

Appendix 1: CHURCHES

Schools and churches were very early institutions to emerge in the Mulgrave area. Of these, churches became the vital link between individual families and the community at large. Schools were a supplement, but since children were not dropped at the school gate as they often are now, but walked the miles alone, there was minimal adult interaction at school. News came with the distinctive twist only children can add, and adults had to be content with wondering – until they could get to church.

The weekly family outing to church meant many things. It was a break from the toil of the week, an excuse for (or to some, the unnecessary imposition of) the weekly scrub-up and dress up. Then came the important part – seeing all the other far-flung families. Who had new clothes, whose cart had been painted, whose mare had foaled, was anyone sick or had an accident or (hush hush) was expecting? What rain had other properties had, what were prices like, how were the crops growing? All sorts of news was exchanged.

As well as substituting for a local paper, church was the centre of social events. Before any other clubs were options, people found in the after-church “gossip” their garden friends, sport partners, charitable works inspirers, skill mentors, recipe swappers, and every other type of friend and social contact. Sometimes such contacts became business associates and paying work was arranged. Also picnics, dances, entertainments, and other events were most often church activities. No one would miss church!

Some even enjoyed the church service too. The religious side of life was an accepted part of how things are; God and His Way were just there and not to be denied. As well as the fellowship of the weekly catch-up with other members, there were the special rites – everything important in life was celebrated in church. However we cannot say that religion alone drove people to church regularly. Church meant a great deal- it was the opportunity for the hard-working pioneer families to look up from their work and see a little further afield.

The following is certainly not an exhaustive list of churches in the Waverley area in the years covered by WAW. These are the churches mentioned in WAW, grouped by denomination for ease of identification. Each church is listed by name in the main index, but they are collected here for the reader to see the entire list at a glance.

Where possible, the date of establishment is included, but many of these are unknown. This date may not be the same as the age of the current building, of course, as many have been extended, shifted, or sold to another denomination over the years. Names have changed too. The Church of England has since become the Anglican Church in Australia. The Uniting Church began in 1977, supposedly to bring together the Presbyterians, Methodists, and Congregationalists. Certainly the last of those three ceased to exist then, but Presbyterian churches can still be found, as can churches in the Wesleyan tradition, which is paramount to Methodism. However for the most part the buildings of the Waverley congregations involved, either became Uniting Church property, or were sold.

Church of England (CofE) now Anglican			
St Matthew's	1869	Cnr SV Rd/Well Rd, Mulg	The new St Matthew's was built on the cnr of Lum & Earlwood Rds, Mulg, using some of the original stone as a feature wall.
St Stephen's	1865	HS Rd (Norman Crt) MW	The original church is still there and used but in 1967 a larger main chapel was built in front.
St Paul's	1921	Wav Rd GW Opp Jordan Grv	This building has been sold and a new church, St Barnabas', was built for the St Paul's congregation, on the cnr of Wav & Watsons Rd, just up the hill.

St James'	1961	Cnr BB Rd/Stableford Ave Syn	This was built after Wav Golf Course was subdivided, but has since been sold to another denomination (AOG) as several Anglian congregations joined together.
St Andrew's	1966	The Boulevard, GW	Also known as GW Heights Anglican. Now sold to another denomination (CRC).
St Philip's	1956		Originally on Wav Rd just west of Ste Rd (now a kindergarten and the Christadelphians), but when Amstel Golf Course was subdivided in 1967, land was purchased there. In 1968 a new building was erected, on the cnr Ste Rd/Catherine Ave, MW
St Luke's,		Police Rd Mulg Opp Nullawil St	Not to be confused with St Luke's Presbyterian Church in MW.
St Mary's		Cnr Huntingdale Rd & Mawarra Cres, Chad	

Roman Catholic

St Leonard's	1913	SV Rd GW Opp Roberts St	The original timber building was built in 1913 on SV Rd SOUTH of Wav Rd. This was later (in 1956) transported north to the present site just north of Wav Rd. The new brick building was erected in 1962 behind the timber one, which was later demolished.
Good Shepherd		Academy Ave, Mul	
Holy Family		Ste Rd MW just north of the railway	
St Christopher's		Doon Ave, Syn	After 1970
St Mary Magdalens		Bolwarra St, Chad	
Sacred Heart		Warrigal Rd, Oakl just south of the railway	
St John Vianney's		Police Rd Opp Redpath Cres, Mul	
St Peters		Clay Rd Clay just north of the railway	

Presbyterian

Whealers Hill Pres	1889	Holly Green Drive and FTG Rd, WH	The original timber building, Alec Johnston Hall, still stands and is used by a Chinese congregation. The new building is on the front corner of the block and serves as the main chapel.
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Glen Waverley Pres	1954	Bogong Ave GW	Now the site of GW Uniting Church
Syndal Pres	1958	Larch St, Syn	When the Uniting Church was formed in 1977 this building was made into a retirement village.
St Luke's		Essex Rd MW Opp Purse St	
Mulgrave Pres		Wanda St Mulg just South of Valewood Drv	
Oakleigh Pres		Drummond St Oakl opp War- rawee Park	
Ashburton Pres		Cnr High St/ HS Rd near Cyril St Ashwood	

Methodists

Glen Waverley Meth	1866		The original timber building was on Wav Rd opp Allen St. Later this was replaced by a brick building on the corner of SV Rd and Kingsway in 1962. When the Uniting church was formed, the Methodists and Presbyterians combined and built a new church on the Pres site in Bogong Ave, and the Meth building was sold to the Council. This building is being demolished as I write this (July 2000).
Oakleigh Meth		Drummond St, cnr of Palmer St, Oakl	
High Street Road Methodists		HS Rd, Cnr Stewart St, MW	This building accidentally caught fire but was replaced on site
St John's	1949	Virginia St, MW cnr Alex- ander St	Earlier there had been a St John's Methodist Church in East Oakleigh, cnr FTG Rd & Macrina St. However the main building has long been a neighbourhood house, and the other building is a Kindergarten, which still bears the name St John's Preschool.
Monash Methodists		Cnr Dand Rd & Koonawarra St, North Clayton	
Church of the Nazarene	1967	Cnr Grenfell Rd & Adelaide Ave, MW	A church "In the Wesleyan tradition"

Other Denominations

Syndal Baptists		HS Rd, Syn and Tricks Crt	
GW Church of Christ	1953	Montclair Ave GW	

Jordanville Church of Christ	1954	Wav Rd, Jord, opp Rosemary St	
The New Church	1963	Wav Rd MW almost opposite Bicton St	
Salvation Army			Individual members are mentioned long before the building in HS Rd would have been built. The Salvation Army had buildings in Box Hill, Oakleigh, Clayton, etc but the branch to which the individuals belonged was not mentioned in WAW.

Appendix 2: SCHOOLS

With so many schools having combined or simply closed in the 1990s, some of those mentioned in WAW do not exist any more, and others have undergone name changes. This may make it hard for readers to know which area is being spoken about. The additional details below may help.

Concerning schools that have disappeared, one can usually guess by the architecture of new residential areas that a school once thrived in that place (it's nothing to do with chewing gum, chalk dust or mouldy cheese sandwiches either). It seems that nearly all have succumbed to "medium-density housing" – that is, large executive homes on small blocks in narrow paved streets called "mews," "closes," "terraces," "places" and "quadrangles." Our family has dubbed it 'Ecole Architecture,' and suppose that it reflects the changing function of homes. Where once every home had a lemon tree, some chooks, fruit trees, vegetables in neat rows and tyre swings for the children, now it is more common to feature barbecues, low maintenance paving and shrubbery, pools and (adult) entertainment areas. With the adults out at work and the children in care elsewhere, the home is mainly a showpiece for (executive) visitors. Thus also the lesser need for schools – families in the City are both smaller and older.

Other changes that have occurred over the period covered in WAW may need clarification. The Education Department (or The Board of Education, as it was called) began in 1873 when compulsory education was enacted, and controlled government schools, which were mainly primary. However, before Federation (1901) there were no states so of course there were no "state schools." Colonial government primary schools were called "common schools" or just "schools." Right through until about the 1950s these went to Grade 8, which coincided with the end of compulsory schooling age (14 years). Most students went to work at that age, helping out at many tasks in the family business or the local neighbourhood until they found skills and an interest in one area to pursue as a permanent occupation.

Thus secondary schools did not emerge in Waverley until the late 1950s. Before that, those who wished to study further went to High schools in Dandenong (est 1919), Box Hill (est 1930) and Camberwell (est 1941). Secondary schools in most of the 1900s were of two main types – the "high school" being more academic and geared to tertiary study and professional careers, and the "technical schools" teaching trades and practical skills. These types are now very rare, most having combined into large "secondary colleges." As state secondary schools proliferated, the term "state school" meaning state primary school, gradually disappeared in favour of "primary school."

In this index schools are listed by the name which appeared in WAW. Full addresses are shown below, with any known details of present status, name and function. Note that not all existing schools were mentioned in WAW.

Primary Schools

Ashwood State School No 4698 was established in 1953 on the NW cnr of HS Rd/Vannam Drv. It has now become a residential area incorporating Peppermint Crt, Lavender Crt and Malmsbury Drv. Another primary school was created nearby at the old Special School, and called Parkhill Primary School (on Parkhill Drv Opp Yertchuk Ave). A new Special school now operates on Montpellier Rd, catering for primary and secondary students, and called simply, Ashwood School.

Bayview State School No 4752 began in 1956 in McLochlan St, Mount Waverley. Access was from Malcolm Crt, Olympian Ave and Madison Crt, as well as McLochlan St. The school oval has been retained as a public park but the rest is residential now, Malcolm Crt and Olympian Ave having been extended a little toward each other for increased access to the new housing estate.

Berengarra School, formerly Melb Orphanage, also known as Child & Family Care, FTG Rd GW between Woodlea Drv and Kerferd Rd.

Black Flat School No 989, see Glen Waverley State School

Brentwood State School, Watsons Rd GW now called GW S Primary School.

Burwood East State School No 454 established 1861, NE cnr BB Rd/HB Rd, (then Hewletts Rd and South Boundary Rd.) Not in Waverley but close enough for Waverley students to attend. Began 1861, as Harkaway (private) School No 454, later called Nunawading Common School No 454 when funding was granted in 1864, finally settled for current name, Burwood East State School No 1697 in 1902. Still going strong.

Clayton North State School, originally Mulgrave Common School, SE cnr Clayton Rd and Dandenong Road (Princes Hwy). 1879 and still going. Was not in the City of Waverley so receives little mention.

Cooinda State School, built about 1967, used to nearly fill the triangular section encompassed by Winmalee Drv, Elmwood Cres, and Baroda Ave, in Glen Waverley. Now The Quadrangle housing estate occupies the place.

East Oakleigh State School No 4327 est 1929. Surrounded by State St, Elizabeth St and Dublin St in East Oakleigh. In the mid 1990s combined with Amstel Primary School No 4801, which had been on the SW cnr of Clayton Rd & FTG Rd, North Clayton, and called Amsleigh Park Primary School.

Essex Heights State School No 4903 est 1962. Between Essex Rd and Outlook Rd, Essex Heights Reserve and Tyne Crt in the NW part of Mount Waverley. Still going strong.

Glen Waverley State School, first a Wesleyan school in the Methodist church (from 1868), then Black Flat school No 989. Brick building on NE cnr SV Rd/Wav Rd GW. Glen Waverley Primary School No 2219 closed in approx 1995 and the more recent buildings were removed. The original building was retained and refurbished as the Black Flat Community Centre when the whole property was sold to a funeral company. The school that used to be called Glen Wav Heights Primary School now has the name Glen Wav Primary School. Note the erratum below in Mount Waverley State School (regarding WAW p59).

Glen Waverley Heights State School nearly on the SE cnr of HS Rd/SV Rd GW. Built 1960. Now called Glen Waverley Primary School.

Harkaway School, see Burwood East

Mulgrave Common School, see Clayton North State School

Mount Waverley State School No 3432. Opened 1906 and still going. Park Lane Mount Waverley, though originally there had been a driveway from Waverley Rd. Note that both photos on page 59 actually show Mt Waverley school. The top one is not of Glen Wav school, as the caption says. The school number appears in the photo.

Mount View State School Gallaghers Rd GW still there but much smaller than it was in the 1980s.

Northvale State School, Albany Drv Mulg, now called Albany Rise Primary School.

Notting Hill State School No 4305 operated from 1927 until 1977(?) in the middle of the west side of Howleys Rd Notting Hill.

Oakleigh State School No 1601 was built in 1875 on the SE cnr of Warrigal Rd and Logie St, Oakleigh. Still operating.

Pinewood State School No 4874, built 1961 on the SE cnr Pinewood Drv & Toombah St and still operating.

Syn State School, HS Rd Syn, opposite Hunter St. One of the first to disappear in the rationalisation of the 1990s. Now Fiona Crt and Latham Crt, Syn.

Syn N State School, Lawrence Rd and Marcus Ave MW, now called MW N Primary School.

Syn S State School, surrounded by Montgomery Ave, Doynton Pde, Wingate and Vasey

Avenues. Still there!

Wav N State School, Stephenson Rd MW opposite Simpson Drv, now Junior campus of MW Secondary College.

High Schools

Ashwood High School began in railway huts at Ashburton railway station in 1958, then built on the huge block surrounded by HS Rd, Vannam Drv, Poplar Ave, Parkhill Drv and Cassina Ave. There was also a Special School in the NE cnr of the land. Now combined with Jordanville Tech, which had been across Vannam Drv since 1954, to become Ashwood College. The Special School building was taken over by Parkhill Primary School.

Brentwood High School, Watsons Rd and Heath St GW. Still going.

Chadstone High School, Rob Roy Rd, Ivanhoe Grv and Quentin Rd, with Chadstone Park Primary School (now Malvern Valley PS) to the south. 1962 till 1995 approximately. Now Phoenix Park.

Glen Waverley High School also began at Ashburton station until the buildings were ready in 1960. Situated on the north side of O'Sullivan Rd near Snedden Drv, though Snedden Drive was only built in mid 1990s when The Glen shopping centre ate up Princes St, Edward St and most of Chester St. Now combined with other schools to be GW Secondary College GW campus.

Monash High School, on north cnr of Duerdin St & Nantilla Rd Clayton North. Established 1965, closed 2006. Started in Notting Hill school.

Mount Waverley High School, established 1964, and surrounded by Stephenson Rd, Lechte Rd, Gordon Rd and Beaufort St. This is now the senior campus of the MW secondary college. The junior campus is housed where the old Wav North Primary School No 4884 (1962-1995) used to be, just across the road and opposite Marianne Way and Simpson Drv.

Oakleigh High School, est 1955 at East Oakleigh Primary School (now Amsleigh Park PS). Was on the NW cnr of Lawson St and Highland Ave with access from Macrina St, Gordon Ave and Albany Rd West. (Why didn't they re-join the two halves of Albany Rd?) Now housing.

Syndal High

Waverley High School, our first high school, established 1956, beginning operations at Ashburton railway huts. Named Holmesglen High School at first, then Jordanville, and finally Waverley. On SW cnr Huntingdale Rd and Waverley Rd, now Kierens Way, Savannah Place, and all the mews, courts and places off them.

Technical Schools

Jordanville Technical School was established on Vannam Drv in 1954, after beginning life in the Ashburton Railway huts, like so many Waverley schools did afterwards. This was our first secondary school. Now Beechwood Tce, Scenic Drv and Clearview Close show on the map there. Combined Secondary College is across Vannam Drv on the old Ashwood High School site.

Syndal Technical School est 1958 on Lawrence Rd opposite Munro Ave. Now housing – Dorrington Drv, Clarke Place, Huntingtower Cres etc.

Private Schools

Caulfield Grammar has one of its four campuses next to Jells Park in Wheelers Hill.

Huntingtower School, well established private school run by Christian Science Church, Waimarie Drv Mount Waverley.

St Leonard's RC School Springvale Rd Glen Waverley

St Matthew's School 1860-1875 Became Wellington School No 685 in 1863 (no relation to the later Wellington Primary School No 4947 in Shaftsbury Drv Mulgrave, which has now

also disappeared) but never had its own building so was replaced by Springvale School No 1658 in 1875 where the Wellington head teacher continued for 16 more years. Also the Mulgrave School No 2172 (1879 - mid 1980s) grew out of the St Matthews School. It stood on the NE cnr of Wellington Rd and Garnett Rd Wheelers Hill where the Wav Pitch and Putt Golf Centre now stands.

Tait private school, in Waimarie Drv MW was an early school for fee paying students in Mount Waverley.

Wheelers Hill had a school in the Presbyterian church from early in its history.

Wesleyan Church (Weekday) School 1868-1872 when it became Black Flat school. See Glen Waverley State School

All the above collected from WAW, an array of Melways Street Directories from past years, and "Vision and Realisation," the centenary history of the Education Dept of Vic, which is available at Waverley Historical Society.

Preschools and Kindergartens

Several early education centres are referred to in the book. Of course there were also others that were not mentioned: this is not an exhaustive list of Waverley pre-schools. The term "pre-school" has gradually given way in favour of "kindergartens," however this index uses the terms interchangeably. Note listing on p359 as of 1964 (14 pre-schools) and comment on p232 that in 1980 there were 54! The sharp increase in demand for places meant that, until additional facilities could be made available, pre-enrolment was necessary (see p362). Even then, actual intakes each year were often decided by ballot (see p69).

Birralee Preschool, Burton St, Jord, now co-operative play groups only.

Brandon Park Pre-school, 7 Collegium Ave GW p548

Church of Christ Preschool Centre, Montclair Ave, GW p359

Glendal Kindergarten, 3 Lucerne St, MW p359

GW Kindergarten, later called GW South Kindergarten, 43 Fraser St, GW, p359. Possibly abbreviated to Glen Kindergarten see p362

GW Methodist Kindergarten p359, 647 later called GW Central Preschool, cnr Kingsway & SV Rd GW, demolished Aug 2000, p359

Jubilee Day Kindergarten

MW Preschool Centre, Sherwood Rd, MW p359, also the earlier one in the Progress Hall, Ste Rd MW, p69

Preschool Dental Clinic (p232) used to have its own building near the Civic Centre in SV Rd, GW (now occupied by Novotel); however it makes regular visits to all the IMHCs

PW Preschool, PW Dve, MW p315, 363

St Luke's Pres Kindergarten, 94 Essex Rd, MW p359

St Mark's Pres Kindergarten, cnr HS Rd & Warr Rd Ashburton, p359

St Paul's Kindergarten, Wav Rd, GW p69, 121, 359.

St Philip's CofE Play Centre, Wav Rd, MW, behind what is now the Christadelphian Church, p359

Syndal pre-school, 2 Matthew St Syndal

Tally Ho Preschool, 24 Martin Place, GW

Appendix 3: LOCAL GOVERNMENT

The first land sales in Victoria began in 1853. Local government began in our area in 1857 with the Oakleigh & Mulgrave Road District, roads being the main shared need of the pioneer woodcutters and gardeners. Then in 1871 the whole area became a real municipality, the Shire of Oakleigh. In 1891, Oakleigh Borough (later Oakleigh township) separated from Oakleigh shire (later to become the Waverley area). In 1925 the Shire opened its own offices in Notting Hill and resumed the old name of Mulgrave (all dates from p148).

The railway came to GW in 1930 (p147), a single carriage shuttling to and fro on a single track. By 1953 (p147) this was a full passenger service plus freight and parcel van service. Gradually more passing loops were added so that two or more trains could make the journey, and duplication of the line was completed in 1964 with the duplication (p199) of the BB Rd overpass at Syndal station. In 1963, GW railway station was moved back from SV Rd (p147) to allow better traffic flow.

Due to great growth, the Shire of Mulgrave was divided into four wards in 1953 (p147, 215), and council decided at that time that it needed to build bigger council chambers. So in 1955 (p147) the old chambers in FTG Rd NH became the Depot, and the new buildings in SV Rd GW, built on land bought from Phil Cook (p178), were occupied (these have since been replaced in the 1990s). It was then (1955) that subdividers were required to supply basic utilities when selling new blocks – sealed roads, water mains, drainage etc.

The amazing building boom in Waverley in the 1960s, as discussed in WAW on p223 and 663, reflected the dramatic shift eastward of the demographic centre of Melbourne (p490). You will find population statistics for the following years on these pages:

1940	p333	350	1963	p333	56,500
1947	p172	4,700	1964	p223	62,500
1950	p148	5,000	1965	p172	70,000
1961	p172	45,000	1972	p148	140,000

The Shire of Mulgrave ended in 1961 when the City of Waverley was proclaimed (p170). Now we had mayors instead of Shire Presidents (mayors 1960-80 are listed on p206). The council chambers were extended in 1965, and additional blocks of adjoining land were also purchased (p227). Sometime after 1977 the GW Methodist church was also added to council property, when the Methodists united with the Presbyterians. In 1979 a new coat of arms for Waverley was approved (p205).

History marches on and since Wyn wrote her book, Waverley has re-combined with most of Oakleigh to form the City of Monash. The Council premises, newly built several years earlier, gave us a distinctive building with an M-shaped roofline, now looking for all the world as if it were planned for a Monash symbol. Whether designed as a stylised M or not, that shape is now the logo of our city.

Appendix 4: GUINEAS AND OTHER OUTDATED CURRENCY

See for example page 242 of WAW - “fridges for 129 gns, washing machines for 59 gns.”

In 1966 Australia launched Decimal Currency, that is, we first handled dollars and cents. Before that, there were pounds, shillings and pence, lots of nicknames and alternative terms, and much more scope for basic arithmetic problems both in school and out.

Pennies were large bronze coins, bigger than twenty-cent coins are now, and there were halfpennies (pronounced “ha’pennies”), which were approximately the size of ten cent coins, and a long time earlier there had been farthings (quarter of a penny). The plural of penny was pennies or pence. Twelve pence made a shilling. In silver coins we had a three-pence (pronounced thrippence, sometimes known as a “trey-bit”) thin and even smaller than the one-cent piece, sixpences (same size as five cents are now, nicknamed a “zac”), shillings (nicknamed a “bob,” same size as ten cents), florins (“two bob,” same size as twenty cents), and back in the 1930s there had been crowns (five shillings) and others.

Twenty shillings made one pound. The nickname for pounds was “quid,” which like the word ‘deer’ is both singular and plural. Much earlier there had been a variety of other notes, but at time of conversion we had notes for ten shillings, one pound, five pounds, and ten pounds.

It used to be great to have names for the coin denominations, rather than only the value as we have now. However there were a few in-built difficulties, all of which have been dealt with in decimal currency. Small children used to love the huge handful that a penny made, and sometimes disdained the comparatively small silver coins—even a two shilling piece (florin) was smaller! Also, when the coins were a little worn and dirty, it was sometimes possible even for adults to mistake ha’pennies for shillings.

Then there was the guinea. (see WAW p242) This was worth one pound plus one shilling, or twenty-one shillings, and this unit was often used to quote prices, though there was no guinea-note or coin. Prices up to twenty guineas (twenty-one pounds) were still easy enough, but when car or land prices were quoted in guineas, one had to be careful with comparisons. Incidentally, speaking of comparisons, WAW lists prices and costs for many things on many of its pages. If you enjoy comparing costs of living, see pages 30-31 of the Index “Prices.”

Of course the main reason for the change to decimal currency was the comparative ease of calculation. It is simple to add or multiply dollar and cent amounts, but the old currency was a bit trickier. Imagine going into a menswear shop and buying a few bargains. You find a pair of trousers for two guineas, a shirt for seventeen shillings and sixpence, socks for nine and ninepence, and a belt for four shillings eleven pence. Starting with the pennies, there are $6+9+11$, making 26. Twenty-six pennies is two shillings and tuppence (two pence), so we have a “carry” of two shillings. In the shillings column, we have the carry, plus two shillings of the guinea price plus $17+9+4$, making 34 shillings, or one pound 14 shillings. Pounds column = one to carry and the two from the guinea price. Total to pay, 3 pounds 14 and tuppence. People were used to doing all that automatically, but I think you can see how easy it would be to make errors. It was even more complex with multiplication or division. I think you get the picture.

The actual conversion must have been one of the most successful advertising campaigns ever. I don’t think anyone born before about 1960 could forget the date or the jingle that dominated the media in the lead-up time (To the tune of Click Go the Shears):

“In come the dollars, in come the cents
To replace the pounds and the shillings and the pence
Be prepared now when the coins begin to mix

On the fourteenth of February, 1966.”

At conversion, the penny was replaced by the cent and the threepence by the two-cent coin, though these were not exact equivalents. The sixpence changed to five cents, shilling to ten cents, florin to twenty cents, and a fifty-cent coin was added to re-introduce the old crown. The notes were exact equivalents and roughly colour matched - one dollar for ten shillings, two dollars for a pound, ten dollars for five pounds, and twenty dollars for ten pounds.

The changeover was very smooth and well-accepted, better accepted than the later conversions, eg to kilometres and kilograms. There were a few features that caused hilarity, however. One comment was how much easier it had suddenly become to be a millionaire. People would also joke about presenting a five-dollar note, and many listeners failed to recognize the error, being used to the concept of five pound note. The five dollar note was introduced only in May 1967. People could trick each other by writing a dollar sign and then three numbers, eg \$2:14:6 as they had done with pounds, shillings and pence. However all these passed in a remarkably short time as familiarity grew.

All in all, decimal currency is now an accepted part of our lives, and we've almost forgotten how much easier everything has become. All of the quirks of the old currency have been neatly removed and school children no longer need daily practice with money problems. I don't think they'll miss it, however.