



Maryborough State High School
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Part 1

MARYBOROUGH IN 1880

Maryborough in 1880 was a prosperous town. Agricultural exports were booming, immigrants were flowing into the area and many new industries had been established - Walkers Engineering Works, Hyne's Sawmills, Fairlie and Sons Joinery Works, Gas and Coke Works and Steindl's Brewery in Granville. With the growth of the town, there was a demand for a school of higher learning. In 1876 a ten acre block bounded by Kent, Fort, Sussex and Ferry Streets was reserved for school purposes. The Grammar Schools Act of 1860 allowed any municipality which raised £1000 by private subscription could claim a £2000 grant from the government to establish a Grammar School and £500 a year for running costs (later increased to £1000).

A fund to establish a Grammar School in Maryborough was started and by 1876 over £1493 had been raised. Anyone who subscribed at least £5 was entitled to vote to elect trustees.



(Source: Beutel, 1976, p60)

THE SITE

The Trustees initially decided to have the school built on the Ululah Reserve, but this started a controversy as many Maryborough residents opposed this, preferring the Kent Street site. As one person wrote in a letter to the Chronicle on February 26, 1880

- 1) "It is an indisputable fact that all schools situated near a large body of water annually lose 1 to 5% from drowning. How can you keep boys from bathing, fishing, stalking eels etc?"
- 2) It must be very unhealthy as the air is often charged with vapoury exhalations and malarious gases.
- 3) If it is in town I shall send 3 of my children, but not otherwise as we cannot afford buggies and to make our children trudge out to Ululah, either in winter or summer, would be little short of absolute cruelty."

After much discussion, a vote of subscribers determined that the Kent Street site would be the location of the Grammar School. The Trustees then conducted a competition for suitable plans for the buildings. The terms of the competition called for a 2 storey building, cost not to exceed £4000, school and classrooms for 50 boys, master's quarters, play sheds, closets and toilets and to be built of brick and stone. Mr David Kerr was appointed supervisor of the construction of the school building.

THE GRAND BAZAAR

In September 1880 a grand bazaar was held in the Town Hall. Admission was Adults 1/-, Children and Polynesians 6d. Attractions included magic lanterns entertainment, sale of cattle, sheep and horses. The Gas Company provided hot food and a grand raffle of livestock. The Bazaar raised £1,118/18/6 with expenditure of £501/16/5 leaving a balance of £617/2/1. There was some debate over the use of this money as the Trustees wanted to use it for the completion of the Boys Grammar School building but it was then decided to put the money towards the building of a Girls Grammar School. The Trustees were uncertain if a Girls Grammar School would likewise qualify for the government grant but the Minister for Public Instruction, Mr Palmer, assured them the funds were available and on 15th September, 1881 the Kent Street site for the Girls Grammar School was reserved.

Girls Grammar School - 1883



(Source Centenary Magazine p.8)

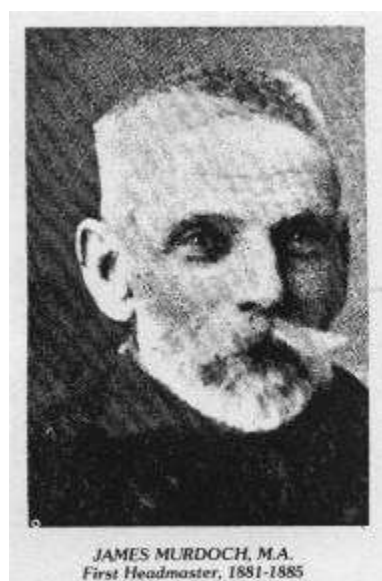
THE STAFF

In order to find a suitable headmaster, advertisements were placed in prominent English newspapers such as the Times, Oxford and Cambridge Chronicle. On 8th March 1881 James Murdoch was elected headmaster and the position of second master finally went to Charles Barton. As there was plenty of room in the completed Boys School it was decided for the Girls Division to temporarily occupy 2 of the classrooms until the Girls School was built. As a result, Miss Emma Budgett from Victoria College near Melbourne was appointed Principle of the Girls Division.

James Murdoch

THE ORIGINAL ROLLS—1881 to 1883	
1881	
Barton, Newton; Booker, A. S.; Booker, George; Bryant, F.; Bryant, H.; Black, George; Burn, H.; Cameron, R.; Cameron, W.; Challands, E.; Clements, Wm.; Dawson, Depree, F.; Faircloth, Herbert; Faircloth, J.; Freshney, Page; Gataker, M.; Gataker, F.; Hardie, Curtis; Hutchings, Hart, R.; Hyde, Fred; Hynie, H. J.; Rustein, Frank; McDowall, Archibald; Murray; Purser, Chas.; Support, Walker, F. E.; Walker, Arthur and Portus; Watson, Duncan; Woodrow, D.	
1882	
New boys enrolled in 1882 included: Blight, ma. and Blight, ml. Bonarius, Thos. Braddock, Corser, Curd, Sidney Depree, Eckersley, John Higgins, Peter Hood, Howard, James Tooth, Fred Tooth, George Tooth and Vicars.	
1883	
New boys included: Brennan, John; Bryant, Alfred; Butler, John; Dickots, Arthur; Billane, Patrick; Hardy, Curtis; Harris, William; Hart, Alexander; Noakes, George R.; Woodyatt, Archibald.	

(Source: 1956 Palma)



(Source: Centenary Magazine p.10)

THE OPENING

On 5th September 1881 the Maryborough Grammar School was opened. The Chairman of Trustees made a short speech declaring the school open and the Headmaster, Mr Murdoch, outlined future policies. Total attendance was 50 - 26 girls and 24 boys.

SCHOOL PRINCIPALS

Maryborough Boys Grammar School		Maryborough Girls Grammar School	
J. Murdoch	1881-1885	Miss C. Darling	1883-1888
G. Vaughan	1885-1890	Miss M. Martin	1888-1892
J. Thomson	1890-1911	Miss M. Wilkinson	1893-1899
N. Wallace	1911-1918	Miss C. Bourne	1900-1911
F. Meyer	1918-1924	Miss E. Morgan	1912-1929
R. Jones	1924-1935	Miss F. Bourne	1930-1935

THE SCHOOL DAY

An impression of the organisation of the school as well as its day to day running can be obtained from the regulations, Headmasters' reports etc. of the time. For example, the following comes from the Regulations of 1880.

There were to be two divisions of the school called the Boys' Division and the Girls' Division. School hours for each division were to be not less than five hours a day; holidays were to be every Saturday throughout the year, six public holidays (including Separation Day) and eight weeks vacation (six weeks at mid-summer and two weeks at mid-winter).

The minimum age of pupils was to be eight, and no boy or girl was to be a pupil who could not read and write legibly from dictation, and who could not do simple addition and subtraction.

The fees per school quarter were to be £4/4/- for boys and girls over 12, and £3/3/- for those under 12. If two members of the same family attended the same school, there was to be a reduction of 10/6 and in the case of three members of the same family attending the school, the reduction was to be £1/1/-.

There were to be two examinations and one distribution of prizes each year.

The boys were to choose subjects from: English, Latin, Greek, French and German; Ancient and Modern History; Political and Physical Geography; the Elements of Logic and Political Economy; Arithmetic, Book-keeping; Mathematics; the elements of Natural and Physical Science; Writing and Drawing.

The Boys' Division was to be divided into three Divisions — The Upper School (Forms 6, 5, and 4); the Modern School (Modern 5 and 4) and the Lower School (Forms 3, 2 and 1). Drill was to be taught to the boys.

The Girls' Division was to comprise two Divisions — the Upper School (Forms 5, 4, and 3) and the Lower School (Forms 2 and 1). The girls were to be taught Gymnastics — Instrumental Music was to be an extra subject.

CONSOLIDATION

By 1882 Maryborough's population was 6000 with over 400 sailing ships using the port each year. During the year a fourth Master was appointed and a reference library established. In 1883 the Girls Grammar School was opened and Kent Street separated the campuses. In 1884 the school coat of arms was decided upon and an open air gymnasium was built. The school continued to grow throughout the 80's with academic success in the Sydney Junior and Senior Examinations and the awarding of several scholarships. Sporting success occurred in cricket matches with Brisbane, Ipswich and Toowoomba Grammar Schools.



CRICKET TEAM, M.G.S. — 1883

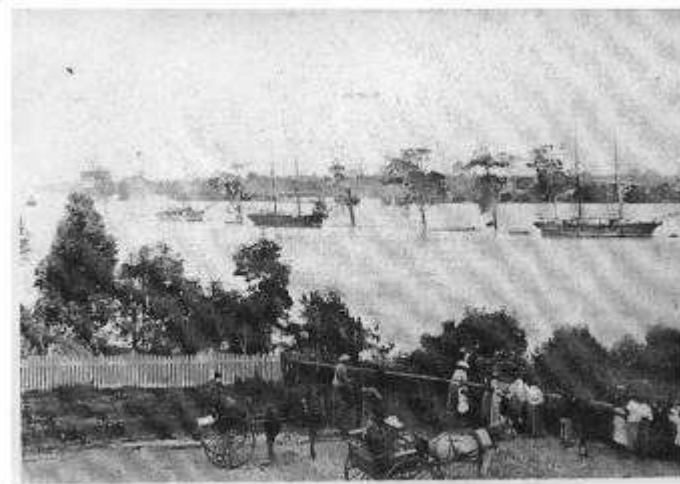
Back Row:
P. Eckersley, P. Walker, R. Cameron,
G. Tooth, N. Adair, P. Dillane,
W. Cameron.
Middle Row:
W. Harris, F. Challands, A. Booker
(Capt.), H. Hyne.
Front Row:
D. Watson, W. Ring.

(Source: Centenary Magazine)

DEPRESSION AND DISASTER

In 1885 after a disagreement with the Trustees, James Murdoch was sacked and replaced by G.F. Vaughan who in turn was succeeded by James Thomson in 1890. Between 1891 and 1895 economic depression hit Australia and this impacted upon enrolments at the Grammar Schools. The district was further ravaged by The Great Flood of 1893 when the Mary River reached a record height of 12.27m. In his Speech Day report, Mr Thomson reported that the daily attendance numbers had dropped from 61 to 49 and boarders from 16 to 8. He went on to say that this reflected the “dullness of the times”.

Sport continued to be an important tradition within the school and cricket, lawn tennis, football and rowing were played. The Cadet Corps was an important part of school life and shooting competitions were held against Gympie. The century ended with the school well established and already an important part of the Queensland Education System.



Labour vessels secured to trees on Granville Bank, 1893 flood.

(Source: Beutel, 1976, p.21)

The period from 1900-1920 is dominated by World War I but is often referred to as the “Golden Age of Maryborough Grammar School”. Mr Thomson and Mr Wallace were excellent headmasters and Miss C.E. Bourne and Miss E. Morgan were fine headmistresses. The school produced three Rhodes Scholars - Henry Harvey (1907) who was also an outstanding athlete, G.A. Dunbar (1917) one of the first to land at Gallipoli and P.R. Stephensen (1924). Another outstanding personality from the teaching staff was Miss Marjorie Harrison who was to teach at the school for 41 years (1916-1957)

Miss Harrison describes the Girls Grammar School in 1916 as follows: “The school was a beautiful place. There was only one big building then (current A Block) and the balcony on the town side was open right to the end. All rooms were spacious and in the hall and some of the upstairs rooms there were big open fireplaces with beautiful marble mantelpieces. The hall and the classrooms were all downstairs. There was a beautiful big garden, full of trees with lawn in between and a thick hedge all the way down the town side.”



Miss Marjorie Harrison.

Subjects studied included Latin, French, German, English, Geography and English History. There was also Greek, Ancient and European History, Botany, Physiology, Biology, Harmony Drawing & Painting, Class Singing and Typewriting. An inspector in 1911 commented that the 7 period day (each 40 minutes) should be reduced. This structure was to remain for many years to come. Other notable students of this period were Capt. D. Chapman (1903) - the first man to land at Gallipoli, R.A. Hunter (1906) a Gallipoli veteran and Mayor of Maryborough, Major General H.D. Wynter (1900-04) GOC Eastern Command Australia 1941; Gladys Redman, a noted Pharmacist and Dagmar Sylow, a well known dentist. Sir William Glasgow who had attended the school in 1891 achieved considerable fame during World War I.

Photo of P.R. Stephensen & Jas Thomson



JAS. THOMPSON, M.A.
Assistant Master 1881-1890
Head Master 1890-1911

(Source: Centenary Magazine p.33)



P. R. "Inky" Stephensen, Rhodes Scholar, 1923.
Photo taken in London in 1929.

A former student Bill Karoll describes life at the Boys Grammar School from 1911-16. Initiation ceremonies were a feature of school – there was the mud bath ceremony and the “black hole of Calcutta” where one was pushed through a manhole to the dark, dank, spider infested area below the classroom floors. He also recalls 2 incidents where Mr Connal publically caned several senior lads who had injured a junior in the Gym and Mr Bethell caning the whole junior form for playing a trick on him with a trip wire and a bucket of water.

Sport figured prominently in the school program with the main ones being football, cricket and tennis. Cricket, rowing, football and tennis contests were played against Brisbane grammar and 2 Chelmsford Cup competitions were introduced in 1908.

THE CHELMSFORD CUP MATCHES.

**ROCKHAMPTON versus MARYBOROUGH
GRAMMAR SCHOOLS.**

**CRICKET, FOOTBALL, ROWING, TENNIS, AND
ATHLETICS.**

1908 Maryborough	1923 Rockhampton
1909 Rockhampton	1924 Rockhampton
1910 Maryborough	1925 Rockhampton
1911 Rockhampton	1926 Maryborough
1912 Rockhampton	1927 Maryborough
1913 Rockhampton	1928 Maryborough
1914 Rockhampton	1929 Maryborough
1915 Rockhampton	1930 Rockhampton
1916 Rockhampton	1931 Rockhampton
1917 Rockhampton	1932 Rockhampton
1918 Rockhampton	1933 Maryborough
1919 Rockhampton	1934 Rockhampton
1920 Maryborough	1935 Maryborough
1921 Rockhampton	1936 Rockhampton
1922 Rockhampton	

CHELMSFORD CUP RECORD TO 1936

ROCKHAMPTON		MARYBOROUGH	
Rowing	19 wins		10 wins
Cricket	17 wins	2 draws	10 wins
Tennis	15 wins		14 wins
Football	15 wins		14 wins

Total: Rockhampton, 66 wins.
Maryborough, 48 wins.
2 drawn games.

The Athletics were used only in the event of a tie. This happened only twice.

Chelmsford Cup Record 75th Palma.

The Golden Period of the Maryborough Grammar Schools had involved considerable academic achievement but had been ultimately dominated by the war. An incident in 1918 probably best sums up the end of this era and the next state of development.

“Miss Morgan was a wonderful headmistress. Many remembered her tolerance to the feverish excitement the night prep was interrupted by the announcement that peace was declared. The news was brought by boys over the road and they and the girls flocked into the hall and sang and danced. Eventually Miss Morgan moved to the centre of the room, held up her hand for silence, beamed on everyone and said: “Well, good night boys.” They went like lambs.”

Miss Morgan, Centenary Magazine p. 20.



MISS E. M. MORGAN
Head Mistress 1912-1929

THE 1920'S

The 1920's were a period of academic excellence. 2 Long Serving headmasters Mr. F. E. Meyer and Mr R.J.E.V. Jones provided stability. Miss E. Morgan led the Girls Grammar school. In 1924 the schools won 4 out of 20 Open Scholarships to University giving them considerable academic prestige. Enrolments rose steadily during the decade for both boarders and day students. Curricula at the Boys school was strictly academic and staff reinforced this. When more boys started taking Book-keeping instead of Latin, Principal Jones referred to them as "non-sensibles" and those who studied Latin as "sensibles". The Girls School was similar but greater freedom of choice available. The year was divided into 4 terms of 10 weeks each with appropriate vacations between. The Prefect system was an important part of school life. The Headmaster and Headmistress appointed prefects and while it involved jobs such as taking assembly, roll calling and playground supervision, it also came with privileges particularly for boarders who could leave the school grounds at any time after school hours.



MARYBOROUGH GIRLS' GRAMMAR SCHOOL PREFECTS, 1923

Back Row (left to right) — Phyllis Freeman, Blanche Cakes, Elsie Reaney, Esme Duncan, Toad Robide, Edna Axelsen.
Front Row — Enid Webber, Betty Weeks, Evelyn Aarlic.

(Source: Centenary Magazine p. 42, p. 44)



HEAD MASTER, MR. V. JONES, B.A. (1926-1982)
and Mrs. Jones.

(Source: Centenary Magazine , p. 44)

The school catered for boarders. A typical day consisted of cold showers (6.45am), tidying the dormitory, prayers (7.50am) and breakfast (8.00am), assembly 9.15am, morning classes with a break at 11am, mid morning classes then main meal, afternoon classes, sport, evening meal 6pm. Detentions had to be worked off after school and if they built up, one hour might be generously commuted for "4 of the best". Sport was very important with cricket and rowing the summer sports and tennis and football the winter sports. Athletics took place between football and cricket seasons.



SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM, 1923

Back row: J. Barrow, C. Barrow, D. Nerrayfield, B. Nichols.
Third row: Mr. Jones, J. George, R. Ritchie, R. Ebnater, E. Melkshon, C. Jones, Mr. Phelan (coach).
Sitting: T. Perrie, C. Ellis (w.c.), S. Law (c.), K. Murphy, E. Roberts.
In front: C. Hanson, G. Pether, O. Johnston.

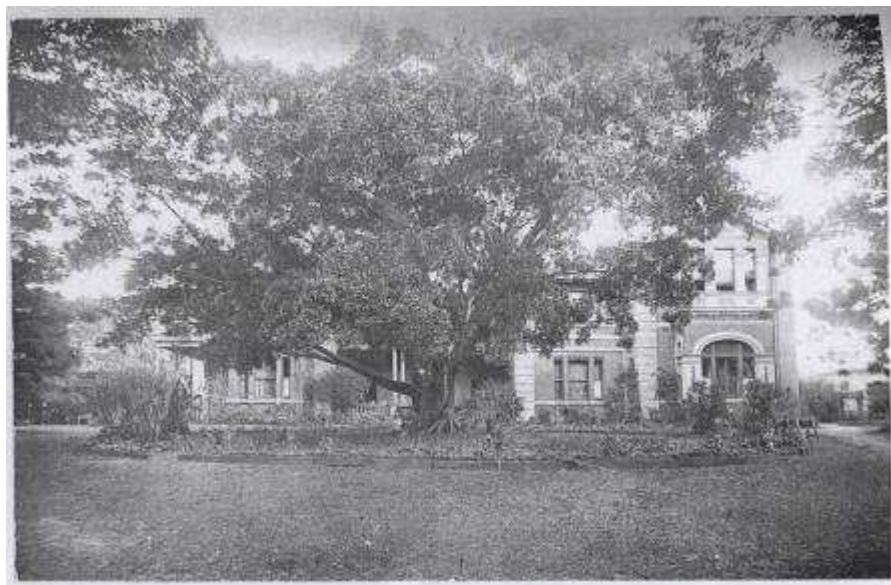


(Source: Centenary Magazine, p. 47)

School dances were held and the headmaster and Mrs Jones ensured that the boys were well trained in correct behaviour. When the music started, every boy had to get a partner, accompany her to her seat after the dance and conduct polite conversation until the next dance. Any boy who made fun at the occasional left over girl would be in serious trouble. As the 1920's drew to a close the Great Depression took hold and this led to the end of the Grammar School.



Boys Grammar School 1921



Girls Grammar School 1919

The 1930's – The End of an Era.

By 1931 the overdraft for the combined schools was £2,460/13/10. (approx. \$5000) There was a reduction in government grants due to the depression and staff were forced to accept reduced salaries. Strict economy in the running of the schools was the order of the day. The financial situation worsened and by 1934 the State Government put forward a plan to take over the Grammar Schools. The Trustees accepted this plan but this led to considerable concern. Teachers feared dismissal, parents wondered in boarding facilities would remain and students wondered how their studies would be affected. The plan was as follows:

“Amalgamate the Boys and Girls Schools and remodel the Boys building to provide for 250 students, enlarge the Girls School to form an Intermediate School for 500 students and increase the size and capacity of the Technical College.”

However the major structural changes needed were never carried out due to the approaching war, so it was finally decided to have a Boys High and Intermediate School on one side of the road and the Girls High and Intermediate on the other side. This segregated system was to remain until 1974.

Boys School

R.J.E.V Jones – Head Master
H.McCullough
R.G Petty
J.B Reid
W.A Mahoney

GIRLS SCHOOL

Miss F.I.Bourne – Head Mistress
Miss A.M. Harrison
Miss.M.G. Dawson
Miss I.C. Hugues
Miss M.G. Collins
Miss M.I. Granzin



Bourne p. 56

At a special meeting of the Trustees in January 1936 a resolution to transfer all aspects of the Maryborough Grammar Schools to the State Government was passed unanimously. The Maryborough Grammar Schools had come to an end.

(TOP DORMITORY WINDOW SEAT (A9) with Jean Fraser, Mollie Robertson, Betty Stephens)

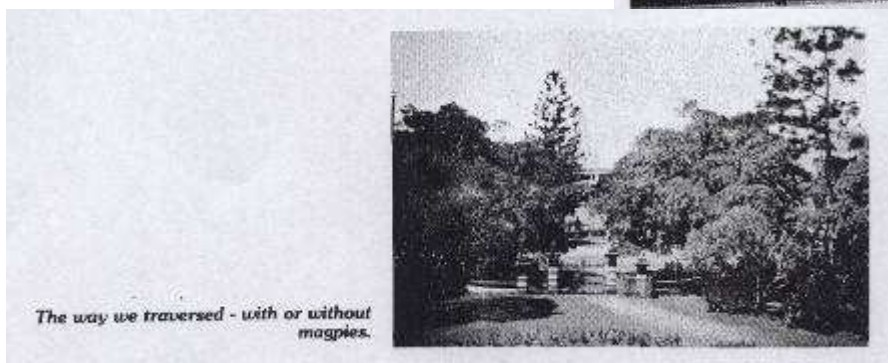
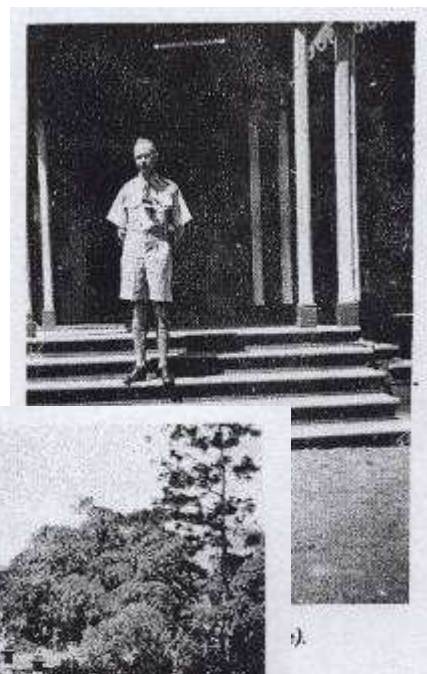


Staff List p. 55

PART 2 THE BOYS HIGH/GIRLS HIGH YEARS

THE WAR YEARS

Few staff changes occurred in 1936 with Mr Jones and Miss F Bourne continuing as Principals. However, the boarding facilities were to end and the schools were to remain segregated – a unique situation for Queensland. The fine academic traditions established by the Grammar Schools continued and the Chelmsford Cup Sporting clashes for boys and contests against Gympie and Bundaberg for girls continued in 1936. In 1938 the Cooper Cup Competition for High School teams involving Bundaberg, Gympie and Maryborough began. This was to last until 1976. School numbers continued to grow but progress was interrupted by the advent of World War 2. Rationing was introduced and only works which had essential defence value were undertaken. Even a request for electric lights in some Boys classrooms was rejected. In 1942 the Girls school was closed for 4 weeks while slit trenches were being dug. Students only went in the morning to have work checked and new work given. Nevertheless the Boys School Advisory Council (made up of 1 government representative, 5 parent representatives, 2 past students and 1 Teachers Association member elected for 3 years) began to press for better conditions for students. They outlined a program involving 2 new tennis courts, a netball court, repairs to the hockey field, school orchestra equipment, a canteen for the Girls School and tennis courts, cricket wicket, reference library and gym equipment for the Boys School. Further plans were put forward for a Sports Field and a new co-educational school on the site of the Boys School but the governments' response was to promise extensions and improvements to the existing schools and to establish a separate advisory council for the Girls School. By 1947 money became available and Fort Street was closed off and the levelled sports oval would be used to welcome King George VI, Queen Elizabeth and Princess Margaret who were to visit in August 1948. However due to the King's ill health the oval which became known as Kings Oval was not opened until May 7, 1949.



(Source: Centenary Mag, p. 65)

THE STAFF AND STUDENTS

In 1942 Mr Jones died and was replaced by Mr Searle who served until 1952. Both found themselves doing extra duties – Mr Jones being a member of Air Recruiting Committee for the RAAF and Mr Searle taking on the Technical College which had formerly been a separate entity. Miss Bourne continued to lead the Girls School until 1949. Notable teachers of the 1940's included "Skinny Reid", Fred Ebert, Arthur Hoepper, Amy Adamson, Marjorie Flynn and Isabel Blue. Students of the period who achieved considerable success included Ian Harley (Surveying), Burt Zerner (Biochemistry), Don Seccombe (Media), Peter Olds (Inventor), Hayden Kenny (Life Saving).



(Source: Centenary Mag p. 66)

CURRICULA

In the 1940's both Boys and Girls were High and Intermediate Schools. Forms I (Sub Scholarship – Yr 7) and II (Scholarship – Yr 8) made up the Intermediate. Forms III (Sub-Junior – Yr 9), IV (Junior – Yr 10), V (Sub-Senior (Yr 11) and VI (Senior – Yr 12) made up the High School.



(Source: Centenary mag p. 67)

The Girls High School was at this time classed as a Junior teachers college and acceptable candidates could continue their studies there for a further 2 years before going to Brisbane. Up until 1949 Speech Night had

been held at the end of the school year but from 1950 it was moved to October and separate nights were held for Boys and Girls. Sport as always had an important role and the Boys school was divided into 3 houses – Melville, Morton and Glasgow. Interhouse competitions in Football, Cricket, Tennis, Athletics and Swimming were held. The Girls school also had 3 houses in 1949 – Hyne, Harrington and Horsburgh. Thus the 1940's was a decade dominated by war and rationing.



INTERMEDIATE BASKETBALL TEAM 1949
Back Row: Mary Coley, Colpa Rogers, Ruth McMillan, Helen Allen.
Front Row: Edna Forsyth, Wendy Miskel, Alison Harrington.



MARYBOROUGH BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM - 1945
Back Row: D. Anderson, K. Burns, R. Cook, E. Hurler, G. W. S. Clarke, R. D. Clarke.
Centre Row: D. Peterson, N. Crutcheville, C. Aschell, C. L. Searle (Coach), G. G. Alder, K. Schwartz, J. Berra.
Front: D. Denar.

(Source: Centenary Mag p. 68, p. 70)

THE 1950's

This period saw a high growth in enrolments with the Girls Intermediate growing from 185 in 1950 to 445 in 1959 and 106 in the High School to 341 in 1959. Exact Boys numbers are not known but Examination results in 1950 showed 8 senior students, 22 junior students and 41 Scholarships Candidates. This had grown to 35, 87 and 123 respectively by 1959. This growth of female enrolments led to buildings being enlarged and all available space used as classrooms. Some senior classes were still not large enough to be offered at both schools so the girls moved across the road for Maths II, Chemistry and Physics and the boys did likewise for Latin and Modern History. The History and Latin teacher up to 1957 was Miss Marjorie Harrison who had been at the Girls School since 1916. During this decade a new Science block was built near Ferry Street and this led to the Tennis Courts which had been there being moved to where the Multi Purpose Shelter stands today. Miss Adamson was the headmistress during this decade and she is said to have "controlled her school firmly, yet with sympathetic understanding". She waged a constant, quiet, unrelenting battle to try to ensure that the girls did not take second place to the boys in any way. The Boys School had 4 Principals during this period Mr C.L. Searle (up to 1952), F. Perry (52-54), J. Golding (55) and K McKenzie (56-62).



F. J. PERRY, B.Sc., Principal 1952-1954.

J. A. GOLDING, B.A., A.Ed.,
Principal 1955.

MR. K. MCKENZIE,
Principal 1956-1962.

(Source: Centenary mag p. 76)

THE SCHOOL DAY

The school year was divided into 3 terms – early February to May, May to August, August to mid December with 2 week vacation breaks in May and August. A typical school day was as follows”

08.30	First Bell	11.00 – 11.12	Little Lunch
08.40	Second Bell (Assembly)	11.12 – 12.30	– 2 x 40 min lessons
09.00	Class Start (3 x 40 min lessons)	12.30 – 1.30	Big Lunch
		1.30 – 3.30	3 x 40 min lessons

Girls chose Commercial, Academic or Domestic Science Courses and most students left after completing Year 10. Boys traditionally did 8 subjects for junior selecting from English, French, Latin, Maths A, Maths B, Physics, Chemistry, Geography, History, Book-Keeping, and Trade Subjects. Like the girls most boys left after Junior and those who completed Senior usually went to UQ in Brisbane. Most students (and teachers) rode bikes to school. Both schools had a Prefect system but interaction between the 2 schools was limited to school dances (1 per term and teachers acted as chaperones) and special events such as Anzac Day Cadet Parade and the School Mile. Both schools participated in Cooper Cup competition against Bundaberg and Gympie. Girls competed in Tennis, Basketball, Ball Games and Athletics and Boys played Cricket, Football, Tennis and Athletics. Teams travelled by train and traditionally the host school would put on a High Tea at the end of the events. Students came from all over the district as there were no High schools in Childers or Hervey Bay.

The school uniform for girls was – Blue Blouse, Brown Pinafore with 2 pleats over the shoulders back and front, short blue socks (Intermediate) and brown lisle stockings (High School). A straw hat with school band completed the uniform. A brown blazer was a winter addition.



(Source: Centenary mag p. 73)

The school uniform for Boys was – blue shirt, grey trousers (or grey shorts with blue socks) in winter and Khaki shirt, Khaki shorts and Khaki socks in summer.

Culturally the 1950's were an era of clubs including the school orchestra, dramatic society, chess club, book binding, class leatherwork, a geology club and debating society. Major events in the 50's included Queen

Elizabeth's Coronation Celebrations on the Oval, 75th Anniversary of the school and a visit by Princess Alexandra.



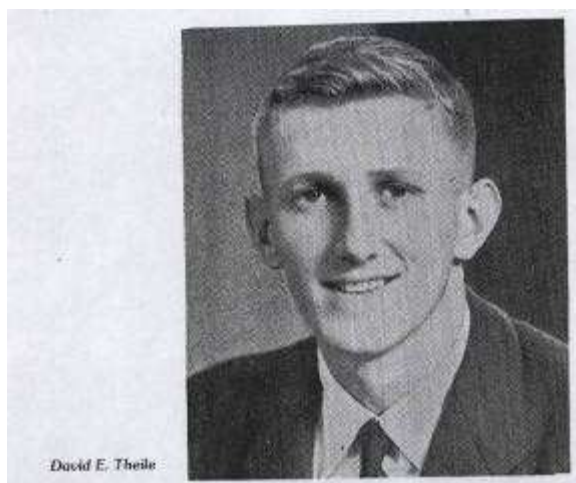
Lester Peters receives his Byrnes Medal from Princess Alexandra on her visit on 2nd September, 1959.



OLD BOYS AT 75TH ANNIVERSARY
Left to Right: G. R. Nookes, (entered school 1881) J. G. Dawson (entered school 1889), N. Bayle, (entered school 1890) F. E. Walker (entered school Sept. 3th 1881), R. A. Walker (entered school 1916).

(Source: Centenary mag p. 82, 83.)

Notable students were the Theile Family – Helen, David, Alison and Lenore. David Theile is best remembered as an Olympic Gold medallist. Other students to excel were Robert White (Rhodes Scholar 1959), Brian Window (Science), Don McWatters and John McBryde (Olympic Hockey Players), Ann Nelson and Don Bayley (Commonwealth Games Athletes). The 1950's is best remembered as a period of rapid growth where both schools achieved considerable academic and sporting success.



David E. Theile



Robert Edwin White

(Source: Centenary mag p. 77, 79)

THE 1960's

The 1960's saw the end of the scholarship examination and the Intermediate Schools. The Technical College became a separate entity in 1965 and ex-curricular activities such as sport and cadets reached their peak of activity. Curriculum for all students was broadened. In 1966 subjects such as Economics, Business Principles, Geometrical Drawing, Geography, Physiology, Zoology and Home Management were added. Junior Courses focussed on 3 main strands: Academic, Commercial, Technical (Boys), Home Science (Girls). After 1964 Year 7 was to be completed at Primary School and students started High School in Year 8. Staff from both Schools continued to teach evening classes at the Technical College despite it now being under separate administration.



(Source: Centenary mag p. 88)



FORM 6A1 — 1964
 Back row: Allan Nolan, Roy Suter, Luc Borgee, Ray Highfield, Derek Johnson
 Third Row: Douglas Simpson, Jack Taylor, Ray Perry, Ray Sonnenburg, Ian Robertson, Darrel Elkins
 Second Row: Barry Meredith, Graeme Winterlood, Graeme Howard, Peter Reilly, Chris Meredith
 Front Row: Robert Hepburn, Brian Hooper, John Kell, James Martin, Chris Sinclair, John Goldsmith

(Source: Centenary mag p. 89)

Sport was much more important as many junior sporting clubs didn't exist then. Cooper Cup competition was the major focus with sports such as Cricket, Football, Tennis, Swimming, Basketball and Softball contested. The Boys school was successful in 1962, 63, 64, and the Girls in 1966. The Palma and Pila cups were competitions between Maryborough and Banyo High.

In 1962 a new house Barton was created in the Boys school and in 1964 the Girls school added Russell. Once a term the houses from the schools combined to stage a dance in the Boys Gymnasium. As the Principal said in 1961 "these were happy occasions that even the most discerning parent could not fault." Interhouse sporting competitions were held and Cups such as the Dawson Memorial and Binnington were awarded.

Cadets were an important part of the school program. Up to 170 students were in cadets and camps were generally held in the August holidays. Rifle shooting was the most popular activity and the Boys won the Inter-unit competition at Yeppoon in 1961. Cadets declined in the late 1960's due to reduced government spending and growing anti-war sentiment as a result of the conflict in Vietnam.



Cadets Photo

Extra curricular activities also included a radio station, jazz group, current affairs club, gem club and a school newspaper. The girls had choirs, debating and junior Red Cross. In the mid 1960's the Advisory committees became know as Parents and Citizen Committees and they provided the finance for many school improvements.

As a result of students remaining at school until Junior and the post war baby boom construction of new facilities occurred. New general teaching blocks on both campuses were completed in 1960. A New Commonwealth Science Block (G Block) was opened in 1966 and a New Manual Arts Block in 1969.

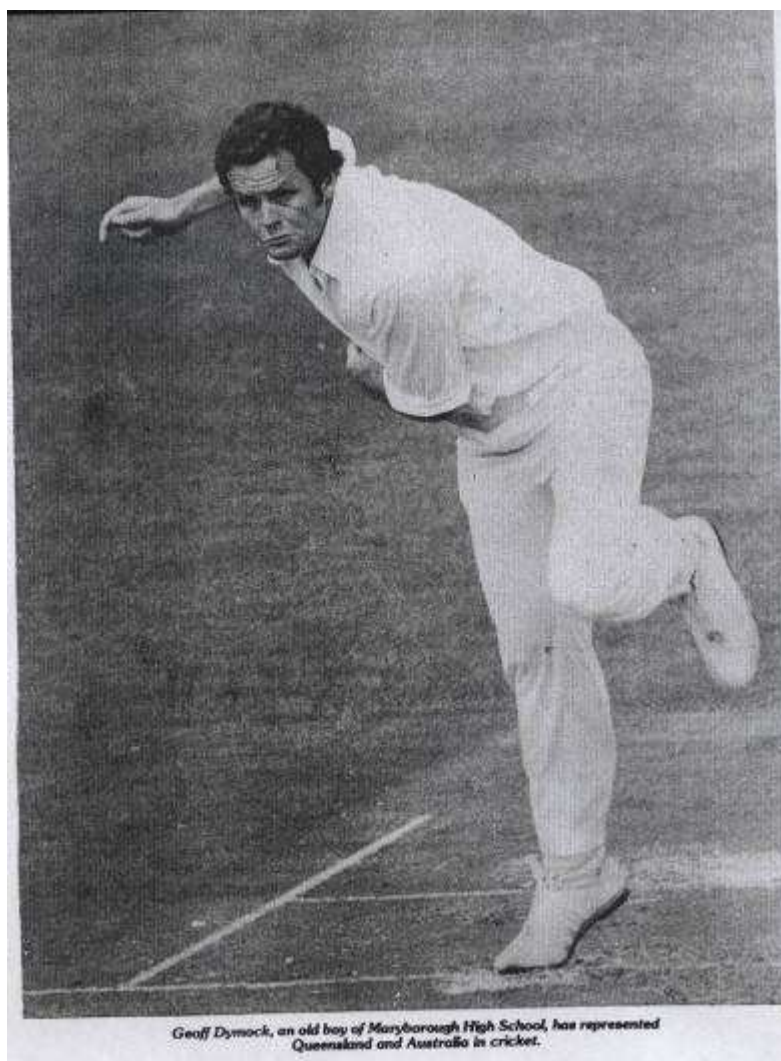


(Additional buildings to Girls School – 1950's, 1960's)



Despite these changes the school retained a very stately and spacious appearance.

Student numbers for both schools stabilised around 600 each and the standard of results were high; in many cases above the state average. 2 students who went on to achieve sporting success were Kay Kindervater (Hockey) and Geoff Dymock (Cricket).



(Source: Centenary mag p. 87)

School uniforms were strictly enforced. The Boys Khaki was changed to a grey and blue uniform but “outlandish belts” and long hair were banned. Girls dresses had to be no more than one inch above the knee when kneeling.

Notable staff of the period were Aub Werder, Arthur Hoepper, Tom Mathison “Tweedie” Svenson and Viv Brigg. Students knew they could guarantee a 10 minute diversion from Arnie Wilmore’s lesson if they mentioned the Air Force in World War II. Mr McKenzie was replaced as Principal by Mr Jones in 1962 Mr Don Mackintosh Principal 1964 -1967. In 1968 Mr Rueben Williams became the last Principal of Maryborough Boys High School.



"Jaweed" Swenson



MR. REUBEN WILLIAMS
Principal 1968-1974

(Source: Centenary Mag, p. 97, 95)

The Girls High School was led by Miss M. Hegarty (1960 – 66) and then by Miss Mary Hansen until 1973. Notable staff members included Miss Flynn, Mrs Warry, Miss Alexander and Miss Blue.



MISS MARY HANSEN
Principal 1966 - 1973



Mrs. Marion Warry



STAFF OF MARYBOROUGH GIRLS' HIGH AND INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL - 1968
Back Row: M. Tyack, L. Wren, Lorraine Sprengelmann, D. Kerr, B. McKee, E. Gwinn, B. Bellby, A. Mitchell, G. Thompson, N. Frost, B. Spall, S. Eagle, E. Douglas, M. McInnis, J. Lacey, V. McPherson
Seated: Mrs. Barbara Glenn (U.S.A.), Mrs. M. Warry, Mrs. C. Sills, Miss M. Flynn, Miss M. Hansen (Principal), Miss I. Blue, Mrs. G. Proctor, J. Alexander, M. Ryan, Mrs. Mason, Fiona J. Choulton, J. Wheeler

(Source: Centenary Mag. p. 90, 93)

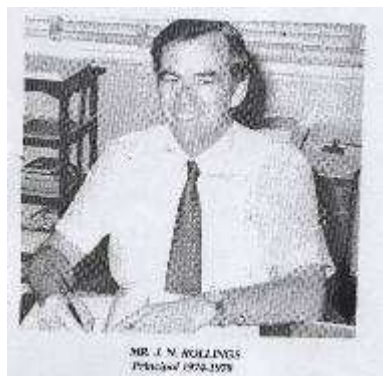
The 1960's had witnessed great changes not only in the appearance of the school but in social values. The traditional segregation was now being questioned and the stage was set for the amalgamation of the 2 schools.

THE AMALGAMATION

In 1974 the Boys and Girls Schools combined to form Maryborough State High School. Many of the existing traditions were maintained including the school coat of arms, motto and uniform. The houses were combined to become Barton-Hyne, Glasgow-Horsburgh, Melville-Russell and Morton-Harrington. The new administration consisted of Mr Noel Rollings (Principal), Miss P. Aldridge and Mr V Brigg (Deputy Principals) and Miss J Alexander (Senior Mistress). The first co-educational enrolment numbered 927. The main campus was the old girls school although several rooms on the boy's side were used for classrooms and the manual training, science and toilet blocks remained part of Maryborough High. Other buildings including the original Boys Grammar School building (now Q Block) were handed over to TAFE.

Many of the staff who had taught for many years retired upon amalgamation or soon after.

So ended the second major period of Maryborough High's Development – the Boys High and Girls High years but the fine academic and sporting traditions established laid the basis for the future success of Maryborough State High School.



(Source: Centenary Mag. p. 96, 97, 98)



THE 1970's

The newly formed Maryborough State High School opened on February 4, 1974 a week late due to the flood of that year. Many new buildings were constructed on the old girls campus including a new library and a 3 storied home economics and commercial block (J Block). The Old Home Economics block was redeveloped into a year 8 centre and the Commercial rooms were changed into Art rooms.

1976 saw a major change in staff with 29 new teachers arriving including 13 first year teachers. Deputy Principal Viv (the Colonel) Brigg was a constant source of inspiration to the newcomers and he could often be seen with a handkerchief on his wrist to remind himself of something he had forgotten.

In 1978 Viv retired and Principal Noel Rollings was appointed to Regional Office so Bill Donnelly acted as principal for the rest of 1978. Rod Bailey was appointed in 1979 and fulfilled that role until 1987.



MR. R. A. BAILEY
Principal 1979.

Long serving staff members Aub Werder, Arthur Hoepper, Tom Matheson and Fred Ebert retired.

A new set of traditions emerged and school musicals such as Oliver, Ipi Tombi and Godspell proved outstanding successes. The school also achieved success in drama and public speaking, winning the Bundaberg Youth Drama festival in 1977, 78, 79 under the guidance of Del Dines. Extra Curricular activities which didn't survive were Cadets and Cooper Cup.

In 1975 the Australian government discontinued support for Cadets and the school unit was disbanded.

In the sporting arena Cooper Cup was held for the last time in 1976 and was replaced in 1977 by Fraser District sport with Aldridge, Maryborough High and Hervey Bay High competing.

The school athletics and swimming carnivals became established events and a number of students achieved State Secondary Schools Representative status. The tradition of Open Day was continued and provided an opportunity for parents to have a look at the "new" school. Students arranged displays, an obstacle course, competitions and the infamous Haunted House. The Duke of Edinburgh program was popular under the leadership of Mr Jim Wadsworth and a number of students won Gold awards. The school even had its own SES team.

Members of the Maryborough High School State Emergency Service Squad. The squad was established in 1976 and was the first in Queensland.



In 1973 the Senior and Junior public examinations were abolished and this resulted in considerable changes to the school's curriculum. Home Economics, Physical Education and Theatre became Board subjects, a skills for work course was designed for Year 11 and a core curriculum for Years 8 and 9 ASAT was introduced in 1974 and in conjunction with student's semester ratings it was used to calculate Tertiary Entrance scores. In 1974 the Prefect system was re-introduced and a student council established.

Maryborough State High School while respecting its heritage had established new traditions and entered the new decade full of optimism and innovation. The late 1970's also saw the end of 3 term system and the introduction of the Semester system which exists today.



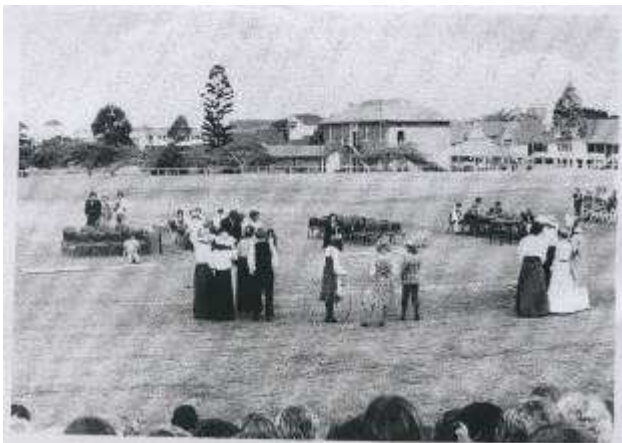
Robyn Butcher (Grade 11) with flowers for the 1976 Open Day.

THE 1980's

As the school moved towards its centenary new activities emerged which showed how our world was changing. In 1980, 2 New Zealand schools – Palmerston North and Northcote visited and the school was looking to purchase a computer. The Year 8 Centre was an important starting point for many students to high school and who could ever forget the year 8 Camps to Cool Waters at Yeppoon – boom netting, racing up sand dunes, buses bogged in sand and students pretending to be dead cockroaches.

Curriculum included English, History, Theatre, Science, Music, Commercial Studies, Home Economics, Maths, French, Art, Manual Arts and Physical Education. Under the watchful eye of Steve Turner the library resources expanded. Sports played included Cricket, Volleyball, Hockey, Squash, Soccer, Tennis and Rugby League for the boys while the girls competed in Softball, Soccer, Basketball, Netball, Tennis, Hockey and Volleyball. Some outstanding sporting representatives were Ian Austin (Hockey, Cricket), Jenny Rochford (Golf) and Kardean Pittard (Athletics).

1981 was the centenary of the school and the highlight was the Pageant held on Kings Oval. The century of the school's history was divided into 5 eras and each was depicted in a skit enacted by the students. The pageant ended with the students singing the school song. The next day the school was involved in the Spring Festival Celebrations and then the Official Ceremony was conducted on Kings Oval. The Member for Education at the time Bill Gunn granted staff and students a holiday to everyone's delight. Following the ceremony a bazaar was held and unique events such as the great Toad race and Great Cane check were held. A centenary ball was held and on Sunday sporting celebrations including a hockey and cricket match were held.



Pageant Centenary Celebrations 1981

The range of activities and subject offerings continued to grow during the 1980's. Musicals such as the "Mabbit" "Kidstuff" and "Fogies" were held. New programs such as STAR, RIBIT, LAP and PEP were developed to cater for individual needs. The Sandy Creek Outdoors Centre was established and Camps for different year groups were a highlight (Year 12 to the Bunya Mountains, Year 8's to Yeppoon, and Year 10's to Currimundi).

Curriculum offerings expanded to include Marine Studies, Economics and Computing. The school continued to excel in Debating, Lions Youth of the Year and in 1988 Michelle Wihongi and Toni Ruhle won the Sunshine Coast Designer Award.



Fashion Award Winners – Michelle Wihongi & Toni Ruhle

In 1986 the Senior Mistress Joan Alexander retired. Miss Alexander had been at Maryborough High since 1953. Rod Bailey was replaced as Principal by Dave Sutton in 1988; Alan Morgan became Deputy Principal in 1988 and long term Maths Subject Mistress Jean Hunter retired. A long time member of the Science staff Marg Heywood also retired in 1989. Sport continued to be important and the School teams enjoyed success in Hockey, Rugby League and Union, Athletics and Swimming. By the end of the 1980's enrolments had risen to over 1100 and Maryborough High was established as a school which offered a wide range of activities and enjoyed considerable academic and sporting success.



Joan Alexander with the 1983 Prefects.

THE 1990's

Under the leadership of Leoll Barron the school continued to grow in the 1990's. Enrolments reached over 1200, staggered lunch breaks were necessary to cater for numbers at the tuckshop and buildings were regained from TAFE to deal with the large student population. Highlights of this period included the Arts Festivals organised by Ken Beikoff and Fred Johansen, protests against French nuclear testing in the Pacific, the fun runs organised by the Physical Education Department and success in Public Speaking thanks to the efforts of Debbie Brown. Curriculum offerings expanded to include Vocational Education subjects and students enjoyed success in competitions such as Spirit of Australia Competition run by the RSL where Maryborough High students were State winners. Camps continued to be an important part of the school curriculum – yr 12 Leadership Camps to Alexandra Headland, Biology Camp and the Marine Studies Camp at German Creek. However, the school experienced its share of setbacks with D Block burnt down in 1989 and the old Palma Office destroyed in 2006.

The new millennium has ushered its share of staff changes with Leoll Barron retiring in 2004, and long serving staff members Ken Beikoff, Ashley Taylor, John Poulter and Paul Walker retiring.

Special Events included the Olympic Torch Relay (2000) the development of the Maryborough Technology Challenge held every September and visits by MIE High School from Japan.



TORCH BEARERS: (Clockwise from left) John Elford, Simon Orphant, Mitchell Baker, Eieasha Turnbull, Felicia Plummer, Kate Burdett, Casey Herbener, Tim Scutt, Summer Osmond (Separate). Absent Marcus Bandholz

Outstanding students achievements during these years included Tamara Thomsen (Music), Nick Parfitt (Australian Schoolboys Rugby League), Greg Collins (Australian U-21 Hockey), Tim Prideaux and William Olds (TJ Ryan Medal winners).



Ms. Katrina Larson
Deputy Principal



Mr. Leoll Barron
Principal



Mrs. Leanne Muston
Deputy Principal

Administration Team - 2000

Maryborough State High School was formed in 1974 by the amalgamation of the Boys' and Girls' High Schools, that were first established as Grammar Schools in 1881. With a long history of strong traditional values and a pride in innovation and student participation, the school focus is on student learning and academic success in a wide range of areas.

Maryborough State High School promotes the development of its students in partnership with parents and direct participation with the local community.

Our 'heritage' school is one of the most picturesque schools in Queensland with well established trees and gardens, together with the historic architecture of the school, inspires a relaxed and friendly atmosphere.

We take pride in our long tradition and many accomplishments with a quality curriculum which caters for a wide range of student needs. We cater for our tertiary bound students with high quality academic courses. Our Vocational students can 'mix and match' academic and vocational subjects with additional TAFE and University Links programs. We have an excellent record in academic results and competitions, a variety of public speaking competitions and regional state sporting events. In recent years we have had two T.J. Ryan Medal winners. Other achievements include five Australian sporting representatives; a state senior debating team champion, a Junior State Apex debating finalist and a national academic competition winner.

Students also willingly participate in community service with excellent support for several charity functions each year. This support is part of our school tradition.

Maryborough State High School has enjoyed many successes and our students progress into a variety of future pathways.

Today the school retains its heritage links through the school colours, the coat of arms and the continued publication of our school magazine – the Palma. However there is a spirit of innovation and team work enunciated in our school vision – working together towards success. As the high tech gadgetry of the MTC races past the historic buildings it is easy to see that Maryborough State High truly is a school with a Rich Past and a Bright Future.