# THE AUSTRALASIAN PENTECOSTAL STUDIES CENTRE

Quarterly Newsletter - Winter Edition



A brief note on the transnational aspects of early Australian Pentecostalism ... It is often assumed that the origin narrative of Australian Pentecostalism is solely associated with its North-American sibling. If not, it is at least presumed that the trajectory and nature of early Australian Pentecostalism closely paralleled that of its northern counterpart – that is, for example, that Pentecostalism was a movement of the urban and socially disenfranchised classes. Contrary to these presumptions, early Australian Pentecostalism is more accurately described as having emerged from *predominantly* European roots and, found its first expressions among the rural-middle class.

Scholars identify that the three distinct elements shaping early Australian Pentecostalism were Wesleyanism, the Dowie movement and subsequent Evangelical movement. A Wesleyan preoccupation with Christian perfection and Holy Spirit baptism found expression among English-born Methodists in late 19th century Australia. This era was also marked by the visiting Scotsman, John Alexander Dowie, whose 16 years of ministry in Australia centered around divine healing and gifts of the Holy Spirit. Soon after, a turn-of-the-century wave of Evangelicalism provided a larger context for the spread, practice and growth of the blossoming movement, including glossolalia (tongues) and occurrences of falling to the ground. While American preachers including Alexander, Chapman, Geil and Torrey were certainly key players in the Evangelical movement, the English-inspired Keswick Conventions which emphasised 'fullness of the Spirit' as a central feature of Christian living, provided momentum for the rise of Pentecostal expression in the early 20th Century.

The transnational currents under-girding Australian Pentecostalism continued after its formal establishment in 1908, with organised missionary efforts now seeing a uniquely Australian Pentecostal movement traverse national boundaries in the name of Spirit-led 'mission,' and, while Pentecostalism in Australia has a rich cosmopolitan origin narrative, many of the movement's ensuing activities were led by Australian-born Pentecostals. Archival holdings in the APSC, including diaries, artefacts, reports within denominational magazines, photographs and administrative documents variously point to the spread of Australian Pentecostalism to India, Japan, South Africa, Hong Kong, China and Papua New Guinea thoughout the 20th century.



Hugh Davidson landing at Madang 1948 to commence AOG PNG mission, c.1948, Madang PNG, Hugh Davidson Collection

## THIRD ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM - PENTECOSTAL CHARISMATIC CHRISTIANITIES & MIGRATION

On August 2nd, the Australasian Pentecostal Studies Centre and the Religion and Society Research Cluster, Western Sydney University will be jointly convening the Third Annual Symposium on the study of Pentecostal and Charismatic movements. The focus of this year's symposium is on Pentecostal and Charismatic Christianities and migration. Richard Vokes from the Department of Anthropology, University of Western Australia will be providing the keynote address. Additionally, we look forward to visiting speakers from ANU, Rutgers University, UK Open University and the University of Paris Nanterre. Speakers will address various aspects of Pentecostal and Charismatic Christianity and Migration from various anthropological and historiographical frames of reference, delivering on topics such as (but not limited to), historical labour migration, conversion cycles and adherence to the Pentecostal faith in Italy; the relationship between musical migration and formation of Charismatic identities in the Global South; South to North migration of Pentecostal-Charismatic Christianity in the Atlantic, and the formation of diasporic communities in Pentecostal and Charismatic churches in Australia and abroad. If you are interested in attending and want more detail on our speakers, topics and program please see visit our website - https://www.ac.edu.au/research/apsc/symposium/ Anyone is welcome to attend, including students - particularly those undertaking higher degree research.

### PRESERVATION AUSTRALIA DISASTER COMBO WORKSHOP



Kay Söderlund from Preservation Australia is running a Disaster Combo Workshop on August 16th (note change of date and workshop host) to provide training for archivists in disaster preparation, response and recovery. Disaster preparedness is a central component of Collection Management and requires the development of an effective 'disaster plan' - a necessity for the long-term preservation of archival materials. The first half of the workshop will cover topics such as significance assessment, reducing risk and prioritising actions, response and recovery and salvage procedures.

In the second half of the workshop, attendees will work through hands-on disaster response scenarios. Second-hand items (from op-shops) that mimic APSC collection items will be used as example materials and salvaged from mock disaster scenarios. This practical aspect of the workshop will enable participants to see the practical out-workings of the disaster plan to be implemented.

Although this training is highly specialised, it will also provide attendees a larger picture of the broader concepts of collection care, significance assessment and materials conservation. As such it provides an invaluable professional development opportunity for anyone engaged in collection management and/or care and attendance from external organisations is welcome. We look forward to having attendees from other archives and libraries in Sydney. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Ingrid Ryan – apsc@ac.edu.au

The APSC would like to acknowledge the generosity of the National Library of Australia for administering and financing the Community Heritage Grant through which this workshop is being funded.



Beulah Heights Camp, Victoria, c.1950, Kerrie Tickner collection

#### **DONATIONS**

**Kerrie Ticker** has donated digital copies of her mother's photographic collection which document Beulah Heights Camp, Victoria c.1950 (example above).

**Simon Hattrell** donated his collection to the APSC in May, including a cassette recording of Dr. Eugene Scott on "The Baptism of the Holy Ghost," presented at Beulah Heights camp during the Christmas and New Year period 1969-1970; several AOG teaching manuals; two books authored by Leo Harris, founder of the Christian Revival Crusade and three books authored by Donald Gee - prominent author and teacher of the Pentecostal movement.

Due to the Melbourne campus relocation, the APSC has acquired further materials from **AC Melbourne**. We recently acquired various magazine titles to add to our comprehensive holding of Pentecostal-Charismatic and related denominations magazine collection, including:

Charisma 1985-1989; Alive 1998-2009; ACTS Theological Journal 2000-2001; Australian Impact 1996-2005 Leadership now 2000-2007; Minister's Bulletin 1988-1999; NZ Evangel 1987-2000 and Phronema 1986-2007.

Our most recent donation was made by **Janice Boddy** and includes a handwritten letter from Harold Bartholomew to Janice, along with Harold's autobiographic resume (dated July 2008).

#### **CATALOGUING**

We now have 500 items catalogued for public viewing on the APSC online catalogue. To date, APSC online hosts digital copies of all Commonwealth Bible College "Yukana" yearbooks, Australian Evangels up to 1955, and Good News periodicals. Catalogue records are available for a broad range of other materials from the APSC, providing context on our physical holdings. When searching our online collection, try using key terms such as "Baptism", "Assemblies of God," or "Richmond Temple."

You might want to check out the most recent additions to the catalogue (see catalogue number range, CHA2019.197-CHA2019.222) which include materials from the research collection of Dr. Barry Chant. Although his extensive research collection is not yet entirely catalogued, a small section of it has been made publicly available including his photographic collection of the early Pentecostal Church, Apostolic Church, Kraemer family and Fred Van Eyk. The digital copies have been uploaded with the permission of the donor.

https://ehive.com/collections/7383/australasian-pentecostal-studies-centre



First Pentecostal Church outside of Melbourne and first *purpose built* Pentecostal Church in Australia, c.1914 Cleveden, NSW, Barry Chant Collection.

We welcome any interested donors to get in touch with our archivist at apsc@ac.edu.au.