

Bulahdelah & District News

Bulahdelah turns back clock

The clock was turned back in Bulahdelah on Saturday, September 4, when a team of 12 red bullocks pulled their load down the main street towards the river.

They were part of the biggest procession the town has seen, with nearly 50 floats.

The procession was the first event in the 125th Anniversary celebrations at Bulahdelah Central School.

Sections of the Pacific Highway were closed as the floats crossed over to line up outside the school at the end of the parade.

There were floats from most community groups, an olden days and modern float from the school, the wonderful old steam traction engine from the Historical Society, all led by the Bulahdelah School and Community Band.

In fact, it was almost impossible to find a truck in town as they were all being used for the parade.

With the school grounds looking superb, it was a shame that we had to hold the official opening in the hall because of the rain.

But it was still a large crowd who gathered to lis-

ten to the Governor of NSW, Rear-Admiral Peter Sinclair speak about the importance of tradition in school and community life.

We are one of the few schools who have had the honour of two visits by His Excellency.

After he declared the weekend officially open, the Minister for Education and Training, Virginia Chadwick, spoke to the gathering about the relationship between the school and its community.

The strength of co-operative community life in the town is seen in the fact that it was the townspeople, through the P&C, who built what was then the science block (in the 1950s).

The townspeople later built the town's swimming pool and then the nursing home.

After the speeches in the hall, the sun broke through, so the crowd adjourned to the area out the front of the school where the Governor and Mrs Chadwick were able to plant a tree each.

His Excellency was able

His Excellency was able to unveil the memorial plaque and Helga Holbe, Director-General of Education, Hunter Region, was able to bury the time capsule which will be left in place for 100 years.

The official party included, as well as those already mentioned, Sandra Machin, the Mayor of Great Lakes Council (who was the major sponsor of the weekend), John Turner, the Member for Myall Lakes, Jack Ireland and Mrs Ireland, Don Hopkins, the Cluster Director, Jeff Carryer, President of the P&C, Bev Maybury, President of the Parent Support Group, secondary school captains, Kerry Chapman and Bradley Martin and representatives of the primary school captains, Candice Smith and Lincoln Carter.

The four school captains present assisted in the opening ceremony.

Lunch followed, with the official party seated under a large marquee.

Lunch was cooked by the Coolongolook Progress Association and it was excellent.

They fed about 500 people in no time flat, which was good because a lot of people were more interested in talking than

at the superb displays which had been set up in many classrooms, more talking, sports and games on the oval, more talking.

There was also a Tae-Kwon-Do display put on by Steve McKiernan and his students. Steve is a past school captain.

The displays really were something, with different rooms devoted to different decades.

The Historical Society and the Bulahdelah Antique Shop had very kindly donated a lot of items which added greatly to the atmosphere.

All those old school photos — they brought back a lot of memories.

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eating.

The rest of the afternoon was spent talking, looking at the superb displays



• Steam traction engine in the street parade.



• Part of the lunchtime crowd at Bulahdelah Central School's 25th anniversary.



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Bulahdelah turns back the clock

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That night, almost 300 people gathered at the Bulahdelah Bowling Club for a reunion dinner.

In a night of many highlights, one had to be Kay Smith and Ros Leary singing their old school bus song. They were so musical.

Another large crowd enjoyed a barbecue at the showground, with the Rescue Squad cooking.

The next day began with a combined church service in the school hall.

There was an enormous crowd who listened to representatives of the Anglican, Roman Catholic, Uniting and Latter Day Saints churches.

After morning tea, those

JOHN'S CLUBS.

After morning tea, there was more time to look at displays and talk, before lunch.

The barbecue was organised by the Bulahdelah Lions Club. Then, as the afternoon wore on, visitors began to leave.

It was a weekend to remember, and our school would like to thank everyone who contributed towards making it

great, from those who took part in the parade to those who travelled so far to be a part of it.

We will be contacting people individually but this is an opportunity to say "thankyou" to you all.

We won't forget it.

Footnote: Whilst those in town were enjoying themselves, a team of

in town were enjoying themselves, a team of primary and secondary students were working hard in Sydney in the Tournament of the Minds competition.

This competition is designed to encourage students to think creatively, logically and cooperatively, working as they do within their teams.

Fittingly, the Bulahdelah teams did very well. We are proud of them and pleased that they were successful on the Anniversary weekend! Their report is elsewhere in the paper.

Another footnote: Good luck to our team in the Port Pedal Prix taking place in Port Macquarie on September 11. Team Manager, Don Lansdowne, will be competing.

**Manager, Don Lansdowne,
will be expecting a result
similar to last year's when
they won!**