

The Queensland Baptist Forum

The Journal of the Baptist Historical Society of Queensland
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The Year of the Books

The year 2000 could go down as "The Year of the Books" for the Baptist Historical Society of Queensland. A record number of books, three, have been produced this year and all have sold very well indeed. We have also made some contributions behind the scenes to at least two others.

The first two told the stories of the Tarampa and Marburg churches. These two old German churches are now both defunct, but there are plenty of former members and their families active in a number of churches throughout the state. Both these books were written by BHSQ member, Dick Scanlan, and they were launched at the 125th anniversary of the Kalbar Church on August 26th. They sold well on the occasion. There were also some pre-publication orders, and a steady flow of sales since, with the result that one has sold out and the other nearly so. Since the demand has been so heavy, they will be reprinted immediately. Also launched at the same time was a new history of the Kalbar church prepared by Laurie Wolter.

The other book was an expanded and updated version of our first publication, Baptists in Queensland. The original authors updated their work, and many new sections were added. The biggest changes were needed in the first chapter by Rev. Norm Weston on the daily life of Baptist churches. The book was completely reformatted and redesigned, and the smart new millennium edition was launched by Dr Stan Nickerson, President of the Baptist Union at the Annual Convention. Due to a strong commendation at the Convention by Norm Weston and some energetic salesmanship by the BHSQ Secretary in particular, the entire print run sold out before the end of the Convention. Another supply is now in stock and all orders can be handled. We hope churches will order in quantity and use this excellent guide for study groups and new membership training.

<p>The Baptist Historical Society of Queensland (est. 1984)</p> <p>Membership (2001) Individual \$8 p.a. Family \$12 p.a. Corporate \$20 p.a.</p> <p><i>Qld Baptist Forum</i> 3 issues p.a. Free to Members Others \$2 each posted President: Mr Eric W. Kopittke 98 Yallambee Rd., Jindalee 4074 Phone 3376 4339 Secretary: Dr Ken G. Smith, 110 White St, Graceville 4075 Phone 3379 6117</p> <p>www.thehub.com.au/~dparker/forum.html www.thehub.com.au/~dparker/order.html</p> <p>BWA Baptist Heritage: http://www.bwa-baptist-heritage.org/</p>	<p>CONTENTS</p> <p>Qld Baptist Forum December 2000</p> <p>The Year of the Books p 1</p> <p>3 Early Qld Baptist Churches -Jireh p 2</p> <p>"The Advancement of Christ's Kingdom" by Doug Adam p 3</p> <p>Mt Berryman Baptist Sunday by R.A. Scanlan p 5</p> <p>Baptist Historical Society Annual Report (2000) p 8</p>
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‘JIREH’ BAPTIST CHURCH

The Third Baptist Church In Queensland

Reproduced from *The Queensland Baptist* July 1900 p 91

We continue the reproduction of a series of articles on early Baptist churches in Queensland which appeared in *The Queensland Baptist*. These articles present some interesting details of the churches and their buildings. One of the features of the original series was a photograph of the church with each article. Recent pictures of these churches will also be shown where available.

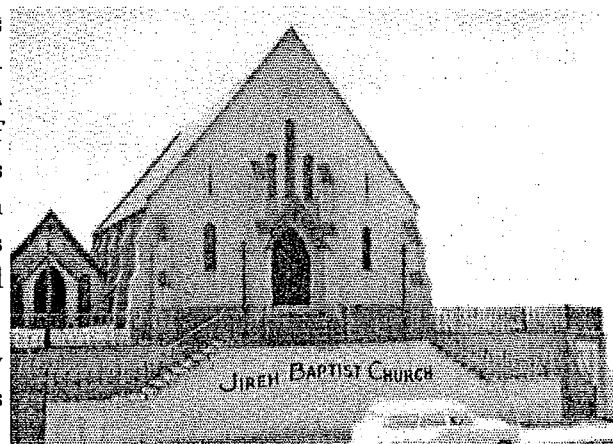
THE edifice given as our illustration in this month's issue is the home of the "Jireh" Particular Baptist Church, always associated with the name of the Rev. John Kingsford as the scene of his labours for a period of over 37 years. Outwardly the building is the same in appearance as when first erected, with the exception of the approaches and porch entrance. The foundation stone was laid on Tuesday, August 19th, 1862, by Mr. Kingsford, and there were present to express sympathy with the church in its enterprise the Revs. Nathaniel Turner and I. H. Fletcher (Wesleyan), W. Colley (Primitive Methodist), G. Townsend (Free Methodist), E. Griffith (Congregationalist), C. Ogg (Presbyterian), Messrs. George Board, Wm. Grimes, T. Childs, Thos. Price, and others. After the stone-laying ceremony a public tea meeting was held in the Wesleyan Chapel, Ann Street, kindly placed at the disposal of the church for the purpose. The building, which seats 250 persons and cost £800, was completed and opened for public worship on Sunday, December 7th, of the same year, and the opening sermons were preached by the Rev. John Bunyan McCure, of Sydney.

In further commemoration of the opening a public service was held on Wednesday, December 10 (the third anniversary of the foundation of the colony, and known as Separation Day), when Mr. Kingsford was ordained and formally inducted into office as pastor and preached his first sermon as such. In the evening a public tea meeting was held, at which were present Ministerial representatives and prominent members of most of the city churches.

The building, which is of brick, with stone foundations, was built under the direction of Mr. B. Backhouse (architect), and the contract was entered into and faithfully carried out by Mr. Thos. Price, who was, up to the time of his death, one of the church deacons. An interesting particular, and one showing the interest taken in the work, was the spontaneous collection made by the artisans and labourers of the sum of £3 for the providing of a table at the tea meeting arranged for at the opening.

The Jireh church building was given heritage listing in 1970 indicating that its preservation was strongly recommended. Dwindling numbers and an unsuitable location meant that the church ceased to function in 1978 after 117 years of service. The building was sold and the proceeds were used to assist in the erection of a church in the Centenary suburbs. This church was constituted in 1976 and the building was opened on 21 May 1983.

The old Jireh building was used for a variety of purposes, and was finally bought by a business which intended to redevelop the area. However, the building was destroyed by fire on the evening of 6 Feb 1987. The site still remains vacant.



THE ADVANCEMENT OF CHRIST'S KINGDOM . . .

By Doug Adam

From his autobiography, *I remember*, written for his family and friends

Doug Adam, a member of the BHSQ, was President of the Baptist Union of Queensland 1974-75 and Secretary and Acting Secretary 1976-78. He has had a long period of distinguished service in the Boys' Brigade at church, local, state, national and international levels, as this chapter of his story indicates. His sons are following in their father's footsteps with their involvement in the organization. Doug was named as Queensland Father of the Year in 1985 and was honoured by the Queen with an OBE in 1984.

This is not a dissertation on the Boys' Brigade in Australia from when I first knew it until the present day. It is simply an outline of some of my activities during that period. It is not a history but some of my recollections.

In 1938-39, the Taringa Baptist Church ran a Girls' Club. It was well run and popular with the girls. The boys realised that they had nothing similar. I and a couple of the older ones felt that we should have a Club and, so, we got together one evening a week. We had nothing in the way of equipment and certainly no money. Our idea was that we should do something physical. A few times, when we met, we screwed open the hinges of the doors of the girls cupboard and helped ourselves to a couple of basketballs. When we had finished, we put them back and returned the doors of the cupboard also. To play soccer in the hall, we used empty jam tins which we kicked around the floor. That shows how poor we really were.

There was one little incident which I never forgot. On the wall, at the end of the hall, hung a picture of the Good Shepherd holding a lamb in his arms and surrounded by a few others. One evening, one boy kicked a ball in the air and it crashed into the picture bringing down some of the glass. We felt that if we left it like that with broken glass, Miss Lillian Burton, the Church cleaner, Church organist and my former Sunday School teacher and of whom the ladies of the church were

terrified, would notice it and come down hard on us. So we took all the glass out of the frame and wrapped it in newspaper and hid it under the back fence above the railway line. Nobody ever noticed that the glass was missing, and nothing was ever said.

Shortly after that our new minister, who came from Sydney, showed me a little red book. It said on the cover that it was the manual of the Boys' Brigade. It didn't mean much until the aunt of one of the boys said she thought there was a Boys' Brigade in Brisbane, at Red Hill. We discovered the address and made contact with a Mr R.H. Tait who was the Captain. To see how the company operated, he invited a small group of us to go over to the hall on a Friday evening. About six of us did so and sat on the platform in the hall to watch proceedings. The boys were

in uniform. The parade fell in on a bugle call and the opening proceeded. After that, the whole company marched around the large hall about six times preceded by a bugle and drum band. Then they had other activities until the closing

parade. I had never been so impressed in all my life. That was exactly what we were looking for.

1st Brisbane Company was good enough to give us 25 caps, belts and haversacks which was all the uniform in those days, worn over the boys' ordinary clothing. They also gave us £5 - a generous gift. So



Doug Adam as Queensland President examining Geoff McDonald, NCO of 1st Mt Isa Company for his Queen's Badge, July 1979

we started, copying their programme. Forms for the enrolment of the Company were sent to London but, apparently, never arrived. We blamed submarine warfare at the time.

The enrolment procedure was repeated after the War and the commencement date was set back at March 1940. I left for Canberra at that time and did not return until the end of 1945. The Company staggered on during that time, sometimes being run by the N.C.O.'s. My work in the Company resumed around 1947 when the Company was revived. The best Officer I had at that time was Ray Bowler and I appreciated his support.

Around this time, I made the acquaintance of Robert McEwan of Sydney who had been appointed Liaison Officer for Australia by the Overseas Committee in London. Bob was a bachelor Scotsman and had been a boy and officer in the north of England. He was a good organiser. His work paid off later on. With his help, we formed the Brisbane Officers' Council. He organised a trip to U.K. in 1954 to join in the celebrations to mark the centenary of the birth of Sir William Smith. Maisie and I decided to go. (This, to both of us, meant an opportunity to visit relatives in Scotland).

The highlight of the year was the International Camp on the playing fields of Eton College where Britain's battles are said to have been won. (We lost our battle with the weather as the summer of 1954 was said to be the wettest for 75 years). After the camp, our small party, including Maisie as matron, toured England and Scotland visiting Boys' Brigade companies to learn how they operated. This meant a tremendous amount to me and gave me all sorts of ideas to put into effect back home. The lessons I learnt on the trip were my motivation for working on the future development of the Brigade in Queensland and Australia. On the trip, I met William McVicker, the Overseas Secretary. He was my example of a Christian gentleman. A few years' later, he paid a visit to Australia and was escorted around Brisbane in my Chevrolet Tourer.

The B.B. movement developed rapidly in the following years, in city and country. This was partly because there was little alternative available, especially in the Baptist Churches. In the course of time, the number of companies in Queensland rose to about 70. Especially in the early years, I had a strong influence on the development, even if I say so myself. From Group Council Secretary, I became State Secretary and visited many churches and companies. I later became State President, which position I held for 16 years. There was one break of two years when Sir Llew Edwards became President. In due course, I realised that it is the Secretary who does all the hard work.

On the State level, there were many highlights, such as, the Queen's Badge presentations at Govern-

ment House, the annual parades, displays, etc. Any low lights were caused by people who wanted to take responsibility but who did not understand that they should see themselves as Christ's servants.

One aspect I emphasised was the visitation of companies, both metropolitan and country. Thus, I visited companies as far away as Cairns and Mt Isa on a fairly regular basis.

In the annals of the Boys' Brigade, December 1951 is an important date. Representatives from Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia met in Sydney with Bob McEwan to form the PFAC. (Provisional Federal Advisory Committee), the forerunner of the Australian Executive. I had been chosen by Bob McEwan to be the Queensland representative.

My flight to Sydney (in a DC3) was the first of many such trips. Having been a member of the Australian Executive for some time, in due course, I was elected Australian President. I held this post for four years before retiring. During my term, I visited each State and the Northern Territory annually. In the Northern Territory, I visited, in addition to Darwin companies, an aboriginal company of, about 100 boys at Yirrkala Aboriginal Community in Arnhemland. This travelling was very interesting.

At that time, the Australian Overseas Committee met in Brisbane. At one period, it took on the role of Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Fellowship, or the "PRF" as it was known. During that time, I held the position of Chairman. In addition, I visited PNG five times in all, travelling from Balimo in Western Province to Rabaul in the east. Other places visited included Tari and Mendi in the Southern Highlands, Mt Hagen and the Christian Leaders' Training College at Banz and Lae. Meetings of the full PRF were held a number of times in Suva, Fiji and, once, in Apia (Western Samoa).

Anyone wanting to read more of the Australian and State Boys' Brigade should get a copy of "Boys, Urchins, Men" by Dr Michael Hoare, which history will take them up to 1975.



The local company is the engine room of the Brigade, and it was here I found the work most rewarding. Contact with boys provides an education in itself. I was active in companies at Taringa, Ashgrove and The Gap. What a chore it was to race home on a Friday afternoon after a hard day's work, grab some tea, climb into uniform and be in the hall fifteen minutes before starting time! I'll skip parades, programme, camping, hiking, church parades, etc., to avoid boring my reader and mention two typical boys - well, almost typical!

The first is Appy who joined the new company at Taringa with his brother. Appy had a spastic condition. Only his brother understood what he said and he couldn't walk or co-ordinate properly, but when the company marched around the hall, (1st Brisbane style), he insisted on joining in - or, at least, trying to. He would stagger along, yards behind. He had a go at everything and the other boys accepted him quite well. At the end of the year, it was quite noticeable that he could walk

(Continued on page 7)

Mt Berryman Sunday School

By Richard A. Scanlan

This article is an adaptation of the first part of BHSQ member, Dick Scanlan's story of the Mt Berryman Sunday School, close to his own home near Laidley. He and his wife Doris have had a close first hand involvement with this bush school over many years.

The Mt. Berryman Sunday School was first formed under the oversight of the Blenheim Methodist Church in 1894. It was then known as the "Primitive Methodist Church." The first Superintendent was Mrs. J.W. Wood who was a resident of the area at the time. Mrs. Wood, a sincere Christian saw the need of the children and felt led by God to open a Sunday School.

The only building available at the time was the local State School building. This was where the Sunday School finally opened with no fewer than 27 children attending. They were from eight families, namely - Bayliss, Cross, Knudsen, Lea, Morgan, Smith, Wilmer and Wood. When the Sunday School was opened, the understanding was given that it was to be an Undenominational Sunday School. Ever since, even when taken over by the Baptist Church, it has retained that characteristic.

As part of the history it is noted that this school building had first been constructed as a private residence for an English gentleman by the name of "Berryman." However, when Mr. Berryman arrived in Australia, he did not like the area and within a short space of time, he returned to England.

The building then became the residence of Mr. & Mrs. McMeiken from Dublin, Ireland. It was here that their son Bert was born in May 1883. Bert McMeiken was a well known local identity who lived for almost all of his 107 years in the Laidley Shire.

In 1885, this building was taken over by the State Education Department and established as a Provincial School. No difficulty was experienced in getting permission to use it as a Sunday School.

Shortly after the opening of the Sunday School, Mrs. Wood received valued assistance from a Mr. John Morgan, who specialized in teaching the children singing. He also took a leading part in organizing Anniversary functions and Sunday School picnics. These picnics were usually held near the banks of Sandy Creek.

Sunday School was held regularly under the leadership of Mrs. Wood for the next 10 years and average attendance was 30 children. It is obvious that Mrs. Wood received excellent support from the families living in the locality.

The first recorded business meeting was held at the school on 4th June 1905, and it was chaired by

Rev. Plane of the Methodist Church. Teachers present were Mrs. J.W. Wood, Mr. William Dart, Mrs. C. Cross and Miss Beatrice Cross. It is clear that Mrs. Wood had previously stepped down from the position of Superintendent as Mr. W.T. Dart was re-appointed to that position. Other appointments were Mrs. C. Cross, Secretary and Miss B. Cross, Treasurer.

In January 1906, Mr. Thomas Lewry Moon was elected as a teacher in place of Mrs. Wood and on 1st May 1907 he became Superintendent. In 1907 William Thomas Dart migrated to Louisville, Kentucky, U.S.A. where he took up studies at the Southern Baptist Seminary. He later served as Pastor of several Baptist Churches in the U.S.A.

On 1st May 1907, a public meeting was held at Mt. Berryman. After the teachers had come to an agreement on all relevant matters the following motion was passed: "That the control of the school be handed over to Rev. Otto Krueger of the Blenheim Baptist Church." Rev. Krueger thanked those present for the confidence placed in him and said he hoped to be able to supervise the school to the benefit of all connected.

Another meeting, which followed almost immediately, was chaired by Rev. Krueger. At this meeting Mr. Lewry Moon was appointed to the position of Superintendent, Mr. Walter Timm, Secretary, and Miss B. Cross, Treasurer.

The next change of officers took place on 1st September 1908, when Mr. Herbert Dart was appointed to the position of Superintendent and his sister Lucinda Dart became a teacher.

According to limited records available Sunday School went on quite successfully under its new management. Picnics were held, usually in May each year near the creek bank at Mt. Berryman.

The following is a quote from the Minute Book of 1910: "On May 2nd we held our Annual Picnic having an attendance of about 150, including visitors from Laidley, Blenheim and Burnside [Mulgowie]. The picnic was free, only a collection being taken which amounted to 1 pound and 6 shillings. A programme was gone through in the afternoon which was enjoyed by all."

In 1911, Mr. Herbert Dart also migrated to America and the position of Superintendent was taken over by Mr. Ernest Stieler. While it had been

customary for the Sunday School to hold an anniversary each year, this was later changed to a Christmas Tree and Programme. The first one of these was held in Mr. Herb Wood's old hay shed in about 1923. For the next 10 years there were a number of venues, such as the School play shed and back veranda of the school. In 1933, and for many, many years after that, it was held in Mr. Wood's garage and always well attended by Blenheim Church people and local residents.

Following Mr. Ernest Stieler's resignation after 4 years as Superintendent the position was taken over by Mr. Eric Abraham for 5 years. Following his resignation Mrs. Augustine Heinrich [the Pastor's wife] held the position for 10 years. In 1931 Mr. Albert Mutzelburg accepted the position.

Previous to Mr. Mutzelburg's appointment as superintendent, only limited records of meetings are available. However we can be assured that the Word of God was faithfully taught to the children.

During the 21½ years that Brother Albert Mutzelburg held the position of Superintendent, it has been said that he was late on only one occasion. It was also said of him that being there on time was for him an appointment with the Lord. Such was this man's devotion to God that he was always searching for ways to improve the witness of the Sunday School.

In 1934 a special Mothers Day Church Service was commenced when the children were called on to give items of singing and recitations. In later years a feature of these services was the presentation of a bunch of flowers to the oldest and youngest mother. This usually created a great deal of interest in the Service.

In 1935 Mr. Mutzelburg introduced a system of presenting regular attendance certificates to children who were present on every Sunday of the year when Sunday School was held. As Sunday School was held on only 2nd & 4th Sundays of each month this made it easier for children to maintain regular attendance - sometimes for several years. However, serious illness and extreme wet weather were seen as legitimate

reasons for being absent.

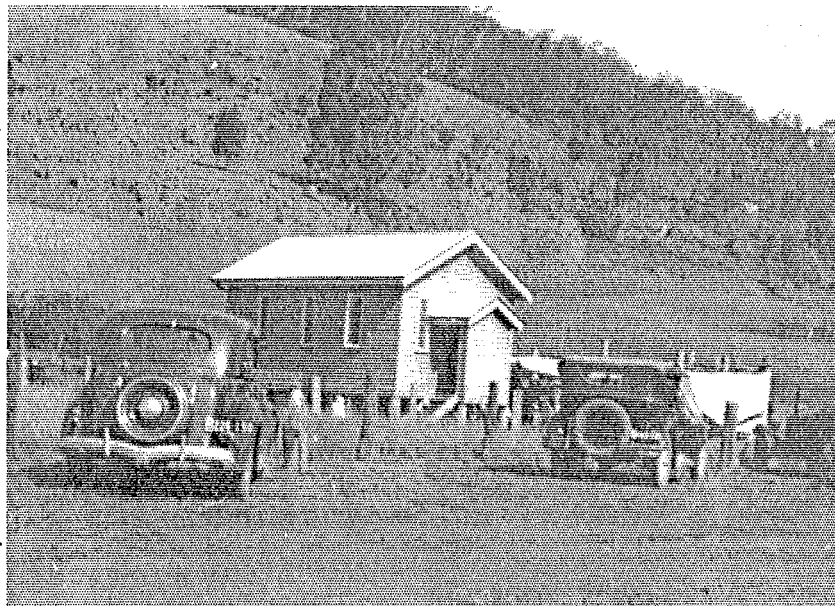
In the year 1943, twenty one scholars attended every Sunday and it is recorded that one scholar, Harold Mutzelburg, did not miss one Sunday during the first 10 years of his attendance at the Sunday School.

There can be no doubt that Albert Mutzelburg enjoyed the total support of the parents of the district. It should also be noted that it was common practice for 90% of the children attending the State School to also attend the Sunday School.

For the first 45 years of its existence the Sunday School did not have an organ. As a result of a musical evening held at Mt. Benymman and donations received, a small portable organ was purchased for the price of £11/5/-. It was set aside for the Lord's work on 26th August 1939 and is still in working condition.

At the time under review, Sunday School was still being held in the State School. This was not the same building as was used in 1894 as it had long been replaced with a more suitable building by the Education Department.

While it had served the purpose admirably over many years, there were those in the church and Sunday School who felt there was a need to have a building of their own.



Mt Berryman Sunday School - opened August 1943

By this time, the Methodist people at Blenheim were finding it was more convenient to move their centre of worship to Laidley or Forest Hill. Consequently their building at Blenheim was not being used. On 4th October 1942 the Blenheim Church members decided to purchase this

building and move it to a site at Mt. Berryman.

A suitable site was found opposite the State School on the property of Mr. Herbert Wood. Mr. Wood willingly gave 1/4 acre of land under a 99 year lease arrangement to be used for the erection of a church. The Trustees of the church would be the Baptist Union of Queensland. Annual rental would be for an amount of one shilling. The agreement stated that the building shall be used as a Sunday School for

the children of the district. It shall also be used for church services and other meetings subject to the approval of the Baptist Church at Blenheim.

If for any reason the building is taken down or not used for the above purposes for a period exceeding two years, the land shall revert back to the farm. The building may be taken down because of wear and tear and rebuilt without prejudice to the lease.

Voluntary donations ranging from five shillings to fifty pounds were received and many voluntary workers came forward. Mr. Paul Mutzelburg was put in charge and within a few months the building had been dismantled and re-erected at Mt. Berryman. This building with few alterations was opened and dedicated for the Lords work on the 8th August 1943. The official opening was performed by Mr. Herbert Wood in honour of his late mother who had been the founder of the Sunday School nearly 50 years previously.

Not only did the Sunday School now have a more suitable building to carry on the work, church services were then commenced. It was customary for these services to be held on 2nd Sunday mornings following Sunday School and the preacher was Rev. Samuel Newell of Blenheim.

Thoughts then turned to the holding of the Golden Jubilee of the Sunday School which was due the following year. A committee of teachers and parents was formed and it was decided to hold the Jubilee on 12th October 1944. It consisted of a church service, luncheon and social afternoon. About 250 people attended, including 12 of the foundation scholars, including Lily and Grace Morgan, Maud Morgan, Florence and Lily Lea, Lizzie and Oliver Wilmer, Bill Cross, Lizzie, Edith and Jim Bayliss and Herb Wood. The Jubilee address was given by Rev. Maxwell Howard who used as his text the words, "Great Grace, Great Power" taken from Acts 4 verse 33.

The next building operation was the erection of a shed for the holding of teas, and a room to be used for a Sunday School class. The building was completed in a matter of days and was officially dedicated to the work of our Lord on 9th May 1950.

After 21 1/2 years as Superintendent Albert Mutzelburg stepped down from the position in December 1952. There can be no doubt that he was an efficient operator. In the year 1952 Sunday School was held on 22 Sundays out of an available 22. Out of approx. 24 scholars on the roll, average attendance was 21 1/2 = 90%. For the previous year there had been 28 on the roll and average attendance was 93%.

At the conclusion of the Christmas Tree and Program [1952] one of the scholars, Ian Mann presented Mr. Mutzelburg with a gift on behalf of the Sunday School. It was then announced that Mr. Allan Wood had been appointed as Superintendent to take over in the New Year.

Mr. Mutzelburg's stepping down did not mean that he intended to become less active in the Lords Work. At the age of 64 years he could have been forgiven for wanting to slow down, but this was not the case. The work in Laidley was beginning to grow. A new Church Hall had been built in Samuel Street, a new centre of witness was emerging and this was where he gave many years of faithful service in later years.

(Continued from page 4)

and talk a whole lot better. Unfortunately, the family then left the district.

The second boy, Lenny, was not a bad kid but I think he just didn't have all his paddles in the water. He had a friend, a little redhead who just followed him around. After one parade night, I went home as usual and was woken by the phone at about 1am. It was the redhead's mother who said that he had not come home and that his bed was empty. I then rang Lenny's mother. "Oh, yes", she said "He's home in bed". I asked her to check and she came back to the phone to say that his bed was empty.

To make a long story short, the Police found them both at about 10am next morning in Toowoomba. They told the Police that they had hitch-hiked from Taringa and were on their way to Stanthorpe to pick beans!

I'll mention a third boy, to show the power of the mind over the body. It was my son Lex who was competing in the mile race in the Battalion sports carnival. He was winning comfortably but, in the last straight, he was easing up and being overtaken by two or three others. I felt he could win so yelled "Come on, Lex" a number of times. He got back into top gear and, of course, won. It's the mind that does it.

It is now the turn of the Steadfast Association, set up for old-boys and ex-officers and anyone who has helped a Company earlier. This organisation was started in the U.K. and has been operating in New South Wales and Western Australia for some years. In November 1996, we held our first meeting, with me as self-appointed Chairman and Lex as Secretary. (Nobody ever objects if work is involved). I have since asked Max Gray, a former Australian President to take over as Chairman which leaves me on the small Executive Committee. That position, and regularly telling the Queensland President what he and the State Executive should be doing, is now my principal Brigade interest.

(Continued on page 8)

Baptist Historical Society of Queensland

16th Annual General Meeting, 11 November 2000

Secretary's Report

The year 2000 has seen continued interest in our history by people in Baptist churches throughout Queensland. Membership of the Society has increased slightly, and we look forward to further interest, as more and more people realise the importance of discovering and remembering our Baptist heritage.

Officers elected at the Annual meeting in November, 1999 were: President: Mr Eric Kopittke; Secretary, Dr Ken Smith; Treasurer: Rev. Vince Chataway.

There has been continued demand for our publications throughout the year. The book first published in 1994, *Baptists in Queensland --- A Guide to their Life and Faith*, continued to be one of the most popular, and stocks ran very low. With the number of changes which have taken place in the life and worship of our churches this was in need of revision. This was undertaken by the authors of the original book, with editorial supervision by David Parker. The revision was completed by the middle of the year, and the revised edition was launched on the Wednesday of the Annual Convention. This has proved to be our most popular publication to date: the entire first printing of 250 copies was sold out within three days, and a reprint has been ordered. It is anticipated that this will continue to be our most popular publication.

We are very grateful for the help provided by the Baptist Union office in the preparation of our display for the Annual Convention. Special mention should be made of Lloyd Woodrow, for his work on preparing some of the material for the display. He and Nigel Patterson were of considerable help in making arrangements for the book launch and, with Cheryl Fellows, in arranging for the book sales table and our display.

This year our Annual Celebration of Baptist Heritage took the form of the launching of two historical books. It was combined with the celebration of the 125th anniversary of the Kalbar Church, held on 26 August. The books were numbers 11 and 12 in our Baptist Historical Series. They were the histories of the Tarampa and Marburg churches, respectively. The initial writing was by Dick Scanlan, with further input and editing from David Parker. The history recounted in these books, and in Laurie Wolter's history of the Kalbar Church, published at the same time, indicates that the work of the German Baptists is very much under-appreciated among Baptists in Queensland. The Tarampa history has sold out, and the Marburg one is almost sold out. Reprints of both of these will also be needed.

The list of our publications now totals 19. There are still many areas in which a consolidated work would be helpful, and it is hoped that as we approach the 150th anniversary of the opening of the first Baptist church in Queensland, more people will be encouraged to look to our heritage and unearth the many treasures which have, in some cases, passed from living memory. We need to continue to impress on people the importance of maintaining accurate records of events, so that in the future people will be able to look back and be encouraged by our successes, as well as giving thought to reasons for any lack of success.

Among plans for the future are the placing of more commemorative plaques on sites of historical interest, and a special celebration in 2005 to commemorate the establishment of the first Baptist church in Queensland. As we move forward into a new year, we look forward to continuing the work of recording and analysing our history, so that, aware of what has gone on in the past, we may take note of our errors, and preserve and remember the good things, to the glory of our Lord.

Ken Smith, Secretary

News from the 2000 Annual Meeting

The existing officers were all re-elected with much appreciation for their work. There was no change made to the subscriptions, which stand at \$8 p.a. for individuals, \$12 for families and \$20 for institutions. Subscriptions for 2001 are now due.

(Continued from page 7)

On 16 June 1984, Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, was graciously pleased to make me a Member in the Civil Division of the Order of the British Empire; the scroll I have received is under the hand of Philip as the Grand Master of the Order. I received this for my work in the Boys' Brigade and in other directions, such as, on the State Government Youth Council at one time and, also, for the fact that I had, about ten years' earlier, been the President of the Baptist Union of Queensland.

In the succeeding year, 1985, I was made Queensland's "Father of the Year" and, at a nice dinner, received a suitable Ranleighware plate from the Governor. These honours are very nice but don't compare with the rewards that we will all receive in heaven.
