

TEACHER LIST for BALMERINO SCHOOL #615

1890 - 1952

- Possibly several teachers here.*
- 1890 - Constance ?(Mrs. Dunlop)
 - No record un til 1895
 - ? - 1896 Jos. Wilkinson
 - 1896 - 18999 Martha Murphy
 - 1900 - D.M. Monteith and Miss McMillan
 - 1901 - Mr. Dorset, T.G. Schwalm, James Burke
 - 1902 - Mr. Harris and Miss Mundell
 - 1903 - E.J. Wilson (first half)
 - 1903 - 1904 ~~Miss~~ E. Ebborn
 - 1904 - 1905 W.A. McConkey and E. Balke (two Months)
 - 1905 - Miss Ruby Palmer (last half)

The foregoing names were taken from the Treasurer's ledger which dates from the inaugural date April 1890. After 1906 the registers are housed in the Provincial Archives.

- 1906 - ~~Miss~~ Elizabeth Ebborn
- 1907 - ~~Miss~~ K. Drysdale (first half)
- 1907 - 1908 ~~Miss~~ M. Valens and Ethel Clare (two Months)
- 1908 - 1911 Lillian Orr (Mrs. Murray Shaw)
- 1911 - 1914 Edith Cass
- 1914 - 1915 Violet Clements
- 1915 - 1916 Margaret Bailey
- 1916 - 1920 ~~Miss~~ Clair McDiarmid
- 1920 - 1921 Lelia Matheson
- 1921 - 1924 Eva Marlin
- 1924 - 1926 Olive Mayhew
- 1926 - 1927 Gladys Mason
- 1927 - 1930 John McGilvary
- 1930 - 1933 Lorine McFarlane
- 1933 - 1938 Laura Johnston
- 1938 - 1940 Evelyn Dunfield
- 1940 - 1941 Ena Ross
- 1941 - 1945 Eva Tibbatts
- 1945 - 1946 Ninalou Duke
- 1946 - 1947 Muriel Fortune
- 1947 - 1948 Jean Burdett
- 1948 - 1949 Ida Rowan
- 1949 - 1950 Darlene Darker
- 1950 - 1951 Mary Matheson
- 1951 - 1952 Marion Hall

TRUSTEES for BALMERINO SCHOOL #615

No list of Trustees is available prior to 1906, but gleanings from the Treasurer's ledger indicate the following Secretary's having been paid for their services:

1896 & 1897 - R. Pizzey
1898 - Sam Widdicombe
1899 & 1900 - George Dunlop
1901 & 1902 - George Ebbern
1903 & 1904 - Sam Widdicombe
1904 - P.H. Nelson

As recorded in Registers from 1906 to 1950. First is Sec. Treas.

1906 - Henry Johnson, John Irwin, George Dunlop
1907 - Henry Johnson, Sam Widdicombe, George Dunlop
1908 & 1909 - Henry Johnson, Sam Widdicombe, J.R.N. Turnbull
1910 & 1911 - H. Johnson, Peter Dunlop, J. Turnbull
1912 - 1914 H. Johnson, J.D. McFarlane, J. Turnbull
1914 - 1916 H. Johnson, J.D. McFarlane, R. Pizzey
1916 - 1917 H. Johnson, George Ebbern, J. McFarlane
1917 - 1919 George Ebbern, J.D. McFarlane, Wm. Crichton
1919 - 1920 E.P. Clark, James Watt, Wm. Crichton
1920 - 1922 E.O. Clark, Mrs. Turnnull, James Watt
1922 - 1923 E.P. Clark, Mrs. J. Turnbull, G. Murray Shaw
1923 - 1925 E.P. Clark, James Watt, Murray Shaw
1925 - 1926 E.P. Clark, James Watt, Ed Dupont
1926 - 1928 E.P. Clark, J. Turnbull, Ed. Dupont
1928 - 1931 E.P. Clark, J.D. McFarlane, Ed. Dupont
1931 - 1937 E.P. Clark, J.D. McFarlane, James Crichton
1937 - 1941 E.P. Clark, J.D. McFarlane, A.H. Cook
1941 - 1943 E.P. Clark, P.K. Peterson, Wood
1943 - 1945 E.P. Clark, Russell Johnston, Joe Ebbern
1945 - 1947 Joe Ebbern, Russell Johnston, Ambrose Horning
1947 - 1950 Gordon Orr, Russell Johnson, A. Horning
1950 - 1952 Under jurisdiction of Binscarth Consolidated School

BALMERINO SCHOOL DISTRICT #615

When Balmerino School District was formed April 16, 1890, there was no school house immediately, so classes were held in the James Fletcher home on the S.W. $\frac{1}{4}$ of 34-18-28- (Don Baker 1982). The first teacher was Constance Dunlpp (maiden name unknown). The first salary was paid out on Sept. 20, 1890 in the sum of \$105. Some of the students were Jim, George and Jessie Reid (Marvin Johnston's grandmother); John Widdicombe; Elizabeth Widdicombe (Mrs. Milton Joyce); Gertrude Widdicombe; (Mrs. Francis Ebbern); Frank and John Pizzey (Walter's sons); Isabelle Fletcher (Mrs. E. P. Clark); and Jack Fletcher. The students sat around a large table with their books and slates, and the teacher had a home-made desk and chair. School continued here until there were more students than the Fletcher home could accomodate. A ledger dating from the day the school began, indicates rent being paid for about five years. The students furthest north began to go to Binscarth and the others attended classes for a short time in a log house on the S.W. $\frac{1}{4}$ of 14-18-28. (Pizzeys 1982). Records show that in 1895 Maggie Carr and Jennie Pizzey were paid one dollar for cleaning the school. Negotiations began immediately to procure land and build a school. Students included Pizzeys, Ebborns, Widdicombes, Carrs and Cartwrights. The log house is said to have burned, and since the earliest registers are not available, they may have burned also.

In 1897 an agreement was entered upon between: 1. The Government and Company of Adventurers of England trading into Hudson Bay and 2. The Trustees of Balmerino School #615, to purchase one acre of land on the S.W. $\frac{1}{4}$ of 26-18-28 (Elmer Ryan 1982), for the sum of seven dollars. Although negotiations had begun much earlier, the date on the agreement is dated April 8, 1897. (File of Eric Ireland). Work began on a

new school immediately and records show that Robert Pizzev and Sam Widdicombe built a barn that was ready for use early in 1898.

By 1918 this school had outgrown its usefulness and plans were made to build a new school on the N.E. $\frac{1}{4}$ of 28-18-28 (Harvey Loftson in 1982). This was indeed a fine rural school. It had a full-sized basement with a furnace for heat. There were two cloak rooms, one for the teacher and one for the students. There were separate washrooms for the boys and girls with ^{toilet} indoor facilities in the winter. A new stable was built as well as better outdoor toilets. ^{students} The new school ~~was accepted~~ on Thursday, January 7, 1919, with Clair McDiarmid still the teacher.

In the meantime, the old stable was sold to William Crichton, and the old school to Ed Dupont. It became the home for the Peter Kominko family for a time (Frank Horeczy in 1982).

It is interesting to note that the largest attendance at Balmerino school was in 1921-22, when thirty-five names appear on the roll. Mrs. Jim Watt stands out in memory as the grand Scotch lady who used to help out at the Christmas concerts by accompanying solos, duets, choruses, drills, dances etc. on the organ or the piano or even on her accordian. Christmas carols were pitched too high for a lot of children, so Mrs. Watt simply lifted up the organ keyboard and slid it down to the left the required number of tones to make for comfortable singing. This had to be an ingenious ^{music} method of transposing/quickly and simply, a method not built into today's instruments. Records indicate that students were privileged to attend the unveiling of the cairn at Fort Ellice in 1937.

Like every other school, Balmerino had a "Puck's Bad Boy". On one occasion he was sent to the teacher's cloak room to cool off, after some misdemeanour, but shortly emerged wearing the teacher's

coat and hat and carrying her purse under his arm! Even the teacher broke up! This same fellow made two small sets of harness from binder twine one summer day and hitched up a pair of gophers. He kept them contained close to his desk until the teacher's back was turned, and then he let them out to run up the aisle. As the children finally collapsed in gales of laughter, the secret was out and the gophers were quickly dispatched to the out-of-doors. Readers will recall the game of Scrub which was a favorite game in the rural school. As school was adjourned for recess, the cry went up, "I'm first!", "I'm second!", "I'm third!". And so it was; they held those positions the whole year, for no one else could ever get them out!

Mr. E. P. Clark became the Secretary-Treasurer of the Board of Trustees of the new school in 1919 and held that position until 1945, a period of twenty-six years; Mr. J. D. McFarlane held the position of Chairman of the Board for ten years there.

In 1929 a windbreak was planted all along the north side of the school grounds. As time went by the plantation flourished under the care of Mr. A. Corder who road his bicycle out from Binscarth to prune and cultivate the trees. Minutes reveal that a well was dug by W. E. Barker, but it must have proven to be unsuitable for drinking water was carried from E. P. Clark's well.

The highlight of the year was the Binscarth Field Day, when all the surrounding rural schools took part in the various sports activities. Each school was also expected to make a small monetary contribution to assist with prizes etc. It is interesting to note that during the depression years Balmerino's contribution was the grand total of three dollars yearly. By today's standards, it seems like an incredibly small amount!

Balmerino School District was dissolved on Oct.25,1950 and consolidated into Binscarth Consolidated School. The dissolution was to be effective January 1, 1951. However some difficulty was encountered in fitting all the extra classes from the surrounding rural schools into the new Binscarth school. So classes were continued in Balmerino school but under the new consolidation jurisdiction, until June 30, 1952. In Sept. 1952, the doors closed for all time at Balmerino school and vans began picking up students to go to Binscarth. A cairn to mark the site may be seen on Highway #4/ between Binscarth and St. Lazare.

STUDENT LIST for BALMERINO SCHOOL #615 prepared from;

a) Names submitted from memory of the period from 1890 to 1906

b) Names taken from available registers 1906 to 1950

ALLEN - Darcy --- deceased

- Doreen --- Mrs. Tye, Turin, Alta.

BAKER - Linda --- Binscarth, Man. ROJ OGO

BARKER - Annie --- Mrs. Cochrane, Binscarth, Man. ROJ OGO

- Clara --- Mrs. Sargeant, 22 Ross Glenn Cres. S.E., Medicine Hat, Alta,
T1B 1P7

- David --- deceased

- Edith --- Mrs. Miller, Binscarth, Man. ROJ OGO

- Ethel --- Mrs. Glenn, 103 - 1419 Somerset House, Stadacona St. Victoria, B.C. N8F5J3

- Evlina --- Mrs. Saladuka, 700 Matt Road, Kelowna, B.C. V1X 3V9

- George --- deceased

- Leslie --- deceased

- Margueritt Rose --- Mrs. Demydowich, 9208 - 99 Ave., Fort St. John, B.C.

- Marjory --- Mrs. Horeczy, 50 Ted St., St. Catherines, Ont., L2N 1E5

- Mary --- Mrs. Jacob, Foxwarren, Man., ROJ OR0#

- Rosemarie --- 304 Elm St., Winnipeg, Man. R3M 3P

- Shirley --- Mrs. Hawley, 1162 Falworth Road N.E., Calgary, Alta. T2V

- William --- deceased

1L6

BOUCHER +

- William --- (Oliver) Langenburg, Sask.

BRAND :

- Joe ---

CARR :

- Margaret --- Mrs. Barker deceased

- Thomas --- deceased

- William --- Deceased

- Charles --- deceased

CARTWRIGHT ----- Helen Sarah (Mrs. Spicer) deceased
Hilda Florence (Mrs. Gwyer) deceased
Sybil Maude (Mrs. Jelfs) deceased

CHALMERS :

- James ---

CLARK :

- Carson --- 416 - 32 Ave., N.W., Calgary, Alta. T2M2P9

- Fitzmaurice --- deceased (Jessie - 107 - 31 Ave. N.E. Calgary, Alta.)

- Helen --- Mrs. Matheson, 333 W 20th St. N. Vancouver, B.C.

- Ida --- Mrs. LLOYD, 733 Trench Place, Kelowna, B.C. V1Y 7M9

- William --- deceased

COOKE :

-- James --- deceased

CRICHTON :

- Alex --- 411 - 9th. St Ave West, Melville, Sask. SOA 2PO
- Eileen --- Mrs. Harrison, Scott, Sask.
- Glen --- 584 Alberta St., Melville, Sask. SOA 2PO
- James --- 356-4th. Ave. East, Melville, Sask.
- Mary --- Mrs. Oertel, Binscarth, Man. ROJ OGO

DAHMER:

- Christina ---
- Marion ---

DERRAUGH :

- Jack ---

DRIELICK :

- Ella --- Mrs. Dube, 736 Simpson , Winnipeg, Man.
- Ernest --- 1270 Dugald Rd., Winnipeg, Man.
- William --- 236 Knowles Ave., Winnipeg, Man.

DUCHARME :

- Isabelle ---

DUNLOP :

- Gladys ---
- Mary ---

DUPONT :

- Florence --- Mrs. Gordon Orr deceased
- George --- deceased
- Helen --- deceased
- Lena --- Mrs. Prestupa, #22 - 46626 Yale Rd. E. Chilliwack, B.C. V2G orI 2R7
- Louise --- deceased
- Margaret --- Mrs. Lemoine, Ste. 518 - 101 Marion St., Winnipeg, Man.
- = Marie --- Mrs. Gariepy, Ste 409 - 303 Goulet Ave. Winnipeg, Man. R2H 3C4
- Paul --- 407 - 909 Pambroke St., Victoria B.C. V8T 4Z5
- Theodore --- St. Lazare, Man.
- William --- deceased

EBBERN :

- Elizabeth ---
- Mary ----
- Annie ---
- Joseph ---
- Harry ---

FISHER :

- Alma ---
- Andrew ---
- Edwin ---
- Harriet ---
- Marion ---

FLETCHER :

- Isabelle --- Mrs. E.P.Ckark, Binscarth, Man. ROJ OGO
- Jack --- deceased

FLEURY :

- Alex ---
- Alvin ---
- George --- Minnedosa, Man. ROJ 1HO
- William ---

FOWLER :

- Alice --- Mrs. Fenton, Box 2147 Olds, Alta. TOM 1PO
- Archie --- 290 Fairbanks Place, Thunder Bay, Ont.
- Helen --- Mrs. Brown, Binscarth, Man. ROJ OGO
- Robert --- deceased

FRASER :

- Delmar --- deceased
- Dina --- deceased
- Irene --- Mrs. Baldwin, 1311 - 7272 Kingsway, Burnaby, B.C.
- Ivy --- deceased
- Lillian --- Mrs. Drever, Russell, Man. ROJ 1WO
- Lyle --- Russell, Man. ROJ 1WO
- Malcolm --- Binscarth, Man. ROJ OGO
- Morley --- Binscarth, Man. ROJ OGO
- Nellie --- deceased
- Pearl --- Mrs. McConeghy, 1145 Inverness St., Vancouver B.C.
- William --- deceased

GEISBRECHT :

- Jake ---
- Peter ---

GRANT :

- Constance ---
- Florence (Flossie) ---

GRAY:

- Alice --- Mrs. Weech, Brandon, Man. 219 Dennis St.
- George --- Binscarth, Man. ROJ OGO

GRENIER :

- Edna --- Mrs. Irwin, Solsgirth, Man.

GWYER :

- William --- Birtle, Man. ROM OCO
- Eileen --- Mrs. Stewart, Birtle, Man. ROM OCO

HARLEY :

- Elizabeth --- Mrs. Miller, ¹³⁷⁷Wellington Ave. Burnaby B.C. V5C 5H7
- Lucy --- deceased
- Theresa --- Mrs. Boyd, 1403 6th. St. Brandon, Man.

HARTNELL :

- Victor ---

HORNEY :

- Edward --- Binscarth, Man. RoJ OGO
- Fletcher --- 34139 Marshall Road, Abbotsford, B.C. V2S 1L8
- Lloyd --- Box 2, Valley View, Alta.
- Thomas --- 7461 Vedder Ave., Sardis, B.C. VOX 1Y0

HORNING :

- James --- deceased
- Janet --- Mrs. Thompson, R.R.#3 13 - 9 Prince Albert, Sask. S6V 5R2
- Diane --- Mrs. Tremaine, Russell, Man. ROJ 1W0

IRWIN :

- Allan --- 31401 Nelson St., Mission, B.C. V2V 4H9
- Bella --- deceased
- Grace --- Mrs. Nicholson, Semans, Sask.

IRELAND :

- Bernice --- Mrs. Simpson, Stockholm. Sask.
- Cedric --- Binscarth, Man. ROJ OGO
- Edward --- Binscarth, Man. ROJ OGO
- Eric --- Binscarth Man. ROJ OGO
- Florence --- Mrs. Smyth, Russell, Man. ROJ 1WO
- Lawrence --- Box 26 Group 612 SS6 Winnipeg, Man. R2C 2Z3
- Lily --- Mrs. Cook, Binscarth, Man. RoJ OGO
- Lionel --- deceased
- Nora --- Mrs. Plumb, Binscarth, Man. ROJ OGO
- Sarah --- Mrs. Plumb, Binscarth, Man. ROJ OGO
- Thomas --- deceased
- Walter --- Binscarth, Man. ROJ OGO
- William --- deceased

Jacobson :

- Charles ---

JOHNSON :

- Arthur ---
- Laura ---
- May ---
- Oliver ---
- Walter ---
- William

JOHNSTON :

- Alice --- Mrs. McLean, 212 201 Cayer St. Coquitlam, B.C, V3K 5A9
- Bessie --- Mrs. Nachtigall, 609 - 260 Nassau St., Winnipeg, Man. B3L 2J2
- Ferne --- Mrs. Haney, Gretna, Man.
- Francis ---Mrs. Kestirk, Woodridge, Man.
- Marvin --- Binscarth, Man. ROJ OGO
- Millen --- Box 256, St. Norbert, Man. R3D 1A8

JOHNSTONE :

- Daisy --- deceased
- Frank --- 516 Country Club BD ,Winnipeg,Man.#0# R3K 1S4
- Margaret --- to above address
- Robert --- deceased
- Rolland --- Foxwarren, Man. ROJ ORO
- William --- Foxwarren, Man. ROJ)RO

KATZYR :

- Michael --- deceased

KELLY :

- Shirley --- deceased

LARAMEE :

- Maurice or Morris ---General Delivery,Lund B.C. VON 2GO

LECKIE :

- Margaret (Shaw) --- Mrs. Wallace, 821 Harbison E. Winnipeg, Man. R2L 0Z4

LEURQUIN :

- Renie --- deceased

LOPTSON :

- Eleanore --- deceased
- Harvey --- Binscarth, Man. RoJ OGO

McCRINDLE :

- Isobel --- deceased

McDONALD :

- Hector --- 220 12th.St.Brandon,Man. R7A 4M1
- Maida --- MRS. Wilson, 210 Complex C, Evergreen Estates, McIntosh and Rink, Regina, Sask.

McFARLANE :

- Lorine --- Mrs. Thompson, Binscarth, Man. RoJ OGO
- Margaret --- deceased
- Mildred ---Mrs. Bond, 223 Ash St.,Winnipeg, Man. R3N OP6

McNEIL :

- William ---

MORRIS :

- William ---

MUNROE :

- Jean --- Mrs. Johnson, Binscarth, Man. ROJ OGO

OERTEL :

- Evelynne ---
- Florence --- Mrs. Hrabarchuk, Souris Man.
- Kathleen --- Mrs. Lachite, 837 7th. St. Brandon, Man. R7A 3T8
- Orvill ~~#####~~ --- 314 - 5332 Lakeview Drive, S.W., Calgary, Alta. T3E 5S1

ORR :

- James --- 6577 Orchard Hill Drive, Site 7, Comp.15, R.R.#4, Vernon, B?C?
- Josie --- Mrs. Willis, 113 Bellevue Ave., Flin Flon, Man.
- Rita --- Mrs. Wasslen, Binscarth, Man. ROJ OGO
- Stanley --- 1857 Deerwold, Mississauga, Ont.
- William --- 6108 141 Ave., Edmonton, Alta.

PARTRIDGE ; later Baker :

- Garry --- deceased

PETERSON :

- Annie --- Mrs. Widdicombe, #37 - 9053 - 200 St.R.R.#5, Langley, B.C. V3A 4P8
- Florence --- Mrs. Widdicombe, Foxwarren, Man. ROJ ORO
- Norman --- Erickson, Man. RoJ OPO

PEPPIN :

- John ---

PIZZEY :

- Clara --- Binscarth, Man. ROJ OGoO
- Edwin --- deceased
- Ethel --- deceased
- Frank --- deceased
- George --- Binscarth, Man. ROJ OGO
- James --- Foxwarren, Man. ROJ ORO
- John --- Binscarth, Man. ROJ OGO
- Jennie --- (Mrs. Dick Tibbatts) deceased
- Margaret --- Mrs. Cox, B-23 S27 R.R.#1. Creston B.C. VOB 1CO
- Mary --- (Mrs. Frank Christie, then MRg. Ed. Edwards) deceased
- Ralph --- Binscarth, Man. ROJ OGO
- Thomas --- deceased
- Walter --- Binscarth, Man. ROJ OGO

PROUDLEY :

- Desmond --- #Binscarth, Man. ROJ OGO

REID :

- George --- deceased
- James ---
- Jessie --- (Mrs. Johnston, later Mrs. Cluff) deceased

RICH :

- Elizabeth ---
- Elsie ---

REDMOND :

- Jenny --- (Mrs. Bob Pizzey) deceased
- Thomas --- deceased
- Ethel Mary --- (Mrs. Bert Souch) deceased

RUDEY:

- Jennie --- Mrs. Deschamps, 1325 Windermere Ave., Fort Galt, Winnipeg, Man
- Myron --- 1202 38 Ave., Vernon B.C. V1T 2Y7

RYAN :

- Laurence --- deceased

SCARTH :

- Cecilia --- Mrs. Odland, 2307 S.E. Route 1, The Dalles, Oregon, U.S.A.
- Ena ---
- Robert --- 4151 North Road, Victoria, B.C. V8Z 5H9
- William ---

SHAW :

- Margaret --- Mrs. A. Wallace, 821 Harbison E. Wpg.

SPARKS :

- Charles ---

TODD :

- Wilfred --- deceased

TURNBULL :

- Norman --- Binscarth, Man. ROJ OGO
- Jessie --- Mrs. Jack Woodhouse, Binscarth, Man. ROJ OGO
- May --- Mrs. Wm. Deller, Neepawa, Man.

VANCE :

- Wilfred ---

VERMETTE :

- Maurice ---

WATT :

- Clair --- Bredenbury, Sask.
- Edith --- Mrs. Chickson, Minnedosa, Man. ROJ 1H0
- Gordon ---
- Marjory --- Mrs. Douglas, Binscarth, Man. ROJ 0GO
- Robert --- deceased

WIDDICOMBE :

- Elizabeth --- deceased
- Gertrude --- deceased
- John --- deceased
- Wesley --- deceased

WORTH :

- Albert ---

YOUNG :

- Fred ---
- Ivy ---