



museum without walls

MANDURAH COMMUNITY MUSEUM

Wilfred L (Bar-T) Goode

Wilfred L (Bar- T) Goode was born in 1894. He commenced two years Teacher's Training in 1912 at Midland Junction Training College.

Comments made during his training by his superintendent were,
"A very fine fellow, strong personality and generally effective in whatever he does. Very capable as a student. Unfortunately mobilisation destroyed his teaching practice on three separate occasions. He is somewhat unbending and hesitant before a class with practice and confidence resulting there from, he should become a good teacher."
(Mobilisation refers to his service with the Australian Imperial Force in World War One.)

Although he commenced his career in 1915 at Northam School, in September this had to be put on hold while on active service during World War One. While serving, Wilfred Goode on 3 different occasions received gunshot wounds, his final wounding coming shortly before the conclusion of the war and resulted in him being hospitalised for several months after the war ended.

In April 1919 he re-commenced teaching at Fremantle Boys School. Over the years he taught at various schools finally arriving in Mandurah at a time of great change in 1938. Change was coming worldwide with rumblings once again of war. Within Mandurah the population was growing and a new school was on the drawing board. The current school was no longer large enough even with the use of the Agricultural Hall next door for the younger age groups.

On July 27th 1939 the new school known to many as Hackett Street School was opened. Mr Goode or Bar-T as he became known (some say he got the nickname from sailing his yacht with the Bar-T markings on the sail) was the Headmaster of the school for 21 years from 1938 to 1959. He completed his service in 1959 at the age of 65.

He continued living in Mandurah during his retirement as an active member of the community. He lived in Halls Head; his home is still there today. He was a well respected person and is still fondly remembered by many of his past students today. He died in the Rockingham nursing home after a series of illnesses in 1977.