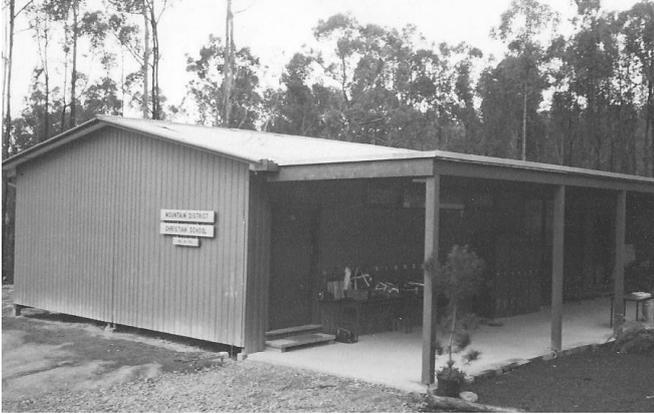


The second year of Mountain District Christian School was an exciting year, as the school moved to its new location in Monbulk.

Beginning Saturday, June 17, the school moved from Room 12 at Mount Evelyn Christian School to 'The Block' on Macclesfield Rd, Monbulk.

Principal Ian Ridgeway wrote:



"It was a land flowing with mud and slurry but it was ours! It was freezing cold and damp but we were just intoxicated by the fact that we were home. This site featured no electric power, no gas, no telephone. The power such as it was came from a diesel generator which I had to start every morning. We were even vandalized soon after arriving. However the children saw the whole school as a great adventure and cubbies were built in large numbers among the giant logs that had been cut down to make way for the classrooms."

# 1980

Children's responses to their first week of school included:

"The first day of school was great. Everyone had their photos taken. At first play we all raced out and we played on the logs. It was fun and lunch play was just the same. The generator kept breaking down." Sharni Darby

"On the first day the school had assembly and Mr. Stone said a prayer. After we went inside and talked about what we were going to do for the week. Then we went out and had play. When we came in and had a story, the lights did not work." Richard Holmes

"On the first day at the block, I did not like the logs. They were slippery. My second day was terrific. I loved to walk up and down on every log. But one day when I got to school there had been a "mad motion" at the verandah. People, or a person had been burning and ruining things. It was awful. The next day a policeman came and he just looked around and went back to who knows where. Today is Thursday. I bought some string and masonite wood and we strung the string to the cubby to hold it together. Tamara brought a ladder to climb to the top." Jo White



"We had a BBQ on Friday. I bought 1 chop and 2 sausages. Today we took the cubbie down and built it up again. Annalies built a terrific cubbie for one person." Rebecca White



The sun was shining and 150 people attended the official opening of the school on Sunday, August 10. It was opened by Bill Borthwick, Minister for Health. In the same week, the phone was connected, which brought an end to the CB radio. Mains power, meanwhile, would not be connected until 1981!

Towards the end of 1980, a third portable classroom was brought to the school in two halves. Unfortunately, the second half fell off the back of the truck and arrived at the school in many pieces.

*If you have any stories, anecdotes, or photos, we would love to hear from you. Please contact Jacqui Stok at the School Office*