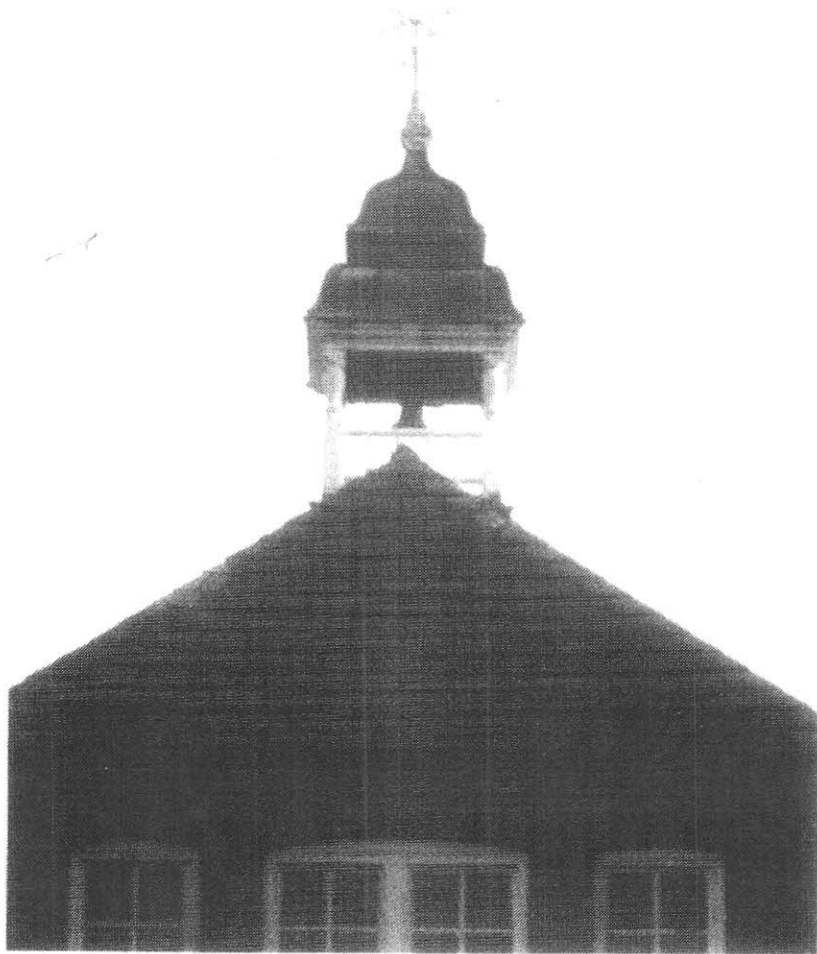


ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF



**BOUNDS GREEN
SCHOOLS**

Introduction

In 1993 the Parents Staff and Friends Association began to think about the forthcoming centenary of Bounds Green Schools, as the date on the Infant School building is 1884, and so the idea that a search of historical records, and appeals for former staff and pupils to relate their memories, would give us an opportunity to put on some exhibitions, and use some of the information to make a booklet to sell at the summer fair, and give all pupils and staff a centenary mug.

We have enjoyed collecting together the information for this booklet, my only regret is the lack of time and resources to find everybody and everything connected with the schools, even now it has been difficult to decide what to include in the book and what to leave for the exhibitions. Perhaps if the schools are still here in another 100 years someone will make another booklet and fill in some of the gaps.

I would like to thank everyone who helped in any way to bring this information together.

**Barbara Harrigan
Julie Zinzan
Dietje O'Leary
Steve O'Leary
Claire Jones
Gill Waldron
Fergus Whitty**

Bounds Green School

Bounds Green Board School originated in 1888 with infants' classes held in the Iron Shaftesbury Hall in Carlton Road (now Herbert Road). It was called Bowes Park Board School. This was superseded by a new school in Bounds Green Road built in 1894. The land (one and a quarter acres) was bought for 1,148 pounds from the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. The contract for the building was 14,800 pounds with an additional 1,000 pounds for furnishing. The buildings were constructed by Mr Charles Wall of Chelsea, from the plans of an

Hospital on the corner of Gordon Road and Bounds Green Road. The proceedings took place in the large hall where a large company had assembled. Colonal A Durrant, the Chairman of the Board, presided and was supported by many local notables such as Mr J Howard MP, the Revs A R Anderson and D Fotheringham and Mr H B Holding. The platform was prettily edged with choice plants and flowers.

The Schools were built to accommodate 1,295 pupils. On 22 April 1895 the Headmistress, Miss J S

A

20th 2. 88 *Bowes Park Inf. School*

I, Miss Charlotte Slater, commenced duties here as Head teacher on 20th Feb. 1888.

I admitted only nine children, by far the greater number of them had never been to school before. Kate Scarborough a First year P. I commenced duties at the same time as myself.

Mr. Bottrell called twice during the week.

architect - Mr E H LingenBarker. The Juniors were to occupy one building, and the Infants another.

The Schools were formally opened on 20 June 1895, although they had already been operating for a while. The opening ceremony was given by Mr Passmore Edwards, a philanthropist and benefactor extraordinary who had also recently funded and opened the Wood Green Cottage

Robertson, had enroled 241 children in the Infant School. The numbers increased very rapidly and by the official opening there were 3;00 children on the register. The event was recorded in the Weekly Herald on Friday 21 June 1895.

1

22nd April

1895 School opened today.

<u>Staff</u>	Miss J. S. Robertson	Headmistress
	Miss E. H. Marshall	Asst. (certif)
	Miss J. H. Langley	Ex. P.T.
	Miss M. Erskine	Art. 68
	Miss L. Cox	P. T.
	Miss B. Lightfoot	Mon.
	Miss A. Linnell	"

26th April. Enrolled 241-

29th Enrolled 24 children

23rd Mr. Botterell visited the school.

29th Enrolled 24 children

1st May Timetable signed by Mr. Kefford, Sub-Inspector

2nd Miss Robertson absent in the morning on school business

6th May Enrolled 7 children

Miss Malony, Ex. P.T. began work today

7th Mr. Anderson M. J. S. B. visited school this morning-

8th Requisition from E. S. A. arrived
Syllabus of work given to Teachers
List of Object Lessons also given

From the Beginning...

1870 EDUCATION ACT

The 1870 Education Act created School Boards with elected members. (All rate payers including women were eligible). The Boards were to set up schools in areas where there was no church provision. They established the principle that schools should be free and compulsory for 5 - 13 year olds (although there could be exemptions for 10 - 13 year olds if they were working). The curriculum was strictly the 3 R's plus needlework for the girls. School rooms and equipment were very poor.

THE SCHOOL CURRICULUM - 1896

The school curriculum became more liberal at this time to include the 3 R's, needlework for girls and drawing for the older boys.

Also:

- (1) Singing, recitation, drawing, English, geography, history, science, domestic economy.
- (2) Mechanics, chemistry, physics, animal physiology, agriculture, navigation, languages and shorthand. Girls to do laundry, dairy work and cooking. Boys to do gardening.

Plus provision could now be made for manual instruction and physical and exercise (including swimming and gymnastics).

1902 EDUCATION ACT

School Boards were abolished. County and Borough Councils created. Local Education Authorities established.

1906 SCHOOL MEALS ACT

Free school meals were first provided for the poor.

1907 SCHOOLS MEDICAL SERVICE began.

Doctors' reports of 1908 found that 70% of children were dirty - some were found sewn into their clothes. Nits and eye, throat and teeth defects were common. Many cases of malnutrition.

Rule 10.a.b.c.d, relating to INFECTIOUS DISEASES as amended
12th. March 1907.

(a). When the Head Teachers hear of any cases of infectious disease in the families of children attending their respective departments, they shall at once send particulars of the cases to the Head Teachers of the other Departments in the same school, to the School Attendance Officers, and in cases of Smallpox, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Typhoid Fever or Erysipelas, to the Medical Officer of Health or the Sanitary Inspector at the Town Hall, Wood Green.

(b). Any child showing symptoms of infectious disease shall be sent home at once.

(c). No child shall be allowed to attend school from any house where it is known, or where the Health & Sanitary Department of the District Council have notified the Head Teacher, of any case of Smallpox, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Typhoid Fever, or Erysipelas, and no child from such house (whether the patient or other) is to be allowed to resume attendance at school until a Certificate is received by the Head Teacher from the Health and Sanitary Department Town Hall, Wood Green, that the house &c., has been disinfected, & a letter from that department, signed by the Medical Officer of Health or Chief Sanitary Inspector that the child or children may be allowed to attend school.

(d). Teachers should satisfy themselves in the cases of such forms of infectious disease as Measles, Mumps, Chickenpox, Whooping Cough and Ringworm, that all danger of infection is passed before re-admitting the children, and should observe carefully the instructions given on page 43 of these rules as to precautions against the spread of infectious disease.

The special attention of all Teachers is called to the alteration in Rule 10 Sub-section C, made by the Education Committee and all Teachers must observe generally the instructions relating to prevention against the spread of infectious Disease.

J. Rubhforth,
Secretary.

Millicent Temple was born in 1904, lived in Queens Road and went to Bounds Green School in 1909.

I remember the headteacher Miss Marshall, and some of the teachers like Miss Cray, Miss Forsdyke, Miss Pollard, Miss Crute, and Miss Bentafield the head teacher of the Infant School.

Miss Forsdyke took us for needlework everybody had to make a piece for a big bedspread, which I think they sold for charity when it was finished, and we learnt how to darn. Other lessons were History and Geography, it was mainly about the British Isles, we were taught about industries, cotton towns and coalmines up north. Girls had cookery classes and baby care. In the English lessons we learnt how to write neatly with a pen and ink, spellings were collected and checked after lessons, if anyone was caught flicking ink they either had to write 100 lines or wear a dunce hat and stand at the front of the class. We were also taught how to speak properly. In Mathematics we had to learn long division.

Outside were the toilets and a sink or trough with a cup on a chain for drinking water. You had to take lunch with you, a slice of bread and dripping or jam. The nurse used to make you wear a white cap if you had lice. There was no uniform as most people couldn't afford to buy one.

When the war was on and there was an air raid we had to go to the air raid shelter, I can't really remember where it was, somewhere near where the college is now.

When I was 12 or 13 years old I used to stay at home to look after the baby so mum could go out to work, my father was fined for not sending me to school.

the circus elephants.

Once after a storm there was a lot of flood and a man and his horse were drowned in the brook in Powys Lane.

ARTHUR KIRBY

(Jed's Great Grandfather - February 1999)

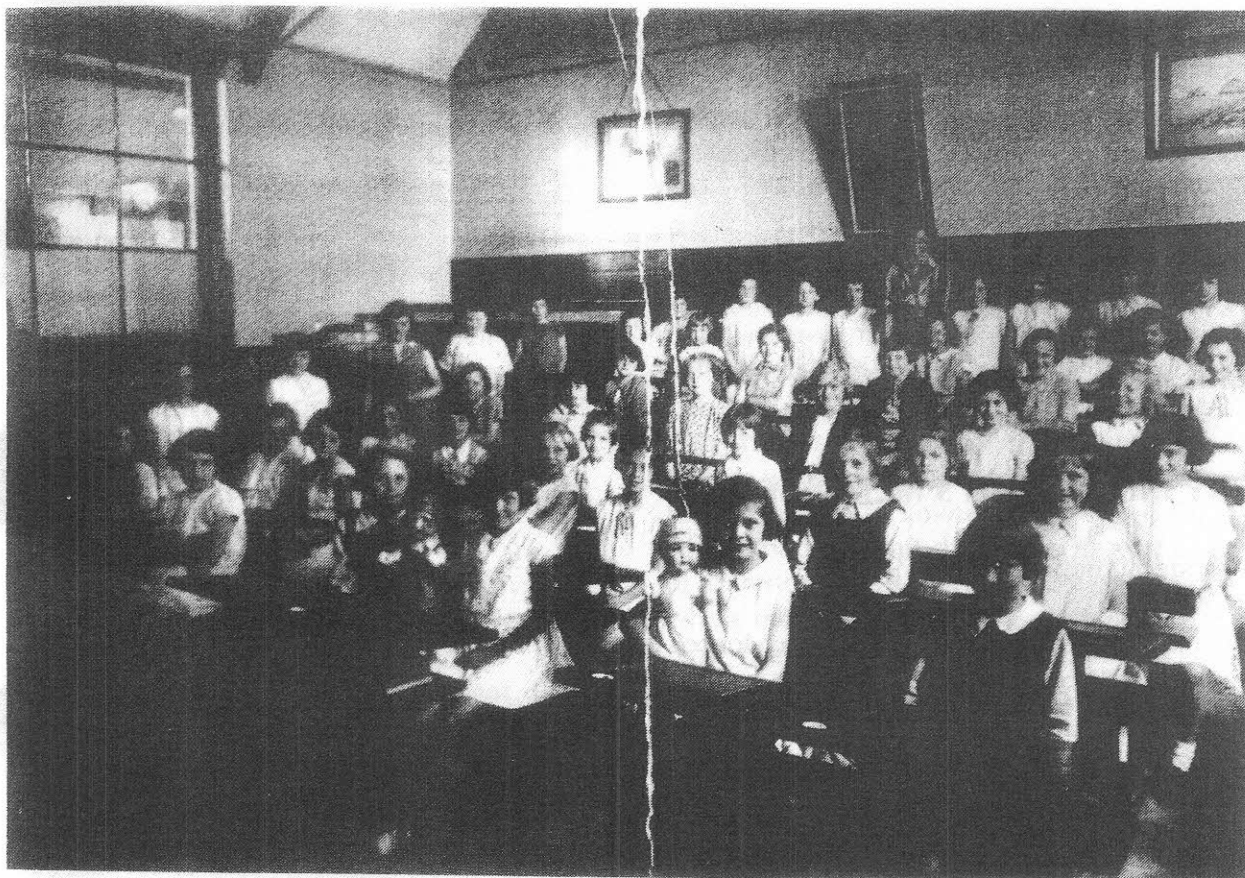
My dad was born on 17th February 1904 was the eldest of 10 children. His parents owned a greengrocers shop at 9 Finsbury Road, Wood Green.

My dad started at Bounds Green School when he was 5 years old. To try and supplement his parents income he got up at 5.30 every morning and did a milk and paper round for 3 shillings and 6 pence a week, which he gave to his mum. He never went to school on a regular basis. He would help load the greengrocery on the trolley and his pony would pull it round the streets where Dad sold and delivered it to the houses.

Opposite Bounds Green School he remembers a rather stout man, Mr Brown who owned a glass shop. Mr Brown would stand outside his shop in his white apron giving the kiddies sweets. Dad used to collect the local kiddies 1 penny to have a ride on a nanny goat along Commerce Road.

Dad left school at 12 years old and went to work with his father on building work, being then a labourer. He later on became a business man in his own right. Having several men, including his own 5 sons, as a pointing contractor. His remaining 3 sons are still in the pointing business, each having their own businesses.

THE CLASS OF '31



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The School was divided into single sex schools, boys on the ground floor and girls on the first floor. There was also a modern block (in those days) at the rear separated from the main block by the playground. This was used for science (first floor) and woodwork (ground floor).

I travelled to school on occasion by tramcar, the child's fare being a half-penny. This only happened when I was late. I recall being caned on the hand by Mr Garlick, I think because of lateness.

The headmaster was a Mr Garlick known colloquially as "onions". My form teacher was a Mr Chesney for whom I had regard.

I recall a journey to North Wales. We stayed in a miserable hotel with cramped sleeping conditions near to Rhyl railway station. This coupled with the loss of my spectacles on the train home, made it an unhappy experience for me.

”

Ernie Nice

“

Slates for writing - no paper. Inkwells - pen and ink for handwriting. The teacher was Miss Dorothy Herbert - the only teacher I remember, so she probably moved up with the class. The dolls were dressed in "team" colours. I am in the second row from the front - second in from the right in tunic.

”

Mrs C E Mead

DURNSFORD ROAD BATHS

The swimming bath was opened in the 1930s. The public opening date fell during a draught but the authorities would not permit use of public water supplies. An ingenious solution was found. Six road tankers were used to fetch water from an artesian well in Broomfield Park. This took a week but if my memory is correct the bath opened on time.

Chas Ward

ROY MIDDLETON'S MEMORIES:

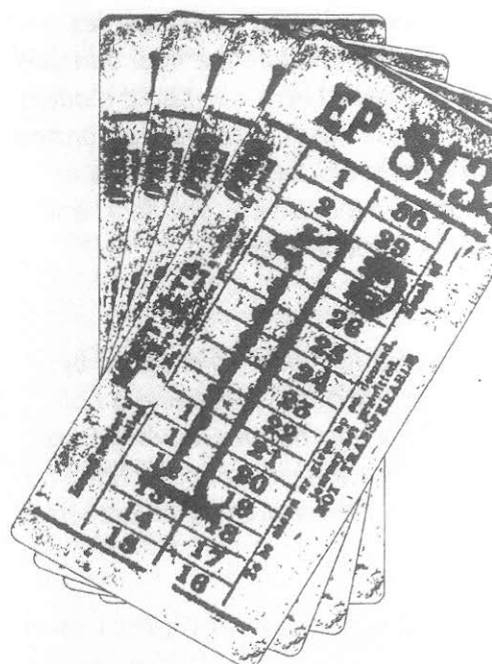
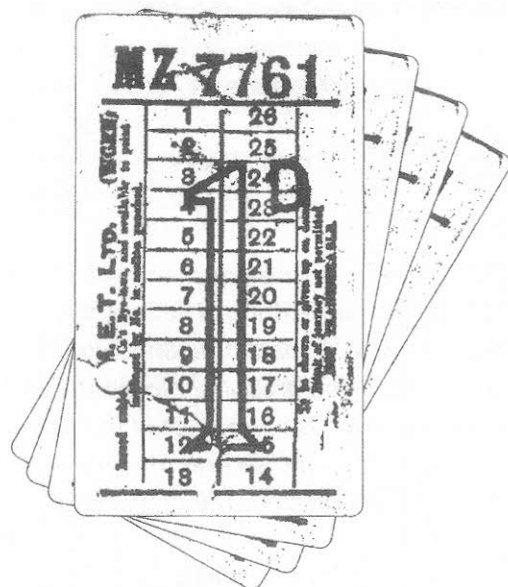
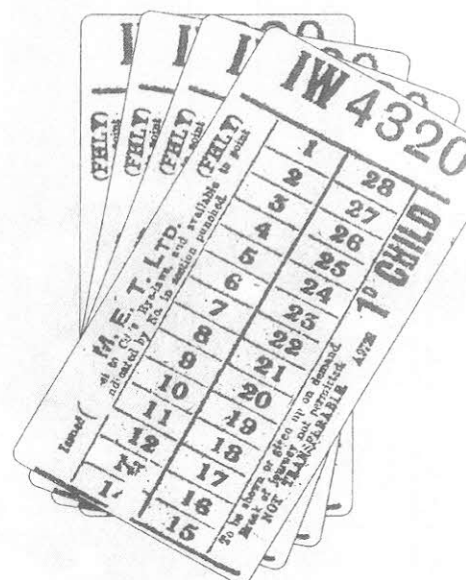
Attended school aged 8 or 9.

Purchased school uniform from Brian Moore's shop Myddleton Road.

Evacuated in War to Castle Hedingham - farm, then Dunstable, then Cornwall.

Collected shrapnel from the road on the way to school.

Left school in 1945.



The Onset of War

As soon as the grim prospect of war was on the horizon, arrangements were made all over London to evacuate children. Bounds Green was no different. Children under school age were accompanied by their mothers. Children of school age went with their classes and teachers. For some, going to the countryside, with plenty of food and room to play freely, and to be well looked after, was a joyful experience. For others, it was a different story. A lot of children were extremely unhappy for various reasons. By the beginning of 1940 four out of every ten children, and nine tenths of the mothers and children under 5 years, had returned to their homes.

For these children and the ones that had stayed behind, many schools, like Bounds Green, had a homework system whereby the children would come into school, collect work and do it at home. They would probably visit the school for no longer than 5 or 10 minutes a day.

A weekly ration of food in 1941 included: 8 oz meat, 1 oz cheese, 4 oz bacon, 8 oz sugar, 2 oz tea, 8 oz fats and 2 oz jam.

One pupil from Bounds Green was supposed to be evacuated with her brother to Castle Heddingham, Essex, with other pupils and teachers of the School. However the brother was behind in the queue and was put instead on a different coach to Hailsted. Nevertheless her cousin and friends were with her and after only a couple of months she returned home to join her family in next door's Anderson shelter whenever an air occurred.

Local women made their contribution to the war effort. Some had jobs in Davis and Timmins in Brooke Road, Wood Green where they made screws for tanks and aircraft. Others were employed at the Universal Plastics Factory in Lowton Road Wood Green which made aircraft dash boards. At the end of Clarendon road there was a small factory where men and women made small fixing pins. The men of the Home Guard also had important local contributions to make: air raid wardens, rescuers, fire servicemen, administrators, toolmakers etc. Wounded soldiers often returned to run cadet services, and to provide training.

Food, clothes, toys, tea and many items that we now take for granted continued to be rationed for some time after the war. In his 1945 Christmas day speech, King George VI said that "We all have to make a little go a long way": and so it was! It was 1952 before tea and sugar came off rationing and 1954 before butter, fats, bacon, meat and most other foodstuffs became available without coupons and "Rations" finally came to an end.

SECOND WORLD WAR (1939 - 45)

There was much disruption of schools due to children being evacuated out of London. This increased with the arrival of V1 and V2 bombs. In addition there was a shortage of teachers.

The war ended with war damage to 1,150 schools out of a total of 1,200. There was much discussion about the future of education.

DATE	TIME	PARTICULARS
14.12.44	0241	L.R.R.
0309		BROWNLOW ROAD, 2.0705 FROM JUNCTION BOWES ROAD. EXTENSIVE BLAST DAMAGE TO RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY AND SHOPS. INTERIM S.R. REPORT.
0414		10 HOUSES DEMOLISHED, 30 BADLY DAMAGED. BOWES METHODIST CHURCH CENTRE OPENED. 1 OF FATAL CASUALTIES IN R.N.
1445		
22.1.45	1429	MINOR DAMAGE TO SHOPS & HOUSES IN STATION ROAD & HIGH ROAD NEW SOUTHGATE, FROM PIREN CRAMPTON L.R.R. AT 1220 HRS.