



## STEPPING THROUGH THE ARCHIVES

*What can I find that tells  
us something about  
celebrating Christmas in the  
past?*

*(From Magill Methodist Sunday School  
100<sup>th</sup> Annual Report, 1<sup>st</sup> May 1955.)*

"In the early days picnics were held at Henley during the Christmas holiday week, the scholars being taken to the seaside in horse-drawn buses. Since then a considerable number of places have been visited.

The first Labor Day picnic was held at Beaumont in 1911, when seven trolleys and vans and one dray carried the scholars and their parents and friends to their destination. Our treasurer Mr R.J. Nightingale, would be interested to know that picnics showed a profit in those days.

It was the practice to engage a brass band to accompany the picnic and the minutes stated they were "requested to attend and perform". The after-picnic entertainment is older than our Sunday School records, which go back to the year 1869.