

Who is Madge Sexton?

Information collated from the following sources:

Information from Timothy Sexton that he gathered from his conversations with his mother, Helen Madge Sexton in 2012, as well as information that she had written down to answer some of the information we were seeking. Tim also researched Trove (which is the National Library of Australia online resource) gathering information from historical articles. Also some words that we heard Tim speak about Madge at her funeral on Wednesday 23rd of January, 2013.

Information taken from Madge's speech that she delivered to Madge Sexton Kindergarten families, staff and local community at the opening of the current Kindergarten in 2005.

Extracts from McLaren Vale Kindergarten Governing Council meeting minutes (1955-1961).

Letters, phone calls and visits from Gloria Rehn, Jean Horton, Jeanette and Richard Atchinson, Ross Vogt, Rosemary Genders and Diana Genders.



Who is Madge Sexton?

Madge was born Helen Madge King in 1924. She lived on an 800 acre farm in Allendale North, (7kms north of Kapunda in the Barossa Valley). As she grew up, her job was to milk the 16 cows every morning and also help to run the farm when her two brothers, Henry and Kevin, went to war.

As a young child, she had followed her brothers to school from such an early age that they allowed her to attend school from the age of four. As she grew older, she would ride her horse the 7kms to school every day and back. She attended secondary school at the Kapunda Convent and gained her leaving certificate, with excellent results. According to Tim, she could still quote poetry she had learnt at school 75 years ago. The nuns also taught her to play the piano, a skill which she maintained her whole life.

She also studied at the Adelaide School of Arts, and returned to painting, with great success, when she was in her fifties. For a short while, she worked in Adelaide in a secretarial capacity, and also worked at the Cheer Up Hut during the Second World War, before marrying Thomas Leonard Sexton (Tom), whose father was the local station master at Kapunda. Tom served in WW2 in New Guinea and upon his return trained as a winemaker, alongside Max Schubert (of Grange Hermitage fame – in fact Max and Tom were best mates at Nuriootpa High School.) Tom was posted down to Penfolds at McLaren Vale in 1946, the year Madge and he were married and from there she raised her five boys (and a girl, Angela, who sadly died of influenza in 1958 aged only 8 months old).

“I came to McLaren Vale as a bride in January, 1947, and lived in a small white house adjacent to what is now Tatachilla Winery (it was Penfolds in those days) and my husband was the winemaker/ manager there.”

Why it all began.....

Madge had young pre-school boys on her hands who were quite a handful, and she needed a break! Her husband (Thomas Leonard Sexton – widely known as Len but he later preferred Tom) was manager and chief winemaker at Penfolds Winery in the main street at McLaren Vale (which later became Southern Vales Co-Op). Madge and Tom's young sons needed help through the pre-school ages as they lived next door to the winery and the open tanks were a great lure to the boys when they were young. Some of Madge's friends who lived in the area were also worried about the 'holes in the ground' at the winery where their husbands worked. But this was only one of the reasons – the main one being that the mums had their hands full (remembering that this was an era when fathers weren't very 'hands-on', and the mums did a huge amount of the child rearing).

“Wives didn't go out to work in those days – we stayed home and had babies and by 1953 we had two little boys, 4 and 2.”

There was a lady in the area who minded little ones, but not more than once a week, and at a cost. Madge had two or three other friends with kindergarten-aged children as well, so there was some demand for a service. Madge also wanted her children to have the company of other children and understood the benefits they would have from the companionship of other little ones in a kindergarten environment.

How it all began....

“This was 1952 – I was 5 months pregnant with my third child...I knew a few other girls in McLaren Vale with little children who I had met at the Baby Health Clinic which was held one morning a week in the little red room on the left as you entered the Hall (or the Institute as we used to call it) and I called a meeting at my house one afternoon and we all thought it a good idea to have some sort of play group somewhere, but none of us had much money or time to work towards a huge project like a Kindergarten. (I did write to Council but they said it was not a viable proposition – would cost too much and anyway there was a Kindergarten in Port Noarlunga which was like saying Sydney to us as we and many other women in McLaren Vale did not drive or had no access to a car. There was no public transport – just a private bus to Adelaide and a train – once a day.)

So we got permission to use the little building behind what was then the Congregational Church on the corner of Aldersey St. and Tatachilla Rd. I think it was the Sunday school meeting room as it had an old organ in there, and we rostered two ladies each afternoon to mind about 12 littlies and we all brought a couple of toys and some paints and a few little books and after a while got into some sort of routine with them. They were 2 to 4 year olds and were all shy little people as they weren't used to mixing with others – this little group was the first in McLaren Vale. We put a little potty and chair behind the organ as there were no toilets anywhere, and would empty the contents or bury it under a bush outside. One day whoever was there forgot the potty and next day the Minister called a meeting of Church Ladies Guild and while addressing them he stepped behind the organ to retrieve a piece of his speech and tripped over the very full potty. Sadly, we were all give notice on the spot, so we were back to square one. ”

So I made enquiries about Kindergartens from The Kindergarten Union in Adelaide. It was just a general enquiry asking what the criteria was for Kindergartens. I think I wrote a letter and told them my story, and back came a very important document, setting out the steps necessary if we ever got around to such a big project.

- We had to have a block of land.*
- We had to find a builder who would work to the specifications of the Union.*
- We had to have a freehold building (no debts).*
- We had to have 5 eminent townspeople as guarantors in case finance fell through.*
- Most importantly, we had to have a qualified Kindergarten or Infant Teacher, plus one assistant.*
- The teacher must be paid award wages.*
- All equipment had to be fitted in accordance with the Union's rules. Toilets a certain size, table a certain height, special chairs, set of blocks approved by them, a piano, and ample playground space*
- The playground needed to have approved Union equipment.*
- A sandpit with clean beach sand.*
- The building and playground to be surrounded by childproof fencing.*

I remember to this day the feeling of hopelessness when I realised what having a Kindy involved, and I took the letter to the next meeting of our playgroup Mums with a sad heart.

Someone said “Well, there IS a playground on Tatachilla Rd. Perhaps they'll let us build onto the end of that?” (There was a fairly large earth heap by the road).

We all just laughed, but the thought wouldn't go away from my mind and I took my little boys and my very pregnant self to see the local Councilor and it transpired that the playground was owned by what they called a Parks Committee who also owned the Oval and one or two other public park areas like the site set aside for the bowling green and tennis courts and.... It WAS possible to have a long lease of the playground and block on the promise that we would maintain the area for the Council, and that we had the backing of at least five prominent citizens of the district. The lease could be for 50 years I think, and then it would be reviewed.

We had made a small step towards our dream.

The next steps....

So...we had a playground, but no building and no money.

We formed a committee of mothers and met frequently in the local Institute (next door to my house) to work out how we would proceed. With our little ones around us I don't know how we managed to get any thinking done – it must have been a hectic time but I don't recall having night meetings. I think we were all too exhausted to come out at night.

The next step was to find a builder – Mr. Horace Poole was a local builder (Poole Bros.) and had a little boy of kindy age, and I went many times to his home down the street to discuss prices and design, which had to be approved by the Kindergarten Union. I remember drawing a plan – but I think it took ages before the building was started as we had to raise \$800 first as a deposit and the building would cost in all around \$4000 and then get five guarantors to promise the balance would be paid if something went wrong with our fundraising.

I overate with worry and in my late pregnancy months was feeling very miserable, thinking we could not possibly raise something like \$4000 from such a small community. On our annual general meeting day to decide whether we would go ahead, I had my third baby, so the meeting was postponed for a week. My baby weighed 10 pounds and was the heaviest baby born to date in the new McLaren Vale Hospital. We held the AGM one week later in my room at the hospital – Matron bringing in the chairs and making cups of tea – me lying there in the bed chairing the meeting.

It was there in that maternity room that we made our decision to sign the long term lease and try to raise the \$800 deposit for the building to begin. We were all firm friends by now and I was helped so much in many ways with my young family, by their support.



We were so determined – we ran a paper drive for two years in a shed opposite the Hotel. People would leave bundles or we would pick up in our cars from houses around the town. Heavy work, but rewarding.

We had Saturday cake stalls, a fete in the Institute, fancy dress for children nights, raffles and over two years 1953 and 1954 we had raised \$800 needed to commence work.

Because we were so obviously dedicated to our dream we got our guarantors, Dr. Tassie, Mr. Brookman M.P, Mr. Hugh Pridmore, The Bank Manager of the Bank of Adelaide and Mr. Kay of Kay's Winery, and at the end of 1954 it was my pride and joy to see the foundations of our building going up. By this time I was heavily pregnant AGAIN and struggling with my three boys under 7. Lots of worry with the Kindergarten Union as we had to get it just right, and in the end it was lovely. No fancy bits – just a straight out rectangular area, but what excitement.

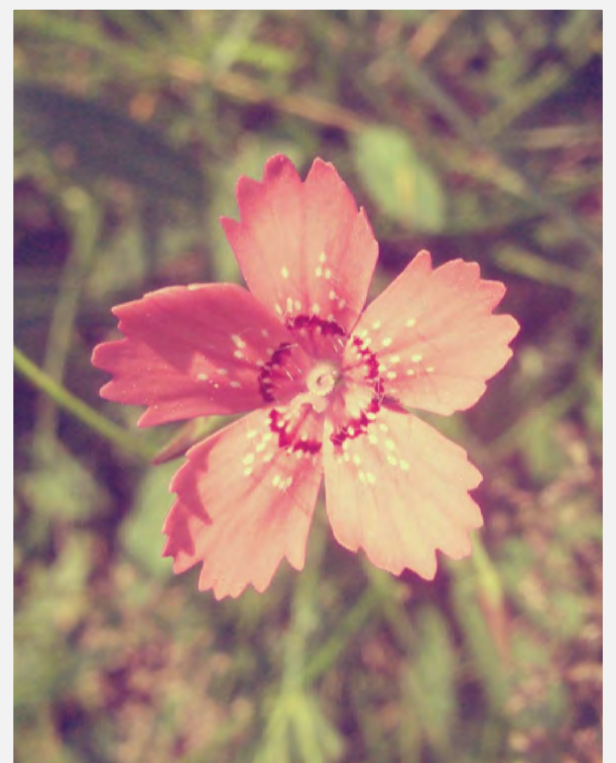
The fathers of the town cleared the playground and did the landscaping and planting of the trees and my husband sent workmen from the winery to help on many occasions. We painted it inside and out to save paying someone, and we stocked it with Kindergarten approved tables and chairs and cupboards (I recall buying the large set of blocks and the piano and choosing the chairs and the tables with other committee members). The piano was my gift plus some of the early books. We found a registered infant teacher eventually, but not at first and we had to run it ourselves more or less as a playgroup as we couldn't become affiliated with the Union until we found a qualified teacher and we advertised many times for one through that first year.

To raise the extra \$3500 needed to pay the builder and stock the Kindy with necessities, we ran a huge Kindergarten Queen Competition with four girls competing from the district. They raised money with their own committees with raffles, dances, BBQ's, stalls, fetes, beach parties and the grand final crowning was at a huge Ball in the Institute – one of the biggest crowds in McLaren Vale at a dance. Jennifer McDonald was crowned Queen, and guess what they raised exactly \$3500....I always said this Kindergarten was MEANT to be here and the hard work everyone put in back in those early 50's was well worth while.

Becoming Madge Sexton Kindergarten...

I was an organiser, and didn't carry on as President when it became established, so cannot recall much after about 1957. I had another boy (my fourth) in 1955, and when the official opening was held (in September I think) I have a photo of myself holding a two and a half year old Michael, while baby Roger was in his crib behind me. (A copy of this photograph is on display at Madge Sexton Kindergarten.) Michael and Roger benefited from the Kindy, and many other children have been helped I know from what can only be recalled as a marathon effort by about 15 Mums in a small country town.

After months of searching and advertising and much voluntary work by the mothers and two dedicated unqualified but so competent assistants who were paid just what we could afford, (Elsie Badger and Audrey Hunt) we got our teacher – Jean Hele from Aldinga, an ex-infant teacher and the most wonderful, energetic lady, and Elsie Badger became her assistant, and for two years we parents raised the money to pay their wages, willingly, as Jean and Elsie were brilliant in their jobs. Elsie has told me of the way Jean created furniture out of an old kitchen cabinet – attacking it with a saw and the bottom bit for a cupboard, after carrying it from Mr. Hurst's house up the street – Elsie on one end and Jean on the other. And about a little sickbed and dresser which Keith Hunt made and the dressing table made out of a box with a frill around and a mirror, all fixed by another Dad. After two years we were amalgamated with the Kindergarten Union and they took over the salaries of our teacher and assistant, and Elsie remained as assistant for 17 years, working with Audrey Hunt after Jean Hele had to retire. Elsie was the stable heart of the Kindy and the Elsie Badger room was named in honour of her long service to the children of McLaren Vale and beyond.”



An extract from the formerly named McLaren Vale Kindergarten's Governing Council meeting minutes in 1961, states that the Kindergarten's name change from McLaren Vale Kindergarten to Madge Sexton Kindergarten was motioned and unanimously accepted by all. The minutes also note that the Governing Council Committee bought Madge an electric frypan and some cosmetics. Mrs Hamilton painted the new name on the buggy and Mrs Maxwell was asked to present the gifts to Madge.

My Michael and Roger benefited from the Kindy – they don't remember going to Kindy, but grew up into caring husbands and fathers, and are proud that they may have been the original occupants of this still wonderful kindergarten.”

The Madge Sexton Kindergarten remained on the original Tatachilla Road site until it relocated onto the McLaren Vale Primary School site in January, 2005. The Tatachilla Road building is now occupied by Montessori Children's Centre, McLaren Vale.

Madge's life after Madge Sexton Kindergarten....

In 1962, the family moved to Nuriootpa and then in 1963, to Morphett Vale, where Madge stayed for the next 40 years. She got a job at Stanvac Primary School running the front office and was there until her retirement.

She actively took up painting and had a very successful career doing pen and wash drawings and oils. She was an Associate Member of the Royal Society of the Arts and staged a number of very successful exhibitions. Her paintings have been exhibited all over South Australia, and hundreds of them have been purchased and adorn walls of houses all over Australia and even overseas. She has also had a number of her artworks included in publications, including a Willunga history, a history of Allendale North (which she co-wrote) a Noarlunga District calendar, one for Mount Pleasant and specially commissioned paintings to celebrate the 150th birthday of Mount Torrens.



Tim spoke about Madge at her funeral telling us about *“six indelible characteristics Madge imprinted on my heart and mind..... Words, music, laughter, love, loyalty and creativity.”* On her creativity he said *“Yes, she wrote wonderful speeches and painted lovely paintings which are dotted all over the world. But that’s not what I remember most. What I remember is travelling up to Adelaide with her on the Briscoes bus from Morphett Vale, when I was about 6 or 7 years old. Madge always had a pen and blank paper on her, and to while away the time and keep me occupied, she would draw a squiggle on the paper and I would have to turn that squiggle into a picture. It seems like nothing, doesn’t it? But it was an innocuous and simple creative action which had seismic consequences for me. Because from a very young age I started to think laterally – to be presented with a blank page or something shapeless and without form, and it was my task to try and turn that amorphous squiggle into something of meaning or into an object of beauty.”*

Madge, fairly late in life, took to Public Speaking, as she was always a very accomplished writer. Through the Penguin Club she went on to become one of their favourite guest speakers, noted for her skill with words and her self-effacing wit. In her early 80’s she was asked to join as advocate on a State Government Advisory Group on Aged Care, which resulted in her speaking in Canberra on the issues facing the care of the elderly.

Tim spoke at Madge’s funeral recalling that *“Words were incredibly important to Madge, and the way she crafted them in her speeches, and in life, earmarked her for accolade and admiration. She was a fabulous public speaker, but it wasn’t just how she crafted words, but why that mattered. Madge knew how words have the power to hurt and also the power to heal. In her own life, she’d heard both, but the words she shared with others were designed to ease, amuse and teach. She taught me the value of humour in speech and the inequal question that sometimes a single kind word can erase the sting of ten harmful ones.”*

In 2004, she moved from Morphett Vale to Leabrook and in 2012 took up residence in an aged care facility in Prospect, following a bout of poor health. Madge always swore by the positive health benefits of honey and has lived an extraordinarily active and productive life.

Madge passed away on January 7th, 2013, very peacefully in Clayton Church Homes in Prospect, aged 88 years. She now rests peacefully with husband, Tom and daughter, Angela in St. Joseph’s Catholic Church Cemetery at Willunga.

Madge Sexton's Boys....

Four out of five of Madge's sons attended Madge Sexton Kindergarten, James (born 1948), Brett (born 1950), Michael (born 1953) and Roger (born 1955), before the family moved from McLaren Vale to Nuriootpa in 1962.

Her sons James and Brett did their secondary education at Willunga High School; Michael and Roger went to Christies Beach High School (which had been opened by then) and Tim went to Morphet Vale High School (which has now closed, but was absolutely brand new when he started there).

All five boys have done very well.



James has spent many years working for the Education Department in SA and now works in IT and administration in TAFE.

Brett is a Senior Principal Research Scientist with the CSIRO in Melbourne. He has a PhD in Surface and Inorganic Chemistry and won the University medal in his Honours year at Flinders University. Brett developed the Excelgrams which are the holographic images engraved on coins for the Australian Mint.

Michael completed a PhD in Psychology at Flinders University, where he won the Psychology prize. He now runs his own Market Research company – the Sexton Marketing Group.

Roger is a highly respected doctor of medicine and worked in private practice for 30 years in rural SA. He now teaches at the University of Adelaide and is the Director of Doctors Health SA, which he founded.

Timothy is a well known composer, conductor, singer, public speaker and ABC radio Broadcaster. He gained his B.Mus (Hons) Dip Ed at the Elder Conservatorium. He is the current CEO and Artistic Director of State Opera SA and also runs the Adelaide Art Orchestra. Timothy was the 2009 SA Great South Australian of the Year (Arts Category) and received a 2001 Centenary Medal for Services to Music.

Ironically, Tim recalled that all Madge really wanted was a family of builders, so that she could have a nice house!

Memories....

Friends and family recalling memories and traits of their loved one, Madge.....

Tim at Madge's funeral told us that Madge ".....retained friends for life... She taught me to genuinely care for people – even those I don't know. Within minutes of walking into a room, people would open up to her and spill their whole life stories, because she engendered an incredible sense of trust. She taught me to believe in people, and to have the conviction to stick with them to the end. Her tenacity, born of love and loyalty has clearly been a lesson well learnt, as all of her sons' marriages are long and unbroken. We all carry that sensibility with us."

We have had many phone calls, hand written letters, emails and even visits from friends of Madge, who wanted to let us know their memories of their dear friend and let us know what a wonderful person she was.

We received some letters from Mrs Gloria Rehn, who was a very dear friend of Madge's. Gloria actually helped us out in 2012 with some contact details for Tim so that we could find out some more information about Madge, and also gave us some photographs of Madge. Gloria told us that "Madge was a wonderful person and really worked very hard instigating the Kindergarten."

We also received a letter from Jean Horton telling us "The kindergarten always meant so much to her. I remember when it all began, and Madge was so proud, and happy, to be so involved with it. Madge was my oldest, and dearest friend. We grew up on neighbouring farms, at Allendale North, near Kapunda. We both began school at the little Allendale School, with (then) about 20 students, in 7 grades. Madge was 11 months older than me – and was one year ahead at school. After a few years, Madge and her brothers, Kevin and Henry, transferred to the Convent, in Kapunda, where they completed their primary school years. We met up (at school) again when we both attended the Kapunda High School. After completing her 'Leaving' Certificate there, Madge began working in the offices of the Government Produce Department, in Light Square, Adelaide. She boarded in town, and came home (by train) for the weekends. I spent much of my time at her home, on those weekends. Her father, Harley, was very quiet, but a wonderful man in every way. Her mother, Anne, was always fun to be with, and I really enjoyed my time with them. During the war I also worked in the city and Madge and I travelled back and forth every weekend, on the train together. After we married (both to 'Toms') we didn't see as much of each other, but always stayed in touch. In later years, after our children had grown up, and left home, we really 'got together' again. We spent every Monday together, at the Marion Art Group, for nearly 30 years. As well as those painting days, we enjoyed lots of painting trips, all over the state. Madge certainly was a very gifted person – with her music, and art, which we both shared. I just can't imagine what my life would have been without her, and I am still finding it very hard to let her go. I'll always love her, and cherish the memory."



Memories....

We also received a letter from Jeanette and Richard Atchinson telling us *"We were so fortunate to have had Madge in our lives. Together with my brother Ross Voigt, I was born and lived approximately 3 kilometres away from Madge on our parents farm at Allendale North and grew up knowing all of Madge's family very well. Madge was not only a wonderful artist and personality, but was my idol, as she was a few years older than I. She was also a very accomplished pianist and horse rider. We are so pleased that her legacy will continue through the Kindergarten."*

Ross Vogt rang us and then came for a drive down from Kapunda to visit us at Madge Sexton Kindergarten. Ross is now 90 years old and really wanted to take the time and effort to come and see us to share with us what a wonderful person and friend Madge was. Ross came down armed with a briefcase filled with photographs, old school ledgers, a book "Allendale North Memories" that he had written with the help of Madge. He talked about many things including that she was so smart at school that she skipped a grade! He also told us that she was a very good tennis player and a lovely dancer. He told us about their adventures at school, their friendship at school and then in recent years, including a trip out together in Ross's MG! Ross also told us what a nice man Madge's husband Tom was.

Diana Genders came to visit us at Madge Sexton Kindergarten, on behalf of her mother, Rosemary Genders to give us a letter and a framed painting of Madge's of an old implement shed on her farm at Kapunda. In the letter Rosemary spoke of Madge telling us "She was so saddened by Madge's death. She was a most wonderful woman who coped with life's tragedies and never gave up." Rosemary was also a past President of Madge Sexton Kindergarten Governing Council Committee, or as she put it "a very, very, very past President!" Diana spoke of her fond memories of her time at Madge Sexton Kindergarten, and her teacher "Jeanie".



Other people connected with the history of Madge Sexton Kindergarten.....

Tim said that "Madge was incredibly proud of the work done by the Kindergarten in McLaren Vale which bears her name."

Please contact us if you have some more information about people connected with helping Madge to start up the Kindergarten. From the information we have gathered from conversations and letters from friend, family members and other connected with Madge and the Kindergarten, and from reading archived Governing Council minutes, we have compiled a list of those involved: Alec and Ruth Baxendale; Keith and Joan Oliver; Colin and Audrey McMurtie; Ken and Margaret Maxwell; Elsie Badger; Mrs Seaman; Mrs Cookes; Mrs N Foggo; Mrs Ward; Mrs Horace Poole; Mrs Bruce Price; Mrs Sigston; Mrs Bird; Mrs Wheaton; Gibson; Mrs Stolte; Mr Branson; and Mrs Deane. We do not know how accurate this list is, some of the handwriting in the ledgers were hard to read, please let us know if we need to make any amendments to the list.

Memories....

Staff and Governing Council 1955

1st President: Madge Sexton

1st Director: Jean Hele (Married to famous Australian artist Ivor Hele)

1st Secretary: Joan Oliver

1st Teaching Assistant: Elsie Badger

1st Treasurer: Dulcie Johnson

From a ledger dated 1955 we found a list of the “Children to start School on September 17th”, so I will assume that these children were some of the original children to have attended the Kindergarten in its earlier form, before it was “officially” opened. We could not find any record of the roll for children attending after this. (If you have any information pertaining to this please let us know.)

1. Janis Price
2. Dorothy Fisher
3. Rodney Oakley
4. Raylene Coad
5. Veronica Johnson
6. Brian Ifould
7. Miranda Ifould
8. Andrew Oliver
9. Jimmy Sexton
10. Peter Bird
11. Rosemary Jenkins
12. John Dean
13. Fay Menzel
14. Betty Semmens
15. Peter Seaman
16. Julia Trenoweth
17. Robert Stolte
18. Gregory Farrow
19. Helen Ward
20. David Sigston
21. Lorraine Branson
22. Lorella Jenkins
23. Janis Price



Above: September 1955, the official opening of the Kindergarten. Madge is pictured here holding Michael, aged two and a half, with baby Roger in the crib behind her. Michael and Roger benefited greatly from the Kindy, as have the many children to come, from what can only be recalled as a marathon effort by about 15 Mums in a small country town.

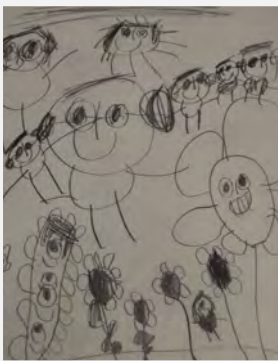
Madge's legacy....

"Madge" from the children's perspectives.....

At Madge Sexton Kindergarten we believe it is very important for children to know who Madge was! Not only it is important as it is vital that we continue her legacy and she should be recognised for the important work that she did here in McLaren Vale for the children. But also because it creates a sense of identity and belonging in the children, being a "Madge Sexton kindy kid, and knowing where I fit in McLaren Vale and how I am connected to my community."

When each new group of children begin at Madge Sexton Kindergarten, staff talk with the children about who Madge Sexton was and how the Kindy began. The following are some ideas, theories and perspectives of the children from their discussions and drawings.

"Madge was an artist, just like me."

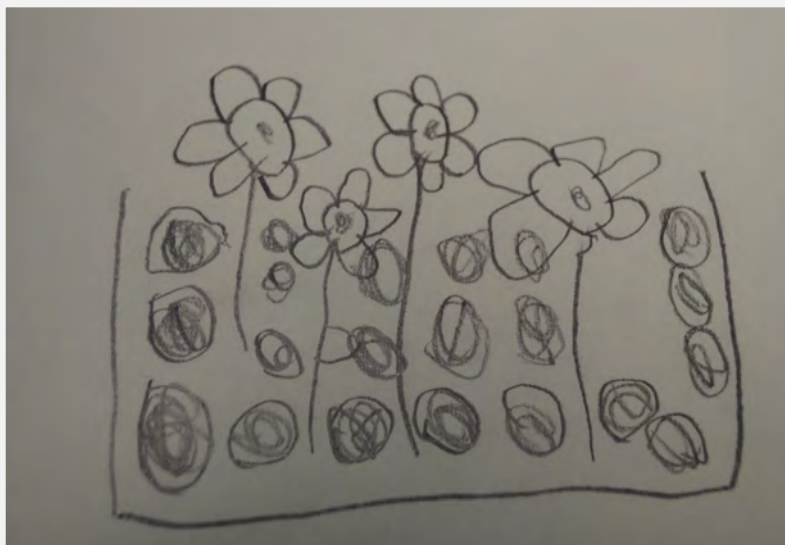


"Our Kindergarten is named after a lady called Madge Sexton. This is Madge."

"Her garden."



"Madge was a Mummy. She had 5 boys and 1 little girl. Her little girl died when she was a baby."



"Madge loved to garden, she had a beautiful garden."



"Madge Sexton, her piano, her chair, her baby and her 5 boys."

Madge's legacy....

Art installations inspired by children's drawings of Madge.

At Madge Sexton Kindergarten it is important to us to ensure that the children know who Madge was and why their kindergarten is named after her. Children worked with our own in-house atelieristas, as well as artist in residence, Caterina Pennestri and local artists Anna Small and Warren Pickering from A Small Art Factory to turn their thoughts, theories, understandings and drawings about Madge into beautiful works of art. The "Identity Tiles" clay works, "Madge's gazebo" structure and "Madge's garden" metal flora, all began as thoughts from the children, put down onto paper, discussed and collaboratively worked through into art installations. The children enjoy and interact with these installations daily as part of their outdoor learning environment.



1st March 2015: Madge's family and friends came together to "officially" open the completed art installations.

Front row L to R: James, Roger, Linda, Leonie, Gabrielle, Brett, Timothy, William and Suzanne.

Back row L to R: Alexander and Ben.

Absent: Michael and Bernadette Sexton.



"Identity Tiles" were handcrafted by the children to represent the "identity" of Madge Sexton Kindergarten, including its namesake. Some of the tiles portray their understanding of who Madge was including her love of gardening, art music and her family.



The metal flora installations were created based on the children's drawings of Madge's favourite flowers.

Around "Madge's gazebo" there are six seats bearing the names of each of her children: Roger, Brett, Michael, Timothy, James and Angela.

