



THE SUNDAY SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY

By Bill Pugh

Some of us oldies remember those special Sundays when we celebrated the Sunday school Anniversary. For us it was 3pm in the afternoon when we usually had Sunday School. Not in the Church but in the Hall. Seats brought in from the Church, chairs from other places. Getting ready for a packed house. Mums, dads, grandparents, aunts, uncles and neighbours came. We had practised and rehearsed joyous hymns and songs of praise. We were ready to lift the roof. Often we had a visiting speaker, a returned missionary, or a sporting hero, who is a Christian. Afternoon tea followed.

There was something about those occasions. Looking back they were not only days of marvellous fellowship, but missionary outreach. People came invited, some with no connection to our church or knowing anything much about our faith.

They came to support the kids. In those hearty songs and the message of the speaker there was proclamation of the Gospel. What a message in the singing of, "Jesus loves me, this I know".

I wonder if some of those experiences influenced an outsider to come and be part of the Church.

Reflection:

Pray for the outreach of your church through Messy Church and every opportunity for mission. Use of our facilities by Men's Shed, dancing and gymnastics classes help to advertise our presence. Maybe an invitation to a special service would be an opening?