

APRIL - MAY 2020

THE AUSTRALASIAN PENTECOSTAL STUDIES CENTRE

Quarterly Newsletter - Autumn Edition



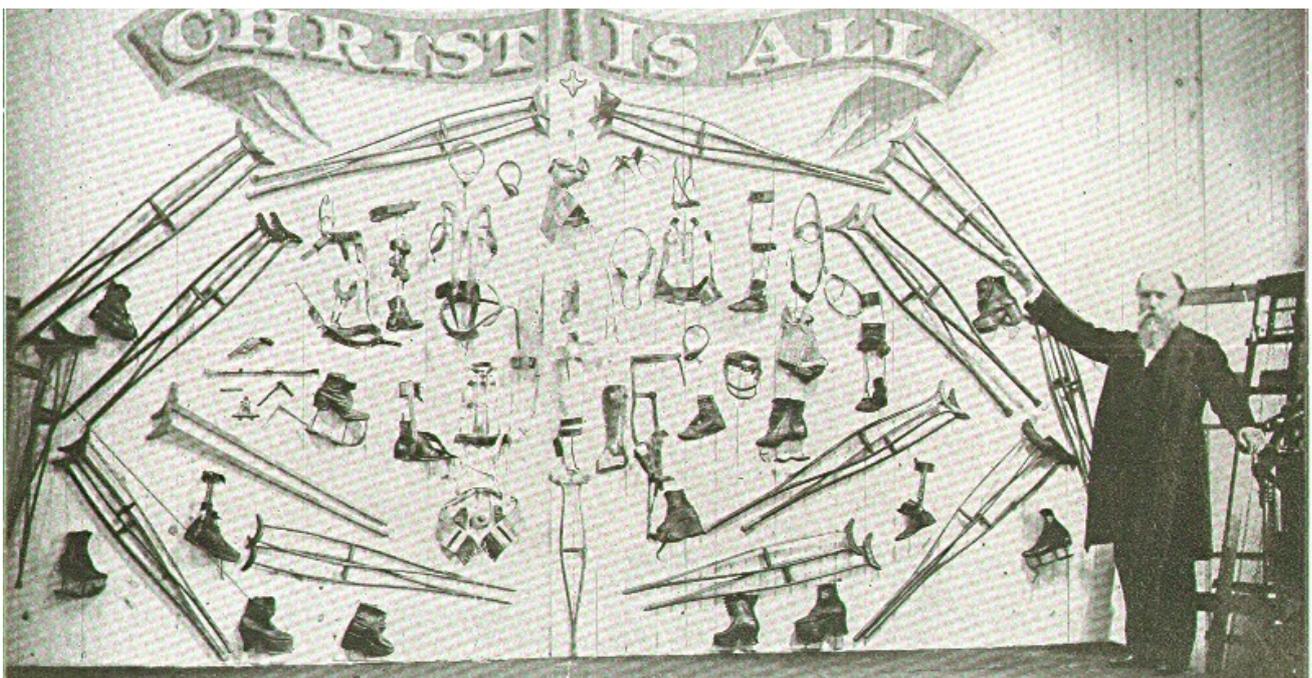
In 1875, Edinburgh-born emigrant, John Alexander Dowie, lamented the devastating effects of several epidemic diseases that plagued the east coast of Australia. At this time, the young Congregational pastor of 28 years was ministering to a congregation of 120 at a church in Newtown, Sydney. Likely the outcome of measles and scarlet fever, Dowie witnessed the suffering and passing of many of his flock. Desperate for God's intervention, he later recalled in a sermon;

“How my heart longed to hear some words from Him who wept and sorrowed for the suffering long ago, the Man of Sorrows and Sympathies. And then the words of the Holy Ghost inspired in Acts 10:38 stood before me all radiant with light revealing Satan as the Defiler and Christ as the Healer. My tears were wiped away...I saw the way of healing...and so I said, ‘God help me now to preach that word to all...’ [1]

In 1882, several decades before Pentecostalism had established itself as a denomination in its own right, Dowie commenced his public healing ministry in Australia. By the time Dowie left for America four years later, several hundred whom he came into contact with in Australia, were exploring the idea of divine healing and gifts of the Holy Spirit. By 1896, Dowie had established the Christian Catholic Church in Chicago and in 1901, the theocratic city of Zion, Illinois. Dowie's church soon had 40 000 members worldwide. Adherents of Dowie's ministry travelled as far from Australia to visit the newly established city.

Dowie was never a Pentecostal. In fact, in a letter to a friend in 1888 he expressed that his faith in Christ prevented him from desiring adherence to any one denomination or sect. Nevertheless, Dowie's increasingly influential and distinctive ministry promoting divine healing, baptism in and gifts of the Holy Spirit, awakened the interests of early Pentecostal pioneers all over the Anglo-sphere, including Australia, where he later returned. New Zealander, John A.D Adams and his wife Maggie who were later involved in ministry at Melbourne's Good News Hall, report that they were healed under Dowie's ministry in 1887. C.L Greenwood's initial affiliation with Pentecostalism was inspired by his exposure to Dowie's testimony. Not insignificantly, Greenwood later went on to establish the Pentecostal Church of Australia at Richmond Temple in Melbourne. The Booth-Clibborn family, renowned for their original affiliation with the Salvation Army, were exposed to Pentecostalism after joining Dowie's Zion movement in 1902. William and his wife Genevieve went on to establish their Pentecostal ministry in Australia in 1930. While, as historian Barry Chant enforces, the Dowie movement was in no way the single mechanism undergirding the conception of Pentecostalism in Australia, Dowie's emphasis on healing and gifts of the Spirit in particular, nurtured early expressions of Pentecostal thought and practice in both local and international contexts. It is certainly arguable that Dowie's ministry, although not without controversy, was a bridge for many into the Pentecostal Church. [2]

For a reference to the Zion movement and testimonies of healing please see AE, July 1926, p. 10
<https://files.ehive.com/accounts/7383/objects/files/da20dfeaabf44b03900ac6e56f09b43f.pdf>



[1] G. Lindsay, *The Sermons of John Alexander Dowie* (Dallas: The Voice of Healing, 1951), p. 28 in Barry Chant, *The Spirit of Pentecost: The Origins and Development of the Pentecostal Movement in Australia 1870-1939*, (Lexington KY: Emeth Press, 2011), p. 61.
 [2] Chant, "The South Land of the Spirit," in *The Spirit of Pentecost*, p. 4; "The Embryonic Spirit of Pentecost: John Alexander Dowie and the Ministry of Divine Healing (1875-1907)" p. 59 – 82.
 Page 1: "Zion Tabernacle," in *Leaves of Healing* vol. 1 no. 1 (Aug. 31, 1894): 1, obtained from <http://publications.newberry.org/faith-in-the-city/resource/zion-tabernacle>, April 2020.

PENTECOSTAL REFLECTIONS



Dr Jon Newton is currently undertaking a wide scale oral history project titled “Pentecostal Reflections.” The aim of the project is to provide a large data-pool for the future study of Australian Pentecostalism, curated by the voices of current and past Australian Pentecostal leaders. While the APSC already has a substantial collection of oral interviews, particularly given the detailed work of oral historian Prof Denise Austin, many older Pentecostal leaders have yet been interviewed. Furthermore, Jon indicates that while the early years of Australian Pentecostalism have been well studied and narrated by the work of historians including Dr Barry Chant and Prof Mark Hutchinson, “research on the period of its significant growth in Australia since 1970 is limited and fragmented.” As such, Jon’s interviews will probe insight into the causes for the denomination’s growth over the last 50 years along with providing a bedrock for subsequent studies of the denomination’s transformation since the 1970s. Jon seeks to also gain personal insight from his interviewees on their assessment of how Australian Pentecostalism is likely to develop in years to come. Jon is working closely with his project collaborator Tex Houston who is filming the interviews. So far, the team have conducted 70 interviews in Queensland, New South Wales and Victoria combined.



DONATIONS

Pastor Ralph Read Donation (via Neil Scott)

In December 2019, Ps Ralph Read made contact with the College through his daughter, Mrs Di McCarthy, indicating he would like to give the APSC his personal records of his time in ministry. The collection comprises ten boxes including sermon and study notes, photos, records of meetings, books he has authored and some personal correspondence. Ps Ralph Read was baptised in the Holy Spirit in the late 1930s and joined the Assemblies of God in Australia in 1948. He and his wife Iris pastored a number of churches in Australia including Orange (NSW), Oakleigh (VIC), Stafford (QLD) and overseas, including churches in Christchurch (NZ) and Richmond (Canada). Ps Read was the General Superintendent of the AOG in Australia from 1969 to 1977. He was also a former Principal of Commonwealth Bible College (now Alphacrucis College). The APSC is very grateful for the donation of this material which will contribute to the narrative of the Pentecostal church in Australia.

Liz Bailey digital donation

Liz Bailey has donated a series of scanned photographs from her collection including photos from Beulah Heights Pentecostal Camp which she attended as a teenager. Liz is a daughter of Tom Foster, one of the founders of the Christian Revival Crusade est. 1944.



Above: "Beulah", Photograph, date unknown, Ringwood Victoria, Liz Bailey Collection, APSC

Davidson and Enticknap Donation

The APSC has also recently acquired a box of Enticknap and Davidson archives via Dr Kevin Hovey. Carefully documented by Kevin and donors Heather Jones and Alan Davidson, the acquisition comprises two main collections which are detailed below. The donations and their contents relate to members of the Enticknap and Davidson families who were active in the early Pentecostal movement in Australia and became connected through the marriage of Agnes Enticknap to Hugh Davidson. Both donations are profound additions to the APSC's collection on early Pentecostal material, providing a window into the personal lives of these early influential figures and the broader brushstrokes of the movement's distinctives.

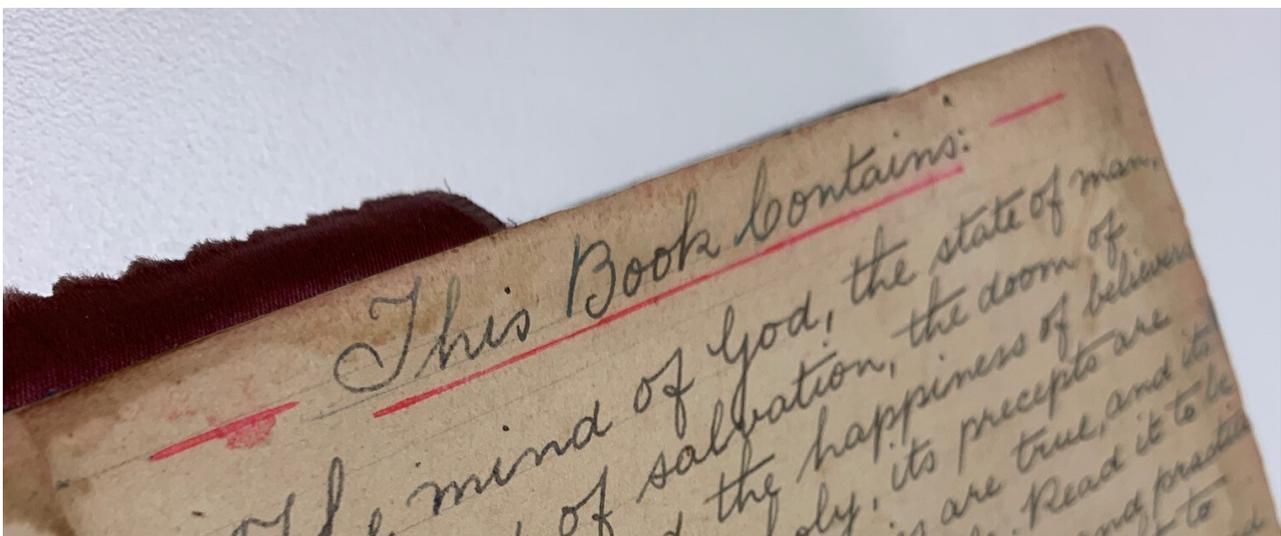
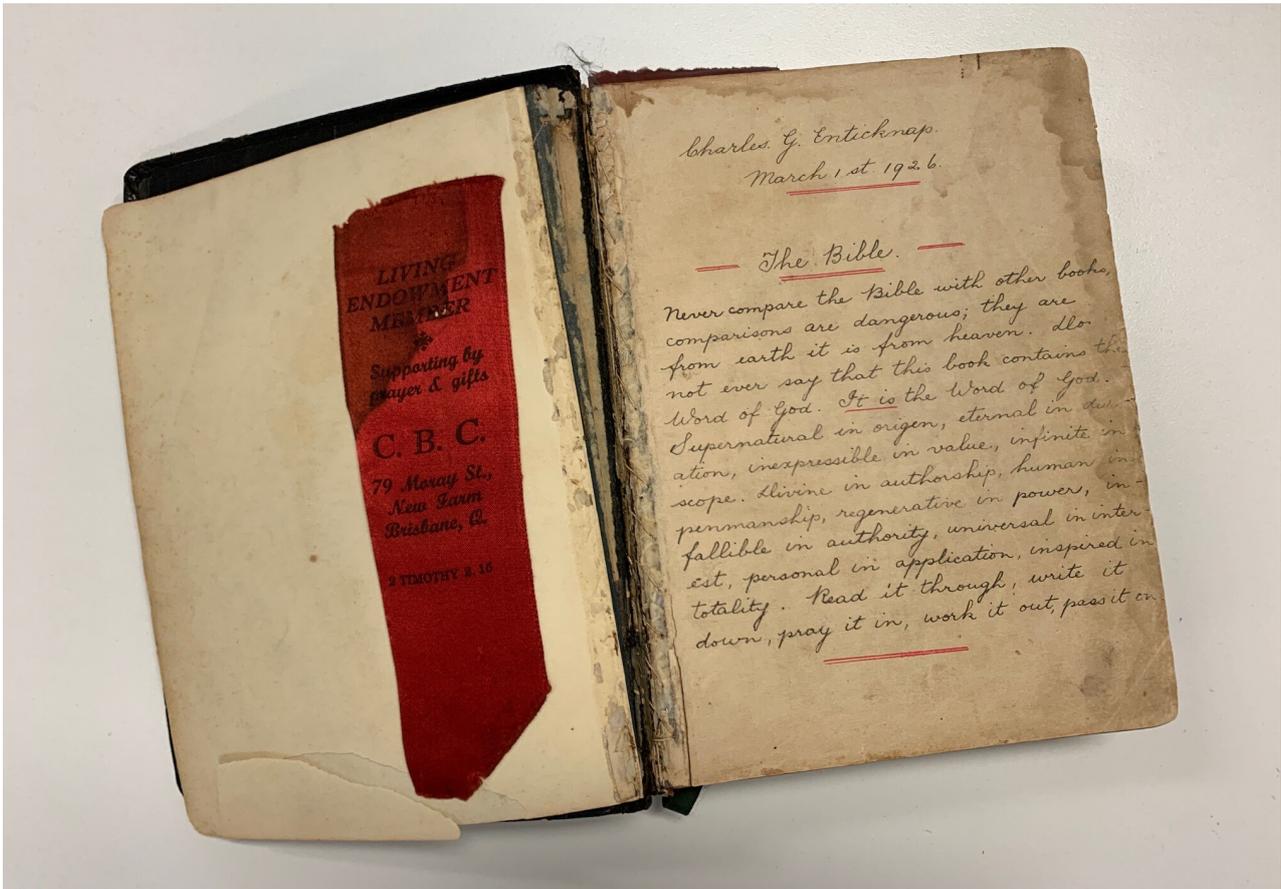
Heather Jones Donation, RE Charles & Alice Enticknap

Heather Jones (daughter of Bec Anderson – nee Enticknap) has donated items that belonged to her maternal Uncle, Charles Enticknap and his wife, Alice. Charles Enticknap was a pivotal figure in the early Pentecostal movement and Assemblies of God in Queensland. In 1924, at only eighteen years of age, Enticknap felt a certain call from God to go out and preach the gospel, subsequently moving from his family home to Cairns and then to Townsville. Although his living conditions meagre, Charles was unwavering in his ministry pursuits, preaching in people's homes and on street corners. Accompanying him was his preaching partner Jim Hannah and their portable organ which they often manoeuvred together on a single push bike. Eventually, Charles' siblings, Rhoda, Rebecca and Will joined to help him in his efforts. In 1927, after establishing a successful tent church following his visit to Melbourne and meeting A.C Valdez, Charles ministered in various towns within Queensland including Mackay, Rockhampton, Maryborough, Toowoomba and then Parkes NSW. Within a decade's time, Enticknap became Chairman of the AOG in Queensland and Vice-Chairman of the Commonwealth General Presbytery. [3]

[3] Chant, "ENTICKNAP, Charles", *The Spirit of Pentecost*, p. 342-344.

Heather's donation includes Charles' annotated preaching bible, dated March 1926, a tape documenting the early days of Pentecostalism in Australia and personal records relating to Charles and Alice Enticknap.

This donation forms a valuable addition to the archive's growing and unique collection of early Pentecostal sources. Interestingly, Enticknap's bible is not only unique in itself, but adds to an emerging collection of preaching bibles owned by significant figures of the Pentecostal movement.



Alan Davidson Donation, re Hugh and Agnes Davidson

Alan Davidson has donated an invaluable set of archives relating to his parents Agnes (nee Enticknap) and Hugh Davidson, along with his siblings Will and Charles Enticknap. These include:

- Documents relating to Hugh and Agnes' mission work in Papua New Guinea including financial reports.
- Davidson's papers on Polygamy and Kenosis.
- Letters of correspondence between Davidson and C.L. Greenwood (C.L. Greenwood was the Secretary-Treasurer of The Assemblies of God Foreign Mission Dept, c.1950s).
- Hugh Davidson papers including (but not limited to): Birth Certificate 1906; Ordination Credential for AOG Australia and sermon notebooks.
- Papers and documents about PNG ministry and cultural issues – Part 1.
- Australia/PNG Government documents
- Agnes Davidson's *Maprik Language Dictionary*
- Charles Enticknap's, "Birth and Growth of the Assemblies of God 1948" [Transcript of a collection of manuscripts written by Charles Golding Enticknap]
- Will Enticknap's notebooks c.1937 and bible studies.



Above: "Landing in Madang 1948 to start PNG Mission" Photograph, 1948, Madang PNG, Hugh Davidson Collection, APSC

Hugh and Agnes Davidson were missionaries in Daintree, Australia, from 1941 and then established the Assemblies of God mission in the East Sepik Region of Papua New Guinea in 1948.

Cataloguing

The Australasian Pentecostal Studies Centre's online catalogue continues to grow with new items such as the New Zealand Evangel now catalogued. Most of the New Zealand Evangels in our collection are still under copyright restrictions with editions primarily from the 1980s and 1990s. Resultingly, while catalogue records do not provide the digitised PDF (while our early Australian Evangel and Good News periodical records do) hard copies of the NZ Evangel are available in our physical collection and can be accessed on request. Nevertheless, catalogue records do still helpfully indicate topics covered within each NZ Evangel magazine, with keywords relating to persons, places and themes.

To wrap up...

Physical work in the Australasian Pentecostal Studies Centre such as acquiring, processing and scanning acquisitions, and organising and boxing documents will pause temporarily until further government notice on workplace and social distancing is provided in relation to COVID-19. Nevertheless, the archive's digital collection, which includes word searchable periodicals from the early Pentecostal movement is still accessible, along with access to the Australasian Dictionary of Pentecostal and Charismatic Movements. The availability of online sources is progressing steadily and if you wish to make a digital donation via email, please email apsc@ac.edu.au. As always, we are very thankful to all of our donors for their precious contributions to our collection!

Our archivist Ingrid Ryan will be taking maternity leave from mid-May this year, leaving the APSC in the very capable hands of Jess Austin! Ingrid would like to acknowledge the privilege it has been working under the Directorship of Denise Austin, our donors, and helping to manage the collection.

