

BROULEE P.S.

SPORTING HOUSES

One of the first duties of the new student body of 105 students in February 1995 was to choose the names for their sporting houses. As the school badge has been based on a mercantile theme, with reference to both the local shipping history and the natural environment, the inspiration for our House names was drawn from a historic shipping story of October 13, 1841.

The "**ROVER**", was returning to Sydney and running before a storm, with her sails in ribbons and her masts bare, when she took refuge in Broulee Bay at six in the evening.

Her master, Nathaniel Florence, did not know the bay and took refuge in an unprotected part. Local Captain Stephenson rowed out to the Rover in a whaleboat, at great personal risk, but could not persuade Captain Florence to move to a more protected part of the bay. At 4.00 am, at the height of the storm, the vessel was driven onto the rocks at the northern end of the beach, near where the Candalagan Creek joins the ocean. Eleven mariners were saved due to the endeavours of a local orphan, Timothy **White**, who raised the alarm, a convict lady Mrs **Lee**, who was living with the Aboriginal residents, and Aboriginal men **Warrigal** Tom, **Boolbee**, Jerry-'Chief' of Broulee, and Broulee Billy, who led a voluntary human chain into the deepest water to carry out the rescues.

Brass breastplates, later presented to the four Aboriginal men, in recognition of their bravery, were inscribed "Bale me jarrad - I am not afraid."

Students selected **ROVER**, **WHITE**, **LEE**, **WARRIGAL** and **BOOLBEE** as being exciting and meaningful names for sporting houses, and after a whole school vote, with great excitement, chose the following houses and colours:

Aboriginal

BOOLBEE - Blue

(Royal Blue)

Convict Lady

LEE - Red

Aboriginal

WARRIGAL - Yellow

Boat's name

ROVER - Green

(Bottle Green)