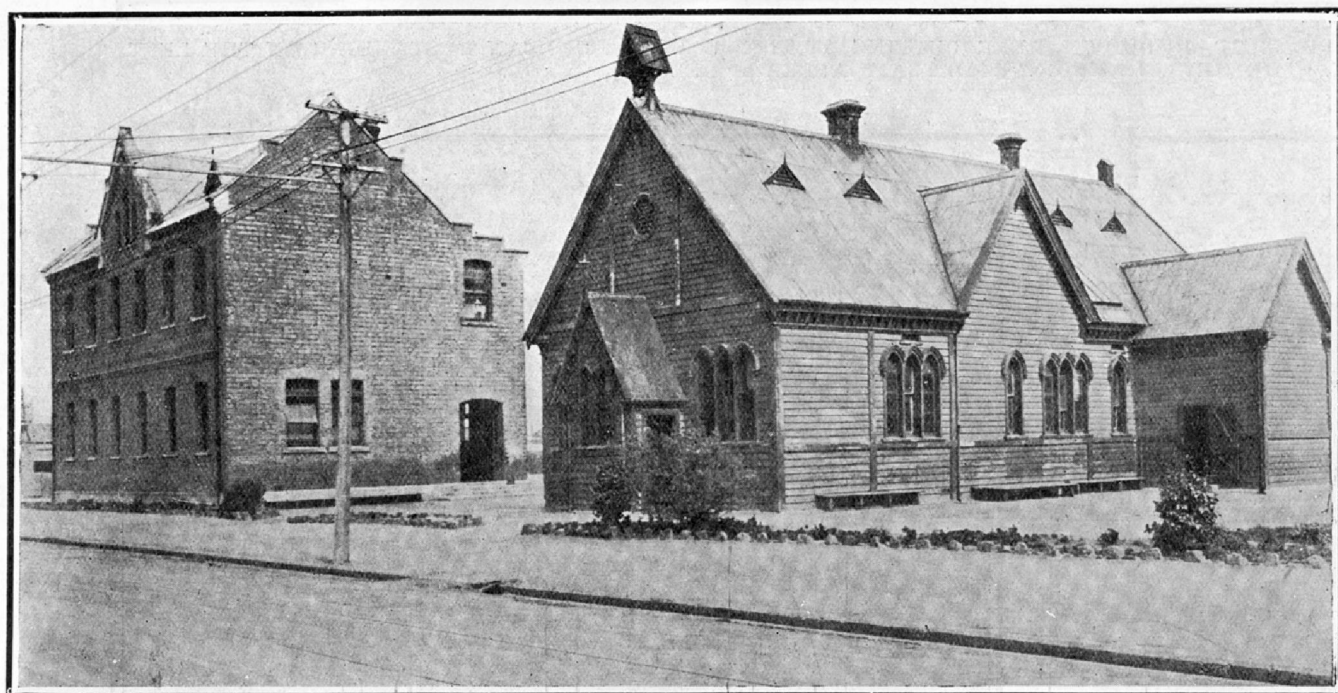


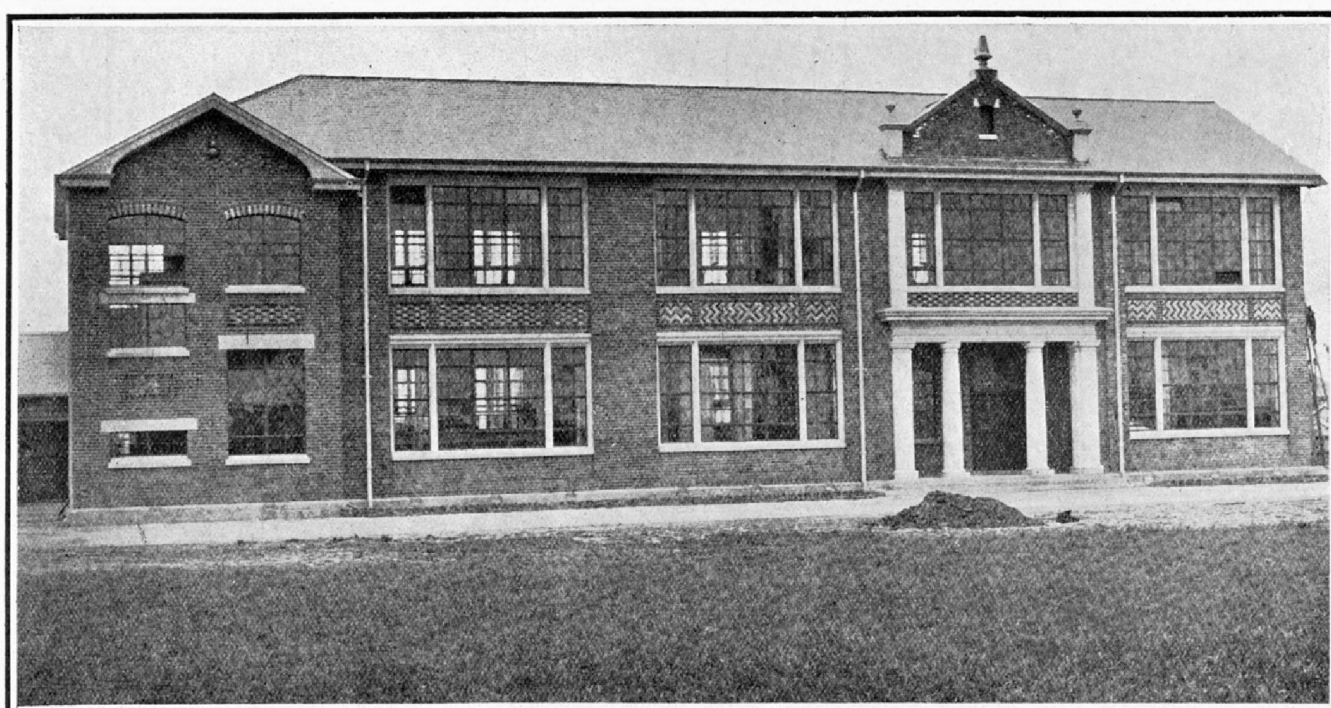
# The Richmond School Honour Board







*The old Richmond School on Stanmore Road. The wooden building was opened in 1875 when the Bingsland School opened on this site. The brick building was added by 1900. The site is now the location of Richmond Green.*



*The new Richmond School building on the new Pavitt St site, nearing completion in 1925. The senior classes moved to this new site at the start of 1926, although the infant classes remained at the old site for some time after that. This building in turn was demolished at the end of 1975.*

Both images from the **Weekly Press**, 8 October, 1925, supplied by Christchurch City Libraries.  
<http://christchurchcitylibraries.com>

# Introduction

When Richmond School closed at the end of 2013, several of the school's taonga were moved to Avebury House for safe-keeping. These items included the school's honour board, along with the WW1 Roll of Honour and WW2 memorial plaque

Richmond School opened in 1875, on a new site on the corner of Stanmore Road and London St. The school was originally a side-school of Christchurch East school, and was known as Bingsland School<sup>1</sup>. The school grew quickly and separated from Christchurch East school in 1881 when the North Canterbury Education Board created a new school district, named Richmond<sup>2</sup>.

The honour board was presented to the school in 1910 by two local men, Mr J. B. Chetwin and Mr H. Langford<sup>3</sup>. The board records the names of eighty-five students who won scholarships and achieved academic distinction at the school between 1909 & 1952. But the Richmond School Jubilee booklet, 1925, includes the names of twenty scholarship winners from 1886, and those names have been included in the list on the following pages.

It appears the Dux prize was awarded sporadically until 1909 and then annually from 1910 until 1954. In some years, mostly during the 1930s, there were two Dux prizes awarded, one each for boys and girls, but the usual practice was for a single award to be made.

The final award recorded on the board is for 1952, but newspaper reports show that the Dux prize was awarded in 1953 & '54, but was then discontinued. The 1954 school committee minutes record a proposal by the headmaster, Mr Pickles, to replace prizes based solely on academic achievement with awards to be judged on broader-based criteria — see Appendix 2. Presumably this system was adopted.

The 109 pupils recorded here represent only a tiny sample of the thousands of children who passed through Richmond School over 137 years. I am researching biographical information about these people. This is turning out to be a long-term project, but I hope to produce another document including this material in the future.

*David Hollander*  
*Richmond History Group*  
*August 2022*

<sup>1</sup> More information about Richmond School can be found in the school's 1925 Jubilee Booklet, available at: [www.aveburyhouse.co.nz/richmond-history-group/richmond-primary-school-50th-jubilee-booklet-1925](http://www.aveburyhouse.co.nz/richmond-history-group/richmond-primary-school-50th-jubilee-booklet-1925)

<sup>2</sup> See: **Lyttelton Times, Volume LVI, Issue 6476, 29 November 1881, Page 1**, available at PapersPast.

<sup>3</sup> *Richmond School Committee minutes book (1910–22), p16.*  
**Canterbury Museum, ARC1991.2-29.**

# Richmond School Honour Board —Names

The honour board only records names between 1909 & 1952. Names in italics are taken from the Richmond School Jubilee booklet, 1925. Other names to 1952 are transcribed from the honour board.

Names in bold do not appear in either source, but have been found in newspaper reports:

1888: *Star* (Christchurch), 3 September 1888, Page 4

1890: *Press*, 13 December 1890, Page 3

1915: *Lyttelton Times*, 22 December 1915, Page 9

1953 & 54: *Press*, 21 December 1953, Page 13, & *Press*, 18 December 1954, Page 12,

accessed at PapersPast (<https://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/newspapers>). It appears that 1954 was the final year that the school awarded the Dux prize (see Appendix 2 — p12.)

1886	<i>Herbert Craddock, Ed. Bd.</i>	1909	Gwendoline Dawber, J. Nat. & Tech. Malcolm Gray, Ed. Bd. Doris Russell, G.H.S. Harold Dawber, Tech. William Devereux, Tech. John Stinear, Tech. Olive Riordan, Tech. Lorna Butters, Tech. Lara Perry, Tech.
1888	<i>Alice E. Osborne, Ed. Bd.</i> <i>Caroline S. Howard, Ed. Bd.</i> <b>Emily Osborn, Dux</b>		
1889	<i>Arthur R. Craddock, Ed. Bd.</i>		
1890	<b>Emily Flesher, Dux</b>		
1891	<i>Charles S. Osborne, Ed. Bd.</i> <b>Emily Flesher, G.H.S.</b>		
1892	<i>Percy J. Flesher, Ed. Bd.</i> <i>John O. Chapman, Ed. Bd.</i>	1910	(Dux) Gwendolen Hooper Gwendolen Hooper, J. Nat. Vernon Russell, Ed. Bd. Jeannie Dunlop, Ed. Bd. Pearl Stewart. G.H.S.
1894	<i>Herbert Chapman, Ed. Bd.</i>		
1898	<i>Frank E. Osborne, Ed. Bd.</i> <i>Frederic W. Lawrence, Ed. Bd.</i>	1911	(Dux) Stella McBratney. Gladys Hammersley J. Nat. Stella McBratney, J. Nat. Vera Hooper. Ed. Bd. Ella Brown, Tech.
1899	<i>Herbert H. Sterling, Ed. Bd.</i>		
1903	<i>Ernest E. H. Osborne, Ed. Bd.</i>		
1904	<i>Irma M. O'Connor, J. Nat.</i> <i>Olive J. Wood*, Ed. Bd.</i> <i>Clement A. Suckling, Ed. Bd.</i>	1912	(Dux) Ingle Bonner Gladys Russell, Ed. Bd.
1905	<i>Henry Shields, Ed. Bd.</i> <i>Gladys Sterling, Ed. Bd.</i>	1913	(Dux) Irene Dawber. Marjorie Nichol, G.H.S. Irene Dawber, G.H.S.
1906	<i>Nesta Mason, Ed. Bd.</i>		
1908	<i>Alma Suckling, Ed. Bd.</i> <i>Roy McGregor, Ed. Bd.</i>	1914	(Dux) Ngaia Finnis Ngaia Finnis, G.H.S.

\* This is almost certainly a misprint in the 1925 School Jubilee booklet.  
The name should be Clive J. Wood.

1915	(Dux) Lucy Young <b>(Dux) Alfred North</b> John Manson, C.C.E. Enid Bowie, G.H.S.	1932	(Dux) John Gale
1916	(Dux) Charles Stewart. Harold Cordery, J. Nat. Henry Searle, J. Nat. Charles Stewart. J. Nat.	1933	(Dux) Dulcie Burrell (Dux) J. Phillips
1917	(Dux) Ralph Suckling	1934	(Dux) Leinster Burnett
1918	(Dux) Keith Newburgh Keith Newburgh, J. Nat.	1935	June Hill (Dux)
1919	(Dux) Gertrude Batchelor Gertrude Batchelor, J. Nat. Gertrude Batchelor, "Cowie."	1936	(Dux) Mary Broome (Dux) J. Bowden
1920	(Dux) Ina Stewart.	1937	(Dux) Eileen Hurley (Dux) Donald Myall
1921	(Dux) Beatrice Lomas	1938	(Dux) Dorreen Olsen (Dux) Peter Bamford
1922	(Dux) Florence Downing Ernest Edward Bush, J. Nat.	1939	(Dux) Joan Sooner (Dux) William Yeatman
1923	(Dux) Delcie Shaw. Stella Rolls, J. Nat.	1940	(Dux) Peter Muschamp
1924	(Dux) Mary E. Stewart & Francis G. Reddell (equal)	1941	(Dux) Ruth Barltrop
1925	(Dux) Harry W. Morris	1942	(Dux) Marie Barltrop
1926	(Dux) Ruth A. Allard Ruth A. Allard, J.N.	1943	(Dux) Deslys McGillion
1927	(Dux) Arthur Martin	1944	(Dux) Peter Spooner
1928	(Dux) Laurence E.M. Grace Laurence E.M. Grace J.N.	1945	(Dux) Margaret Sawers
1929	(Dux) E. Leonie Forne, J.N. "Cowie" Neil F. Fisher, J.N.	1946	(Dux) Brenda Clarkson
1930	(Dux) Clifford Inkster	1947	(Dux) Richard James
1931	(Dux) Kathleen Read	1948	(Dux) Jack Dowie
		1949	(Dux) Jill Champion
		1950	(Dux) Allen Cookson
		1951	(Dux) John Cookson
		1952	(Dux) Carole Hampton
		<b>1953</b>	<b>Eileen Minchington (Dux)</b>
		<b>1954</b>	<b>Raymond Lew (Dux)</b>



# About the Scholarships

Until the 1940s, only primary schooling was compulsory in New Zealand. Secondary schooling was available, but only to those students whose families could afford school fees and associated costs. There was a range of scholarships available, to help pupils who had the academic ability but lacked the means to attend secondary school. In the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, winning a scholarship would have been a major achievement that opened up many opportunities for the winner. Their achievements also reflected credit on the school, and are proudly recorded on the Richmond School honour board.

## Education Board (Ed. Bd.)

The North Canterbury Education Board was one of twelve education boards established by the Education Act 1877<sup>1</sup>. This Act instituted a national education regime after the abolition of the provincial governments. The boards operated under a newly-established Department of Education and oversaw the operation of schools in their region; individual schools were managed by committees elected by the people of their school district. The Act also enabled the boards to create scholarships to assist deserving students attend a high school.

The first Education Board scholarship exams in Canterbury were held in 1878 when there were nearly 90 applicants for ten scholarships<sup>2</sup>. The exams were not easy — readers can see for themselves — some of the 1881 scholarship papers are in Appendix 1, page 8.

## Junior National (J.N.)

Junior National scholarships were introduced in 1903, part of a range of innovations and reforms instituted by George Hogben (1853–1920), who was appointed Secretary of Education in 1899<sup>3</sup>. Many of these reforms were designed to make secondary schooling available to a greater number of students.

The scholarship examination was to be undertaken by talented pupils not over the age of 14, who had attended school in New Zealand during the preceding three years, and who had been instructed in the subjects of Standard 5 or higher. The sum of £10 was payable to scholarship winners, as well as any tuition fees charged by a secondary school; those who had to live away from home received another £30 annually. To ensure scholarships were won by the “deserving,” those whose parents’ annual income was more than £250 were disqualified, although they were still eligible to win a free place at a secondary school<sup>4</sup>.

Examinations were spread over two consecutive days and tested knowledge of English, arithmetic, geography, history, and elementary science, as well as general knowledge and ability at drawing. The pass mark was 400 out of a possible 800. According to teachers, the level of the examination was set very high. The examination could be attempted more than once. At first, only four J.N. scholarships were available to Canterbury students.

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<sup>1</sup> Available at: [www.nzlii.org/nz/legis/hist\\_act/ea187741v1877n21224/](http://www.nzlii.org/nz/legis/hist_act/ea187741v1877n21224/)

<sup>2</sup> See: *Lyttelton Times*, Volume XLIX, Issue 5395, 7 June 1878, Page 2

<sup>3</sup> See: <https://teara.govt.nz/en/biographies/2h44/hogben-george>

<sup>4</sup> This paragraph is taken from: Latchem, Jane. **A Generation of Promise: The 1908 Junior National Scholarship Candidates - Education, Occupation, and the First World War.** (*Journal of New Zealand Studies* NS18 (2014), 66-84).

### Cowie

The Cowie scholarships were initiated by a bequest in the will of Alexander Cowie (?–1918) of Woodgrove, North Canterbury. The bequest made available £200 per annum, for the purpose of establishing four scholarships in connection with the Christchurch Protestant secondary schools or Canterbury College, such scholarships to be open to the children, of Protestant parents whose joint or separate income does not exceed the sum of £200 per annum<sup>5</sup>.

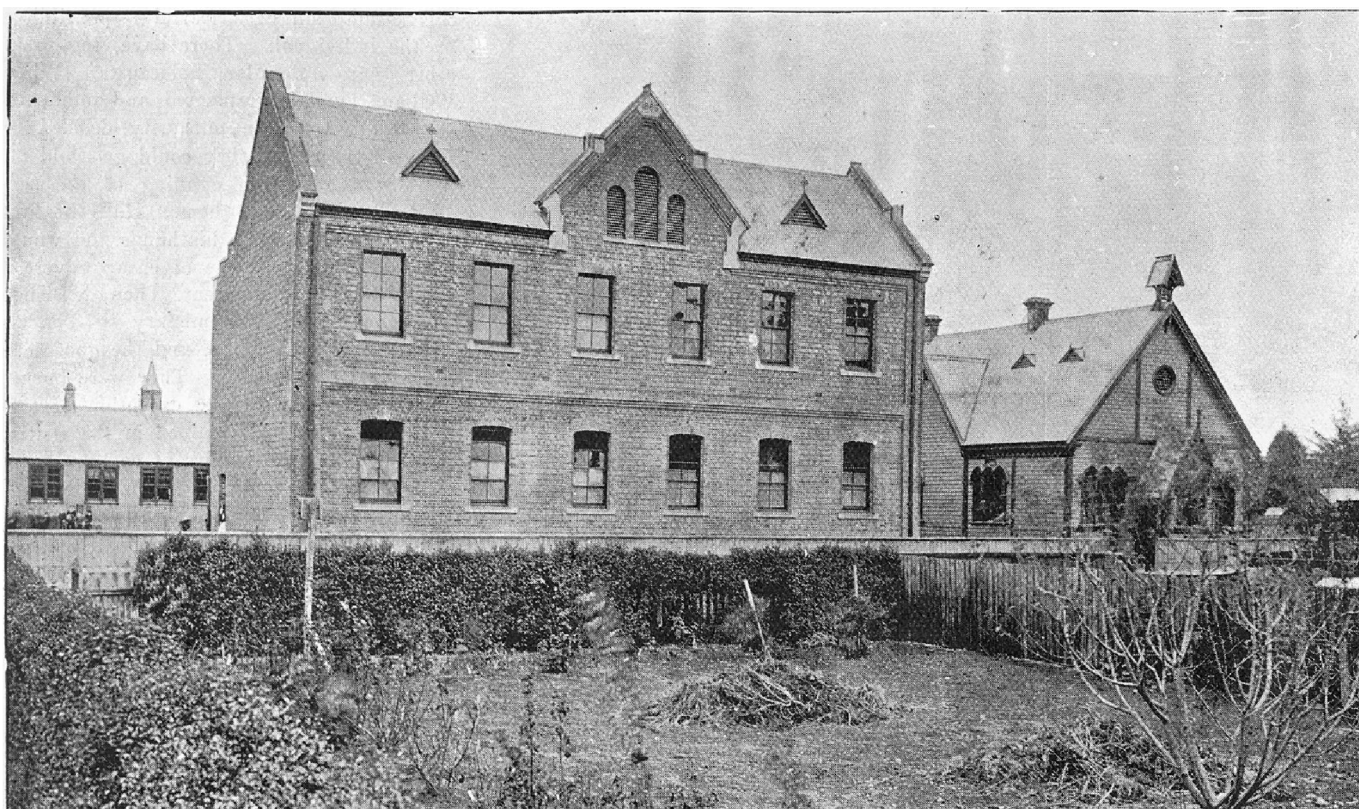
The scholarships were valued at £25 per annum, with an additional £25 if the holder was obliged to live away from home. The trustee of Mr Cowie's estate was James Flesher.

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Apart from these scholarships, several high schools offered scholarships, and several of these appear on the board. Two mentioned on the honours board are for Girls' High School (established 1877) and the Technical High School, established in 1906 on a site on Moorhouse Avenue.

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<sup>5</sup> See: *The Colonist*, Volume LXI, Issue 14919, 15 November 1918, Page 3, available at *PapersPast*.



*Another view of the old Richmond school buildings on Stanmore Rd*

*Image from the **Canterbury Times**, 6 December, 1901, supplied by Christchurch City Libraries.*  
<http://christchurchcitylibraries.com>

# The Names — General Notes

As I researched the names on the honour board, it became clear there are some errors in the listings; mostly omissions. The 1925 Richmond School Jubilee booklet lists twenty names of scholarship winners up to 1908. Another name that should be included is Emily Flesher, who won a Girls' High School scholarship in 1891, along with Charles Osborne who won an Ed. Bd. Scholarship that year and who is recorded in the list. (See: *Press*, 10 February 1891, Page 4.)

It also appears from newspaper reports that there were two early years — 1888 and 1890 — when a Dux medal was awarded:

1888	Emily Osborn ( <i>Star</i> (Christchurch), 3 September 1888, Page 4)
1890	Emily Flesher ( <i>Press</i> , 13 December 1890, Page 3)

So, it seems the Dux award was made intermittently to begin with, but then was dropped altogether until 1910 (Gwendoline Hooper), from which date the award was made each year until 1954. In fact, the school prize-giving ceremonies became quite low-key affairs in the 1890s, when it appears most of the school committee's resources were taken up with constructing the swimming baths at the school (*Lyttelton Times*, 16 December 1892, Page 6).

In 1915 John Manson is recorded as having won a C.C.E. award — a Christs' College Entrance scholarship. Although this is the only instance of this scholarship recorded on the board, there were several other winners of this award: Clement Suckling (1905), Henry Shields (1906) and Keith Newburgh (1919).

One of the most striking things about the names on the honours board is the number of siblings that appear, particularly in the school's early years. Below is a list of siblings whose names appear on the honours board:

Craddock	Herbert	1886	Russell	Doris	1909
	Arthur	1889		Vernon	1910
				Gladys	1912
Osborn <sup>1</sup>	Emily	1888			
	Alice	1888	Dawber <sup>2</sup>	Harold	1909
	Charles	1891		Irene	1913
	Frank	1894			
	Ernest	1903	Hooper	Gwendolen	1910
				Vera	1911
Flesher	Emily	1890 & 91			
	Percy	1892	Stewart <sup>3</sup>	Charles	1916
				Ina	1920
Chapman	John	1892		Mary	1924
	Herbert	1894	Barltrop	Ruth	1941
Sterling	Herbert	1899		Marie	1942
	Gladys	1905			
			Cookson	Allen	1950
Suckling	Clement	1904		John	1951
	Alma	1908			

<sup>1</sup> Osborn is sometimes spelt with an 'e', as it is on the honour board, but the correct spelling is Osborn.

<sup>2</sup> Gwendoline Dawber, who won two scholarships (Junior National and a Technical scholarship) in 1909, may have been related to Harold and Irene, but was not their sibling. Her father, Mr F. W. Dawber, lived in Brittan St. Harold and Irene's father was Alfred — the family lived at Marshland.

<sup>3</sup> Pearl Stewart, who won a G.H.S. scholarship in 1910, was not a sibling.



The later pairings, Ruth & Marie Barltrop and Allen & John Cookson, cannot be confirmed as siblings from the school records, because these are not available beyond 1922 (i.e., 100 years ago). I have assumed their family relationship.

It is not surprising perhaps, to see that two of the schoolmasters' children won academic distinction at the school:

Caroline Howard won an Education Board scholarship in 1888; she was the daughter of Mr Charles Howard, headmaster at Richmond School 1881–1904. Later she was a teacher at the school.

In 1908 Roy McGregor won a scholarship. His father, Mr J. W. McGregor, was headmaster 1908–1923.

For much of this time the headmaster and his family lived on the school grounds; the house was on the south corner of London St & Stanmore Rd.

In 1936, John Bowden was dux of the school. His father, also John Bowden, widely known as Jock, was a long-term staff member at the school. He started as a pupil teacher at Richmond in the early 1900s. After attending Teacher's College in 1910 he returned to the school and taught there for another 20 years. There is a page devoted to John Bowden snr in the school's centennial booklet, available at: [www.aveburyhouse.co.nz/richmond-history-group/richmond-primary-school-centennial](http://www.aveburyhouse.co.nz/richmond-history-group/richmond-primary-school-centennial)



*This image shows two of the school prize winners during their time on the school staff.*

*At this time, Caroline Howard was a pupil teacher and Alice Osborn was an assistant mistress.*

*Image from the **Canterbury Times**, 6 December, 1901, supplied by Christchurch City Libraries.*

*<http://christchurchcitylibraries.com>*

# Appendix 1— 1881 Education Board Examination papers

## PAPERS SET AT SCHOLARSHIP EXAMINATION, 1881.

### CLASS A.—ARITHMETIC.

1. Write out in words 701040086.
2. Write down in figures—two hundred and three millions five thousand one hundred and eighty.
3. Subtract 6485196 from ten millions seventy-five thousand four hundred.
4. Multiply 67047 by 3070 and 86914 by 4009.
5. Divide 36041867 by 7486.
6. Add together 456cwt. 3qrs. 10lbs. 11oz.; 17cwt. 1qr. 23lbs. 7oz.; 4007cwt. 17lbs. 6oz.; 5cwt. 2 qrs. 22lbs. 14oz.
7. A man who has £1047 16s. 2½d. spends £869 17s. 11½d. and then loses £15 18s. 7½d.; how much has he left?
8. Multiply 456lbs. 9oz. 5dwts. 21grs. by 328.
9. Divide £30146 11s. 7½d. among 476 men so that they have equal shares.
10. How many days are there in 81728000 seconds?
11. A farmer owns an irregular four-sided field: the length of one side is 17640 inches, that of the second is 237yds. 2ft. 11in., that of the third 1286ft. 2in., that of the fourth 25137 inches. Express in yards, feet, and inches the distance which a man would walk in going round the field.
12. Find the value of 827 reams of paper at a farthing a sheet.
13. If the cost of 87 articles was £50 0s. 6d. what will be the price of 51 of the same kind?
14. If a family of 9 persons spend £480 in 8 months, how much will serve a family of 24 persons for 16 months?
15. Add together  $2\frac{3}{7}$ ,  $1\frac{1}{3}$ ,  $17\frac{4}{11}$ .
16. Which is the greater: one half of a third of £2 6s. 9d. or three quarters of two thirds of 16s. 2½d., and by how much?
17. Multiply 48·036 by 7·59 and by ·0759.
18. Divide 876·3 by 6·25 and 8·763 by ·000625.



## CLASS A.—GRAMMAR AND COMPOSITION.

1. Divide into syllables :—Benefit, civilisation, blanket, geography, officiating, ascension.
2. Write out the plurals of :—Ox, lily, fox, mouse, cargo, leaf.
3. By combining any two, form compound nouns from :—Man, milk, water, herd, cow, maid, road, boat, steam, house, rail ; and compound adjectives from :—Red, blue, sky, pitch, hot, high, dark, blood, deep.
4. Write the past tense and perfect participle of :—Arrive, go, bear, fly, write, speak, bend, drink, travel, lose, ride, toss.

5.
 

That day Llewelyn little loved  
 The chase of hart or deer,  
 And scant and small the booty proved,  
 For Gelert was not there.

Unpleased, Llewelyn homeward hied ;  
 When, near the portal seat,  
 His truant Gelert he espied,  
 Bounding his lord to meet.

But when he gained the castle door,  
 Aghast the chieftain stood :  
 The hound was smeared with drops of gore,  
 His lips and fangs ran blood.

Parse each word in the second of the above verses.

Explain the meaning of :—Small the booty proved ; the portal seat ; he gained the castle door ; truant ; fangs.

6. Write, in not less than 13 lines, the story of Llewelyn and his dog ; or any other story you remember.

7. As a test of spelling, write words and sentences dictated by the Examiner.

## CLASS A.—GEOGRAPHY.

1. Explain the meaning of the terms :—Isthmus, gulf, island, strait. Give three instances of each kind, and state the position of each.
2. What great river in North America runs through a chain of lakes ? Give the names of these lakes in order, beginning from the west.
3. Describe the positions of the following towns in New Zealand :—Tauranga, Oamaru, Masterton, Balclutha, Riverton, Picton, Gisborne, Wangarei
4. Draw a map of the South Island of New Zealand, and insert the principal rivers and lakes.
5. Enumerate the various oceans, and state how each is bounded.
6. Explain why you believe the earth to be like a globe in shape.
7. If a ship were to sail from London to the Sea of Azov, through what seas and straits would it pass ? Give them in order.
8. Where in Australia are Port Darwin, Swan River, Cooktown, Gipps' Land, Port Augusta, River Lachland, Wilson's Promontory, Cape Leuwin ?
9. Give three of the principal towns in each of the following countries—in Asia, Arabia, China, Hindostan, Persia, Afghanistan, Siberia.

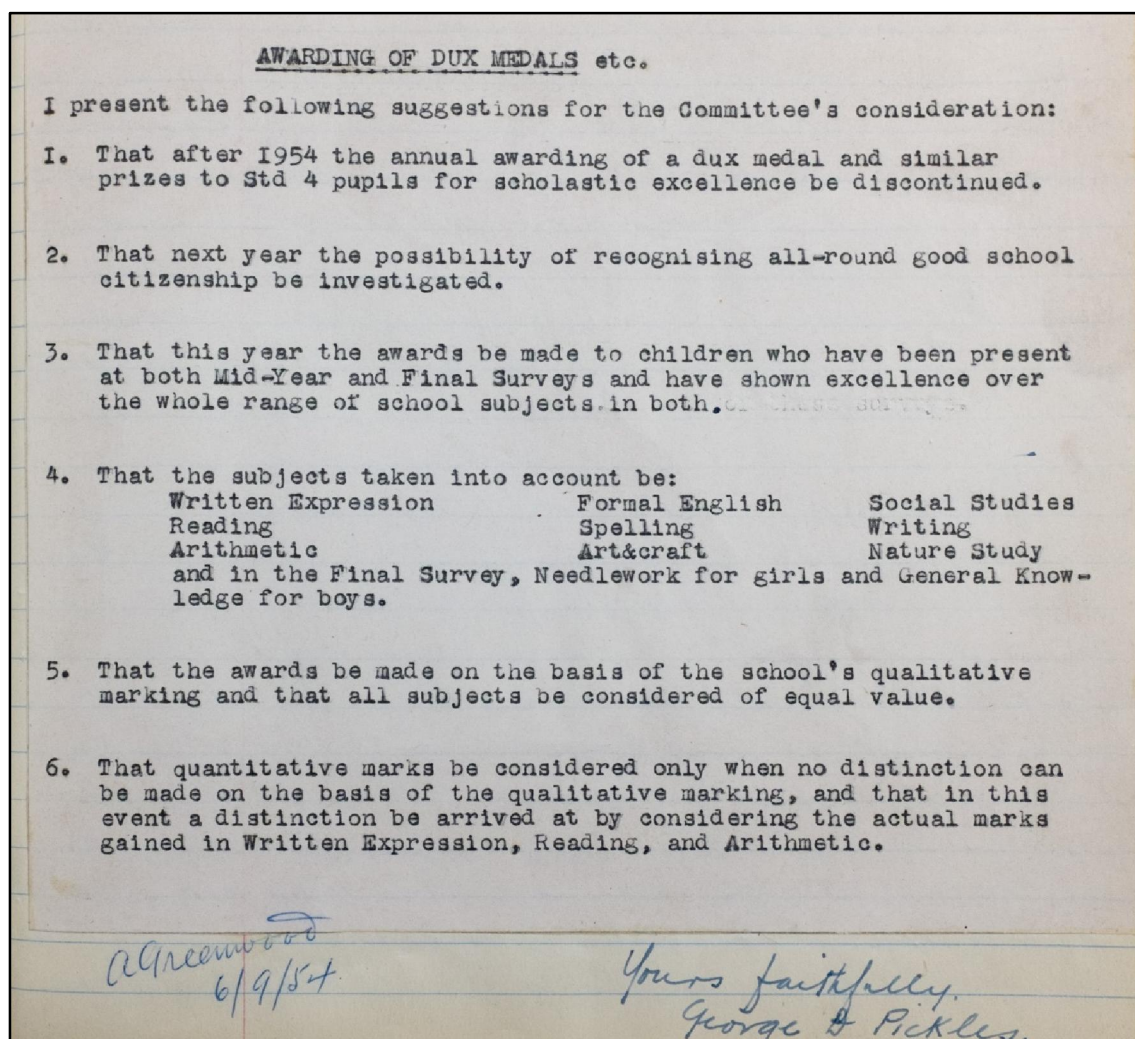
## CLASS A.—ENGLISH HISTORY.

1. How many children did William the Conqueror have ? Which of them succeeded to the throne, and what do you know about any of the others ?
2. Who was the first Plantagenet king ? What remarkable events occurred during his reign ?
3. What circumstances led to the battle of Cressy ? Who distinguished himself in that battle ? What great battle was fought in England in the same year, and with what result ?



## Appendix 2

In mid-late 1954, the then headmaster at Richmond School, George Pickles, included this item in his monthly report to the School Committee. In the proposal he outlines a change in emphasis for the awarding of school prizes and awards. The ideas indicate a more holistic and certainly a more modern approach to education and the recognition of educational achievement. The proposal was presumably agreed to as the Dux awards were discontinued after that year.



Log Book of Richmond school, 1925-1957, p286.  
Canterbury Museum, ARC1991.2-28.