

As well as the usual "curriculum" was the tidying up of the school yard, and basic gardening activity. Most of us had the pleasure of planting a tree or shrub in the school grounds. Mr. Wurth was very appreciative of our native birds – but had no love for the flocks of starlings we had at the time. Saluting the Australian Flag was another important routine. We were expected to understand that loyalty and the appreciation of the values of family, country and Empire were natural essential, together with Christian principles, to the life we were being prepared for. This was not marred by jingoism, racist outlook or religious intolerance.

I trust my memories of our days at Blaxland Public School are of interest to you. Our family moved to Glenbrook in 1916 and other than the war years it has been my home town. The lower Blue Mountains have lots of good points – the countryside, road, railway and Aboriginal history, community spirit, a good climate – a great place for young folk to grow up.