1976

The Australian Church Record 1976

Australian Church Record

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Renowned theologians in Australia

Moore Theological College in Sydney has arranged for a new series of lectures by notable speakers from overseas each year.

Moore College plan for lecture series

The First Convention to be held under the name of the Convention of Christian and Biblical Writers was held in the Bankstown Town Hall, Sydney, September 6. Two other conventions were held under the name of the Religious Booksellers’ Convention. The CBAA is a new, professional body.

The modern role, Bankstown Town Hall, Sydney, Australia, 6 September 1976

Christian bookstores

Grand Secretary, Christian Booksellers Association of Australia, writes to the editor, Christian Literature. 51 2970 The National Register of Christian Booksellers is in the processing stage. The cost of establishing bookstores in the busy shopping district is relatively low. People are to be found.

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Third World Seminar

The scene for the Third World Seminar held at Sydney on September 16, 1976. From left: Dr. John Haggard, Dr. Victor Oliver, Dr. N. V. Chandu Ray, Dr. Kyung Chik Han, Dr. Victor Oliver.

The Australian Church Record has been bringing the news on Church affairs for nearly 20 years. It is an independent, non-denominational church voice in Australia. This issue is volume 3, number 3 of the magazine. The Australian Church Record — Page 3.

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Governing body

MESSAGE FROM HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR OF NEW SOUTH WALES, SIR RODEN CUTLER, VC, KCMG, KOY, OMI

On this 25th anniversary of the original Call to the Nation, I am pleased to extend my congratulations to all who have been involved in the work of the Australian Festival of Light, held on October 14, 1976.

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by Rev Bruce Ballantine, said: 

condemn the Premier of NSW, Mr Wran, over his proposal to legalise gambling casinos.

Bishop of Bunbury to retire

The Bishop of Bunbury, Rev Ralph Hawkins, has announced his retirement after nearly 30 years of service. His retirement will take effect on Jan 21 next year.

Writing in the Anglican Messenger Bishop Hawkins said: 

"My ministry in Australia has been marked by the Depression of the 30s and early 40s, by the second World War and by the severe Diocese has gone forward — 

DEDICATION OF WALKER HALL 

The Office of Bishop is a responsibility. It is associated with a qualified faculty motivated by reverence for Holy Scripture. This needs to at least double for the Scriptures. This means Australia must try to become a contributor to the Sydney Ipswich and Religion through its influence on the visible world. They are sometimes also called "tribal" pre-literary societies or with their response to the Gospel. In this way, the Bishop of Bunbury who is a younger man is required." 

GOD IN THE FOREST

It is always a pleasure to say something nice about an old friend. Especially when it is true! So this is what I want to commend highly the chapter on the future of the chapter that it was the best thing published on pre-literary religions in the last ten years.

RELIGION WITHOUT BOOKS

The events in this chapter of the Divine has gone forever — some 50 centuries, epochs and remainders have been built quite apart from the Catholic Church. A number of the titles Walker Hall and the Grammar School. This is a truism to the generosity of church people in this Diocese who have given substantially to the mission of Christian education.

Then know well the Law of God's Kingdom 'what you have given shall be given back to you and much more.'

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AUSTRALIAN HEAD OF UNITED BIBLE SOCIETIES

General Secretary of the United Bible Societies in Australia, the Reverend James Payne, has become the first Australian to head the United Bible Societies Executive Committee. He was elected Chairman at the General Committee. He was elected to the post after four years of service in London as the Executive Secretary of the United Bible Societies. He has also served as a person in the Third World. 

WORLD RELIGIONS

"As an Independent Church in West Africa", Dr Turner said the World Fellowship plans to publish 113 new translations of the New Testament and to hold that post.

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No UFO’s in Unique Arrival

BETHLEHEM (Sat.) — The Chariot of the Gods theory took a Mauling tonight with disclosure of the unique arrival of the God/man to this sleepy Judecan hamlet. No UFOs landed to sterile unwary citizens. No weird spaceplanes alighted on terra firma. No blast of rockets rent the still night air.

It isn’t Ezra, 27, shepherd, of no fixed address, gave his version of what he saw. “My dog and my mares was just sitting round the fire out on the hill, sheep all bedded down for the night, talkin’ away there — men-talkin’ talk, when all of a sudden there was this strange glow in the sky, all around us — it was glorious — and frightening at the same time. We were paralyzed with fear. Then this angel steps up, all brightness and dazzle, tells us to calm down, ‘cause he’s got good news for us, for everyone actually. Then he tells us the story. It was just like they were alighted on the firm. No blast of rockets rent the still air. It was just like they were alighted on the firm.

“We blinked, rubbed our eyes, blinked again. Then we all said, ‘Come on, let’s go and see for ourselves what this thing has told us.’ So we huddled for Bethlehem right away. We checked out all the animals till we came to the one. Sure enough, there was the baby, snug and clean, and all wrapped up, gurgling away in the trough! It was just as the angel had said.

“The mother’s name was Mary, her husband was Joseph, and when we told them all about the angels and the message, they all didn’t really act surprised at all. They had like a quiet, young Zeke looked like he’d been hit in the face with a wet fish.

Baby in Troub

Anyway we could find the baby sleeping in the trough. We were all so excited we just couldn’t stop singing hymns and clapping and yelling out praise to God. It was just too wonderful that God sent us the message about the Saviour.

The ancient hamlet of Bethlehem now boasts two famous sons. King David was born here over 2500 years ago. Local inhabitants are still proud that the ideal of Hebrew royalty sprang out here, the one described in history as the man after God’s own heart.

Over 700 years ago the prophet Micah predicted that the birthplace of the Messiah would be the birthplace of a new man, the Messiah. This prophecy was fulfilled in Bethlehem in the person of the baby Jesus. The prophecy was fulfilled in the person of the baby Jesus.

The professors were all no comment on the matter of the child’s name. They all said that the name Mary was given by the angels to the baby after the message had been received. They all said it was really astounding.

“We took our time getting back to the sheep. We were all so excited we just couldn’t stop singing hymns and clapping and yelling out praise to God. It was just too wonderful that God sent us the message about the Saviour.

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THE WORLD'S BEST-SELLER

The events of the first Christmas were recorded by Matthew, one-time Jewish public servant, and Luke, a non-Jewish physician, and painstaking historian of the early Jesus movement. Former fisherman John Zebedee, analysed the theology of Christmas in his gospel.

Here is a sample of their account of the earth-shattering birth of God's Son, Jesus. It is taken from the world's best-seller, the Today's English Version of the New Testament, which has sold over 50 million copies since its publication in 1966 (surpassing even Dr. Spock).

The features of the T.E.V. Bible are a simple, down-to-earth language, and attractive line drawings to illustrate the text by Swiss artist Annie Vallotton.

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This paper can help you, and your Church, present the message of Christmas to your friends and your community in an interesting and readable way.

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Limited supplies of 1975 Christmas paper — "Miracle Baby Born" — also available. — Send stamped addressed envelope for free sample. Prices reduced to clear stock $6.00 per 100; $50 per 1,000. (No overprinting available).

What Christians Believe

That the Bible is God's word to man,
That man is hopelessly lost without God,
That Jesus took man's punishment for sin on the cross,
That God, the Holy Spirit, is the only One who can give man spiritual life,
That Jesus Christ is God, and lives today.
That Jesus Christ is God, and lives today.
That God is in absolute control of His universe,
That Jesus will return to earth, as He promised.
That a person becomes a Christian by turning from sin,
and trusting Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord.

For further copies of this paper, write to "Good News," P.O. Box 221, Baulkham Hills, N.S.W. 2153.

$8.50 per 100
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Before the world was created, the Word already existed; he was with God, and he was the same as God. From the very beginning, the Word was with God. Through him God made all things; not one thing in all creation was made without him. The Word was the source of life, and this life brought light to men. The Word became a human being and lived among us. We saw his glory, full of grace and truth. This was the glory which he received as the Father's only Son.

John 1:1-4,13

There were some shepherds in that part of the country who were spending the night in the fields, taking care of their flocks. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone over them. Luke 2:8

Christmas Greetings

This space is reserved for your Church stamp or free overprinting for orders of 1,000 or more. This could advertise special services, name and phone number of minister, secretary, etc. Write details on separate sheet and return with order.

An extra seven column inches advertising space available (the area in the dotted lines) for orders over 2,000

CLOSING DATE OF OVERPRINTING ORDERS IS 15th NOVEMBER.

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and tried to escape through a gap in the floor, but the spear in his leg stopped him and he was left cowering through the floor. Then the women and children of the tribe joined the men to club and spear Yae to death, after which he was dissected, cooked and eaten.

It was into this atmosphere only thirteen years ago that Don and Carol Richardson, young Canadians, came to live as missionaries. They were accepted by the Haenam, Kamur and Yohwi tribes who all came to live around the Richardsonss as neighbours. They came because these strange outsiders seemed to have an endless supply of mirrors, fish hooks, knives, machetes and so on.

Very soon, however, these tribes were warring among themselves. The slightest provocation would have them lined up in fierce battle. At the risk of his life Richardson desperately tried to make peace among these warring tribes but all his efforts failed.

After learning their language, he tried to introduce these people to the Christian message of love, forgiveness and peace, but that only bored them.

A strange custom

Everything seemed hopeless so Richardson decided to leave. The news greatly upset the people. They pleaded, “Don’t leave us. Tomorrow we are going to make peace.”

Early next morning it was very still and quiet and as Don and Carol were watching from their porch, they saw something strange. Mahaen and his wife, Syada, from Haenam were heading toward Kamur. Mahaen was carrying one of his sons on his back and Syada was sobbing violently.

As they approached Kamur, suddenly Syada snatched the small child from Mahaen’s back and fled for her life with the child.

A loud shout from Kamur followed. Kaiyo had left his people to reach into his long-house and leaped out carrying his six-month-old son. When the mother saw what Kaiyo was doing with their only child she ran screaming after him. But Kaiyo easily outdistanced his wife, who was left crying in agony, and came with his only son to the Haenam people.

A child is given

In Don’s own words, “Kaiyo’s chest was heaving with emotion, for he loved his child. The leading men of Haenam stood before him, expectantly eyeing the baby. Kaiyo scanned the row of enemy faces before him until he saw the one he had chosen. ‘Mahor!’ he cried.

“Mahor leaped forward, his eyes bright with emotion. All the men, women and children of Haenam drew close. Behind him Kaiyo could hear the roar of excitement from his own people.

“Mahor,” Kaiyo challenged, “will you plead the words of Kamur among your people?”

“Then I give you my son and with him my name!” Kaiyo held forth his little son, and Mahor took him gently in his arms.

Both villages gave vent to a series of shouts until the earth seemed to quiver with emotion. People began calling Mahor by Kaiyo’s name.

Suddenly, Mahaen reappeared in front of the crowd. Facing Kaiyo, Mahaen held aloft another of his baby sons and cried, “Kaiyo! Will you plead the words of Haenam among your people?”

“Yes,” cried Kaiyo, holding out his hands.

“Yes!” Mahor responded. “I will plead the words of Kamur among my people.”

As Kaiyo departed, Mahor shouted an invitation to the population of Haenam.

“Those who accept this child as a basis for peace,” he said, “come and lay hands on him!”

Young and old alike filed eagerly past. Mahor and laid their hands in turn upon Kaiyo’s son, sealing their acceptance of peace with Kamur. The same ceremony took place in Kamur as soon as Kaiyo returned with Mahaen’s baby.

Making peace

The two infants were then carried up into the manhouses in their respective adopted villages to be decorated for a peace celebration. I managed to draw a young Sawi aside. I asked him to explain what had happened.

“Whiteman,” he said exuberantly, “Kaiyo has given his son to Haenam as a peace child, and Mahaen in return has given a peace child to us!”

“Why is this necessary?” I asked.

“You’ve been urging us to make peace. Don’t you know it’s impossible to have peace without a peace child? If your people from the outside world never war with each other, maybe you don’t need a peace child. But we Sawi, we fight all the time; we’ve got to have a peace child.”

It took several days for the full impact of this peace offering to hit Don and Carol. They learned that the peace child would not be harmed and as long as these children lived, there would be peace among these warring tribes.

Little by little Richardson realized he had been shown the key to communicating the message of God’s love to these Sawi people. Two months later he returned to the men of both villages who excitedly and eagerly listened to him.

“You and your ancestors,” he said, “are not the only ones who found that peace required a peace child. God, the Spirit whose message I bear, has declared the same thing: true peace can never come without a peace child! Never!”

(Continued)
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SHARE THE JOY OF CHRISTMAS WITH YOUR NEIGHBOUR

THE BEST GIFT

God sent His only Son Jesus Christ into this world so that people believing in Him might have eternal life.

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A very simple yet effective way to do this is by giving every family in your street or neighbourhood one of our Operation 20:20 community distribution leaflets.

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Operation 20:20 is a house to house literature distribution ministry. The Christmas leaflets can be used by local churches, groups or individuals in letter-box drop or door-knock visitation.

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Provision is made for a church or individual to have their name and address overprinted on the back of each leaflet when required.

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THREE LEAFLETS AVAILABLE

“Peace Child”

This month’s ‘Encounter’ article is a sample of our new Christmas distribution leaflet – a story that graphically illustrates the Christmas story and the Gospel message.

“Finding Peace in a Troubled World”

This article especially written for Christmas distribution is based on the text by Jesus Christ, “My peace I give unto you.”

“Why Jesus Christ Came”

This has been one of our most popular distribution leaflets. More than 200,000 have been printed and distributed.

Till the whole land knows...
"Because God wants men to find peace with Him and with each other, He decided to choose a once-for-all peace child, good enough and strong enough to establish peace forever. The problem was: whom should He choose? For among all human children, there was no son good enough or strong enough to be an eternal peace child."

He paused and searched the faces. They were curious.

"What child did He choose?" asked Mahaen, toasting a stick of beetle grubs over his cooking fire. Don answered with another question: "Did you and Kaiyo give another man's son, or your own?"

"We gave our own," he replied.

"So did God!" he exclaimed. "Like Kaiyo, God had only one Son to give. And like Kaiyo, He gave Him anyway."

Richardson then opened a Bible and translated part of John's Gospel into Sawi: "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

Mahaen looked at the missionary and asked, "Is He the one you've been telling us about? Jesus?"

"The very one," Richardson replied.

"My God has sent me to tell you about the Peace Child who is strong — the once-for-all Peace Child. Jesus is not a Peace Child for one village only, but for all mankind. From now on, let Sawi mothers keep their babies close to their breasts; God has given His Son for you. Lay your hands upon Him in faith, and His Spirit will dwell in your hearts to keep you in the way of peace. If your peace children who were weak could bring you peace, think how much greater will be the peace God's perfect Peace Child will bring."

And thus the message of God's love and peace got through to these people. As a result many of their lives were transformed and changed because they accepted Jesus Christ, God's Peace Child.

As the Christmas season approaches, we are once again reminded of God's offer to each of us of peace with Him, a free pardon for our sin, and the gift of eternal life through His Son, Jesus Christ. And as the people of Haenam had to individually accept Kaiyo's peace child, so we too have to individually accept God's Peace Child. And you can do this right now by bowing your heart before God and thanking Him for giving His Son to die for your sins and by inviting Jesus Christ into your life as your personal Lord and Saviour.
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Supplement to "The Australian Church Record" October 14, 1976
"TRAGIC 20TH CENTURY"

Mr. Malcolm Muggeridge
"individuals for
persons"

This is an interview with Mr. Malcolm Muggeridge by John Bari of the BBC's "Church Record" Foreign Broadcast Monitoring.

Mr. Malcolm Muggeridge is visiting Australia under the auspices of the Festival of Light in association with the Anglican Archdiocese of Sydney Incorporated.

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"Social gospel" not Gospel of salvation

Mr. BISHOP TAKES PARISH

At Indian Bazaar, who is the leader of the church of India, Pakistan, Home and Toronto Canadian Church of the Church of New

Debate on value of WCC

Two well-known Evangelists, Professor and Dean of Oxford, Dr. D. B. W. Egerton, and Dr. John Stott, the head of the Faculty of Church History in London, will debate the issue of Social Gospel in the Church of New.

Debate on Hymn Book

The debate will be held on September 16 in the presence of the President of the Synod of the WCC.

Panacea for perfection

Passing of plant outmoded?

Might I suggest that there is a certain problem of the loss of the law of perfection in a form which did not exist in the world, which was a panacea for all sorrows. The question is, can we have a panacea for the problem of the present day?

Contract signed for Australian hymn book

A contract has been signed for the Australian Hymn book. The book will be published in two editions, one for schools and another for churches.

New Bible released

The Good News Bible is a fresh new translation of the Bible, revised to make the text as close as possible to the original Hebrew, Greek and Aramaic.

MAKE YOUR RESERVATION NOW

Around the World Cruise

The Lloyd Tri Star Liner TV Galileo will sail on March 17 from Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea.

New Bible Released

A new Bible has been released by the WCC, which is the first Bible to be published in English since 1966. It is called the Good News Bible.

SEE BEAUTIFUL NEW ZEALAND IN THE AUTUMN

The Australian Church Travel Service will offer special tour packages to New Zealand.

LANDS OF THE BIBLE TOUR

Departing on January 17, 1977, from Tullamore, the Australian Church Travel Service will offer special tour packages to the Holy Land.

FAMILY ON HOLIDAYS

A family tour package to New Zealand will be offered by the Australian Church Travel Service.

FESTIVAL TRAVEL

A festival travel package to the Holy Land will be offered by the Australian Church Travel Service.

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AUSTRALIAN CHURCH RECORD, OCTOBER 11, 1974

Glenn Paterson

MUGGERIDGE'S FIVE POINTS AT RALLY

Malcolm Muggeridge presented five points at the rally in Australia.

ASSURANCE — SICKNESS

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REVISTA°

Please send Rechabite information to:
Christian duty in collapsing society

"Christianity is a Caring Culture"

By D. J. Johnson

Positions

Middle Class journals, the Sunday Times, the Spectator, the Observer. He is a visiting fellow at the Centre for American Studies, Oxford University.

The Rewards of Christian Living

World Vision’s Inter-American Office has been working with the people of the Western Hemisphere to develop a comprehensive strategy for the spiritual and material development of their communities. The strategy recognizes the need for a balanced approach to both the spiritual and material aspects of development.

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THE GREAT GUESTS

One of the great guests of the ancient world was the apostle Paul. He was a man of great faith and eloquence. He traveled extensively throughout the Mediterranean world, preaching the gospel of Jesus Christ. His message was one of hope and love, and he was able to communicate it to people of all backgrounds. He was a man of many talents, and he was able to use them to the glory of God. His life was one of service to others, and he was able to inspire others to do the same. His legacy lives on today, as people continue to follow his example of kindness and generosity. His life, in short, was a life of service to others.