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A BARN IN BULLEEN

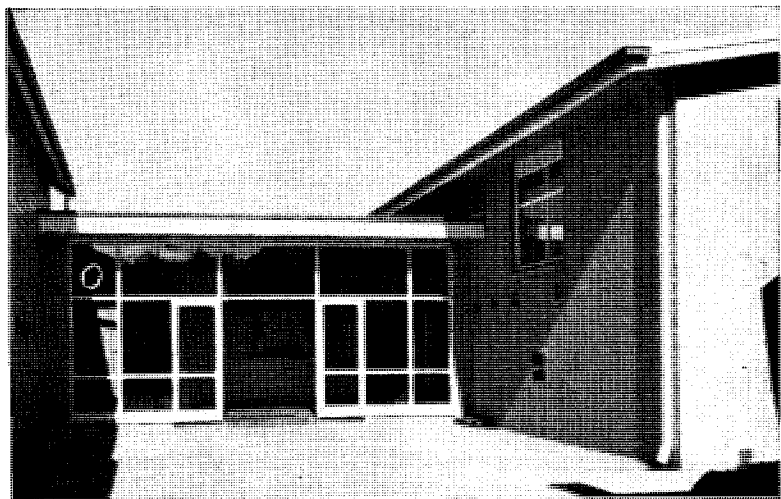
TO

Scots Church, Heidelberg
and the
Younger Congregations
1843—1963

TEMPLESTOWE • MACLEOD • MONTMORENCY
WEST HEIDELBERG • ROSANNA • BULLEEN



SCOTS CHURCH, HEIDELBERG



FORECOURT and FOYER, CHURCH HALLS

SCOTS CHURCH, HEIDELBERG
AND THE
YOUNGER CONGREGATIONS

1843 — 1963

Scots Church, Heidelberg and the Younger Congregations

INTRODUCTION

To commemorate the 120th anniversary of Scots Church, Heidelberg, the Session and Board of Management decided that a booklet be published bringing up to date the histories marking the 80th and 100th anniversaries. It was felt, however, that the record of the past twenty years would be incomplete without an account of the remarkable development in former fringe areas which had formed part of the original parish. The congregations at Templestowe, Montmorency, Macleod, West Heidelberg, Rosanna and Bulleen each have an inspiring story to tell and their co-operation in the supplying of material for this booklet is most heartening.

It is appropriate that the history which began with services in a barn in Bulleen should tell in its closing pages of the establishing in Bulleen of Melbourne's first joint Methodist-Presbyterian charge.

It is interesting to note that Heidelberg is the oldest Municipality in the State, having been proclaimed a Trust in 1840. The Heidelberg Road was the first metalled road constructed out from Melbourne. Several references are made in the various histories to the fine gardens in the district and this feature has not been overlooked by present-day inhabitants.

PIONEERS

Every Church owes a debt of gratitude to the pioneers — the men who blazed the trail — who laboured under conditions of which the present generation has little or no conception. This applies particularly to those of our own Church, which was founded when the country was in its infancy, the Heidelberg congregation being amongst the very earliest formed in Victoria. The difficulties of transport, lack of roads, the scattered nature of the population, etc., must have been obstacles not easily overcome, but the desire to meet together for the worship of God in the manner in which they had been accustomed in the old country was so great that every difficulty was apparently surmounted,

and the seed sown by these pioneers has grown and borne fruit as is evidenced by the progress made with the cause of Presbyterianism in this district, and also throughout the whole of Victoria.

“Within the Paradise o’ God,
Ayont the hills o’ time,
They pu’ the fruit o’ what they sawed
In the days o’ auld lang syne.”

EARLY HISTORY

In the year 1840, in consequence of the assisted immigration scheme of the Government, a large number of people from the Highlands of Scotland came to the Province of Port Phillip (Victoria), and a number, attracted by the rich agricultural land, settled near Warringal (now called Heidelberg) and Campbellfield. As soon as these settlers made a rough home for themselves and families there was the desire for Church services such as they were wont to have in the homeland. In October, 1840, the Rev. James Forbes, M.A. (the first Minister of Scots Church, Melbourne), wrote to the Colonial Committee of the Church of Scotland, describing the position and earnestly requesting them to send suitable Ministers. In response to this appeal the Rev. Thos. Moubray was sent, arriving in January, 1842, the Rev. Alex. Laurie, February, 1842, and the Rev. Peter Gunn, 25th February, 1842.

The Rev. Peter Gunn had studied at the Edinburgh University, where he gained an exhibition of £100 for proficiency in Gaelic literature, and had been ordained by the Presbytery of Caithness on the 11th August, 1841. He was specially appointed to the Gaelic speaking people in and around Melbourne.

It is to be regretted that there is no photo available of this pioneer Minister, who declined to be photographed on the ground that “the making of images was forbidden”.

An early colonist who heard him preach on a Sabbath day in July, 1842 (when he was about 32 years of age), in a roughly-constructed building belonging to the Government, on a site now occupied by portion of the Spencer Street Railway Station, gave the following pen portrait of Mr. Gunn (contributed to the “Presbyterian Messenger”, 31st May, 1918):—

“I remember, as if it were yesterday, Mr. Gunn’s appearance on that day — his stalwart figure, his clean-shaven face with its clear-cut handsome features; the firm fine mouth, the strong well-shaped chin, the broad brow surmounted by a mass of wavy auburn hair, and the keen kindly blue eyes.”

He was the possessor of a clear tenor voice, and used to lead the service of praise.

On the 7th June, 1842, Mr. Gunn was appointed Minister of a second congregation in Melbourne. Not finding the Highlanders settled together in such numbers as to admit of their conveniently joining to form a congregation and calling and supporting a Minister in town, Mr. Gunn made his headquarters in Melbourne, ministering there to his kinsfolk, and travelling into the country on alternate Sundays to various stations, one of which was Warringal.

Being a man of vigorous physical constitution (nearly six feet in height) and a good horseman, Mr. Gunn took long rides into the interior, preached the Gospel wherever he could gather an audience, visited stations and huts, and did a great amount of evangelistic work. He also did good service in the interest of education. Wherever he found a small growing township in which an average attendance of 20 children could be secured, he encouraged the erection of a school, giving an assurance that the teacher would be entitled to a Government allowance as a supplement to school fees. In this way he furthered the cause of Christ and the education of the young all along the eastern route, from the sea coast to the Murray, a distance of about 180 miles.



The Barn where the First Services were held

The first services in this district were held at the invitation of Mr. Alexander Duncan, father of the late Mrs. Geo. Smith, of Bulleen, in a barn in Bulleen Road. Boards were placed on bags of wheat and served as seats, and a large churn with a table cover over it made a splendid reading desk. The family Bible brought from Scotland, "aince his faither's pride", completed the Sanctuary. Residents of Doncaster and Templestowe used also to attend these services.

The late Mr. and Mrs. Robert Laidlaw were amongst the first worshippers, and their eldest child was baptised in the barn.

About this time services were also held by Mr. Gunn in the diningroom of the house of Mr. Justice Willis, First Resident Supreme Court Judge of Victoria. This building stood on a site overlooking the Park, where the residence of the late Mr. M. A. Macleod is erected.

On the 5th December, 1843 — the year of the Scottish disruption — a call to Mr. Gunn from the people of Unwin's Special Survey was sustained, and Heidelberg, or Warringal, included in his pastoral charge.

The first Minister of Scots Church, Melbourne (Rev. James Forbes, M.A.), was accustomed to ride out through the bush and conduct an afternoon service, while Mr. Gunn was further afield.

Under the leadership of the Rev. P. Gunn the people decided to build a Church in Heidelberg. Mr. Gunn, at his own expense, purchased a site in Jika Street (opposite where the Police Station now stands), and the first Church in solid materials built outside Melbourne was erected there in 1845. The building was of brick cemented over, and, though small, was substantially built as is evidenced by the length of time it stood and served the needs of the people of the district.



The First Church, 1845-1901

The building was used by the Church of England congregation from 1848 to October, 1851, when St. John's Church was opened.

The following is an extract from a letter written by Dr. Perry, first Bishop of Melbourne, shortly after his arrival in Melbourne early in 1848, and included in "The Church in Victoria during the Episcopate of Bishop Perry", by Canon Goodman, M.A.:—

"Yesterday we drove to Heidelberg, which is the most settled part of the country. The distance is about eight miles, and the road is the only made road in the Colony. You cannot think the refreshing sight it was to us to see a toll-bar; a real toll-bar it was not, but a bar across from rail to rail, and the man who took the toll emerged from a kind of native hut. I never grudged a shilling less in my life. The road lies through what is called the Merri Creek; at this time of the year there is little or no water in it, and the road goes through naturally enough, only that it is steep, and very stony. I believe that they are going to build a bridge over it, as it is quite impassable in winter. Here and there as we went along were neatly piled up heaps of broken stone ready for mending the road, just as you see in England, and at places we found men at work with shovels levelling, and filling up holes. Yet for all this the shakes and jolts that we got were something quite terrible, and had we not in a great measure been prepared by the short drives we have had already within two or three miles of Melbourne, we should have stared strangely at what they call an excellent road. The views are pretty, yes, very pretty, consisting of extensive undulations of thickly wooded country, and ranges of blue hills in the distance, while the immediate road would be, were the grass green, a road through a park. The Browne's house is beautifully situated in the valley of Heidelberg, and looks so pretty outside with its verandah and French windows. (This was the residence of the father of Mr. Thomas Alexander Browne — Rolf Boldrewood) . . .

"Dr. Macartney is not fixed at Heidelberg, but we think he is already doing much good. There is a little Presbyterian Church which he and the Presbyterian Minister use on alternate Sundays, and when he is not there he preaches at the Moonee Ponds, some twelve miles distant. You can scarcely call Heidelberg a village, because it is so scattered; but there is a butcher, a baker, a wheelwright, a blacksmith, and a few other people of the same description, and a considerable number of settlers scattered around within some six or eight miles."

The first Trustees of the Church property at Heidelberg were Captain Aeneas McPherson, Patrick Stevenson, John McEwan, James Donaldson and John Brown.

In 1854 the Rev. P. Gunn conveyed the land in trust to the Trustees just named, a condition being imposed that if it were ever sold the proceeds should be used for the benefit of the Minister of the Church at the time of sale. (In July, 1909, the land was sold for £200, and the money used towards purchasing the Manse.)

On the 4th August, 1845, the Rev. Peter Gunn was inducted to Campbellfield, then an influential charge, and laboured there until his death on the 4th June, 1864.

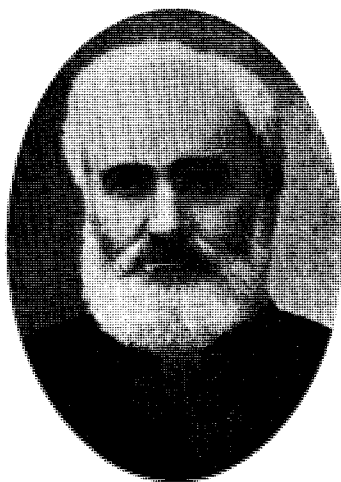
For some years there appeared to be no settled minister at Heidelberg, the services being evidently conducted by "Supply" Ministers, one of whom was the Rev. John Reid, father of the late Sir George Reid.

Rev. D. McDonald

In 1852 the Rev. D. McDonald, who had been licensed at Dingwall, Scotland, on the 6th May, 1846, was sent out to Australia by the Colonial Committee, arriving in Melbourne and presenting himself before the Synod of the Free Church on the 8th February, 1853. He was specially appointed for three months by the Synod on the 27th April, 1853, to minister to the Highlanders at Bulleen. On the 8th August of that year he was ordained and continued in the pastorate for 12 months, when the Presbytery decided that, as his sphere of work in preaching to the Gaelic speaking people in their native tongue was too limited where he was stationed, he should be transferred to Emerald Hill (now South Melbourne). There he built up a fine Church and became one of the foremost leaders of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria. The degree of Doctor of Divinity was conferred upon him by his old University of Aberdeen.

Rev. David Boyd

On the 17th January, 1853, Mr. David Boyd, who came out from the Presbytery of Magherafelt, Ireland, was admitted as a Preacher of the Gospel under the superintendence of the Presbytery with a view to his ultimate settlement in the Ministry. He was appointed to do service at Heidelberg, and soon after received a call. He was set apart to the pastorate of Heidelberg-Plenty River district (which included Templestowe) by ordination at Heidelberg on the 2nd June, 1853. On the retirement of the Rev. D. McDonald from Bulleen in 1854, that district was united with Heidelberg. During Mr. Boyd's ministry Kangaroo Ground was added to the charge.

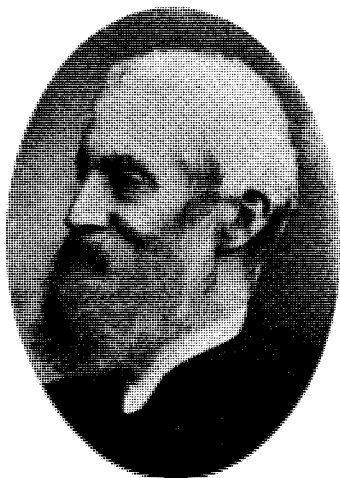


Rev. D. McDonald, 1853



Rev. David Boyd, 1853-1869

FIRST MINISTER:
Rev. Peter Gunn, 1843-1845
(No Photograph)



Rev. Duncan Fraser, 1869-1897



Rev. G. M. Macdonald, 1898-1902

It is interesting to note that the present pulpit Bible bears the following inscription:—

“Presented to the Rev. David Boyd by the ladies of the Scots Church, Heidelberg, as a token of their esteem, 1855.”

Mr. Boyd resigned in February, 1869, and returned to the old country. Kangaroo Ground was then joined to Yarra Flats, and constituted a separate charge.

Rev. Duncan Fraser

The next Minister was the Rev. Duncan Fraser, who came from St. John's Church, Ballarat, of which he was the first Minister. He was appointed to Heidelberg in 1869 and was inducted into the Heidelberg-Janefield charge on the 20th December of that year.

In addition to his work at Heidelberg, Mr. Fraser, recognising the spiritual needs of the Northcote district, began services in the Primitive Methodist Church, in High Street, near the site now occupied by the National Bank. The services were held once a fortnight at the beginning, but subsequently Mr. Fraser, securing lay help, held services each Sabbath.

The men who were associated with Mr. Fraser were Messrs. Watson, Paterson, A. McIntosh, A. McLean and James Robertson, who were members of the Heidelberg congregation.

In 1874 a manse was built in Ross Street, Westgarth, not far from the Westgarth Station. Mr. Fraser's parish extended from Edinburgh Gardens, North Fitzroy, on the south, to Janefield, or South Morang, on the north; and from the Merri Creek on the west, to the Yarra at Heidelberg on the east.

Services were also held at Preston, but were discontinued by transference to Northcote.

On the 7th October, 1884, at the request of Mr. Fraser, Janefield was dissevered from the charge, and Kangaroo Ground added. In April, 1888, the Presbytery of Melbourne North relieved Mr. Fraser, at his own request, of the pastoral charge of Kangaroo Ground, “on account of the increasing demands upon his time and strength at Northcote, the distance and laboriousness of the district now given up, and the necessity up till now of having supplies, mostly laymen, frequently conducting service at Northcote”. (Extract from Session Minute.)

Northcote was separated from Heidelberg as from the 1st January, 1892. In the same year Mr. Fraser's friends of Heidelberg and Northcote presented him with a purse of sovereigns to

enable him to take an extended trip, during which he visited the Holy Land, Rome, the United Kingdom, and America. During his absence on furlough, viz., from the 4th February to the 11th August, 1893, Mr. John Caldwell, Student of Divinity, was in charge of the Parish.

During Mr. Fraser's ministry at Heidelberg an endeavour was made in 1888 to obtain the necessary funds to build a new and larger Church, but, owing to the unsettled conditions and distress brought about by the collapse of the Land Boom, the project was postponed from time to time as the congregation lacked the necessary numbers and strength to carry their purpose into effect.

In July, 1895, a number of the Templestowe people decided to commence services in the local Mechanics Institute, the Lay Preachers' Association furnishing supply. In a few months a Church building was erected on land given by Mrs. John Smith.

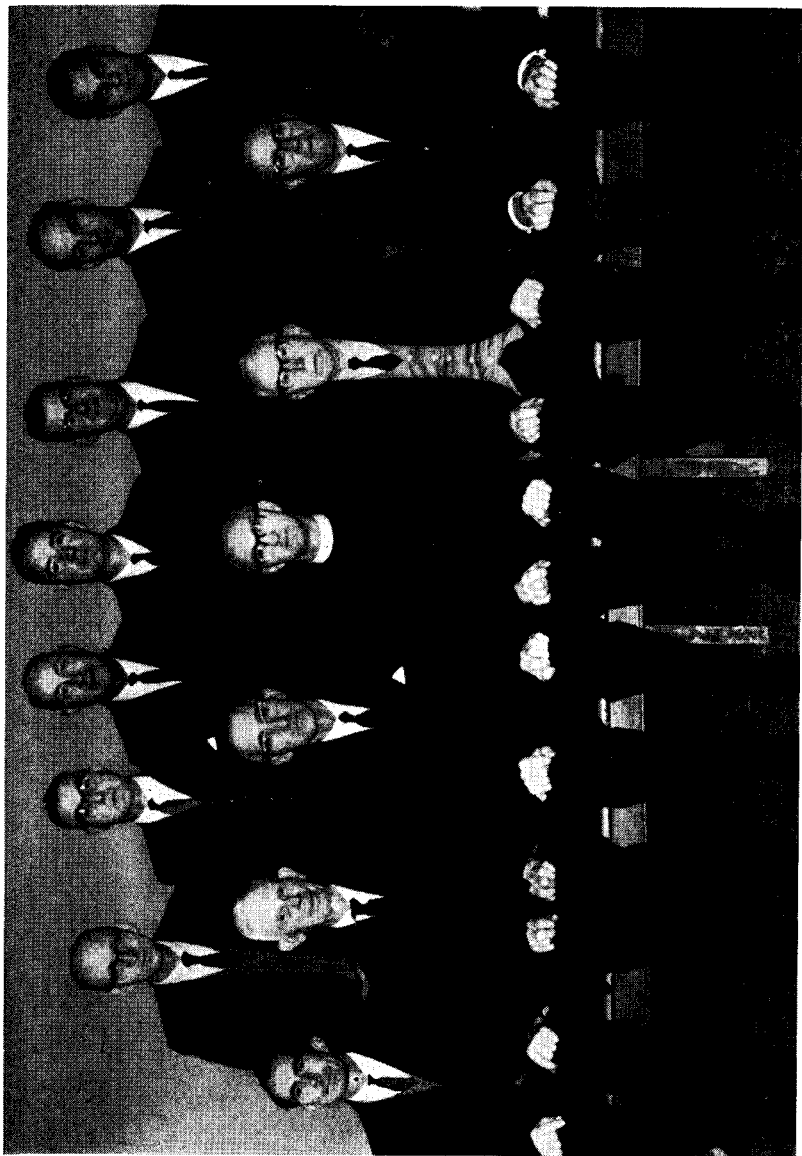
Mr. Fraser resigned the charge on the 31st December, 1897, after a ministry of 28 years. He continued to be associated with the Church as a member until his death on the 11th February, 1912. In the following year his widow and family placed a window in the Church to his memory.

Rev. G. M. Macdonald, M.A., B.Sc.

Mr. Fraser was succeeded by the Rev. G. M. Macdonald, M.A., B.Sc., who was appointed in March, 1898.

At this time the Heidelberg congregation decided to invite Templestowe to join with it in calling a Minister to work both places. This was agreed to, the Templestowe congregation undertaking to contribute towards the stipend. Accordingly, Mr. Macdonald journeyed to Templestowe each Sunday afternoon and conducted services there, in addition to the morning and evening services at Heidelberg.

In 1900 the present Church Building in Burgundy Street was erected. The old Church in Jika Street, which had done service for so many years, and which had now begun to show signs of decay, had become too small for the growing district: It was therefore decided to erect a more commodious building on a site comprising two acres belonging to the Church (being a Government Grant), which was more centrally situated and nearer the railway station, this being a consideration as a number of members resided at Ivanhoe where there was no Presbyterian Church. To raise the necessary money for the building, portion of the land with a frontage of 176 feet to Burgundy Street and a depth of 120 feet along Hawdon Street, was sold for £616, Mr. John Donaldson purchasing the land in order that the erection of the Church



SESSION: Front Row — A. J. Wilson, J. J. Bower, A. E. Coombe, Rev. Douglas W. Mathews, J. C. Burton, A. K. Wightman.
 Back Row — C. J. Junor, W. F. Barnett, P. H. Cleland (Hon. Treasurer), H. G. Kohry, A. H. Fredrick, H. E. Sutton,
 Absent — M. E. Hoogenraad, P. E. Thomas,
 K. A. Fruebel.

should be no longer delayed. From the money thus obtained the usual percentage reduction was made by the Assembly, making the sum available from this source £523 12s. The congregation and others subscribed £194 19s.

Plans and specifications for the building were prepared by Messrs. Blackett and Rankin, Architects, and a tender was let to Mr. J. A. Bennell, the total cost being £1,101 10s. The foundation stone was laid by the Hon. James Balfour, M.L.C., the inscription on the stone telling its own story, viz.:—

“Scots Church.

This Memorial Stone was laid by
the Hon. James Balfour, M.L.C.
December 8th, 1900.”

Beneath the stone was placed a brief historical sketch of the Church, from which the following is extracted, viz.:—

“This new Church is being built in the most earnest hope and prayer that it may become a power for good in the community, a centre from which shall radiate light and healing to all that dwell within its shade, and a Sanctuary where the saving power of the Redeemer of men may be made known.”

The cedar seats for the Church were donated by Mr. James Thomas Donaldson, who had purchased them some years previously from Chalmers Church, East Melbourne, when that Church was closed. The bell was also the gift of the same gentleman. The cost of the vestry on the west side of the Church was defrayed by Mr. John Donaldson. The Junior Christian Endeavour presented a pulpit cushion covered with crimson plush.

The new Church was opened on Sunday, 14th April, 1901, when special services, attended by representatives of the Shire Council, were held.

With the newly-erected Church in a more central position, and with the growth of population, the cause of Presbyterianism in Heidelberg prospered.

Mr. Macdonald demitted the charge on the 15th March, 1902, and departed for New Zealand.

Rev. Stewart Byron

On the 23rd October, 1902, the Rev. Stewart Byron, having resigned Framlingham Church, was inducted into the charge.

The necessity for a school hall now became pressing, and as a result of a Caledonian Fair held in November, 1903, £175

was raised, and a fine Sunday School erected on land adjoining the Church. The builder was Mr. E. H. Fox, of Armadale, and the total cost, including seating, was £275. The work was carried out under the supervision of Messrs. H. V. and A. Champion, Architects, who kindly gave their services gratuitously. The hall was opened by Cr. Alfred Ford on the 29th June, 1904.

Mr. Byron's genial disposition, combined with his ability to render the Gospel message in song, made him a welcome visitor to the wards of the Austin Hospital, where he did excellent work.

In 1907 Mr. Byron accepted a call to Devonport, Tasmania, resigning the Heidelberg charge after a pastorate of five years. (He died on the 22nd April, 1916.)

Rev. Alexander Hardie

On the 3rd September, 1907, the Rev. Alexander Hardie, who had been stationed at Kilmore, was called and inducted.

It was decided by the Board of Management to withdraw from the Sustentation Fund and become a self-sustaining congregation.

In March, 1908, a Sabbath School was opened in the State School, Ivanhoe, with 16 scholars, and later an evening service was started in the same place with pleasing results. It was deemed advisable by the Heidelberg Session to secure the aid of the Presbyterian Lay Preachers' Association and have services each Sunday evening, Mr. Hardie taking alternate Sundays. In order to have regular supply it was found necessary to secure the services of Mr. J. T. Payne, a lay preacher. Mr. R. W. Thomson, of Ivanhoe, having presented a site which was then considered suitable, efforts were made by the people to raise funds towards the erection of a Hall for Church and Sabbath School. By subscriptions and two garden fetes held at the grounds of Mr. R. W. Kennedy, "Ravenswood", Ivanhoe, the nucleus of the money required was successfully raised and the hall built.

In due time the congregation grew, and it was deemed advisable to separate Ivanhoe from Heidelberg. This was done by the Presbytery in 1911, Ivanhoe becoming a self-sustaining charge as from the 1st October of that year.

Since the separation from Northcote in 1892 no Manse had been provided at Heidelberg. In 1911 the substantial brick building in Cape Street was purchased, costing, with alterations, £890.

It was found necessary in 1912 to provide a kindergarten room in connection with the Sunday School, and Messrs. J. F. Gibbins and Son, Architects, prepared plans and specifications for enlarging the existing School Hall and erecting a class-room at the rear. Tenders were called, and that of Messrs. Sanders and Son, of Box Hill, for £196 was accepted.

A large proportion of the money for this work was raised by a sale of gifts, but a balance remained outstanding until 1913, when the late Mr. William Kennedy, of Eaglemont, a very liberal contributor to the Church, cleared the account with a cheque for £34.

The 70th Anniversary of the Church took place in 1913. A very generous donation of £250 by the late Mr. William Kennedy enabled the Board of Management to enlarge and beautify the Church by adding the Chancel. The congregation of the day joined in the spirit of improvement, and by generous contributions defrayed the cost of altering the pews to provide for side aisles in lieu of a centre aisle, carpeting the aisles and choir platform, erecting choir stalls, etc.

The erection of the Chancel was carried out by Mr. W. Hannah, of Ivanhoe, for the sum of £296, in accordance with plans prepared by Messrs. J. F. Gibbins and Son, Architects. The total sum spent on alterations and additions on this occasion was £391 18s. 5d.

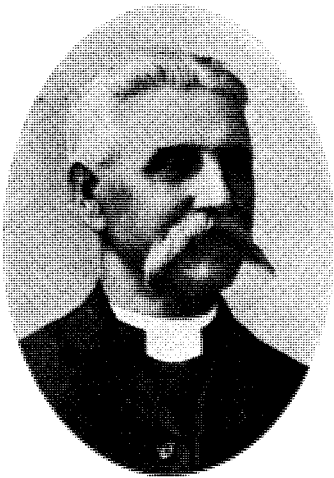
The pulpit which was replaced by a more commodious one in the new Chancel was given as a donation to the Yan Yean Presbyterian Church.

To show its appreciation of the generous support rendered to the Church by Mr. Kennedy, the congregation, after his decease, placed a mural tablet on the west wall of the Church.

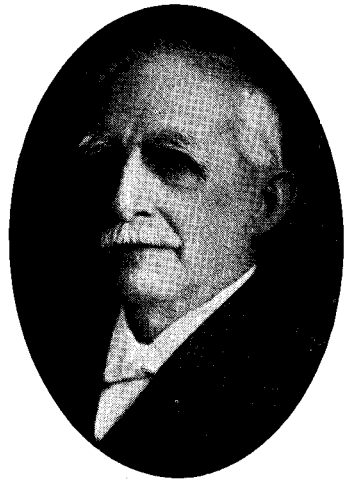
When war broke out in 1914 and a call was made for men to serve the country, the young men of the Church responded nobly and 53 enlisted together with two nursing sisters.

Twelve made the supreme sacrifice, in loving memory of whom the congregation placed a window on the west side of the Church. The unveiling was performed by Brigadier-General R. R. Smith, C.M.G., D.S.O., etc., on the 14th September, 1919, the preacher on the occasion being Chaplain Captain C. Hay Hunter, M.A.

The names of those who fell are as follows, viz.: Cameron, C. H.; Chilvers, O. M.; Lang, I. J.; Hardie, N. A.; Campbell, A. J.; Fraser, R. N. (M.M.); Northill, T. J.; Sharpe, K.; Smart, H. C.; Scott, F. G.; Wilson, E. C.; Wilson, S. A.



Rev. Stewart Byron, 1902-1907



Rev. Alexander Hardie, 1907-1925



Rev. David S. Jones, 1925-1934



Rev. Coledge Harland, 1934-1951

The electric light was installed in the Church in September, 1915, and in 1917 the Minister and Mrs. Hardie extended the lighting to the Sunday School buildings as a memorial to their only son, Norman, who had been Roll Secretary of the School, and who fell in action in France, 11th April, 1917.

For sixteen years the congregations of Heidelberg and Templestowe had been united in one charge, the Minister taking the services at Heidelberg in the morning and evening, and at Templestowe in the afternoon. As from the 1st January, 1924, however, the Presbytery of Melbourne North approved of the severance of the Templestowe congregation owing to the growth of Heidelberg and the demands made on the time and services of the Minister. Templestowe was linked up with Warrandyte, and, later, on the resignation of the Rev. A. H. Tolhurst, became portion of the Montmorency-Macleod charge.

During 1924 the Sunday School Hall, including the Kindergarten Room, was proving too small for the increasing number of scholars, and as the work was being carried out under difficulties an appeal was launched with the aim of providing a more commodious building, and resulted in a sum of £544 being contributed. The project, however, was not gone on with until 1929.

The Rev. Alex. Hardie resigned the charge as from 30th June, 1925, thus severing the pastoral tie after a ministry of 18 years. He continued to work actively in the service of the Presbyterian Church until his death on 4th January, 1935.

Rev. D. S. Jones

The Rev. D. S. Jones, of Kyneton, was inducted on 1st October, 1925. Soon after his induction, steps were taken to open a Sunday School in the State School building at West Heidelberg, commencing with a superintendent, four teachers and 35 scholars.

Extensions in brick to our own Sunday School, including the Primary, Kindergarten and Bible Class rooms and shifting of the timber portions, were completed and opened on 1st September, 1929.

In 1927, the picket fence in front of the Church was removed and replaced by stone kerbing.

A Ladies' Guild, formed in 1927, rendered very substantial assistance in the next ten years by raising approximately £750. This was applied in debt reduction, contributions to tennis court construction, re-carpeting the Church, and kindred activities.

The depression years, 1930-1933, adversely affected the finances but no serious consequences resulted.

Assistance was rendered to adjoining mission stations by the Rev. D. S. Jones and his son, D. McK. Jones, who at the time was studying for the ministry. This led to Heidelberg and Templestowe congregations again becoming united as from 1st October, 1931.

In December, 1933, special celebrations marked the 90th Anniversary of the Church. The building was also renovated and re-carpeted at a cost of £130.

The following year, on 1st April, the Rev. D. S. Jones resigned.

During the vacancy, much-needed renovations were made to the Manse at a cost of approximately £100, the Ladies' Guild accepting the responsibility.

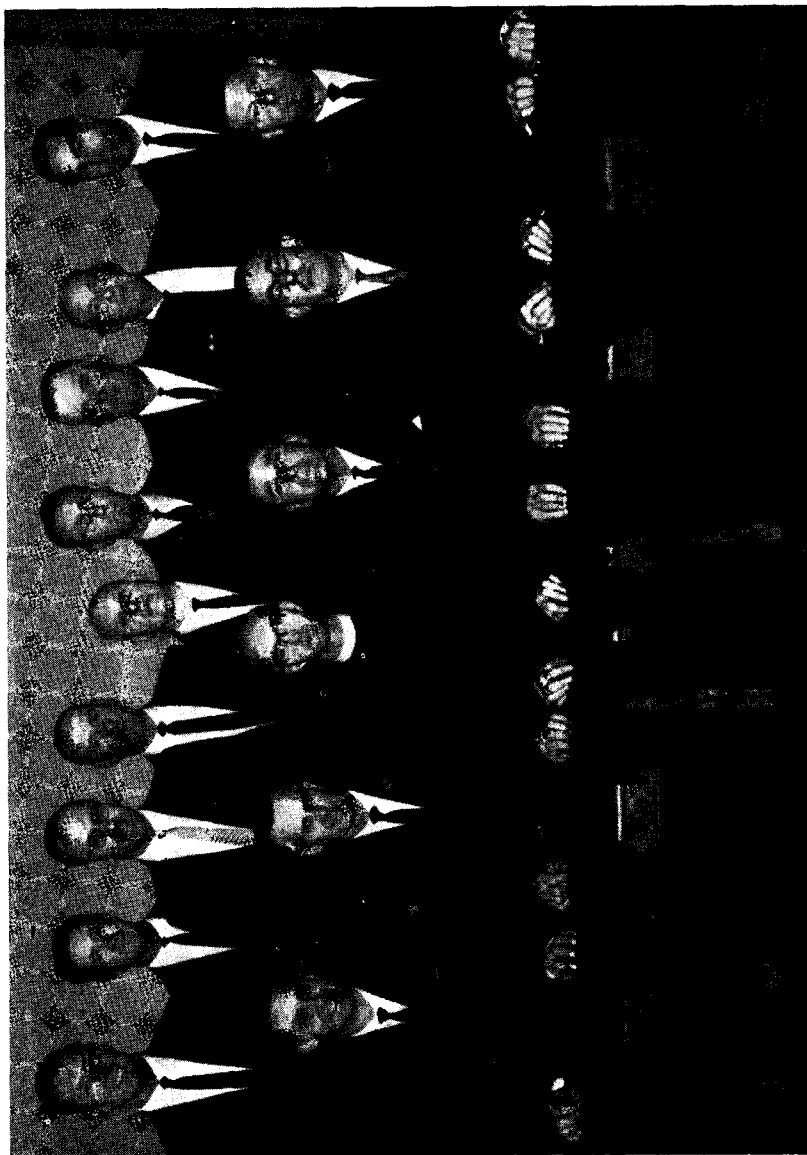
Rev. Coledge Harland

On the 2nd August, 1934, the Rev. Coledge Harland, of Leongatha, was inducted to the charge of Heidelberg.

At the Church Anniversary Services in December, 1934, the Rev. Alex. Hardie dedicated the stained glass windows which were placed in the Church by the Culliford family to the memory of Mr., Mrs. and Miss Culliford, who had over a number of years been faithful supporters of the Church, Mr. Culliford having been an Elder highly esteemed by all Church Members.

During the following years a great deal of voluntary work was performed by Church members in giving necessary attention to the grounds of the Church and School and to the Manse. By means of working bees, concrete paths and guttering were constructed, at an estimated value of nearly £400. These improvements added greatly to the appearance of the properties as well as stimulating interest amongst the Church members.

In 1939, in common with other churches, our congregation was denuded of its young men and women as they answered the call to service. The centenary was thus celebrated under war conditions. To commemorate the centenary, a Memorial Organ Fund was inaugurated using as a nucleus a £250 bequest. The Souvenir Booklet was also printed and special celebrations covered services on two Sundays and week night functions. A "Back to Heidelberg" gathering proved a memorable occasion despite rationing difficulties, and many notable visitors were present. Historical items on display included the christening bowl used in the barn, and a watch presented to the Rev. Peter Gunn on his



BOARD OF MANAGEMENT: Front Row — R. Burgess, R. Zechner, Rev. Douglas Mathews, L. Stott, C. G. Baird, L. G. Bower (Hon. Sec.), Back Row — W. Ellis, C. P. Ramsay, W. D. Male, R. P. Greenhill, R. S. Henderson, D. Burriess, C. McKenzie, I. C. Fleming, Absent — T. P. Lowe, M. P. Owens, R. J. Read, M. Ramsay, J. Simpson, E. R. Wallis.

transfer to Campbellfield in 1845. Subscriptions received to the Organ Fund increased the total to £670. A Baptismal Font was presented by grandparents.

In 1945 came peace and the gradual home-coming of the service men and women. In memory of the fallen, the "Window Sacrifice" was erected alongside the "Memorial Window" of the First World War. It was dedicated by Chaplain General the Rev. A. H. Stewart on 8th July, 1951, and inscribed thereon are the names of eight of those who paid the supreme sacrifice, viz.: Cyril Deakin, Cedric Edmonds, Douglas Haddow, Kenneth Hepburn, Cecil Mace, Ian McDougall, Lloyd McLennan and Norman Oliver. There is also a memorial pair of stained glass windows erected by Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Hepburn as a memorial to their son, Kenneth.

In 1945 the heating system was installed and, in the following year, additional matching elders' chairs, the flower pedestal and the hearing aids were accepted as memorial gifts. In 1948 an experimental side pulpit was erected, and in 1949 the re-modelling of the Chancel was agreed upon.

Before the considerable alterations were made, may we picture a typical service . . . See the high pulpit, attractive in panelled maple across the full width of the rear wall, and conducting the service the Rev. Coledge Harland, one time A.I.M. padre, tall, spare and kindly. Behind him the "Burning Bush" window memorial to Rev. Duncan Fraser, and two flanking windows. In front, below, the manual organ and the organist with the choir on either side. Screening the Chancel from the body of the Church we see the panelled railings which now enclose the choir stalls, while in front of the centre panel, rather inconspicuous, are the communion table and the elders' chairs. We recognise the Chancel dado as being kin to our existing Church dado. . . . The re-modelling was accomplished largely by voluntary effort on the part of the men, in co-operation with the Ladies' Guild.

In 1949 the monthly family services were inaugurated. Following the purchase of the pipe organ early in 1951, the three windows were removed to allow for the building by D. McOrist & Son, of the organ annex and blower room (the timber was donated) and the erection of the organ grille. Later the "Burning Bush" window was re-erected in its present position on the western wall. In 1951 with inflation increasing, the Minister's stipend was first adjusted to cost of living variations. As from 23rd October, 1951, the Rev. Coledge Harland severed his connection with Heidelberg having accepted a call to Creswick after a ministry of 17 years here. He received the Home call in 1963.

Rev. J. W. P. Gillan

A call was extended to the Rev. J. W. P. Gillan, of Drouin. He was inducted on 1st February, 1952, and took up his residence at the temporary Manse. His ministry was one in which his family were all co-workers in the Kingdom of Christ. It seemed natural that in due course and following family tradition, Mary Gillan should offer herself for kindergarten teaching at Aurukun Mission Station, North Queensland, and that John should study for the ministry.



Rev. J. W. P. Gillan, 1952-1962

The pipe organ, costing £2,000 plus £1,000 installation, was dedicated by Rev. J. W. P. Gillan on 28th September, 1952, and the Vocalian organ was sold to Macleod Church. The remodelling was completed and the Church interior redecorated for the 110th anniversary. A number of memorial gifts were accepted as Chancel furnishings, including the pulpit and the Communion table, the reading lectern, brass lectern, organ railing, lantern in Chancel, and the pulpit light. In 1954 the Union Flag and the Australian Flag were presented in memory of fallen in World Wars I and II. The notice board in the porch was donated and the choir vestry seats and cupboards installed. A former member donated two annual Sunday School prizes. The lighting of the Church was beautified and a conductor's lectern presented as further memorial gifts.

The years following Mr. Gillan's induction were unprecedented in activity both within the parish and in church extension. Within the parish was the completion of Chancel remodelling, the new Manse, the Christian Stewardship campaign and the new hall. It is recorded in the Annual Report of 1954 that the Minister is Moderator and Session has oversight of work at Montmorency, Macleod, West Heidelberg and Rosanna. This is in addition to pastoral work at Templestowe. Branches of the

Brotherhood and the P.G.A. were formed in 1952. When negotiations for union with the Methodist and Congregational Churches were proposed in 1954, the Session voted 6 to 2 and communicant members 60 to 37 in favour of negotiations being entered into.

Our first Christian Stewardship canvass was conducted under the direction of the Stewardship and Promotion Department of the Presbyterian Church. Our effective offerings were more than doubled, thirteen new teachers enrolled in the Sunday School, and the canvass of Bulleen area added 51 scholars to our Sunday School pending erection of a building in Bulleen. We co-operated with Kew and Templestowe in advancing the cause at Bulleen.

The building projects (modified to meet our resources) in 1959 included a new hall, a central brick foyer with cloak rooms and toilets serving both old and new buildings, alterations and extensions to the old hall, and provided for a lounge-meeting room and a new kitchen. Council approval stipulated a car park on the western boundary. Builders were Johns & Lyng, and the foundation stone was laid by Rev. A. Crichton Barr, State Moderator, who gave the address on 28th November, 1959. On 21st May, 1960, Rev. T. White, Moderator of Presbytery, opened and dedicated the new hall.

The Rev. J. W. P. Gillan relinquished his connection with Heidelberg on 19th July, 1962, having received a call to Northcote-West Thornbury. He gave considerable time to religious instruction at Macleod and Heidelberg and his efforts in this direction led others to take training for similar service. We owe much to Mr. Gillan because of his gracious Christian character and his proclamation of the gospel, and his willingness at all times to help those in need. He was at Scots, Heidelberg, during the spiritually stirring time of the Graham Campaign with its impact on church and community. This necessitated a deal of work by Minister and counsellors both before and after the Crusade.

During the vacancy, Rev. David Drennan was Interim Moderator with the very able assistance of the Rev. W. L. Simpson whose inspiring sermons and frequent and friendly visits to the sick and suffering and lonely were greatly appreciated for a period of almost six months.

Rev. D. W. Mathews

A unanimous call was extended to the Rev. D. W. Mathews, of Scots Church, Geelong West, and the induction into Heidelberg charge took place on 7th February, 1963. Both Mr. and Mrs. Mathews immediately entered wholeheartedly into the activities of the Church with great emphasis on visitation. The Sunday School teachers' dedication service took place on 17th February. It was agreed by the Session that the Family Service on the fourth Sunday commence at 9.45 a.m., with the children going to the Sunday School at, say, 10.5 a.m. and that this service be followed at 11 a.m. by the usual service.



Rev. D. W. Mathews, 1963-

A Women's Church Committee, for linking all women of the Church in some form of Church activity, was constituted at session meeting on 28th August.

Last year, prompted by an inquiry from the Ladies' Guild, the Board of Management considered a programme of improvements to the Church building and agreed, in principle, to the renewal of the dado, new seating and ultimately the building of an external porch or foyer with entrances to the east and west. A most generous and timely offer has now been made to defray the cost of erecting such a foyer. The offer was gladly accepted and an architect is drawing up plans for submission. The foyer should help greatly in muffling street noises, facilitate the interior improvements and at the same time enhance the beauty and dignity of our Place of Worship.

HOSPITAL VISITATIONS

Connected with Church life in Heidelberg has been the work associated with the Austin Hospital, and of more recent years the Institutions at Mont Park. For a number of years the Minister of Scots Church paid weekly visits to the Austin and was available whenever the necessity arose for ministering to the wants of the patients. In this work the Ministers received very valuable and

willing assistance from members of the congregation, many of whom paid regular visits to the hospital and cheered and comforted the patients, who appreciated very highly the interest thus taken in them.

“Inasmuch as ye did it unto one of the least of these My brethren ye did it unto Me.”

As the size of the hospital increased the work became too heavy for the Minister of the Church and a Chaplain was appointed by the Home Mission Committee to look after the Austin Hospital and also the Institutions at Mont Park. Those who have occupied this position are Rev. W. Naismith, Rev. D. A. MacDougall, Rev. Wm. Bennett, Rev. W. W. Ingram, Dr. Antal and Rev. K. C. Billinge. This hospital visitation has thus been dissociated from the work devolving upon the Minister of the Heidelberg Church, but he is still available in cases of emergency. The nurses from the hospital are welcome members of the congregation, and on special occasions have attended en masse in uniform.

In March, 1938, Sunday School was inaugurated for the children at the Austin Hospital suffering from infantile paralysis, and this work is still being carried on, bringing to the stricken children some of the teaching of which they would otherwise be deprived.

PSALMODY

Before the introduction into Presbyterian Churches of the organ, or the “Kist o’ Whustles”, as it was called by those opposed to instrumental music, the service of praise was led by a Precentor. During the ministry of the Rev. David Boyd, and the early part of that of the Rev. Duncan Fraser, Mr. John Brown, who resided at the Plenty, acted in this capacity. In the majority of churches the innovation of the organ was not made without considerable opposition, and Heidelberg was no exception to the rule.

Over the years, Scots Church, Heidelberg, has been blessed in the number of gifted singers who, for long or short periods, rendered outstanding service to its worship. At times the vocalists’ item has been more permeating than the spoken word “To soften rocks or bend a knotted oak”. This recital is not only an appreciation of the talented choir member, but overdue praise to the more numerous who, regularly and willingly filled minor roles year in and year out. From time to time the choir has been without a conductor, but those we had excelled in knowledge, enthusiasm and activity. The same is equally true of our organists, all of whom had pleasing personalities.

Most churchgoers today recognise the organ as the “sine qua non” in worship. The objectors to its introduction were blind

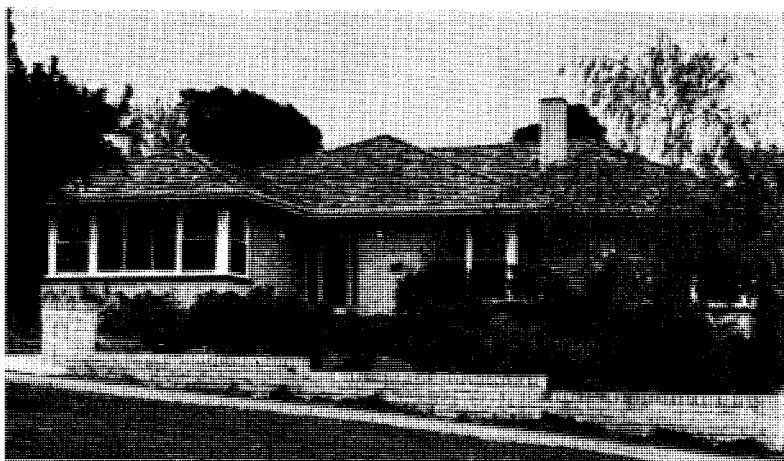
to the fact "that music has charms to soothe the savage breast". There are several variations to that quotation and Wm. Congreve, English poet 1670-1729, gets the credit of first writing it, but we must go right back to antiquity for the originator of the thought who was Ovid, a Latin poet 43BC-17AD? whose lines run thus: "No more my soul a charm in music finds. Music has charms alone for peaceful minds".

Several families who made great contributions to the choir have left but others have come and numbers are increasing. During 1963 our male quartet has given some delightful items and the splendid contribution of our Father's Day male choir has engendered the hope that we shall soon hear from them again. Finally, a tonic thought for all singer and musicians: "We bring our varying gifts to Thee and Thou rejectest none".

—(J. G. Whittier.)

THE MANSE

In 1951 it was decided to sell the Cape Street Manse and acquire a temporary one. During the vacancy following Mr. Harland's removal to Creswick, a new brick veneer building at the corner of Frederick and St. Hellier Streets was purchased for £4,000 and steps taken towards the erection of a permanent Manse. Two blocks at the rear of Cape Street Manse were exchanged for another site in the Weyburn Court subdivision, but this being found unsuitable, lot 51 Hawdon Street was purchased for £800.



In February, 1953, the tender of A. K. Wightman for £6,215 was accepted for the new Manse to the plans of J. E. W. Mason, Architect, and the new building was opened in June, 1954. The total cost, including land, fittings, floor coverings, was calculated at £8,200. The sale of the Cape Street premises and the Weyburn Court site, together with the temporary Manse, reduced the indebtedness to £3,800.

CHURCH FINANCE AND PROPERTY

The years 1923 and 1957 are memorable in relation to our Church finances. As from 1st January, 1923, pew rents were discontinued and the Duplex Envelope system introduced to regulate ordinary Church offerings. Other funds were raised through the various efforts of the ladies, the annual fete being a social occasion. Temple Day direct offering also became an annual event and proved most satisfactory.

In 1957 the Stewardship pledged offerings superseded both the Duplex system and Temple Day, and the Monitoring Committee took over the office of Envelope Secretary.

In the Centenary Souvenir it is recorded that in 1943 our property was clear of debt. Today we might say that we have a healthy indebtedness in the vicinity of £15,000. In the past fifteen years we have purchased and housed an Aolean pipe organ, built a manse, and completed a building programme which adequately meets the needs of the Sunday School and has proved a veritable inspiration to our youth movements and the social life of the Church. The bulk of our indebtedness is consolidated in a Credit Foncier Loan with the National Mutual Life Assurance Co.

Land now held by the Church is as follows: Burgundy and Hawdon Streets on portion of which are erected the Church and Church buildings and basketball court nearly 1½ acres having a frontage of 154 feet to Burgundy Street by a depth of 132 feet; also a frontage of 132 feet to Hawdon Street by a depth of 330 feet on which the three tennis courts are constructed. No. 51 Hawdon Street, on which is erected the Manse, having a frontage of 66 feet and a depth of 165 feet.

THE SABBATH SCHOOL

In the early days there were few children in the Heidelberg district, and these so scattered that it was not until the pastorate of the Rev. Duncan Fraser that a Sabbath School was established. The absence of records precludes a detailed history of the beginnings of this important adjunct of the Church's work, but it is

the districts bordering our parish and for some time, pending the erection of a church building at Bulleen, we had 51 new scholars transported to and from Heidelberg per bus.

In 1959 a permanent Sunday School choir started in training to lead on Sundays and special occasions. With a membership of 20 children, it is a decided acquisition to our worship. The new Sunday School buildings were used for the first time in May, 1960.

During this 20-year period, the Sunday School has had seven superintendents and a continuing band of efficient and devoted leaders and teachers too numerous to mention in the limited printed space allowed. The school has four divisions: Kindergarten, Primary, Junior and Intermediate; also Girls' Bible Class of eight and Boys' Bible Class of 14. In 1962 it was fully staffed with 38 leaders and teachers.

In the Kindergarten and Primary sections the children, always having leaders specially selected, have consequently grown to love their services and in their young minds feel the magnetic attraction of The One Who said long ago: "Suffer the little children to come unto Me". The leaders and teachers have always had the complete confidence not only of the children, but of both parents. "A little child shall lead them." An important adjunct of the Kindergarten was the Mission Band with its emphasis on giving.

For the full 20 years, Girls' and Boys' Junior Bible Classes have been in operation under the jurisdiction of the Sunday School. The leaders have usually been men and women of mature years with sound knowledge of the Scriptures and loyalty to Christ. Consequently, the response has been gratifying not only to the leaders but to the congregation in general. The present strength of these classes is mentioned under the Sunday School.

The Senior Bible Classes were a later addition to our organisations not under the jurisdiction of the Sunday School and worked separately under male and female leaders up to about 1961, when they merged into a joint class under a male leader. The membership is at present girls 9, boys 11.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY UNION

During the past 20 years the Heidelberg branch of P.W.M.U. has met in the afternoon of the third Thursday of the months February to November. A succession of women has acted as office-bearers and has dedicated service to that work, contributing largely to the success of our meetings. Syllabuses have been arranged each year to include speakers who could give news and

clear that the School was started in 1870 by Mr. James Burrows, who with his brother, Mr. William Burrows, drove in from Greensborough every Sunday. It was held in the Church at 10 a.m., prior to the forenoon service, several of the scholars coming a long distance. Among the first teachers were Miss Kate Duncan, daughter of Mr. Alexander Duncan, of Bulleen, and Mr. William Dawson.

After several years the School lapsed, but was resuscitated by Mr. John B. Steel on Sunday morning, 3rd June, 1889, with ten scholars.

After the opening of the new Church in May, 1901, the School was held in the afternoon instead of the morning and the change proved beneficial. The erection of the School Hall, opened on 29th June, 1904, greatly increased the accommodation and gave a fresh impetus to the work.

The accommodation was further increased by the addition of a Kindergarten Room, which was opened on 31st March, 1912.

The School has had many teachers and Bible Class leaders who have given long and faithful service.

The first 20-year period of our second century has been one of progress in which additional accommodation removed some of the hindrances to effective instruction. In their desire for efficiency a visit was paid to the Clifton Hill Sunday School in 1947 and our teachers were impressed with the possibilities of modern aids in teaching, such as films. We are fortunate to have a Parents' and Friends' Association doing a great deal to secure the co-operation of parents with our teachers. The Sunday School has always been concerned with the problem of apathetic parents. Note these words of Samuel Smiles, a writer of last century, who wrote: "Some say money makes the man; others say manners make the man; but a truer saying is home makes the man". The frequent severe criticism by magistrates and police points to the sad fact that home influence is a waning power. When did this decline start? Thomas Campbell, Scottish poet, wrote: "I watch the wheels of nature's mazy plan and learn the future by the past of man".

Our Boys' Club commenced in 1948 and was considered part of the Sunday School. In the following year its membership increased. In 1951 the Rev. C. and Mrs. Harland were farewelled and the Rev. John and Mrs. Gillan welcomed in 1952. They undertook leadership of the Teachers' Training Classes. A creche was established. From 1954 there has been rapid development in

information of the missionary enterprises supported by the Church, of social work, the work of deaconesses and Bible study.

In 1950 it was decided to inaugurate an evening branch so that women unable to attend an afternoon meeting could unite with us in supporting the Union. The first meetings were small, but in 1953 it was suggested that we should form a united branch with Heidelberg West. Some of these meetings are held at Heidelberg and the remainder at Heidelberg West. We were very fortunate in having the capable leadership of Deaconess Kekwick and the late Deaconess Moreton. Their enthusiasm and knowledge of the missionary and deaconess work of the Church were a great help to the branch, and the membership rose steadily. For some years it has been larger than the afternoon branch.

One of the features of the work of both branches has been the collection of goods for the mission boxes. These gifts are packed and sent to Williamstown. From there they are despatched to the various mission fields. Some of the members go over to Williamstown to help with the packing of the boxes.

A very valuable aspect of our meetings is the opportunity they give for fellowship and service within the Church. At this milestone in our Church's history we give thanks for increased membership in our local branches and the growing awareness of the stewardship of time, talents and money. May the challenge of the future inspire us to greater effort.

P.F.A.

This organisation whose purpose is definitely spiritual is blessed with fine energetic leaders and a membership of 30. It has a potential for decision and growth in Christian character and service. The older members of this congregation are watching the progress of our P.F.A. with great interest and confidence.

PRESBYTERIAN GIRLS' ASSOCIATION

The P.G.A. meets every Friday night in the Church Hall from 7 to 8.15 o'clock. The club has an average attendance of 15 girls out of a membership of 20.

The girls, together with senior and junior leaders, enjoy fellowship together through devotions, outings, camps, games, competitions and handwork.

GIRLS' GYMNASTIC CLASS

This class has had a happy year under the supervision of Mrs. White of the Clifton Calisthenics College.

There are 67 girls taking part in the class and after working hard all the year they are looking forward to their display.

GIRLS' BASKETBALL CLUB

Congratulations are due to our girls' basketball teams on their successes. They have five teams comprising 40 girls. A new court has been provided recently.

BOYS' CLUB (P.B.A.)

Our Boys' Club has made steady progress over the past 20 years, and in the present year, 1963, is recognised as one of the strongest clubs in the P.B.A. of Victoria, with a membership of 60 boys. Apart from their Friday night activities, the boys participate in competitions against other clubs around Melbourne, including indoor games, swimming sports and annual field day, as well as Saturday morning cricket and basketball.

In recent years, our Junior team has won the Indoor Games on two occasions, and in 1962 and 1963, our club was successful in winning the swimming sports against over 30 other clubs which competed. Special comment has been made on several occasions regarding the discipline of boys from our club when visiting or competing against other clubs.

When the new hall was built a few years ago, the fathers of our boys undertook to build 16 tables now used by the Sunday School and many of the functions held in our Church halls.

LADIES' GUILD

In 1946 this guild was re-constituted and the thanks of all are due to the ladies' splendid work in many spheres. During a 17-year period they have worked consistently and donated approximately £2,350 for the following objects: Improvements to Sunday School kitchen, assisted to finance erection of choir stalls, purchasing choir seats, Chancel work, plaster grills, organ fund, help in providing a new Electrolux, property maintenance, re-carpeting Church and minister's vestry, Manse maintenance, social services and missions. In addition to this financial help they have given personal labour to Opportunity Shop and Rolland House.

The present strength of this organisation is 32 members with average attendance of 22. Knowing the calibre of these members it can be confidently presumed that this good work in the Master's service will continue and expand.

FRIENDLY CIRCLE

Established in 1962 for young mothers, this group meets monthly at 10 a.m. Under capable and kindly leadership, it is doing a worthwhile service. The organisation connotes Church social life at its best.

BROTHERHOOD

The Heidelberg branch of the Presbyterian Brotherhood was formed in 1952. It has been a popular and progressive organisation of 30 men who meet monthly on Sunday afternoon. Interesting speakers on a wide range of subjects have been an attraction not only to members but to others from inside and outside the Church. Two car trips per year are arranged, usually to the Dandenongs, for the benefit of Church members who do not have their own transport. Their various activities include the practical in Christianity with a constant endeavour to radiate happiness. Members take a leading part in the wheeling of Austin Hospital patients to church services there on certain Sunday mornings at 9.30 a.m. All this adds up to 11 years of unwearied Christian service.

MEN'S BASKETBALL

The Men's Basketball Club was formed in 1960 by Mr. C. Arnot, who is secretary of the Presbyterian Men's Basketball Association. The club affiliated with the P.M.B.A. and plays other Presbyterian teams at Albert Park stadium. Up to date premiership honours have eluded our teams, but a lot of enjoyment for young men of the Church has been the reward. A junior team has been playing in the under 13 years competition, and it is hoped that more interest will be aroused next season.

TENNIS CLUB

Scots Church Tennis Club was formed in 1926. The club was not able to function during the war years. After the war, the club decided to change the two old asphalt courts to all-weather courts, and in the fifties, a third court was constructed and eventually the majority of the fencing was renewed. All this work, plus interest charges, cost the club close on £2,000. This money had been raised by club members and friends. Now the club has paid all debts and has a healthy credit.

In 1963 the courts have been used most days in the week by schools, and our own club members. The club also sponsors Saturday morning classes for young people, with a professional coach. Scots Church Tennis Club is one of the strongest church clubs in the district having won numerous premierships in all grades. Scores of members have made Scots a club to be proud of.

CHALLENGE

The foregoing is a record of the progress of the Church from its infancy in 1843 to its present mature age of 120 years. In this history it has not been possible — nor indeed politic — to deal with individuals. The Church has been blessed during its lengthy life with many staunch workers and supporters, from the days of the early pioneers who laboured under difficulties associated with their own day and generation, and have long since gone to their reward, to the present time when the work thus begun is being carried on.

It has been well said that “the best of all incentives for a progressive future is a progressive past”. The history of our Church since its infancy, when the Rev. Peter Gunn planted the old blue banner in the Bulleen barn, down to the present anniversary in the beautiful edifice in which we worship, reveals a record of steady progress and achievement. From the past we have received a goodly heritage; let us take a generous view of the Church’s duty to the future.

The events of 1963 are passing into the domain of history and our fervent hope is that the coming generation, by the grace of God, may emulate the faith and works of those who have passed on. In order that we may be fully informed of their moral and spiritual qualities, let us have a closer look into the past.

The name of our Heidelberg Church is almost identical with that of a great Scottish novelist whose memory has been perpetuated in the designations of localities in or adjacent to our City of Heidelberg. To readers the names Ivanhoe, Templestowe, Kenilworth and Locksley immediately suggest “challenge”. Sir Walter Scott not only wrote of, but accepted a challenge, in old age, to laborious effort for payment of a debt not wholly his.

These early settlers here would have no rest of mind until they had built Jerusalem in Australia’s warm and sunny land. Men and women of high purpose started worship in a barn at Bulleen and we are indebted to them for Scots Church, Heidelberg, from whence a great influence has richly blessed community life. There is a clamant call to service. The gauntlet has been thrown. The challenge must be accepted. We cannot calmly contemplate stagnancy in our Church. More than likely Bulleen congregation sang the lovely Old Hundredth in 1843. May it now reverberate in word and spirit.

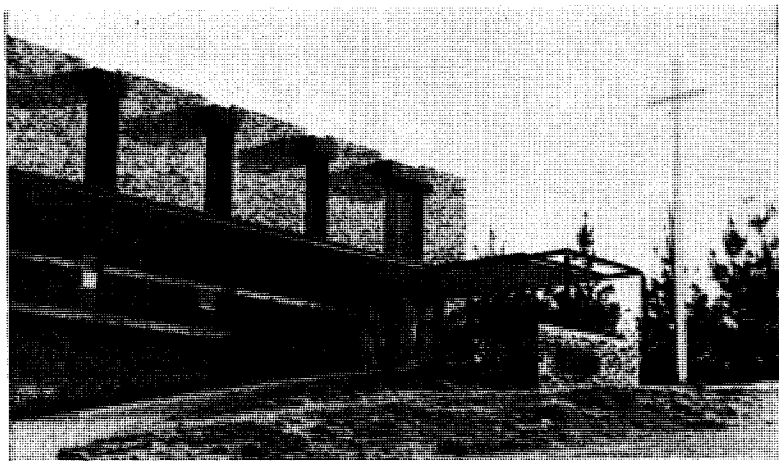
“O enter then his gates with praise,
Approach with joy his courts unto;
Praise, laud, and bless his name always,
For it is seemly so to do.”

THE YOUNGER CONGREGATIONS

The Rev. Peter Gunn and his successors were called to a parish of scattered villages and homesteads, and only with the slow outreach of Melbourne did the parish alter in nature, with Northcote becoming a separate charge in 1892 and Ivanhoe in 1911. In the outer areas lack of population continued to retard progress. Australia's lesson of the Second World War that, to survive as a nation, she must populate, altered all that, and in the post-war years the challenge has been for the provision of more churches and bigger churches to serve new population centres. The story of the transformation in the Yarra Valley centres is told in the following pages.

TEMPLESTOWE

Only a parish of such hoary old age as Scots would dare list Templestowe as a "younger" church. Ever since the services in the barn, the fortunes of Templestowe and Heidelberg have been interwoven and throughout the pages of this book will be found references to Templestowe and its congregation. Sufficient is it to record that, in 1895, services with lay preachers commenced in the Mechanics Institute, and a few months later a church was erected on land donated by Mrs. John Smith.



The following is extracted from the Centenary Souvenir:

"The homes in the district are scattered and attendances at the House of God entails, in some instances, long-distance travelling. Despite such drawbacks as exist, however, the congregation has given generous and zealous support to the Church and the minister has received rich encouragement from his weekly visits to the district and his work among the congregation."

In 1955 a very suitable Sunday School was built with a view to expansion. In 1959 the congregation erected a manse and on 3rd March, 1960, Templestowe was formally severed from Heidelberg. The Rev. Dr. David Merritt was appointed by the Home Missionary Committee as minister-elect. The new church was opened on 18th November, 1962, a plaque within paying tribute to the late Joseph Smith whose generosity made the building possible. The Church is of contemporary design with a seating capacity of 300. In addition to the vestry, the design includes

a substantial lounge which is the centre of the Church's Adult Christian Education programme. Church membership stands at 176 of whom 122 are communicants.

As a steady stream of new families settle in the district, substantial efforts are being made to contact and welcome them. Friendship and evangelism visitations have been the main emphases in 1963. The congregation looks forward to a period of rapid growth and increasing service.

ST. ANDREWS, MONTMORENCY

The first recorded service of worship at Montmorency was held in 1914. At the request of families in the district, in July, 1916, afternoon services were commenced in a private home. The Rev. R. Thom, M.A., agreed to take charge of this work assisted by the Home Mission Committee. In that year the congregation erected the first Church. Until 1960 St. Andrews was a Home Mission Station under the jurisdiction of Scots Church.



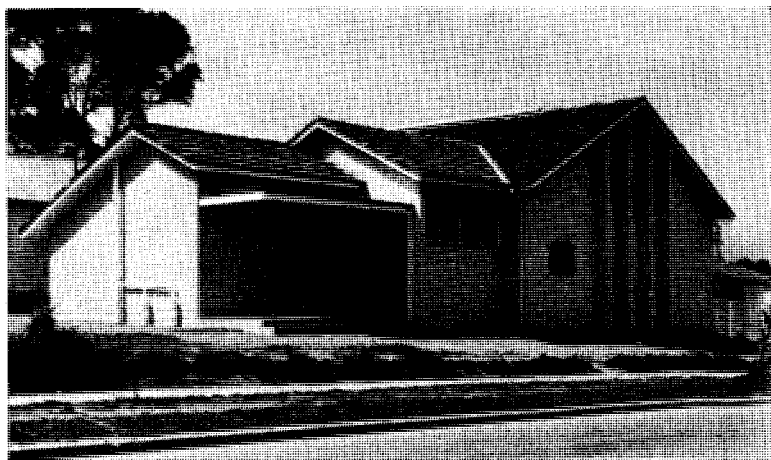
In 1948 Rev. R. V. Merritt was appointed by the Home Mission Committee, and during the next ten years built up a strong congregation. On 10th September, 1955, the present Church building, with a seating capacity of 180, was opened and dedicated. A manse was purchased in 1960 and in 1961 the Rev. J. C. Rainsbury was called and inducted.

Communicant members number 160, children on the Sunday School roll 250, and Sunday School teachers 30. A new con-

gregation at Briar Hill is developing under the jurisdiction of St. Andrews. Envisaged in the future is the removal of the old hall, erection of a new church, enlargement of present buildings for Sunday School purposes and further outreach in the district.

MACLEOD

Following an approach by residents of Macleod to the Rev. Alex. Hardie of Scots Church, an open-air service was conducted on 10th August, 1924, by Dr. Paton and the Rev. Alex. Hardie on the site of the present Church — a fine block of land donated by Mr. Malcolm Macleod. Fifty adults and children attended.



The Home Mission Committee agreed to provide funds for building materials, and a hall — 36 feet by 18 feet — was erected by voluntary labour. The hall was opened on Sunday, 12th April, 1925, and on the following Sunday, Sabbath School began with 30 scholars. At the first communion service taken by the Rev. D. S. Jones, 27 communicant members were present. From this beginning, progress was made over the next 30 years with varying degrees of success, a faithful few continuing during the difficult years after the last war.

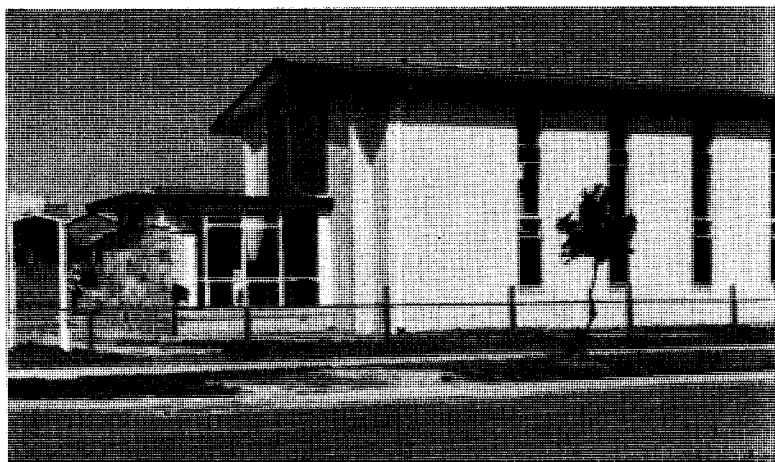
In 1953 a block of land adjoining the Church was purchased and, in 1954, the Rev. W. L. Simpson, having retired from Ivanhoe parish, was appointed by the Home Mission Department to the Macleod-Rosanna charge. Under his pastoral care, Church and Sunday School attendances in both areas increased so rapidly

that, in 1958, Macleod became a separate station under Mr. R. F. Wootton. Three elders were ordained and tenders were called for a new brick hall to seat 300 persons. This was completed and dedicated on 6th February, 1959. In June, 1961, a manse was erected on the land adjoining the Church. With attendances still increasing, the Church building was extended to seat 150, the Church being re-opened on 29th July, 1962.

The congregation has truly demonstrated its great faith in the future and its determination to further His Kingdom in an expanding population.

WEST HEIDELBERG

At the beginning of 1926 a Sunday School was commenced in the State School, Haig Street, with Mr. T. Cunningham as superintendent, a staff of 4 teachers and 35 scholars. Following this Mr. W. G. Pollard took charge with Mr. Bruce Donaldson and several teachers. Through the energy and vision of these brethren, a good cause was established.



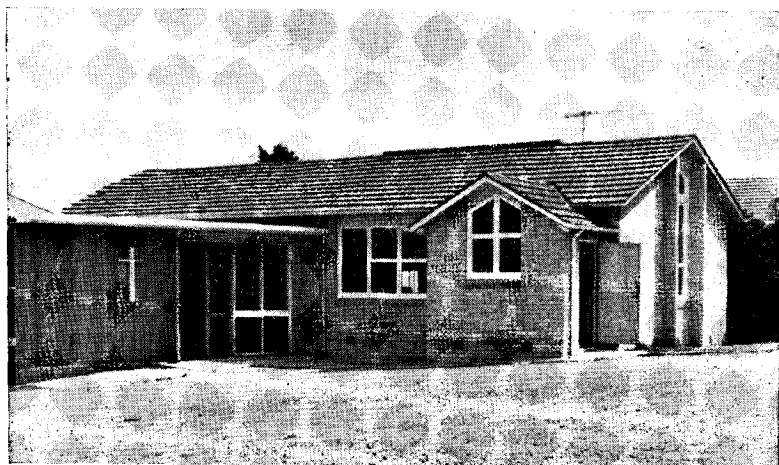
In February, 1949, church services with lay preachers, under the supervision of Rev. Coledge Harland, began in the State School pending the erection of an all-purpose hall on three blocks purchased at the corner of Elliott and Lloyd Streets. In September, 1949, Mr. J. F. Hopkins was appointed Home Missionary in charge. The Church hall was opened on 10th May, 1952, and Deaconess E. Moreton was appointed to assist. This she did devotedly until her death early in 1959.

In 1956 Heidelberg West station was transferred from Scots Church jurisdiction to Knox Church, Ivanhoe. Early in 1960 a manse was purchased from the Housing Commission at 36 Lloyd Street. An entrance hall, lounge and study have been added since. From 1957 to 1959 Mr. K. Bingham was Home Missionary and student in training and from 1960 to 1963 Mr. D. Geard.

A new Church with a seating capacity of 150 was opened and dedicated on 5th October, 1963. The Station has a communicant membership of 90 and a Sunday School roll of 140. Last year it provided one candidate for the ministry and one again this year.

ROSANNA

As a first step towards the building of a church centre to serve the rapidly-growing Rosanna district, negotiations began in 1950 for the purchase of two blocks in Arden Street and an adjoining rear block. The negotiations were completed in 1952.



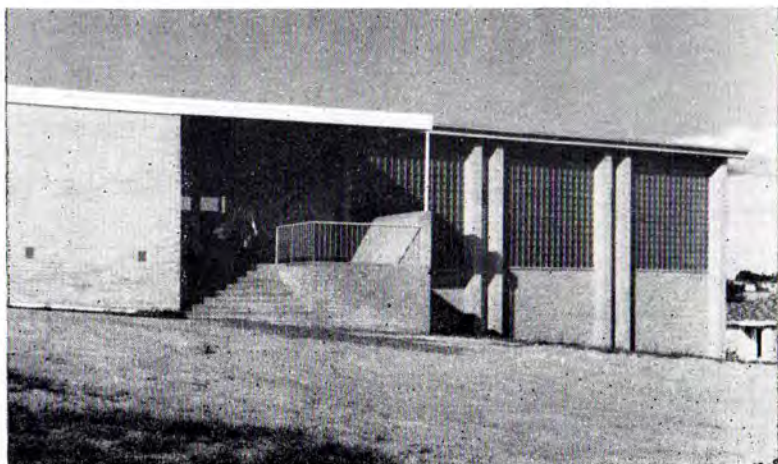
As from 1st April, 1954, Rosanna was linked with Macleod as a Home Mission Station under the pastoral care of Rev. W. L. Simpson. A meeting held in Scots Church, Heidelberg, on 19th May was attended by sixteen Rosanna residents who appointed a provisional Board of Management. The first service was held on the evening of 14th November in the Returned Servicemen's Hall with 28 people attending. Church building operations began in March, 1955, the Church being opened and dedicated on Saturday, 17th September. In October, Sunday School was com-

menced with 16 senior scholars but this rapidly increased to 200 scholars by December, 1956. With Church and Sunday School membership still increasing, a new hall was commenced in February, 1957, and completed in May.

In 1958 Macleod became a separate station and the Rev. W. L. Simpson was able to devote his full time to Rosanna. A building at 37 Millicent Street was purchased in 1959 to serve as a manse, and in 1960 the Rev. S. Smale was called and inducted to the charge. Today there are 400 families in the congregation, 220 communicant members and 480 children on the Sunday School roll. There are meetings and clubs for every age and every need. Planned for the near future are a new education centre and a new church.

BULLEEN

As already reported, the first services in the Warringal area were held in 1843 in a barn in Bulleen Road. In 1853 the Rev. D. McDonald was appointed to minister to the Gaelic Highlanders of Bulleen and, on his transfer to Emerald Hill in the following year, Bulleen was united to the Heidelberg-Plenty River charge.



In 1957 a house-to-house survey undertaken by men of the Heidelberg congregation under Rev. J. W. P. Gillan confirmed the urgency of establishing a church centre in the area. As a temporary measure, 50 Bulleen children were enrolled in Scots Sunday School, being transported each Sunday by bus. In the

following years the congregations of Heidelberg and Templestowe purchased a block in Prospect Road. Kew purchased three blocks and a further two blocks were acquired from the Methodist Church.

Fortnightly services in private homes were commenced in 1958 by the Rev. D. McKnight Jones, of Kew, and in July, 1959, Sunday School classes began in homes, 41 scholars attending the first services. In 1959 the Bulleen Provisional Committee with the Rev. D. McK. Jones as Moderator was set up, the charge becoming a joint Presbyterian-Methodist responsibility.

A weatherboard hall was presented by Kew Presbyterian Church in 1960, but further accommodation became essential and, in 1962, a new £17,000 hall with a seating capacity of 400 was opened and dedicated.

At present 220 families are connected with the Church and Sunday School attendances have reached 160. Until August, 1963, the charge had only Sunday preaching appointments, but the congregation has now been greatly heartened by the appointment of a full-time pastor, the Rev. B. J. Bateman. Members feel that the charge has a great potential.

OFFICE-BEARERS

MINISTER: Rev. Douglas W. Mathews

SESSION:

J. C. Burton	(1921)	W. F. Barnett	(1959)
P. E. Thomas	(1934)	A. H. Fredrick	(1959)
A. E. Coombe	(1939)	K. A. Froebel	(1959)
J. J. Bower	(1943)	M. E. Hoogenraad	(1959)
C. J. Junor	(1954)	H. G. Kohry	(1961)
P. H. Cleland	(1956)	H. E. Sutton	(1961)
A. K. Wightman	(1956)	A. J. Wilson	(1961)

SESSION CLERK: A. E. Coombe

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT:

R. Burgess	D. Burriss
R. Zeuchner	C. McKenzie
C. G. Baird	I. C. Fleming
L. G. Bower (Hon. Sec.)	G. C. Rodgers
W. Ellis	T. P. Lowe
C. P. Ramsay	M. P. Owens
W. D. Male	R. J. Read
R. P. Greenhill	M. Ramsay
R. S. Henderson	J. Simpson
L. Scott	E. R. Wallis

TRUSTEES:

C. G. Baird	R. S. Henderson
A. H. Fredrick	

ORGANIST: Mrs. V. Embling

CHOIRMASTER: K. Embling

AUDITORS: W. G. Taylor, A.A.S.A.; A. Jack

FORMER ELDERS (1943-1963):

B. S. Balharrie	A. Kyle
Rev. Wm. Bennett	A. S. Lovegrove
W. E. Biggs	P. S. McOrist
G. W. Coombe	W. G. Pollard
R. B. Donaldson	J. S. Proctor
W. F. Finlayson	W. L. Richardson
F. H. Hooke	J. C. Ross
J. A. Hudson	G. L. Scott

SECRETARIES (1943-1963):

R. S. Henderson	*L. G. Bower
A. K. McDowall	

TREASURERS (1943-1963):

R. B. Donaldson	*P. H. Cleland
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SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS (1943-1963):

J. J. Bower	A. E. Coombe
G. W. Coombe	G. Petty (Acting)
W. E. Biggs	J. C. Ross
K. Chapman	*K. A. Froebel

* Still Acting.