

AKATARAWA SCHOOL

Situated Akatarawa Upper Hutt = Opened late 1890s - Closed 1918

Evening Post newspaper 29 May 1897

The Hawkes Bay relief fund – Akatarawa School Upper Hutt per E L Ingpen 15s. (article includes various other schools and organisations)

(Reference National Library of NZ Papers past website New Zealand Evening Post newspaper 29 May 1897 page 6)

Comment did Akatarawa School open in 1897 as per above newspaper article or in 1900 as per newspaper article below

Evening Post newspaper 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 25 June 1900

Akatarawa School – Tenders for the Erection of a new Schoolhouse at Akatarawa near Upper Hutt will be received at the Office of the Education Board up to Tuesday 26th inst. Plans and specification to be seen at the Upper Hutt School – Geo. Morgan – Chairman Akatarawa School Committee

(Reference National Library of NZ Papers past website New Zealand Evening Post newspaper 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 25 June 1900 page 8)

Evening Post newspaper 28, 29, 30 June 1900

Akatarawa School – The time for receiving tenders for the erection of the Akatarawa School has been extended until Wednesday 4th July – Plans and specifications to be seen at the Upper Hutt School – Geo. Morgan – Chairman Akatarawa School Committee

(Reference National Library of NZ Papers past website New Zealand Evening Post newspaper 28, 29, 30 June 1900 page 2)

In November 1905 the Akatarawa School was used on Wednesday at 8 pm by Mr Wilfred for local Hutt Election meeting.

(Reference National Library of NZ Papers past website New Zealand Free Lance newspaper 18 November 1905 page 16)

On 11 August 1911 the Wellington Education Board placed an article in the newspaper for tender to paint etc. the Akatarawa School

(Reference National Library of NZ Papers past website New Zealand Evening Post newspaper 11 August 1911 page 8 & Dominion newspaper 15 August 1911 page 1)

The contract for painting and repairs to Akatarawa School was given to Mr J G Lusty

(Reference National Library of NZ Papers past website New Zealand Evening Post newspaper 02 November 1911 & Dominion newspaper 02 November 1911 page 4)

Evening Post newspaper 02 November 1911

The Wellington Education Board has accepted the following tenders Mr W Whittaker painting and repairs Akatarawa School

(Reference National Library of NZ Papers past website New Zealand Evening Post newspaper 02 November 1911 page 4)

Dominion newspaper 21 December 1911

Akatarawa School – The Akatarawa School picnic was held on Saturday in fine weather an enjoyable day day being spent. The sports events results as follows:

Boys' race under 16 – C Morgan 1 I Schmfelder 2, AR Morgan 3

Girls' race over 16 – Myrtle Morgan 1, Grace Morgan 2, Heen [sic] Morgan 3

Girls' race under 12 – May Morgan 1, Clara Ferguson 2, Doris Schmfelder 3

Tug-of-war (six men a side) – Mrr J Ham's team 1 L Schmfelder's team 2, J Ham's team won after a hard pull.

Single ladies race – Miss Morgan 1, Miss Cederholm 2, Miss Johnsonj 3

Single men's race – F Whiteman1, J Ham 2

Married ladies race – Mrs Schmfelder 1, Mrs Grant 2, Mrs Morgan 3

Miss M Morgan was presented by Mr Schmfelder on behalf of Messrs Nathan Young and Halls [sic] with a lady's companion for merit obtained during the last twelve months. Miss Gracie Morgan was also presented with a writing desk.

(Reference National Library of NZ Papers past website New Zealand Doninion newspaper 21 December 1911 page 6)

Wairarapa newspaper 26 February 1913

Miss F A Bodell mistress at the Belvedere school has resigned her position in order to take charge of the Akatarawa school

(Reference National Library of NZ Papers past website New Zealand Wairarapa newspaper 26 February 1913 page 4)

Evening Post newspaper 01 April 1913

The Belvedere School Committee and schoolchildren on Friday presented the assistant mistress Miss F A Bedell who has been appointed sole teacher at the Akatarawa School with a silver manicure set and hair brush

(Reference National Library of NZ Papers past website New Zealand Evening Post newspaper 01 April 1913 page 9)

Dominion newspaper 11 January 1916

Patriotic Funds - Belgian Relief Fund – Children Akatarawa School £2.0s.0d.

(Reference National Library of NZ Papers past website New Zealand Dominion newspaper 11 January 1916)

Evening Post newspaper 28 February 1917

A petition for the removal of the Akatarawa School to a more convenient position and an application for a separate infant department for Upper Hutt were held over for a month to enable further information to be obtained.

(Reference National Library of NZ Papers past website Evening Post newspaper 28 February 1917 page 8)

Dominion newspaper 31 May 1917

Education Board – Monthly Meeting – An application was received for the establishment of a school at Karapoti. The secretary reported that there was a closed school at Akatarawa and there was a proposal that the Akatarawa school building should be moved some five or six miles to Karapoti. It was decided to authorise the establishment of a school at Karapoti and to leave to the officers of the board decision of the question of whether this should be done by removal of the Akatarawa building or otherwise. It was admitted by members that the Akatarawa School would not be opened again.

(Reference National Library of NZ Papers past website New Zealand Dominion newspaper 31 May 1917 page 9)

Evening Post newspaper 16 October 1918

It was reported that a grant of £245 had been authorised for the removal of the Akatarawa School to Kurapoti (Karapoti).

(Reference National Library of NZ Papers past website Evening Post newspaper 16 October 1918 page 2)

Evening Post newspaper 25 November 1911

Otaki Elections – Mr W H Field will address the Electors at Akatarawa School tonight Saturday 25 November at 8 o'clock

(Reference National Library of NZ Papers past website Evening Post newspaper 25 November 1911)

Evening Post newspaper 11, 13 December 1919

Otaki Elections - Evelyn MacDonald (Independent Liberal and Labour) will address Electors at Akatarawa School tonight Saturday 13 December at 8 o'clock

(Reference National Library of NZ Papers past website Evening Post newspaper 11, 13 December 1919 page 2)

Evening Post newspaper 19 October 1935

A Country School - Deplorable Conditions - Pupils Never Taste Fresh Milk - (By W.B.N.) - We were travelling along the Akatarawa Road a party making a tour of inspection of the medical needs of the district when Mr J Purvis leaned over and touching the driver on the shoulder said "I want you to stop here Doctor. I want to show you a school which is attended by children who though they live in the midst of large open grass paddocks yet never taste fresh milk". The car was stopped and Dr Thorne of the Wellington Hospital, Councillor J Purvis of Upper Hutt and others of the party clambered up the bank and over two stiles to the school. It would be hard to conceive of a more drab structure which looked as if a good push would make it collapse. The rough unplanned weatherboards were coated in places with brown paint. The inside was still more depressing. The walls were covered with flirty drab paper torn and stained. There was a lean to room at the back unlined and still more depressing. We were introduced to the cheery sole teacher

Miss B M Gallagher who told us some of her problems. The school had been established for only one term before that her ten pupils had just run wild. The eldest was eleven years old and none was higher than standard 11. There was no water obtainable at the school and as she would not allow the children to drink from the creek all water had to be carried from the nearest house. If only the Education Board would grant the material she would paint the walls and make them more cheerful. It was great fun she said playing cricket with improvised material with five a side. "Is it true that these children have no fresh milk?" "Quite true" said Miss Gallagher." You see their parents live in rented houses and are not allowed to keep cows and even if they could afford to buy it there is not sufficient milk in the district to supply them. The only milk they have is condensed milk. The members of the party expressed amazement and Mr Purvis explained that the fathers of the children in better times had been employed in felling timber now they were members of a working men's syndicate which proposed to deal in firewood but until they had constructed a track there was no income and for years the families had handled no money. The syndicate supplied food rations but that was all they got. Some time ago the only clothes the children had were made from sugar and oatmeal bags. Last week one of the men had lost fingers from both hands through being caught in a wire rope. The man was the father of seven children he was uninsured and would be incapacitated for life. Some of the children appeared to be under nourished and certainly looked as if a daily ration of good fresh milk would be highly appreciated. As we climbed down the bank it was remarked that it was clear that poverty was not confined to the cities and that those who complain of the state of city schools have need to visit the Akatarawa School to realise true hardship. We understood that it was largely because of the good offices of Mr Purvis that the school was opened and that the families were granted sustenance. As we passed by the camp of the single men Mr Purvis had a word of praise for the men many of whom he said were making good. "There are" he remarked "two brothers in that camp they have been there since the camp started and their ambition is to save enough money to start them in a poultry farm. So far they have saved some £150." Good luck to them.

(Reference National Library of NZ Papers past website Evening Post newspaper 19 October 1935 page 6)

Evening Post newspaper 02 November 1935

AKATARAWA SCHOOL - Merely Temporary - Exception is taken by Mrs M Wiltshire secretary of the Akatarawa School Committee to parts of a contributed article published in The Post on October 19 in regard to conditions there. She points out that the school is only a temporary one installed by the Education Board in an existing building at the request of the residents and though it looks rough from the outside it is clean and cosy within. As a proper school would be built it was natural that the board would not in the meantime welcome any unnecessary expenditure. The solo teacher Miss B M Gallagher was not complaining about the conditions as the article might make it appear but merely explaining some of the temporary disabilities. A water tank has been ordered said Mrs Wiltshire and is probably on the way now. What painting has been done has been by Miss Gallagher in her spare time of which she has a good deal. It is true that all the children do not have milk. Some of them do but not all. Those parents who have not milk could easily get it by going for it. It is obtainable not five minutes walk from the school. The farmer could not be expected to bring it. As to the children being clothed in oatmeal bags and sugar bags use is made of these materials in the city also and in the country where the children romp over the hills a good deal and there is really nothing against it. The opening of this school was really due to the residents who applied to the board for a school. The board suggested that a shed could be used in the meantime and the building in use was chosen as most suitable by the residents who made it as ready for occupation as they could. Milk has been provided for the children's cocoa every day.

(Reference National Library of NZ Papers past website Evening Post newspaper 02 November 1935 page 15)

Upper Hutt Library collection www.upperhuttlibrary.co.nz

- Akatarawa Valley A History by Gayl Harray 196? Upper Hutt (NZ) History = General reference
Call number REF z993.65 HAR

Upper Hutt City Community Archives Collection

- Rimutaka District Ratepayers Association 1953 – 1977 reference 16
- Newspaper Articles by Yvonne Airey and Upper Hutt Leader

Archives NZ Wellington Office www.archives.govt.nz

- Vacant School Site – Upper Hutt – Lot 8 DP [Deposited Plan] 41570, block 14, Akatarawa Survey District - Land Corporation Limited Wellington District Office reference 1983 -1985 agency AAMA accession W4320 box 59 record GP 264
 - D/S [?] 390 Akatarawa Block, Hutt Survey District, CT {certificate of Title} 131/144 Part Section 390. Closed Road (Akatarawa School site) Land Corporation Limited Wellington District Office 1984 -1988 agency AAMA accession W4320 box 123 record 021/235
 - School Buildings and Sites Wellington and Marlborough Districts Akatarawa School [See Karapoti School Card] Department of Education Central Regional Office 1915 - 1936 agency AAQD series 23834 accession W3368 box 1
 - School Buildings and Sites Education District – Wellington and Marlborough Upper Hutt Akatarawa School Department of Education Central Regional Office 1922 - 1923 agency AAQD series 23834 accession W3368 box 1
 - Education Schools Te Marua Primary Akatarawa Upper Hutt Department of Lands 1953 - 1983 agency AAQU series 889 accession W3428 box 229 record 31/1616
 - Architectural Contract Files Akatarawa (Tasman Park) New School Site Wellington Education Board Residual Management Unit 1977 agency ABDM accession W3569 box 154
 - Contract Akatarawa Erection of New School Wellington Education Board Residual Management Unit 1904 agency ABDM accession W3569 box 222 record 34A
 - Individual School Files (Staffing Early) Akatarawa Wellington Education Board Residual Management Unit 1923-1941 agency ABDM accession W3569 box 309
 - Closed School Records – Karapoti School (Akatarawa) School Register for Summary of Attendance Wellington Education Board Residual Management Unit 1916 -1927 agency ABDM accession W3569 box 397
 - Closed School Files – Akatarawa Site - Wellington Education Board Residual Management Unit 1923 – 1928 agency ABDM accession W3569 box 431 record 325/1
 - Akatarawa School Site Plan Wellington Education Board Residual Management Unit 1918 agency ABDM accession W3569 box 597 record AB42
 - Primary Schools Wellington – Akatarawa Department of Education Central Regional Office Residual Management Unit 1900-1958 agency ABFI accession W3540 box 98 record 7/6
 - Wellington Land District - Sections 222-223 Block XIV Sect. 361 Block V Sections 368, 387, 388 Block VI Sections 1,6 & 9 (Karapoti School Site) all in Akatarawa Survey District Land Information New Zealand National Office 1909-1958 agency ABWN series 7611 accession W5021 box 847 record 1910/325 part 1
 - Building and Sites – Wellington Primary Schools – Akatarawa Valley Education Department [record group] 1935 agency E series 1 accession W362 box 13 record 33/5/412
 - Building and Sites – Wellington School Buildings – Upper Akatarawa Education Department [record group] 1922-1935 agency E series 1 accession W362 box 23 record 33/5/195
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