

The location, with view of the Kindergarten

NEW LYNN



LYNN
BEAUTIFUL

KINDERGARTEN

N. LYNN KINDERGARTEN

After being closed for three years the New Lynn Kindergarten reopened on Monday, November 5th. This attractive new building in Totara Avenue with a staff of two and an ultimate roll of 40 children in the morning and 40 on two afternoons of the week will fill a great need in New Lynn.

The Director is Mrs B. M. Cosson, and the Assistant Director Mrs M. Skinner. The hours are 9 a.m.-12 noon every day and 1.30 p.m.-3.30 p.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays.

Parents who wish to enter their children on the waiting list are asked to call at the Kindergarten on Tuesday or Thursday between noon and 2 p.m. Visitors are welcome to have an unobtrusive look at the Kindergarten in operation, but with a small staff it is not possible for the Director to leave the children to interview parents.

The children who are eligible by virtue of their position on the waiting list are being introduced to Kindergarten in small groups. Some parents who may be wondering why they have not been notified can rest assured that their child has not been forgotten. As each child settles in to the routine another one commences, so that it will be several weeks before the roll is full.

Pre-school children need a good deal of personal care and attention, as every parent will realise, and the initial introduction is a very important step in their young lives. Once they have gained confidence in new surroundings, new adults and new playmates, they are able to benefit from the valuable experiences that Kindergarten offers.

The Christmas programme will be a very simple one. The children will be learning a few Christmas songs and will decorate their own small tree. On Wednesday, December 12, a party for each group of the Kindergarten children will be held.

Kindergarten closes on Friday, December 14, and re-opens on Tuesday, February 12.

Director, Mrs. Cosson, with three of the Kindergarten's 'first mothers'.



Mrs Skinner, Assistant, with Donald Batley..

New Lynn News, April 4th, 1957

NEW LYNN FREE KINDERGARTEN

Official Opening

by Sir John Allum, C.B.E.

SATURDAY, APRIL 13

3 p.m.

The Committee extends a cordial invitation to interested citizens to attend.

KINDERGARTEN OPENING

Sir John Allum, president of the Auckland Kindergarten Association, will officially open the New Lynn Free Kindergarten at 3 p.m. on Saturday, April 13. The committee is asking all parents and interested supporters to attend.

The new kindergarten building has actually been in use since last November, after a three-year break. It caters for 80 children, 40 five mornings a week and 40 two afternoons a week, and already there is a large waiting list.

The Committee
of
The New Lynn Free Kindergarten
request the pleasure of the company of

Mrs. Giddens
at

The Official Opening
of the Kindergarten, Totara Ave.,
by Sir John Allum, C.B.E.
on Saturday, 13th April, 1957, at 3 p.m.

R.S.V.P.
By 6th APRIL

To MRS. D. GIDDENS,
149 GREAT NORTH RD.,
NEW LYNN, S.W.4

Uphill work in early days of New Lynn Kindergarten

Official opening of the New Lynn Kindergarten recently (which was reported in the previous issue of "The News") represented the culmination of years of hard work, of high hopes, disappointments and ultimate success for many supporters and selfless workers.

The building itself has been greatly admired—both from a distance, for it is a handsome structure on a commanding site, and at close quarters by those who have inspected it.

Committee members and their husbands and/or wives, as well as other supporters, put in many hours of work in adding some of the finishing touches and helping to prepare the grounds.

It is fair to say that the kindergarten would not have been completed so early, nor would the finished result have been so impressive but for the active interest and substantial contributions of the Borough Council.

The late Mayor, Mr Rickards, lent his enthusiastic support to the campaign to raise funds. The same measure of co-operation has been forthcoming from the present Mayor, Mr Brown, and members of the council.

It was the council which made the present site available, free of cost, and gave invaluable assistance in many other ways.

GENEROUS DONATIONS

A large number of donations were made in the way of building materials, labour, equipment and so on. Chief among these, perhaps, came from the Amalgamated Brick and Pipe Company Ltd., which donated the "tapestry" bricks of which the building is constructed, and also the sizeable brick storage shed which is the envy of many other kindergartens.

Visitors who inspected the kindergarten on opening day were amazed and fascinated at the great variety of equipment available for the children, and at the delightful way in which the rooms are decorated and furnished.

TWELVE YEARS AGO

The history of the New Lynn Kindergarten goes back to 1945, according to Mrs S. L. Charters, a former president, to whom we are indebted for much of the information that follows.

KINDERGARTEN MOTHERS' CLUB

As the New Lynn Kindergarten Mothers' Club has been in recess for the past three years, the annual general meeting held in the kindergarten under the chairmanship of Mrs B. Cosson was also an inaugural meeting.

Mrs Cosson explained the purpose and functions of a mothers' club and called for nominations for the committee. The following were elected: Mesdames Alley, P. Batley, Britton, Brunetti, Cunningham, Douglas, Drummond, Fonderie, McCulloch, M. Miller, Nielson, Page, Priestley and Stancliffe.

A vote of thanks to the retiring committee for their very hard work on behalf of the Kindergarten was passed unanimously.

The business of the meeting concluded, members enjoyed a social half-hour over a cup of tea.

Notice of further meetings will be given in the monthly newsletter which it is hoped to introduce in the near future.

The first move came from the Anglican Mothers' Union, when Mrs Hutchinson, now of 5 Rata Street, stressed the need for a kindergarten. Mrs Lord, the then vicar's wife, offered to obtain particulars from the Auckland Kindergarten Association.

She approached Mr Rickards, with the result that a big carnival was held in the sports ground to raise funds. It was decided to renovate the Church hall to comply with regulations governing kindergartens.

Mr Hutchinson was responsible for the biggest part of the work at this stage, states Mrs Charters. Every evening and all day on Saturdays he was on the job with other helpers, and at last the kindergarten was opened for two or three mornings a week. There were not many children about in those days.

Mrs Lord was the first chairman, and when she and her husband left for Melbourne she appointed Mrs Charters as her successor, a post she held for seven years.

EARLY STRUGGLE

"It was uphill work," she says, "but I always had splendid committees. At first we had to pay two teachers' salaries, as well as our quota to the association, to enable us to get trained teachers.

"It was a great joy when the

Government decided to pay the teachers. We were also lucky to have a good director, Miss Kronfeld, who started a mothers' club. "She and Mr Bill Dove ran a card evening, with the help of the mothers' club, the funds being used to buy equipment."

The executive committee then decided to start a building fund, and when it was asked to vacate it had the sum of £1000 in hand.

A public meeting, with Mr Rickards in the chair, and Mrs Cuthbert, vice-president of the association, present, was then held and "that was the beginning of the big campaign to raise funds for a kindergarten, Plunket rooms and library."

The kindergarten's share of that campaign was £900, but it received a tremendous help from the Government two-for-one subsidy.

"I then decided my work for the kindergarten was over," says Mrs Charters, "but they were very, very happy years."

The present chairman is Mrs V. Crawford, and the director Mrs Cosson.

"KINDY" MOTHERS PLAN BIG PROGRAMME

The New Lynn Kindergarten Mothers' Club committee, which has elected Mrs Britton as secretary, plans an interesting programme for the rest of the year, and everybody is welcome to attend its meetings.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, June 5, at 8 p.m. There will be a demonstration of cane work by Mrs D. Giddens and a beetle drive.

Members are requested to bring a small plate to supplement the cup of tea which will be available.

KINDY MOTHERS TO HEAR INFANT EXPERT

At the meeting of the New Lynn Kindergarten Mothers' Club, members thoroughly enjoyed a most interesting demonstration of cane-work by Mrs. Wheaton and the majority of those present departed armed with cane ready to experiment for themselves.

At the next meeting on Wednesday, July 3 the club will have the pleasure of welcoming Mrs. MacFarlane, infant mistress at New Lynn School, who will talk on some aspects of her work with younger children.

As so many Kindergarten Children will eventually come under Mrs. MacFarlane, a large attendance of mothers on this occasion is hoped for.

-New Lynn News, May 30th, 1957

TEN KINDERGARTEN GRADUATES FOR SCHOOL

New Lynn Kindergarten re-opened for the winter term last Tuesday. About ten children will be going on to primary school this term, and as vacancies occur, mothers of children on the waiting list will be notified of the date on which their child may start.

Children may be placed on the waiting list as soon as they are two, but are not admitted to kindergarten until they are three.

Early enrolment means that a child may start at three years if his parents so desire. Possibly they may feel that he is not ready at three years; if so, he is admitted at a later date.

Enrolments are taken at the kindergarten on Tuesdays between noon and 2 p.m., but interested parents are welcome to look in any time.

Got an old car for kindy?

**NO LONGER ROADWORTHY,
WHICH COULD BE PARKED IN
THE KINDERGARTEN PLAY-
GROUND?**

**IT WOULD PROVIDE MANY
HAPPY HOURS OF DRAMATIC
PLAY FOR OUR CHILDREN. IF
YOU CAN HELP, PLEASE
PHONE THE DIRECTOR, MRS
COSSON, 87-114, OR CALL AT
THE KINDERGARTEN.**

At the meeting of the Kindergarten Mothers' Club members enjoyed a most interesting and informative talk by Mrs McFarlane, infant mistress of the New Lynn School, who gave a better understanding of the strange world into which our children will go, and showed many of the fascinating pictures and pre-reading material that they will be fortunate enough to use in their early school days.

A course of six lectures on child development by Mrs Marie Griffin is starting at the kindergarten on July 18th (Thursday) at 8 p.m. and the organizers will be delighted to welcome anybody who feels that they would find these lectures interesting.

The News, July 11, 1957

NEW LYNN KINDERGARTEN

MOTHERS' CLUB

New Lynn is rapidly progressing with its many new shops and industries. Development is also seen in the modern Kindergarten. Here the children can be seen any day, working in their own way, as hard as any adult.

In the shed, small carpenters, both male and female, are busy sawing and hammering nails into wood, making cars, ships and planes. These are invariably given a coat of paint before being taken proudly home to show Mum and Dad. Has anyone ideas on the ultimate disposal of these treasures as the home is bursting at the seams? To keep the home fires burning with them is a sacrilege most parents dare not commit.

One of the latest projects of the children is painting the car which can be seen in the grounds. Under supervision, it is being painted cream with red wheels. This car incidently, is washed and cleaned inside and out, more frequently than any other car in New Lynn.

Seventeen fathers help kindergarten

Some 17 fathers of kindergarten and pre-kindergarten children attended a working bee in the New Lynn Kindergarten grounds on a recent Saturday.

They accomplished a tremendous amount of work, the results of which will be appreciated by the children.

A hedge was planted, together with a number of ornamental trees, fruit trees and roses, which should add greatly to the appearance of the playground as well as provide shelter and shade.

Doctor outlines feeding problems to kindy mothers

"Feeding problems are most common in children under five years," said Dr Austin, of the Health Department, at the last meeting of the New Lynn Free Kindergarten Mothers' Club.

He showed two excellent films on this subject and afterwards answered many questions from obviously interested mothers.

An object lesson was shown in one film, where the teacher gave a class two groups of rats to look after.

Group "A" were fed by children whose lunch consisted of cakes, lollies and soft drinks, whilst Group "B" shared the lunches of children who had cheese, eggs, fruit and milk.

After a month it was very apparent which were most healthy. "B" Group were sleek and full of life, whilst those of Group "A" were irritable, underweight and in a very sorry state.

JULY - 1958.-