

HASTINGS BAPTIST ALL AGE SUNDAY SCHOOL.  
8TH ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST, 1970.

In presenting this 8th annual report of the All Age Sunday School, we thank God for His blessing and guidance over the past year.

At the end of 1969 we accepted, with deep regret, Mr. B. Mitcherson's resignation from the position of A.A.S.S. General Superintendent, and thank him for the time and work he so willingly put into the A.A.S.S. during the year.

At the beginning of 1970, we welcomed Mr. R. Parrant as new General Superintendent, and thank him also for the time and work he has given to the A.A.S.S. this year.

We also thank all leaders and teachers of Departments, for their faithful service, and include in these thanks, all those relieving teachers who have helped us out at various times. We thank Mr. Petherick too, for looking after the financial side of our work during the year.

We also express thanks to Mrs. Shuker and her helpers for continuing to provide a welcome cup of tea each Sunday morning at about 10.30am.

Another Church Fair was held in June, the staff of the A.A.S.S. again being responsible for the organisation. The sum of approximately \$304 was raised for the new Sunday School Building Fund, and we would like to thank all those who assisted in any way with the Fair.

Statistics: (1968/69 figures shown in brackets):

	<u>Superintendent:</u>		<u>Roll as at 31.8.70:</u> <u>(Including staff):</u>
<u>CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT:</u>			
Nursery	Mrs. M. Martin	8	(5)
Kindergarten	Mrs. M. Jamieson	15	(9)
Primary	Miss B. Graham	41	(41)
Junior	Mr. E. Burns	89	(85)
Junior Young People	Mr. G. Wallace	29	(30)
		182	(170)
<u>YOUNG PEOPLE'S DEPARTMENT:</u>	Mr. L. Stewart	79	(85)
<u>ADULT DEPARTMENT:</u>	Mr. A. Gamman	38	(37)
	<u>TOTAL.....</u>	299	(292)
<u>CRADLE ROLL</u>	Mrs. A.R. Gamman	35	(40)

The average attendance for all Departments of A.A.S.S. from February to the end of August, 1970, was 213, compared with 245 for the same period last year. The lower average attendance this year is largely the result of the drop in attendance in all Departments, through sickness, during the winter months.

The following are reports from the individual Departments comprising A.A.S.S:

ADULT DEPARTMENT:

The roll during 1970 has been maintained at 38, with an average attendance of approximately 30. There are two classes for men, and two for ladies, and the leaders this year have been Messrs. H.R. Beckett and L.K. Fear, Mrs. B. Mitcherson and Miss B. Maclean.

We have room for more members, and more study groups. Why not join us in these happy, helpful times of christian fellowship around the Word of God?

We meet each Sunday at 9.45am. A brief assembly period in the Church, is followed by 40 minutes of interesting study and discussion with folk of your own age group, can be very rewarding. New members are also made, and problems are often solved.

Each class has a comfortable room, and each member is provided with a well prepared syllabus.

During the year new members have joined us, while some have left to teach in other Departments, or help in the Nursery.

The Adult Department also had the privilege of conducting a morning service during the year.

The real objectives of this Department are to meet the spiritual needs of adults, and to guide in definite Bible study.

Anyone 25 years or older is most warmly invited. Come and see for yourself if the Adult Bible Class is for you! (A.W. Gamman)

#### YOUNG PEOPLE'S DEPARTMENT:

The roll at present stands at 79, which includes 9 leaders. Attendances during the year have been quite good, and there has been a deep feeling of christian understanding amongst the young people.

We were sorry that Mr. D.R. Bewley found it necessary to give up the leadership of this Department at the end of 1969, and thank him for the time and work he devoted to this task. We would also like to record our thanks to Mrs. Ruth Sweatman, for her willing service in leading the Youth Choir.

In December last year, the Young People were responsible for the organisation of the Church Christmas Social, which proved a very enjoyable evening.

A number of the Young People again attended Easter Camp, which this year was held at Napier, on the Church premises.

The Young People have very strongly supported Youth for Christ again during this past year.

We have planned numerous activities to swell our mission funds, the most notable so far being the Fashion Parade held recently. At present we are cultivating a small piece of ground, and hope to have pumpkins for sale later in the season, the proceeds from this source to go to our mission funds also.

After the Young People have finished their examinations towards the end of the year, we hope to have a number of outings.

Under God's guidance, we look forward to a new year, with a sense of anticipation. (R.L. Stewart)

#### CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT:

This Department comprises five Departments, from the Nursery to the Junior Young People's Department.

During the year under review, we were sorry to lose the leaders of three of the Departments, namely Mesdames J. Calder and P. Cotton from the Nursery, Mr. D. Youngson from the Junior Department, and Mr. R. Parrant from the Junior Young People's Department, and we would like to record our appreciation of their work in their respective Departments.

In 1970 we were pleased to welcome Mrs. M. Martin as Superintendent of the Nursery, Mr. E. Burns as Leader of the Junior Department, and Mr. G. Wallace as Leader of the Junior Young People.

In November, 1969, a Music Festival was held, extending over two Sundays, when the various Departments sang and took part in the services - The Primary and Kindergarten the first Sunday morning, and the Senior Young People in the evening; the Junior Department the next Sunday morning, and the Junior Young People in the evening. From the favourable comments received, these services appeared to be much appreciated.

Towards the end of 1969, the various Departments held individual prize-giving functions. The Junior Department held a social evening, at which prizes were awarded, and when Mr. D. Youngson was farewelled by the Department. The Junior Young People, Primary and Kindergarten Departments each held their prize-givings on a Sunday morning, during normal Sunday School time.

Just prior to Christmas the Kindergarten children had their annual Christmas Party, and in July of this year the Primary Department held their usual mid-year party.

The Church and Sunday School picnic was held at Puke<sup>ha</sup>moama School at the end of February. The School was a pleasant site for the picnic, the weather was reasonably good, and the adults and children present enjoyed a happy day together.

Three Family Services have again been held during this past year - one in December, one in May and the third in August. No Sunday School was held on these Sundays, the Family Services being held at an earlier hour than the usual Sunday morning services. It was good to see again, parents of our Sunday School children worshipping with us at these Family Services.

We have contributed the sum of \$100 again towards the support of the Indian boy we support under "Our Indian and Pakistani Friends' Scheme".

We express our thanks once again to Mrs. Duggan for disposing of the newspaper supplied by children and others from time to time. The money received from this source is a very welcome addition to our funds.

Nursery:

The Nursery is well supervised by Mrs. M. Martin and her helpers during Sunday School and morning Church. No great use is made of the Nursery during Sunday School time, but more babies are left in the Nursery while their parents are at the morning worship service. We would like to see more young parents leaving their little ones in the Nursery while they attend A.A.S.S. We realise that the Nursery accommodation is somewhat of a problem at present, but hope that before long we may have a larger and well-equipped Nursery for use on Sunday mornings.

In conclusion, we thank all teachers and leaders for their willing service over the past year, and would also express our thanks to all others who have assisted in any way in the work amongst the children, making special mention of those good folk who transport children to and from Sunday School so faithfully each Sunday morning. As we go forward into another year, we covet your continued support and prayers for the work amongst the children.

(E.E. Garrioch)

CRADLE ROLL:

There are 35 names on the Cradle Roll - a slight drop on last year's figure. The number of names on the Cradle Roll does not vary to any great extent from year to year. Some of the Cradle Roll children have joined the Kindergarten Department during the year, on reaching the age of 3/4 years, and several new babies' names have been added to the Roll.

(P. Gamman)

Finally, we would commend the A.A.S.S. to all our Church folk. We would be pleased to welcome new scholars in all Departments, and would suggest that any of our Church family who do not already attend the adult classes, give serious thought to joining the Adult Department, if this is at all possible.

*S. E. Garrioch*  
Secretary.  
31.8.70.