great assistance helping to clear the adjacent football ground and was caretaker there for many years. Mr. Knight also founded Darnum's second Progress Association in the 1940s and is presently making available house blocks of land north of the town.

For many years Mr. Knight had a large piggery and a poultry farm containing many birds, including pheasants. Many prizes over the years have been won by his poultry and there is currently a numerous variety of about 150 horses on the property.

Hallett—1934:
Arriving in Darnum in 1934 Mr. Arthur Hallett bought the local store and butchery from Mr. H. Sadler. In a line of coincidence Mr. Hallett came from Lindenow where he had previously bought the store there also from Mr. H. Sadler. For a few months before purchasing the Darnum store, Mr. Hallett bought the general store at Nar Nar Goon then sold it to Mr. S. Ward. In 1939 Mr. S. Ward came to Darnum and bought out Mr. Hallett.

After selling to Mr. Ward, Arthur Hallett bought the freehold which he retained until the store was burnt in 1950. He also operated the abattoirs on Streitberg's Road, until about 1960. At the time of holding the store Mr. Hallett purchased the property of N. Mottens, Cloverlea, which he named 'Dingly Dell'. He moved back into Darnum shortly afterwards and lived in 'Meadowlea' on the highway corner near the school. Land was bought from the estate of E. Crophy in 1943 and this remained in the family until sold in 1964 to M. Crawford.

Mr. Hallett came from a pioneer family at Omeo and married Lilian Byrne from Warragul. There were four children—John, Pat, Fay and Leonard. Mr. and Mrs. Hallett were active in many organizations in the community and both died suddenly in their early 50s within nine months of each other in 1951 and 1952.

'Meadowlea' was sold in 1980 and Mr. J. Hallett now resides in Warragul where he operates an estate agency.
Darnum School in the 1890s.
Mr. J. Griffin (Head teacher) at left.

Darnum School c.1904

(Second back row): Mr. J. Griffin (Head teacher), ---, ---, Hector Hair, ---, Rex Griffin, Louis Griffin in front of boy at back right.
(Third back row): ---, ---, ---, ---, Bessie Hair, Minnie Spicer, Reynolds, ---, Ella Hair. (Front row seated): Marion Griffin, ---, ---, Katie Absalom, Le Celles, Harriet Sparks, ---, ---, Ruby Gwalt, with Pat O'Connor standing behind. Neta Griffin (baby).
ages. per grade of these first pupils. Classes were taken only up to Grade 4, as most of the children had not been to a school beforehand.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade One</th>
<th>Age in Years</th>
<th>Grade Three</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Violet Gravett</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>William Blair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Martha Tucker</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>James Mannix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Mannix</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Charles Webb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Shearman</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Hugh Gray</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>George Johnson</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Alice Shearman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Margaret Shearman</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Grade Four</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Margaret Shearman in 1893 became a sewing teacher at the school and for her attendance at the school each afternoon she was paid at the rate of 30¢ per year (360). After 100 years there are members of the Shearman family still in the district. Of those original names the Gray family lived in Darnum for 50 years, and the Mannix’s for about 40.

The first name in the school register is George Heywood from Waterloo, but he and his brother never actually attended the school. Next were the two Bennett children William and George, then the Mannix family.

Subjects taught in the earliest years were reading, spelling, writing, arithmetic, grammar, geography and drill.

The following is a copy of the Inspector’s first report on the 4th May, 1881:

May 4th: Visited the school this day for general inspection. 13 children present (day very wet).

Organization: As there is no fireplace in the building extensive exercises should frequently be indulged in. Drill must be taught. The time table, as drawn up, will do, but it must be strictly followed. The rules of the first class should be permanently ruled and this class should be under better control.

Instruction: No class should be employed in doing work with difficulty. Today the Second were attempting sums far beyond their power. The Tables of the 2nd are weak and the Rhymes of the infants should be more systematically taught.

Discipline: Copying should be rigorously checked. The class must resemble at the appointed time.

Records: A few ages are wanted on the roll sheet, the records are in order.

Thomas Hepburn...

It would appear that school and children, haven’t changed all that much in one hundred years!

Some items purchased for school requisites in 1882 were:

1 arithmetic for Third Class 2½d, 12 small framed slates 4s., 12 slates without frames 3s., 12 ink-wells (leaden) 1s. 2d.
Note the use of the farthing — worth a quarter of one penny (cent).

A further entry in the Inspector’s Register on 13th September, 1883, by a town resident states:

I called at the school today and found the place locked up at 11:30 a.m. Some boys were running outside. The Rolls have not been marked for the last week.

Fred C. Eddy . . .

(we are all left wondering what could have happened.)

The number of children attending in 1883 had risen to 32 and it was decided to erect a wooden school 24 feet by 16 feet with an attached quarters of three rooms. This was occupied in August 1884 and cost £388.51. A rental of £9 per annum was charged for the quarters ($18).

The area around the school which was not properly cleared, prompted Head Teacher John David in 1887 to write to the Education Department regarding snakes as a major hazard. He and the boys had killed ten of them the previous summer. The site was cleared in December that year by W.J. Smith.

After the first decade of school Inspector T. Bodhrood wrote after his November visit that 46 pupils were present. He was much affected by the closing of the school for six weeks in July and August, following the incidence of contagious sickness.

Mr. David twice reported in 1890 that there was an urgent need for additions to the school. He stated that owing to recent sawmilling and farming in the district, the number of children on the roll was 81, with an average attendance of 57. A gallery of twelve feet was added by H.B. Hawes at a cost of £82. 19s. 6d.

Repairs were made to the school in 1900 and a third bedroom added to the residence the following year. The gallery was removed in 1908. School concerts in the hall were a feature from 1904. Average attendance at the school for the first term of 1913 was 33. Some names from the school roll about this time whose families are still in the district are — Wells, Larsen, Knersch, Armstrong, Summers, Brooker, Reeves, Osborne.

Early in 1916 the District Inspector Mr. W. Dooley reported that the school was in a dilapidated condition due to white ant damage. Money was allotted for a new building when the architect found that suitable repairs could be made. It was also recommended that the residence be detached from the school and re-erected separately. Estimated cost — £510.

During the remodelling of the school in 1917 the children were transferred to the local hall rented at £1 per week. The hall was also used for school work in 1926 while more repairs were completed. Electric lighting was installed in the residence in 1928. By then the average school attendance had risen to 50. The following year, when the enrolment was 56, there were three teachers conducting classes in one school room. Desks were placed within two feet of the blackboard.

An additional room for infant classes was added in 1933. The main original room was renovated and painted again in 1937 and infant room repairs plus painting completed in 1939. More repairs in 1941 included the spouting and the girls’ out-office (the toilet). From about the 1930s the 7th and 8th were gradually transferred to Secondary schools. These grades were slowly abolished in the 1940s, and as an increasing number of students proceeded to Secondary school, school bus services developed.

There were more general repairs in 1944 to the school and also to the residence in 1947. Re-blocking was necessary in 1949 and further repairs due to white ant damage, plus painting.

Reporting on damage caused by a bushfire on February 2nd, 1944, Head Teacher Mr. R. Evans reported, “I have to report that a disastrous bush and grass fire raged here yesterday. The school residence was in imminent danger. Portion of the 6 ft. paling fence about 8 ft. from the north-west corner of the residence caught fire, with flames licking up the walls and over the roof all seemed doomed. At this time a party arrived. The tanks had only several rungs of water in each. Someone plunged a mattock into two of the tanks low down and the place was saved.”

Darum School in the 1920s after separation of the residence.
"Previous to this, I had, with the calm and courageous aid of the female assistant, Miss M. Macrae, taken the children first to the local hall and later to the railway station where a small area had been burned some time previously". (The hall burnt down within minutes of the children’s departure.)

Mr. Evans was to leave the district later in that year and a large crowd was present at the school when the family was given a public farewell. Of this popular, and firm but fair teacher it was said that there were more brains in his wooden leg than most people have in their heads.

The school acquired four lights and two power points in 1950 at a cost of £23.7s.6d. The Public Works Department reported in 1955 that repairs, painting, the need for woodsheds for the school and residence, plus shelter-shed renovating were needed at an estimated cost of £1,720. By 1957 revised recommendation had been made for £482 to cover the cost of the proposed works, and renovations were made the following year.

The long awaited new building was forthcoming in 1964-1965 when the original building was pulled down. The infant room remained and a new corridor, school-room and office were added to the north side. From 1967-1970 the school required the services of three staff teachers. The new residence was built and occupied in 1970. From 1978 the Mobile Library containing some 300 books began a service to the school. This was greatly appreciated.

The school attendance in 1980 was 29 children and a similar number is expected for 1981. Approximately 1,570 children have been registered for schooling at Darnum over the 100 years of operation. The exact number is not known because registration has not been continuous. The last name in the register before going to print is Marta Sheils, aged ten years.

A $150 Centenary Grant to the school is to be used for purchasing a sun dial and a time capsule.

These are the highlights and some of the activities of the school over its century of operation.

**HEAD TEACHERS**


**ASSISTANTS**

Assistant teachers were often not necessarily trained teachers, but sometimes just referred to as the sewing mistress. The first of these was Miss Margaret Shearan in 1893. The Education Department does not have a record of assistant teachers, so the following list could be incomplete

Darnum School 1919.

Darnum School 1927.
MEMORIES OF DARNUM


“She lived in a tiny cottage close to the school. I have forgotten her name and do not know if she is still alive, but am certain she was someone’s grandmother.

“You entered her home through a small but well loved front garden. From memory the room we sat in was crowded with furniture and the walls and mantelpiece cluttered with all the treasures with which grandmothers surround themselves. By modern standards the room was very dark, but every time I visited, it was warm and her face, like all her treasures, glowed from the light of the open fire.

“And that cup of tea — no teabags for Gran!

“While she had never read a book on child psychology she understood and loved those children from the school. Better than most, she knew the people of Darnum, but it is hard to explain her deep and profound empathy for a strange teacher in a strange town. She was a great listener, and after a cup of tea and chat with Gran the world always seemed a much better place.

“The amazing thing is she had no idea of the great comfort she gave to at least three teachers during one school year.

“I do not know whether or not she was a Christian, that is irrelevant, but I do know that should I reach Heaven she will be there ready to welcome, with a pot of tea and a chat, any teacher who may feel lonely…”

(It is almost certain the lady is kindly “Gran” Pearce.)

SCHOOL INSPECTORS

School inspection was carried out once a year, occasionally more if circumstances required it. Children were sometimes “tested” in subjects: workbooks and school rolls checked. Inspection was made on the condition of the building and “out-offices” which the lavatories were named.

Present day inspections are every second or even third year. The following letter is from the current inspector Mr. D. Hodder...

“Ned Kelly was a fine young pupil, as was his nephew Joe Byrne.”

“In this vein wrote a District Inspector of School over one hundred years ago as part of his report on a school in North Eastern Victoria.

“Debate will continue about Ned Kelly’s character, as has debate been initiated of late about educational needs and provision. Little debate is necessary on some issues, however.

Two closely related educational traditions have grown up alongside one another in this state. Firstly, the primary school system has generally catered well for the needs of parents when, following settlement they sought better opportunity for their children than was afforded them.

“Parallel to this provision the inspectorial system, modelled upon that of Her Majesty’s Inspectors in England, has been an institution in which parents, school bodies and teachers have placed considerable trust.

“As a nation we read in our past and the history of others the need for adaptation to change; and any education system naturally holds the key to much of this adaptation. Nevertheless, by reason of life’s experience we also recognize the significance of the preservation of that which has proven worthy of retention from this former adaptation, or sorting process. Educationally such factors include the pursuit of standards of excellence, the reinforcement of the common courtesies, the retention of equality of opportunity for all pupils, the love of one’s nation... etc. This is our heritage; its transmission is essential.

“The Primary Schools’ Division of the Education Department, contributed considerably to the maintenance of that heritage.

“On this happy occasion of the school’s centenary, may I, on behalf of the Education Department, wish the Darnum community and its school well for this day — and the many school days ahead.

Donald J. Hodder
District Inspector of Schools, Warragul.
14th March, 1981.”

LIST OF SCHOOL INSPECTORS

Thomas R. Hepburn 1880-1884; J. Laing 1885; J. Robertson 1885; W. Hamilton 1887; J. Holland 1888; T. Bothroyd 1894; J. Mcowan 1900; J. Rowe 1906; J. Saxton 1906; W. Henderson 1911; W. Dooley 1915; T. Stuart 1925; J. Bacon 1929; E. Curtis 1935; J. Haddow 1940; E. Curtis 1941; G. Holden 1950; T. Carse 1958; D. Hodder 1977—

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

The initial meeting was held on May 25th, 1918. Present were Messrs. Dickins (Chairman), Arnold, Jones, Nott, Shearman, J.S. Streitberg, J.M. Streitberg. Meetings were to be held quarterly and items requested were for a sheltered, back-rests for the desks and a stable and gig shed. Later requests were for a wood-shed and a kitchen sink. The sum of £9 was received from a euchre and dance evening, also a donation from a Red Cross concert.

Pine trees in the plantation on the south side of the school ground, were periodically inspected, cut and sold for school funds — organized by a sub-committee, the School Endowment Plantation Committee. Mr. Dods was employed to remove pine-stumps. Blackberries were an annual problem and working-bees were organized to clean them.

A Penny Savings Bank account opened for the pupils in October 1924. Annual school picnics were a “must” and a school holiday was proclaimed on these days. Picnics were held several times on the property of Mr. Gaul, utilizing the swimming pool in the river. Others were a trip to the zoo, Glen Cromie Park, Picnic Point, Noojee, Mt. Baw Baw, Moe Folk Museum and various other venues.
Darnum School 1933.

Darnum School 1941.
Numerous equipment over the years has been purchased by the committee including garden tools, books and bookcases, sporting equipment, projectors, tape recorders, record player, display stands, a guillotine, duplicating machine, charts, magnetic rods, television set, microscope, electric clocks, and many other items that have assisted the teacher and the children to a better and wider education.

Other details attended to have been—gravel for the school grounds, shrubs bought and planted, playground equipment erected shelter sheds built and repair, firewood cut, water tanks cleaned, fences repaired, lawns mowed, fly-screens erected, desks painted and much more. The committee was responsible for informing the Education Department when repairs to the school and residence were needed, also painting of the buildings. Also supported were inter-school sports, social activities, paper drives, establishing of a school crossing over the highway, swimming lessons in Warragul, immunizations, Voluntary Donation envelopes. Coronation medals were presented to the children in 1937 by the Chairman Mr. McKinnie.

Some of the socials held—in 1929 a profitable social and dance with the “Southern Synoptics Orchestra” from Melbourne. A Lucky Cap Ball in 1934 with music by the Loch Jazz Band; a bus was organized to run from Warragul and entrance fee was 2s.6d. for gent., 1s.6d. ladies. There were several Floral Balls and card parties were held monthly in 1941 with the funds shared with Red Cross. A memorable concert by the children was held in December of that year to a packed hall. Mr. and Mrs. R. Evans and assistant teacher Miss Mavis Shearman trained the children, and many yards of crepe paper were made up into wonderful costumes.

From the committee that year Mr. Parkinson and J. Angell left for the fighting forces. At a meeting in 1942 attended by J. Hammond (Chairman), Ted Ray, S. Alexander, Mrs. Battish, and Head Teacher R. Evans, it was suggested that trenches be dug at the school in the event of a war attack and a special Parents’ Meeting was called.

The children held a fancy-dress dance in 1943 and a Christmas fete was held in December. Fruit and sweets were distributed to each pupil on Empire Day and Arbor Day. In 1944 a vegetable garden was commenced and the school rooms were used by Mr. and Mrs. B. Waldron for music tuition. Members present at the October meeting were A. Scott (Chairman) Brisco, J. Oldham, S. Alexander, Paterson, Mrs. Bowers, C. Baker Head Teacher, and the committee assisted with a bazaar and social evening the following month.

In August 1946 Mr. Scott (Chairman), E. Pederson, A. Walker, F. Streith, H. Streith, S. Alexander and J. Atcheson Head Teacher, made enquiries regarding the installation of electric light and power for the school. A letter was also received concerning the possibility of a consolidated school at Yarragon. Electricity was connected to the school in 1949.

From around 1950 many socials and church evenings were held periodically over the years and were a great source of valued income for the school. At the August meeting 1953, were M. Manestar (Chairman), S. Alexander, F. Ayres, D. Hansen, C. Winitish, R. Scott, J. Matheson Head Teacher, and arrangements were made for clearing the blackberries, to purchase a projector for school use and to write to Mr. Cochran re improvements to the school and residence.

A bus trip was arranged in 1954 for the pupils to attend the Queen’s reception, a Christmas party was held and a picture afternoon was organized. A holiday was granted in 1956 on the occasion of the Olympic Games. On November 30th, a White Elephant Auction was held at the hall, and a film night was organized. These were popular and many more were held over the years. The school crossing, the flag scheme, commenced in 1961 in conjunction with the Warragul Shire. A telephone was also installed and the Committee agreed to pay for half of the rental.

The year of 1962 appeared to be a busy one. Shrubs were planted, sawdust spread, also metal dust, fencing and goal posts erected. At a Special Meeting D. Wilson was elected Chairman, L. Ando Secretary, T. Burke Treasurer; and other members were D. Crole, S. Wellings, H. Gargeant, E. Smith and W. Sinnott Head Teacher. A letter was written to ask for water to be connected to the buildings and A.H. Kent was recommended to the Department in their Appreciation of Services. Mr. Kent was a great worker, took an active interest in all school matters and gave seven years service, three of them as Secretary.

Arrangements were made for the children to visit the Melbourne Show and a dance was organized with the “Night Owls” playing. A working bee was held to erect a garage at the residence and an application was made for septic tanks to be installed as 64 children were registered for the following year. A Christmas party was held with D. Wilson as a Santa.

A new school room was added in 1964 and the original room dismantled. The original infant room still remains. A Junior Red Cross Circle Club commenced in 1965. Replacement of the old wooden framed desks was asked for in 1969. Trees were donated to the school in 1972 to celebrate the Centenary of State Education.

Money spent in 1974 included books worth $150, sporting equipment $200, and Landmark Educational Supplies $121. Playground equipment from Treated Timber was erected in 1976. Monthly meetings were held in 1977 to meet with new regulations. The name of the committee was officially changed and is now known as the School Council.

Interior painting of the school, plus repairs to the roof were needed in 1978, also concrete paving, replacement of toilet cisterns and front fence, and repairs to the lighting. Negotiations commenced for acquiring an additional room from the Children's school. Later, because of costs it was decided not to proceed with the project. Improvements were sought for a hot-water service, internal sink, the netball area levelled and surfaced, re-roofing and ventilation of toilets and the school to be carpeted.

In June 1978 at the school meeting it was decided to establish the Darnall School and District Centenary Committee to celebrate 100 years of schooling in the town. It was also agreed to participate in the Secondary Schools Work Experience and employ a Teacher's Aid for two weeks at $3 per day. Papers were packed, a sink and cup-
Darnum School 1950.

Darnum School 1958.
boards installed, steps repaired and plants purchased. A wind-up Christmas concert was held in the football club rooms.

A small band of people continued to work for the school in 1979-1980 purchasing many items needed and helping to maintain the school and grounds.

This is only a small summary of some of the workings of the School Council. Even at a glance it can be seen, the work and organization involved in running and maintaining even a small school. Enough thanks can never be adequately given to the small band of voluntary helpers who give of their time and effort to help all of the children. May the future always see interested people continuing to be involved through fellowship and working to help with facilities that assist education.

**SCHOOL COUNCIL EXECUTIVE MEMBERS**

- **President**
  - Shearman, 1978
- **Secretary**
  - Shearman, 1978
- **Treasurer**
  - E. Osborne
- **Stratford**
  - G. Shearman
- **Harvey**
  - Harvey
- **Nott**
  - Nott
- **Pollard**
  - Fawley
- **Fawley**
  - S. Alexander
- **McKimmie 1933-40**
  - F. Ayres
- **Halligan**
  - M. Manester
- **R. Atkins**
  - Wilson
- **D. Wilson**
  - S. Wellsing
- **Wilson**
  - M. Crawford
- **G. McKewen**
  - J. Fletcher
- **M. Crawford**
  - A. Fox
- **A. Fox**
  - T. Barke
- **T. Barke**
  - G. Silby
- **R. Penny**
  - Mrs. B. Wilson 1980
- **P. Burt 1980**

*Damia School 1972.*

(Back Row) left to right: Mr. K. Williams, Danny Pyke, Eric Bourke, David Young, Chris Pyke, Steven Broadbent, Wendy Denham, Jurie Sargeant, Andrew Mumford, Jenny Sargeant. (Second Row) Chris Penny, John Crawford, Julie Hilton, Karen Drublow, Pam Cook, Debbie Rickard, Sue Small, Sue Radford, Wendy Cook, Alfred Collyer, Mark Radford. (Third Row) Wayne Moyle, —, Debbie Williams, Denise Broadbent, Jodie Osborne, Margaret Williams, —, John McKewen, Derek Silby. (Front Row) Katrina Middleton, Katrina Boland, Peter Williams, Susan Melenyko, Gaye Radford, Garry Hilton, Christine Moyle, Fiona Hall, —, Cheryl Penny.
(Back Row) left to right: Geoff Small, Donald McKeown, Chris Pyke, Milner, Beverley Broadbent, Andrea Ando, Geoff Bourke, Alex. Ando, John Norm. (Second Row) John Gardiner, Brian Collyer, Ken North, Donald Sargeant, Bruce Milner, Trevor Knight, ---, Milner. (Front Row) Carol Neill, Carolyn Fox, Heather Radford, Janine Fox, Bev. McKeown, Vaneta Mayer, Michelle Dickson, Glenys Crawford, Helen North.

Darnum School 1965, Grades 3 to 6.
LADIES SOCIAL CLUB

The Club was formed in 1953 to assist the school with funds and support and also to help with requirements for the Memorial Hall. By choosing not to become a School Mothers’ Club the group were able to be autonomous and allott funds as they saw fit. In this way, the ladies are members of one club instead of the same people needing to be involved in two separate clubs. It is not known if there was an earlier ladies club involved with the local school or not.

Early books and details have not been found but details from the Hall Committee books indicate that ladies certainly assisted the School Committee with money raising activities for the school. The women-folk were a great force in running Flower Shows at the school for many years. Sumptuous suppers were prepared for the many dances and euchre evenings run for the school back from the 1920s, and possibly much earlier.

Film nights have been successful for many years as have paper drives. Some details from 1973 include the purchase of a typewriter, goal-posts and Childcraft books in that year. A recipe book was also printed and sold. A film evening cleared the sum of $392. The ladies helped with a picnic and Christmas tree for an end of the year function. In 1974 a ‘Cent Night’ was successful with a profit of $151. A clearing sale was catered for, games and sporting equipment purchased and carpet laid in the school.

Street stalls are held with working bees beforehand to help with the sewing, etc. Stalls are usually held twice a year in Warragul and others outside the local store. Mothers give assistance at the school with the children’s reading, also with sporting activities, including swimming in Warragul, and excursions. Demonstrations are held and flag-placing at the school crossing was organized until 1978 when it was taken over by the Warragul Shire. Each year the ladies make decorations for the annual anniversary Ball at the hall, depicting a selected theme.

In 1975, a barbecue night was held for the children, sports uniforms were made for participation in the inter-school sports and casserole lunches were organized. The mothers assisted with a school outing to the Moe Folk Museum and the Open Cut, and arranged for a bonfire and barbecue at the school on Guy Fawkes’ Night. A cassette recorder with tapes and musical instruments were purchased by the club. For the hall, assistance was given with the purchase of a new stove.

Maths equipment and reference books were purchased in 1976 and working bees were held to cover books with another to clean out the storage shed. Mothers also helped the teacher to supervise the children on a trip to the zoo. A puppet show was held at the school and the school shared first place in the inter-school sports for the number of individual winners. Purchases in 1977 were garden tools, a projection screen, a duplicator and a guillotine. The school excursion was a visit to a Thorpdale farm. The committee arranged for the concreting of the shed and decorated for the Silver Jubilee Ball.

More film nights were held in 1978 and the club helped to subsidize the school camp, an excursion, the bus to the swimming lessons, also a concert in Warragul. Periodically the pupils group with other small schools in the district for activities. For the hall, new cups were provided and the ball decorations made.

Paper drives were a regular feature of 1980. These are a family venture with a Sunday (usually) barbecue lunch for all — then everyone to work. A stereo unit was bought, plus maths and English equipment work $118, books to the value of $82 and the Darnum Cook Book was printed and issued. Recipes of a wide variety were provided by Darnum ladies. Forty native trees and shrubs were provided which the children planted in the school grounds.

Parents helped with the inter-school sports in October at the Geoff Watt Memorial Track in Warragul in which the pupils of the Darnum school came a commendable third,

Darnum School at the commence ment of demolition.
from 12 schools. Other schools participating were Bona Vista, Buln Buln, Cloverlea, Ellinbank, Lardner, Nilma, Nilma North, Seaview, Shady Creek, Tetoura Road and Warragul West. Each child participated in all seven events, namely — long jump, high jump, discus throwing, target throwing, hurdles, running and sprints, and points were awarded on the standard achieved according to age group.

The Ladies Club at one time claimed to have had its only female member when Mr. R. Knight arrived at a meeting, and as a paid member helped to clarify a matter of contention. The Ladies Committee have currently offered to assist with catering arrangements for the coming Darnum Centenary.

Present at the 1980 Annual Meeting were Mesdames Wilson, Soloman, Pearson, Mumford, Millard, Burton, Deppler, Harris and Callanan. Elected President was Dot Callanan, Vice President J. Pearson, Secretary Sue Burton and Treasurer Rhonda Deppler.

Besides valuable fund raising and assistance for the school and the hall, this club is an asset in a small town for its social aspect and a great way to become involved in valued community activities.

Key positions since 1958 have been held by the following members:

- **President**
  - J. Kent 1958
  - F. Croie 1960
  - J. Scott 1961
  - Sinnott 1966
  - Croie 1963
  - McTighe 1964
  - Mills 1965
  - B. Fox 1966
  - I. Pedder 1967
  - B. Fox 1969
  - North 1971
  - A. Sargeant 1971
  - E. Crawford 1971
  - E. Crawford 1972
  - B. Silby 1973
  - J. Peart 1974
  - Healey 1976
  - Wilson 1976
  - R. Deppler 1979

- **Secretary**
  - M. Cook 1958
  - Mills 1962
  - Sinnott 1963
  - Speed 1964
  - McKeown 1965
  - I. Broadbent 1967
  - M. O'Brien 1969
  - Cook 1971
  - E. Crawford 1971
  - B. Silby 1972
  - Bright 1974
  - Kastelic 1974
  - Proud 1975
  - Wilson 1975
  - Warner 1976
  - Osuch 1977
  - S. Bloomer 1978

- **Treasurer**
  - B. Fox 1963
  - I. Pedder 1966
  - B. Fox 1967
  - E. Crawford 1968
  - Boland 1971
  - Hilton 1972
  - Keissling 1974
  - J. Pearson 1976