

Centenary Snippets

Multicultural community

After World War 2, a large centre was established at Wacol and hundreds of migrants arrived there as their first home in Australia. The Sisters of Mercy from across Brisbane became aware of their needs and spent school holidays and weekends supporting the families who had arrived. While visiting the Wacol centre the Sisters lived at the Goodna convent. They collected clothes and held English classes for the parents. They gathered the children and conducted classes. They were able to organise for some of the older boys and girls to attend Catholic boarding schools without any payment. Many younger children were brought by bus to our school each day.

Many families from Wacol Migrant Centre settled in the Goodna area and sent their children to our school. Ann Everett, a past student and teacher, remembers that the older children in the school often assisted teachers in the lower grades with students who had little or no English.

In our school today there are grandchildren and great grandchildren of the original families who first settled in the Goodna area when they left the Wacol Migrant Centre. Are you one of the descendants from the original Wacol families who settled here in Goodna?

"We are rich with the gifts that so many bring - children from many lands." School Song



Poland



Hungary



Germany



Austria



Latvia



Holland



Yugoslavia

These flags represent the many countries Migrants came from to call the Wacol Migrant Centre home and to eventually settle in the Goodna area.

St Francis Xavier School, Goodna, 1910 to 2010

Centenary Snippets

Update No. 19
