



Pupils and staff of the West Lorne Continuation School (Grades 9, 10, 11) in 1928. First row: C. Franks, G. Neil, E. Schmeltz, C. Nickleson, D. Carmichael, M. McPhee, M. Robinson, A. Miller, L. Johnson, H. Bostock, H. Petrick. Second row - seated: M. Bole, N. Wann, M. Gaudion, M. Petrick, G. McLarty, S. Ripley, M. Johnson, J. Zoller, unknown, M. McPhail, B. Watterworth, B. Matheson. Third row - standing: unknown, G. McGregor, H.

Campbell, D. Campbell, M. Gulchrist, I. Robinson, I. Wallerworth, J. Reid, A. Bostock, M. Haviland, unknown, R. Norris, D. Wattersworth, L. Ripley. Back row: Miss F. McDonald -assistant principal, H. Partridge, K. McGregor, A. Partridge, L. Stormount, D. Carmichael, unknown, V. Franks, Mr. Wilton Elliot - principal. (Photo submitted by Carman Nickleson, St. Thomas.)

Anne Nethercott, a Crinan resident from May to October, lives in Punta Gorda, Florida for the remainder of the year. Last March, she and her friends at Emerald Lake Park put on a fashion show. A video of this entertainment was brought back to Crinan and played at a Women's Institute meeting.

From pants to shirts, to hats and handbags, Anne Nethercott never buys what she needs - she designs it, and then makes it. She says her talent is natural and really doesn't know how else to explain it. Four members of a club in the park volunteered as models of "Anne's Creations". While the ladies strolled they were backed up by co-ordinated music sung by the Emerald Lake Men's Chorus. The Emerald Lake show was the first time Anne has shown her clothing to the public in her own fashion show.



YEAR DOWN UNDER

By Carrie Kelly

Geraldine and Herman Hind recently returned from a year's exchange trip to Australia where she taught grade 6. Mrs. Hind, a grade 7 teacher at W.E.S.E.S. participated in an exchange with Beth Brimmer from Perth, Australia. The Hinds left on Dec. 30, 1992 and returned home on Dec. 31, 1993. Perth is located in the South Western part of Western Australia. W.A. is a huge state, approximately 1/3 of Australia. The population of Perth is around 1.2 million. Perth is known as the most isolated city in the world. When John Glenn was circling the world everyone in Perth put their lights on and he remembers it as a friendly city because of that.

The Hinds lived in an area called Swan View which is noted for its winerys and good farmland. Swan View is located on the Swan river and is about 30 km from the ocean. On most exchanges, houses are usually exchanged with the jobs, but because Beth Brimmer didn't have a house of her own, she rented a place for the Hinds. They lived about a 10 - 15 minute walk from the school so Geraldine could walk to school everyday. "A beautiful place, great climate, it never got really cold, it got very hot though. The last day that I was teaching it was 42 degrees, it set a record, the hottest in two years. It was just incredible, I've never had



whole year the kids never ate inside, they always ate outside on a veranda. The weather could get rainy or windy, but it still wasn't bad enough to send the kids inside.

The school was different than ours because instead of the school being all in one building, they had Cluster A, Cluster B and Cluster C. If the kids had to go to the washroom they had to go outside and go to a different place. They had an undercover area, sort of equivalent to our gym, only paved. It had a brick and cement stage and during assemblies the kids would sit on the asphalt floor. They also used this area if it was rainy for sports.

The classes at the school where Geraldine taught had approximately 30 kids in every classroom and 32 kids in grade 1 that year. The teachers were hardworking and they had paid assistants come in and work with the little ones. The school is pretty much set up the same

as here. "There was a big stress on reading and maths of course and a big stress on technology and design. We were all encouraged to have the kids design something." Geraldine also gave an example. The kids in grade 1 had to design a little plastic pouch that they could put sunscreen in. They had to figure out how it would hook onto their belt and how they could get into it. The kids were told not to worry about it if they made a mistake, that the idea was to use your head and modify and figure things out. Every class was encouraged to design something.

The other thing they stressed was sports. Everyday the kids would go out for fitness. Mrs. Hind's grade 6's would go out before they started their work, and before the weather got too hot. There were in a health program which encouraged them to build up their cardiovascular fitness and watch their diets. They went



outside 10-15 minutes everyday and did a lot of running exercises and games and "they loved it".

There's a real concern about skin Cancer particularly now when there are so many Australians that have skin Cancer. The kids are not allowed to play outside unless they have a hat on, NO HAT NO PLAY. Every classroom has a bottle of sunscreen for the kids and if there's any event where the kids are outside, like a playday or sportsday, they have to wear sunscreen.

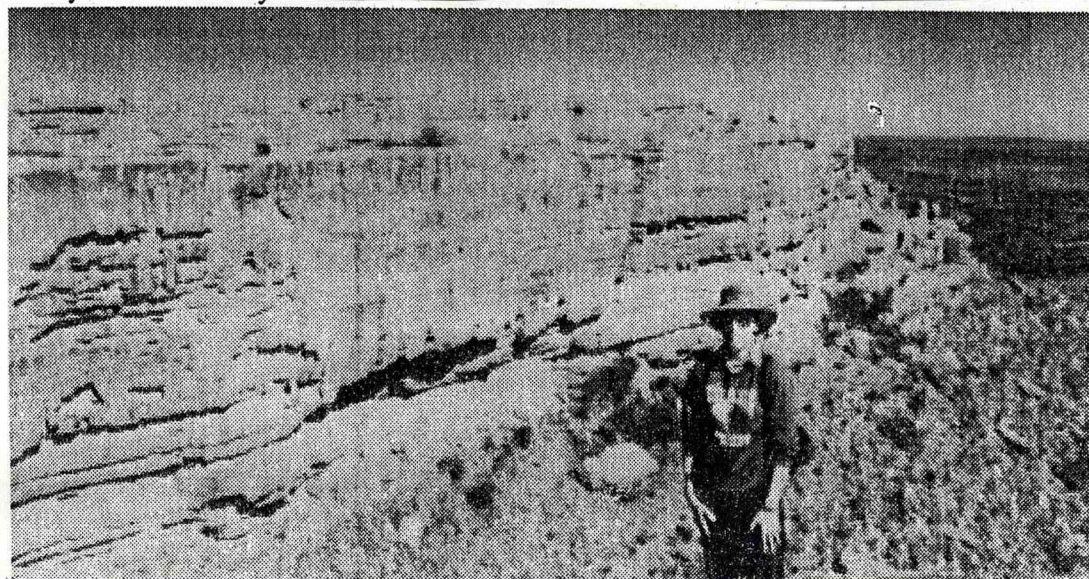
Geraldine gave several examples of the different terms and expressions used in Australia. "When I went to school, they would call blackboard erasers 'dusters' and I wouldn't have a clue what they were saying. The garbage was called the rubbish. They had expressions like 'I reckon' which even little kids would say. They speak

of their mates and that was very very prevalent and I guess it's because life is so hard that this mateship thing has come up. 'you're my buddy, you're my mate and I may depend on you if we're about to loose our lives'. It was kind of funny because I had trouble understanding what they were saying and they had trouble understanding what I was saying. One of the kids, after the first term, said "Mrs. Hind, you sound normal to us now.: She also had to learn how to sing 'Australia Fair' their National Anthem.

The school is set up in 4, 10 week semesters with 2 weeks holidays in between and the Hinds took advantage of this time to travel around Australia.

Gerree's husband spent the year as a house husband and he was 'good at it'. Their daughter Jill stayed with them from September to November.

Gerree says she would go on another exchange if she could because it was a wonderful experience. She would also like to go back to Australia because we met a lot of really good friends."



Minnie A. Livingston