



## RURAL PURSUITS AT P.S.H.S.

One of the first clubs formed at Pittsworth State High School in 1967 was Rural Youth. It was initiated by one of the staff, Mr Brady, and more than 50 students joined the group. The first President was Murray Warfield and the club was supported by a fundraiser - a carwash which pulled in \$33. Students were invited by members of the town's Rural Youth Group to attend a Tractor Day and a Fulfilment Day, at the property of Ken Stallman.

In 1968 students created garden beds for the P & C and sprayed wild turnip on the school grounds. The end of the year was to be celebrated with a camp at Leslie Dam. Enrolment in the club had doubled by 1969 and the club held 3 functions each year. They kept up their involvement in the school grounds and trialled a grain plot. An interesting addition to their activities was the feeding of white mice.

In 1973 Rural Pursuits was introduced as a subject at school for boys. Sections of the school grounds were sown with onions which didn't take off due to weeds and lack of rain but there was later success with melons and pumpkins. Students were also given rudimentary knowledge of rose pruning and taught about accounting on the farm and farm mechanics.

Another popular pursuit in the late sixties was the school choir. The choir first performed at the 1967 Speech Night singing four items including 'Elizabethan Serenade'. This became a regular 'gig' for the choir. In 1970 they sang at community events with 'Land of Hope and Glory' performed on ANZAC Day. The choir raised awareness of Youth Week in 1971 during a lunch time concert which was warmly received. Those who sang in the initial choral groups laid the foundation for the string of successful musicals at P.S.H.S.