

Beryl Halverson

Beryl went to Ngunguru School from 1948-1956.

In her spare time she would play marbles,

Lucy lost her Locket, at low tide they'd play cricket on the beach; Beryl was a good bowler and would play with the boys.

Her favourite subject was sewing. She enjoyed maths, reading and English but disliked spelling 'never any good at it'. The school has changed since then because there were only two classrooms, (lots more buildings now) had only two teachers to begin with (Miss Edmonds and Mr Delavough the principal. their handkerchiefs and fingernails would be checked and cleaned. Laurel Fergusson looked after her.

She remembers calf club day - they polished the calf coats, had them judged - the Snells usually won. There were displays of native trees, we had to identify them and knew them very well. Mr Spanning came out for special days of PE. Mr Dagger came out to do nature things - plant gardens.

She remembers swimming.

There were about 40-60 people at the school as far as she can remember.

Her memories include

- Mr Delivo was going to give her brother the strap for throwing stones and she cried. Everyone looked after each other, it was not racist, Keri and her were like sisters - like a big family.
- The school got to see the Queen on Waitangi day. They went on an old bus and they dressed up in their best clothes. It was raining and the bus could not get up there because of the mud. Everyone had to get out and the boys had to push it up the hill. It was a really good day we saw the Governor General.
- After lunch they brushed their teeth with toothpaste. They had tins to help wet the toothbrush.

After Ngunguru School she went to Whangarei Girls High School and had 4 years there, then went on to the Department of Maori Affairs in Laurie Hill Park. She worked as a book keeping machinist. Her husband and she bought her first garage service station. She had 4 sons.