



HIGH SCHOOL SILVER JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS.

In 2017 Pittsworth State High School will celebrate its 50th year with a project whereby an area between B Block and the Auditorium will be covered with engraved pavers bearing the names of members of our school community. In 1992 the Open Air Theatre was built bearing the name of Sir Alan Fletcher.

Sir Alan Fletcher was a local farmer educated in his early years at Irongate and Rossvale. He became the local Member in 1953 and kept this position until 1974. He was Minister for Education from 1968-1974 and was knighted in 1972. It was the efforts of Sir Alan Fletcher which resulted in the establishment of the school in Pittsworth and he continued to be a great friend of the school with he and his wife, Lady Enid, donating many books to the school library.

The idea of an Open Air Theatre that would not only serve the school but would also benefit the local community, was first mooted in 1977. By 1991 it had been established that the cost would be about \$50 000 for the structure of which half had to be raised by the School P&C. The State government would provide a subsidy of the other \$25 000. In the 1992 Reflections a 'Fund-O-Meter' noted the monies raised by the school in their bid to construct the theatre by the time the Jubilee was celebrated in mid- September. The February count was \$4250 which had risen to \$21 500 by November. Significant donations came from local resident, John Fear, the Pittsworth Entertainers, the Pittsworth Shire Council, the Pittsworth Lions Club and the Pittsworth Golf Club. Maurice Galligan, of the Pittsworth Entertainers, said the donation was given to assist in the promotion of cultural pursuits.

A Golf Day was held and supported by local parents, ex-students and staff including one of the first teachers at the school, Col Presneill. Other staff – Cathy Pritchard and Graham Langdon- alongside Ken Pritchard, entertained 70 patrons with a concert. These two events raised just over \$1350 for the Theatre.

Unfortunately the Theatre was not completed by the Silver Jubilee weekend but a Dedication Ceremony was held and Lady Enid Fletcher unveiled the plaque for the Memorial Theatre. On the 14th May, 1993 the Sir Alan Fletcher Memorial Theatre was officially opened just in time for the school's performance of 'Joseph'.

In 2017 a path of pavers will be constructed as the school's Jubilee project. If you would like more information on this project, please contact the school.