

**FATHERS AND BRETHREN:
THE MODERATORS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA, 1901-1977**

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Originally published in Church Heritage, 12, 2 (September 2001), pp. 124-139.

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On 24 July 1901, the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia met for the first time. It brought together the six hitherto separate colonial Presbyterian Churches. As with political federation, the question of leadership arose, although a Moderator in the Presbyterian system had been seen mainly as someone who chaired meetings of a church court; the leadership was symbolic and inspirational rather than institutional. Though Edmund Barton was not a premier, he was commissioned as first Prime Minister because of his role in bringing about federation. Similarly, in the newly federated Presbyterian Church, the man who had been convener of the Union Committee for nearly a decade and had steered the process to its successful end, was given the Chair: the Rev. John Meiklejohn. Meiklejohn and his 32 successors until the Presbyterian Church became part of the Uniting Church 76 years later are the subject of this study.

In some ways, Meiklejohn was typical. The statistically average Moderator-General (as the national-level Moderator was usually called) was a minister aged 63 at the time of his election. David Bruce at 79 was the oldest; Ronald Macintyre at 53 the youngest. Bruce had been a minister for 50 years, Macintyre for only 26. On average, the Moderators-General had been ordained over 34 years before. W.S. Rolland and F.W. Rolland were the only father and son to fill the role. Rolland senior had been 38 years old when ordained; Donald Cameron only 23.

The typical Moderator-General was ministering in NSW or Victoria when elected. He was either Scottish-born or a first generation Australasian of Scottish descent. Over half were born in the UK: all four of these not born in Scotland were actually of immediate or not too distant Scottish descent. Only fourteen were born in Australia. The first Australian-born was only elected in 1928 (not counting Macintyre 1916, who was whisked back to Scotland at one year old and returned at age 40), whereas the last Scottish-born Moderator-General was elected as late as 1964. None was born in Tasmania.

The typical Moderator-General was University-educated, indeed only two or three were not. He was the son of a farmer, minister, clerk or teacher (67% of those fathers whose occupation is known fall into one of these four categories; over a third were farmers' sons). He had already been Moderator of a state or colonial Assembly and was deeply enmeshed in the administration of the Church on state and national level. (Only three of them had not been Moderators at state or colonial level.) His theological pedigree was most likely Free Church of Scotland, although this was decreasingly a guarantee of complete Calvinistic orthodoxy as the twentieth century progressed. His ancestors were most likely from Lanarkshire (of the four born in that county, two were actually born in Biggar!) or other parts of the Scottish lowland belt. They were all married, but a couple of them had no children. Some of their children went on to notable careers, including J.L. Rentoul's daughters and the son of Patrick

Murdoch. Between them, they had 25 BA or MA degrees, three BDs and 16, mostly honorary, DDs. Four or five had significant New Zealand connections (as did the last Clerk of Assembly, the Rev. L. Farquhar Gunn). However, David Bruce is the only man to have been Moderator of the churches of both Australia and New Zealand.

The Australian Presbyterian Churches were largely independent of “home supply” for ministers by 1901, so the extent and duration of the Scottish domination of the election of Moderators-General is interesting. It tends to raise again the issue in Australian Presbyterian history concerning identity versus efficacy of outreach in a changing Australian society and suggests an even longer persistence of Scottishness. Not least is this the case with respect to the strongly persistent imperial loyalty demonstrated by some of these men. (See the publications of G.R.S. Reid and R.G. Macintyre, for instance.) Even the last two, McKay (whose parents were Irish and German) and Wood, native-born and very Australian, had a deep interest in Scottish and Scottish-Australian culture and history. Fred McKay wanted to study in Edinburgh and Pat Wood was a keen Caledonian and wrote a book in retirement on the Scots in Geelong.

MODERATORS OF THE General Assembly of Australia 1901-1977

Rev. John Meiklejohn, MA, DD.....	1901
Rev. Alexander Hay, MA, DD.	1902
Rev. David Bruce, DD	1903
Rev. P.J. Murdoch, MA	1905
Rev. T.E. Clouston, BA, DD	1906
Rev. Peter Robertson	1907
Rev. John Ferguson	1909
Rev. W.S. Rolland	1910
Rev. J. Laurence Rentoul, MA, DD	1912
Rev. George Davidson, MA, DD	1914
Rev. Ronald G. Macintyre, CBE, CMG, MA, BD, DD	1916
Rev. John Walker, DD	1918
Rev. James Gibson, MA	1920
Rev. John Mathew, MA, BD, DD	1922
Rev. James Crookston	1924
Rev. R. Scott-West, D.D.	1926
Rev. Alexander Crow	1928
Rev. Donald A. Cameron, MA	1930
Rev. G. R. S. Reid, MA, DD	1933
Rev. John Mackenzie, MA, DD.....	1936
Rev. John Flynn, OBE, DD	1939
Rev. R. Wilson Macaulay, BA, DD	1942
Rev. Alexander C. Grieve, BA	1945
Rev. Julian R. Blanchard, CBE, BA, DD	1948
Rev. Richard Bardon, BA	1951
Rev. Sir Francis W. Rolland, OBE, CMG, MC, MA	1954
Rev. David J. Flockhart, MA	1957
Rev. Alan C. Watson, MA, DD	1959
Rev. Hector Harrison, OBE, MA, BD	1962
Rev. William Young, BA	1964
Rev. Norman Faichney, BA.....	1967

Rev. James Frederick McKay, AC, CMG, OBE, MA, BD.....1970, 1971
 Rev. G.A.M. Wood, BA, OBE, OAM 1973, 1974

BRIEF BIOGRAPHIES OF THE MODERATORS-GENERAL, 1901-1977

Meiklejohn, John MA, DD

(20.8.1841- 28.9.1915)

b. Larkhall, near Hamilton, Lanarkshire, Scotland; from Duke Street UP Church Glasgow, commenced 1867 Session UP Hall, Probationer 1893; U Glasgow, M.A. 1870, Hon. D.D. 1901.

ord. Kirkmuirhill 14.4.1874-2.10.1888, resd because of health.

Rec'd PCV 1889: ind South Melbourne (Dorcas St) 1.4.1889-1911.

Convener of (federal) Union Comm 1892-1901; President Council of Churches Melbourne 1900; President Vic branch Astronomical Society; Professor, Systematic Theol, Theol Hall.

To Qld: Principal, Emmanuel College 1911-14 (without pay), retd

d. Melbourne. Mod-Gen, 1901-3.

Hay, Alexander , MA, DD

(22.11.1830-9.9.1918)

b. Perth, s. James Hay and Mary nee Brodie; educ at night school; pupil teacher. Relief Church background (1847 to U.P.); U St Andrews 1850-52 MA (1853), Hon DD (1884). From Perth (North) to 1853 Session U.P. Hall (scholarship).

Lic. 1857; Ord Leitholm 13.7.1859 – 26.9.1866; Cupar, Boston Ch. 26.9.1866 –14.6.1870 - £400 farewell gift

South Bris. 1871-5, Rockhampton 12.3.1876-1913, retd.

Mod Qld 1875; 1891, 1901, 1909; Mod federal Assembly 1899; Mod-Gen (GAA) 1902-3; Clerk (Qld) 1881-3, 1886-91.

Publications: *The Presbyterian Church: its principles and mission* (Brisbane 1891), *The Jubilee Memorial of the Presbyterian Church of Queensland* (Brisbane 1899)

Bruce, David DD

(1824-15.12.1911)

b. Cramond, Mid-Lothian, s. David Bruce (carpenter, later farmer) and Margaret nee Robertson, family moved to Aberargie, Abernethy, Perthshire.; bro. Rev. Prof. A.B. Bruce of Glasgow. Free Ch of Scot , educ. U Edinburgh (MA 1847) and New College; m. Mary Alexandra Sinclair, 18.10.1859, 3s, 4dau.

Ord. Presb. Aberdeen 4.1.1853, asst Aberdeen. Commissioned by Col Comm FCS to Auckland NZ. Arr per *Simlah*, 10.6.1853: St Andrew's Auckland 1853-1877 (extension work from 1862, when obtained a C&S). In UK on leave of absence 1870-72 securing additional ministers. Remained "Senior Minister" until 1892. church Agent NZ 1877-81. From 1881, leader-writer for *New Zealand Herald*, editor *New Zealand Times*, wrote for *New Zealand Observer*. Founded *New Zealand Presbyterian Magazine*, 1872; Mod NZ 1866.

NSW 1889: w.c. (St Leonards area); North St Leonard's (Crow's Nest) 1891 (ind. 1893) – 1911.

d. Killara. Member of Council St Andrew's College 1899-1911. Mod. NSW 1897; Mod Gen 1903-5; Hon DD (St Andrews) 1891.

Biography: *DNZB*, vol. 2.

Murdoch, Patrick John MA

(10.6.1850-1.7.1940)

b. Pitsligo, Aberdeenshire, in FCS Manse, s. Rev. James Murdoch and Helen nee Garden, educ. U Aberdeen., New College, Edinburgh (scholarship). m. 1882 Annie Brown (dau Rev. G. Brown); father of Sir Keith, grandfather of Rupert Murdoch, media barons, and cousin of Prof. Sir Walter Murdoch.

Asst to J.O. Dykes, Regent Square, London; ord. Cruden August 1878 – 1883. Arr. Vic. 1884: ind. West Melbourne 7.10.1884-16.8.1887; Camberwell Trinity 30.8.1887-31.12.1928 [Burwood detached 1897]; WA: Supply Albany 1889.

Mod. Vic 1898; Mod Gen 1905-7

Publications: *Sidelights on the Shorter Catechism* (Melbourne, 3rd ed 1918), *Central Doctrines of the Christian Faith* (Melbourne 1922, *Laughter and Tears of God* (war sermons, Melbourne 1915).

Clouston, Thomas Edward BA, DD (21.4.1848-26.8.1913)

b. 4 Queen's Square, Dublin (of Orkney descent), s. Thomas Bennett Clouston (customs clerk) and Lavinia nee Dedrickson. Educ at home, Great Brunswick Street School 1858-62, Wesleyan Connexional School St Stephen's Green 1862-65, Trinity Coll, Dublin, 1865-69, teacher of maths Coleraine Academical Institution 1870-72, BA 1872, Presb College Belfast 1872-75 (while there taught at Ladies' Collegiate School). Marr (1) Rachel Welsh of Kircubbin 21.8.1877, (D. 28.12.1888), 1s, 3 dau; (2) Mary E. McKaughan of St Mary's 11.9.1894, 1s, 1 dau.

PCI: Lic. Presh Dublin 29.4.1875; Portaferry, Co. Down A&S ord. 1875- (sole min. 12.11.1878) - 16.9.1880.

To NSW, arrived 15.1.1881; adm to PCNSW 25.10.1881; Penrith & St Mary's 1881-1891; Glebe 1891-1909 [in UK for much of 1886 recruiting]; Prof of Exegetical Theol. of N.T. & Historical Theol. 1910-1913; *Locum tenens* St Paul's Brisbane 1896 (4 weeks)

Mod NSW 1890; Mod-Gen 1906-7. Member of Council St Andrew's College 1894-1913. DD Presbyterian Theological Faculty of Ireland 1900.

Robertson, Peter (1840- 21.7.1916)

b. Symington (near Biggar), Lanarkshire, Scotland, s. William Robertson and Joan nee Veitch; edu U Aberdeen; FCS, temperance work, evangelism, missionary to blind in Scotland. Sent by FCS as catechist; studied for min. under Rev. W.L. Nelson.

Dalby (HM-catechist) 1874-1875, ord. Dalby 1875-1877, St Stephen's Ipswich 23.7.1877-1916.

Mod Qld 1886; Mod-Gen 1907-9

Ferguson, John (27.12.1852-1.3.1925)

b. Shiels, Aberdeenshire; s. of William Ferguson (farmer) & Elizabeth nee Mitchell; FCS; in 1862, to Otago NZ, educ. New College, Edinburgh - pupil teacher and lab asst. Lic Presb of deer; marr. Isabella Adie 1881, chn (incl Sir John Ferguson, judge and bibliographer and Rev. E.A. Ferguson), great-grandfather of Rev. John Ferguson.

To NZ, recd Synod Otago 14.1.1880: mission to miners Tuapeka 1880; ord & ind. First Church Invercargill 20.5.1881-1894.

To PCNSW 1894: St Stephen's Sydney 12.7.1894-1.3.1925, d. Sydney.

Home Chaplain WWI; Steel Lecturer in Pastoral Theology 1899. Strong opponent of Boer War. Mod Gen 1909-10

Publication: *Fifty Years Work for Christ in Sydney* (Sydney 1899, 32 pp.)

Rolland, William Stothert (1846-10.1.1920)

b. Edinburgh, s. James Rolland and Maria Rebecca nee Stothert; To NZ 1859, manager of sheep property, Blackstone Hill north of Dunedin 1861-73. M. Margaret Louise Campbell (dau of Rev. A.J. Campbell), father of Rev. Sir Frank Rolland [1878-1965], also Mod-Gen. [1954-57].

To Geelong 1873: Geelong College, asst. at St George's Geelong; educ. PCV Theol Hall 1881-84, HM work in Prahran, ord. Prahran 3.3.1884-1914, retd. 1915, Emeritus. Founded Deaconess Institute [Rolland House].

Mod Vic 1904, Mod. Gen. 1910-2.

Publication: *Crooked Paths: the Responsibilities of the Christian Citizen as to the Racecourse and Gambling* (sermon, Melbourne, 1894)

Rentoul, John Laurence OBE, MA, DD

(6.7.1846-15.4.1926)

b. Londonderry, Co. Derry, Pres Ch Ireland, 4th s of Rev. James Buchan Rentoul (1801 -) of Garvagh Main Street and Sarah nee Wilson, dau of Rev. William Wilson of Crossgar; grandson of rev. James Rentoul of Ray; brother of Rev. Alexander (Dublin), Rev. Alfred (Longford) and Rev. Robert (Clonmel). educ. Q.U.Belfast, MA (1st cl Hons & medal), QU Dublin, Pres. College Belfast 1868-71; U Leipzig. 1871-72.

PC England ord St George's Southport, Lancashire 17.10.1872-1879.

Arr. Vic.1879, to PCV: St George's East St Kilda 1879-1884.

Professor Hebrew & OT 1883-88, NT Exegetics & Christian Philos, Ormond Coll. 24.3.1884-15.4.1926. Principal Theol Hall 1906-26. Mod Vic 1894, Mod Gen 1912-14.

Publications: *The Presbyterian Church* (Ballarat 1895), *The Early Church and the Roman Claim* (2nd ed., Melbourne, 1896), (ed.) *The Church at Home: Prayers for Australian Family Worship* (London 1907), *From Far Lands: Poems of North and South* (London 1914), *At Vancouver Well and other Poems of South and North* (London 1917), *Britain, my Mother Song* (Melbourne), *The British Empire & Her Great War* (1917)

Biography: *ADB*, 11, pp. 363-365.

Davidson, George MA, DD

(5.1.1856-15.7.1936)

b. Dundee, educ West End Academy Dundee, Clerk; U St Andrews MA (1879), DD (1910); from Wishart UP Ch, Dundee to UP Theol Hall; m.. Jessie Lundie, 2s

Ord. Allars, Hawick 6.11.1883-7.12.1897.

To S Aust 1898: Adelaide, Flinders St. 1.3.1898-Dec. 1928.

Mod SA 1901, 1907, 1927; Mod Gen 1914-16.

Publication: *The Presbyterian Church: a short sketch of its history and principles* (Melbourne 1902).

Macintyre, Ronald George CBE, CMG, MA, BD, DD **(30.8.1863- 22.6.1954)**

b. Melbourne, s. Angus Macintyre (grazier, Roman Catholic, d. 1864) & Catherine nee Cameron; educ Fort William Public School, 3 years in Solicitor's office (1880-83?). U Edinburgh & New College (MA 1886, BD 1889, DD 1919); m. (1) 1.8.1895 at Edinburgh, Christina Cromb, no issue, (2) 12.2.1935 Alice Mary Parkinson nee Manning, no issue.

Student Asst Edinburgh St Bernard's FC 1886, lic. Presb Abertarff 1889, Asst Galashiels 1889. To PCE: ord. Andrew's Birkenhead June 1890-1895; to UFCoS: Maxwelltown June 1895-Aug 1903, resd.

To PCNSW: Woollahra St Columba's 17.8.1903-12.5.1909; Professor of Systematic Theology, Theol Hall St Andrew's College 12.5.1909- 31.5.1927, Prof Emeritus.

Mod Gen 1916-18. Director of Recruiting NSW 1916-18. Managing Director, Burnside Homes 1927-34; d. Scottish Hospital, Paddington.

Publications: *Elijah and Elisha* (Edinburgh 1900), *Training for the Ministry* (Sydney 1904, 8pp), *Rev. W.S. Frackleton versus the Presbyterian Church of Queensland: a synopsis of this case* (Sydney 1909, 8 pp.), *Jesus Christ and Modern Criticism* (Sydney 1911, 15 pp.), *Peace Thanksgiving: laus deo* (Sydney 1919, 15 pp.), *The other Side of Death: a Study of Christian Eschatology* (London, 1920), *Centenary of John Dunmore Lang: address on the Occasion of*

the Centenary Celebration (Sydney 1923, 16 pp.), *Comfort and Courage in Time of War* (London 1923, 23 pp.), *The Theology of Dr Angus: a critical review* (Sydney 1934, 34 pp.), *The Substance of the Christian Faith* (Sydney 1936, 115 pp.), *Recall to God* (Sydney 1938), *The Story of Burnside* (Sydney 1947, 76 pp.).
Biography: *ADB*, 10, pp. 286-287.

Walker, John DD

(17.4.1855 - 14.9.1948)

b. Oxton, Cheshire, England, s of Scots parents, David Walker (builder) & Jemima Elizabeth nee Blackie. Educ Birkenhead, merchant's clerk Liverpool 5 years. m. 13.6.1883 at Richmond NSW, Jessie Dight (d. 1932), 5 s (all in AIF, 3 killed), 1 dau (AIF nurse).
Evangelist worked with Moody & Sankey 1875 & Henry Drummond.
To NSW 1876 because of health; Theol. Hall St Andrew's College 1879-81; Licd Presb Syd. at Burwod, 1881; Asst, Shoalhaven 1881; Ord. 1882, Germanton (Holbrook) 1882-8; Woollahra 31.7.1888-14.5.1902; Assembly's Cmsnr, Centenary Fund 1899 (f/t 1902-1907).
To PCV: Ballarat St Andrew's 1908 [C & S, sole min 1913] - 27; Troopship Chaplain 1917; To ACT: St Andrew's Canberra 17.2.1927-31.12.1933
Mod NSW 1902; Mod-Gen. 1918-20. Ed. *NSW Presbyterian, Presbyterian Messenger* (Woolahra), 1893-99.
Biography: *ADB*, 12, pp. 362-363.

Gibson, James MA, DD

(27.7.1862-28.7.1942)

b. Whitecastle farm, Biggar, Lanarkshire, s. Robert Gibson (farmer) and Agnes nee Telfer; educ Liberton parish school, U Edinburgh 1881-, UP Hall, vacation preaching Greystones & Kilpedder Ireland; licensed by UP. m. 25.5.1914 at Horsham, Vic., to Marion Smith Gray (sister of Rev. T. Gray).
To Qld 1888: ord. Tallebudgera-Southport 10.10.1888-Jan. 1889; Bowen 23.7.1889-1895, Mackay 1895-1904, Park South Brisbane 1904-3.9.1912, to Scotland, 1912-13; Ithaca 19.3.1914-1922, Killarney 1922-1925, Norman Park 1925-1928, Mackay 1929, Ithaca 1930-1933.
Editor, *The Messenger* 1906-13, *The Outlook* 1918-21; Moderator 1902, 1924, 1937; Mod-Gen (G.A.A.) 1920-2.
Publications: *Addresses on John Knox, John Calvin and Gaspard de Coligny* (Brisbane 1928, 184 pp.), DD (Edinburgh 1934).
Biography: R. Bardon, *James Gibson MA DD* (Brisbane 1955)

Mathew, John MA, BD, DD

(2.6.1849-11.3.1929)

b. Aberdeen, Scotland, s. Alexander Mathew (merchant, later factory overseer) & Jean nee Mortimer; educ East Parish Sch, Loch St, Aberdeen; Inch FC Sch [pupil teacher 1863-64]. Arr Qld 15.4.1865 per *Hannah More*; jackaroo etc, Manumbar 1865-70, gold-digger Imbil & Ravenswood 1870-72, Tchg Dalby 14.5.72-31.1.1875, Brisbane Normal School 1.2.75-31.3.1876; to Vic April 1876; residing Carlton, passed Matric exam Oct 1876, tutor, Little River, 1877, U Melbourne, 1878 [farm manager Little River 1879-82], 1882-3, BA 19.4.1884, MA 1.5.1886, Theol Hall PCV 1884-86; BD (St Andrews 1892), DD (Melb Coll Div 1924) 1923. m. 6.7.1887 at North Carlton, Wilhelmina Scott (1860-1940), 4s (3 in AIF, 2 doctors, 2 engineers), 1 dau.
Lic Presb Melbourne, 20.12.1886: supply Portarlington Dec 1886, Bacchus Marsh Jan 1887, Scots Melbourne Feb 1887, Ballan March 1887, called 29 April; Ord & ind Ballan 8.6.1887-89, Coburg 4.4.1889-1.4.1923; emeritus 1928/29. Gaol Chaplain 1889-1913. Member of Theological Hall Committee (1896-1926, Convener 1903-26), member College Committee of GAA 1902-26 and a founder and office-bearer of Melbourne College of Divinity 1911-26;

Member of Councils of Scotch College (1899-1929), PLC (1899-1929), Ormond College (1890-1929, Chairman 1910-26), and of Advisory Council Coburg High School (1916-28). Mod. 1911; Mod-Gen. 1922-4, d. Coburg 11.3.1929.

Publications: 20 scholarly articles on Aboriginal language, culture and society and *Eaglehawk & Crow* (Melbourne, 1899, 288pp.); *Two Representative Tribes of Queensland* (London, 1910, 256 pp.) & Verse: *Australian Echoes* (Melbourne, 1902, 142 pp.), *Napoleon's Tomb* (Melbourne, 1911, 60pp.), *Ballads of Bush Life & Lyrics of Cheer* (Melbourne, 1914, 63 pp.). Ed. *Coburg Presbyterian Chronicle* 1906-12?

Biography: M.D. Prentis, *Science, Race and Faith: a Life of John Mathew* (Sydney 1998); *ADB*, 10, pp. 440-441.

Crookston, James

(1860-21.6.1932)

b. Newcastle, son of James Crookston and Mary nee Matheson of Qld; P.C. Qld; educ. PC Qld Divinity Hall, 1879-84; Univ. Edinburgh & Theol Coll. 1885-6.

Lic Presb . Brisbane 3.8.1886; ord. Toowoomba St Stephen's 8.11.1886-15.4.1897; Moderator 1895.

To PCNSW 1897, Newcastle St Andrew's 20.5.1897-1902.

To PCVic 1902: Bendigo 2.12.1902-1918; Mod. Vic. 1914.

Senior Chaplain 1st AIF 2 years; w.c. 1918-28, Peace Thanksgiving Fund organizer 2 years.

To PCTas: Hobart Chalmers 1928-21.6.1932, d. Mod-Gen 1924-26.

West, Robert Scott DD

(13.8.1860-27.3.1933)

b. Perth, Scotland, s. Peter West and Elizabeth nee Scott; Free Ch of Scotl; educ. U Glasgow & FC Coll., m. Annie McDonald (d. 1929); Lic. June 1887 FC Presb Dundee; Commission from FCS.

To PCNZ, arr Aug 1887: ord. Auckland St David's 18.10.1887- July 1899.

To PCNSW 1899 (called Aug.) Burwood 25.8.1899-31.5.1930. Lecturer Practical Theology 1907-18; Home chaplain, WWI.

Mod NSW 1915, Mod Gen 1926-8; D.D. (McGill) 1926.

Publication: *The Story of the Holy Communion* (Sydney 1922).

Crow, Alexander E

(16.8.1865-3.2.1942)

b. Gisborne, Vic., s. Francis Crow (Montrose-born, Elder in PCV); teacher, Gisborne State School c. 1883-87; educ. P.C.V. Theol Hall 1888-90; m. 16.6.1891 Alice Oakley, no issue.

PCVic: ord. Darlington 3.6.1891-2.3.1893, Woodford 2.3.1893-30.4.1898.

To PCW.A. 1898: Kalgoorlie 1898-1906; Home Missions 1906-9: i/c Leederville 1908 – 09, North Perth 1909-19; Albany 1919-26.

d. Darlington, Vic.

Mod WA 1902, 1918, 1919 (3 times); Mod Gen., 1928-30

Publications: *Gum Leaves* (children's addresses, 1926)

Cameron, Donald Allan MA (8.2.1862-4.7.1940)

b. Kilbride Station, Penola, SA; raised Bealba Vic; PCV.; educ Corporate H.S. Bendigo; U Melbourne, MA 1889, Ormond College, PCV Theol Hall. m, chn

PCV: lic. Presb Melbourne 16.12.1884, ord. Donald 22.4.1885-20.9.1887; Bairnsdale 20.9.1887-10.5.1900, Warrnambool 31.5.1900-1905; Director of Home Missions 1905-28;

Director of Social Services 1928-34? 40? Founder of St Andrew's Hospital Melbourne.

Mod Vic 1921; Mod. Gen 1930-33.

Reid, George Reynolds Somerville MA, DD (16.8.1871-29.7.1964)

b. Balmerino, Fife, Scotland, s. David Reid and Annie nee Beattie; educ Dundee HS, U St Andrews (MA 1894), New College. Lic. & ord. Edinburgh Presb UF Church of Scotland, 1900 & ind Scots Church Brussels 1900-June 1907, resd. m. 25.4.1902 F.C. Robertson, 1s, 3 dau.

To Victoria 1907: To PCNSW 1908: Narrandera NSW 1908-1914, Glebe 1914-1920, Home Chaplain WWI, Roseville 1920-1937, Emeritus, resided Roseville. d. Sydney
Troopship chaplain, WWI. Mod NSW 1929, Mod Gen 1933-36.

Ed., *Australian Book of Family Worship* many years.

Hon DD St Andrews 1933. Steel Lecturer in Pastoral Theology 1922-25.

Publications: *Royalty and Loyalty: the Value of British Monarchy* (1922), *The History of Ebenezer, Australia's oldest Church, Portland Head* (Sydney 1938, 16 pp.), *Presbyterian Pioneers in Australia: historical Sketch* (Sydney 1938, 23 pp.)

Mackenzie, John MA, DD (1.9.1869- 3.5.1955)

b Geraldine, NZ; s. Alexander Mackenzie of Riverford, Geraldine; educ Geraldine District School, Timaru HS, U Canterbury & U Otago, Theological Hall Dunedin 1891-2; New Coll Edinburgh 1893-4; m. 19.12.1895 Janet Torrey Ramsay (1.1.1872 - 21.5.1938) , 2s, 1 dau.

Ord Presb of Dunedin for Thames (Waikato Presb) 2.10.1895-1900, St Andrews Christchurch 4.10.1900 - 1914. Convener Youth Comm of Assembly.

Toorak Melbourne Vict 15.10.1914 - for 30 yrs.

Mod Vic 1934; Mod-Gen, 1936-9. Hon DD (Glasgow).

Flynn, John OBE, DD (25.11.1880-5.5.1951)

b. Moliagul, Vic., s. Thomas Eugene Flynn (school teacher) & Rosetta Forsyth nee Lester; Educ Snake Valley, Sunshine and Braybrook primary schools, University HS. Pupil teacher, Vic Educ Dept.1898-1902. In 1903, began study as "student lay pastor", serving in Beech Forest 1903-4 & Buchan 1905-6; Theol Hall 4 years, also 2 periods of shearers mission; Montague 1907, Pakenham 1908-9, Scots Church [Melbourne] Mission 1910.

Lic. & Ord Adelaide 24.1.1911, Smith of Dunesk Mission SA 1911-12, AIM set up & appt Superintendent 1912-51. Set up Flying Doctor Service.

m. 7.5.1932 at Sydney Jean Blanch Baird, no issue.

Mod Gen 1939-41. Hon DD 1940 Toronto, 1941 Pres College McGill U.

Publications: *The Bushman's Companion* (Melbourne 1910, 100pp.), *Northern Territory and Central Australia: a Call to the Church* (Sydney 1912, 45pp.). Ed. *The Outback Battler* 1912, *The Inlander* 1913-51.

Biography: W.S. McPheat, *John Flynn, Apostle to the Inland* (London, 1963), *ADB*, 8, pp. 531-534.

Macaulay, Robert Wilson BA, DD (8.10.1882-1.8.1951)

b. Newcastle-upon-Tyne, England, s. Dr S. Macaulay; to WA as boy with father, lived Cottesloe, educ Ashville College Harrogate, Yorkshire, Hale School, Perth, U Adelaide (BA), Westminster College Cambridge, London. m. 11.11.1911 Annie Margaretha Dircks, 4s, 2 dau.

Returned to Perth, worked in Union Bank of WA briefly. Ord & ind East Fremantle 1908-10; to Vic: Elsternwick [later Gardenvale John Knox church] 1910-21, Chaplain WWI 1916-18; Camberwell Trinity C & S 1921 [sole min from 1929] – 1951, d. Camberwell.

Mod Vic 1933, Mod Gen 1943-45. Senior Clerk GAA 1934-51.

Grieve, Alexander Campbell BA (12.6.1884-3.1.1965)

b. Wollongong, NSW, s. Thomas Grieve (Police Superintendent) & Margaret nee Maclean; educ Wollongong Superior Public School, U Sydney 1906-8 (BA), Theol Hall St Andrew's College, 1909-11. m. 17.4.1912 Beatrice Simpson, 1s, 3 dau.

Ord by Presb Moree, to Bingara 2.11.1911-1918; Peshurst 1918-1923; Bathurst 1923-1929; Drummoyne 1929-1954, retd, Emeritus, resided Roseville.

Mod NSW 1937, Clerk NSW GA 1942-62, Mod Gen 1945-48

Blanchard, Julian Ralph CBE, BA, DD (27.9.1892-30.7.1980)

b. Broadwater, NSW, s. George Alfred Blanchard (headmaster) & Elizabeth nee Dempsey; educ Fort Street Boys HS, U Sydney (BA 1913), Theol Hall St Andrew's College. m. 25.1.1919 at St Stephen's Sydney, Doris Rachel Raysmith (b. 2.4.1892), 1s, 2 dau.

Ord. & ind. Ryde-Meadowbank 12.7.1917-1919.

To PCWA: West Perth Ross Memorial 1919-1927; Mod WA 1922; Lecturer Theol Hall 1924-26.

To PCNZ: Wellington St John's 17.3.1927-1939.

To PCSA: Adelaide Scots 21.7.1939-28.2.1958.

Mod SA 1942-43, Mod Gen 1948-51. Hon DD Edinburgh 1958. d. Parkville, Vic.

Biography: *ADB*, 13, pp.201-202.

Bardon, Richard BA (4.7.1886-6.8.1969)

b. Randwick NSW, s. Richard Bardon (civil service clerk, b. Ireland, d. 1886) & Elizabeth nee Harding, raised Ipswich Qld, educ Ipswich GS 1900-1902.

Taught in state primary schools, 1902-9. To U Sydney (BA 1912), Theol Hall Emmanuel College 1912-14; student minister Bald Hills. m. 21.1.1913 at Park Church South Brisbane, Elsie Mary Florence Watson (schoolteacher, d. 1966), 2 s, 1 dau surv.

Ord Killarney 1914-20; Mackay 1920-44; Wilston 1944-1948; Kalinga 1948-52.

Mod Qld 1933, Mod Gen 1951-54. Clerk of Qld Assembly 1944-57. Acting Principal, Emmanuel College 1929, Chairman of its Council 1949-51, Ed. *The Presbyterian Outlook* 1945-50.

Publications; *The Centenary History of the Presbyterian Church of Queensland* (Brisbane, 1949), *James Gibson MA, DD* (Brisbane, 1955).

Biography: *ADB*, 13, pp. 110.

Rolland, Sir Francis William OBE, CMG, MC, MA (12.6.1878-22.1.1965)

b. Geelong, Vic., s. Rev. W.S. Rolland and Margaret Louisa nee Campbell (dau Rev. A.J. Campbell); Educ Toorak College, Scotch College, U Melbourne (BA 1899, MA 1903), Theol Hall Ormond College, post grad Divinity Edinburgh 1903-4, U London 1919.

Asst Scots Melbourne 1904-5; Smith of Dunesk Mission, Beltana SA ord. 1905-8; with John Flynn promoted AIM; Noorat 1908-1915 (secondment to Broome WA 1911); AIF Chaplain 1915-19, Lt-Col, MID, Military Cross 1918.

m. 19.3.1919 Trinity Church Marylebone, London, Enid Aline nee Balance (d. 1964).

Principal Geelong College 1920-45. CMG 1955, First Australian clergyman knighted, 1958.

Hon. DD Edinburgh 1960. Mod Vic 1937, Mod Gen 1954-57.

Publication: *Two speeches on education* (Geelong 1936).

Biography: *ADB*, 11, pp. 444-446

Flockhart, David John MA (11.12.1889-20.7.1964)

b. Waterloo, NSW, s. John Flockhart (blacksmith from Scotland) & Catherine McGee; educ. Public schools, in business, night school, U Sydney, BA 1917, MA 1919 (1st class Hons

philosophy), Theol Hall, Mitchell prize & tutor in Hebrew; m. 15.11.1919 at St Stephen's Sydney Jean Isabel Ingram (a clerk, d. 1955), 1s, 1dau.

Ord & ind Tamworth Feb 1920- 1923; Newcastle St Andrew's 1923-1927; Wahroonga 1927-1956.

Trustee of PCNSW 1927-60; Council member Knox GS 1929-64, St Andrew's College 1941-56, PLC Pymble 1949-64. Steel Lecturer in homiletics 1935-37, lectured in Theol 1941-44, 1957. Chaplain AMF 1940-41; Convener HM Comm 1927-38. Mod NSW 1949, Mod Gen 1957-59. Church unionist, defender of Angus. d. Gordon, NSW.

Publications: *An appreciation of Professor Sir T.W. Edgeworth David: being an address delivered by the Rev. D.J. Flockhart, M.A., in St John's Presbyterian Church, Wahroonga, Sunday, 2nd September, 1934* (Sydney 1934), *St John's Presbyterian Church, Wahroonga, jubilee celebrations, 1898-1948 : history, 1898 to 1930 with The messages of the memorial windows* (Sydney 1948), *The church in the world: being the moderatorial address to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, at Melbourne, September, 1957* (Sydney 1957).

Biography: *ADB*, 14, pp. 187-188.

Watson, Alan Cameron MA, DD, Dip Soc Sci (16.3.1900-15.1.1976)

b. Feilding, NZ, s. Thomas Watson and Marion nee Thomson; educ U Otago, Theol Hall 1923-25; Lecturer in Philosophy Theol Hall Dunedin 1922-27. m. 17.1.1928 Eileen Margaret Ballantyne (28.6.1902- pred him), 2s, 1 dau.

Assist First Ch Dn 1927, Ord East Taieri (Dunedin Presb) 12.7.1927, St Paul's Christchurch 28.4.1932.

To PCVic.: Toorak, 31.12.1941- 30.6.1967, Retired in Melbourne.

One of the founders of the National Council of Churches during 1930's.

Contributed a weekly column to *The Age* newspaper, column in *Australian Presbyterian Life*. Mod Vic 1953, Mod-Gen 1959-62. Brother of the Rev. R.S. Watson.

Harrison, Hector OBE, MA, BD (5.4.1902-19.11.1978)

b. Northam, WA, s. Thomas Allan Harrison (orderly and secretary of Northam Hospital, from London, England) and Hester Ann nee Bray (hospital matron), parents in Salvation Army; Educ Northam SS (dux 1915), from 1916 Salvation Army bandsman, AMF Reserve Band 1918-March 1920. To Salvation Army Training College, Melbourne, commissioned, 2 & half years, worked in Richmond, Fitzroy and North Melbourne, 1922-25. Beliefs about sacraments led him to leave Salvation Army Aug 1925 & prepare for Presb ministry; Intermediate (1925) & Leaving Certificates (1927) while HM with PCV, student minister West Gippsland 1927-29; U Melbourne & Ormond College, BA 1930, MA 1932. supply North Essendon. 1930-1933, BD (Melb Coll Div 1933); m. 30.5.1931 at Essendon, Doris May Sarah Ann Tear, 1s, 3dau.

Ord & ind Newtown, Hobart 1933-1936; Militia Chaplain 1934- . to PCWA: Claremont 1936-1940. To Canberra ACT: St Andrew's Canberra May 1940-19.11.1978, d. Canberra.

Mod NSW 1950; Mod-Gen 1962-64.

Biography: *The Echo Memorial Supplement*, Dec. 1978; *ADB*, 14, p. 400..

Young, William BA (11.11.1905-Feb. 1974)

b. Carluke, Lanarkshire, Scotland, s. William Young, to Toowoomba, Qld, when young; educ Toowoomba, U Syd. (BA), m. 27.12.1926 Alma A. Harford, 2 dau.

Lic 1933, ord Gunnedah 5.3.1935-14.9.1937, Hamilton NSW 14.9.1937- 1950; Chaplain 2nd AIF 1943-1944, nominated Mod NSW for 1951; St Kilda 1951-1955; Director of Practical training, Ormond College.

To PCQ: Brisbane St Andrew's 1955-1968. Director of Practical Training Emmanuel College.

Director of Practical Training & parish work, Perth 1969. Retd to Sydney, supply Rose Bay, Beecroft, d. Sydney. Mod Gen 1964-67.

Faichney, Norman BA

(29.7.1910-2.7.1998)

b. Midland Junction, WA, s. John Faichney (1878-1964, Glasgow-born blacksmith) and Elizabeth Dowan nee Slater (1877-1930); grew up in SA and Williamstown Vic.; educ State School & High School Williamstown, mail boy, Mobil Oil, U Melbourne 1934 - (BA 1943), Theol Hall, Ormond College 1936-38. m. 14.3.1939, Grace Winifred Lang (21.4.1909-25.8.1978, teacher, from Essendon, sister of Rev. Stewart Lang), 2 s, 1 dau.

Student Assistant Melton 15.1.1935-31.12.1936; Hampton 15.1.1937-31.12.1938; appt to Morwell 8.1.1939; ord Morwell 22.6.1939-1.7.1941, Chaplain 2nd AIF 2/12 Field regt 9th Division 8.7.1941-3.8.1943; Strathmore 5.8.1943-Oct 1947; Shepparton Oct 1947-Sept 1952; Warrnambool 2.10.1952-20.4.1960; Glen Iris 28.4.1960-31.12.1979; Associate Min Toorak Feb 1980- 24.12.1990; Interim Min St Luke's Mt Waverley Jan 1984-Oct 1985.

Mod Vic 1958, Mod Gen 1967-70

McKay, James Frederick AC, CMG, OBE, MA BD (15.4.1907-31.3.2000)

b. Mackay, Qld., s. John McKay (farmer of Walkerston, born Ulster) & Julia nee Kreiger (German parents), bapt. in Apostolic Church; m. 13.12.1938 at Ithaca PC, Margaret ("Meg") Mary McLeod Robertson (b. 6.5.1915, nurse, dau Rev. Hubert Robertson), 1s, 3 dau. Known as "Fred".

educ Walkerston State School 1917-19, Thornburgh College Charters Towers 1920-27, Emmanuel College & U Qld, 1928-30, BA, & Theol Hall 1931-33, BD (Melb Coll Div). Student HM Charleville 1929-30, Mitchelton 1930-31, Bulimba 1931-32, Student Asst to Very Rev. Dr James Gibson, Ithaca, 1932.

HM Southport 1933-35; ord Ann Street, Brisbane 4.12.1935, to Sydney, then AIM patrol padre Western Patrol (Cloncurry, Birdsville etc.) 1936-41; RAAF Chaplain 1941-46, to U Qld 1946, MA; Toowong-St Lucia 1947-51. Lecturer Theol Hall 1950-51.

To Sydney: AIM Superintendent 1951-31.1.1974.

Mod NSW 1965, Mod Gen 1970-73. Hon LL.D. Ed. *Frontier News*, 1951-73.

Publication: *Traeger: the pedal radio man* (Moorooka Q, 1995, 108 pp.)

Biography: M. MacKenzie, *Fred McKay* (Bowen Hills Q, 1990)

Wood, Gillam Albert McConnell OBE, OAM, BA

(6.12.1910-3.10.1993)

b. Geelong, s. E.G. Wood (farmer, Noorat); educ Geelong College, Ormond College & U Melbourne, 1930- , Theol Hall. m. 28.12.1937, Mary Seavinton Stuckey (d. 1982), 4s. Known as "Pat".

Ord Whyalla SA 1938- 42; Sale 1942- 49 [& RAAF Chaplain]; Geelong St Andrew's 1949-63; Mod Vic 1961.

To PCTas: Hobart Scots 1963-76. Mod Tas 1969; Clerk GA, PCTas 1970-76, Emeritus, Geelong in UC Presb of Barwon. Minister-in association at Corio-Norlane 1977; Lorne 1979-80, Airey's Inlet, St David's Geelong, retd.

Convener Aust Pres Board of Missions 1967-77; member Rotary, Probus, Geelong Caledonian Society. OBE 1976, OAM 1989. d. San Francisco, USA.

Publications: *The Geelong Keys 1522?* (2nd ed. Geelong 1980, 16 pp.), *Some Geelong Scots* (Geelong 1982, 20 pp.)