A Great Day for Nanima

(A report of the opening of Nanima Hall, Wellington, by one of the people who attended. Nanima Hall was opened on 25th November, 1971.)



Jim Cahill, Headmaster of Nanima School, with the school choir

The district had been crying out for rain for weeks, but when the dark clouds gathered, we hoped that the rain would hang off for at least another day. "Let us get our hall opened first," was the comment to be heard all around Nanima, and apart from a very occasional shower, our wishes were granted.

So much time, so much preparation, had been given to make this opening a success. We were all nervous and wondered how many people would come, whether our ladies had catered for enough afternoon teas, and whether we had enough meat for the bar-be-que. At 2.30 p.m. two schoolboy

teams from Nanima kicked off in the curtain-raiser and for those of you who do not know, the Nanima boys are noted for their soccer prowess. During the match there was a slight shower of rain which meant that everybody entering the hall carried in some dirt. The ladies did a fine job in keeping the steps relatively free from mud and making sure that the passageways remained clean.

The cars started to come and they kept coming. By 3.30 we were beginning to have some doubts as to whether everybody would fit into the hall, (250 seats were obviously not enough) but there was no time to get more. The official party arrived and the ceremony was under way.