**Beecroft Public School**

**The Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate, Sat 1 Aug 1896**

ALONG THE LINE.

Beecroft residents are jubilant about the erection of a Public School in their district. It has been agitated for long enough and is much required.

For some considerable time, the Misses Ogden have very successfully carried on a private school at Beecroft, known as “Willabah,” but the new Public School is being established principally through the efforts of parents, who have at considerable inconvenience to send their children to far distant Public Schools.

**The Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate, Sat 5 Dec 1896**

ALONG THE LINE.

The Beecroft school ground is almost cleared and the trenches for the foundations are being excavated.

**The Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate, Sat 3 Apr 1897**

OPENING OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOL AT BEECROFT.

An Enthusiastic Gathering.

The Ryde Member’s Intentions.

On Saturday afternoon a large gathering of the residents of Beecroft and surrounding districts assembled, under the auspices of the Beecroft Progress Association, to witness the official opening of the new Public School.

[EXTRACT]

**The Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate, Sat 17 Sep 1898**

Beecroft.

MEASLES. — Measles are still prevalent in Beecroft. Among the most recent victims are Mr.

B. R. Gelling, president of the Beecroft Progress Association, and Miss Robertson, assistant

at the Public School. The attendance at the school is affected by the prevalence of the

complaint. Although there are 65 pupils on the roll, the present average daily attendance is

only 46.

**The Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate, Sat 8 Apr 1899**

Beecroft.

**At Last**. – The new teacher’s residence, in connection with the Beecroft Public School, has been finished at last, and is occupied. It is a neat and substantial-looking building, quite in keeping with the surroundings.

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate, Sat 3 Feb 1900**

Beecroft.

School Picnic. — The children attending the Beecroft Public School were treated to a picnic on Anniversary Day, the rendezvous being Mr. Lloyd's paddock. About 80 children were present, besides a number of their parents and friends. An excellent programme of sports wes well carried out. Refreshments were provided by a ladies' committee consisting of Mrs. John Lutherborrow, jun., Mrs. Lahiff, Mrs. Walker, Mrs. Willis, Mrs. Hines, Miss Hall,

Miss Martin and Mrs. Fuller. The sum of £7 4s 9d had been subscribed from among the residents, and of this amount £4 10s 7d was expended in the purchase of prizes for the children, such as books, knives, work-boxes, and toys, etc. These were distributed on the grounds. The Sports Committee consisted of Messrs. J. Lovell (chairman), Willis, Hines, Abram, J. Lutherborrow, Lahiff, John Bellamy and A. Fuller (secretary.)

The winners of the principal races were:

**Boys:**

First class - first race Harry Boxsell 1; Second race, Ronald Finlay 1; third race, George Lovell 1.

Second class - first race, Willie Bellamy 1; second race, Charles Martin 1; third race, Charles Bennett 1.

Third class - first, race, Fred Aiken; second race, Charles Wheeler; third race, W. Boxsell. **Girls:**

First class - first race, Marie Hines 1; second race, Amy Willis 1; third race, Lottie Short 1. Second class - First race, Annie Wheeler 1; second race, Freida Bellinger 1; third race, Annie Joyce 1.

Third Class - First race, May Wheeler 1; second race, Viola Fuller 1; third race, Amy Joyce 1.

**The Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate, Sat 18 Jan 1902**

Beecroft Progress Association.

**The Public School**.

Reference was made to the fact that, although the public school had some three or four years ago to be enlarged, there was an attendance of only 18 scholars on resuming after the Christmas vacation this year, and that the services of the assistant teacher had had to be dispensed with some time ago owing to the falling off in the attendance then observable.

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate, Sat 27 Dec 1902**

Beecroft.

Public School Prizes. - The distribution of prizes in connection with the Beecroft Public School took place on Friday afternoon in the schoolroom. Mr. C. Churchill Tucker occupied the chair, and there was a good attendance of parents. Apologies for non-attendances were received from the Revs. G. McIntosh, Bourne and Bradshaw, and also from Messrs. F. C. Cox, W. C. Holcombe and W. Chorley. Speeches appropriate to the occasion were made by the Chairman, Rev. Mr. Druitt and Mr. Willis. The head teacher, Mr. Forsyth, read a report which showed that good progress had been made by the school. The enrolment was 94, while the average attendance had bean 72.5. The school had a good library of 136 books. The prizes were presented by Mrs. G. Perry, and Mr. Perry promised a gold medal for presentation at midwinter to the boy or girl showing the greatest improvement. A chorus was nicely sung by the pupils, and three cheers were given for Mr. Forsyth and Miss Ellis. Bouquets were presented to Mrs. Perry, on behalf of the school children, by Lily Short and A. Gilbert. The prizes were awarded as follows: - Dux of the School, Stanley Livermore; 2nd, Thomas Waight.

Third class. - C. Martin 1st, for general proficiency; Sydney Urie Waight and Edward Blance, reading and arithmetic, Roy Graham; arithmetic, R. Young; special prizes, mental arithmetic, Olive Gilbert; exercise book, Rosa Young.

Third Class, middle: General proficiency, Amy Healy 1, Geoff. Connell 2, T. Davis and Ada Chorley 3; special for mental arithmetic, Florence Davis.

Lower Third Class: general proficiency, Dora Seale 1, Frank Waters 2, Gertrude Healey and Gerald Connell 3.

Second Class: General proficiency, Jack Waight 1, Alice Davis 2, Norman Bradshaw and E. Bellamy 3.

First Class: General proficiency, Clement Livermore 1, Patrick Byrne 2.

Middle: Arthur Gilbert 1, Harold Healey 2.

Lower: Harry Sherring 1, Lily Biden 2; attendance, Cyrus Hopkins, Annie Wheeler, Amy Healey, Sidney Willis and Robert Forsyth; flower gardens, Cyrus Hopkins 1, Gertrude Ward, 2.

Special class, 1st prize, Olive Gilbert.

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate, Sat 26 Dec 1903**

Beecroft Public School.

The distribution of prizes won by the pupils of the Beecroft Public School took place on Friday afternoon, in the presence of a fairly large gathering of parents.

Out of 13 pupils who had applied for certificates. 13 had passed, which was very

satisfactory. A gold medal had been presented by Mr. Sargent, for the best writer in the school, and this, he had promised would be an annual affair, so long as the present teacher remained at the school. The accommodation having been severely taxed, owing to the increased attendance, the Department bad recognised the necessity of having a class-room built, and this very necessary addition would, in all probability, be made early in the year. The school cricket club bad been very successful last season, and, up to the present, had been very successful this season. If the attendance went on increasing as satisfactorily as it had, the standard of the school would be raised another class. The infants, under Miss Ellis, having rendered another song in a very pleading manner, Mr. Chorley addressed the children. The prizes were then distributed as follows, the names appearing in the order of success: -

Fourth Class. - General proficiency, Olive Gilbert (silver medal, by the school), Arnold Hazelwood, Charley Wheeler.

Lower Fourth Class. - Vera Patterson, Annie Wheeler.

Upper Third Class. - Harry Clarke, Jeffrey Connel, Girls: Lily Short.

Lower Third Class. - Dora Seale, Gracie Tomlinson.

Third Class. - Mental arithmetic. A. Henley, Clement Livermore.

Lower Third Class. - Dictation, Edith McKay.

Upper Third Class. - Dictation, Bessie Stobo; arithmetic, Florrie Davis.

Upper Second Class. - Jack Wright, Alice Davis, Garnet Thompson.

Lower Second Class. - Robert Forsyth, Clement Livermore: dictation May Short: arithmetic, Maurice Ferguson: mental arithmetic, Roscoe Parnell.

First Class. - Girls, May Chorley; Boys, Arthur Gilbert,

Middle First Class. - Dorothy Levinge.

Lower First Class. - Nita Levinge, Anny Wright.

Special Prize. - Ruby Biden. gardens.

Special Prizes presented by Mr. A. Biden. - Boys: Cedric Wright and Walter Thompson. Girls: Collie McCall and Mary Davis (judged by Mr. Perry).

Special Prize for Writing. - Gold medal, presented by Mr. Sargent, Rosie K. Young, Amy Healey.

Attendance Prizes. - Flora McCalI, Olive Gilbert, Evelyn Smith, Edith Gilbert, Robert Forsyth, Arthur Gilbert, and Rosa Young.

Exercise Books. - Fourth class. George Bray; lower fourth Eric Seale; third class Laurie Levinge.

Mental Arithmetic. - Fourth class. Roy Graham, Raymond Patterson; lower fourth, Sidney Willis.

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate, Sat 24 Dec 1904**

Beecroft Public School.

The breaking up of the Beecroft Public School for the Christmas holidays took place on Thursday, Friday being a holiday specially granted at the request of his Excellency the Governor, to mark his visit to Beecroft.

The annual distribution of prizes took place in the evening, when there was a very large attendance of parents and friends. The chair was taken by Mr. F. C. Cox, chairman of the School Board, who also distributed the prizes.

They had again to thank Mr. G. Sargent for the beautiful gold medal as a Prize for writing, which this year had been won by G. Bray, and they had to thank Mr. C. C. Tucker for the present of a rain gauge. Mr.H. O. Holcombe, J.P., made a characteristically happy speech, congratulatory of the progress made and the success generally that had attended the year's work. The report showed what could be accomplished when they had the right man in the right place, also the right material.

Prizes were distributed as follows:

Fifth Class: Olive Gilbert, general proficiency (silver medal); Olive Flack, 2nd (silver medal); A. Hazelwood, 1st (boys), general proficiency; Roy Graham, 2nd ; R. Livermore, spelling; R. Patterson, arithmetic and attendance; O. Flack, exercise book.

Lower Fifth: Archie Finnimore, 1st, general proficiency; V. Abram, general proficiency; C. Meadmore, spelling and mathematics; Clarice McKay and Flora McCall, 1st for first aid (bandaging).

Fourth Class: Dora Seale, 1st, general proficiency (silver medal); Gracie Tomlinson, 2nd prize, generaI proficiency; R. Little, 1st prize (boys), general proficiency; H. Clarke and Bessie Stobo, 1st spelling (equal); H. Little, arithmetic; G. Connell, arithmetic; Amy Healey, writing; Ada Chorley, general proficiency; L. Levinge, exercise book; Roy Lee, history and geography. Lower Fourth: Edith McKay, 1st, general proficiency; Nellie Flack, second.

Third Class: M. Ferguson, 1st prize, general proficiency, J. Parnell, 2nd prize; Alice Davis, 1st (girls), general proficiency ; W. Whittam, 2nd prize (girls); J. Waight, spelling ; Olive Beechy, arithmetic, 2nd prize; R: Parnell, 1st, general proficiency ; M. Whittam, 1st (girls), general proficiency; Jessie Flack, 2nd prize, general proficiency; R. Connell, 1st, arithmetic; Helen Livermore, 1st, spelling; Lily Biden and W. Willis, special for spelling.

First Class: Upper Division - Ethel Healey, 1st, general proficiency; E. Seale, 2nd ; J. Dobbie, general proficiency; Middle division - Nita Levinge, 1st, general proficiency; Ruby Biden, 2nd; Lowest division – J. Byrne, 1st, general proficiency.

Best attendance for the year, Annie Wheeler (silver medal), George Bray. Mr. Sargent's special gold medal for writing, Grace Smith, special prize, silver medal for writing. The gold medal presented by Mr. Sargent was in the form of a Maltese cross, and was inscribed on the one side with the winner's monogram, 'G.B.' The other medals, all silver, were inscribed: First prize, general proficiency, Olive Gilbert, Christmas, 1904: (2) General proficiency, Olive Flack; (3) First prize, IV Class, general proficiency, Dora Seale; (4) Attendance prize, A. Wheeler; (5) Prize, writing, Grace Smith, Christmas, 1904.

The winner of the attendance prize — 'Annie Wheeler - had not missed a single day; she escaped the measles.’

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate, Sat 25 Nov 1905**

Beecroft.

CONCERT. - The annual entertainment by the pupils of the Beecroft Public School, in aid of the prize funds, etc., took place on Friday evening, in the School of Arts Hall. The attendance, as usual, was very large. The programme submitted was lengthy and varied, and the pupils generally acquitted themselves in a manner that reflected great credit on the headmaster, Mr. J. I. Forsyth, and his able staff of assistants, as well as upon themselves.

Miss Wachsmann

Miss A. Chorley

Masters Antrobus, Meadmore and Connell

Master Forsyth

Miss V. Edwards

N. Levinge

R. Slingsby

M. Chorley

V. Perry

D. Wachsmann

N. Meadmore

H. Early and E. Bellamy

C. Meadmore

R. Perry

R. Forsyth

J. McKern

J. Byrne

C. McKay

O. Gilbert

L. Levinge

D. Seale

J. Dobbie

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate, Sat 22 Dec 1906**

Beecroft.

SCHOOL PRIZES. - There was a large gathering at the School of Arts on Friday evening, on the occasion of the annual presentation of prizes in connection with the Beecroft Public School. Senior Inspector Lobban, at the examination, had expressed himself well pleased with the work of the school, which he had found in a healthy and progressive condition.

0. Gilbert, jun., had secured a University pass.

Thanks were due to Mr. G. Sargent for the gold medal for general proficiency, won by N. Edwards, to Messrs. W. M. Nixon and Parnell for prizes to different classes; to Mr. M. Perry for presenting materials from time to time, for science lessons, and to Mr. Slingsby for framing pictures for school room. The prizes were then presented as follows:

Fifth class: V. Edwards (dux), gold medal, presented by Mr. G. Sargent; R. Black, general proficiency, prize presented by Mr. W. M. Nixon; E Bonsall, general proficiency; M. Ferguson, mathematics; J. Bonsall, exercise; J. Parnell, history and mental arithmetic ; E. Seale, general proficiency; L. Walker, bandaging; A. Healey, writing; and E. Dolphin, sewing. Fourth class: S. Dakin and F. Early equal for general proficiency, first prize, presented by Mr. W. M. Nixon ; R. Perry, spelling and arithmetic ; A. Gilbert, attendance and arithmetic; R. Perry; mental arithmetic ; R. Connell, gardening; A. Chorley, general proficiency; M. Whittam, general proficiency; H. McKay, history and geography.

Upper third class: Jessie Flack and May Chorley equal first prize for general proficiency presented by Mr. W. M. Nixon; Nellie Hines, arithmetic; Dorothea Wachsmann, reading; Jessie Flack, sewing; A. Roberts, geography and history; Bert. Goodwin, mental arithmetic; E. Perry, writing; A. Nixon, general proficiency.

Third class: F. Crennan, general proficiency, first boys; Doris Edwards, general proficiency, first girls; H. Wilson, general proficiency; Lily Biden, second prize; Harold Healey, mental arithmetic; A. Bowerman, writing; Evelyn Smith, sewing; W. Willis, improvement; Edward Seale, good conduct.

Second class: Sam Green, Ruby Biden, and May Connors, 1st prizes for general proficiency ; Esme Connell, second prize, general proficiency ; Jack Starling, general proficiency; Frank McDonald, attendance; George Bonsall and Robert Slingsby, mental arithmetic; Norman Brodrick, spelling; pressed flower (teacher's special), Eric Seale and R. Forsyth equal; flower gardens, Nellie Flack and Bessie Stobo; gardening (Mr. Parnell's prizes) Frank Edwards and J. Edwards, A. Nixon and E. Seale, R. Black and F. McDonald, R. Forsyth and F. Dakin; attendance (silver medals for not missing during the year). Allan Nixon, Rene Perry, Sid Dakin, Edith McKay, Muriel Gilbert, Amy Bellamy, May Bellamy, Nellie Flack, and John Forsyth. Edith Gilbert and Daisy Forsyth received special prizes for not missing a day for 2¼ years.

In the first class each child received a book; and the special prize presented by Mr. Parnell for the most popular boy was awarded to Eric Seale.

**Daily Telegraph, Thursday 26 December 1907**

BEECROFT PUBLIC SCHOOL.

The annual presentation of prizes in connection with the Beecroft Public School was held in the School of Arts on Friday evening. Before the. presentation, a short programme of music, tableaux, and operetta "Mother Goose" was given. Addresses were given by the chairman (Mr. Nixon) and Rev. J. Brotchie. The report presented by the teacher (Mr. Forsyth) showed the school to be in a progressive state, and the attendance good. Mr. G. Sargent's gold medal for general proficiency was won by Isa Bonsall. Mr. Parnell's gardening prizes were won by A. Nixon. R. Forsyth, J. Parnell, R. Black, and for the most popular boy by E. Seale.

Mr. W. M. Nixon's prizes for general proficiency in the fourth and third classes were won by A. Nixon, Doris Edward, Ruby Biden, F. Crennan.

Mrs. Brodrick's prizes for perseverance among the infants was won by A. Abram. The prize for the best pot-plant was won by F. Johnson. Louie Walker received two medals during the year (in open competition) from Civil Ambulance Brigade for first aid and physiology. Numerous prizes were given for attendance and general proficiency. The teachers were the recipients of presents front the children.

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate, Sat 26 Dec 1908**

Beecroft.

PRIZES. - The annual presentation of prizes won by the pupils of Beecroft Public School was held on Friday afternoon, many visitors and parents of the children being present. Mr. Nixon, president of the Parents and Residents' Association, made the presentations of the certificates, and Mr. A. Lobban presented the prizes. A medal donated by Mr. G. Sargent was awarded to J. Purnell as dux of the school. The president of the P. and R. Association (Mr. Nixon) donated a medal for general proficiency, which was awarded to T. Edwards. Book prizes wore kindly donated by Messrs. Wynne, Parnell and Nixon.

Following is a list of the prize-winners: -

Gladys Raymond, homework and improvement; F. Edwards, mathematics; J. Welsh, arithmetic; Joyce McKearn, A. Moore and D. Edwards for general proficiency.

4th class, 1st prize (donated by Mrs. Wynne) G. Bonsall; 2nd, N. Cootes; 3rd, R. Biden, V. Button (spelling); R. Slingsby and D. Graham (for general proficiency).

Third class: First prize (donated by Mr. Nixon) won by E. Gallard, 2nd D. Sutton; T. Lahiff, spelling; S. Robinson, mental arithmetic; S. Osborne, general proficiency, also H. Burnett and T. Browne.

Second class: First prize, B. Chorley, 2nd Alma Mason. Second class boys: 1st V. Willis, 2nd J. Forsyth.

Lower second class: 1st Hartnell, 2nd E. Flack and F. Way; D. Brodrick, spelling; A. Thompson, general proficiency.

First class: 1st A. Lahiff, 2nd J. Lamer, 3rd Jeffery Lawrence.

Lower division first class: Arthur Smith and J. Seddon; exercise books, E. Seale, M. Hartnell and J. Flack; attendance certificates, E. Gilbert, A. Gilbert, R. Forsyth, D. Forsyth, A. Bellamy, E. Bellamy, M. Bellamy, N. Lea, J. Flack, E. Healey, N. Bonsall and W. Whittman.

Vera Sutton was presented with a medal won at the P.S.S.A. sports.

A special prize, donated by Mr. Nixon, was won by R. Black, for an essay on the Empire.

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 20 November 1909, page 8**

Beecroft.

GARDENING. - The school children at Beecroft have done good work in their gardens, each plot of ground being looked after by two pupils. The youngsters are pretty practical in their views, and vegetables and fodder-grasses take the place of flowers. There are several cotton

plants, which are doing well. Cabbages, spinach, beet, beans, turnips, squashes, millet, planter's friend, etc., are making a good show, though the recent heat wave has done a lot of damage to the plants, and sort of scorched the ardour of the young cultivators, who declare a regular rainfall to be an absolute necessity for their operations. Mr. Halstead

(State School Agricultural Lecturer) was to visit the school on Friday, to give the children a practical lesson in pruning and budding.

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate, Sat 25 Dec 1909**

Beecroft.

PRESENTATION. - At the distribution of prizes in connection with Miss Long's school and kindergarten at Beecroft, Winifred Whittam was presented with a medal as dux of the school. The prizes were handed to each of the successful pupils by Mrs. McCall. Miss Long (principal) was presented by the pupils with a silver-mounted scent-bottle, Mrs. Long with a pair of silver vases, and the other members of the staff also received presents.

PRIZE DAY. - The presentation of prizes in connection with the above school took place in the schoolroom on Friday evening, Mr. Councillor Nixon (president of the Parents' and Residents' Association, and also of Hornsby Shire, presiding over a good attendance of parents. The headmaster, Mr. J. J. Forsyth, presented his annual report, showing that the school was in a very healthy condition, and that good work had been done during the year. Trips, for educational purposes, had been made to rope-works; the Wunderlich Co's. works, the Observatory, and to Mr. Abram's bee-farm, and to other places. The thanks of the school were due to Mr. G. Sargent for the presentation of a valuable gold medal which had been won this year by R. S. Forsyth; to Mr. Holcombe for a gold medal for general proficiency, won by Noel Lea; and to Mr. Nixon, Mrs. Parnell, and Miss Murphy, for prizes; and to the P. and R. Association and others for donations of various things for use in the school. The P. and R. Association donated the money for the prizes for the year. Mr. Nixon's prize for the best rendering of “The flag of the Free”' was awarded to Maud Turtle, with Lily Biden second. A cadet detachment had been formed in connection with the school, and the shire council are endeavouring to obtain a rifle range for the district. Regret was expressed at the continued illness of the hon, treasurer (Mr. Moore), and the report concluded with the hope that the parents and friends would continue to take an interest in the school

during the coming year. President Nixon, in a happy speech, gave the youngsters some good advice, and invited all the parents and residents to show their sympathy in the schoolwork by becoming members of the association. Addresses were also delivered by Rev. A. Jr. Ogilvie, Councillor C. Churchill Tucker, and Mr. Wallace; and the infants sang a medley on “Nursery Rhymes.”

The prizes were given out by Mr. Nixon, as follows:

Fifth class, R. S. Forsyth; special Noel Lea; sewing, J. Flack.

Fifth class: M. Turtle 1, M. Allen 2, R. Boyles 3; oral work, V. Sutton.

Fourth class: G. Bonsall 1, T. Lahiff 2, B. Lindsay 3; sewing, H. Brodrick.

Third class: Beatrice Chorley 1, D. Short 2; boys. J. Forsyth and J. Bailey, equal; D. Brodrick and F. Hartwell, equal.

Second class: A. Lahiff 1, W. Whittam 2; Miss Edwards’ special prize, D. Osborne.

First class: A. Smith 1, C. Lewis and C. Way, equal, 2. First aid: Nellie Hines. Mena Hartwell.

Agriculture: A. Gilbert. Pressed native flowers: Jessie Flack. Special medal for sewing, presented by Mr. Brodrick: Thelma Turtle.

Most popular boy (by vote of pupils), presented by Mrs. Parnell: R. Forsyth. Most popular girl (by vote of pupils), presented by Miss Murphy: Nita Coates. Cricket: Highest score, presented by J. I. Forsyth – Ed. Seale; best bowling average, presented by J. I. Forsyth – Hy. Costigan. Mr. Munro's prize for recitation: Maud Turtle. Special prizes, presented by Mr. Abram for essays on “Bees and Bee-keeping'’: Doris Edwards, Maud Turtle, N. Coates, R. Forsyth, Maggie Bailey, Winifred Pogson, Daisy Forsyth.

Attendance prizes: E. Gilbert. M. Gilbert. D. Osborne, G. Clement, J. Flack, A. Flack, D. Brodrick, M. Allen, T. Turtle, J. Forsyth, F. Johnson. N. McKern; and also the prizes won at the sports of the P.R.A.A.A. last September: A. Moore, D. Stewart, I. Brawne, A. Walker.

The proceedings terminated with singing “God save the King.” During the evening Mr. Forsyth was made the recipient from the pupils of a very handsome set of carvers. An address was read by A. Gilbert, and presentation made by D. Stewart on behalf of the scholars.

**The Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate, Sat 2 Apr 1910**

Beecroft.

**Garden**. – The Beecroft Public School had an excellent exhibit of maize, planter’s friend, cotton and vegetables at the Sydney Show, all of which was grown in the school garden. A creditable executed model of a farmyard, the work of the pupils, was also shown.

**The Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate, Sat 7 May 1910**

Beecroft.

**Diphtheria**. – Owing to there being several cases of diphtheria in the district and to allegations that the disease was contracted at the local school, Dr. Boelke paid a visit to the public school at Beecroft on Monday, and made an exhaustive examination of the school and its surroundings. The teachers and children were examined; and where there were any indications of the subject suffering from sore throat, “specimens” were taken for bacteriological examination. After nearly a day’s close investigation, we understand that the doctor was satisfied that the sanitary condition of the school and its appurtenances was good, that there were no defective drains, and there was nothing about the school or in its vicinity to cause an outbreak of illness.

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate, Sat 31 Dec 1910**

Beecroft.

Breakup. - The annual prize presentation of the Beecroft Public School took place in the School of Arts on Friday evening. The hall was crowded with parents and friends.

The prize list was as under: - Dux of school, Helen Bonsalt (gold medal, presented by Mr. G. Sargent).

Upper 5th: 2nd prize, D. Edwards; 1st boys, R. Connell.

Lower 5th: 1st girls, A. Walker (special prize presented by Mr. Nixon); 2nd, T. Turtle; 1st boys, J. Mitchell; 2nd, B. Lindsay.

Fourth class: 1st boys, J. Forsyth and S. Robinson, equal (Mr. Nixon's special prizes); girls, 1st D. Sutton, Ivy Sonter.

Third class: Girls, 1st Mona Thompson, 2nd Elsie Bellamy; boys; 1st Hugh Macready, 2nd A. Abram, E. Healey.

Second class: 1st, W. Laurie (Mr. J. Seale's special); 2nd, K. Simpson, A. A. Lahiff, A. Forsyth. First class: Russell Martin, Nellie Stewart, R. Shields, D. Pogson, A. Wines, L. Wines, C. McKern.

Special prize, English, Doris Pogson.

Prize, 5th class, R. Biden. Physiology and first-aid, Donald Graham, Mena Hartwell.

Most popular boy (presented by Mrs. Parnell), E. Seale; most popular girl (presented by Miss Murphy), Maud Turtle.

Sewing prizes: Lower division, Amy Turtle;

4th class, Ettie Flack;

Lower 5th, T. Turtle and H. Brodrick;

Upper 5th, Maud Turtle. Pressed wild flowers, Vera Sutton.

Attendance prizes: Daisy Forsyth (has not missed a day for 6 years), Norah McKern, Dorothy Osborne, Gladys Clement (2 years), John Forsyth, Harry Macready, James Mitchell, A. Forsyth, Amy Turtle.

Ruby Biden, E. Bellamy, Bluebell Hartwell.

**The Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate, Sat 24 Jun 1911**

Beecroft.

Improvements. – The Public Works Department, having in vain tried to get the promised additions to the Beecroft school carried out by contract are starting on the work themselves next week. The additions comprise two class-rooms and lavatories, and at the same time the old building is to be altered and renovated. The additions will provide accommodation for 90 children.

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate, Sat 23 Dec 1911**

BEECROFT PUBLIC SCHOOL.

The prize distribution took place on Friday, Councillor W. M. Nixon (chairman of the Parents' and Residents' Association) presiding. There was a good attendance of parents and friends of the children, and addresses were delivered by the chairman and Rev. A. M. Ogilvie and Rev. P. Hubbard. The youngsters gave a recitation, “The best way to spend Christmas.”

Prizes were presented as follow: Dux of school, Doris Edwards.

Fifth Class: Ruby Biden.

Third Class: Annie McKay, Amy Lahiff, W. Lawrie, Allan Hartwell and Arthur Smith.

Lower Third Class: Irene Holland, Malcolm Oxley, Donald Sonter.

Second Class: Mervyn Garland, Percy Quan.

First Class: Campbell Boughton, Irene Mason, Alan Wines, and Grace Garland; special prize for pressed flowers, Helene Moore.

Most popular boy in school, R. Boyles; most popular girl, Una Hartwell.

First aid and physiology, H. Boyles.

Attendance: Helene Moore, Daisy Forsyth, Annie McKay, May Biden, Ailsie Forsyth, Keith Biden, Archie Thompson, Alan Stewart, Verina Stewart, John Forsyth, Elsie Bellamy. Throwing tennis ball at P.S.A.A.A. sports, Doris Edwards; skipping, Daisy Forsyth. First in cookery class, Agnes Walker.

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 7 September 1912, page 8**

Beecroft.

Wattle Day. — Teachers and pupils of Beecroft public school celebrated “Wattle Day” by planting a number of young wattle-trees in the school ground and in the Village Green.

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate, Sat 21 Dec 1912**

Beecroft.

Prize Distribution. - At the concert in connection with the breaking-up of Beecroft public school, the pupils gave the operetta, “Jessie's dream,” very creditably, and several recitations were also given by the pupils. The prizes were given out by Councillor Nixon, Mr. Alcock (president, Progress Association), and Mr. Skellett (president, School of Arts).

Fifth class: Agnes Walker 1, Marion Douglas and Beatrice Chorley 2, Mr. Nixon's specials; Christina McKay and Winnie Pogson (prizes); boys; Harry McCreadie, John Forsyth, 1; Basil McKern 2.

Fourth class, (Mr. Nixon's special): Will. Laurie 1, Bel Hartwell and Amy Lahiff 2, Willie Quan, Spencer Rae, Edward McEwen 3.

Third class, (Mr. J. Seale’s prize): Donald Sonter 1, Russell Martin 2, Adrian Garland 3; girls - Edie Moore 1, Rene Lutherborough 2, Dolfe Henmann 3.

Lower third: James Smith 1, Percy Quan 2, Irene Mason, Campbell Boughton, and Flora Drennan.

Second class: Chas. McKern and Leonard Lahiff 1, Geof. Arnott 2.

Attendance (not one day missed): Helene Moore, Thelma Lahiff, John Forsyth, Vernon Stewart, Keith Biden, May Biden, Ina Forsyth.

School. - A very successful four-act comedy, entitled “School,” was staged in the Beecroft School of Arts, on Saturday and Monday, under the direction of Mrs. Rygate, the object being to raise funds for the School of Arts. Both performances were very largely attended, and the audience on each occasion thoroughly enjoyed themselves. The performance left very little to be desired, all the artists acting their parts with decided ability.

The cast comprised: Lord Beaufoy, Mr. Clem. Meadmore; Dr. Sutcliffe, Mr. A. Fleming; Beau Farintosh, Mr. Arthur Brown; Jack Poyntz, Mr. Harold Filshie; Mr. Krux, Mr. Dobbie; Vaughan. Mr. O. Seale; game-keepers, Norman Hayward and Jack Dobbie; Mrs. Sutcliffe, Mrs. Fearnley; Bella, Miss Ivy Fearnley; Naomi Tighe, Miss Gladys Hamilton; Tilly, Miss Elma Perdriau; Milly, Miss Amy Moore; Laura, Miss Fay Lindsey; Clara, Miss Dorothea Wachsmann; Kitty, Miss Gwen Perdriau; Hetty, Miss Marjorie Hayward; Babe, Miss Jean Dobbie. Other schoolgirls were Misses Phyllis Alcock, Olive Birkenhead, Yolande Cadden, Beatrice Chorley, Esme Connell, Marion Denovan, Nion Kenyon, Edith O'Sullivan, and Nellie Starling.

**The Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate, Sat 11 Oct 1913**

Beecroft.

**Tree Planting**. – In commemorating the arrival of the Australian fleet, the elder boys of the Beecroft school planted about 16 palms of the Washington robusta variety, on the new island platform at Beecroft station. Mr. Allmann, the assistant teacher, demonstrated his expert botanical knowledge by giving the boys a practical lesson in planting these trees. The boys are taking a personal interest in the trees, and water them on their way home from school.

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate, Sat 20 Dec 1913**

BEECROFT SCHOOL

The breaking-up celebrations at the Beecroft P.S. on Friday attracted a fair number of parents. The prizes were distributed by Mr. Wm. Thompson, M.L.A., to the following pupils: Fifth class, J. Boyles 1, W. Laurie 2, Marie Boyles 3;

Fourth class, Percy Quan 1, Dorothy Mc Kay 2, M. Biden, C. Boughton and D. Boyles tie for third;

Third class, M. Smith 1, C. McKern 2, May Barraclough 3;

Second class, Bessie Kentwell 1, R. Forsyth and E. Sutton 2, M. Oldroyd 3;

Upper first class, Myrtle Pogson 1, Leonard Forsyth 2, W. Kingcott 3;

Lower first, Spencer Martin, Jean Mobbs and E. Harvey;

Attendance, W. Laurie, R. Mewklll, J. Forsyth, Mollle Smith, Ina Forsyth, May Biden, Keith Biden.

Public Schools' Amateur Athletic Association prizes: School race (medal), A. Smith; skipping, Daisy Forsyth. Cookery school (Hornsby), E, Flack 1, A. Mason 2, A. Forsyth 3.

**The Sydney Morning Herald, Thu 15 Mar 1923**

SCHOOL GARDENS.

R. A. S. COMPETITION.

INSPECTION BY JUDGE.

With the object of encouraging the Teachers’ Federation Horticultural Society in its efforts to promote and extend the scheme of formation and cultivation of gardens attached to the Public schools throughout the State, the council of the Royal Agricultural Society recently offered a number of prizes for the best-kept gardens in the County of Cumberland.

Thirteen schools entered in the competition.

Beecroft, the last school visited, proved to have been unfortunate, as the judge was informed that straying cows had entered the enclosure a few nights before and cropped off nearly everything. One thing that was left, however, was a cotton plant, said to be 14 years old.