

1940

Many ex-students were serving overseas in the war, which was claiming many of their lives. Most school activities were based around vigorous fundraising and knitting for the war effort and the Red Cross. A junior branch of the Red Cross was formed within the school, and each student was asked to contribute a penny per week to the war effort.

Additions were started to the school to help alleviate the severe overcrowding (rooms 15, 36 and office for S & E)

Sports day was held at the Recreation Ground.



Bunbury High School - 1940's

1941

At the boxing championships held in Perth a student, Stan Richards, won the welter-weight champion of W.A. title.

Another problem relating to overcrowding occurred - there was insufficient sporting space for the number of students.

Students travelled by bus from outlying areas such as Harvey, Donnybrook, Busselton.

1942

WAR SIGNIFICANTLY AFFECTED THE SCHOOL:

This was the year of EVACUATION, AIR RAID PRACTICES, BLACKOUTS and FIRST AID. It was every students' duty to "fit themselves for the great task which lay ahead of them." Evening entertainment at school was cancelled until the blacking out of the gymnasium was complete. Arrangements were made for students to be billeted in the country in

case of any emergency. Evacuation practices occurred every day. School hours were staggered - Bunbury Central Primary School was considered to be in a "vulnerable position" (near the railway line) - so their students attended the high school. School hours were limited to 8.00a.m. to 12.30p.m. for the high school students. The swimming carnival was cancelled - ' **STUDENTS MUST BE PREPARED TO FOREGO PLEASURABLE ACTIVITIES** ' as part of their patriotic effort.

In May there was great excitement when the sounds of a plane could be heard everyone thought it was the Japanese airforce arriving - but instead of panic they all rushed outside to see the planes!

1943

A return to "normal" school hours.

Students came to school for 7 weeks, then broke up for 6 weeks to help gather the apple crop and other farming activities on properties whose men had gone to war. 99% of students aged over 14 worked on the farms.

There were more than 350 students - and it was difficult to clothe all of them in school uniform because of the war.

Red Cross collections continued and the school "adopted" 2 children from Sister Kate's.



1944

"Beachess" celebrated its 21st birthday.

There were now 398 students, and a new Principal, Mr F. Bradshaw.

1945

Year of victory and peace! The Kingia contained a very patriotic editorial.

1947

Bunbury High School was described as "a more beautiful school in W.A. is hard to find."

We agree that our location is magnificent.

The school oval was nearing completion (after 24 years!!)



A cadet unit was formed and the boys attended a camp at Swanbourne.

A Food Relief Appeal was held for Britain.

Students were locked out of the hall because they could not be trusted to use it properly!

25th celebrations of the school on the hill were held.

An intercommunications system was placed in the school.

1948

A film projector was bought for the school.

The idea of erecting a war memorial was touted.

1949

The swimming carnival was cancelled due to a poliomyelitis scare.

The Governor-General, Mr McKell, visited the school.

The school was represented in nearly every sport in the Bunbury Association.

A new system of regulations allowed the students more freedom and less discipline.

