

# Underbool Primary School Centenary – A Huge Success

On Sunday June 9<sup>th</sup> the Underbool Primary School officially celebrated its' 100th year of Primary Education. Three hundred and eleven past students, staff and friends registered on the day, along with a lot of apologies. The school, the yard and gardens looked a picture and the weather was perfect.

School Council President, Theo Magnisalis and Principal, Rebecca Prentice welcomed everyone to our celebrations and gave a brief rundown of the day's proceedings. Mr Robert Bowker, Principal from 1971 – 73 was then invited to officially open the day. He spoke briefly of his memories of the school, his wonderful staff and students, the dust, the heat, the school house and the flies!!! He then unveiled the Centenary Plaque and declared the day open. This was followed with memories from two of the oldest students present, Tom Jackson and Ray Gloster, both enrolled in 1932. Tom recalled riding his horse to school and winning the Gloster Cup at the school sports in 1940. Ray entertained the crowd with his exceptional ability to recite the alphabet backwards! Roll call was held after lunch where students gathered together in the decade of their enrolment and the rolls were signed by those present and photos were taken.

During the day visitors enjoyed looking at old photos and reading various reports from School Council and the Mothers' Club and studying the school time line of the past 100 years. Much laughter could be heard from people reading the various snippets taken from the school minutes. Other reports on displays included school camps, technology and school upgrades. There were interviews with various past students and staff and photo slide shows running on the electronic white boards during the day. The children were entertained having their faces painted by a very clever artist, Tara Tonso. Thank you Tara! There were, and still are, various items of memorabilia such as coffee cups, 2014 calendars and trolley tokens for sale on the day.( If you would like to make a purchase please contact the school or a parent.)

Huge congratulations to everyone for their work before, during and after the Centenary. It was a fantastic success and the feedback has been over whelming. The comments regarding the school and the grounds were glowing and all school families should be extremely proud of the way the school was presented to our many visitors on the weekend. The day ran smoothly, the food was beautiful and plentiful, the weather was perfect and the conversations flowed freely. This was a very memorable day.

As with any successful event there are always thank you's that must be made - A Great Big Thank you to all members of the community who so kindly donated soup and a beautiful array of cakes, biscuits and slices. To Nathan Grayling and Jason Elliott, thank you so much for your generosity. Thank you also to the community members, school parents and staff who formed our hard working Centenary Committee and for putting everything together for the day. This all contributed to making our special day even more special. Please see more detailed thank you's in the classified section of this paper, and photos on the school website [www.underboolps.vic.edu.au](http://www.underboolps.vic.edu.au)