

Caroona Children in Tamworth Sports Contests

The provision of a vehicle by the Aborigines Welfare Board to the aboriginal reserve at Caroona will enable children at the school there to greatly expand their recreational and educational activities. Caroona is near Quirindi.

The teacher in charge of the aboriginal school at Caroona (Mr. J. Shanahan) said this in Tamworth while watching a team of well turned-out girls playing in the junior hockey competition at the end of May.

Mr. Shanahan said there were 52 children in the school and he had "scraped together" 12 girls for a hockey team.

It is their first year in the game. Up until a few weeks ago many of them did not know what a hockey stick looked like.

Judging by the manner in which they won their match, it shouldn't be long before they are mixing it with the best teams in the area.

Mr. Shanahan began coaching the girls just before the school holidays and they were playing only their second game.

Mr. Shanahan said he was prompted to form the hockey team after receiving the vehicle from the Welfare Board.

The vehicle would provide opportunities lacking before.

Transport had been a problem, but now that he had it he intended to use it to the best advantage.

"I will be able to show them many places of interest in Tamworth each Saturday", he said.

"For instance, after this hockey game I'll take them up the scenic road and point out a number of interesting things."

He added that visits would be made to as many industrial concerns as possible.

The youngsters have been playing with borrowed gear, but a cheque presented to them by Ampol should assist greatly in getting together a complete kit.



Picture shows Mr. G. Halloran presenting a cheque to Barbara Allen (12), the captain of the hockey team, while Mrs. M. Randle, president of the Womens' Hockey Association looks on

The cheque was handed to the captain of the Caroona girls, Barbara Allen, by the north-west district representative of Ampol, Mr. G. Halloran, in the presence of a big gathering of hockey players, their parents and friends.

Mr. Halloran said his company was very pleased to assist such a worthy cause. He wished the girls many happy days of hockey.

The presentation was arranged by the President of Tamworth Women's Hockey Association, Mrs. Mavis Randle, who undertook to see that the girls were equipped following an appeal by Mr. Shannon.

The proceedings were watched by the patroness of the Women's Hockey Association, Mrs. W. Dewhurst.

Mr. Shannon also brings in a team of boys for the Minor Rugby League competition games on Saturday mornings.

Mrs. Randle shakes hands with Tim Brennan, vice-captain of the Caroona football team which plays in a minor league competition at Tamworth. The girl hockey players are, left, Barbara Allen (captain), and Freda Saunders (vice-captain). Both pictures are by courtesy of the "Northern Daily Leader", Tamworth

