the trap, and, although they escaped with a good shaking, it shows how young children might meet an untimely end, because their parents who wish to have them educated cannot always spare time to convey them to school so long a distance. If a school were erected at Sea View end, the children could walk —then the minds of the parents would be easy as to their safety.

9<sup>th</sup> May 1905 An application from Seddon for the usual subsidy on £1 10s raised for the purchase of ambulance material was granted, subject to the Inspector's approval of expenditure, and on the understanding that all apparatus so purchased was the property oi the Board

13<sup>th</sup> June 1905 The Seddon Committee was authorised to effect repairs at a cost not exceeding £5. The teacher at Seddon forwarded a list of requisites for the proposed ambulance class, the cost of which would be £4 3s—It was agreed to subsidise the Committee to the extent of £2 3s.

16<sup>th</sup> June 1905 On Tuesday evening a well-attended, meeting was held in the school to discuss the erection of a public hall, Mr P. Meehan was voted to the chair. Mr Humphreys, the convenor of the meeting, submitted full particulars as to dimensions and cost of a suitable building, which had been kindly supplied by Messrs Bythell and Co., and also information as to available sites. After several speakers, including Messrs Marfell, Armstrong, and Meehan, had emphasised the necessity of a public hall, it was unanimously resolved that a suitable building be erected in Richmond Street from the proceeds of the sale of one pound debentures, and that a committee, consisting of the following gentlemen— Messrs Blick, Gill, Marfell, Francis, Daly, H. Puller, and J. Rodgeron— canvass the district, and report to a general meeting. I think there is very little doubt that the matter will be brought to a successful issue. The Seddon School Social, which is to be held on Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> June, promises to be a great success. All the local talent have intimated their willingness to assist, and parents and others are assisting by supplying refreshments. The object of the social is to raise funds for the purpose of purchasing a microscope and a magnifying glass, which will be of great service in dealing with a subject that is going to form part of the school course—viz., Orchard Pests.

24<sup>th</sup> June 1905 The Seddon School Social, held on the 16th was, as was anticipated, a great success from every point of view. The varied programme gave much pleasure to a large audience—large considering the weather. The vocalists were Miss C. Foster, who sang very nicely, and who will do justice to a really good voice when she gets rid of her nervousness. Miss Barnes was encored for her rendering of "Hiawatha," and obliged with "Au Revoir." Miss K. Daly, whose voice has much improved since the Exhibition, delighted her hearers with "Hash Little One." As an encore she sang "The Swallows." Miss Humphreys as usual was listened to with pleasure, and did justice to those well-known songs "My Curly headed Baby" and "Regret." The singing of the gentlemen was just as acceptable to the audience as that of the ladies, and encores were deservedly given to Messrs Mason, Daly, Quelch, Tennent, Hutt, Corbett, and Walden. Mr R. Hay's string band was much in evidence, and, with Miss McCabe on the piano, rendered several selections in a very pleasing manner. Miss R. Foster and Miss McCabe, in a pianoforte duet, simply charmed their hearers. I must not omit the phonograph selections, which, judging by the smiles of the audience, must have given great pleasure. Dancing was kept going till 2.30 a.m. At the conclusion Mr Humphreys briefly thanked the performers and audience for their kind assistance, especially mentioning Miss McCabe, who so freely places her musical talent at the disposal of the Seddon people. The piano was kindly supplied by the Dresden Piano Company, a company that is always ready to assist local entertainments.

15<sup>th</sup> July 1905 A truant officer would find plenty to do in this district. Some parents do not realise the fact that children who attend school irregularly cannot possibly make any progress. Of course at the end of the year they are much surprised and disappointed, and angry with the teacher, when they find that Mrs Jones's children have been promoted and theirs have not.

11<sup>th</sup> December 1905 The Awatere Schools concert, held on Friday last, proved a great success. The programme was so varied that, in spite of its great length, no sign of weariness at any time was visible. The first part consisted of items by the children of the various schools

in wand drill and dumb-bell exercises, which, -especially the latter deserve .special mention, and the teacher. Miss A. O'Brien,-is to be congratulated on to splendid manner in which her pupils acquitted themselves. A -Japanese dance in costume by Mr R. Hay's four little girls delighted the audience. The solos school girls were a revolution, showing that the Starborough district can produce high-class singers as well as "prime Canterbury. Miss Costello's song deserves special mention. I must not omit to speak of the pianoforte items—a duet by the Misses Avery and one by Miss Costello and her teacher, Miss O'Sullivan — which were artistically rendered and thoroughly enjoyed. Coming to the second part, every item was so good that it would be invidious to select any for special mention. As regards the singing by the ladies, I will simply give you the names of those who were listened to with rapture and were loudly applauded: Miss Dacey, Miss K. Dacey, Miss Baines, Miss Truman, and Miss Humphreys. "Gathering the 1 lowers," a duet by Miss C. Foster and Miss Humphreys, was a most enjoyable item, the voices blending so well together. A trio, "Row, Brothers, Row." by the Haitt Brothers, was also greatly appreciated. Mr. N. Craig, on the violin, accompanied by Miss McCabe, oh the piano, fairly brought down the house. A pianoforte trio, "Gloria in Excelsis," by Misses McCabe, C. Foster, and Humphreys, was one of the gems of the evening. The Misses Foster played a pianoforte duet in their usual excellent and pleasing manner. The gentlemen performers were Mr. R. Hay, who greatly amused all in his character of the Langshan Rooster"; Mr. Tennent, who was deservedly encored, and Mr. Maclean, who sang a comic song. A most enjoyable dance concluded the entertainment. The receipts, which will be more than sufficient to defray the expenses of the annual picnic, amounted to £15 4s. 6d. The recent rains have had a most enlivening and beneficial effect on the crops, and everything in the garden is lovely."

13<sup>th</sup> December As your report of the Awatere Schools concert is not quite correct, will you kindly publish the programme as rendered by the children:-Wand drill and dumb-bell exercises (Richmond Brook) duet, Misses Gray .and Gunn (Richmond Brook); action song, (Seddon); pianoforte duet, Misses Avery (Sea View); dance, by schoolchildren (Sea View); Japanese Dance, Misses Hay (4); song, Miss O'Dwyer, Blind River); song, Miss G. Gunn ( Richmond Brook) All the items were creditably rendered and at the conclusion of the concert the Chairman Mr G- M. Gunn, thanked the teachers and Mr R Hay for the preparation of the children. He also thanked Miss McCabe, who played most of the accompaniments, and all those-who had assisted to make the concert a success. The School Committee has decided to take all the children in the district to the Sounds on Tuesday, 19<sup>th</sup> Dec

## 1906

1906 31 Seddon Humphreys J W E2 Head Master £ 144.00

12<sup>th</sup> March 1906 The Board instructed Mr Baillee (the itinerant;, workman) to next proceed with repairs at the Seddon school.

17<sup>th</sup> April 1906 Residents at the northern end of the settlement are still anxiously waiting for their school at Grassmere, and at the present rate of progress there seems to be every chance of the children completing twelve months on the settlement without schooling

3<sup>rd</sup> May 1906 His Excellency the Governor, Lord Plunket, left Blenheim at. 10 o'clock this morning for Seddon by special train, arriving at the Scarborough township at 10.50. .He was met at the railway station by the Seddon School' Committee. His Excellency then visited the school, where he received an address from the Children. He then spoke to the scholars for fully ten minutes. Subsequently Lord Plunket inspected the Public Hall, and expressed his

admiration at its capacity and convenience. His Excellency lunched at the Starborough Hotel, and thence proceeded, at 12.50 p.m., by means of a conveyance provided by the Club Stables/ to Kekerangu, where he spends the night as the guest of Mr Rutherford. Tomorrow the journey to Kaikoura will be continued.

5<sup>th</sup> May To-day (Thursday) was a red-letter day for the children of Seddon. His Excellency the Governor of New Zealand, accompanied by his A.D.C., Secretary, and the School Committee, and several settlers, paid a visit to the school about 11 a.m. With the permission of His Excellency an address was then read by one of the children, Maggie Hay, and presented by her to His Excellency, on behalf of her fellow pupils. His Excellency then spoke to the children for about ten minutes, dwelling on the interest that His Majesty the King took in the colony, and upon patriotism. He pointed out that patriotism took several forms, it did not mean only fighting for one's country. Women and children could not show their patriotism in this way, but they could show it by living good and noble lives. Boys and girls could show their love for their country--and its welfare by good manners, good conduct, and especially their duty to their parents and respect for those in authority. Children should not think that they were grovelling when they were acting politely and treating their elders and those in authority with proper respect. After complimenting the reader of the address on the nice way in which she had read, and expressed his great satisfaction with the contents of the address, stating that he had not been received one that had given him more pleasure, he concluded a charming address by promising to pay at least one more visit before he left New Zealand. He then passed among the little ones giving them a kind word and complimenting them on their chubby healthy appearance. Mr G M Gunn chairman of the School Committee, having called for three cheers for his excellency they were given with right good will The day's proceedings will never be forgotten by the children and I feel confident a lasting good to them will be the result

19<sup>th</sup> June 1906 The Seddon School Committee are forwarding a wreath per Messrs G M Gunn (Member) and J W Humphreys (teacher of the school) The men employed upon the rail works are also sending a floral tribute, two or three of their number also attending the funeral The suggested memorial to the deceased statesman who gave the township its name will probably take the form of a brass tablet on one side of the interior of the public hall and a large coloured portrait of the late Mr Seddon on the other. A public meeting will shortly be held to consider the matter.

Persons wishing to proceed to Wellington for the funeral will have an opportunity of leaving by the Arahura For Wellington by the 4 p.m. tram tomorrow This trip has been specially arranged for the convenience of Marlborough friends of the Premier.

22<sup>nd</sup> August 1906 The Seddon school has caught the fever and is now taking up elementary agriculture, including cottage gardening. Messrs H. C. Gibbons and Co. have presented the children with a large parcel of seeds, amongst which are seven varieties of potatoes, including the famous Northern Star, which sold a year or two ago at £1120 per ton. It is intended to make the work experimental.

10<sup>th</sup> October 1906 The Inspector. (Mr Strachan) reported upon several schools in the Awatere. The Seddon been-suffering from bad attendance. The standard of work throughout was very unsatisfactory.

The Chairman said it would be better if the Board considered the Inspector's reports minutely, and came down on the bottom schools, at the same time encouraging the good ones. Mr Storey suggested that the Truant Officer be sent out once every three months. It -

was decided to ask the Seddon Committee to account for the unsatisfactory condition referred to.

29<sup>th</sup> October 1906 SEDDON.

(Our Own- Correspondent.) The Awatere schools' concert took place on Friday last, and was most successful from every point of view. The children's picnic fund will benefit to the extent of £16 or-£17. The programme opened with a pianoforte duet by Misses Masters- and Hay, which was very nicely rendered. Then came a song by Miss Grace Gunn, who acquitted herself in a very creditable manner. The Richmond Brook children gave a good exhibition of dumbbell drill and exercises with wands, which received great applause. A song "Please give me a Penny," by Miss D. Masters, was deservedly encored, the response being, not one-penny but a shower of coins. Mr Vannini followed with, a pianoforte, piece composed by himself, which was a very pleasing number. Miss J. Barnes greatly pleased with a recitation, in which is an appeal to God to come and finish the baby," who had no "toofies," and who was unable to eat "anyfing." One of the gems of the evening, was a dance by 16 of the Seddon children, who appeared in fancy dress, and whose graceful motions, pleasing deportment, and handsome costumes provided a scene, that will long be remembered both by the children and by the adults. Mr 'Dick' Hay, who arranged the item,-and who trained the children himself,, is to be highly congratulated on its great success. The second part opened with a pianoforte duet by the Misses Foster, whose choice selection and brilliant performance delighted the audience. Miss M. Barnes's song "Barney," was rendered in a manner so pleasing that an encore was insisted upon. Mr W. Miller in his "Irish Jig" and "Sailor's Hornpipe" brought down the house. Mr Bowl by his comic singing has established himself as a firm favourite with the people. The National Anthem brought to a close one of the most enjoyable concerts held in Seddon, and the Chairman, of the Committee, Mr R. Hay, is deserving of the thanks of the community for the very pleasant entertainment. The usual dance, with Mr Vannini as musician, closed the proceedings

I might add that the School Committee was-assisted by the ladies and Messrs Marfell and Humphreys in carrying out the duties of the evening.

1<sup>st</sup> October 1906 A reporter was this morning given the opportunity of inspecting the school gardens at Seddon. At a cost of about £6; a strip of rich soil has been cultivated, and laid off into little beds.. These are tended by the pupils of the school, and a most encouraging j show of vegetables is to be seen, indicating both the quality of the land and the warmness of the aspect

14<sup>th</sup> November 1906 THE SEDDON SCHOOL

In reply to the Board's resolution, the Committee of the Awatere schools intimated that the reasons for the unfavourable report of the Inspector upon the Seddon school had been fully enquired into. The reasons were poor attendance and loss of time through enforced holidays during painting work. The teacher (Mr Humphries) also replied to the Board, stating that the school held a provincial, if not a colonial, record for bad attendance. He gave returns showing that the average attendances last year only gave 31 days, whereas the average should be from 40 to 45. He suggested as a remedy that the Truant Officer be instructed to visit the district. If the parents could be got to send their children to the school regularly, it would not be behind any in the province. The Inspector reported that the Truant Officer was willing to visit Seddon and Riverlands once a month for £5 extra, or £2 10s if not required to leave town.

The Board resolved to intimate to the Committee its pleasure at hearing that it had at last awakened to the necessity of taking steps to increase the efficiency of the school at Seddon, and that they recognise their responsibilities in regard to the attendances; and, further, that the Truant Officer's offer to do the extra work of the Court for £2 10s be accepted.

It was also decided to instruct the teachers at Seddon and Riverlands that offences against the School Attendance Act are to be reported to the Truant Officer

1<sup>st</sup> December 1906 AWATERE SCHOOLS' ANNUAL PICNIC.

(Our 'Own Correspondent.) Yesterday morning there stood upon a certain spot in Seddon about 100 children and 50 adults where eight years ago there were 10 or 12 shearers' .sweating their lives in handling wealth that was to go to one man, an absentee landowner. This wonderful change has been brought about by the Lands for Settlement Act, an Act will for ever keep in remembrance. our late Premier the Right Hon. R. J. Seddon. who had the courage to force through the House a law that the Conservatives predicted would ruin the country... Well, the aforesaid children and adults were upon pleasure bent, and soon were whirled away to a delightful-little spot at the other end of the line known as Esson's Valley. This is one of the most picturesque places that I have met with, and steps should be immediately taken by the people of Picton and Blenheim to have it resumed under the Scenery Preservation Act. The weather was of Marlborough s best, and the party in a mood to enjoy themselves. And this they did right royally. A long and varied programme of: sports kept both children and parents from feeling the time pass heavily on their hands, and the intervals were taken up in preparing lunch and tea. The whole affair was well thought out, and Mr Hay, the chairman of the Committee, and the members, the Rev Finlayson, and Messrs Dick, 'Morrin, ;Heard, King, and Gunn, assisted by Mr R. Marfell and the teachers, are to be heartily congratulated upon the success of their efforts. One of the teachers had taken the precaution of having with him a supply of first aid requisites, which, thankful to say, were not required, all returning home without even a scratch. Our Picton -correspondent writes: The Awatere school picnic held in Esson's Valley yesterday appears to have been a most successful outing. The weather was perfect, arid the children revelled in. the bush glories and carried away with them trophies.-of all sorts, even including noxious weeds in the shape of the golden broom blossom.'

7<sup>th</sup> December 1906 the Magistrate's Court this morning Mr H. Scott Smith, S.M., inflicted fines on the following parents for neglecting to send children to school: —Jacob Jacobsen, guardian of Robert Reid and Maude Reid, Springlands, fined 2s in each case; R. Bay, parent of Doris Hay, Seddon, fined 2s and 7s costs; John Higgins, parent of Frank Higgins, Seddon, 2s and 7s costs.

12<sup>th</sup> December 1906 The Truant Officer reported having visited Riverlands and Seddon, also Springlands. He had had .some- Seddon and Borough children fined

NEW SCHOOL DISTRICT AT GRASSMERE. A number of settlers memorialised the Board praying that the Grassmere school area be constituted a separate district, owing to the distance from Ward, the present head-quarters of" the Flaxbourne school district.

12<sup>th</sup> December 1906 The Education Board last night appointed Mr Thomas truant officer for the Seddon School, at an extra salary of £2 10s per year.

15<sup>th</sup> December 1906 Our Seddon correspondent writes: Mr Bruce, Agricultural Instructor, has visited the school, and expressed himself as being highly pleased with the children's gardens.

## 1907

1907 33 Seddon Humphreys Jos W E2 Head Master £ 144.00

13<sup>th</sup> March 1907 Seddon School—The Board agreed to grant half subsidy to the Seddon Committees for school gardening. Grassmere—The Seddon Committee notified €he election of Messrs W. H. Bulcock, J. Kennington, G. Orchard, M. Sheehan and W. J. Bright as the new Committee

6<sup>th</sup> April 1907 FAREWELL TO MR HAY

At Seddon last evening a farewell social was tendered to Mr R. Hay, who, after many years' business connection with that place, is about to leave for Mangatahi, near Hastings, where he

intends following the avocation of a farmer. Mr Hay was one of the first to make his home in Seddon, and since the date of his arrival has been remarkably active in all movements for the good of the community, and especially so in educational matters and at all social functions. Up till recently he had been for some time chairman of the School Committee, and his loss from that body will be deeply felt. If Mr Hay had any doubts before, an undoubted assurance was given him last evening of the high value which had been placed upon his services. The attendance at the social was very large, and could only just be accommodated in the hall. Those who attended came not only from Seddon but Blind River, Flaxbourne, and even Blenheim was well represented, and the large percentage of elderly people, old settlers in the place, not usually seen at such functions, afforded additional proof of the popularity of the guest of the evening. The Rev. T. Finlayson, who succeeded Mr Hay as chairman of the School Committee, presided over the gathering.

Early in the evening Mr Humphreys presented Mr Hay, on behalf of the school children in and around the district, with a handsome marble clock, and in doing so spoke of the great interest which had always been taken in the children's welfare by Mr Hay. He was known and beloved by the children far beyond the boundaries of Seddon. Those of Sea View and Blind River, as well as those in Seddon, had contributed towards the presentation. Mr Hay, who had no notification of what was to take place, was deeply affected by the children's kindness. Seddon and its people were, he said, very dear to him, and he and his family would long cherish happy memories of their long connection with its history. Tracing the progress of Seddon from the beginning, he spoke of the changes, that had taken "place,, and now the old unsatisfactory condition of things was rapidly passing away. The old woolshed in which socials were once held was now supplanted by a hall, which change was in keeping with other changes in the community. Later-in-the evening, Mr Armstrong, on behalf of the residents, presented Mr Hay with a purse of sovereigns, and in doing so said it was the wish of the donors that something should be bought with a portion of its contents which would serve to keep in remembrance the givers. The recipient was visibly affected by this token of goodwill, so much so that he found reply somewhat difficult, but thanked them once more.

Most of the evening was devoted to dancing, but the contribution of a number of excellent vocal items gave pleasing variety. Songs were sung by Miss K. Daly, "Come Back to Erin", Miss Humphreys, "Listening", Miss Barnes, "Alice, Where Art Thou?", Miss Daly, "Don't Forget Old Ireland", Miss McMasters, "In the Hazel Dell"; Mr McMasters, "My Old Kentucky Home?"; Mr Boyle, "Shifted and" Molly Dear." Miss O'Brien also sang, and Mr Joe Reid gave "a number of selections on the phonograph.

Mr J. Rogerson acted as M.C. for the dancing, and capably discharged his duties. The music supplied by Mr Vannini was up to the usual high standard.

Towards the close a vote of thanks to the Chairman was proposed by Mr Humphreys. Mr. Finlayson, in accepting said that Mr Hay's connection with the School Committee, -apart from other reasons, was responsible for his presence that night and for the lively interest he had taken in the gathering. Dancing continued till 4 a.m. this morning.

9<sup>th</sup> April 1907 There were two omissions from the excellent account of Mr Hay's social, given by your special reporter—the Richmond Brook School contributed towards the children's presentation, and Mr O'Donoghue (no relation of The O'Donoghue of Blind River) gave a recitation that brought down the house

Messrs Gibbons and Co, nurserymen, Blenheim, in forwarding a present of bulbs, etc., to the Seddon School, write as follows: "We are convinced, that once our New Zealand children take an active interest in floriculture its attendant inevitable love of flowers will go a long way towards eliminating the disfigurement and spoiling of public gardens, buildings, etc., besides creating an appreciation for the beauty in other branches of nature which must work

for good. Mr T. Horton, of Pahiatua and Hastings, has also donated a parcel of his famous bulbs, etc., to the children. I need not say that the teachers and children heartily appreciate the kindness shown in such a disinterested manner.

10<sup>th</sup> April 1907 Richmond Brook.—Agnes O'Brian, teacher, requested that eight months' leave of absence be granted to her, owing to her entrance to the training college. She also applied for three months' allowance of salary.—The Seddon Committee supported the requests.—Leave was granted, subject to the Seddon Committee finding a substitute. It was decided to assist Miss O'Brian to the extent of £10, with the prospect of a further grant of £5 upon her resuming teaching under the Board.

23<sup>rd</sup> April 1907 A fair number of householders met last night to elect a School Committee. The Rev. W. Finlayson was voted to the chair. The following were elected:—Rev W. Finlayson, Messrs N. Roberts, Heard, Lyons, N. Healy, J. Dick, and Morrin. Rev. W. Finlayson was elected Chairman

24<sup>th</sup> April 1907 In the report of the Seddon School Committee election the name of Mr Lyons was mistakenly given yesterday for that of Mr Sames.

27<sup>th</sup> May 1907 On Empire Day children assembled at the school, and were addressed by Rev W- Finlayson (chairman of the School Committee), and the teacher, Mr Humphreys. The National Anthem was sung and cheers given for His Majesty the King. The ceremony of saluting the Flag could not be carried out for the simple reason that the school does not yet possess a Flag.

9<sup>th</sup> July 1907 Miss Esther Young, relieving teacher, asked for advise in respect to her position in view of the declining attendance. She asked for another appointment.—The inspector said Miss Young would go on until the school was closed.

31<sup>st</sup> August 1907 There are some who think that time devoted to "school gardens" and instruction connected therewith is wasted. If such would pay a visit to Seddon they might alter their views. The children take the greatest interest in their gardens and all pertaining thereto, and-if this were the only thing accomplished the work had not been in vain.

Inspector Strachan will pay his annual visit on the 13th September. As the attendance has been more regular the results will be, it is anticipated, proportionately good.

A movement in connection with the Band of Hope has been initiated by Miss Berry assisted by the- Rev. W. Finlayson. Once a month a meeting is held in the school after school hours, and, no doubt, a great deal of good will result.

10<sup>th</sup> September 1907 The Chairman gave notice to move at next meeting that the Havelock, Linkwater, Waitaria, Fairhall, and Seddon school districts include a radius of 2 ½ miles only.

18<sup>th</sup> September 1907 It was resolved that the primary schools. contest for the Cups given by the New Zealand Rugby Union 'be played on the 26th inst. ((Dominion Day). The competing Schools are: Catholic (Blenheim), Blenheim Borough, Upper Spring Creek, Tua Marina, Marshlands, Springlands, Grovetown, Renwick, and Seddon.

It was resolved that the Marshlands and Marlboroughtown schools be allowed to enter a combined team; and also that the Awatere schools be combined

15<sup>th</sup> October 1907 Seddon. —The Committee asked the Board for a subsidy on £5 5s expended on fencing for school gardening.—The Board decided that it could not grant subsidy on rents received from education reserves

18<sup>th</sup> October 1907 The Awatere School Committee advertise the annual concert for the schools in Starborough, Blind River, and Richmond Brook districts. "We understand the greater part of the programme will be supplied by the children, and a few items furnished by others. If weather be favourable, the capacity of the Hall should be severely tested.

13<sup>th</sup> November 1907 It was intimated at yesterday's meeting of the Education Board that a young lady, an ex-pupil of the Marlborough High School, has started a private school at Seddon, and been granted a certificate of exemption for several pupils who have transferred their attendance from the State school to the private one. The Chairman said the statute provided for such a thing, and, even though the private school affected that of the Board certificates of exemption from attending the latter must be granted if the other school was efficient. In the meantime, it was just a question whether the ability of a private school to compete with a free State school would not be taken as a reflection on the efficiency of the latter. Mr Smith said the only way the private school could be discouraged was to decline to allow an examination at the end of the year by the Inspector. Parents would very soon take their children away if this were done. The Board approved the certificates of exemption.

13<sup>th</sup> December 1907 A large number of Seddon townspeople journeyed to Picton yesterday in connection with the picnic given to the Seddon school children. Favoured with fine weather, a very enjoyable day was spent at Esson's Valley, and the party returned home by the 6.15 p.m. train.

Mr George Wright, one of our esteemed settlers who takes a great interest in the children, donated four j handsome books as prizes for the best I school garden feats—two for the girl& j and two for the boys. Mr W. Cromb, chief nurseryman, conducted the ex' amination on the points system and awarded the boys' prizes to F. Humphreys and Clarence Bell. The^ girls' gardens have yet to be examined. The thanks of all are due to Mr Wright, whose example might' with profit to the district be followed by other settlers. The Awatere schools break-up for their mid-summer holidays on Wednesday- next.

## 1908

1908 46 Seddon Humphreys Jos W E2 Head Master £ 160.00

1908 46 Seddon Dunne Grace ` Assistant Female £ 85.00

31<sup>st</sup> March 1908 Mr Joseph William Humphreys has been appointed by the Governor to be a member of the Seddon Domain Board, in the place of Mr William Arthur Fuller, resigned.

14<sup>th</sup> April 1908 STARBOROUGH NURSERY. PROPOSED AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE ENDOWMENT, INTERESTING EDUCATIONAL IDEA

At 'the meeting of the Education Board yesterday the following letter was received from Mr J. W. Humphreys, teacher of the Seddon public school:—As the Starborough nursery will soon, as a nursery, be a thing of the. past, I would suggest that the Board make application to the Government for the property (150 acres) as an endowment for the promotion of agricultural science in Marlborough. As the land was purchased as part of the Starborough Estate under the Lands for Settlement Act, there is no doubt the rents from the estate are now bearing the interest charges, and, therefore, the district has a fair claim to the property. An expert residing iii the district with land and trees at his disposal would naturally be able to do a great deal more than under the present system, for lectures could be given and experiments be made on the ground itself. It has been suggested that the nursery be turned into an experimental farm. Well, in my opinion, an experimental farm would be costly and not of as much practical benefit as a resident scientific agricultural expert." Mr Strachan, the-Inspector, pointed out that a great portion of the time of the agricultural science instructor, Mr Bruce, was at present taken up in travelling from district to district. Mr Brace's opinion was that the Seddon nursery was an ideal property for market gardening and he might be prepared to take it over for that purpose in lieu of the Board's contribution of £100 to his salary. Despite the Hon. Mr McCabe's opinion of the country in the Lower Awatere, Mr Bruce contended that the position, soil and climate was most suitable for a garden or nursery. As the Starborough

Estate had been cut up and the sections, aided with the value of this nursery land, the Government would well afford to donate it as an endowment to the Board for the purpose suggested. It was resolved that the Lands Department be approached in the matter.

Interviewed in regard to the suggestion, Mr Bruce who is now in Blenheim, said the project required a great deal of thinking out. There was no apparent reason why an agricultural science high school should not be established on the site of the Seddon nursery .....

28<sup>th</sup> April 1908 SEDDON. W, Finlayson (chairman), H Sames, Geo. King, H. Corder, A. McKenzie, C. Davis, Thos. Julian.

9<sup>th</sup> June 1908 The Rev. Mr Finlayson, from Seddon, waited on the Board in respect to there being two schools, there. There was a private school which was drawing 15 children away from the public school, and the teacher of the private school (Miss Dunn) was willing to accept a temporary assistantship at the public school and give up her own class. The Committee would pay Miss Dunn a salary so far as they could, and raise some of the funds required by a concert. Miss Dunn was willing to accept .£1 per week, for a temporary appointment until the school average became sufficient to warrant the appointment of a second teacher. The Committee were not able to raise all the money themselves, and they asked the Board to subsidise the amount raised. The deputation then withdrew, and the matter was discussed. The Inspector said the Board had no funds with which to put in a teacher in that way, and if the attendance did not come up to the required number after Miss Dunn had been appointed, the Board did not know where they might be. The only question affecting the Board was that of subsidy. The Chairman suggested they might promise to appoint Miss Dunn when the numbers increased, if she brought her pupils to the State school. Mr Conolly said they could not make a promise of that kind. He moved that the Board regrets that it is unable to comply with' the requisition, but when the, attendance came up to the required number they would appoint an assistant- Mr Reader seconded the motion, which was carried

16<sup>th</sup> July 1908 The Seddon School has now 59 on the roll, and the parents are being asked to contribute towards paying' the salary of an assistant. The Board cannot grant any sum for the purpose, and the: Department will not Although the regulations admit that it requires two teachers for 41 children, yet. it insists upon one teacher doing the work for twelve months before it will assist. An average of 51 for three, months entitles the school to an assistant, so present arrangements are not likely to be upset.

24<sup>th</sup> July 1908 On Saturday last a football match was played between the boys of the Richmond Brook and Seddon schools. The match was very interesting and resulted in a win for Seddon by 38 to 13. Mr W. Julian refereed in an impartial manner. The return match is to be played shortly

Wednesday, being Arbor Day, the school children spent the morning in planting a hundred and' twenty-five trees in the Seddon Domain grounds. Shelter, shade and ornament will be the result, not to speak of the knowledge gained in regard to the correct way of planting, etc.

30<sup>th</sup> September 1908 On Monday last Dominion Day was observed to a small extent at the Seddon School, when two members of the Committee attended just before the closing hour to present the medals to the children. After a short address of .explanation by the Chairman of the Committee and the head teacher, the medals were handed to the children.

5<sup>th</sup> November 1908 Blenheim. A widow is left to mourn the loss of a devoted partner.

Visitors to Seddon cannot fail to be struck with the progress of that rising township. There are now no less than 60 dwelling-houses to be seen, most of them very cosy little homes, nestling in smiling gardens, gay with flowers, and well-stocked with vegetables. The white tents of the railway-men, dotted about in the green fields, have quite a picturesque appearance. The

crops are giving every promise of an early and abundant harvest; and a splendid lambing season has been experienced.

The first annual meeting of the Seddon branch of the Women's Christian Temperance Union was held in the school-house yesterday afternoon. Mrs Rose, president of the Blenheim branch, was in the chair. The election of officers for the ensuing year resulted as follows: President, Mrs Humphreys; Vice-Presidents, Mesdames Finlayson and Foster; Secretary and Treasurer, Mrs E., Bell. Mrs Rose read an interesting article from the "White Ribbon," and gave a short address on temperance work.

12<sup>th</sup> November 1908 Seddon The Committee wrote recommending that Miss Esther Young be appointed assistant provided she could teach singing. The Committee also (in a resolution) expressed its dissatisfaction with the tone of the report of the Inspector on the school, especially in regard to such subjects as arithmetic, grammar, geography and writing.—The Chairman moved that a copy of the resolution passed at the Committee's meeting be forwarded to the teacher asking him for an explanation.

4<sup>th</sup> December 1908 Proficiency certificate: Seddon: Frederic J. Humphreys

15<sup>th</sup> December 1908 The Education Board yesterday received applications for the respective positions of teacher of the Te Awaite school, and assistant at Seddon. The applications were forwarded to the Committees.

17<sup>th</sup> December 1908 At the recent Horticultural Show prizes were offered for the best school garden. Mr Bruce, agricultural instructor, to the Education Board, was appointed to judge the gardens, and his award is as follows:—Grovetoyn first, Seddon second, Tua Marina third

21<sup>st</sup> December 1908 ANNUAL CONCERT.

The annual concert, in connection with the Awatere schools was given in the Seddon Hall' on Friday last (writes our correspondent) and proved a brilliant success in every way. The physical drill exercises with rifles and dumb-bells were done in a very creditable manner, whilst the rest of the items—singing, recitations, fan drill, doll drill, dialogues, pianoforte pieces, violin, etc., etc.—were highly meritorious. The little girls and boys were very good. The hundred children grouped on the stage formed a Very pleasing picture, too much praise cannot be given to Misses O'Brian and Waters, who were mainly responsible for the excellent programme. During the evening the prizes were distributed by the Rev. W. Finlayson, chairman of the Seddon School Committee.

In the drill and choruses the Seddon, Richmond Brook, and Blind River children were combined. The instrumental pieces were by pupils of Miss McCabe. The following was the programme:—Pianoforte duet, Misses Masters and Brewster-New Zealand: Hymn, combined schools; doll drill, Blind River girls; dialogue, "The Magistrate," Masters: Gunn, Butler and Fuller; Japloo Baby, combined little girls; recitation, Miss M. Snowden; rifle drill, combined senior boys; "Meddlesome- Mattie," little girls and boys; fan drill, Misses Masters (2), Butler, and Williams; recitation, Miss Barnes; "Sailor Boy," song and chorus; pianoforte solo, Miss I Cameron; "Lad in the Man-o'-war," song by W. Butler, with chorus; club drill, Seddon girls; recitation, W. Butler; duet, "I don't want to play in your yard/ Misses Masters; Pianoforte duet, Misses McCabe and Webster; "All among the Barley," song and chorus; dumb-bell drill, senior boys; dialogue, "Bashful John/ Masters Morton and Watts and three girls; pianoforte duet, Misses McCabe and Brewster; nigger hoys, ten boys; "High in the Belfry," song and chorus; violin solo, Master Mogridge.

21<sup>st</sup> December 1908

Progress: Standard 6, Fred. J. Humphreys (proficiency certificate); Isabella Cameron (competency). Standard 5, W. Morton and Gladys Butler. Standard 4, G. Masters, J. Williams, E. Walker, F. O'Connor: Standard 3, A., Brown, 'D. Brown, R. Gregg. Standard 2,

L. Walker, A. Cameron, W. Butler, I. Williams. E. Cunliffe, J. -Condon. Standard 1, C. Humphreys, W. Gregg, E. Davies, L. Hounsell, R. Masters,, Harold Bell.

Presents were given to H. Cameron, A. Masters, D. Masters, A. Hounsell, C. Bell, G. Bell, G Condon, J. Fuller, D. Butler, J. Morton, D. McKenzie, H. Bell, G. Uren, Flora 'McKenzie .also to the infants, A. "Morton, T. Heasley, T. Cunliffe, H. Sames, A. Hounsell, M. 'Walker, L McBride, G. France,. K. Butler, I. Brown, A. Wood, M. and E. Healy, A. Humphreys, C. E. Armstrong, W Kane, EL Masters, S. Sames; C Tombes, C. Morton, H. Healy.

Attendance: J Williams (full marks), G. Masters (full, marks), I. Cameron (416 out of 420), E. .Cunliffe <(half-day absent only).

Mr G. King's prizes for most popular boy and-girl, awarded by the children: Hilda .Cameron and William Morton.

## 1909

1909	51	Seddon	Humphreys	Jos W	E2	Head Master	£ 185.00
1909	51	Seddon	Young	Esther		Assistant Female	£ 90.00

12<sup>th</sup> January 1909 Seddon. —The appointment of Miss Young as second teacher was recommended by the Committee.—Approved

27<sup>th</sup> January 1909 The Government has authorised the Education Board to rent a temporary room at Seddon pending the consideration of their application for a grant to build an addition to the school.

28<sup>th</sup> April 1909 The number of householders present at the meeting at Seddon on Monday night was so .small that no School Committee was elected.

11<sup>th</sup> May 1909 The Secretary reported that Seddon, Grassmere, Okaramio and Linkwater had failed to elect school committees, and asked for authority to call for fresh elections.—It was decided that the third Monday in June be the date fixed for the elections.

21<sup>st</sup> May 1909 The children at the Seddon school were granted a half-holiday yesterday afternoon by the (Minister for Education, with the sanction of. the' Chairman of the School Committee. The Hon. Mr Fowlds and. party this, morning before going on, their tour of inspection of the schools ,in the Borough, visited, the Hatcheries at Springlands

The Minister for Education, the Hon. G. Fowlds, accompanied by Mrs and Miss Fowlds and Messrs A. Mc-Callum. J. Duncan, M.P, S. Neville, and Messrs Hylton and Strachan, visited Seddon yesterday. The Minister inspected the Seddon school, and authorised the grant for adding another room to that institution. The party was driven, to the Lake Grassmere and Richmond Brook schools, and generally a good tour of inspection was made. Mr Fowlds expressed the opinion that there was a good future in store for the Awatere district. The party returned to Blenheim by the evening train, all being satisfied with the day's outing

8<sup>th</sup> June 1909 The Education Department or the Marlborough Education Board seems to have a mania for building small schools, and appears to think that the world is standing still. The Richmond Brook and Grassmere buildings are mere pepper-boxes, and now it is proposed to enlarge the Seddon school by the addition of the enormous length .of 14ft, (*4.26 metres*) thus making two rooms 22ft by 20ft. (*6.70 metres x6.09*) A room of this size is. not large enough to-accommodate 30 children after allowing for class space, teacher's table, and the use of modern desks. An overcrowded school is an abomination to teacher and pupils, and very unhealthy.

15<sup>th</sup> June The tender of Messrs Nichol Bros. £147, for making additions to the Seddon school was accepted by the Education Board .yesterday,

16<sup>th</sup> June 1909 The School Committee election at Seddon on Monday last resulted as follows:—Rev. W. Finlayson (Chairman), Messrs France, Gale, McBride, Masters, Condon, Healy.

13<sup>th</sup> July 1909 The Chairman of the Seddon School Committee wrote complaining of the lack of accommodation at the school, and asked the Board to endeavour to have it remedied.—Mr Macey pointed out that he had been waited on by the chairman of the Seddon School Committee, and he pointed out that the improvements detailed in the letter were needed, and he (Mr Macey) thought the requests were very reasonable, and that he had promised to support the application. He then moved that the requests be acceded to.—The Chairman seconded the motion, which was carried.

10<sup>th</sup> August 1909 The alterations to the school have been completed and things are now more convenient and comfortable

14<sup>th</sup> Sep 1909 The secretary of the Seddon School Committee wrote asking that a dividing fence be erected between the boys' and girls' playgrounds at the Seddon School. It was decided to obtain an estimate of the work.

11<sup>th</sup> November 1909 The chairman of the, Seddon School Committee forwarded two accounts amounting to 11 shillings for: repairing and cleaning the school. It was decided to pay the accounts under protest and that Mr Finlayson be informed that all moneys expended in future; must have the sanction. of the Board

1906	21	Cullensville	Young	Esther	Female
1907	13	Wairau Pah	Young	Esther	Female
1909	51	Seddon	Young	Esther	Assistant Female
1910	50	Seddon	Young	Esther	Assistant Female
1911	46	Seddon	Young	Esther	Assistant Female
1912	44	Seddon	Young	Esther	Assistant Female
1913	47	Seddon	Young	Esther	Assistant Female
1914	56	Seddon	Young	Esther	Assistant Female
1915	61	Seddon	Young	Esther	Assistant Female
1917	59	Seddon	Young	Esther	Assistant
1919	60	Seddon	Young	Esther	Assistant

## 1910

1910	50	Seddon	Humphreys	Jos W	E2	Head Master	£	190.00
1910	50	Seddon	Young	Esther		Assistant Female	£	90.00

Joseph William Humphreys was born William Joseph Humphreys (he alternated throughout his life) in 1856/7 at Carragh Camp in Ireland. His father was a Captain in the army, he had married in India in 1847 to a 14 year old "full blooded" Indian/Burmese woman who had been adopted by a British couple, making Joseph half Indian. The family moved constantly throughout India, Ireland and Britain due to his father's service. The whole family, including several siblings, emigrated to Nelson in 1876, settling at Dovedale. It appears that Joseph/William had been working as a clerk for the Railways at Paddington from 1874-76, before travelling to Nelson. His first role was at Eighty-Eight School, in mid 1879. He stayed here until Nov 1880 when he was appointed schoolmaster at Collingwood, at a salary of 120 pounds. He remained here until some way through 1882 when he transferred to Spring Grove. Here he would spend a decade, until 1892 when he asked to be transferred back to Collingwood. He would remain here until transferring to Seddon. in 1912, having turned 65,

he left Seddon, moving into Blenheim. He spent some time occasionally relieving after this, he also unsuccessfully attempted to enter politics (for liberal-labor) but was unsuccessful, as were his constant attempts to get on the borough council. He remained heavily involved in teaching, sitting on borough committees etc. He was also involved in almost every other aspect of life, throughout both his teaching days and his retirement, he is constantly in the paper for belonging to something. He married in 1880, to Janet Carroll Scott, and would have 9 children before passing away in Wellington in 1930. Research by Grandson Sam

9<sup>th</sup> April 1910 The Seddon School concert duly came off, and was a most pronounced success. Children and teachers had evidently given much care and attention 'to the preparation of the various items, and the result was a most enjoyable and profitable entertainment.' "Where all did so well, it would not be right to make selections for special mention; but I cannot refrain from speaking of the gem of the evening—"The Maids of Lee"—which was admirably rendered by Misses D. Masters, G. Masters and H. Cameron. The get up was splendid, and the sudden change from young maids to old, to those who were not "in the know," was astonishing. The gross takings amounted to £15 9s 6d, and the net to about £13. At the conclusion the chairman of the School Committee, the Rev. W. Finlayson, briefly thanked those who had assisted. Miss Young—upon whom the greater part of the work fell—Mrs Stace, and Miss Adeline Masters (a pupil of Miss McCabe's), who supplied the instrumental accompaniments throughout the practices and the concert, are to be congratulated upon the good results of their self-sacrificing efforts. The children are also deserving of high praise for their excellent work. A pleasant evening was concluded with a dance, Miss McCabe, with her usual generosity and kindness especially where children are concerned—supplying the music gratuitously.

22<sup>nd</sup> April 1910 The annual picnic of the Seddon School was held yesterday at the Gape Campbell beach. Children, parents, and friends to the number of about eighty made the journey in two waggons belonging to Mr James Bell, others travelling in private vehicles. The weather was perfect, and the drive was thoroughly enjoyed. At the beach a most enjoyable time was spent in paddling, gathering shells, sports, etc. The tug-of-war between two teams of ladies was evenly contested and created great amusement. The Rev. W. Finlayson, chairman of the School Committee, Mrs D. Fuller, and Messrs Richard Mar-fell, J. Bell, P. Paul, and the teachers-did everything possible, and their efforts were most successful, the picnic being

26<sup>th</sup> April 1910 Seddon was not included in the list of Good school in the Marlborough Education Board. One classroom had been added

26<sup>th</sup> April 1910 The following were elected as the School Committee for the coming year:— Mrs D. Walker (Chairwoman), and Messrs John Andrews, John Tombs, R. Marten, W. Crafar, A. France, and H. Masters.

23<sup>rd</sup> May 1910 memorial service in connection with the funeral of the late King Edward VII. was held in the Anglican Church on Friday at 2.30 p.m. The school-children marched two deep from the playground, saluting the Flag as they passed, and were met at the Church door by the Rev. A. W. C. Stace, who preceded them up the aisle.

The service consisted of (portions of the Burial Service and a short address, concluding with the Dead March in Saul, beautifully rendered by Miss R. Foster) the congregation standing. The impression upon the mind was that one was really taking an active part in the burial of the late King. The children marched back to the school, and after saluting the Flag again, were dismissed.

The bell tolled at intervals, and the Church was draped in mourning, with the addition of a large Union Jack over the altar, and one over the reading-desk. On the flag, on the altar Was a beautiful wreath formed of white flowers, and fastened with the national colours. I am quite sure that not one who took part in the solemn function will ever forget it.

2<sup>nd</sup> August 1916 The Seddon school-children celebrated Arbor Day on Friday last, when 41 native shrubs were planted in a portion of the school grounds. After the planting sports were held in the Domain. Parents and children then adjourned to the school, where afternoon tea was served. Altogether a most enjoyable afternoon was spent. The members of the School Committee controlling the proceedings were Mrs Walker (chairwoman) and Messrs Crafar and Tombes; the duties of the rest of the members preventing their attendance. Thanks are due to the Defence Rifle Club and the parents for provisions, to Mr A. C. Elliott for collecting funds for prizes, and to Messrs G. J. Ward and J. Liley for gifts of shrubs.

2<sup>nd</sup> September 1910 The school gardens look very nice, and the other day the children sent a box of flowers to Mrs Fowlds, wife of the Minister for Education. The following acknowledgment was received by the head teacher:—I shall be glad if you will convey to your school-children my thanks for and appreciation of their thoughtfulness in again sending Mrs Fowlds a collection of spring flowers from the school gardens. Mrs, Fowlds is. at present in Auckland, but my daughters, who are with me were delighted to have them. The variety and' beauty of the flowers show that horticulture is receiving at the hands of the teachers and the pupils of the school that attention which the importance of the subject demands. With best wishes, yours faithfully, Geo. Fowlds. In spite of the bad weather the percentage of lambs promises to be good

15<sup>th</sup> November 1910 The Seddon School Committee wrote asking that the grant made towards the erection of a dividing fence at the school be increased to £3 15s.

13<sup>th</sup> December 1910 GUM TREES. The Seddon School Committee wrote asking tor authority to cut down and dispose of some gum trees close to the school on the Board's .property. Authority was: given subject to Mr Ferguson's approval.

## 1911

1911 46 Seddon Humphreys Jos W E2 Head Master £ 195.00

1911 46 Seddon Young Esther Assistant Female £ 90.00

11<sup>th</sup> March 1911 The Seddon school social was held in the hall last night, and was a great success. After some items had been contributed by the little ones in a very praiseworthy manner, the prizes were distributed by Mr C Ferguson, a member of the Education Board. A presentation was also made by the School Committee to Miss Hilda Cameron, a late pupil, who, during her school life had always conducted herself in a way that won for her the affection of her pupils and teachers. After the prize-giving and votes of thanks to Mr Ferguson and to Miss Young, who had so ably trained the little ones, dancing was engaged in till the small hours of the morning.

11<sup>th</sup> April 1911 The Seddon School Committee wrote asking the Board to connect the school, with the water supply at the master's residence. Mr Ferguson said this was an absolute necessity, and he moved that £5 17s 6d be voted for this purpose. Mr White seconded the motion, which was carried.

25<sup>th</sup> April 1911 Seddon: Twelve householders attended for the(election of a School Committee. Mrs Walker was in the chair. Mr Finlayson reported on the work of the retiring committee and the progress of matters connected with the school during the last year. The

following seven persons- were nominated, and being the number required were declared elected —Messrs D. McBride (chairman), H. Masters, F. J. Liley, J. Linton, H. Shirtcliffe, J. Pert, and Mrs D Walker-.

25<sup>th</sup> April 1911 A farewell tea will be tendered the Rev. Mr Finlayson and Mrs Finlayson in the Seddon town hall on Friday afternoon.

28<sup>th</sup> April 1911 Horticultural show report included Seddon school children must have a very good flower garden, as the cut flowers shown were very good.

1<sup>st</sup> May 1911 VALEDICTORY.

FAREWELL TO REV. MR FINLAYSON

Our Flaxbourne correspondent writes:—

On Thursday last the Rev. W. Finlayson and Mrs Finlayson, who are leaving the Awatere district, were entertained at afternoon tea by the members of the Presbyterian congregation at Ward.

Mr John Cunningham, in behalf of the church members and other subscribers, asked Mr Finlayson to accept a purse of sovereigns in recognition of his work in the district.

Mr John Bell said he regretted very much that Mr Finlayson was leaving the district; he would be very much missed. He thought that the congregation, should have been consulted before it was decided to make the change; they would not then have had to bid Mr Finlayson good-bye.. Mr Finlayson, in replying, thanked the members for the gift, and said that the transfer had not been of his arranging. He was very sorry to leave the district after five years' work. He was being transferred to Rona Bay, Wellington, and would do his best to work for the people there. Mr Finlayson especially referred to the good feeling which had existed among the different congregations whilst he had been in charge of the district, and hoped that the church members would continue to work together

On Friday afternoon a farewell tea and presentations were given in the Seddon Hall to the Rev. Mr Finlayson and Mrs. Finlayson. A large number of those connected with the congregation and of other friends assembled, with most of the children attending the Seddon school. After tea an adjournment was made to the hall. Mr G. M. Gunn, in behalf of the church members, settlers, and other friends, presented Mr Finlayson with a well-filled purse of sovereigns, as a token of the value set on the work he had done, in his own calling, and in other ways during the five years he had been in Seddon. Mrs Finlayson received a handsome set of furs from the ladies, who were anxious to show their appreciation of the many ways in which she had helped in the various parts of church work. Mrs Finlayson expressed her gratitude to the ladies for their valuable gift, and added that she would ever remember their kindness.

The children attending the Seddon school had also a gift to bestow on Mr Finlayson, in remembrance of his interest in their welfare. This was in the form of a silver inkstand; and, though the article itself was only in course of transmission, the address from the children was read by Miss D. Masters.

Mr C. Ferguson-next addressed the gathering, reminding all of the good Mr Finlayson had done in the whole district and in several ways. Not only in regard to the schools but in the matter of a district nurse, (Mr Finlayson had put them under a great debt of gratitude. Mr J. B. Dick spoke of the question of ministers of the churches taking part in public matters outside their own calling, and said that, with the exception of party politics, much help might be obtained for the community from men of education and experience. He instanced Mr Finlayson's ready assistance in educational matters.

Mr Finlayson replied thanking the children first for their thinking of him, and for the address and useful present they were giving. He then expressed his gratitude to the friends who had bestowed the other gifts; and, in reference to the kind remarks made by Messrs Ferguson and Dick, he considered it his duty to do what he could to help any if the community among

whom he lived. He considered that no Christian man could be selfish nor could a selfish man be truly Christian. He also counselled the people to give loyal service to the work of the churches with which they were severally connected.

Votes of thanks were given by acclamation to the chairman, to the ladies, and to all who assisted in any way.

2<sup>nd</sup> May 1911 In yesterday's issue it was stated that the population of Seddon this year was 262, as against 303 at the last census. The population of Seddon in 1906 was but 165; there is thus an increase of 97. In 1906 the population of the whole of Scarborough was 303.

21<sup>st</sup> September 1911 THE FLOWER SHOW.

Further additions to the floral display arrived from Ugbrooke and from the Seddon School this morning, and were laid out in places set apart for them. The blooms sent in by Mrs Vavasour have for the most part been grown under glass, and are very beautiful, there being some decidedly rare flowers amongst the collection. Fine flowers sent in by the Seddon school children are a varied assortment and include such as phloxdrummonds, anemones, stocks, wallflowers, violets, and carnations. They do great credit to the youthful horticulturists responsible for their cultivation. For some time past the exhibits of the Seddon school children have been a feature of the shows held by the Blenheim Horticultural Society, and those sent in yesterday are no exception to the general rule.

20<sup>th</sup> November 1911 social will be held in the Town Hall, Seddon, on Friday next. The ladies are asked to provide supper. The proceeds will be devoted to providing games for the Seddon school children.

## 1912

1912	44	Seddon	Best	Frank D	D2	Head Master	£ 180.00
1912	44	Seddon	Young	Esther		Assistant Female	£ 94.10

16<sup>th</sup> January 1912 At a public meeting held at Seddon last night it was decided to hold the public school picnic on, the.-reserve" oh -Thursday, 25th inst. All school children-and;-infants' in the township will receive a prize. A strong committee was formed, and will meet at Mrs -Lenehan's residence to-morrow to make further arrangements for the picnic.

23<sup>rd</sup> January 1912 A reminder is given of the school picnic and sports to be hold in the Seddon Domain on Thursday. Luncheon and afternoon tea will be provided free. A good sports programme has been drawn up, and over 200 prizes will be distributed during the day. Everything possible will be done to ensure the enjoyment of the children.

13<sup>th</sup> February John Williams of Seddon School was successful in the Junior National Scholarship examinations He got 412 marks Top mark was 533

13<sup>th</sup> February 1912 Mr J. W. Humphreys, headmaster of the Seddon School, wrote stating that he had been granted superannuation, and, on account of failing health desired to resign the position. In consideration of his lengthy period of service as a teacher, 33 years, he asked the Board to grant him three months' leave of absence on full salary.

17<sup>th</sup> February 1912 very pleasing function took place at Seddon on Thursday afternoon last, when the school children, met at the residence of Mr J. W. Humphreys, late teacher of the Seddon School. The meeting was for the purpose of presenting Mr Humphreys with a cake-dish, in, memory of the many happy hours spent with them in Seddon. Miss Doris Masters made the presentation in behalf of the children, and said she hoped that Mr and Mrs Humphreys would live many years to enjoy the use of. them. Mr Humphreys thanked the children in behalf of 'Mrs Humphreys and .himself for their handsome present, and in wishing them good-bye said he hoped that, the good feeling that had existed between teacher and children while under his care would be continued with their new teacher. On the same afternoon the Church of England Ladies Guild presented Mrs Humphreys with a handsome

hand-bag, this presentation being made by the Rev. Mr Stace, who said they all regretted the departure of Mrs Humphreys from the district. Mrs Humphreys very feelingly thanked all present for their gift and their good wishes for her future welfare.

17<sup>th</sup> February 1912 The Seddon School picnic will be held at White's Bay. on Thursday next, the children and their friends journeying by coach and rail. Tickets to be obtained from Miss Young

17<sup>th</sup> February 1912 The Education Board invite applications for the headmastership of the Seddon school. The presentation made to Mr J. W. Humphreys by the school-children of Seddon on Thursday afternoon consisted of a comfortable armchair. Mrs Humphreys was the recipient of a cake-dish. The omission of a line in the report appearing in Saturday's report made it appear that Mr Humphreys had received the cake-dish.

16<sup>th</sup> April 1912 SEDDON SCHOOL RESIDENCE- The Seddon Committee wrote asking that the teacher's residence, which was a very old building, be inspected with a view to rehabilitation.

It was resolved that reports be obtained from the architect and the Sanitary Inspector, and that, if warranted, an application be made for a grant for a new building.

Mr F. Best, of Okaramio, was appointed, headmaster of the Seddon School, on the recommendation of the Committee

14<sup>th</sup> May 1912 SEDDON. Mr Best, Seddon, was granted house allowance. The Sanitary Inspector represented with regard to the Seddon School residence that a new building was acquired. ~It was resolved to apply to the Department, for a grant for a new school residence. *House allowance meant that Mr Best had to rent a house not owned by the Marlborough Education Board*

11<sup>th</sup> June 1912 The Secretary for Education wrote authorising the Board to dispose of the teacher's residence at Seddon to the best advantage, and stating that, as soon as that had been done, the teacher would be paid house allowance.

It was resolved that the building be offered by auction.

An application from the Committee for the erection of fencing for the formation of a paddock out of the plantation reserve was referred to Mr Ferguson, to consult with the Committee and report.

12<sup>th</sup> June 1912 At yesterday's meeting of the Awatere County Council a deputation was received from the Seddon School Committee urging the necessity of improvement to the footpath from the railway station to the school. It was explained by the chairman that the work had been authorised before, £10 being granted for repairing the paths; but the money had been absorbed in one. The members recognised, that it was a case of necessity, and it was decided! to have the footpath put in repair.

9<sup>th</sup> July 1912 Mr Ferguson reported that the old school building at Seddon had been sold for £65 Is, which could be regarded as a very satisfactory result. Mr Ferguson also informed the Board that he had ascertained that the whole of the plantation reserve was vested in the Board, with the condition that the Board would not allow any timber to be destroyed. He recommended that the property be fenced right round; and that Messrs Griffiths and Son be requested to remove their buildings from the Board's ground and disengage the fencing wire from the trees. A vote of thanks was accorded to Mr Ferguson; and resolutions were passed carrying his recommendations into effect.- It was resolved that the Committee be instructed to call for tenders for the fencing of the property.

13<sup>th</sup> August 1912 Messrs Griffiths and Son wrote expressing their willingness to remove the fence enclosing a small portion of the Board's property at Seddon in their boundaries at any time the Board deemed essential, and asking that in the meantime they be permitted to leave

the fence where it was. Mr Ferguson thought that the Board's previous resolution should stand. He moved to that effect. The motion was carried.

10<sup>th</sup> September 1912 The offer of Mr G; Davies to pull down and re-erect the school fence at Seddon for 6s 6d per chain, and remove old fencing and rubbish, for 4,--was accepted

20<sup>th</sup> September 1912 Mr Howard Reader, who was chosen for the position of master of the Carluke public school, is a son of Mr H. M. Reader, of Kaituna Valley, and is a native of the district. Mr Reader received his proficiency certificate from Miss Matthews at Have Jock Suburban, and afterwards attended the Marlborough High School for three years. He was one of the first two probationers appointed, and served one year at the Havelock school, and gained his D pass. He then went to the Wellington Training College, where he gained a full C, besides holding a certificate as a trained teacher. Since then he has been relieving at Seddon, and latterly teaching at a college near Gisborne.

15<sup>th</sup> October 1912 SEDDON. The committee wrote drawing attention to the need of rectifying and strengthening the fencing of the education reserve and clearing up the place. Messrs Griffiths, and Son wrote offering to pay rent for the use of the ten feet of the reserve on which the house of their adjoining property encroached. It was reported that the matter had become the more complicated as there was a likelihood of Messrs Griffiths and Son's interests being transferred. After discussion, it was resolved that the matter be held over for a month, for further consideration by the committee

## 1913

1913 47 Seddon Best Frank D D2 Head Master £ 185.00

1913 47 Seddon Young Esther Assistant Female £ 99.00

14<sup>th</sup> January 1913 Erection of a residence at Seddon: George Gibson, £427 12s; Ward and Sons, £407 accepted

11<sup>th</sup> April 1911 A pasture sown with happy faces and with holiday," aptly described the Seddon Domain when the children of Seddon, Marama, Blind River, Sea View, Tetley Brook, Waterfalls, Ward, and Grassmere assembled one day last week for the purpose of holding a combined sports meeting and a picnic. At the instance of the Seddon School Committee a movement was set on foot to have as an annual event a gathering of all the school children of the Awatere and Flaxbourne districts, together with their parents and friends. A strong committee was appointed. Mr W. J. Marfell proving a very efficient secretary, and all worked well to make the meeting a great success. The people of the various school districts subscribed most liberally to the fund for providing the children with prizes, and needless to say, the ladies catered in a thorough manner for the vigorous appetites of young and old. After a hearty lunch had been partaken of, a start was made at about one o'clock with the day's programme. During the afternoon dozens of races and competitions were got off, Messrs F T. Rhodes and H. Fuller acting as handicappers and Messrs Ferguson and Lawrence as judges. Some valuable prizes were given for the principal events, and nearly all the boys and girls were able to take home with them some memento of the day's outing. The races were kept going without intermission until after five, so that everyone was ready to do full justice to the good things that the ladies had provided for tea. A feature of the day was the running of the Rev. A. W. Stace, who outdistanced all competitors in the committeemen's race. No official time was taken, but several bystanders were heard to remark that it was easily a record. It is the intention of the committee to hold the next picnic on the 1st of November. The following are the results of the main events:

Senior Boys' High Jump: H. Bell 1, E. Cunliffe, and Lawrence (equal) 2. Junior Boys' High Jump: T. Cunliffe 1, F. Barnes 2. Boys' Three-legged Race: W. Kane and E. Wales 1, F.

Barnes and X Western 2. Sack Race: T. Smith 1, W. Dick 2, F. Barnes 3. Hop, Step and Jump: J. West 1, E. Cunliffe 2, H. Bell 3. Boys' Race, 440 yds: A. Linton 1, J. i West 2, B. Maher 3. Senior Boys' Race, 220 yds: I. Barnes I, T. Cunliffe 2. Junior Boys' Race, 220 yds: J. Dick j 1 A. Fleming 2. Senior Boys' Race, 120 yds: Schwass 1, F. Barnes 2, J. West 3. Senior Boys' Race, 100 yds: A. 1 Kearns 1, F. Barnes 2, E. Cunliffe 3. Junior Boys' Race, 100 yds: T. Morrin 1, W. Kane 2, C. Monton 3. Senior Girls' Race, 100 yds: J. Ryan 1, A. Hounsell 2, D. Jermyn 3. Junior Girls' Race, 100 yds: J. Lothian 1, J. O'Connor 2, M. Francis 3. Three-legged Race: M. Dick and F. O'Connor 1, E. McIsaac and I. McIsaac 2.

Sack Race: J. O'Connor 1, V, O'Connor 2, M. Dick 3. Girls' Race, 50yds: J. Ryan 1, D Jermyn 2. Teachers' Race: Miss Waters 1, Miss O'Leary 2, Miss Fleming 3.

15<sup>th</sup> April 1913 THE AWATERE. A petition was received from a number of settlers asking that a school be established on a site midway between Seddon and Seaview. I At the outset about fourteen children I would attend. It was resolved.. that the necessary steps be taken to secure a, grant for the- purpose, and that inquiries be made with .a view to obtaining a, site on the Stock Reserve

The request for a double chimney, to provide an additional fireplace in the school-house being erected at Seddon, was granted

29<sup>th</sup> April 1913 SEDDON. D. McBride (chairman), J. Bell, H. Fuller, H. Masters, J. Stretch,, C. Clemens, Rev. A. W. Stace.

4<sup>th</sup> June 1913 Our Seddon correspondent writes:— The usual ceremony of saluting the flag by the Seddon school children to commemorate the birthday of King George V. formed part of the holiday programme yesterday. About 9 o'clock most of the children attending the school formed into line-, and were addressed by their teacher, Mr Best, who explained that the object of their being present that day was to salute the British flag. Mr Best put a few pertinent questions to the children in respect to the vastness of the Empire. These were readily answered, showing the careful training that had been given them in respect to British possessions in all parts of the world. Mr R. N. Adams, Presbyterian minister, also gave the children a. few words of advice.; He explained the meaning of the cross bands on the flag, and exhorted them, as they grew up, always to endeavor to uphold the honor 'and traditions of the flag; and Empire. After saluting, .and singing the National Anthem, and giving three cheers for the King, the children dispersed.

10<sup>th</sup> June 1913 SEDDON Fencing work asked for by the committee was authorised on the basis of the estimates of cost forwarded by the committee, the Board's secretary to arrange with the owner of adjoining property as to compensation.

A request for the re-papering of a room in the residence was granted.

9<sup>th</sup> July 1913 meeting of the Seddon Domain Board was held at Seddon yesterday afternoon, the following members being present: Messrs J. G. Armstrong (chairman), E. A. Weld, R. Marfell, A. C. Macrae , and J. J. Jenkins. Arrangements were made for carrying out necessary fencing improvements to the Domain, and it was decided that this reserve be offered for lease in. two lots, the front lot from the gums to the school to be for sheep only, and the other lot for any purposes the lessee desires; the lease to be terminated at one month's notice from either side at the end of the year. An account of £1. 7s for chipping trees in the Domain was passed for payment.

9<sup>th</sup> July 1913 team of Rugby players from the Borough School visited Seddon on Monday, and defeated the Seddon school team by a substantial majority

2<sup>nd</sup> August 1913 One hundred children were vaccinated at Seddon on Wednesday by Dr Walker

9<sup>th</sup> September 1913 It was decided to authorise the committee to have the school boundary fence completed, the owner of the adjoining land to be charged with half of the cost.

7<sup>th</sup> October 1913 An endeavor is being made to hold a big gathering of Awatere residents and school-children on the Seddon Domain on November 1st, and with that object in view a meeting of the School Committees of the district is being held to-morrow night. The Tenth Mounted Regimental Band, which will play at Seddon on Sunday next, has decided to assist at the gathering

## 1914

1914 56 Seddon Best Frank D D2 Head Master £ 195.00

1914 56 Seddon Young Esther Assistant Female £ 108.00

10<sup>th</sup> February 1914 The Seddon Committee was empowered to transfer to the funds of the school library an allowance of £3 4s for free school books

17<sup>th</sup> March SEDDON. Messrs Boyce and Rutland waited? on the Board and represented the need for. a school at a point near or on the former's property, about 2 1/2 miles from Seddon. It would at the outset serve the convenience of twelve children. The. Board, .considered the application favorably, and the secretary was instructed to write to the Awatere County Council with a view to acquiring an abandoned gravel' reserve "for the site

16<sup>th</sup> April 1904 The ,secretary was instructed to make a formal application, for the quarry reserve of six acres between Marama and Seddon for a school Site

1 May 1914 School Committee The householders at Seddon, Te Kou, and Koromiko failed to hold I meetings on account of the wet weather.

12<sup>th</sup> May 1914 Marathon School, Seddon: Miss Woodhouse, sole teacher

10<sup>th</sup> July 1914 The Land Board wrote notifying that if the Council did not require an area of about three acres of land at Higgins's corner, Scarborough, for a gravel reserve, the property could be gazetted: and . handed over to the Education Board for the purposes of a school site.—It was decided to notify the Land Board that the site was not required as a gravel reserve, and that the Council was agreeable to its being vested in the Education Board.

14<sup>th</sup> July 1914 MARATHON

The Inspector of Schools reported having visited the site at Marathon on which it was proposed to ask the Department to establish a school. He was of opinion that the site was too near to Seddon for the Department, favorably to consider an application for another school in this locality. The distance was only 1 miles.—The matter was held over till next meeting.

11<sup>th</sup> August 1 914 Desks were ordered to be supplied to the school at Seddon. The question of attaching a verandah to the teacher's residence for Seddon was held over for .two months.

29<sup>th</sup> October 1914 The Awatere school picnic and sports will be held in the Seddon Domain on Monday next. Hot water, will be provided for the convenience of picnickers.

## 1915

1915 61 Seddon Best Frank D D2 Head Master £ 205.00

1915 61 Seddon Young Esther Assistant Female £ 117.00

4<sup>th</sup> May 1915 Seddon. Messrs J. W Shirtliff (chairman), Linton, Masters, Lothian, and Cameron.

11<sup>th</sup> May 1915 Seddon committee asked for a septic tank and a verandah for the master's residence.- —It' was resolved to ascertain what the Department and the teacher respectively were prepared to contribute

28<sup>th</sup> June 1915 SCHOOL FOOTBALL

The first of a series of matches between the Awatere district schools for the cup is to be played at Ward on Wednesday next between the Seddon and Ward schools. The following will represent Ward:—Meade (2), Adams, Barnes, Rentoul, Simpson, Forsyth, Waters, Jenkins, Sharpe, Wilson, Davidson, Greig, Cooke and Cunliffe (Capt.); emergency, Devine.

10<sup>th</sup> August 1915 SEAVIEW.

A deputation of residents of Seaview district waited on the Board in connection with the Board's proposal to shift the Seaview School to Starborough Downs. Mr A. A very started by saying that the Board had rounded on the settlers. He always had advocated one school, to be placed in the centre of the district. The site proposed by the Board was not the central position. They were satisfied to have the school at Seaview and not at Starborough Downs He thought that it had been definitely settled, but he found that it had not been, as apparently the Board had turned round and said definitely that the school should be shifted to Starborough Downs. He could not understand this action, and thus the deputation waited on the Board, the Commissioner, he understood, had fixed on Seaview as the central Place. Mr J. Casey said that, taking the district from one end to the other, he thought that the central position should be taken. That was all he asked and that would satisfy him. That would be as fair to one as the other. The Chairman said that the Commissioner of Crown Lands had given his scientific advice that Starborough Downs was the most central position. He would not discuss his reasons for coming to that decision. Mr C. Ferguson said that the position was that the Seaview School had to be shifted to the most central position, and the Board was advised by the Commissioner that the central position was Starborough Downs, the Board had no option but to act upon the advice. Mr Avery asked that the matter be held over till next Board meeting. He wanted to prove that the Board was wrong. The Starborough Downs site was not the central position. Mr Mackay detailed the methods by which the Commissioner measured up the distances and came to the conclusion that Starborough was the central position. The Department had given an undertaking that it necessary a school would be established lower down on some future Occasion. Mr Price, Commissioner for Crown Lands, waited on the Board to clear on what was evidently a misunderstanding. In fixing on the site he had complied with the regulation which set out that, a school would have to be four miles from the Seddon. School, which he did not take into consideration the most central site of the school district. Barnes's corner was a very good position, there was no doubt about that. Taking the boundary of the school district, Barnes's corner was not the central position, but if they took Seddon School as their base it was the central site. It was midway between Seddon and the sea. Mr Ferguson said that the Act made it very plain, that the school should not be within four miles of the Seddon School. Mr Price said that working from Seddon School as a base, he would recommend Barnes's corner as the most suitable site. Mr Price was thanked for his courtesy, and he then retired. The petition objecting to the removal of the school from Seaview to Starborough Downs was then received.

1<sup>st</sup> September 1915 At the Seddon Town Ball last Wednesday evening the Maori patriotic haka troupe gave an entertainment in aid of the Wounded Soldiers Fund. Every item was enthusiastically encored. The entertainment was throughout of a high standard, and the attendance was fairly good. The troupe was met and welcomed by the Seddon school children at the station in the morning, and the entertainers were provided with meals and supper by the people of Seddon. Tickets were sold at the door by the Seddon patriotic committee, the takings amounting to £11 17s..

13<sup>th</sup> September 1915 The Seddon School Committee were granted permission to erect a concrete water-tank on a vacant piece of land opposite the school. The secretary was instructed to make inquiries regarding the cost of obtaining enlarged photographs of all fallen

soldiers from the Awatere district, and report at next meeting. Awatere County Council meeting

14<sup>th</sup> September 1915 Seddon: Pencils, laces, stationery,: soap, socks, handkerchiefs, Balaclava. Gifts for soldiers

14<sup>th</sup> September 1915 Leave of absence.' owing to illness, was granted to Miss N E Young, Seddon school

3<sup>rd</sup> November 1915 On Anniversary Day the children attending the Seddon school, together with their parents and others from various parts of the district, were conveyed by Mr Barton in his drags to the ocean beach at Lake Grassmere, where a monster picnic was held. After a pleasant drive the party arrived at their destination about 11 o'clock, and in a short time all, particularly the children, were enjoying themselves on the beach. On the way down a sight almost unique in New Zealand was noticed on Lake Grassmere, which-is now quite dry. This was a splendid mirage, having the appearance of water, arid even the renditions of hills. houses, and the objects in it. Throughout the day the weather conditions were "Awatere special" Owing to the tide not being out before it was time to return home, games and races could not, be, greatly engaged in but Messrs J. Fuller and I. Cameron contributed towards the enjoyment of the children. Mr Barton having generously donated the fares to the Patriotic Fund, a substantial sum will be handed in for that purpose

## 1916-1917

1917	59	Seddon	Best	Frank D	D-59	Head	£225.00
1917	59	Seddon	Young	Esther		Assistant	£126.00

15<sup>th</sup> February 1916 Seddon Septic Tank Leslie and Costello, £98 14s

26<sup>th</sup> April 1916 OBSERVANCE AT SEDDON.

Anzac Day was observed' by the residents of the Awatere, district in the following manner:—In the morning the school children assembled at the Seddon school to salute the flag. Their teacher (Mr Best) in addressing the children explained to them the meaning of the word "Anzac." After the salute the National Anthem was sung. Addresses were given by the Rev. Mr Quintrell, whose subject was the anniversary of the landing, of the gallant troops on the Gallipoli Peninsula, Mr Kearney, Presbyterian Minister, who spoke on 'Devotion to Duty," Mr Armstrong, "The vastness of the Empire;" and Lieut. J. Morrin explained the meaning of the colours of the flag. Before- dispersing the assemblage sang "God defend New Zealand. In the afternoon the unit of the Seddon National Reserve, joined by a contingent from the Ward Reserve and headed by the Ward band, formed up opposite the Post Office and marched to the Seddon Hall, where a. combined service was held. The hall was well filled. The Rev. Mr Quintrell and Mr Kearney gave stirring addresses, traversing the various aspects of the war, from the beginning. A collection was taken tip in aid of the Red Cross, and resulted in £15 being obtained. A hearty vote of thanks was passed to the Ward band tor its attendance

20<sup>th</sup> May 1916 The Hon, secretary of the Seddon Red Cross League with thanks to the Seddon school children for balaclavas, and mufflers from Mrs Radcliffe:.

1<sup>st</sup> August 1916 At the final meeting of the Marlborough Education Board which was amalgamating with the Wellington Education Board A tender from Mr Bush to do work required at the teacher's residence at Seddon was accepted

1<sup>st</sup> August 1916 Red Cross 'The hon. secretary thanks the Seddon school children for a dozen handkerchiefs, mufflers and bags received a week: ago.

The following donations have been received at the Education Board's office in connection with the School Children's Appeal for the relief of Belgian children:—High School £1 11s 6d, Marathon £1. Seddon £4.

14<sup>th</sup> October 1916 Red Cross the Hon. Secretary, also thanks the Seddon school children for the following 2 doyley,,: print bags, 8 handkerchiefs, 3, dozen face cloths.

26<sup>th</sup> April 1917 Our Seddon correspondent writes: Very little interest was taken in the observance of Anzac Day at Seddon by the majority of the public, which is much to be regretted. A good muster of school children assembled in front of the school and saluted the flag, being in charge erf their teacher, Mr Best. After singing the National Anthem, the salute was given. A word of praise is due to the teachers for the careful manner in which the children had been trained in drill. The children were then addressed by the Rev. F. Quintrell and Mr Kearney, who exhorted them always to honor and uphold the Flag, in whatever part of the British Empire they might be. An adjournment was then made to the Seddon Hall, where an impressive memorial, service was held, the speakers being Mr Kearney and the Rev. F. Quintrell. Before the proceedings closed1 a Roll of Honor containing the names of all those who had volunteered for active service from the Awatere district was unveiled. The roll is to have a place in the hall, and is the gift of Messrs J. W. Shirtliff and I. Pearson. A collection was taken up, and realised £9 3s, which, is to be given to the New Zealand Camp Institute

13<sup>th</sup> October 1917 The Blenheim Borough School football team journeyed to Seddon on Saturday last to play the combined Awatere schools, and suffered defeat by 14 points to 3. The game was played on the Seddon Domain ground, about a third of which was covered with very rank grass. Playing a very vigorous game, the country boys scored all their points in the first spell. Blenheim, in the second spell, becoming more accustomed to the conditions, rallied and succeeded in scoring their only try. Mr O'Rourke refereed. At the conclusion of the game Mr and Mrs Best, of the Seddon school, very kindly provided the players with afternoon tea, which was much appreciated

## 1918-1919

1919	60	Seddon	Best	Frank D	D-55	Head	£315.00
1919	60	Seddon	Young	Esther		Assistant	£170.00

6<sup>th</sup> November 1918 Immediately after the welcomes news was received here yesterday at noon flags' could be seen flying in all parts of the township, and the only bell the village possesses was vigorously rung. The school children were assembled and after giving ringing cheers for then .success of the Albion and Empire were given a half-holiday

13<sup>th</sup> November 1918 The news that Germany had surrendered reached Seddon soon after 9 o'clock yesterday morning, when flags were again hauled up the masthead and bells were set ringing. A procession of school children and others marched,, through the streets of the township singing, patriotic songs. In the afternoon the children assembled in the Domain and were entertained at sports, etc.

21<sup>st</sup> October 1919 Nine schools from the Marlborough district entered teams for the above tournament on Saturday. The results were as follows:— First round: —Borough A. defeated Picton A by 30 points to nil;, Convent B defeated Picton B by 9 points to nil; Spring Creek defeated Borough 2 by 26 points to nil; Convent A defeated Borough B by 23 points to nil; Seddon a bye. Second round: Seddon defeated Convent B by 8 points to nil; Spring Creek defeated Convent A by 8 points to 3; Borough A a bye. Semi-final:— Borough A defeated

Seddon by 5 points to 3. Final: —Borough A, defeated Spring Creek by 14 points to nil. The banner therefore goes to the local school for the ensuing year. The winning team played consistently well throughout the tournament, •their display of tackling and passing "being a fine one. Tries were registered in the final match by Mogridge (2) and A. Nicholas (2). The Seddon team were unfortunate in that they played one boy, short throughout the tournament.

### 1920-1921

1921	65	Seddon	Best	Frank D	D	Head	£360.00
1921	65	Seddon	Smith	Mary M	D	Assistant	£220.00

19th February 1920 Miss M M Smith Assistant at Seddon

23<sup>rd</sup> July 1920 Wellington Education Board Requests from Seddon for shelter sheds, from Picton for new lavatories, land for general renewals at Springlands and other places, .strongly advocated by the ward members, were deferred for the promised visit next month by the Minister for Education, and chairman of the Board, when the matters will receive comprehensive attention

There are no Marlborough Schools on Papers Past after 1920

### 1922-1923

1923	66	Seddon	Best	Frank D	D-117	Head	£345.00
1923	66	Seddon	Trischler	Eleanor		Assistant	£173.00

### 1964

1964							
Form 11	35	D N Skinner		Head Teacher		Music	
Form 1	35	R Macdonald		First Assistant		Phys Ed, Science, Films	
Standard 4	23	J R Brown		Probationary Assistant		Craft Standard 4	
Standard 3	33	P J Edridge		Assistant Master		Phys Ed Standard 2 and 3	
Standard 2	5						
Standard 2	33	P H Wood		"		Films Primers	
Standard 1	44	T L Gardiner		"			
Primer 4	28	Dorothy L Gardiner		Assistant Mistress		Sewing Form 1	
P 2-3	32	P Nan Armstrong		Probationary Assistant		Sewing Standard 4	
Primer 1	29	Joyce Curr		Senior Junior Classes		Sewing Form II	

## National Archives

### *Buildings and Sites 1900 - 1958*

1900 600 square feet built

1909 300 square feet added

1936 20 square feet removed

1938 Separate room added 624

Area 5 acres 1 rood 32 perches Section 1,8 and 9

29<sup>th</sup> March 1930 32 perches transferred to MOW for roading

### Primary Schools 1908- 1939

9<sup>th</sup> December 1908 Start off of additions Number on roll 69 with 3 children over 14 attending school. Nearest school on railway 13 miles timetable does not suit

Seddon census 1901 76 1906 165 propose to add a new classroom 26 foot by 20 square foot cost £ 240

There are two teachers in one room

14<sup>th</sup> January 1909 Marlborough Education Board asks Department if the cost of renting a room will be covered until the application for a new room is settled The present room is considerably overcrowded 20<sup>th</sup> May 1909 £180 was approved

20<sup>th</sup> May 1909 Geo Fowlds Minister of Education George Fowlds approves of a new addition

7<sup>th</sup> June 1909 The plan sent by the Marlborough Education Board to Department must have been lost in the wreck of the SS Penguin

Following attempts by School Committee chairman to have a bigger building built the plans were kept the same and the building built

20<sup>th</sup> May 1912 Schoolmaster's residence

Wood iron roof, 9 rooms on 1 flat with two detached iron buildings used as washhouse and store sheds

Water supply for tanks at railway station to tap at rear of building and about 18 inches of the ground

Structural Defects

Floors of several rooms at back of main building low to the ground and not allowing for a current of air to pass underneath

Piles A number apparently sunk

Windows Several sashes unhung and a number with broken sash cords

Roof strong evidence of leaks from roof in the ceilings of rooms especially at the back

Timbers Those in the front 2 rooms are in fair condition but the others are effected with Borer Etc.

16<sup>th</sup> May 1912 The teacher is unable to reside in the house and we ask s for a rented house allowance

The house was built 40 or 50 years ago though a report shows it being built in 1900

24<sup>th</sup> May 1912 Department asks what is Marlborough Education Board going to do to the house

31<sup>st</sup> May 1912 When the schoolhouse is sold then an allowance will be paid

Building sold for £65.11.0 which was to be paid to the Department

16<sup>th</sup> December 1912 £2480 approved for new residence

6<sup>th</sup> April 1921 Fire inspector's report One story building and one residence

No fire equipment is present, six fire buckets should be provided and kept filled with water four placed in the school and two in the residence

28<sup>th</sup> February A detailed report from inspector's was included in this report. They have been filed incorrectly However they showed that the standard of teaching in 1929 and 1930 was of a very poor standard in all classes in all subjects. The Wellington Education Board sent a note to Mr. F Best Head Teacher telling him that things wer not good and they were not happy.

11<sup>th</sup> March 1930 A Deputation from The Seddon School met the Minister of Education and asked for consolidation of schools

29<sup>th</sup> July 1931 Letter from Wellington Education Board asking for a third classroom to Department

2<sup>th</sup> August 1931 Roll last term was 82 , Nearest School Blind River with 24 children , Grassmere with 13 and Marama with 14

12<sup>th</sup> September 1931 Roll is 89

9<sup>th</sup> September A L Bell Secretary of School Committee writes to Department

a) 26 children in head teachers room with seating for 24

b) Other room 27 with seating for 38

c) A 3<sup>rd</sup> teacher has been appointed

29<sup>th</sup> December 1933 Department writes to Wellington Education Board re consolidation

17<sup>th</sup> July 1935 Department agrees to remodel school

20<sup>th</sup> December 1935 It was agreed to remodel the school

23<sup>rd</sup> July 1936 remodelling finished

1<sup>st</sup> December Dashwood and Blind River are consolidating on Seddon Two new open plan classrooms to be built

28<sup>th</sup> March 1938 To provide a combined Head Teacher's room and Teacher's room

2<sup>nd</sup> August 1938 Roll is 124 Grassmere, Tetley Brook and Sea View also amalgamated

### Reports on Seddon Primary School

11-13<sup>th</sup> November 1962

Roll 297

D N Skinner Head Teacher, R McDonald, Jeff Brown PA, P J Edridge, P H Wood, T L Gardiner, Dorothy L Cooper, P. Nan Armstrong PA, Joyce Curr

This school this year has obtained full permanent staffing and the hall has been used as a classroom The programme has an emphasises on the development of English Reading mainly through reading

8<sup>th</sup> June 1967

Roll 305

D N Skinner Head Teacher R McDonald Deputy, T L Gardiner, P H Wood, B S Baker, Miss J G Carter, Mrs L Pattie, Miss A C David, Mr. J E Sheehy Mr. L F Dodds

This school has continued to provide effective service to a wide community

11<sup>th</sup> June 1970

Roll 287

Mr. R. W. Parker Head Teacher Mr. R. B. Hastings Deputy, E. A. Godfrey, I. L. Gardiner, Mrs C. L. Robinson, Mrs E. M. Goulter, L. F. Dodds, Mrs S. A. Ramsay, Mrs M. Pattie, Mrs G. M. Parker

Conscientious provision is made for the Children's education

20<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> June 1973

Roll 281 R. W. Parker Principal, R. B. Hastings Deputy, Miss P. Kirk Burnnand, R. D. Kennedy, Mrs E. M. Goulter, I. L. Gardiner, Miss de Tracy Gould, L. F. Dodds, Miss C. Langford, Mrs M. Pattie

During the last three years the school has experienced a high degree of staff stability. This coupled with the conscientious efforts of the principal and staff has resulted in the school providing effectively for its pupils

21<sup>st</sup> 22<sup>nd</sup> September 1976

Roll 266

C. P. Carter Principal, R. B. Hastings, Mrs D. E. McNab, I. L. Gardiner, Miss J. A. Scott, Mrs A. M. Melwrath, Mrs L. B. Broadhurst, Mrs S. M. Butcher, Mrs M. J. Pattie,

C. P. Carter teaching Primer 1 as well as Principal

There has been a number of staff changes. The work of the younger teachers is pleasing

27<sup>th</sup>

27<sup>th</sup> 25<sup>th</sup> October 1979

Roll 293 J. R. Macdonald Principal, R. B. Hastings Principal, L. S. Gosling, I. L. Gardiner, Miss R. A. Steele, Miss S. E. Brown, Miss A. J. Bown, Miss R. E. Fraser, Miss M. A. Campbell, Mrs M. J. Pattie, Mrs M. Corbett, Mrs E. M. Goulter

It is noted that the children with special needs are using a withdrawal area in the hall

## 1940-1968

17<sup>th</sup> October 1945 General purposes room was wanted by School Committee from Delta Army camp in Blenheim

6<sup>th</sup> May 1947 General purposes room wanted to be shifted from old Marama School

School roll is 156

23<sup>rd</sup> November The Power Board will not lift the power lines so the Marama school building cannot be shifted

28<sup>th</sup> February 1950 Approval for another room attached

16<sup>th</sup> June 1950 Seddon want to build a hall in Seddon and want to pull down the Marama School room and rebuild it on the Seddon Domain

6<sup>th</sup> April 1951 Of 192 pupils on roll 125 come by bus

File not finished by researcher

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## Starborough(1884-1900, 1902)

Renamed Seddon in 1903

*History Notes of this school are recorded in a separate document called Seddon Starborough*

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## Starborough Downs (1913-1915)

Close to Seaview South of the Awatere River. There were long arguments on whether to have the school at Starborough Downs or Sea View

*History Notes of this school are recorded in a separate document called Sea View Starborough Downs*

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## Taylor Pass

### Post 1923

National Archives

Establishment of a household school approved 1925

5<sup>th</sup> September 1930 Temporary Cover £30 and 2 tents £11 Total £41

All these notes are filed under lease of school grounds Taylor Pass

13<sup>th</sup> March 1917 Letter to Chairman of Marama School asking about site let to Mr. K C Ross That £10 was received in 1915 and only £5 in 1916 Then a large file of people leasing the Marama School land in Taylor Pass area

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## Tetley Brook (1907-1917)

On State Highway 1. Five Kilometres South of Seddon

1907	6	Tetley Brook	Hughes	Maggie	Female	£	42.00
1908	6	Tetley Brook	Bell	Susan C	Female	£	36.00
1909	6	Tetley Brook	Bell	Susie C	Female	£	36.00
1910	6	Tetley Brook	Bell	Susie C	Female	£	36.00
1911	6	Tetley Brook	Browne	Ivy M	Female	£	36.00
1913	5	Tetley Brook	Snowden	Ella M	Female	£	42.00
1914	7	Tetley Brook	Snowden	Ella M	Female	£	42.00
1915	5	Tetley Brook	Snowden	Ella	Female	£	42.00
1917	5	Tetley Brook	Brown	Myrtle	Sole		£56.00

27<sup>th</sup> October 1906 A teacher is wanted for the Tetley Brook aided school

15<sup>th</sup> October 1907 Tetley Brook classed as good by Inspector. The top grading

26<sup>th</sup> October 1908 On Friday last a farewell social was held at Tetley Brook in honour of Miss M. Hughes, who is leaving for the North Island. About fifty were present. During the evening Mr A. Miller, on behalf of the residents, presented Miss Hughes with a handsome lady's travelling companion. The speaker stated that in losing Miss Hughes they were losing the services of one who had proved herself a good teacher, more than satisfying the expectations of inspector and parents. She had also by her kindly and cheerful disposition endeared herself to all those with whom she came in contact. Whilst regretting her loss to the district, they were pleased to know that Miss Hughes was taking a step that would give more scope for her professional abilities. Mr E. Blick in a very neat speech suitably replied on

behalf of Miss Hughes, The teachers of the Awatere district, with whom Miss Hughes is a great favourite presented that lady with a handsome brooch as a memento of pleasant associations

14<sup>th</sup> February 1911 Miss I Browne Sole Teacher appointed

14<sup>th</sup> May 1912 Miss Browne, Tetley Brook, one month's leave of absence on account, of sickness.

11<sup>th</sup> April 1913 "A pasture sown with happy faces and with holiday," aptly described the Seddon Domain when the children of Seddon, Marama, Blind River, Sea View, Tetley Brook, Waterfalls, Ward, and Grassmere assembled one day last week for the purpose of holding a combined sports meeting and a picnic. At the instance of the Seddon School Committee a movement was set on foot to have as an annual event a gathering of all the school children of the Awatere and Flaxbourne districts, together with their parents and friends. A strong committee was appointed. Mr W. J. Marfell proving a very efficient secretary, and all worked well to make the meeting a great success. The people of the various school districts subscribed most liberally to the fund for providing the children with prizes, and, needless to say, the ladies catered in a thorough manner for the vigorous appetites of young and old. After a hearty lunch had been partaken of, a start was made about one o'clock with the day's programme. During the afternoon dozens of races and competitions were got off, Messrs F T. Rhodes and H. Fuller acting as handicappers and Messrs Ferguson and Lawrence as judges. Some valuable prizes were given for the principal events, and nearly all the boys and girls were able to take home with them some memento of the day's outing. The races were kept going without intermission until after five, so that everyone was ready to do full justice to the good things that the ladies had provided for tea. A feature of the day was the running of the Rev. A. W. Stace, who outdistanced all competitors in the committeemen's race. No official time was taken, but several bystanders were heard to remark that it was easily a record. It is the intention of the committee to hold the next picnic on the 1st of November

10<sup>th</sup> June 1913 Miss E Mason resigned

15<sup>th</sup> July 1913 Sole Teacher at Tetley Brook. Miss Snowden

10<sup>th</sup> August 1915 Leave of absence owing to illness was granted to E M Snowden

31<sup>st</sup> December 1915 Miss V Berg appointed

27<sup>th</sup> July 1917 The "Wellington Education Board has accepted the resignation of Miss D. L. Mead, sole teacher of the Tetley Brook school

20<sup>th</sup> June 1918 Miss Brown resigns

30<sup>th</sup> January 1919 An application for the erection of a school at Tetley Brook was referred to the officials for report on the conditions

8<sup>th</sup> February 1928 P E Taylor Sole Teacher Tetley Brook

1<sup>st</sup> April 1937 Miss H T L Brenkley Sole Teacher

21<sup>st</sup> September 1938 It is Intended to adopt the consolidation policy to a further degree in one area in the Seddon district. Seaview, Marama, Blind River, Grassmere, and Tetley Brook Schools will be closed as from the beginning of the new school year.

#### National Archives:

11<sup>th</sup> February 1919 Application for a new school

John F Neal 4 children , J W Scott 3 children , E Borough 2 children , J Costello 3 J Webb 5 children apply for a new school all children go to Blind River School

Blind River 5 miles away, Grassmere 5 Miles, Seddon 5 miles

14 children

No building available but one may be

Site offered by J W Scott Secretary 8 Block 1 Cape Campbell 1 ¼ acre block

Site level, dry all clear. Frontage about 10 chain

22<sup>nd</sup> October 1918 Letter from Solicitors to Wellington Education Board

- a) What conditions was the land acquired for school
- b) 4 settlers equally contributed money and materials and board subsidised the teacher
- c) The school was recently closed and the building removed by a Mr. Burroughs who made it an addition to his house
- d) The move was not with the sanction of the promoters
- e) The school was built about 8 years ago

Ed Board didn't know anything about the school and only had one letter in 29<sup>th</sup> January 1913 from Mr. Lawrence saying the school was going to be moved

2<sup>nd</sup> May 1919 School not opened at Tetley Brook as it would effect Blind River

30<sup>th</sup> May 1925 Alfred Cowles inspector writes to Wellington Education Board The school site was quite unsuitable for a school

New site at Mr. J Dollar's site Miss Woodbury will start as teacher in about a fortnight

They are using the building formerly used as a school on Mr. Dollar's land

4<sup>th</sup> June 1925. That the furniture for the new school be got from the recently closed school at Waterfalls. Another window would improve the lighting

22<sup>nd</sup> September 1937 Schools consolidated on Seddon

Buildings and sites Wellington Education Board

19<sup>th</sup> June 1925 A new application for a Tetley Brook School

No of families 5, 15 school age children, 1 on other school rolls

Section 8 Block 1 Cape Campbell S D 1 ¼ acres

The school is 12 foot 7 inches long and 11 foot 9 inches wide

Only 3 families on application

W J Kennington Lesley M (7) Helen J (5)

J S Dollar Jean Grace (10) Doris June (7)

L G Dollar Shirley M (9)

11<sup>th</sup> December 1936 Reopen Tetley Brook Grade 0 School

12<sup>th</sup> February 1937 Minister approves opening of school but questions whether transport to Seddon wasn't an option

5<sup>th</sup> March Wellington Education Board replies cost of transport is slightly more than reopening the school

Staffing

24<sup>th</sup> April 1925 Re opening of Tetley Brook. Please send all details

18<sup>th</sup> June 1925 Letter to School Committee Miss I Woodbury appointed. We assume that suitable accommodation has been obtained for the teacher

That all teachers of aided school have a room of their own If the school rises over 8 then the parents don't have to provide Board

If A Perry a shepherd writes that though told by the landowner that he would not be paying for the teacher it now transpires he is paying a third as is another shepherd and most of the landowners are paying nothing

16<sup>th</sup> August Education Board replies that teacher pays nothing and the Board should be paid by the parent of each child in this case six children mean paying 4 shillings and twopence a week

17<sup>th</sup> November 1926 A Circular to all schools stating the Teacher is not expected to perform household duties other than care of her own room

2<sup>nd</sup> December A Further stating that it is not the teacher's job to clean out the classroom

15<sup>th</sup> December 1927 Iris M E Woodbury sending in forms

13<sup>th</sup> January Letter from E Barton accepting appointment of Mrs Halpin as teacher

It is suggested that the school be painted by the Board

31<sup>st</sup> January Miss Halpin has not accepted position and Miss P E Taylor is appointed

31<sup>st</sup> January Mr. E H Barton is thanked for cancelling Miss Taylor's appointment as the children are to be enrolled in correspondence

25<sup>th</sup> November 1936 H Duckworth writes

There are 5 children there ready for school

2<sup>nd</sup> November Jean E Workman writes asking for the teaching job. She has a partial D Certificate worked at Puketoi, Sea View and Waterfalls for the Wellington Education Board

As the Board dispensed with the services of uncertificated teachers I have been working in homes helping with Correspondence work

26<sup>th</sup> November 1936 Mr. L Dollar The school has been closed 9 or 10 years . We have 5 children who are being supervised by Miss Jean Workman

14<sup>th</sup> February 1937 W J Kennington writes asking whether school is to be reopened

12<sup>th</sup> March 1937 School to be reopened with Miss H T L Brenkley appointed

7<sup>th</sup> April Miss Brenkley writes re closing of school for Ward Show

27<sup>th</sup> September 1937 Miss H Brenkley writes closing the school for the Marlborough Show

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## Ugbrooke (1898-1900, 1903-1914, 1917-1923)

Off the Redwood Pass Road onto Ugbrooke Road

1898	4	Ugbrook	Berry	Annie	Female	£	20.00
1899	4	Ugbrook	Berry	Anne	Female	£	20.00
1900	5	Ugbrook	Berry	A R	Female	£	25.00
1903	9	Ugbrooke	Foley	Anna Eliza	Female	£	56.00
1904	6	Ugbrooke	Jeffries	Emily V	Female	£	56.00
1905	6	Ugbrooke	Tindall	Bertha M	Licensed Female	£	36.00
1906	7	Ugbrooke	Tindall	Bertha	Female	£	42.00
1907	7	Ugbrooke	Bell	Susie	Female	£	42.00

1908	7	Ugbrooke	Sheridan	Olive	Female	£	42.00	
1909	9	Ugbrooke	Robinson	Alice	Female	£	54.00	
1910	11	Ugbrooke	Robinson	Alice M	Female	£	90.00	£10.00
1911	11	Ugbrooke	Robinson	Alice M	Female	£	90.00	£10.00
1912	9	Ugbrooke	Robinson	Alice M	Female	£	90.00	£10.00
1913	7	Ugbrooke	Hood	Lilian	Female	£	90.00	£10.00
1914	8	Ugbrooke	Hood	Lilian	Female	£	94.10	£10.00
1917	10	Ugbrooke	O'Sullivan	Mary G	Sole		£110.00	
1919	9	Ugbrooke	Blair	Henrietta	Sole		£150.00	
1921	7	Ugbrooke	Clifford	Emily M	Sole		£120.00	

14<sup>th</sup> March 1898 War Funds Ugbrooke 6 on roll raised 5 shillings and 10 pence

10<sup>th</sup> February 1903 The appointment of Miss A E Foley as teacher at the newly established aided school at Ugbrooke was approved

9<sup>th</sup> March 1903 Small requirements made for Canvastown and Ugbrooke

9<sup>th</sup> May 1904 Miss F Jeffries

28<sup>th</sup> February 1905 Ugbrooke had 95% attendance for 1904

15<sup>th</sup> August 1905 The appointment of Miss Tindall as teacher at Ugbrooke was approved

13<sup>th</sup> October 1906 Mr Strachan, Inspector of Schools, mentioned at the last meeting of the Education Board that the Ugbrooke and Marlboroughtown schools had been classed as "good." *Good was the top ranking for schools*

13<sup>th</sup> March 1907, Rated Good again in 1906 by inspector Spelling Ugbrooke deserves mention for the skilful treatment of the subject

14<sup>th</sup> May 1907 Richmond Brook.—The appointment of Miss Bertha Tindall as teacher during Miss O'Brian's absence at the Wellington Training-college was confirmed, Miss Violet Hall to act until Miss Tindall (who has been teaching at Ugbrooke) can take up her duties request from Ugbrooke for payment of capitation was acceded to,

11<sup>th</sup> February 1908 Scholarship at Free places at Blenheim High School Adeline M Coward Ugbrooke 452 Marks (3<sup>rd</sup> Place) £25 for 2 years

26<sup>th</sup> April 1910 Graded Good again by inspector and again at 3<sup>rd</sup> May 1911

23<sup>rd</sup> April 1912 Mentioned for their good work

14<sup>th</sup> January 1913 Miss Alice Robinson resigns

11<sup>th</sup> February 1913 Miss Cecily Foley appointed Sole Teacher

13<sup>th</sup> May 1913 Miss C. Foley, teacher at Ugbrooke, was granted a week's holiday on account of ill-health

12<sup>th</sup> August 1913 Miss L Hood appointed

18<sup>th</sup> April 1918 Miss R Blair Temporary appointment

19 April 1919 The request from Ugbrooke for payment of capitation was acceded to,

19<sup>th</sup> February 1920 Miss I Woodhouse Sole Teacher Ugbrook Resigned b16th March 1921

15<sup>th</sup> June 1921 Miss E M Clifford Ugbrooke Aided

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### Upton Downs (1914-1917)

On the Upton Downs road off Marama Road South West of Seddon

1914	2	Upton Downs	Simpson	Lily P	Female	£	12.00	
1915	4	Upton Downs	Simpson	Lily	Female	£	30.00	

1917 3 Upton Downs Simpson Lily P Sole £32.00  
 16<sup>th</sup> April 1914 Miss L P Simpson appointed  
 17<sup>th</sup> May 1915 Socks for soldiers Mrs Dalton and Miss Simpson (Upton Downs) 12 pairs  
 3<sup>rd</sup> September 1915 .The waistcoat fund Mrs Dalton and Miss Simpson (Upton Downs) £1  
 28<sup>th</sup> October 1915 The Patriotic Fund. Contributions to Hospital Ship Upton Downs School,  
 soap. Cigarettes, handkerchiefs  
 26<sup>th</sup> April 1916 Belgian Relief Fund Upton Downs School £0-16-0  
 1<sup>st</sup> August 1917 School children's appeal for the relief of Belgian Children £1-3-0 Upton  
 Downs  
 20<sup>th</sup> February 1918 Miss L P Simpson resigned as at 31<sup>st</sup> January  
 25<sup>th</sup> July 1918 Sole Pupil Upton Downs School Christmas Parcel Fund £1  
 Broughton's Bay.

Simpson, Arthur John Herbert Paul Portig, Farmer, Broughton's Bay. Kenepuru, Pelorus  
 Sound. Mr. Simpson was born in the year 1847, at Antwerp, Belgium, where he was  
 educated, and afterwards followed a seafaring life for about eight years in the merchant  
 service He came to New Zealand in the ship "Christian Rankin," in 1865, and went to the  
 Wakamarina diggings; and, later on, he was employed for eight years by the Government in  
 the transport of provisions, in the Wanganui district, at the time of the Maori war.  
 Subsequently, Mr. Simpson returned to Marlborough, where he work-for some years at  
 various occupations, and in 1890 took up his present farm. The property consists of 400 acres  
 held under Crown lease, and carries, nearly 300 sheep, and about twenty-live head of cattle.  
 Mr. Simpson is chairman of the committee of the Waitaria Bay school committee, of which  
 one of his daughters is mistress. He is married, and has eight sons and four daughters.

Cyclopedia of New Zealand

1877/15588	Simpson	Robert Edward Portig	Maria Williams	Arthur John Herbert Paul Portig
1878/13670	Simpson	Arthur James Portig	Maria Williams	Arthur John Herbert Paul Portig
1880/2280	Simpson	Josephine Portig	Maria Williams	Arthur John Herbert Paul Portig
1880/14038	Simpson	Lilly Portig	Maria Williams	Arthur John Herbert Paul Portig
1883/7307	Simpson	Selina Portig	Maria Williams	Arthur
1885/11128	Simpson	Thirza Edith Portig	Maria Williams	Arthur John Herbert Paul Portig
1887/13962	Simpson	Thomas Walter Portig	Maria Williams	Arthur John Herbert Paul Portig
1892/13150	Simpson	Albert John Lee Portig	Maria	Arthur John Herbert Paul Portig
1895/6986	Simpson	Frederick William Portig	Maria Williams	Arthur John Herbert Paul Portig
1900/4610	Simpson	Fernand Raymond Portig	Maria Williams	Arthur John Herbert Paul Portig
1905/22040	Simpson	Victor Paul Portig	Maria Williams	Arthur John Herbert Paul Portig

1901	9	Portage	Simpson	Lily P	Female	£ 37.00
1902	8	Portage	Simpson	Lily P	Female	£ 56.00
1903	6	Portage	Simpson	Lily P	Female	£ 40.00

1904	19	Waitaria Bay	Simpson	Lily		Female	£ 80.00	
1905	20	Waitaria Bay	Simpson	Lily P	Licensed	Female	£ 94.10	£10.00
1906	19	Waitaria Bay	Simpson	Lily P	Licensed	Female	£ 110.00	£10.00
1907	17	Waitaria Bay	Simpson	Lily P	Licensed	Female	£ 110.00	£10.00
1908	16	Waitaria	Simpson	Lily P		Licensed	£ 104.10	£10.00
1909	15	Waitaria	Simpson	Lily P		Licensed	£ 118.15	£15.00
1910	12	Waitaria	Simpson	Lily P		Female	£ 117.00	£15.00
1911	13	Waitaria	Simpson	Lily P		Female	£ 121.10	£10.00
1912	11	Waitaria	Simpson	Lily P		Female	£ 126.00	£10.00
1913	12	Waitaria	Simpson	Lily P		Female	£ 130.10	£15.00
1914	2	Upton Downs	Simpson	Lily P		Female	£ 12.00	
1915	4	Upton Downs	Simpson	Lily		Female	£ 30.00	
1917	3	Upton Downs	Simpson	Lily P		Sole	£32.00	
1919	10	Eli Bay	Simpson	Lily P		Sole	£140.00	
1921	9	Mahau	Simpson	Lily P		Sole	£210.00	
1923	9	Mahau	Simpson	Lily P		Sole	£200.00	

20<sup>th</sup> October 1927 Passed her D Teachership examination

1931/2930 Lily Portig Simpson George Hamilton  
 Oct. 23, 1880  
 Marlborough, New Zealand

Death: 1965, New Zealand

Family links:

Parents: [Arthur John Herbert Paul Portig Simpson \(1847 - 1924\)](#) [Maria Williams Foote Simpson \(1859 - 1918\)](#)

Spouse: [George Hamilton \(1872 - 1956\)](#)

Children: [Martin Allan Simpson \(1915 - 1986\)](#)

1986/33165 Simpson Martin Allan 2/11/1915 70Y

### Vernon (1893, 1910-1911)

On the southern banks of the Big Lagoon off the Redwood Pass Road

1893	5	Vernon	Duff Miss		Female	£ 25.00	
1910	5	Vernon	Waters	Alice C B	Female	£ 30.00	
1911	4	Vernon	Speedy	Margaret	Female	£ 30.00	

### Waireka (1909-1917)

13 kilometres South West from Seddon on Haldones Road

1909	5	Waireka	Cheek	Eva	Female	£ 30.00	
1910	7	Waireka	Cheek	Eva	Female	£ 18.00	
1911	6	Waireka	Rankin	Eileen	Female	£ 42.00	
1912	6	Waireka	Ham	Winifred	Female	£ 36.00	
1913	6	Waireka	Ham	Winifred	Female	£ 36.00	
1915	7	Waireka	Grace	Ursula	Female	£ 42.00	

1917 5 Waireka Smith Margaret M Sole £30.00  
 26<sup>th</sup> April 1910 School rated as Good by Inspector (Top Grade)  
 28<sup>th</sup> April 1911 Waireka owned by H Lissaman  
 3<sup>rd</sup> May 1911 Waireka rated as a fine little school by Inspector  
 23<sup>rd</sup> April 1912 Excellent pencil drawings done at Waireka  
 17<sup>th</sup> April 1913 Waireka open only 397 out of expected 420  
 12<sup>th</sup> September 1914 Waireka School gave 8 shillings to the Ambulance Funds  
 15<sup>th</sup> December 1914 Miss Ursula Grace appointed  
 11<sup>th</sup> April 1916 Miss Drake to Waireka  
 16<sup>th</sup> December 1916 Miss Snowden Sole Teacher Waireka

### Warwick Run (1891)

At the mouth of Awatere River

1891 5 Warwick Run Duffield William Master £ 17.10

### Waterfalls (Waterfall) (1900. 1903, 1908-1919)

Waterfalls was South of Seddon on Waterfalls Road

1900	4	Waterfall	Mason	Ada M	Female	£	20.00	
1903	3	Waterfalls	Egan	May	Female	£	15.00	
1908	5	Waterfalls	Binley	Jessie	Female	£	30.00	
1909	6	Waterfalls	O'Leary	Kathleen	Female	£	36.00	
1910	7	Waterfalls	O'Leary	Kathleen	Female	£	42.00	
1911	9	Waterfalls	O'Leary	Kathleen	Female	£	90.00	£10.00
1912	8	Waterfalls	O'Leary	Kathleen	Female	£	90.00	£10.00
1913	7	Waterfalls	O'Leary	Kathleen	Female	£	90.00	£10.00
1914	9	Waterfalls	O'Leary	Kathleen	Female	£	94.10	£10.00
1915	11	Waterfalls	O'Leary	Kathleen	Female	£	110.00	£20.00
1917	9	Waterfalls Marlborough	O'Leary	Kathleen	Sole		£121.50	
1919	13	Waterfalls Marlborough	Farnell	Cora	Sole		£140.00	

8<sup>th</sup> December 1902 Mr J. W. Brown wrote and asked for the usual assistance for an aided school proposed to be established at Ugbrooke. —The Chairman of the Awatere Committee wrote recommending the application, which the Board granted. A similar application from Waterfalls, seven miles from Richmond Brook, was granted

26<sup>th</sup> January 1903 Miss Bertha Cameron reported her appointment as teacher of the Waterfalls (Awatere) Aided School.

15<sup>th</sup> March 1904 Miss Crosby Miss A Atkinson (Temporary appointment)

10<sup>th</sup> December 1907 Waterfalls. —The Chairman of the Awatere Schools Committee wrote giving information as to the number of children intending to be sent to the proposed new school at Waterfalls —It was resolved that the school "be established

11<sup>th</sup> January 1908 A teacher is wanted for the aided school at Waterfalls near Seddon.

TEACHER is required for the Aided School at, Waterfalls, six miles from Seddon. Salary, £30 and free Board and Lodging. Early prospect of substantial increase. W. G. CHISNALL, Seddon

11<sup>th</sup> February 1908 Waterfalls (Starborough), Miss E. K. Wilson;

15<sup>th</sup> June 1909 Miss Kathleen O'Leary appointed

12<sup>th</sup> January 1910 WATERFALLS SCHOOL. A complaint in connection with the control of the Waterfalls school was referred to the chairman of the committee for a report. Mr W.-G. Chisnall wrote resigning Ms position as correspondent of the Waterfalls school, and advised the Board that Mr A. Fleming had been elected to the position.—Received.

15<sup>th</sup> February 1910 The correspondent of the Waterfalls school wrote stating that he had interviewed the householders in regard to Mr Chisnall's complaint against Miss O'Leary, the teacher, and they with himself considered her quite competent to teach the children, and furthermore there was no foundation for the report that she had no control over the children. The letter was received, and it was decided to forward a copy of it to Mr Chisnall.

3<sup>rd</sup> May 1911 Inspector's report Some fine" little schools have been raised in Marlborough solely by local enterprise. .They suit present needs very 'well among them may be mentioned: Waikakaho, Tetley Brook, Waireka, Waterfalls, Ugbrooke, and others' in the Sounds, attended by pupils from two or more families.

11<sup>th</sup> April 1913 A pasture sown with happy faces and with holiday," aptly described the Seddon Domain when the children of Seddon, Marama, Blind River, Sea View, Tetley Brook, Waterfalls, Ward, and Grassmere assembled one day last week for the purpose of holding a combined sports meeting and a picnic. At the instance of the Seddon School Committee a movement was set on foot to have as an annual event a gathering of all the school children of the Awatere and Flaxbourne districts, together with their parents and friends (See Flaxbourne)

13<sup>th</sup> April 1915 Initial steps were taken to set up a Board school at Waterfalls

23<sup>rd</sup> October 1917 Miss G J Monkhouse appointed to Waterfalls (Probably Waterfalls School at Tiraumea, East of Eketahuna) Resigned 20<sup>th</sup> June 1918

19<sup>th</sup> April 1918 The request that the school at Waterfalls (Seddon) be taken over by the Board was recommended by the Executive, and adopted subject to the freehold of the school site being vested in the Board, and the building handed over.

21<sup>st</sup> November 1918 The second victim to the influenza outbreak in this district was Miss K. O'Leary, eldest daughter of Mr C. O'Leary, Blenheim, whose death occurred at the- Wairau Hospital yesterday. The deceased young; lady, who was about 20 years of age, had been in the service of the Wellington Education Board in the Marlborough district for .several years, and was teaching at the Waterfalls school, Awatere-, when stricken. with influenza-. The funeral took place this morning

22<sup>nd</sup> November 1918 The many friends and relatives of Miss Kathleen O'Leary will regret to hear of her early death. Miss O'Leary had been teaching at the Waterfalls school for the past nine years, and resided with Mr and Mrs Fleming, of Craignock, Seddon. Unfortunately, like many others, on their return from Christchurch, Mr and Mrs Fleming were laid up with influenza, and in a few days the whole family had contracted the disease. In her efforts to relieve !:he other sufferers Miss O'Leary took no heed to the fact that she also had contracted it in a much worse form than they, and when on Thursday evening she was at last> forced to\_ lie up pneumonia had set in. Her removal to the Wairau Hospital was ordered, and Mr Lissamim and the District Nurse brought her in on Sunday afternoon. She gradually sank, until she passed away on Wednesday afternoon. Private interment took place yesterday morning after a Requiem Mass. Mr and Mrs O'Leary and family have the sincere sympathy of a large circle of friends in their great bereavement.

30<sup>th</sup> January 1919 Miss L Faulkner to Waterfalls  
 17<sup>th</sup> September 1919 Miss L E Faulkner resigns  
 17<sup>th</sup> October 1919 A fresh application is to be made for a new school building, at Waterfalls'.  
 16<sup>th</sup> September 1920 Miss C Farnell resigns  
 10<sup>th</sup> August 1921 Board report a new school had been built at Waterfalls School Maybe at Tiraumea  
 1<sup>st</sup> October 1928 Miss J Workman Waterfalls  
*Waterfalls School Seddon was not open in 1921 and 1923 out of Seddon at least under that name. Waterfalls school at Tiraumea was operating in both years*  
 National Archives:

## Waterfalls

National Archives

Marlborough not Tiraumea (In Bush area North of Masterton originally called Waterfalls)

1919 178 square foot as at 31<sup>st</sup> January 1951

Closed Secretary 2 Block IV Blue Mountain Marlborough Settlement 2 acres to be reserved as a school site  
 3<sup>rd</sup> August 1920

Transferred to Land and Survey for £5.15.0

Closed 1929 Building removed to Seddon as a dental clinic

19<sup>th</sup> May 1915 Purchased building for school for £60

10<sup>th</sup> July 1919 Application for a new school declined

Note on card: The settlers are now willing to hand over the school building purchased

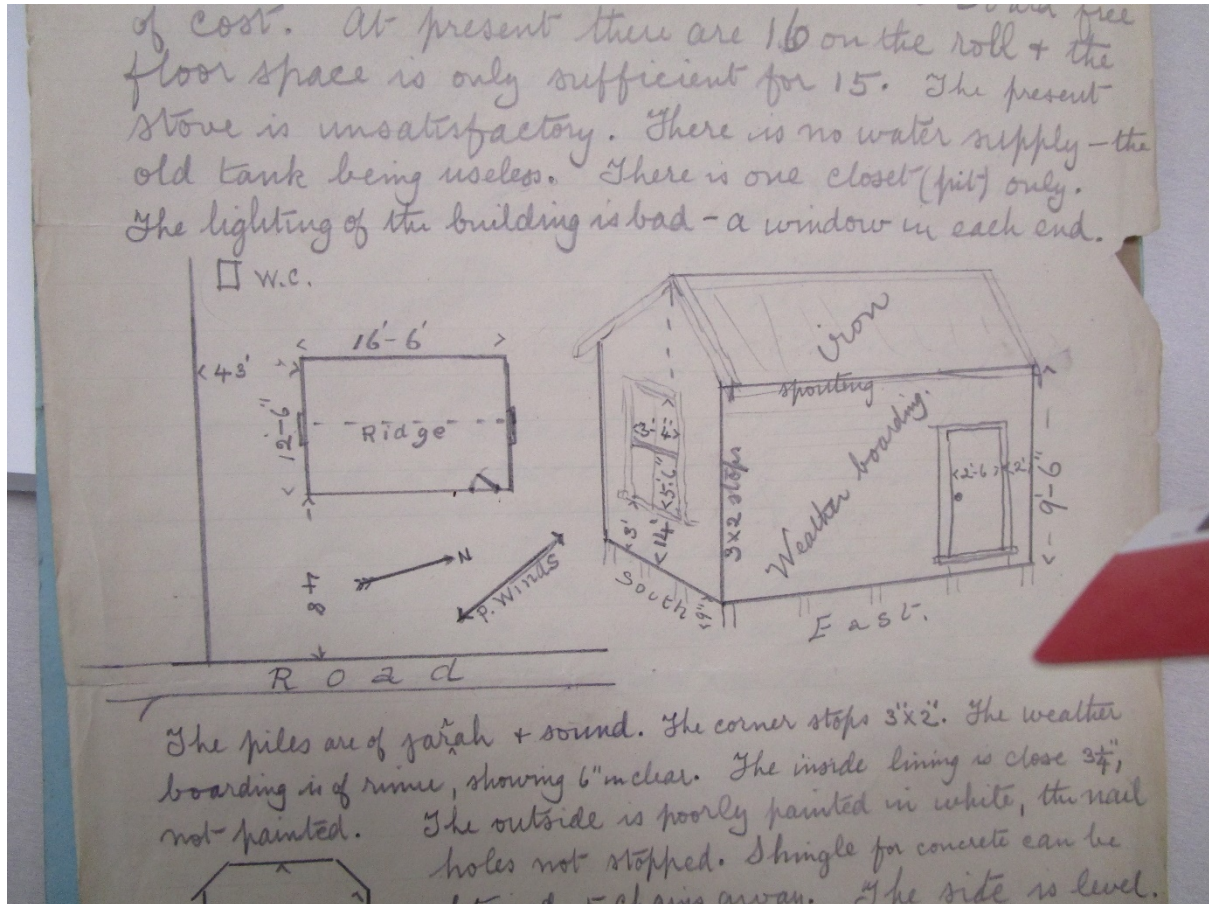
17<sup>th</sup> November 1919 School handed over to Wellington Education Board

2<sup>th</sup> March 1919 Letter from David F Fleming to Wellington Education Board included

- a) Referring to present state of Waterfalls School
- b) Owing to the closing of the Waireka and Tetley Brook Schools there have been 5 more children
- c) This makes an attendance of 15 scholars
- d) The classroom is 16' x 12' (4.8 x 3.65 meters)
- e) The school was built with the idea of accommodation only half that number
- f) The health of both the teacher and the pupils is the main consideration
- g) I would urge the Board to have additions in hand at once
- h) The school is also devoid of shelter of any sort and as we have a hot dry climate this is especially hard on the children
- i) Many of whom walk or ride up to 3 miles and consequently having to bring lunches with them and if a small shelter shed was erected it would be a great boon
- j) The school is on private property but the we are effecting a transfer of 3 acres of land and the building to the Board this would have been done some time ago but we haven't been able to get a surveyor
- k) We are very fortunate in having a good qualified teacher in Miss Faulkner and the prospects for the school are good.
- l) I trust the Board will put the work in hand at once

- m) If the building is not started we need the Shelter Shed to be used as a cloak room and for shade and shelter in the lunch hour

7th May 1919 Mr. J C Logan Clerk of Works for Wellington Education Board in Marlborough to Board Architect report included



- a) School was built about 17 years ago
- b) It has been fairly well built
- c) I understand the school and land (2 acres) have been handed over to the school free of cost
- d) There are 16 on the roll and only room for 15
- e) The present stove is unsatisfactory
- f) There is no water supply the old tank being useless
- g) There is one closet (Pit) only
- h) The lighting of the building is bad a Window in each end
- i) The piles are of Jarrah and sound
- j) The weather board is Rimu
- k) The inside lining is close and not painted
- l) The outside is poorly painted in white the nail holes not stopped
- m) Shingle for concrete can be obtained 5 chains away
- n) The site is level
- o) Mr D Fleming conveyed myself and Mr. Penny from the Seddon station and return

12<sup>th</sup> July 1919 Cost of a new school 18 foot by 16 foot estimated to cost £251

Including in application is that Waireka and Tetley Brook schools closed because of lack of teachers

Next Letter

19<sup>th</sup> January 1951 Letter to Director of Education from Wellington Education Board

Application to shift Waterfalls to Seddon School to be used as an arts and craft room

The existing outbuildings are worthless as far as the Board is concerned

The whole cost to be met by the Seddon School Committee Approved

3<sup>rd</sup> December 1958 Land transferred to Lands and Survey Department

1<sup>st</sup> May 1959 Mr. Ross Cragg states he has tenancy of the Board and Lands and Survey want a copy of the agreement

Reply from Board Rent is £3 per annum His tenure is at the pleasure of the Board

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### Weld's Hill (1909)

Probably at Weld's Pass State Highway 1 North of Seddon

1909 5 Weld's Hill Gillick Maud M Female £ 30.00

15<sup>th</sup> June 1909 It was decided to open an aided school at Weld's Hill under the usual conditions

14<sup>th</sup> September 1909 WELD'S HILL. Miss Maud Gillick wrote informing the Board that she had forwarded the highest certificate she had gained, but that she had attended a higher school than her certificate represented, but had not sat for any examination. The letter was held over pending the Inspector's visit to Weld's Hill.