



Bridge & Patricbourne School 1849

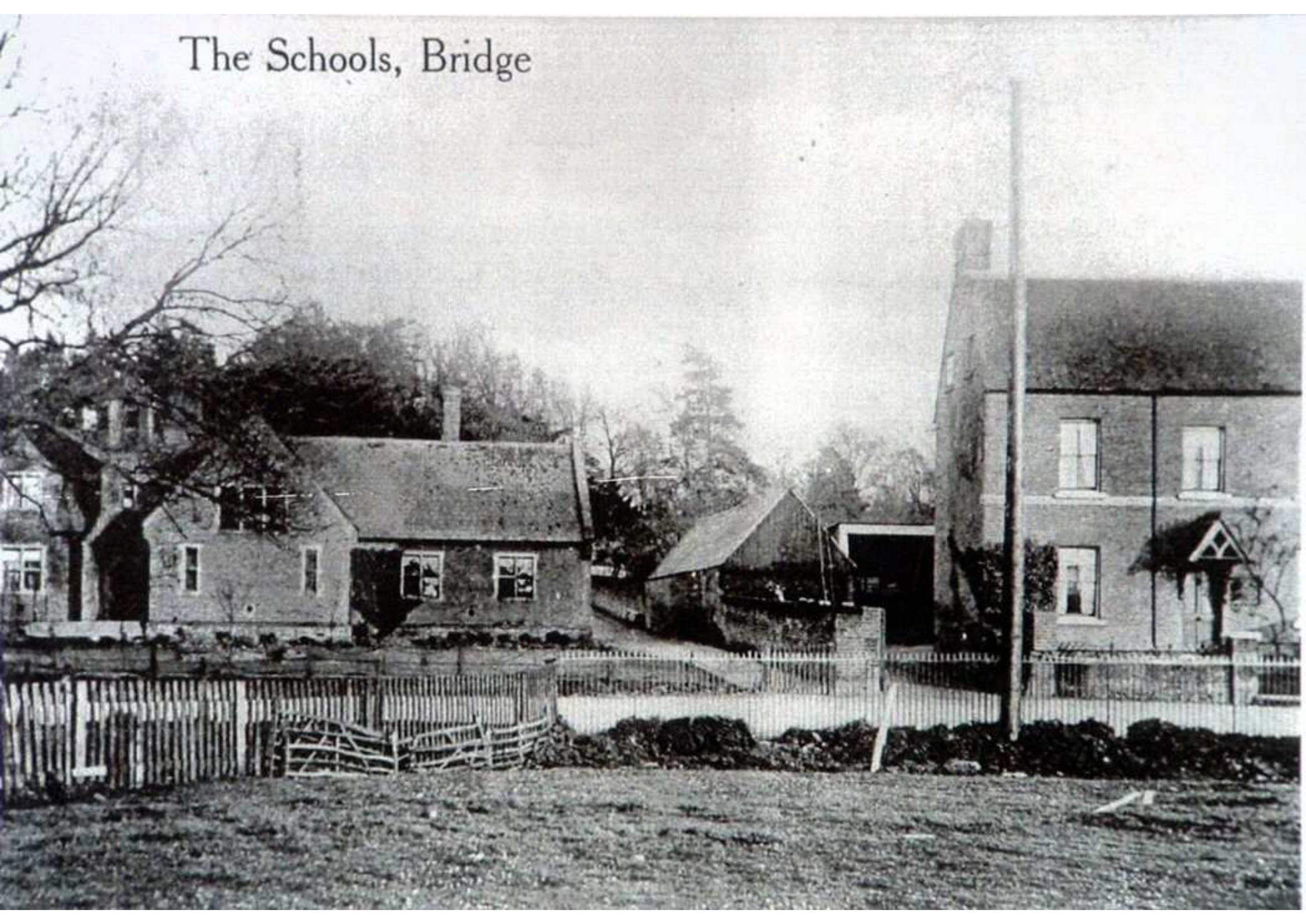
The Conyngham family displayed considerable interest in the welfare of the villagers, seeking to improve the quality of their day to day lives and being instrumental in the setting up of the Bridge and Patricbourne Schools in 1849. The laying of the foundation stone was an occasion for considerable ceremony and celebration, and as such warranted a lengthy report in the Kentish Gazette.

"On Friday the foundation stone of the new schools was laid, on a well adapted spot of ground on the banks of the Lower Stour, and behind the main street of Bridge, leading to Patricbourne.... The stone was laid by the Dowager Marchioness of Conyngham, to whose munificence the promoters of the laudable undertaking are indebted for the site, as well as for pecuniary assistance... The Marchioness having taken the place assigned to her, and the company and the school children being arranged around the enclosure allotted to them, the Rev. Mr Stevenson, the worthy and exemplary rector of the parishes reviewed briefly and eloquently the object which had drawn them together, closing his remarks with an appropriate prayer... The stone was then lowered to its place, and the Marchioness struck the stone three times with the maul. That portion of the ceremony was concluded. The Rev. J. Stevenson once more addressed the meeting, and a hymn, composed for the occasion, was sung by the children and the vast assembly, the reverend gentleman's curate reading the words. Three times three hearty cheers were given and a profusion of plum buns distributed amongst the school children by Miss Augusta Conyngham, the lovely and interesting daughter of Lord Albert. The National Anthem closed the day which will be one long remembered in the neighbourhood."

In typical fashion, being concerned with the proper display of rank, wealth and quality The Kentish Gazette proudly noted how this function had been attended by Matthew Bell Esq., and his lady, the Hon. C. Tollemache, the Rev. J. Stevenson and his lady, Captain Winter and family, the Misses Taswell, the Rev. J. White and his lady, the Rev. Mr Plumtre, Mrs Braham, H. Collard Esq. of Renville, and Mr Pilcher. Readers were further informed that the buildings would be erected by "Messrs Wilson, assisted by Mr George Homersham; the architect being Mr. Hezekiah Marshall."



The Schools, Bridge





Z.3.

THE SCHOOLHOUSE. BRIDGE.

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SCHOOL LEFT TO DIE

by our correspondent

For more than four years the former Church of England Primary School at Bridge has stood empty—even though many similar schools have been sold for residential occupation or for village use soon after becoming redundant.

Now, with broken windows, floorboards ripped up, damp walls, smashed washbasins and holes in the roof it looks as if the old school has been left to die.

And parishioners, especially the Parish Council, are angry because the owners, the Kent County Council, have allowed the school—in Patrixbourne Road—to become a blight on the village scene.

The story of its decline and fall began in December, 1970, when the premises fell empty on the completion of the new school in Conyngham Lane. The Parish Council, seeking the possibilities of using them as a village community centre, applied for planning permission for this purpose.

In July, 1971, the County Planning Department asked if the planning application could be deferred. Although the Parish Council agreed to do this, it was already concerned about the state of the building and asked the County Education Officer if something could be done to tidy it up and prevent further vandalism.

No action has been taken. Meanwhile, any hope the Parish Council might have had of using the premises continued to be deferred because even by February, 1972, the County Council had not made a final decision about their future.

Five months later the county confirmed the premises had been transferred to them and the County Estates Officer was asked to open negotiations for a lease of the Parish Council.

After three months the Estates Officer wrote proposing to discuss terms and a meeting took place towards the end of October. But everything ground to a halt again when Kent Police expressed interest in using the premises for about two years.



Inside the former Church of England Primary School at Bridge—a scene of desolation...



...and what the school looks like from the outside.

The premises

The bureaucratic machine churned on slowly and six months later—in May, 1973—it was confirmed the police would be taking over the premises.

But the story took another surprising twist, because in the following September this decision was reversed and the original idea of leasing the premises to the Parish Council was revived.

Five months later a rent of £2,500 a year was quoted for the premises, which stand on a site of about 51 of an acre, and preliminary discussions on the terms of the lease went on for some time.

However, in September, 1974, there was another hold-up when the contractors for the Bridge by-pass asked about using the premises as a site office, only to drop the idea a little later on.

By now the Parish Council, faced with a possible rent of £2,500 and the need for considerable expenditure on buildings which had become dilapidated, decided that on financial grounds it could not go ahead with its community centre proposal. It again drew attention to the state of the premises and asked for something to be done.

Again, nothing seems to have happened, so three months ago the parish clerk again pressed the matter only to be told that steps were being taken to appropriate or sell the premises and it was hoped the necessary repairs would be implemented in due course.

Last week a spokesman for the County Council, confirming that the premises are now for sale, said: "We have had an approach from a well-known organisation and the council has authorised a sale to this party or any other interested party."

In mind

He was not at liberty to give the name of the organisation or the purpose it had in mind, nor could he say whether the building would be demolished.

Cllr Mrs Margaret Young, the chairman of the Parish Council, is "considerably disappointed that the school is not being used for some worthwhile purpose. If it is to remain empty steps should be taken to keep it in repair. It is a pity it has been allowed to get into this state."

Another parish councillor, Mrs Olive Knight, headmistress at the old school for many years, said: "I deplore the fact that public property should be allowed to fall into decay at a time when there is such a shortage of buildings for community centres, etc. The school house has been empty all this time and could surely have been used by a homeless family."

Now, after 4 years of frustration, delay and indecision, the villagers do not know what will eventually happen to this blighted building, but they do know the opportunity of establishing a community centre has probably gone for ever.





P.T.A. Bonfire preparation





Headteacher: Mrs. A.G. Newton, M.A.
Caretaker: Mr. R.W. Rogers, 6, Riverside Close, Bridge.



EDUCATION

BRIDGE AND PATRICKBOURNE
C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL.

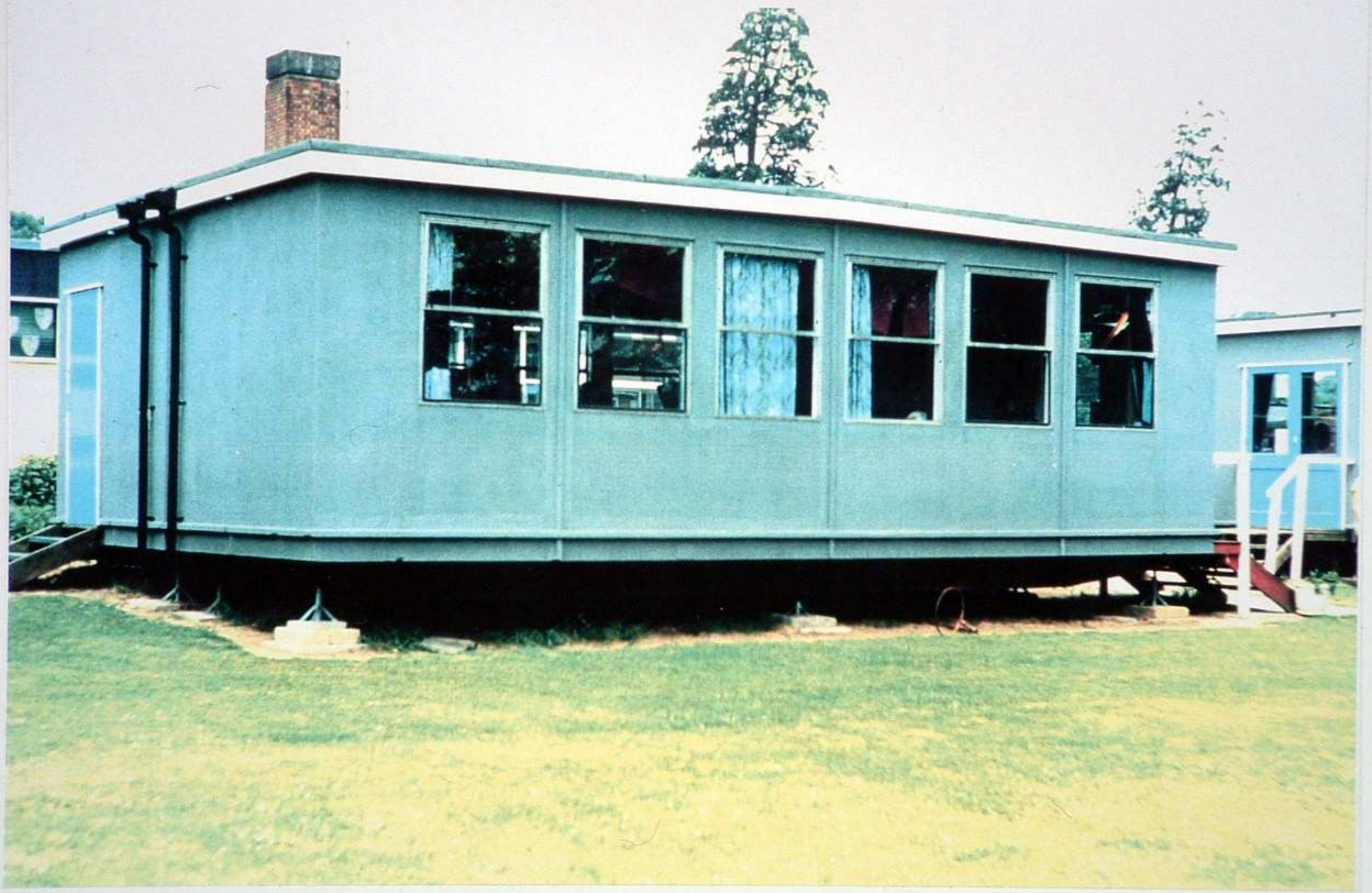








9. Jo Rockwell 10. Daniel Pollard 11. Oliver Pathmill 12. William Draper

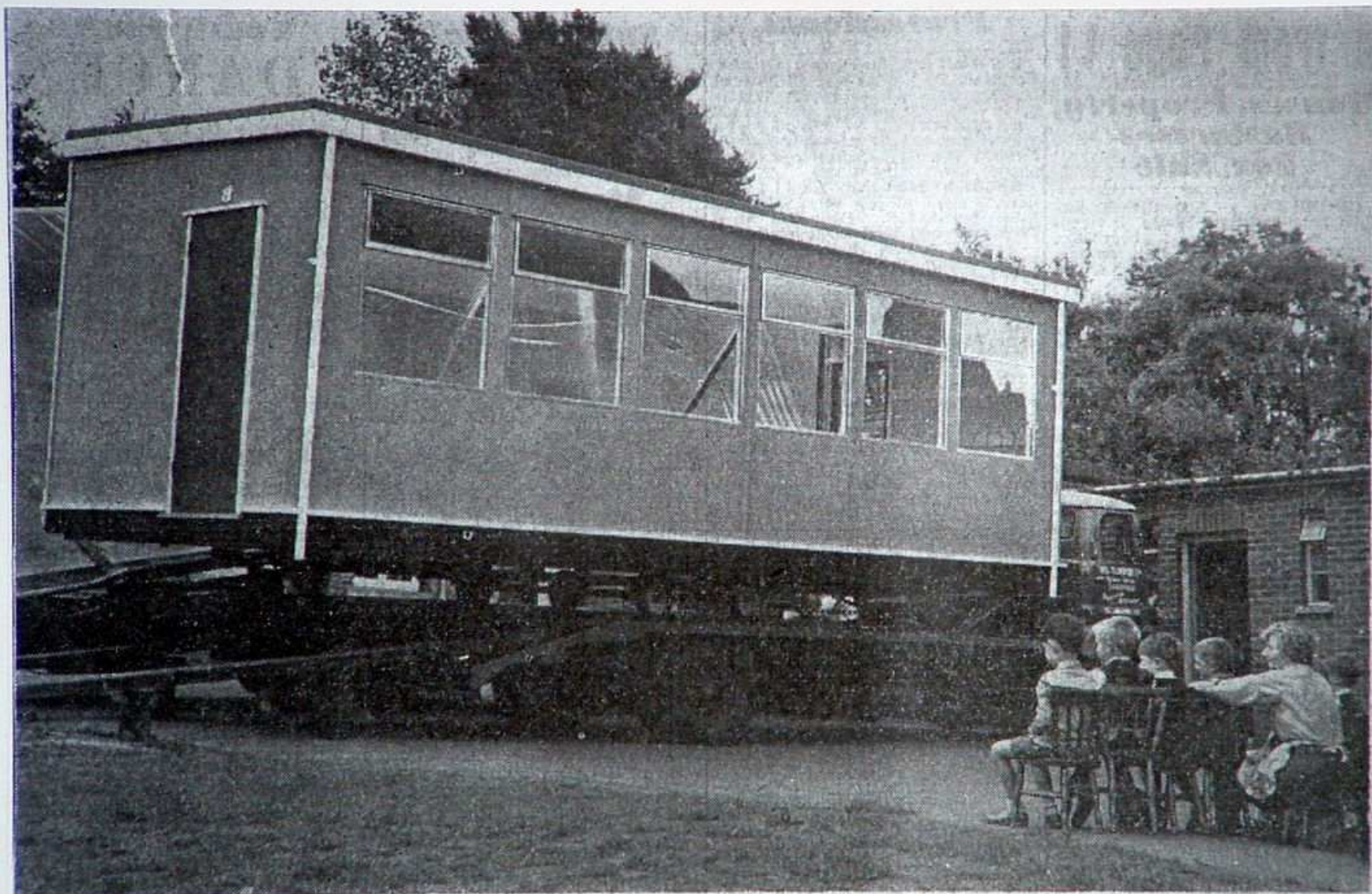


1004

1994

WHAT HAS CHANGED

1954



A Kent County Council mobile classroom arrived by lorry at Bridge School yesterday (Thursday) and there was an interested audience to watch it being unloaded. It is the first classroom of its type to be provided for a school in the Canterbury area—although Canterbury and District Joint Education Committee is itself considering buying some.







- | | | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. <u>Clady Hopb (Arter)?</u> | 2. <u>Cathy Hopkins</u> | 3. <u>MARY MANNUCHE</u> | 4. <u>Irene Finnis</u> |
| 5. <u>OLIVE FORD</u> | 6. <u>Joan Carpenter</u> | 7. <u>Margery Wells</u> | 8. _____ |
| 9. <u>Peggy Liff</u> | 10. _____ | 11. _____ | 12. <u>Peggy Slife</u> |
| 13. _____ | 14. _____ | 15. _____ | 16. _____ |
| 17. <u>Florie Beadle</u> | 18. <u>Mary Willet</u> | 19. _____ | 20. <u>Stella Carpenter</u> |
| 21. <u>Mary Willet</u> | 22. _____ | 23. <u>Hazel Jordan</u> | 24. <u>Betty Jordan</u> |
| 25. <u>Evelyn Wenton</u> | 26. <u>PAT EILEIFFE</u> | 27. <u>NANSY VAUGHAN</u> | 28. <u>Betty Macdonald</u> |
| 29. <u>Winn Philpot</u> | 30. _____ | 31. _____ | 32. <u>Winnie Dobson</u> |

1934/5



Bridge School - early 1920's







१ २ ३ ४ ५



Scholastic Souvenir Co., Bishopham, Blackpool





Temperance Teaching in Elementary Schools.

CERTIFICATE of MERIT

AWARDED BY

The Church of England Temperance Society,

DIOCESSES OF CANTERBURY AND ROCHESTER.

To Charles Kennett

Bridge School.

For **KNOWLEDGE**
exhibited in an **ESSAY** submitted after
a Lecture given in accordance
with the Board of Education Syllabus of
"LESSONS ON TEMPERANCE."

John L. Fleming,
Diocesan Lecturer.

C. F. Fooks,
Diocesan Secretary.

Date April 8. 14.





Certificate awarded to Lilian
Brickenden (one of 3) for attending
school every day without
absence.
One of 16 children see end panel



KENT · EDUCATION · COMMITTEE

Bridge & Patrialbourne Infants' School

CERTIFICATE

AWARDED TO

Charles Hennett

FOR · REGULAR · ATTENDANCE · AND · GOOD · CONDUCT
DURING · THE · YEAR · ENDING *April 30th 1908*

F. Wye Principal Teacher

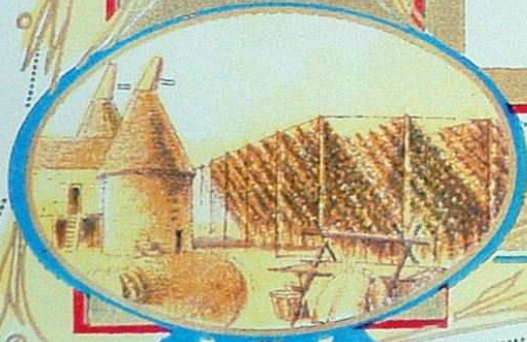
Hubert Knight Correspondent

Possible . . . }
Attendances }

371

Attendances }
made }

371





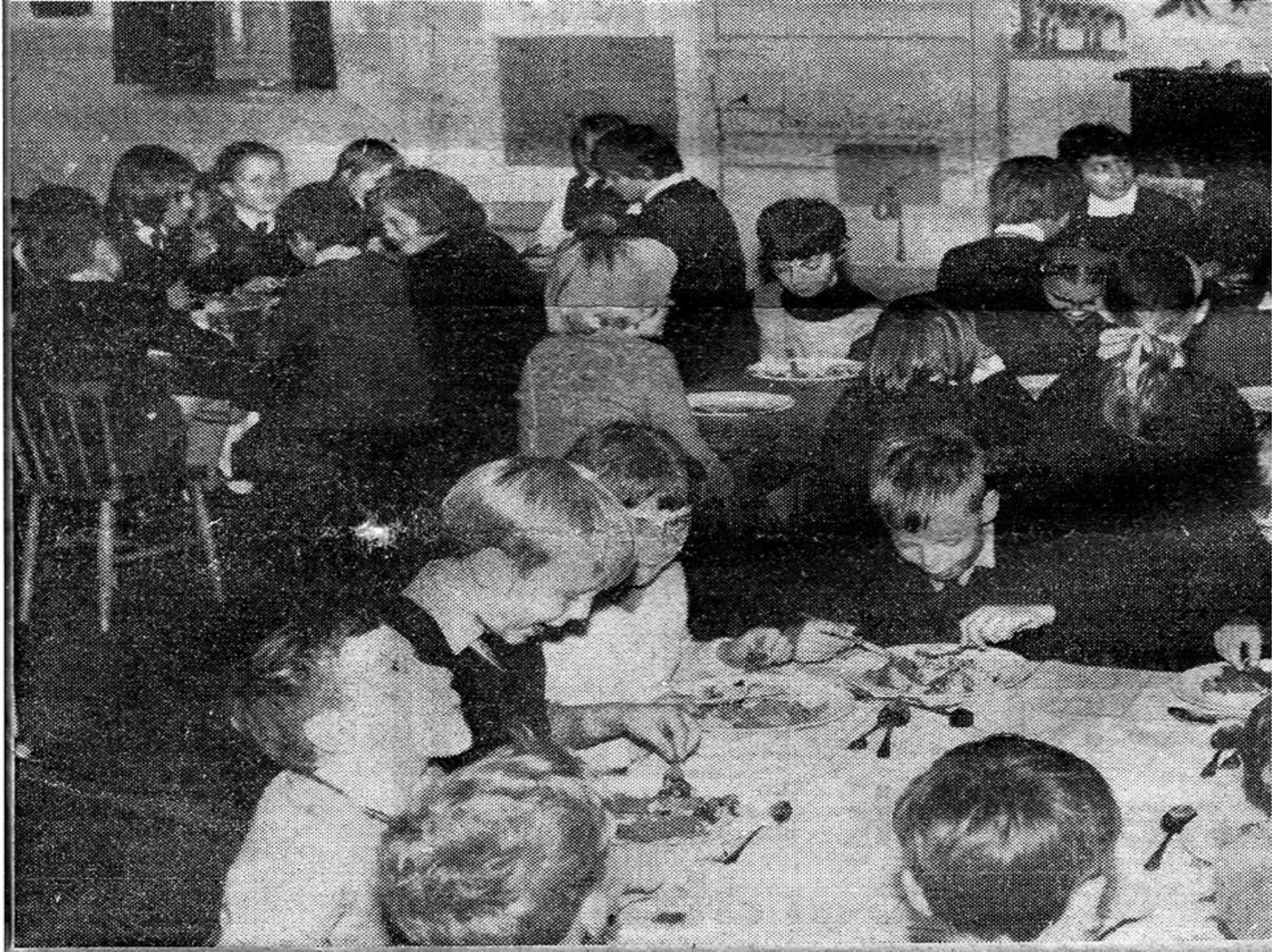


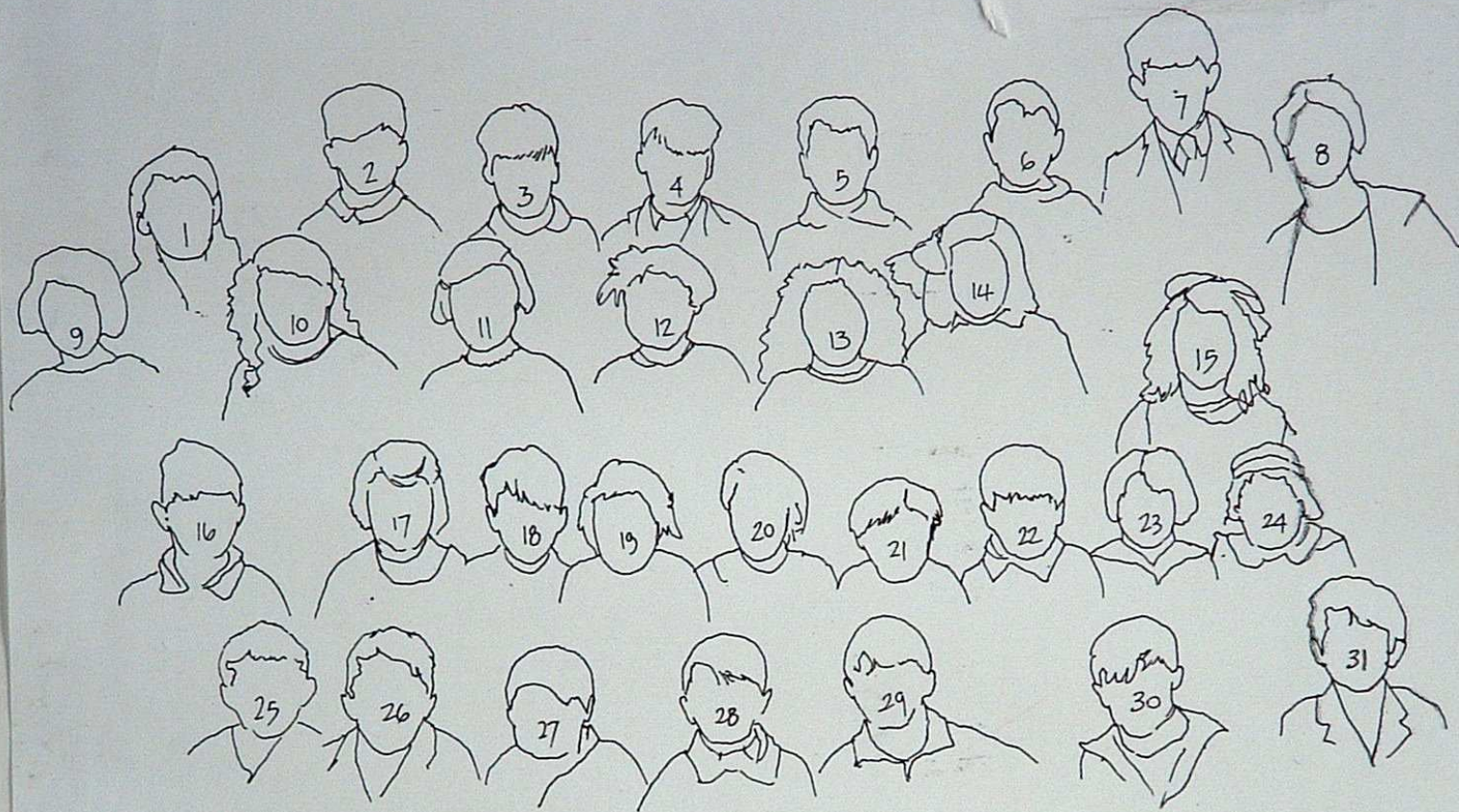




Scholastic Souvenir Co. Ltd., Blackpool.

BRIDGE & PATRIBOURNE
Primary School.
1950





- | | | | |
|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. _____ | 2. _____ | 3. _____ | 4. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 6. _____ | 7. ERNIE OUVENDEN | 8. Miss Bell. Teacher |
| 9. _____ | 10. _____ | 11. _____ | 12. DOLLY JARRETT |
| 13. _____ | 14. _____ | 15. _____ | 16. _____ |
| 17. _____ | 18. _____ | 19. _____ | 20. _____ |
| 21. Philpot. | 22. _____ | 23. _____ | 24. _____ |
| 25. _____ | 26. RONALD VINTEN | 27. _____ | 28. _____ |
| 29. _____ | 30. _____ | 31. _____ | : |





Charlie SEYMORE; R PUNNETT; Jack DUNK; Palm WEST; Cyril HOGBEN; Teddy COWELL; Lionel SOLE; Stan CASTLE;

Violet MARTIN; ? ; Betty CARPENTER; Betty BAKER; Beaty PHILLPOT; Nora TUCKETT; Peggy TUCKETT; Florie BUSHELL;
Ida WONFOR; Betty UDEN

? CLARK; Alf BAILEY; Fred HUBBARD









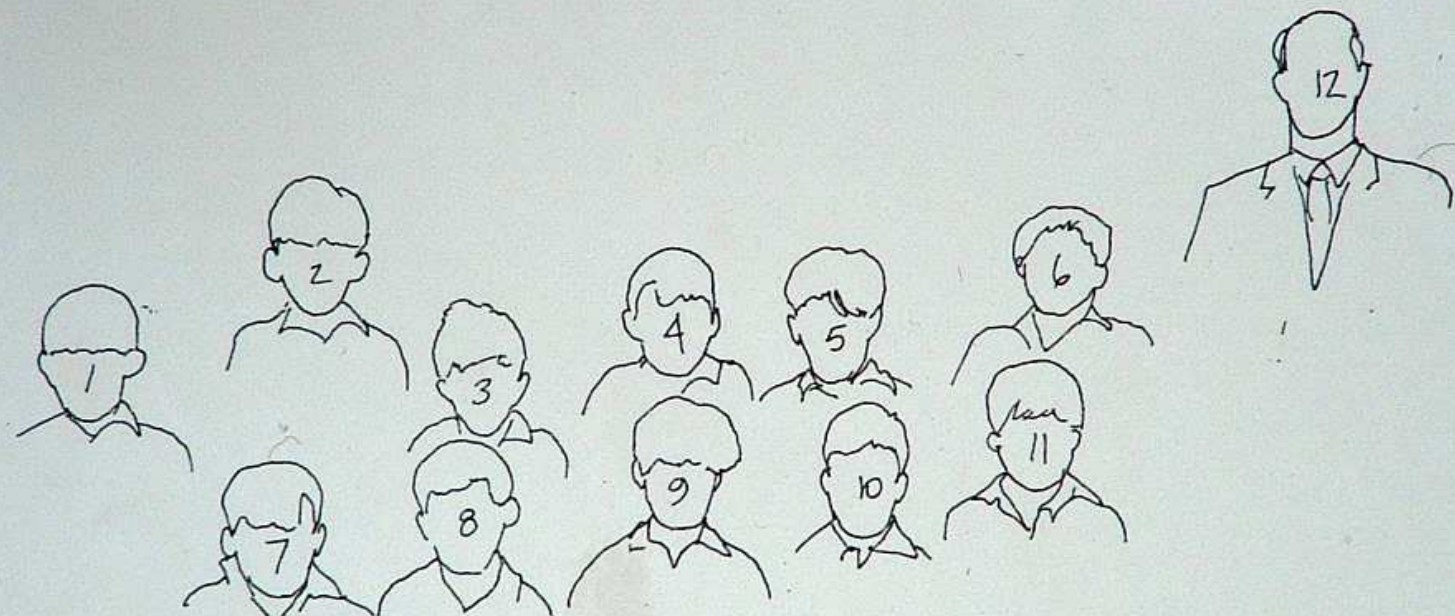
27X











Urwin

1. CHRISTIAN

?

2. ~~DEREK~~ PETER FORD

3. DEREK CARPENTER

4. SID MOON

5. FREDDY COLEMAN

6. DEREK NEWINGTON

7. JAMES BRADY

8. KEITH HATTON

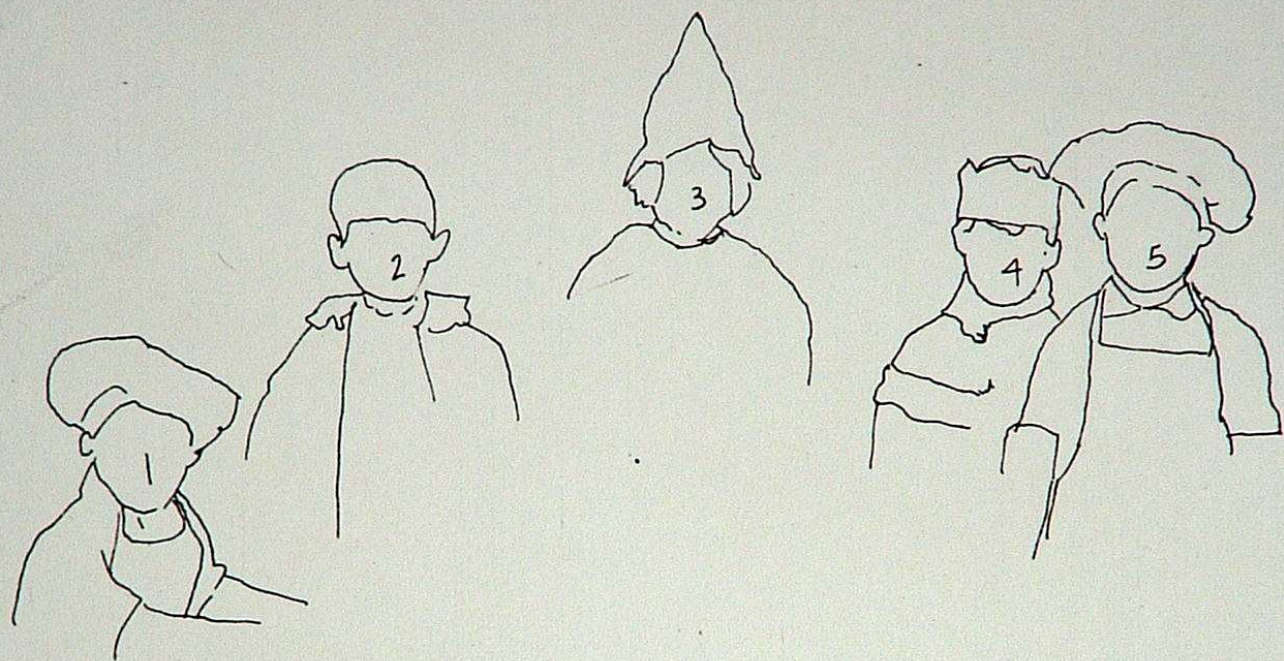
9. NICHOLAS HILLS

10. ROSS VAUGHN

11. BRYAN HILLS

12. MR. WILLIAMS (Sir!)





1. Nelson Carpenter 2. Bernard Vaughan 3. Joan Cranley
4. Dennis Woufey 5. Demond Forneaux

1931





(Reliance Garage, Henry Ford)



Mrs Rook's Pre-school nativity



P.T.A. Walk 1974







THE EVACUEES

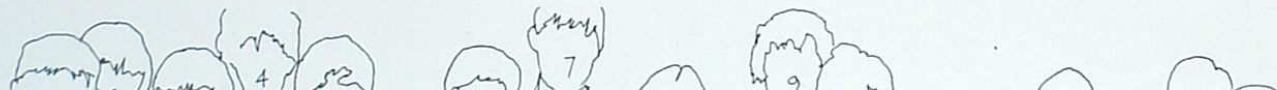


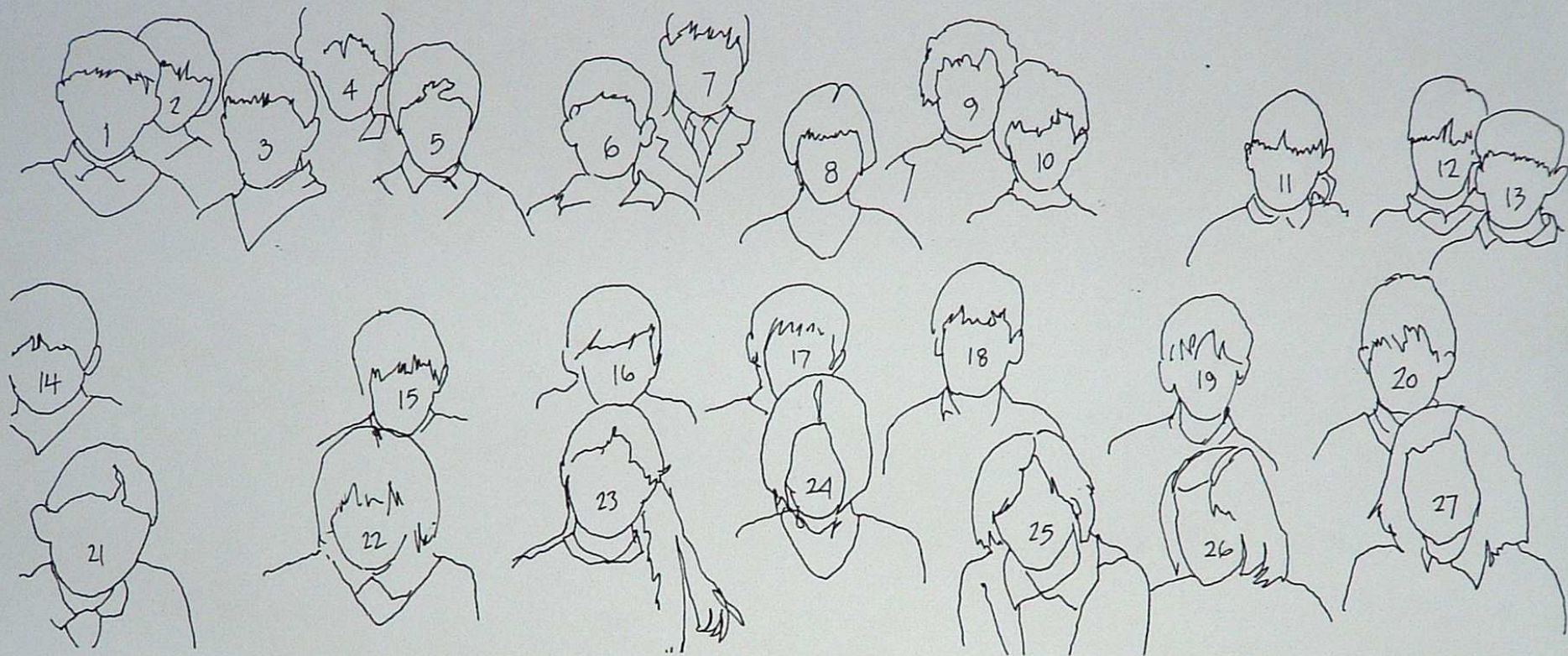




FRANK SWAN, VICTOR LEDNER, JAMES BRICE ANN HOLLIDAY
AUDREY STEVENS, MARGARET BAKER, SIMMY WUNDERHILL, VALENCIE TURNER, MARGARET KEELER, DAVID ROBERTS
BARBARA FINN, CHRISTINE PRICKETT, SHEILA MUMMERY, DIANA TAYLOR, LOENDY GILBERT, ANN HOLLIDAY.
TEACHER: MRS EDWARDS





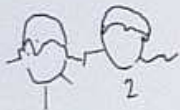


- | | | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. <u>Graham Lunford</u> | 2. <u>Sharon Brightman</u> | 3. <u>John Epps</u> | 4. <u>Simon Chertken</u> |
| 5. <u>William Terry</u> | 6. <u>Keith Johnson</u> | 7. <u>MR POTTER (teacher)</u> | 8. <u>Manan Kinsman</u> |
| 9. <u>Ruth Fuggle</u> | 10. <u>Graham Talbot</u> | 11. _____ | 12. <u>Richard Jones</u> |
| 13. <u>COLIN DISS.</u> | 14. <u>Mark Pearson</u> | 15. <u>Chris West</u> | 16. <u>David Tansett</u> |
| 17. <u>John Mullis</u> | 18. <u>KEVIN HUGHES</u> | 19. <u>David Rickmaste</u> | 20. <u>ROY MARTIN</u> |
| 21. <u>WENDI ROBSON</u> | 22. <u>JACKIE McRIVEN</u> | 23. <u>Victoria Bedwell</u> | 24. <u>MARGARET BROWN</u> |
| 25. <u>Jane Goode</u> | 26. <u>Jane Stonehouse</u> | 27. <u>Margaret McKeever</u> | |









1. _____ 2. _____

3. DERRELL NEWINGTON 4. _____

5. _____ 6. _____

7. _____ 8. _____

9. ROD YOUNG 10. _____

11. _____ 12. _____



wednesday and Thursday
and there was a special







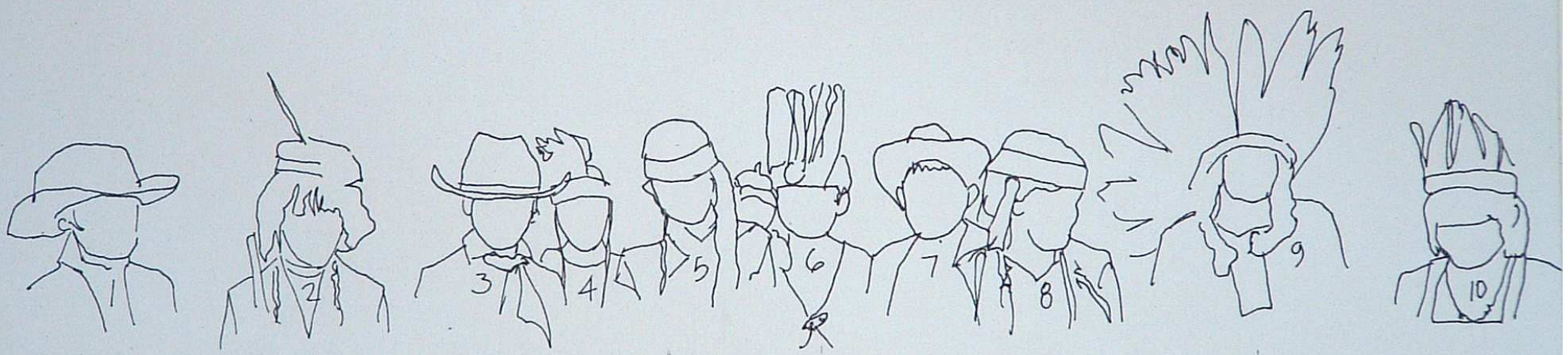


July 1980

[Handwritten signature]



July 1980



- 1. _____
- 2. Chris Tamitt
- 3. _____
- 4. Lisa Daniels
- 5. ~~Chris Tamitt~~
- 6. Hodges
- 7. Craig Wood
- 8. LUCINDA SPENCER
- 9. _____
- 10. SAM KING









EASTER BONNET PARADE 1982



STER BONNET PARADE 1982



1. _____

5. Mark Lakus

9. Sarah Field

13. Helen Pratt

17. Sarah Howland

21. _____

2. _____

6. _____

10. Sylvia Lampkin

14. _____

18. Helen Fuller

22. Julia Harvey

3. Lucinda Spindel 4. _____

7. TIM SPENCER 8. Alison Stewart

11. _____ 12. Justin Tex

15. _____ 16. Sarah Mummery

19. Jenny Howland 20. Sharon Harding

23. _____



1966











Lesley OWENS; Louise MORSLEY; Mrs PARSONS; Nicola FAIRBRASS; Helen BODGER

Karen NASH; Elizabeth REDFERN; Sarah LANCASHIRE; Enice DAWSON
ERICA

1977



Darren GLEW; Andrew CRUTTWELL; Martin ARNISON; Mark CREED; Martin REYNARD; Nigel BEVAN
John BOOTH; Simon GILES; John LAMKIN; Jim JAMES; Andrew BUCKHURST; Stephen CLARE; Jason DAVIS
Timothy JENKINS; Anthony BURT

1977







Christopher Clave Raymond Bourne Graham Linford Alan Davis & Neil Hacksall Andrew Horne
Ian Phipps Stuart Lancashire Steven Brightman



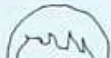
Christopher Clave Raymond Bourne
Ian Phipps Graham Linford
Alan Dan's Neil Hacksall Andrew Horne
Austyn Lancashire Steven Brightman

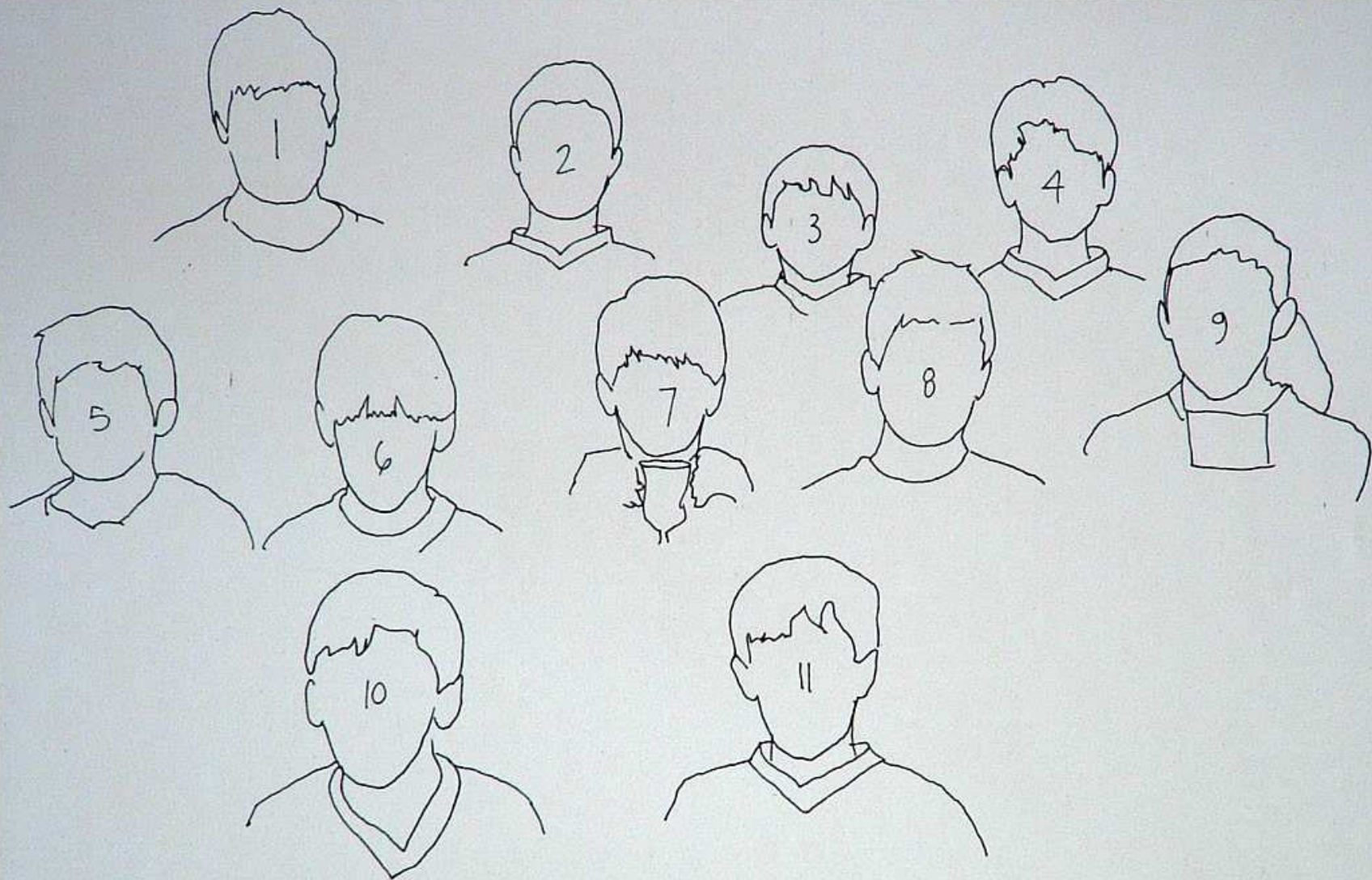


M. Goodwin

Ruth Hodgson Deborah
Beer

Tina
Chantson Nicky
James



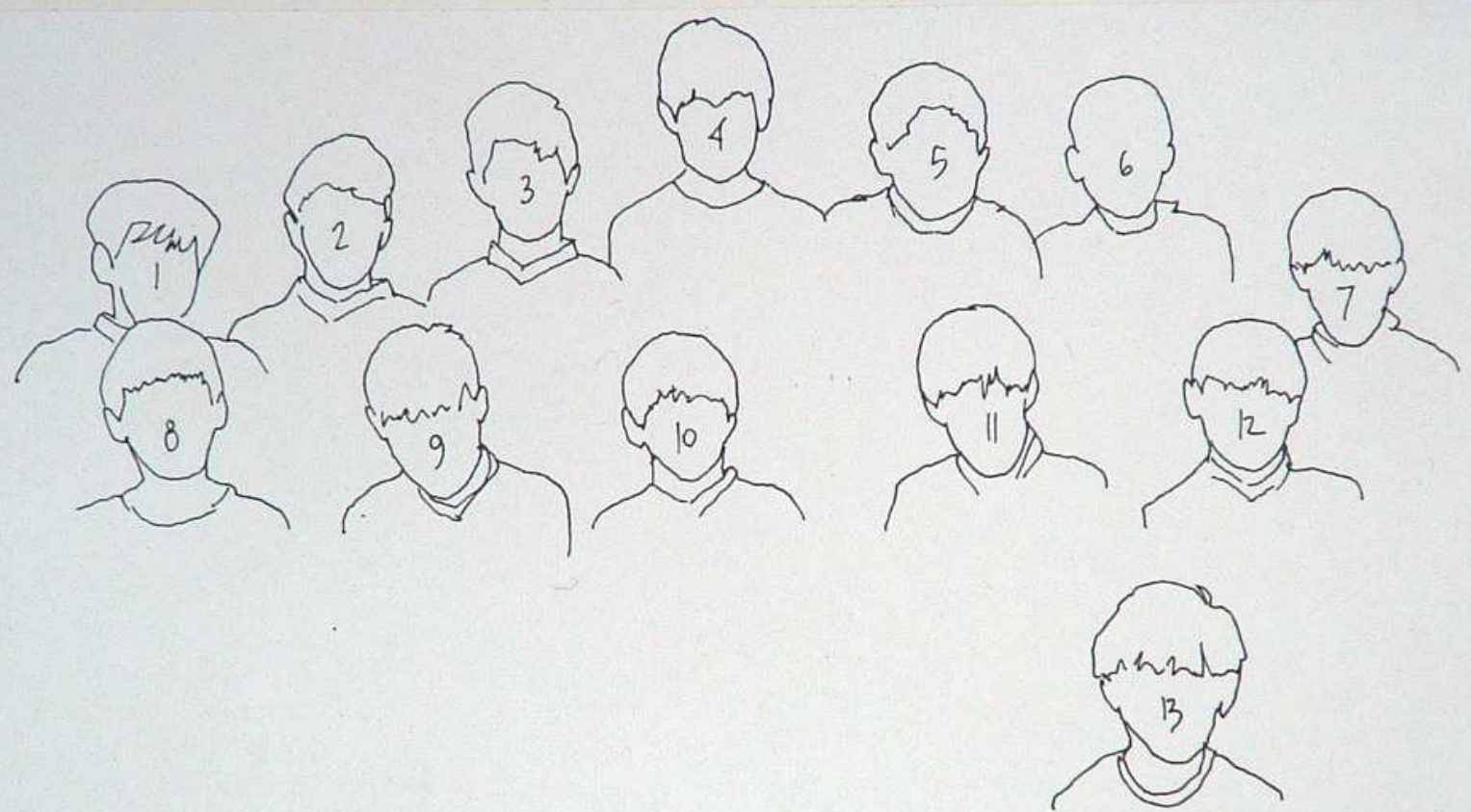


1. JAMES COATES 2. STEPHEN BEARD 3. JONATHAN FAGG 4. RICHARD WALDER
5. MATTHEW MCKAY 6. DAVID FAGG 7. STEPHEN GODDEN 8. WILLIAM DRAPPER
9. JO KROCKHUNT 10. DANIEL POLLARD 11. OLIVER PATHMILL

5. HADDAH GREEN 6. Kim Atkins 7. Beverly Fry 8. Helen Varley
 9. Jo-Hills



FOOTBALL TEAM
1988-1989



1. NRI DO THOUNG
2. HAMISH MACMILLAN
3. KEVIN FAGG?
4. TIM SPENCER
5. JULIAN MAYNARD
6. DAN PEARSON
7. JAMIE GREEN
8. ANDREW THACKRAY
9. BOB WHITEN
10. MATT HORGAN
11. JAMES SINNOCK
12. MARK THORNBY
13. MICHAEL DAVIS

EVACU



Lou Round; Jenny Vye; Pat Gulvin; Mary Parsons; P. Smith...
Mike ^{windlass} Windlass; Barbara Herbert; Mrs ^{Collier} Colyer; Wendy Tomlin; Pat Austin



Bridge Primary School, Bridge

Mrs Sarah Moore

Kiran Dhalwal William Walsh Charles Lloyd-Hughes

Andrew Daley

Jonathan
Thompsett
(Littlebourne)

~~Joseph~~
Susanna
Rubin

Maddy Tuck Fay Holmes

Bethany Albery
(Canterbury)

Gregory
Warner

Jake
Carpenter

Matthew
Leach.

Harriet Perles