

WhianWhian Public School Centenary



Whian Whian Public School celebrated 100 years on Saturday 1st October. The day dawned a little overcast but it didn't deter the visitors who started arriving earlier than expected. There was a hum of conversation and giggles as old friends caught up, some after only a few years and some hadn't seen each other for 25 years since the 75th anniversary.

The day began with the official opening, our guests John Lynch (School Education Director), Mayor, Jenny Dowell and P & C President Jacqueline Drew gave their small speeches and then the oldest past student Mrs Edna Beath (nee Coles) and youngest student Sophie Howes were invited to cut the beautiful centenary cake donated by Faith Newham. Following this, John Lynch and past student Eddie Leeson unveiled the plaque and Jenny Dowell, with the help of lots of children, planted the Firewheel Tree.

The students of Whian Whian School presented a play of the history of the area written and produced by Cathy McEwen an ex creative and performing arts teacher at the school. Old students

also joined in narrating and acting.

A forced intermission was held as the thunder boomed overhead and everyone ran for cover. Two beautiful paintings by Marie Matthews of the School were auctioned during the interval and another by Graham Read was raffled.

After a nice tea or coffee and cake the crowds returned to see the end of the play. More entertainment followed with a song by ex student Chris O'Callaghan, a dance by the Whianettes in their 60's outfits and the Whian Whian Players concluded the afternoon with songs and an appearance from Jake the Peg. The next storm hovered over head threatening a down pour as the Players took their final bow.



By all accounts it was an enjoyable day for all, some wished it was just a trial run, one wanted to take the photographer home and others can't wait for the 125th celebrations!

Kim Read

