



# SUNDAY SCHOOL ANNIVERSARIES

Geoff Serpell

Once upon a time, when the baby boomers were still in short pants and dresses, upwards of 200 children at the Methodist Sunday School stopped their lessons each year to rehearse selected songs in celebration of Moorabbin Methodist church's Sunday School anniversary.

An orchestra backed up the children's singing. Songs were selected on the basis of brightness, good rhythm, but none-the-less with a clear message to convey the love of Jesus as Lord of all for everyone who believed.

It was the tradition to invite leaders from outside the Moorabbin Church to come and take each of the special services.

Whilst the children's choir was a very

important part of the service, it was also expected that the visiting leader would bring some props or items of interest to the children to illustrate the message in lieu of a sermon.

The afternoon service during the second Sunday was also when the School arranged books of all descriptions to be awarded to nearly all the children for good attendance during the year.

Now this is a distant memory compared to our children's services of today, however we can reflect that the influence of those post war years Sunday school activities stood many pupils in very good stead as they went out into the world to have their own families.

## Reflection:

*One favourite song for our anniversaries called "He's Everything to Me" comes to mind: "Till by faith I met Him face to face, and I felt the wonder of His grace, Then I knew that He was more than just a God who didn't care, That lived a way out there, and now He walks beside me day by day, ever watching o'er me lest I stray, Helping me to find that narrow way, He's everything to Me!"*