METHODIST LEADERS:
THE PRESIDENTS GENERAL OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF
THE METHODIST CHURCH OF AUSTRALASIA, 1902-1977

Eric G. Clancy

The late Rev. Eric Clancy was the doyen of Methodist historians. This article was his last completed piece of research and was published in Church Heritage as a fitting memorial in the journal he established and edited from 1978 to 1993.

The Methodist Church of Australasia came into being on 1 January 1902. It brought together four Methodist bodies - the Wesleyan Methodist Church, the Primitive Methodists, the Bible Christians and the United Methodist Free Churches. In polity it largely followed the Wesleyan Methodist Church. This Church established a General Conference, meeting triennially, for Australasia (which then included New Zealand) in 1875, with Annual Conferences in the States.

The Rev. George Lane took office as President General in 1902, although the first General Conference was not held until 1904. In all there were 25 Presidents General: all of whom had previously served in their Annual Conferences as President prior to the time of their appointment. At the time of their election eleven were from Victoria, eight from New South Wales, three from Queensland, two from South Australia and one from Western Australia. The Rev. George Brown, aged 78 years, was the oldest to be elected President General and the Rev. W.F. Hambly, aged 55 years, was the youngest.

Fourteen were born in Victoria, seven in England, three in New South Wales, one in Tasmania and two in South Australia. It is interesting to note the wide variety of occupations of their fathers. Five were sons of Methodist ministers, one the son of a Baptist minister, and one the son of a Salvation Army officer. The rest of the occupations of the fathers were lawyer, joiner, printer, clog and pattern maker, sea captain, produce merchant, railway cleaner, farmer, master grocer, gaol warder and miner.

The Rev. Dr E.H. Sugden - the only one who trained for the ministry overseas, had a short ministry in England before coming to Australia. Twelve other ministers were University graduates. Eleven were awarded honorary doctorates.

Most (and probably all) had some work experience before entering the ministry. Four had lengthy terms of service in Overseas Missions, and one (the Rev. J.G. Wheen), while not having such experience, was to serve as General Secretary of Overseas Missions. One served in the Methodist Inland Mission. Eleven had appointments as Heads of Colleges and two had military chaplaincies.

The Rev. Henry Youngman and James Carruthers were the only Presidents-General whose entire ministry was in circuits. All other men served for some period in some executive work or in colleges or as superintendents of central missions. Four Presidents-General had children who entered the ministry and two (the Rev. A.J. Barclay and J.G. Wheen) had daughters who became heads of Methodist Ladies Colleges.

Rev. George Lane, DD 1902
Rev. William Henry Fitchett, BA, LLD 1904
Rev. William Williams, DD, FLS 1907
Rev. Henry Youngman 1910
Rev. George Brown, DD 1913
Rev. James Edward Carruthers, DD 1917
Rev. Alexander McCallum, DD 1920
Rev. Edward Holdsworth Sugden, MA, BSc, Litt.D 1923
Rev. John Gladwell Wheen 1926
Rev. Frank Lade, MA 1929
Rev. Albert Thomas Holden, BA, CBE, VD 1932
Rev. Arthur Johnstone Barclay 1935
Rev. Arthur Edward Albiston, MA, BD 1938
Rev. Harold Manuel Wheller, OBE 1941
Rev. John Wear Burton, MA, DD 1945
Rev. Herbert Garfield Secomb, DD 1948
Rev. George Calvert Barber, CBE, MA, BD, PhD 1951
Rev. Robert Bathurst Lew, OBE, ED, BA, DD 1954
Rev. Alfred Harold Wood, OBE, MA, DD, DipEd, FACE 1957
Rev. Hubert Hedley Trigge, OBE, MA, BD 1960
Rev. William Frank Hambly, MA, BD, DD 1963
Rev. Cecil Frank Gribble, OBE, MA, DipEd, LRSM 1966
Rev. Charles Kingston Daws, CBE, ED, FASA, FLCS, LCA 1969
Rev. Rex Collis Mathias, MA, DipReD. 1972

BRIEF BIOGRAPHIES OF PRESIDENTS-GENERAL, 1902-1977

George Lane, DD (31.7.1842- 26.8.1904)
B. Hitchen, Herts, England; s. Rev. Phillip Lane (Baptist minister); came with parents to NSW ca.1854. Converted at Goulburn under ministry of Rev. J. Watsford 1857. Local Preacher at Goulburn. 1864 Accepted candidate for ministry. Ordained 1868. 1903 DD (Victoria University of Canada).
Appointments: 1864-1865 Berrima; 1866-1867 Bourke St., Sydney; 1868-1870 Singleton; 1871-1873 Morpeth; 1874-1876 Maitland; 1877-1879 Bourke St., Sydney; 1880-1882 Newtown; 1883-1868 General Secretary, Home Mission Society; 1889-1891 Waverley; 1892-1894 Paddington; 1895-1891 Bourke St., Sydney; 1898-1900 St Leonard’s; 1901-1902 Paddington; 1903-1904 Property Secretary. 1902-1904 President-General, 1888 President,
William Henry Fitchett, BA, LLD

(9.8.1841 - 26.5.1928)

B. Grantham, Lincolnshire, England, s. William Fitchett (perfumer, hairdresser, clog and pattern maker) and Hannah (nee Hubbard). William, snr, was a Wesleyan Local Preacher, arr. Geelong, 1849.

After formal schooling at a Wesleyan denominational school, William worked on the land, afterwards in business in Ballarat. 1865 accredited Local Preacher. 1866 accepted candidate for ministry. 1870 Ordained.

1875 BA (University of Melbourne), 1899 LLD (Queen's University, Kingston, Canada).

Appointments: 1866-1867: Mortlake; 1868-1869 Echuca; 1870-1872 St.Kilda; 1873-75 Melbourne, Wesley; 1876-1878 Sandhurst (Bendigo); 1879-1881 Richmond; 1882-1928 President, Methodist Ladies College, Kew. 1904-1907 President-General, 1895 President, Victorian and Tasmanian Wesleyan Conference. 1902 President, Victorian and Tasmanian Conference. 1887-1892 Editor, Daily Telegraph, 1882-1922 Editor, Southern Cross, 1893-1902 Editor, Review of Reviews, 1904 to almost time of death, Editor, Life.

Publications: Deeds That Won the Empire (1897); Fight for the Flag (1898); The Tale of the Great Mutiny (1899); How England Saved Europe (1899-1900); Wellington's Men (1900); The Commander of the Hirondelle (1904); The Unrealized Logic of Religion (1905); Wesley and His Century (1906); The Beliefs of Unbelief (1908); The Great Duke, (2 vols, 1911); The New World of the South (2 vols, 1913); Ithuriel's Spear (1906); A Pawn in the Game (1907); What Methodism Stands For (1915); Where the Higher Criticism Fails (1922); The Adventure of an Ensign (1917); From Convict to Bushranger (1938), A Tattered Bible and a Mutilated Christ (n.d.).

Married Jemima, d. Thomas Shaw (wool expert) and Ann (nee Turner); she d. 15.9.1915; md (2) Edith (nee Wimble, widow of Rev. William Williams) 31.3.1920. Chn Frank, Alfred, Thomas, William, Nellie. Died at College, 26.5.1928.

William Williams, DD, FLS

(1848-1913)

B. The Burra, SA. 1869 Accepted as candidate for ministry in Victoria. 1873 Ordained. DD (Queen's University, Toronto, Canada), Fellow of Linnean Society.

Appointments: 1869 Daylesford; 1870 St.Arnaud; 1871-1872 Wandiligong; 1873 Eldorado; 1874-1876 Sale; 1877-1878 Bairnsdale; 1879-1881 Brunswick St, Melbourne; 1882-1884 Dunolly; 1885-1887 Ballarat, Lydiard St; 1888-1890 Bendigo; 1891-1893 Toorak; 1894-1896 North Melbourne; 1897-1899 Hawthorn; 1900-1901 Secretary, Twentieth Century Fund; 1902-1906 Geelong; 1907 Carlton; 1908-1911 Auburn; 1912-1913 Supernumerary.
1907-1910 President-General, 1897 President Victorian and Tasmanian Wesleyan Conference, 1895-1897 Chairman, Melbourne South District, 1902-1907 Chairman, Geelong and Ballarat District. Died 1913 at Auburn.

**Henry Youngman, DD**
(1849 - 11.3.1927)
B. Kidderminster, Leic., England, s. John Youngman (gaol warder) and Emma (nee Rollings). 1859 came with parents to Goulburn, where he became Local Preacher. 1870 Circuit assistant, Goulburn. 1871 Accepted as candidate for ministry. 1875 Ordained. 1902 DD. (Victoria University, Toronto, Canada)

**Appointments:** 1871 Oberon; 1872 Deniliquin; 1873-1874 Mudgee; 1875-1877 -Tamworth; 1878-1880 Adelong; 1881-1883 Newtown;1884-1886 Ashfield;1887 Wollongong; 1888-1890 Albert St, Brisbane; 1891-1893 Toowoomba; 1894-1895 Toowong; 1896-1899 Ipswich; 1900-1903 Gympie; 1904-1906 West End, Brisbane; 1907-1919 Connexional Secretary; 1920-1927 Supernumerary, living at Toowong.

1910-1913 President-General, 1907-1910 Secretary General, 1893,1898 President, Queensland Wesleyan Conference, 1907 President, Queensland Conference, 1892-1893 Chairman, Downs District, 1898-1899 Chairman, West Moreton District, 1900-1903 Chairman, Wide Bay and Burnet District, 1904-1906 Chairman, South Brisbane District. 1893-1914 Property Secretary, 1893-1896 Editor, *Christian Witness*; 1906-1914 Editor, *Methodist Leader*.

D. 11.3.1927 at Toowong.

**George Brown, DD**
(7.12.1835- 7.4.1917)
B. Barnard Castle, Co. Durham, England, s. George Brown (lawyer and Unitarian preacher) and Elizabeth (nee Dixon), sister of wife of Rev. Thomas Buddle. Educated at private school. Worked for short periods in chemist shop then draper’s shop, then ran away to sea. Arr. New Zealand, March 1855. At Onehunga converted, joined Methodist Church. 1860 Accepted candidate for ministry, 26.9.1860; ordained in Sydney. 1892 DD (McGill University, Canada).

**Appointments:** 1860-1873 Savaii, Samoa; 1874 Visiting colonies; 1874-1881 Duke of York Island, New Britain; 1882 Missionary Committee; 1883-1885 Bourke St, Sydney; 1886 Visiting England; 1887-1907 General Secretary, Overseas Missions; 1908-1917 Supernumerary residing at Gordon.

1913-1916 President-General, 1891 President NSW Wesleyan Conference, 1865-1873 Chairman, Samoa District, 1875-1880 Chairman, New Britain District, 1888-1891 Special Commissioner to Tonga.

**Publications:** *George Brown DD, Pioneer missionary and explorer: an autobiography* (1908); *Melanesians and Polynesians: their life histories described and compared* (1909). 1917 Vice-President, British and Foreign Bible Society; Vice President Australian Native Races Protection Society.

**James Edward Carruthers, DD**
(26.1.1848- 15.9.1932)
B. Sydney, s. John Carruthers (printer) and Charlotte (nee Prince). At early age moved with parents to Kiama. July, 1864 converted under ministry of Rev. Thomas Angwin. 1865 Local Preacher. August, 1867 entered Newington College. 1868 Accepted candidate, for ministry. 1872 Ordained. 1914 DD (Victoria University, Toronto, Canada)
Appointments: 1868 Narrabri; 1869-1870 Murrurundi; 1871 Tamworth; 1872-1873 Dungog; 1874-1876 Deniliquin; 1877-1878 Wagga Wagga; 1879-1881 Bega; 1882-1884 St Leonards; 1885-1887 Armidale; 1888-1890 Ryde; 1891-1893 West Maitland; 1894-1896 Lewisham; 1897-1899 Parramatta; 1900-1902 Stanmore; 1903-1905 Burwood; 1906-1909 Paddington; 1911-1912 Mosman; 1912-1913 Lindfield; 1914-1932 Supernumerary, residing at Mosman. 1917-1919 President-General, 1914-1916 Secretary General, 1895 President, NSW Wesleyan Conference, 1913 President NSW Conference, 1885-1887 Chairman, Armidale District; 1892-1893 Chairman, Maitland District; 1897-1899 Chairman, Parramatta District; 1913 Chairman, Sydney District, 1907-1920 Editor, The Methodist.

Publications: Memories of an Australian Ministry (1922); Lights in the Southern Sky (1924)

Married Mary McWilliam; she d. Jan. 1896; chn: Edward, Ethelwyn, Mabel (Mrs F.W. Hynes), Dorothy, Winifred.

B. Williamstown, Vic, s. Captain Daniel McCallum and Mary (nee Baxter). After becoming Local Preacher, he served as Home Missionary. 1884 accepted candidate for ministry. 1888 Ordained. 1923 DD (Toronto University, Canada).

Appointments:  
1884 Shepparton; 1885-1886 Brunswick; 1887 Oakleigh; 1888-1890 Ararat; 1891-1893 Yarra St, Geelong; 1894-1896 Geelong West; 1897-1898 Brunswick; 1899 Supernumerary; 1900-1902 Newtown, Tasmania; 1903-1906 Warrnambool; 1907-1909 Wangaratta; 1910-1920 Melbourne Central Mission; 1921 Resting; 1922-1930 Managing Treasurer, Supernumerary Fund; 1931-1933 Supernumerary, residing at Malvern. 1920-1922 President-General, 1917-1919 Secretary General, 1911 President, Victorian and Tasmanian Conference, 1910 President, Victorian and Tasmanian Conference, 1901-1902 Chairman, Tasmanian District, 1903-1906 Chairman, Western District, 1907-1909 Chairman, North-Eastern District, 1927-1932 Editor, The Spectator.

Married (1) Leila Williams, d. Rev. Spencer Williams, 1888. She died, Geelong, 1892; (2) Alice Booth, d. Abraham and Hannah (nee Holloway), 1894; chn: (1) Frank, Dora; (2) Colin, Jocelyn, Hugh, Donald. Died 19.1.1933, at Maryborough, Victoria.

Edward Holdsworth Sugden, MA, BSc, LittD (19.6.1854- 22.7.1935)  
B. Ecclesfield, Yorkshire, England, s. Rev. James Sugden (Wesleyan Minister) and Sarah (nee Holdsworth). Educated at Woodhouse Grove, school for sons of Wesleyan Ministers. 1870 won Gilchrist scholarship to Owens College, Manchester. 1872 BA; 1876 BSc (London University); 1888 another BA, BSc (Melbourne University). 1874 accepted candidate for ministry. 1878 Ordained. 1874-1880 Training and Assist. Tutor at Headingley Theological College, Leeds.

Appointments: 1881-1883 Bradford (Eastbrook); 1884-1886 Bradford (Great Horton); 1887 Travelling to Australia; 1888-1928 Master, Queen's College, Melbourne; 1929-1935 Supernumerary, residing at Kew. 1926-1928 President-General, 1906 President, Victorian and Tasmanian Conference, 1906 President, Wesley College, 1891 Founding Member, University Extension Board, 1914-1918 Chaplain, Royal Park Camp. Later Chaplain Caulfield Base Hospital. President, Melbourne College of Divinity., President of Trustees, Melbourne Public Library, Museum and Art Gallery.

Publications: Include translations from the classics, a metrical edition of the Psalms (1924); Wesley's Standard Sermons, (2 vols, n.d.), John Wesley's London (n.d.); The Reaction of Natural Science on our English Poets from Chaucer to Milton (Livingstone Lecture, 1925) ; A Topographical Dictionary of the Works of Shakespeare and His Fellow Dramatists (1925);
Studies in Faith (n.d.); with Sir Frederic Eggleston, George Swinburne, a biography (n.d.); Plautus (n.d.); Israel's Debt to Egypt (1928).


John Gladwell Wheen (27.4.1858- 13.11.1929)
B. Ecclesall, Yorkshire, England, s. Edwin Wheen (Master grocer of Sheffield) and Agnes (nee Gladwell). Educated at private schools. Member of town clerk's staff, later Secretary of Sheffield Public Hospital. Also Superintendent at Red Hill School. 1882 arr. Melbourne. 1883 Home missionary; 1884 accepted as candidate for ministry; 1887 Ordained. 

Appointments: 1884 Richmond; 1885 Penshurst; 1886 Melbourne South; 1887 Prahran; 1888-1889 Charlton; 1890-1892 Launceston; 1893-1895 Campbell Town, Tasmania; 1896 Westbury; 1897-1898 Queen’s College Debt Extinction and Endowment Fund; 1899-1901 Hawthorn; 1902-1905 Brunswick and Coburg; 1906-1907 Lydiard St, Ballarat; 1908 Transferred to New South Wales; 1909-1910 Secretary, Foreign Missions; 1911-1924 General Secretary, Foreign Missions; 1925-1929 Supernumerary, residing at Ashfield. 1926-1928 President-General, 1907 President, Victorian and Tasmania Conference, 1919 President, New South Wales Conference, 1905-1906 Secretary, Victorian and Tasmanian Conference. 

Publication: The King's Business and other prayers (n.d.)

Frank Lade, MA (21.12.1868- 9.10.1948)
B. Kilmore, Victoria, s. Stephen Lade (farmer) and Anne (nee McConchie). Worked on farm. Attended Queen's College, Melbourne: BA (1903), MA (1905). 1890 accepted candidate for ministry. 1896 Ordained.

Appointments: 1893-1894 St Helen's, Tasmania; 1895-1897 Prahran; 1898 Visiting England; 1899-1901 Chiltern; 1902-1905 Hawthorn; 1906 Malvern; 1907-1910 Hobart; 1911-1915 Kent Town (SA); 1916-1918 North Adelaide (Archer St); 1919-1920 Prohibition Lecturer; 1921 Unley; 1922-1926 Principal, Brighton College; 1927-1943 Principal, Wesley College, Adelaide; 1943-1948 Supernumerary, residing at Mitcham. 1929-1931 President-General. 1920-1928 Secretary General, 1916, 1936 President, South Australian Conference, 1907-1911 Chairman, Hobart District, 1916 Chairman, Adelaide North District, 1936 Chairman, Adelaide South District. 

Married Lillian Millard, 17.3.1898; she died 1933; (2) Amy Dunstan, 18.9.1940 at Malvern, Melbourne. Chn: 4 sons (Rev. Norman, Stuart and two others), Elsie, Phyllis, Fran. Died 9.10.1948, Adelaide.

B. Geelong, s. Thomas Holden (produce merchant) and Mary (nee Hague). Matriculated from Geelong College. Taught at Kyneton, where he became Local Preacher. 1885 Entered Ormond College, University of Melbourne; 1888 BA. 1886 accepted as candidate for ministry. 1891 Ordained.


Arthur Johnstone Barclay  
(26.3.1868-19.5.1953)  

Arthur Edward Albiston, MA, BD  
(19.8.1866-30.6.1961)  
B. Emerald Hill, Melbourne, s, Joseph Albiston (Wesleyan Methodist minister) and Elizabeth (nee Rowbotham). Educated at Wesley College. 1883 Senior prefect and dux. 1898 BA; Senior resident master. 1893 accepted as candidate for ministry. 1893 Ordained. 

Harold Manuel Wheller, OBE  
(26.1.1882:17.11.1979)  
B. Tarlee, SA, s. James Manuel Wheeler and Jane Gullidge. 1905 Accepted as candidate for ministry in Queensland. 1908 Ordained. 
John Wear Burton, MA, DD  
(8.3.1875 - 22.5.1970)

B. Lazenby, Yorkshire, England, s. Robert Burton (Joiner) and Maria (nee Bell). 1883 the family migrated to New Zealand, settling at Masterton.

John left school at 12 and worked as a fleece-picker and in a retail store, before becoming apprenticed to his father's wheelwright trade. 1892 became a Local Preacher. 1895 Accepted candidate for the ministry. 1901 Ordained. 1945 DD (Victoria University, Toronto, Canada).

Appointments: 1897-1898 Upper Thames, NZ (Paeroa); 1899-1900 Malvern (Darfield); 1901 Christchurch (Durham St); 1902-1910 Indian Mission, Fiji; 1911-1913 New Plymouth, NZ; 1914-1923 Victorian Conference Secretary, Foreign Missions; 1924 Sydney, Secretary for Literature and Organization, Overseas Missions; 1925-1944 General Secretary, Overseas Missions; 1945 Acting General Secretary, Overseas Missions; 1946-1970 Supernumerary, residing at Wahroonga.

1945-1947 President-General, 1942-1944 Secretary General, 1931 President of Conference. 1939-1940 Acting Secretary General, 1931-1934 Chairman, Sydney District, 1897 Attended inaugural meeting in Melbourne of Student Christian Movement of Australia and New Zealand, 1918 Director-General of YMCA's religious work in England and France.

1920 Helped initiate National Missionary Council, of which he was chairman for 11 years. 1923-1945 Editor, The Missionary Review, 1935 With the Rev. John Flynn originated concept of United Church in North Australia, which was achieved in 1946, 1947 Representative to Methodist Ecumenical Conference, Springfield, Mass. USA, 1948 One of two Commissioners on the South Pacific Commission. 1918 BA (Auckland), 1920 MA (Melbourne)

Publications: Fiji To-day (1910); The Call of the Pacific (1912); Brown Faces (1915); Navuso - Our Agricultural School in Fiji (n.d.); Our Task in Papua (1926); Some Suggestions to Circuit Foreign Missionary Secretaries (1926); Missionary Survey of the Pacific Islands (1930); Children of Papua (1927); The Pioneer - Dr George Brown (n.d.); Brown and White in the South Pacific (1944); Modern Missions in the South Pacific (1949); The Atlantic Charter and the Pacific Races (n.d.); Crusade For Christ (n.d.); The First Century of Missionary Adventures (1955); Why I believe in Christ (n.d.); (with Wallace Deane) A Hundred Years in Fiji (1936). Prolific writer of reviews and articles in The Missionary Review.

Married. Florence Hadfield, 24.4.1902 (she d.1953); chn: Clare, John, Florence, Rewa. Died Wahroonga, 22.5.1922.

Herbert Garfield Secomb, DD  
(22.6.1886- 22.7.1980)

B. Horsham, s. Rev. William Edward Secomb (Bible Christian minister) and Sarah (nee Sands). 1907 won Government scholarship for ministry. Trained at Queen's College. 1912 Ordained.

Appointments: 1908-1909 Malvern; 1910 Nagambie; 1911 Brighton; 1912-1914 Scottsdale (Tas.); 1915-1918 Hobart (Sandy Bay); 1919-1923 Warracknabeal; 1924-1927 Shepparton; 1928 Bendigo; 1929-1941 Director, Church Building Fund; 1942-1956 Managing Treasurer, Supernumerary Fund; 1957-1980 Supernumerary, residing at Canterbury.

1948-1950 President-General, 1938 President of Conference, 1937 Secretary of Conference. 1924-1928 Chairman, Goulburn District, 1929-1962 Secretary, Epworth Hospital, 1948 Representative to World Council of Churches Inaugural Assembly, 1950-1955 President, Queen's College Council, 1947 Representative to World Methodist Conference, Springfield, Mass. USA.

Married Lilian Kate Warren; chn: William, Keith, Dorothy, (Rev.) Howard. Died 22.7.1980 at Box Hill.

George Calvert Barber, CBE, MA, BD, PhD  
(24.1.1893- 31.7.1967)

B. Bendigo, s. of Rev. H. Bride Barber and Louisa (nee Pickett). 1907 won Government Scholarship to Wesley College, Melbourne. Worked as accountant in Union Bank of
Robert Bathurst Lew, OBE, ED, BA, DD
(2.1.1891 - 20.10.1970)
B. Tamworth, s. Robert Lew (railway cleaner) and Annie (nee Jelbart). Educated at Lithgow and Newcastle. 1911 Accepted candidate for ministry. 1916 Ordained at Wesley's Chapel, London.

Appointments: 1913 Coraki; 1914 Lismore; 1915 Gloucester; 1916-1919 On Active Service with AIF; acted as stretcher-bearer at Passchendale, Belgium; served as Young Mens’ Christian Association representative with 9th Infantry Brigade; 1.5.1918 commissioned honorary Lieutenant; from March 1919, chaplain to AIF; 1921 resting; 1922-1925 Waverley; 1926-1928 Ballina; 1929-1932 Haberfield-Five Dock; 1932-1935 Katoomba; 1936-1940 Lismore; 1941 Wollongong; 1942-1943 Chaplain, AMF; 1944 Chatswood; 1945-1947 Manly; 1948-1959 Principal, Methodist Ladies College, Burwood; 1960-1970 Supernumerary, residing at Chatswood. 1954-1956 President-General, 1951-1953 Secretary General, 1949 President of Conference. 1946-1948 Secretary of Conference, 1936-1940 Chairman, North Coast District, 1954 Delegate to World Methodist Council, Lake Junaluska, North Carolina, USA, 1956 Chairman, Australian Commission for Inter-Church Aid and Service to Refugees. 1956 DD (Baldwin-Wallace College, Ohio). 1959 Appointed CBE.


Alfred Harold Wood, OBE, MA, DD, DipEd, FACE

Appointments: 1921-1923 Peak Hill; 1924-1926 Principal, Tupou College, Nuku'olofa; 1937-1938 Concord NSW; 1939-1966 Principal, Methodist Ladies College, Melbourne; 1967-1989 Supernumerary, during which time he was part time minister at Deepdene. 1957-1959 President-General, 1954-1956 Secretary General, 1952 President of Conference. 1951 Secretary of Conference.

Publications: Church Unity Without Uniformity: A Study of Seventeenth Century English Church Movements and of Richard Baxter's Proposals for a Comprehensive Church (1963);
The "Reservation" concerning Bishops and the Concordat with the Church of South India (n.d.); History and Geography of Tonga (1972); Overseas Missions of the Australian Methodist Church, vol. 1 Tonga and Samoa (c1975); vol. 2, Fiji (1978); vol. 3, Fiji-Indian and Rotuma (1978); vol. 4, North India (1980); vol. 5 (with Margaret Reeson) Papua New Guinea Highlands (1987); The Uniting Church of Australia (Presbyterian-Congregational-Methodist) (1961); The Proposed Basis of Union explained for Methodists (n.d.); Our Heritage in the Uniting Church (1977); Not Lost But Gone Before: Memories of One Hundred Christian Men and Women (1987); articles “Our Heritage in Charles Wesley's Hymns” and “Charles Wesley's Hymns on Holiness” in James S. Udy and Eric G. Clancy (eds), Dig or Die (1981).

Married Dr Olive Kelynack O'Reilly, 5.4.1924; (2) Dora Louie Walker, 23.4.1977; chn: Janet Wemyss (md. Rev. Howard Secomb), Mary, Linnell, Walter O'Reilly, Elizabeth Olive (Dr), Monia Cresswell, Rev. Dr Harold D’Arcy. Died 22.8.1989.

Hubert Hedley Trigge, OBE, MA, BD (6.7.1889- 21.3.1965)
B. Melbourne, son of John Trigge (book-binder) and Annie, nee Corben. 1913 Accepted candidate for ministry. 1913-1917 Training at Queen's College. During this period he graduated BA. 1917 Ordained. 1921 MA (Melbourne); 1923 BD (Melbourne).
Appointments: 1917-1922 Chaplain, Royal Australian Navy; 1923 Toorak; (Vic); 1924-1959 Master, Kings College, Brisbane; 1955 Professor of Biblical Exegesis; 1960-1965 Supernumerary, residing at Taringa.
1960-1962 President-General, 1957-1959 Secretary General, 1942 President of Conference. 1941 Secretary of Conference, 1961 Delegate to World Methodist Conference, Oslo.
Delegate to World Council of Churches Assembly, New Delhi. Member of Joint Commission on Church Union. 1964 appointed OBE.

William Frank Hambly, MA, BD, DD (11.4.1908 -15.4.1972)

B.Ballarat, trained as Pharmaceutical Chemist. 1924 Accepted candidate for ministry. 1924 - Training at Queen’s College. Graduated MA (Hons). 1931 Ordained.
Appointments: 1929 Federal Inland Mission, Alice Springs, as singing evangelist; 1930 Cobram; 1931 Shepparton; 1932 Victorian Home Mission Deputation; 1933-1935 Hobart; 1936-1938 Launceston; 1939-1942 Principal, Tupou College, Tonga; 1943-1945 Director of Education, Tonga; 1946-1948 Assistant General Secretary, Overseas Missions; 1949-1973 General Secretary, Overseas Missions; 1974-1995 Supernumerary, residing at Avalon, later Dee Why. 1966-1968 President General, 1964-1966 Secretary General, 1962 President of

B. Llanelly, Vic., son of Thomas Daws (miner) and Emily (nee Gainsberg). Educated at Eaglehawk and Bendigo; worked as clerk, then accountant in grocery store. 1928 accepted candidate for ministry; 1933 Ordained. 


Rex Collis Mathias, MA, DipREd (9.1.1907- 7.4.1986)


Publications: Let’s Talk Gambling Out (n.d.); Discovery (1960); Plan for Living, vols 1-3 (1944,1945,1948); The Protestant Approach to Politics (n.d.); Should You say No to Alcohol? (1964); Mission to the Nation (1986); Why join the Church? (n.d.).

Married Helen Watters, 1934; chn: Gwynneth, Elwyn. Died 7.4.1986 at Ocean Grove.


*Publications:* *Christian Marriage and the Family* (n.d.); *A Man and His Mate* (n.d.).