

# The History of Education in Colton.



# Late 18<sup>th</sup>. early 19<sup>th</sup>. Century

- Industrial Revolution
- Growth of working classes
- Demand for educated work force including children.
- Sunday school Movement acted as a catalyst in creating more voluntary schools.

# Before 19<sup>th</sup>.Century

- No National System
- Schools for the poor-charity schools.
- Small private schools -Pupils paid small fee to attend.
- Public schools for the wealthy such as Eton, Rugby.
- Tuition at home-often for the daughters of the wealthy.



School Cottages - First school in Colton started by charitable donations.



# First School in Colton-opens 1763/4

- Parochial levies were raised for the purpose of purchasing a school room and schoolmasters house to educate poor children of the parish. The sum of £350 was raised. The sum also purchased land in Colton and Uttoxeter.



# Charitable Donations.

- The schoolmaster was to teach reading, writing and arithmetic and to teach the Church of England catechism.
- The schoolchildren whose parents could not afford it were to be provided with quills, ink and books.
- 1821 John Spencer on behalf of his brother gave a further £500 to provide further income from the interest.

# 1830 School Report.

- “The boys and girls are taught in one room, boys at the bottom and girls at the top. The master and his son teach the boys, his wife and daughter teach the girls. They are all instructed in Reading, Writing, Arithmetic and the Church catechism. The girls are also taught to sew and knit”
- (County Educ. Green Book)

# The Webb Trust

- **1811.** Land and rents from cottages left by John Webb combined with rent from land and cottages given by Thomas Webb provided for the education of 20 poor girls in Colton.
- They were to be taught to read write and sew.
- School probably in the yard at the rectory.



# School for girls

- Another school for girls run from Old Bellamour Hall by Miss Oldham.
- (mentioned by Rev. Parker)





Private school at Colton House  
1850's

# Victorian Small Private Schools





# Private Academy.



- Recorded on 1851 Census
- Richard Mills-schoolmaster
- 18 Boys boarding.

# School Amalgamation

- Two schools-The endowed school at school cottages and the Webb school for girls, began to work together
- By 1851 one was for the the boys of the village, the other for the girls.

# **Expansion of Voluntary Movement.**

- Many schools that were founded in the 19<sup>th</sup>. Century were run by either the Church of England or the non conformist movement but not Colton. Still run by the Trusts.
- Still no compulsory attendance



# Teaching

- Class Teacher .
- Use of Monitorial System for training.
- Replaced by Pupil Teacher System trained alongside teacher for 5 years. Paid.
- 1840's School Inspectorate established.
- Payment by attendance
- Payment by Results

# Late 19<sup>th</sup>. Century

- Numbers growing.
- Tomas Berry Horsfall
- Owner of Bellamour
- M.P. for Liverpool
- Benefactor to the village
- Donates land and money.



# **Sources of Funding for running the school.**

- Mr. Horsfall consolidated the charities to help pay for the running of the school.
- Income from letting School Cottages
- The Webb Charity-income from cottages, land and pub (Three Wheels)
- The Spencer Charity
- Income from woodland at Marchington.
- Pension for Mr. Lenton and Miss Garner.

# St. Mary's School Colton.



# School opens 19 Dec. 1863

- “Marched from old school and opened new school-prayer by Rev. Seaton. Broke up for Christmas holidays.”
- Mr. Lenton. Head teacher.
- Miss Garner. Infant Teacher-Webb school
- 1 large classroom 60ft. Long & north infant room with gallery



# Scale of Payment

- Trustees- Lord Bagot, Rev. Seaton, Mr Horsfall, A Harland, Mr. Lane and Mr. Nixon.
- Set by Trustees on 6.6.1863
- Labourers pay 2d. For first child
- 1d. For each additional child.
- 15.10.1874 Scale of payment altered to 3d first child, 2d second, 1 for 3<sup>rd</sup> etc.



# School Inspection 6.12.1866.

- “The children are in good order. The three lowest standards have passed well in the secular subjects. The three highest standards have failed in arithmetic. The spelling too of the fifth standard needs attention. Religious knowledge fairly good. Girls needlework improved. The registers should be marked more regularly.”

# Benefactors

- Some very poor school children's fees paid by benefactors living in the village such as
  - Miss Oldham
  - Mr. Horsfall
  - Mr. Harland
  - (Log book 25.6.69)

# Great Education Acts.

- **1870 Act** First state intervention into Education. Rate supported elementary schools.
- School Boards set up to oversee running of schools.
- Attendance still not compulsory.
- **1880 Act** Compulsory schooling.
- **1902 Act** Secondary Education introduced.

# Impact on Colton School

- Yearly inspections.
- Funding to school reduced if not up to educational standard.
- Pressure to keep up attendance
- Pressure to get good results

# School Inspections

- Mr. Sutton new head in 1869
- Inspectors' reports get steadily worse and worse.
- Consequences- The school grant gets steadily reduced. Log book entry 1878  
“Two tenths again deducted from the grant for poor standards”
- 1890 “results so poor trustees may consider formal warning”

# Attendance.



- Children often away for different reasons.
- Collecting in the Harvest.
- Potato picking
- Illness
- Local fairs-e.g. Rugeley horse fair.
- Bird Tenting

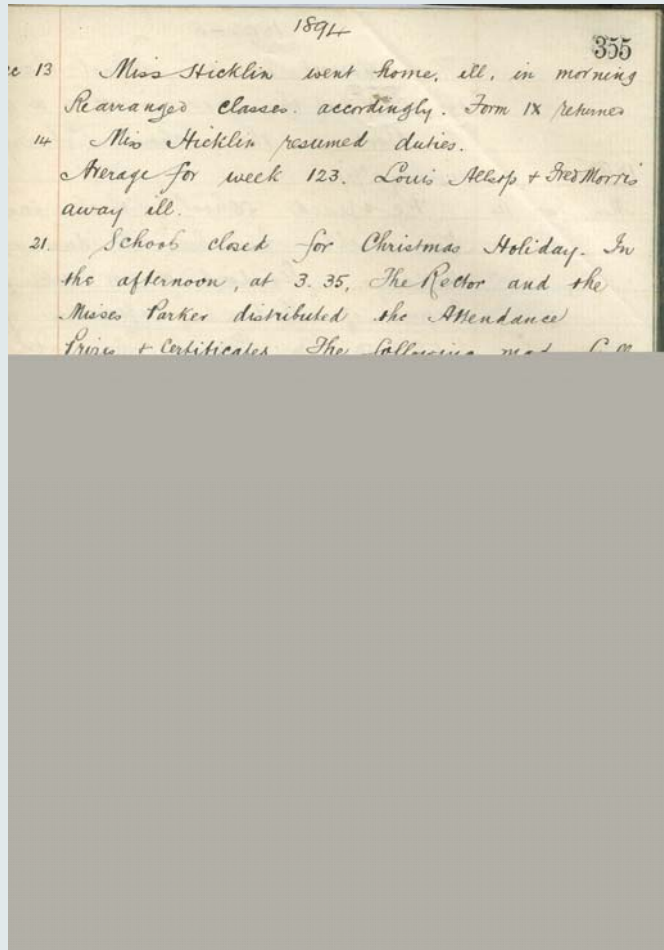


# Attendance Improved.

- This picture was taken by Frederic Bonney in the 1890's showing the number of children who had not been away from school that year!
- Attendance very important to head for his pay.



# 100%Attendance 1894



- Edward Sharratt
- Georgina Nicklin
- Annie Tooth
- Harry Upton
- Alice and John Allsopp
- Joseph Glenn
- William Deavalle
- Charles Cooper
- Emmie Norman
- Edward Upton
- Herbert Edward

# Class of .....





**Class of 1894**





# Class of 1894

Miss Marshall  
(Teacher)

1 Alice Ingham	2 Martha Overden	3 Reginald Rowley	4 Walter Jarvis
5 Willie Ingham	6 Reymond Day	7 Percy Devalla	8 Albert Devalla
9 Thomas Robson	10 Charlie Bull	11 Thomas Clark	12 Jack Worley
13 Lawrence Baylis	14 Alfred Meddings	15 Gustav Webster	16 Edith Blakemore
17 Laurence Rowley	18 Jessie Sharpe	19 John Brain	20 Frank Middleton
21 Rachel Whitehouse	22 Winifred Gale	23 Lennox Williscroft	24 Nellie Walker
25 George Parr	26 Mary Ann Hunt	27 Kate Conway	28 Ethel Tomlinson
29 Willie Kay	30 Edith Talbot	31 Bernice Preston	32 Alice Cope
	33 Lillian Smith	34 Maria Robson	35 Anna Preston

Roll of Children in Class of 1894 - May 1898 -

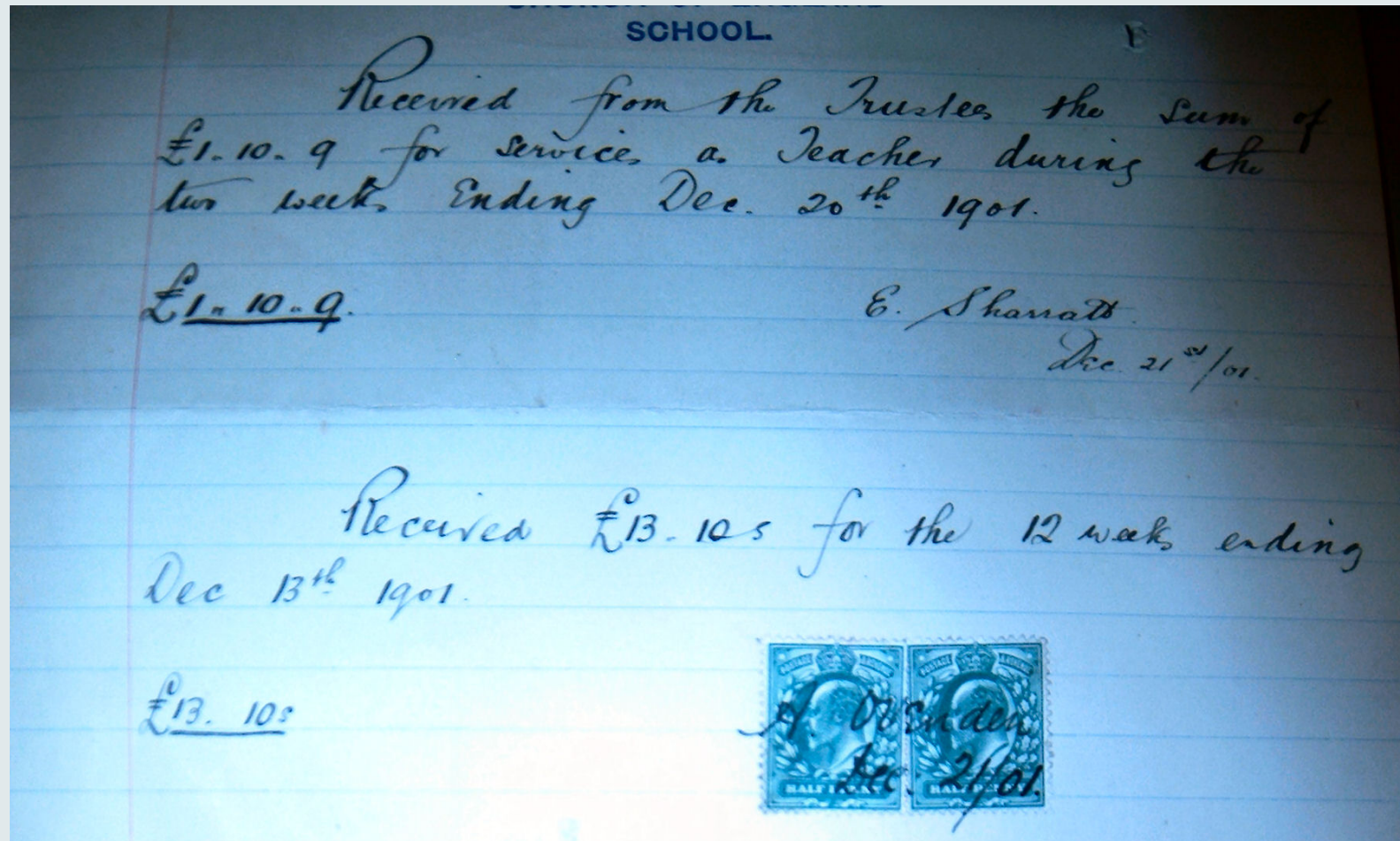
# Miss Lydia Mansell

- Comes to school in 1895 to teach infants
- Comes from Edgmond National School near Newport.
- Served apprenticeship in girls school in Newport
- Passed first year papers 1892





# Teachers Pay 1901



# Curriculum Subjects.

- 1862
- “Reading, writing, spelling, English grammar, arithmetic, general history, geography such subjects as useful or industrial knowledge including needlework and knitting to be taught to the girls, religious knowledge comprising the bible and bible history and must be consonant with the principles and doctrines of the Church of England.” (Extracts from School Trust Papers)

# 1<sup>st</sup>. World War

- The boys are wanted on the farms because many have enlisted for the war.
- More than a ton of chestnuts has been gathered for the war effort.



# Important Events through the School Year.



Religious Occasions



May Day Celebrations.

# Reorganisation at 11

- **1930-Colwich School** becomes a rural central school and children from Blithfield, Great Hayward, Hixon and Colton go there from the age of 11 to 14.
- (Managers Minute Book)



# **Improvements to the School up to the Second World War.**

- 1894 new classroom added.
- 1924 Central heating replaces open fires. Gallery removed. Windows changed.
- 1936 Water laid on –two taps one for girls one for boys.
- 1920 Garden extended and begun.
- 1931 Electricity installed.



# 2'nd. World War



# How the War affected St. Mary's

- Colton School takes in evacuees from Westgate on Sea.
- Soldiers are billeted in Colton.
- American soldiers hand out sweets to the school children.
- Children collect shrapnel and bombs!!



# How the Weather affected the School



Snow



Floods



# School Roles through the Years.

- **1762** 20
- **1821** Head to take no more than 40
- **1867** 34 boys 35 girls
- **1930** 3 under 5's, 31 aged 5-8, 31 aged 8-11, 18 aged 11+  
- 93 altogether
- **1937** 33
- **1960** 79
- **1965** 90
- **1967** 74
- **1973** 97
- **1976** 121
- **1983** 54
- **1989** 48

# After the War.

- School meals from the LEA commenced.
- 1959 Telephone installed.

# **Qualities required for appointment to the headship 1959.**

- Good churchman
- Rural background-almost essential.
- Age group 35-40 preferred
- Family background-domestic harmony, sympathetic wife, man with children.
- Personality Speech free from pronounced alien dialect, morally sound.
- Residence in village essential.



# Heads through the years

- Mr. Garner
- Mr. Lenton
- 1869 Mr Sutton
- 1908 Mr. Ovendon
- Mr. Johnson(Temp)
- 1915. Mr.  
Shuttleworth.
- 1923 Mr. Broughton
- 1959 Mr. Waters
- 1964 Mr. McDowall
- 1973 Mrs. Hiesley
- 1983 Mrs. Armitage

# **Changes to the school in the 1960's**

- Attempts to build a new school finally collapsed in 1964.
- 1966 Modernisation of the school begins and children are bussed temporarily to Colwich school.
- Sept. 1967 school opens in the newly extended and refurbished premises.

# The School after alteration.



- After



# The Present.

- Still run partly by a Trust
- Children on roll.
- Teachers
- Catchment area



# The Future

?

**What will the LEA  
decide.**



# Implications of Closure.

- Loss to the Community
- What happens to the school building?
- Where would the children go?
- Who owns the land?
- What would happen to the land if the school building was demolished?