

Irongate Kindergarten

Plans for a third kindergarten in Flaxmere were announced in February 1976, after a section was to be made available next to Irongate School in Walton Way. Messrs Flauss, Sanko and Unwin were asked to organise an establishment committee.²⁹³ This was formed in March 1976, and the kindergarten would be known as Irongate.²⁹⁴

The kindergarten was planned to be opened later in 1976, and by April an application was made to have Irongate Kindergarten placed on the Government building waiting list.

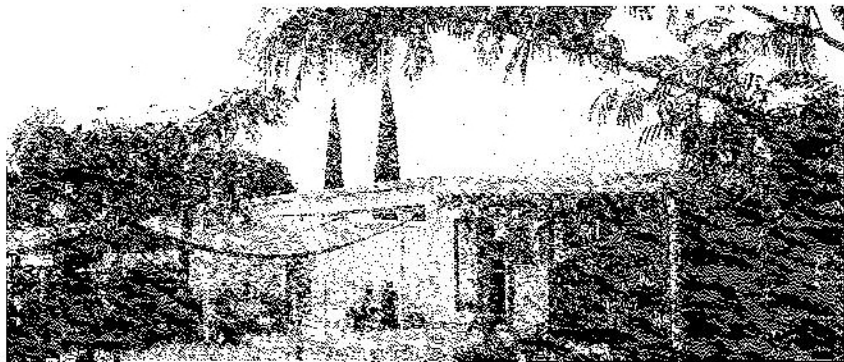
Fundraising continued throughout 1976, with shrubs being sold, and firewood chopped and delivered.²⁹⁵

News was received in February 1977 that the Government had given permission to build Irongate Kindergarten as soon as plans were approved by the Hawke's Bay Education Board. Some delays in finalising plans, which were to be standardised for all kindergartens in New Zealand, were greeted with a sigh of relief as the establishment committee needed more time to raise funds for the building.²⁹⁶

The cost of building Irongate Kindergarten's premises was approximately \$50,000 – of which \$10,000 had to be supplied to the Hawke's Bay Education Board before tenders were accepted. A shortfall of \$3,000 existed, and similar to Ellen Stevenson Kindergarten, funds were borrowed from the other kindergartens to cover this deficit.²⁹⁷

The second public meeting in regard to Irongate Kindergarten was held on 7 March 1978. Parents enrolled their children at this meeting, and at the third to follow in April.²⁹⁸

Hastings' last free kindergarten – Irongate – was opened on 16 July 1978.



1928	Mrs T H Lowry	1970	Mr John McCormick
1929	Mrs B Crompton-Smith	1971	Mr McKay
1930	Mrs F L Baumgart	1972	Mr A E Flaus
1931	Mrs J E Bauchop	1973	Mr A E Flaus
1932	Mrs J E Bauchop	1974	Mr A E Flaus
1933	Mrs J E Bauchop	1975	Mr A E Flaus
1934	Mrs J E Bauchop	1976	Mr A E Flaus
1935	Mrs J E Bauchop	1977	Mr R Unwin
1936	Mrs J Wilson	1978	Mr R Unwin
1937	Mrs J Wilson	1979	Barbara Walker
1938	Mrs J Wilson	1980	Richard Sanko
1939	Mrs J Wilson	1981	Richard Sanko
1940	Mrs J Wilson	1982	Richard Sanko
1941	Mrs J Wilson	1983	Richard Sanko
1942	Mrs J Wilson	1984	Patrick Dingemans
1943	Mrs J Wilson	1985	Ian Varcoe
1944	Mrs J Wilson	1986	Mark Walwyn
1945	Mrs J Wilson	1987	Jane Goodacre
1946	Mrs J Wilson	1988	Jane Goodacre
1947	Mrs J Wilson	1989	Jane Goodacre
1948	Mrs J Wilson	1990	Jane Goodacre
1949	Mrs J Wilson	1991	Jane Goodacre
1950	Mrs J Wilson	1992	Lorraine Beal
1951	Mrs C P Hopkins	1993	Lorraine Beal
1952	Mrs L R Winter	1994	Lorraine Beal
1953	Mrs L R Winter	1995	Rose Hegarty
1954	Mrs L R Winter	1996	Louise Simons
1955	Mrs R Stevenson	1997	Louise Simons
1956	Mrs R Stevenson	1998	Louise Simons
1957	Mrs R Stevenson	1999	Louise Simons
1958	Mrs E J Duff	2000	Louise Addis
1959	Mrs E J Duff	2001	Louise Addis
1960	Mrs E J Duff	2002	Sue Hewitt
1961	Mrs J Bonisch	2003	Joyce Clark
1962	Mrs J Bonisch	2004	Joyce Clark
1963	Mr C D Fleury	2005	Joyce Clark
1964	Mr C D Fleury	2006	Joyce Clark
1965	Mr C D Fleury	2007	Joyce Clark
1966	Mr C D Fleury	2008	Joyce Clark
1967	Mr C D Fleury		
1968	Mr John McCormick		
1969	Mr John McCormick		