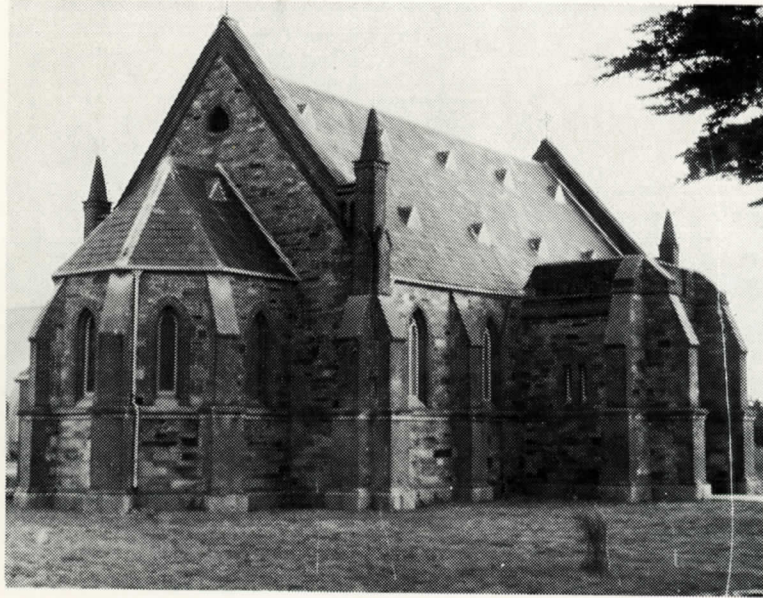


1869-1969



THE CHURCH OF
ST. JOHN,
DUNOLLY,
VICTORIA,
AUSTRALIA.

HISTORY OF ST. JOHN'S

This booklet is dedicated to our pioneers, who came from distant lands and laid the foundation of this church, at Dunolly.

Compiled by RONALD LESLIE CARLESS, as a Centenary gesture for the Vestry, St. John's Church, Dunolly.

INCUMBENTS OF THIS CHURCH:

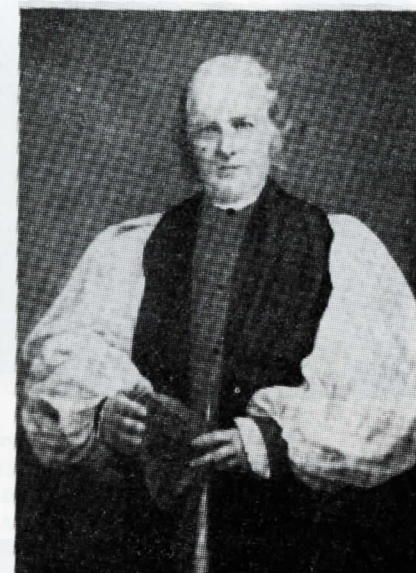
G. P. Despard	1863-1868
R. Poynder	1869-1874
H. E. Morris	1875-1877
J. L. Winn	1877-1883
S. Gilmer	1884-
W. Swinburn	1884-1889
J. W. Arnold	1889-1895
J. E. F. May	1895-1896
E. A. Radcliffe	1896-1898
C. E. Bickmore	1898-1899
R. M. Turnbull	1899-1901
F. Boyline	1901-1903
W. Puttock	1903-1907
G. Poynder	1907-1910
W. C. J. Jessop	1910-1912
H. J. Carr	1912-1922
C. C. Crowley	1922-1929
K. P. Goodisson	1929-
V. H. Williams	1929-1931
L. H. Langdon	1931-1934
W. V. Giles	1934-1935
T. Newton-Hamilton	1936-1937
F. H. Morton	1938-1941
F. C. Willson	1941-1945
E. J. Dorrell	1945-1950
G. Y. Cracknall	1950-1951
H. A. Hall	1951-1956
C. E. K. Beatty	1956-1958
T. J. R. Tutty	1958-1960
Parish Vacant	1960-1962
J. W. R. Hilliard	1962-1964
L. J. Somers-Smith	1964-

DIOCESES AND BISHOPS:

During the past 100 years, the Parish of St. John's, Dunolly has been located in three different Dioceses.



BISHOP CHARLES PERRY
First Bishop of Melbourne.



BISHOP THORNTON
First Bishop of Ballarat.

DIOCESE OF MELBOURNE 1848:

1873 — Bishop Perry.

DIOCESE OF BALLARAT, CREATED 1873:

1875 — Bishop Thornton, First Bishop.
1900 — Bishop Green, Second Bishop.
1917 — Bishop Maxwell-Gumbleton, Third Bishop.

DIOCESE OF ST. ARNAUD, CREATED 1926:

1926 — Bishop James, First Bishop.
1951 — Bishop Winter, Second Bishop.



BISHOP JAMES
First Bishop of St. Arnaud.



BISHOP WINTER
Second and present Bishop
of St. Arnaud.

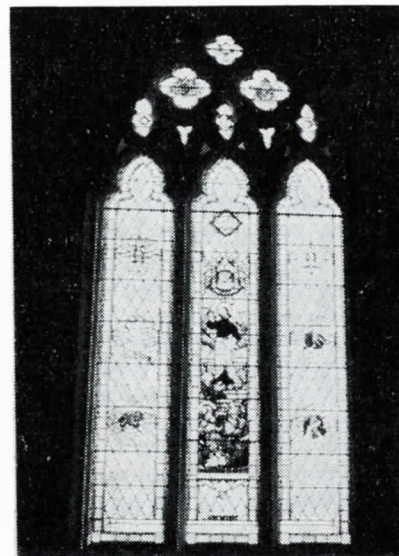


**REV. WILLIAM
CHALMERS**

In Charge of In-
glewood and Tarn-
agulla 1862 - 1868.

Later second Bish-
op of Goulburn.

Assisted in estab-
lishing early serv-
ices at Dunolly.



The beautiful War Memor-
ial Window. Dedicated on
May 18, 1947 by Bishop M.
C. James, of St. Arnaud.

MEMORIALS:

- Memorial Tablet** — Rebecca Clay, 1838-1886.
- Chair** — Hilma Elizabeth Morton, 1940-1941. — daughter of Rev. and Mrs F. H. Morton.
- Altar Cross** — Samuel Aquilla Radcliff.
- Brass Book Stand** — Edward Arthur and Charles Henry Game, died 1916 and 1917.
- Alms Dish** — Henry Cornwell Butler, 1891-1908.
- Prayer Desk** — William Woodward, died 1935.
- Credence Table** — Albert Arthur Crooke, died 1942.
- Sanctuary Window** — Presented by Ladies' Guild in memory of former members, Ada Davenport and Emily Game.
- Electric Organ Blower** — William Blackburn (Trust Fund).
- West End Memorial Window** — Erected by Parishioners in memory of those who served and died in World War II, 1939-1945.
- Chalice and Paten** — Emma and Thomas Phillips and Elizabeth Gregory, October, 1929.
- Chalice and Paten** — Daisy Ann Barker, December, 1962.

OTHER FITTINGS:

- Crib Set** — Ladies' Guild, 1965.
- Processional Cross and Festal Superfrontal** — Mr. J. C. Best.
- Sanctuary Lamp and Altar Lights** — Mr. William H. P. Wilkinson, of Essendon, to mark the Centenary of St. John's.

COMMON SCHOOL:

During his visit to Dunolly on March 23, 1857, Bishop Perry, of Melbourne, laid the foundation stone of the Church of England School, Dunolly.

At this time, Dunolly was a bustling goldmining town, with its population mainly hardy diggers.

By January, 1858, the building was almost completed by Letts and Crossly brothers, except for the roof, and a bazaar raised £70 towards the building fund.

By April, the stonework was completed and a Government grant of £100 almost paid for the building.

On May 3rd, Bishop Perry and his wife came to Dunolly again with Rev. Mc. Jennett and stayed with the recently ordained Rev. R. Stephens, assistant minister at Avoca, but serving in Dunolly.

The Bishop remarked on the "very pretty schoolroom" which was almost completed. This fact was accomplished during his stay.

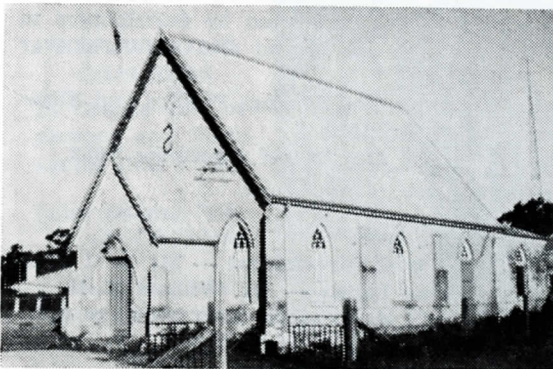
100 attended a tea meeting held in temporary church premises, in Broadway. His Lordship gave an address on the history of the Church in Victoria.

The Common School, which had been functioning since March 1857 in premises opposite Lecky's store in Broadway, transferred to the new building with its Gothic arched windows and doorways, and shingle roof, in May, 1858.

Mr. and Mrs Joshua Thomas were in charge of the school, which was known as the Church of England School and became Common School No. 189 after the passing of the Common Schools Act in May, 1862.

The school committee in 1862, consisted of Messrs Butt (Gold Receiver), Rose (Butcher), Wallis, Davidson and Dr. Cooper. Ninety three pupils were enrolled in 1864 and the yearly fees amounted to £95.

Robert Whitehead was an assistant at the school in 1866.



**St. John's Hall,
Dunolly, October
1969. Foundation
stone laid by Bi-
shop Perry, 1857.
Used as Church
of England
School, 1858.
Later known as
Common School
No. 189.**

"D" Classifica-
tion by National
Trust.

By 1872, nearly 200 pupils were attending and the two rooms were so overcrowded that the infant classes were taught in the Dunolly Town Hall.

At this time, the school was still conducted more or less as a church school by Mr. and Mrs Joshua Thomas, staunch supporters of the Church of England.

In 1872, the Board of Education Report stated that because of her age and infirmity, Mrs Thomas was unfitted for the duties expected of her and Amelia Nicholson was sent to replace her.

After being in charge of the school for 18 years, Joshua Thomas retired when the school closed on May 31, 1875.

At this time there were 390 pupils on the roll. With the completion of the Dunolly State School on June 1, 1875, the pupils transferred to the new building.

The Ballarat Church Chronicle (March 6, 1896) records the passing of Mrs Thomas on January 27, 1896, at the age of 76 years.

Her husband, Joshua Thomas, who was born in Wales in 1818, died at St. Kilda, Victoria, in 1902.

Because of his work in connection with education in Dunolly during the goldrush period, he can be regarded as being the "father" of education in Dunolly.

For his labour in education and his devoted work for St. John's Church, Dunolly, we should thank Almighty God.

FIRST SERVICES:

The great rush at Dunolly occurred in 1856, the peak being reached about September. Towards the end of 1856, an effort was being made to build a chapel for Church of England services.

As far as can be ascertained, the first Church of England services in Dunolly were held in 1857, in Wooldridge's Eagle Saloon. This saloon, situated in Broadway, North Dunolly, was a little north of Miss Whittaker's home of today (1969). It was a square building, fitted with a stage and appointments, and had a three-sectioned, pitched roof.

The saloon was possibly a tavern as well as a music hall. Rev. W. Mc. Jennett, of Avoca, first conducted services held in this building, and was later assisted by Rev. R. Stephens.

At a later stage, services were held in an old wooden building adjoining the Bendigo Hotel, which was located on the east side of Broadway, about halfway between Thompson and Bull Streets.

On March 23, 1857, Bishop Charles Perry, of Melbourne, accompanied by his wife, visited the Dunolly district. They were received by Mr. Gamriel at his cottage, four miles from Dunolly, where Mr. Richard Stephens, Lay Missionary to the Goldfields, was striving to establish a school.

Mr. Stephens was being assisted by Rev. W. Mc. Jennett, who had recently been appointed to Avoca. Mr. Mc. Jennett conducted morning service at Avoca before riding 23 miles to Dunolly for the evening service.

During his visit, Bishop Perry laid the foundation stone of the Church of England School at Dunolly, but the event appears to have caused little local interest.

Early in May — 3rd.-5th., 1858, Bishop Perry, accompanied by Rev. W. Mc. Jennett, of Avoca, again visited Dunolly. On arrival in the township, they were met by Rev. Richard Stephens, recently ordained deacon, and assistant minister at Avoca.

Bishop Perry commented on the "very pretty schoolroom" which was almost completed. (The building was completed during his stay). He was impressed with the results of the examination given to the school children, and presided at a tea meeting held in temporary premises in Broadway, to raise funds to pay off the debt on the school building.

When Rev. R. Stephens transferred to Maldon in December, 1859, Dunolly was left without the services of a minister. Regular services were held in the school (now St. John's Hall), by Joshua Thomas, the schoolteacher.

On February 16, 1860, Archdeacon Crawford, of Castlemaine, visited Dunolly to discuss the ways and means of obtaining a new minister. A service was held in the schoolroom and he promised that he or his curate would perform baptisms and marriages until a minister was appointed.

Bishop Perry made another of his long journeys to Dunolly towards the end of 1861, and on November 20, conducted evening service and a meeting to promote the General Church Fund. In his report to the Church Assembly during June, 1862, Bishop Perry stated that a minister was still required at Dunolly.

A report during August, 1862, indicated that there was still no clergyman at Dunolly, but the neat and spacious school house was being used for public worship, the services being conducted by Mr. Joshua Thomas.

On August 23, 1862, Rev. William Chalmers, of Tarnagulla, held services in the schoolroom at Dunolly, and a meeting of the congregation elected Trustees for land reserved for Church of England purposes at Dunolly. The Government Gazette of September 16, 1862, announced that two acres had been temporarily reserved in Dunolly Township.

A letter from Bishop Perry on January 17, 1863, stated that Messrs Carwardine, Orme, Chauncy, Butt and Crabbe had been gazetted on January 13, as the Trustees.

A canvass of the town resulted in many subscriptions being promised to pay the minister's stipend.

By June, 1863, the lack of a permanent Church of England building and a clergyman, was being felt at Dunolly. In spite of these drawbacks, there was a spirit of greater activity being felt, and Mr. Joshua Thomas still conducted regular services, being occasionally assisted by Rev. W. Chalmers.

The first church social function for several years, was held in the new Town Hall, Dunolly, on June 5, 1863.

Dr. Macartney, Dean of Melbourne, Archdeacon Crawford, of Castlemaine, and Rev. W. Chalmers, of Inglewood and Tarnagulla, were present. In spite of rain and mud, there was a good attendance.

On June 12, 1863, the land on which the church stands, was permanently reserved.

FIRST PERMANENT MINISTER:

During September, 1863, Rev. G. Pakenham Despard, a former Patagonian missionary, was appointed as the first permanent Church of England minister at Dunolly. He conducted his first service on October 18, 1863.

Early in January, 1864, while riding back to Dunolly from Eddington, Rev. Despard was thrown off when his horse shied. He received a fractured and dislocated elbow, but managed to walk to Mr. Hawksley's home. He was conveyed to Dunolly by cart, but was too late for the evening service.

At this time, Mr. H. S. Shaw was appointed as Dunolly's first lay representative at the Melbourne Synod.

THE PARSONAGE:

To raise funds for the building of a parsonage, a bazaar and sale of gifts held during October 1864, raised £194/2/8. Mr. H. W. Carwardine was secretary of the organising committee.

On July 12, 1864, the Church Committee examined sketches of the proposed parsonage, submitted by Vahland and Getzschmann, architects, of Sandhurst (now Bendigo), with regard to the limit of cost of £500.

The sketch of a one storeyed house (marked A), was approved, and the architects were instructed to prepare plans and specifications for same. The roof was to be of best corrugated iron and a cellar seven feet deep under the servant's room, would be entered by a trap door in the pantry floor.

Vahland and Getzschmann advised on August 16, 1864, that plans and specifications would be forwarded in a few days.

Tenders were dealt with on October 10, 1864.

These were submitted by Davis and Trevascus (Tarnagulla); Mr. Footer (Dunolly); Weeks, Tyrer and Stubbs (Dunolly); C. W. Smith (Castlemaine); Mr. Teale (Eddington) and Thomas Gidley, of Eddington.

Mr. Gidley's tender of £594 was accepted on condition that he agree to complete the building for an additional sum of £135/10/-.

Messrs Orme, Thomas and Wallis were appointed to supervise the construction and were empowered to engage a Clerk of Works. Mr. Alfred Martin was appointed Clerk of Works and was to be paid at the rate of 2½ per cent. of the building's cost.

On October 31, 1864, the Church Committee agreed to allow

an extra £4 for the insertion of hoop-iron ties every sixth course of bricks in the 4½ inch partition walls. It was decided that sash windows with weights, be substituted for French windows shown in the plan, but after further discussion, the windows as planned were to be fitted.

Mr. Gidley, the builder, signed a further contract on November 3, to enable the addition of a wing to complete the plan.

On February 13, 1865, Samuel Pemberton's tender of 9/6 per rod and 10/- extra for two 9" by 6" gateposts, with mortises of 2" and 6", was accepted. Gateposts 7½" by 7½" were finally substituted.

On June 12, 1865, Mr. Alfred Martin, Clerk of Works, advised the Committee that he had, that day, inspected the parsonage with Mr. Gidley (builder), and found it complete except for a few small details, and recommended that the builder be paid the balance due to him.

The total of the contract, with extras, was £736/2/6. The sum of £731/12/- had already been paid, so the balance owing to Mr. Gidley was £4/10/6.

Mr. Stubbs was to be paid not more than £1 for extra work on the dresser in the parsonage kitchen.

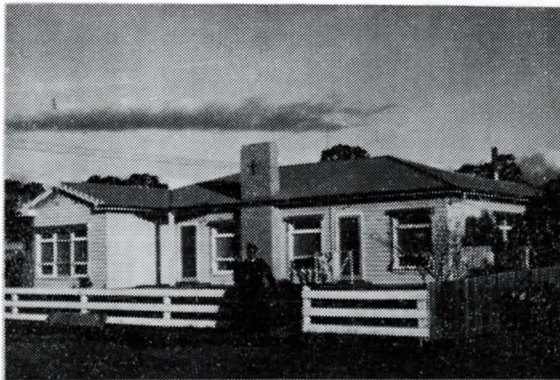
The Trustees and Church Committee met on August 4, 1865, and paid Mr. Alfred Martin his fee of £18/16/- for acting as Clerk of Works.

For tuckpointing the arches of the parsonage, £4 was allowed.

The Victoria Fire and Marine Insurance Company was appointed to insure the parsonage for £800, on September 12, 1865.

It appears that a slate roof was substituted for iron, as The Dunolly "Express," of October 9, 1865, referred to the slate roof, and described the new parsonage as "an extremely handsome structure."

In early records, this building was referred to as the "parsonage." However, down the years, it has also been known as the "vicarage."



St. John's Rectory, 1969. The Rector, Rev. Dr. L. J. Somers-Smith standing at gate.



EARLY VIEW OF ST. JOHN'S, DUNOLLY
Parsonage and St. John's Hall on left. Left front, Mrs Puttock. Centre, sister of Mrs Puttock. Rev. Puttock, 1903-1907 period.

PARSONAGE TANK

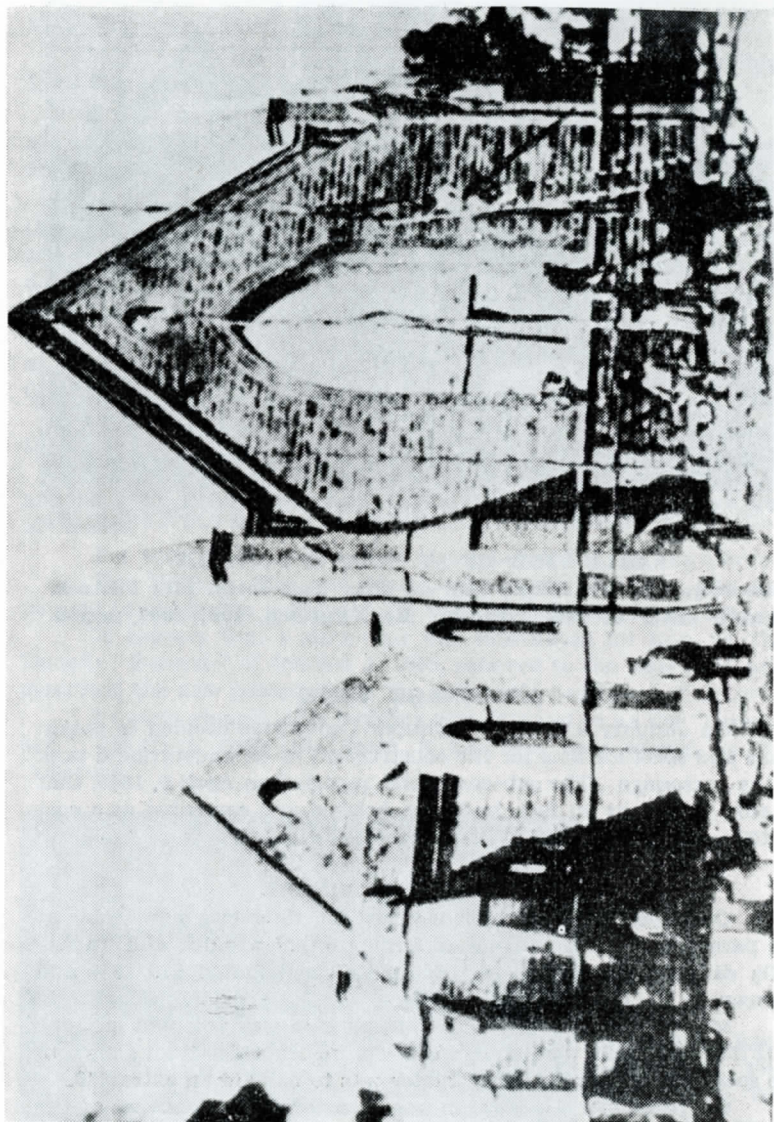
On January 8, 1866, the Church Committee decided to obtain plans and specifications for the construction of an underground tank at the parsonage. The sub-committee reported on April 9, 1866, that a tank, 15 feet by 10 feet, had been bricked and cemented at a cost of £59. A pump would cost an additional £10.

STABLE AT PARSONAGE

On September 6, 1875, it was decided to erect a new stable at the parsonage, and a canvass of Eddington, Newbridge and Tarnagulla districts was arranged. Eddington contributed £13/15/- and Tarnagulla £3/17/-.

Mr. William Floyd's tender of £23/11/6 was accepted on June 5, 1876. The stalls were to be made six inches wider than shown in the specifications, and the contractor was to be paid an extra 8/6.

On November 27, 1876, it was reported that a canvass of the Eddington area, to obtain feed for the minister's horse, had not been successful. Eddington congregation advised that their stipend was £60, and not £50, as previously advised.



BUILDING ST. JOHN'S, DUNOLLY — 1868.
James Faulkner (builder), in light coat, centre left; Joshua Thomas, with beard, extreme right.

BUILDING OF ST. JOHN'S CHURCH:

The period from 1860 to 1870 was a prosperous one for the Borough of Dunolly, which had a population of about 3,000.

The building fund for the erection of a new church was assisted by a series of grand teas, bazaars and fetes.

At a Church Committee meeting held on March 6, 1866, the Rev. G. P. Despard read a copy of a letter he had forwarded to Vahland and Getzschmann, architects, of Sandhurst (now Bendigo), asking them to forward sketches of a church, and their terms for preparing plans and sketches.

The Committee was duly informed that the architects would prepare sketches for approval, but would not sell them. The committee received sketches of seven churches, and after consideration, decided to obtain the price on plan Number 4. The architects were also asked to forward sketches of a building which would harmonise with the parsonage, and would not exceed £1,500.

At a meeting held on May 3, 1866, Mr. Butt moved, and Mr. Chauncy seconded, "that the church be built of rubble stone raised in the vicinity."

Mr. Orme moved and Mr. Thomas seconded, "that the bass course of the building to be of granite pitchers, that the buttresses coins, arches and outside reveals be faced with white brick, that the copings and spring courses and entablatures of buttresses, be of red brick cemented, and that the splays of reveals inside of windows and doors and all the inside work of arches be of red brick."

The architects were asked to prepare plans, specifications and estimates, using features selected from four sketch plans.

FOUNDATION LAID:

The foundation stone of St. John's Church, was laid by the Venerable Archdeacon Crawford, of Castlemaine, on July 17, 1866, at 2.30 p.m. About 500 people were present.

The Archdeacon told how on one of his visits to Dunolly, he had baptised forty children.

On September 13, 1866, the Registrar of the Melbourne Diocese advised the approval of plans and specifications for the new building.

On October 6, 1866, the tender of Jonathan Higgins Kashaw, for quarrying and delivering 100 perches of rubble stone at 2/10 per perch, was accepted.

John Johnson's tender of £3 for excavating the foundations and 7/- per perch for providing mortar and labour for laying the foundation of the church, was also accepted.

J. H. Kashaw was paid £19/5/4 for rubble stone supplied, and J. Johnson £157/7/- for work connected with the excavation and laying of the foundation.

On February 25, 1867, J. H. Kashaw was awarded a further contract for the supply of additional stone at 3/4 per perch. During

May, tenders were called for the supply of white bricks, 20 tons of Roach Lime and 50 loads of quartz tailings.

On July 2, 1867, John Callaghan was appointed to supply the lime at a cost of £2 per ton.

On September 2, 1867, it was reported that John Callaghan had not fulfilled his contract, and the Committee would take no further supplies from him.

Mr. W. Ivy was to supply 12,000 good, hard, burnt bricks.

On July 29, 1867, the Church Committee selected James Faulkner to build the walls of St. John's Church, Dunolly, for £520. Door frames and iron work for the pinnacle were to be supplied.

Mr. Sarr was to supply sufficient sand of suitable quality at 2/- per load.

During December, 1867, the committee agreed that J. H. Kashaw be paid for 20 extra loads of stone in order to provide stone of better quality for the building.

The Registrar of the Diocese of Melbourne advised during March, 1868, that a loan of £200 had been granted for building the church.

Thomas Tyrer, Clerk of Works, reported to the Trustees on March 30, 1868, that Mr. Faulkner's contract was satisfactorily completed, and Mr. Kashaw's account for stone was correct. Mr. Kashaw was to be paid £2/10 for removing unused stone.

Payments passed were—Mr. Faulkner £159/4/- (including £20 deposit), Mr. Sarr £5/12/-; Mr. Joy £25/9/-; Mr. Prew £1/11/6; Mr. Kashaw £17/10/-.

A bazaar held during 1868 raised in the vicinity of £120 to assist the building fund.

SUPPLY OF LIME

Building lime was dug and burned locally. A limited supply of good limestone was available at Limekiln Plain, in the vicinity of Bet Bet and Timor West.

Edward Elliott discovered limestone at Bet Bet while ploughing his land in 1858.

At one time, from six to eight kilns were in operation, employing about 30 men until 1870. This was the period during which there was much building activity in Dunolly and other nearby townships. The lime was carted from the kilns to the building sites by horse and bullock teams.

George Letts, the builder of the Church of England Common School (now St. John's Hall), probably had his own kilns at Bet Bet. It is very likely that lime from the Bet Bet area was used in the mortar to build St. John's.

ROOF AND FLOOR

On April 1, 1869, tenders for the roof, floor, doors and window frames were opened, and the tender of J. Nottage, of Newbridge, was accepted, the price being £693/5/-.

During July, 1869, Mr. Nottage sought extension of time for

the completion of the roof, but was advised that if the work was not finished by August 31, 1869, penalties would be enforced.

It was decided to borrow £300 to pay the balance of the current contract and to enable the plastering of the interior and the fitting of windows to be completed.

T. Hartegan carried out the plastering for £53 and was allowed £1/5/- for extras.

J. Russell made and fixed the windows for £49/16/-, and Mr. Tyrer, Clerk of Works for the building, received £20/7/6 for supervising the construction of the building.

The church was insured for £1000.

OPENING OF ST. JOHN'S CHURCH:

St. John's Church, Dunolly, was opened and dedicated by Archdeacon Crawford, of Castlemaine and Sandhurst, on Friday, December 17, 1869, assisted by the Rev. R. Poynder, Dunolly incumbent. Visiting ministers were Rev. G. P. Despard (Sandhurst), Rev. E. K. Yeatman (Avoca), Rev. R. Maham (Talbot) and G. Pollard (Inglewood).

Divine services conducted in the morning and evening, were attended by very large congregations.

The new church, which had taken almost three and a half years to build, was described as not only an ornament to the town of Dunolly, but the finest church in the district.

£2000 had been spent on the building, and a further £1000 would be needed to complete the design which included a tower and spire.

The Church of England Messenger, of December 30, 1869, described the architecture as being of the early geometrical and Decorated period. The large, three light window in the west end was an exceedingly good representation of the tracery of that period. The chancel, in the form of an apse, was semi-octagonal in plan.

COLLECTION TO BE TAKEN:

During August, 1868, members of the Church Committee agreed that an offertory system be tried at morning and evening services for a trial period of six months, to assist church finances.

On June 22, 1869, it was reported that the offertory system, which had proved satisfactory, would be continued.

FINANCE:

On July 4, 1870, it was agreed that Mr. John Deason should be paid £100 with interest, out of a principal of £300 which he had placed on loan to St. John's Church.

A decision was made on July 25, 1871, to pay Mr. John Deason £110. This left a balance of £90 to be repaid.

Mr. Richard Oates, who had assisted St. John's by making money available on loan to pay off the debt on the building, was to

be paid at the rate of £15 per month until December 31, 1872, until the balance, with interest, amounting to £97/4/- was fully repaid.

(John Deason and Richard Oates discovered the fabulous "Welcome Stranger" nugget, the world's largest, at Bulldog Gully, Moliagul, on February 5, 1869. The nugget's gross weight was 2,520 ounces, and it was sold for £9,553).

PEW RENT:

On October 30, 1863, the Church Committee decided that seats in the church would be rented for a year at the cost of £1 per sitting.

Rev. Despard's family were to be allowed to use any form they selected, free of cost.

Mr. Russell moved, and Mr. Rose seconded, that at all services, a Committee member stand at the door to receive any contributions offered by members of the congregation.

On July 20, 1868, the Church Committee decided to re-let all church seats for which the rent had not been paid for six months.

SEATING PROBLEMS:

On March 27, 1871, seatholders voiced their annoyance because the church seats were being shifted. The minister was asked to leave the present and future arrangements of seats and church property to the committee.

During February, 1878, it was decided to fasten the seats to the floor and obtain 100 printed cards for names on the seats.

On August 17, 1880, it was reported that £50 was owing as pew rent by six persons who held prominent sittings. It was decided that their names would be taken off the pews and the seats re-let.

The matter of vacant seats in the church was discussed by the committee on February 7, 1881. The decision was that parishioners should be canvassed to rent the seats. The following month, the committee announced that 12 vacant seats had been let.

SURPLUS SEATS SOLD:

On August 4, 1930, the Committee of St. John's, Dunolly, decided to contact the Ultima church regarding seats which had been sold to them, and ask for a further instalment to be paid.

EARLY VERGERS:

On October 18, 1869, J. Tetlow was appointed to ring the bell and clean the lamps for 3/- per week until the new church opened.

On December 13, 1869, the Verger's position was vacant. Salary, was £26 per annum.

On December 29, 1869, J. H. Kashaw was appointed verger at £26 per year. He was allowed 20/- per year for breakages of globes and chimneys.

On January 13, 1873, Mrs Kashaw took over the position.

On January 10, 1876, Mr. Jenkins agreed to accept the position of sexton at the fee of £18, plus £1 for breakages of glasses and globes and 1/- per week to clean the Sunday School.

On February 1, 1877, the sexton's fee was fixed at £19 yearly, this amount included £1 for breakages and the washing of the minister's surplice.

March 5, 1877. A surplice costing £2/5/6 arrived for Mr. Winn. Mr. Jenkins (sexton) complained about having to wash surplices.

April 7, 1879, Frederick Schmidt was appointed verger at £18 per year, plus £1 for breakages, £2/10/- for Sunday School, and 2/- each for washing surplices.

CHURCH LIGHTING:

On September 21, 1869, the church committee agreed to purchase eight three light chandeliers at 50/- each from McEwan and Co., of Melbourne, for lighting the church.

The lamps were to have 1½ inch burners and ground glass globes. They were suspended from the roof by iron rods.

In December, it was resolved that a lamp costing not more than 30/- be provided for the chancel.

The Dunolly "Express" referred to the church lighting in these words: "When lighted up with its 33 lamps, the interior is very beautiful."

When a new pulpit arrived in 1877, two bright bronze lamps were ordered for it.

During 1878, parishioners were complaining because the rector did not turn the lamps up high enough.

Early vergers were allowed £1 per year to replace broken lamp glasses and shades.

Early in 1912, the Gloria Lighting Co. installed Gloria gas lights in the church for a trial period. They were considered to be unsuitable, and in February, 1912, the company was asked to remove the gas lights and reinstate the kerosene lamps. Several months elapsed before the Gloria lights were removed.

During April 1912, the church secretary was asked to obtain details concerning several types of Air Gas lighting plants which were available.

A Kyabram agent advised that an acetylene plant was for sale, but the committee would not consider a system operated by water on carbide.

The kerosene lamps, although smelly, smoky and inefficient, continued to provide church lighting for many years.

On September 2, 1929, a new lighting era was to begin in Dunolly, when the Bet Bet Shire power station commenced generating electricity.

Along with townspeople, St. John's Church Committee was

eager to take advantage of this modern, improved and clean system of lighting.

During July, 1929, a number of parishioners each made £1 available, free of interest for one year, to enable electricity to be installed in the church and Sunday School.

Those who assisted were — Rev. Goodisson, Mr. Jessup, Mrs Hancock, Miss Game, Mrs Barker, Miss Dolan, Mr. Cottle, Mr. Young, Mr. W. Davenport, Mrs W. Davenport and Mrs Boys.

The electrical installation was carried out by Brownjohn and Wallish, electrical contractors, the church costing £15 and the Sunday School £7/10/-.

(The account for this work, dated September 16, 1929, is still preserved among old records).

During April 1930, the Health Department sought a certificate from a qualified electrical engineer, approving the electrical installations in the church and Sunday School. The Department was advised that the work had been passed by the Bet Bet Shire Council's electrical engineer.

Electric light accounts at this time, ranged from 8/- to 10/- per month.

The Dunolly power station supplied electricity for local use until it was acquired by the State Electricity Commission in March, 1938.

ORGANS, PAST AND PRESENT:

During November, 1863, the church committee decided to purchase a No. 1 five-octave, rosewood case, Harmonium, from Messrs Wilkie and Webster.

On January 4, 1864, the meeting agreed that Messrs Wilkie and Webster be paid £33 for the Harmonium supplied.

During October, 1868, Mr. Thomas, junior, offered to play the harmonium for £2/10/- per quarter. The offer was accepted.

In June, 1870, Rev. Poynder reported that £17 was in hand towards the purchase of a cabinet organ, which would cost about £36, exclusive of carriage.

The old harmonium, which had done sterling service for over seven years, was offered for sale with a reserve price of £12/10/- Rev. Poynder offered £12/10 and Mr. King £15. The committee decided to accept £14 cash.

On November 14, 1872, Rev. Poynder advised that Mrs Poynder was unable to play the organ any longer, and recommended Mr. Dales for the position.

Mr. Dales was duly appointed organist at St. John's, at the rate of £10 per annum, on the understanding that the control of the choir and church music rested with Rev. Poynder.

Miss Hearle was organist in 1876, and was receiving £12 yearly.

In 1877, Miss Clay was appointed organist on August 7.

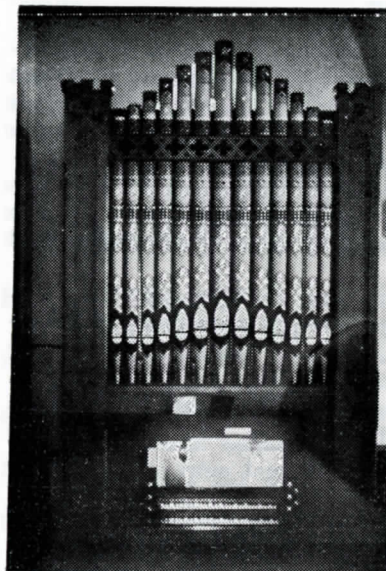
On October 14, Rev. J. L. Winn advised the church committee

that the organ "was very much out of order and one of the springs broken."

By December, the organ was in a worse state, as several notes would not sound, and it appeared that the church would be without music for the Christmas services.

The committee considered that a pipe organ should be purchased, and subscriptions were collected for that purpose.

It was reported by Mr. Bond, who thoroughly cleaned and repaired the organ, at a cost of £1/1/-, that the instrument was almost beyond repair.



ST. JOHN'S PIPE ORGAN

**Built and installed by George
Fincham and Son in 1879.**

PIPE ORGAN:

On May 5, 1879, Mr. Orr moved, and Mr. Russell seconded that the amount to be expended on the new organ was to be £250, which included carriage and erection.

Mr. Orr advised on June 16, 1879, that Mr. Fincham, organ builder, of Melbourne, had quoted £260 for the supply and erection of the pipe organ, and recommended that this tender be accepted.

Messrs Faulkner, Fearn, Orr and Best formed a sub-committee to arrange a concert to assist the organ fund. The concert raised £18/11/7.

Mr. Dicker reported to a meeting held on October 13, 1879, that he had seen the new organ in its complete state in Melbourne. The front pipes were being illuminated. On hearing it played, he was satisfied it was a first class instrument.

The church committee asked Mr. Fincham to defer the erection of the organ in St. John's Dunolly, until about November 23. It was hoped that the Bishop of Melbourne would be the preacher when the organ was installed.

The placing of the new organ caused some problems. After discussing and inspecting various positions, it was decided to erect it in the north west corner of the church. Messrs Russell, Faulkner and Best were to arrange for a platform to be built on which to place it.

SERVICE TO MARK OPENING:

Rev. Dr. C. W. Torrance, B.A., of Holy Trinity Church, Balclava, Melbourne, parish priest, organist and composer, who had completed his studies in music at the Dublin University, was invited to Dunolly to take part in the service to mark the installation of the new pipe organ.

The Church of England Messenger (September 3, 1879) described Dr. Torrance as "the only musician gifted with creative power, and educated as a musician ought to be" which Ireland had produced for many years.

On Friday, November 21, 1879, Rev. Dr. Torrance presided at the keyboard of the sweet-toned, but powerful instrument, and played selections from Handel, Mendelssohn and Mozart, to exhibit the beauties and capabilities of the organ.

The Dunolly Express (November 25, 1879), described the organ as having 408 pipes, 2 manuals, 12 draw stops, Bourdon pedals and German radiating pedal boards.

The case of clear pine, was varnished, the pedals were constructed of colonial blackwood, and the metals used were of colonial smelting, while the tin used, had come from Tasmanian mines.

"The front pipes were chastely illuminated, and altogether, the instrument is an elegant piece of furniture, and reflects great credit on its builder, Mr. Fincham, of Richmond."

The organ was erected in the church by Mr. Grounds.

Rev. J. L. Winn thanked his parishioners and people of other denominations in Dunolly who had generously subscribed to the organ fund.

On the night of the opening, £7 was collected.

On the following Sunday, Bishop Thornton, of Ballarat, was present. The choir rendered the anthem, "Incline Thine Ear," the soloist being Mr. W. A. Orr.

At the close of the evening service, the hymn, "Jerusalem The Golden," was sung by the entire congregation. Miss Byers, of Ballarat, presided at the organ at both services.

In 1886, prices were sought for moving the organ to the chancel end of the church, but this was not carried out. Mr. George Fincham, the builder of the organ, reported in 1897 that "the organ

was in an extremely bad condition, and whoever had been in the habit of attending it had very indifferent knowledge, the condition of the oboe proclaiming that most forcibly."

In October, 1907, the organ was cleaned and moved to the front of the church, where it still stands in 1969. During the move, Fincham and Son re-leathered the bellows and revoiced the oboe. The organ was also tuned.

To enable the organ to be played, it was necessary for someone to act as organ blower, and work the bellows. On January 15, 1880, Frederick Schmidt was appointed Organ Blower, at a fee of £1 per quarter.

ELECTRIC BLOWER

After having to be pumped or "blown" by hand, the pipe organ was fitted with an electric blower about 20 years ago. The money for this improvement was dedicated to the memory of Mr. W. Blackburn, a generous benefactor.

The organ blower was paid 1/- per week for his services and was sometimes required for extra services and rehearsals. An old minute book of 1940 reveals 5/- was paid for organ blowing during January.

EARLY ORGANISTS:

October 20, 1868, Mr. Thomas was appointed to play the harmonium for £2/10/- per quarter.

On November 14, 1872, Mrs Poynder advised that she was unable to continue playing the organ.

The church committee, on March 6, 1876, appointed Miss Hearle organist from January 1, 1876, at the rate of £12 per year.

The Rev. L. J. Winn reported on August 7, 1877, that Miss Clay had been appointed organist.

The Ballarat Church Chronicle, of August 6, 1892, reported that Miss F. B. Kendall, organist at St. John's, Dunolly, for seven years, had been presented with a tea and coffee service when she married in July.

Mr. Tainsh succeeded Miss Kendall. In 1896, Mr. E. T. Reid and Miss A. Hobday were listed as organists.

BELLS:

On January 15, 1872, Rev. Poynder suggested that a turret bell, 22 inches in diameter, weighing 2 cwt. 1 qtr. 19 lb. and priced at £27 including mountings, be obtained from Messrs McEwans, of Melbourne.

Mr. Tyrer was authorised to order the bell, which was described as being "of excellent quality and in every way suitable for this church."

The bell arrived in February and the cost, including cartage, was £26/18/-.

Messrs Poynder, Thomas and Tyrer supervised the erection of the bell, which cost £12/16/6 for the staging.

On March 9, 1874, the church committee granted the Sunday School permission to use the church bell.

On August 2, 1875, the offer of Danks and Co., Melbourne, 8d. per pound for the old school bell, was accepted.

The secretary reported at the meeting held on June 4, 1877, that the bell was broken and had been forwarded to a Maryborough foundry for repairs. A few days later, the bell was returned and rehung.

During 1878, the tongue of the bell was broken and required repairs.

Early in 1879, a bell supplied by Messrs Briscoe was found to be unsuitable and was returned by Freeman and Company at the expense of the church.

The bell in use was inspected to see if anything could be done to render it more serviceable.

In December, 1879, the incumbent was receiving numerous complaints about the church bell, which was hung so low that it could not be heard at a little distance.

Horwood's Castlemaine Foundry was to be contacted to obtain the cost of recasting the bell. In February, 1880, advice was received that recasting would cost about £7, or 1/3 per pound, exclusive of freight.

It is not known whether this was done, as the next minute book, which would contain this information, is not among the records.

FONT:

On August 2, 1875, it was decided to purchase a font of Omaru stone from Messrs Marsh, Grant and Company. The cost was £17/11/ and freight paid to McCulloch and Co., for transport of same amounted to 18/8.

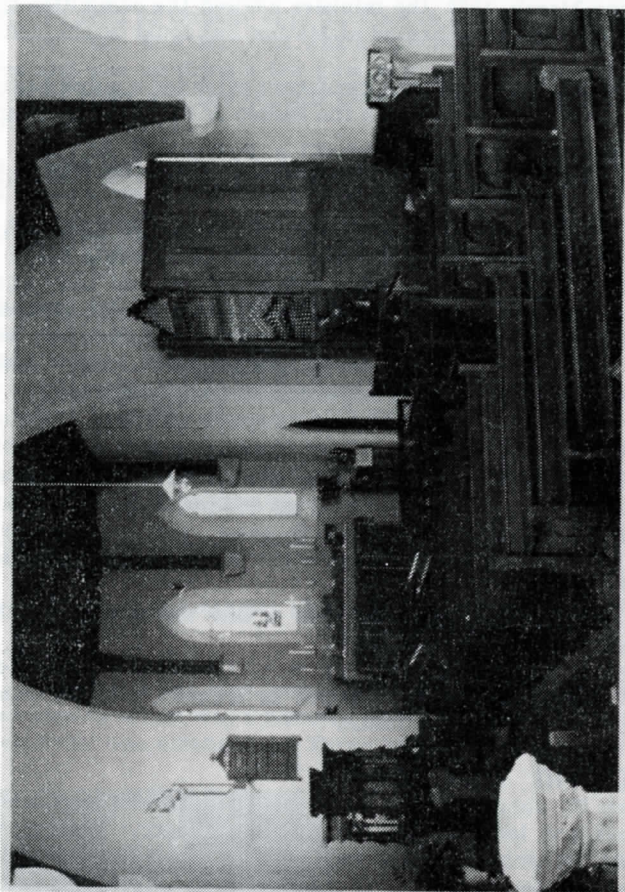
PULPIT:

The church committee on May 14, 1877, agreed to obtain a pulpit made of Huon pine, costing about £30. It was delivered in September and two bright bronze lamps were obtained and fitted.

At this time, members of the congregation were complaining because the chandeliers obscured their view of the minister. This problem was overcome by raising the two front chandeliers slightly and removing the globes.

READING DESK:

During November, 1879, an order was placed with Mr. Thompson, architectural wood carver, of Ballarat, for a reading desk, costing about £7, of similar design to the pulpit.



THE SANCTUARY, AND EAST END, ST. JOHN'S, DUNOLLY, 1969.

ILLUMINATED ADDRESS:

On October 7, 1875, Mr. Fearn was asked to draw up an illuminated address for presentation to Bishop Thornton, of Ballarat, when he made his first visit to Dunolly. The address was to cost £2/2/-

On April 4, 1876, Bishop Thornton visited St. John's for its consecration, and was the guest of Mr. Puckle.

The visit had been delayed because the deeds of the church land were not available.

INCIDENTAL ITEMS:

During March, 1879, the minister advised the committee that responses were not to be chanted at Matins, but could be chanted at Evensong.

On December 22, 1879, the incumbent exhibited a pulpit banner and a pair of offertory bags which the Bishop of Ballarat had offered to present.

After discussion, the meeting decided to thank the Bishop for his offer, but respectfully decline the articles which could cause offence to some members of the congregation.

FLOODS:

On November 12, 1893, Archdeacon Green paid his first visit to St. John's, Dunolly. Many members of the congregation were prevented from attending services because of heavy storms which flooded the township and caused much damage to property.

DRIFT OF POPULATION:

Early in 1894, St. John's Sunday School lost three of its energetic workers with the departure of its Superintendent, Mr. G. P. Bentley, Mr. H. Couchman and Mr. E. Pelletier. Mr. Pelletier was to become a lay reader under Archdeacon McCullagh, of the Melbourne Diocese.

Mr. Bentley was presented with a fine testimonial and Mr. Couchman received an Oxford Bible.

Towards the end of 1894, Mr. S. L. Davey, Manager of the Bank of Victoria, Dunolly, transferred to Kilmore, and St. John's lost another consistent churchman.

TEA MEETING REVIVAL:

When St. John's Church was being planned and constructed, tea-meetings and lectures provided valuable finance. Towards the end of 1894, St. John's Church held its first tea meeting for nine years. The function took place in the Council Chambers and proved to be a great success.

On November 20, 1895, the Mayor of Dunolly Borough, opened a sale of gifts in the Sunday School. Over £20 was raised without the aid of raffles.

INCIDENTAL ITEMS:

The Ballarat Church Chronicle of February 5, 1896, recorded that St. John's schoolroom, Dunolly had been renovated. The ceiling had been varnished and the walls coloured sea green, and Mr. John Russell had painted an artistic band of stencil work along the dado. For the Harvest Festival, Mr. Russell painted the text "The earth is the Lord's and the fulness thereof" in rustic, artistic letters on a banner, which extended the full length of the church.

On August 3, 1896, Bishop Thornton officiated at the funeral of St. John's incumbent, Rev. J. E. F. May, at Dunolly. The late minister had been at Dunolly only for a short period.

In 1897, Mrs May, his widow, opened a private school at her home and was requiring a few girls as boarders. Thorough teaching would be given and the Dunolly climate was advertised as being exceptionally healthy.

Mr. W. F. Tatchell, a Churchwarden of St. John's for many years, died on October 16, 1897.

JAPANESE FAIR:

On March 1, 1909, the chairman reported to the Church Committee that Mr. Barry Jagers would be in the district about the middle of June and would be prepared to erect his Japanese Village show in the Dunolly Town Hall for three days. A matinee performance would be included for the total cost of £35.

Four side-shows, including Punch and Judy, would be erected. The stalls would be decorated and lighted with gas, while one hundred Japanese lanterns would be suspended overhead. The offer was accepted and the fair was held on June 10, 11 and 12. Takings were £70/18/8, and Mr. Jagers was paid £30.

GORDON GARDENS FETE:

During January, 1910, a successful fete was held in the Gordon Gardens, and raised £15/5/1 after expenses had been paid.

BIOSCOPE SHOW:

Another form of entertainment arranged in 1910 to supplement church funds, was a bioscope show. Marchant's Open Air Bioscope Show was arranged for December 18, the cost being £5.



THE REV. G. DESPARD

First permanent Minister at St. John's, 1863 - 1868. During his ministry, the Vicarage and present Church were built.

GREATER THINGS:

Rev. George Pakenham Despard, B.A., was born in 1813, the son of a British army officer. His early years were spent in British North America where he graduated from university.

He returned to England and took out his degree at Cambridge. After being ordained to a curacy in the south of England, and conducting a private school near Bristol, he set off as a missionary to Patagonia, where he set up his family at the mission headquarters on Cranmer in the Falkland Islands.

On returning to England, he met Bishop Perry, of Melbourne, who was on a visit to the Old Country. Bishop Perry accepted him for parochial work in Victoria.

He reached Victoria with his wife and family of four children towards the end of 1863.

He was appointed to Dunolly, a centre which for some time had been without the services of a clergyman. On his arrival at Dunolly, the only building owned by the church was a brick school-house, but his zeal and earnestness soon brought help from church members.

A parsonage was erected, a brick church was built at Eddington, services established in outlying centres, and eventually, a handsome church, the present St. John's, at Dunolly.

In 1868, he transferred to the newly completed St. Paul's, at Sandhurst (now Bendigo).

Owing to the large debt incurred in the building of the church, the parish was unable to continue paying Rev. Despard the stipend promised at his appointment.

Thinking that the parish of St. Paul's might progress better under the guidance of a younger minister, Rev. Despard resigned and was appointed to Malmsbury in 1870, when Rev. Chalmers transferred from there to Kyneton.

During his stay at Malmsbury, the parsonage was completed and the handsome and attractive bluestone church of St. John, built and consecrated.

Rev. Despard died on May 5, 1881, and was buried at Malmsbury cemetery.

The Church of England Messenger of June 9, 1881, described him as a thorough man. "Whatever he had to do, he did it with his might, he counted no toil too arduous, and no self denial was too severe, if they came to him in the way of duty."

PHILIP CHAUNCY:

One of the earliest Church Trustees was Philip Lamothe Snell Chauncy, who was born at Datchett, Buckinghamshire, England, on June 21, 1816.

He was educated as a surveyor, and arrived in Adelaide in 1839 to begin survey work. In 1841, he became Assistant Surveyor in

Western Australia where he gained considerable experience among the natives, in whom he took much interest and learned to speak their dialects.

In 1853, he arrived in Victoria and was appointed District Surveyor at Heathcote. Later, he served at Dunolly, Castlemaine and Camperdown, as well as Ararat.

In January, 1878, when a wholesale dismissal of civil servants occurred because of the shortage of Government funds, he was dismissed. In August, 1878, he was appointed Registrar of the Ballarat Diocese, and served in this capacity until his death on April 9, 1880.

During his stay at Dunolly, Philip Chauncy was a considerable figure in public life. His survey work took him to all parts of the district, and he conducted surveys and organised land sales. He was also interested in the natives with whom he came in contact, and gathered much valuable information which was later recorded. Some of the areas he surveyed were given names of native origin.

After being closely associated with St. John's church as a Trustee and Committee member for a number of years, he tendered his resignation on June 4, 1867, as he was transferred from Dunolly.

The old stone house which he occupied, still stands, near the Masonic Hall, Dunolly.

WILLIAM CHALMERS:

Rev. William Chalmers commenced his ministry at Inglewood and Tarnagulla on May 18, 1862.

He later visited Dunolly and assisted in establishing services there. In his writings, he described Dunolly thus: "Dunolly is in a very pretty situation. Streets clean and broad, but very desolate. Many of the houses deserted and in ruins."

Rev. Chalmers was consecrated the Second Bishop of Goulburn New South Wales on November 1892, and held this position till his death in 1901.

PLAQUE RETURNS:

During 1964, while Mr. Joe McCamish, a former Arnold West resident, was sorting scrap metal at an Oakleigh foundry, he came across a small brass plaque, which had been presented to Mr. W. S. Puckle by the Teachers and Scholars of St. John's Sunday School, Dunolly, on May 12, 1878.

Realising its historic significance, Mr. McCamish retrieved the plaque, had it mounted on a piece of polished wood, and presented it to the Goldfields' Historical and Arts Society on August 18, 1967.

Mr. W. S. Puckle was the Sunday School Superintendent at St. John's. He was closely associated with the church. In 1875, he was Secretary of the Board of Guardians, while he served as Treasurer from 1877 until 1878.

JOHN RUSSELL:

At the Church Committee meeting held on February 24, 1868, Mr. John Russell was appointed Secretary and Treasurer in place of Captain Wright, who had resigned.

Mr. Russell held this position for seven years, until 1875.

WILLIAM BLACKBURN:

The Ballarat Church Chronicle of June 1, 1911, reported the recent death of William Blackburn. At the Church meeting on June 6, 1911, Mr. Couchman moved and Mr. Butler seconded, that a minute of appreciation be recorded for the good work done by the late Vestry member, William Blackburn, in all church matters.

Mr. Blackburn left a bequest of £1040 to St. John's Church. In 1913, this amount was yielding interest of £45/9/-. This bequest fund has been used for the maintenance and improvement of church property. The electric organ blower was provided by this fund.

USE OF SUNDAY SCHOOL BUILDING:

May 4, 1874. — The Education Department was paying £1 per week for use of the Sunday School.

June 7, 1875. — The Education Department was to be contacted concerning the dilapidated state of the fence, and the Board was to be asked to repair same without delay.

August 2, 1875. — Lodges were to be allowed to use the building for 3/- a meeting, exclusive of lighting.

October 4, 1875. — The Rechabite Society was informed that rent for the Sunday School was to be 6/- per calendar year.

January 10, 1876. — The Lodge was to be charged £2/2/- per year for the use of the small room.

August 7, 1877. — The Templars Lodge was to be notified that rent was owing for the use of the School Room. The lodge advised that the room would not be required after December 31, 1877.

February 15, 1915. — The Education Department was renting the Sunday School.

May 19, 1913. — It was decided to hold a ballot of parishioners to decide whether dancing and card playing would be allowed in the Sunday School building.

On July 14, 1913, the Vicar reported that the Diocesan Registrar, Ballarat, was unable to say if the School Room had been consecrated, as the Ballarat records only went back to 1876, the year St. John's was consecrated.

It appears that the Sunday School was made available for dancing, card evenings and socials, as well as meetings.

SUNDAY SCHOOL:

An old Sunday School roll, covering the period 1918-1928, indicates that children from the following families attended:—Seeley

Young, Brooker, Haden, Collicoat, Pryor, Wrathall, Anderson, Mack, Scheele, Raselli, Atherton, Richards, Marshall, Vince, Jones, Cumper, Romey, Beaumont, Chesterfield, King, Hughes, Flett, Miles, Watts, Thomas, Cook, Boys, Fowles, Harridge, Joy, Elliott, Barrett, Loftus, Kendall, Johnson, Hill, Wakefield, Smith, Downs, Almeida, Nixon, Harvey, Barber, Milledge, Underwood, Reeves, Sheehan, Davenport, Walls, Crowley, Augustini, Abner, McKee, Best, Kinnear, Hecker, Staggard, Brett, Osborne, Found, McDonald, Kennear, Scheeles, Scarff, Faux, Cottle, Jessop, Game, Fox, Kick, Darker, Osmond, Partington, Luxon, Hancock, Hawkes and Williamson.

During this period, Superintendents were Mrs Carr, Mrs Crowley and Mr. G. Young. Mr. R. Clay was Treasurer on a number of occasions.

The following persons assisted in the Sunday School:— Mrs K. Morris, Misses Game, O'Bern, Carr, Rowe, E. Hughes, M. Collicoat, M. Haden, I. Young, A. Wrathall, F. Young, E. Young, L. Jones, S. Joy, L. Scheeles, M. Hawkes, E. Found, A. Lummis and Flett. Messrs R. Clay, G. Young and W. Young were also on the teaching staff.

During 1919, the highest number of scholars on the roll was 67, and the greatest number present, 43.

On July 6, 1919, scholars attended a Peace Thanksgiving Service in the Dunolly Town Hall.

The Sunday School was closed on August 3 and 10, 1919, because of an influenza epidemic.

During 1923, the highest enrolment was 46, and the highest attendance 26.

CHURCH SECRETARIES:

Records available from 1863 to 1940 indicate that the following have held office as Church Secretaries of St. John's —

Messrs H. W. Carwardine; Captain Wright; John Russell; W. S. Puckle; Best; Haggie; Deeble; W. S. Herring; Clough; R. Clay; A. E. Gladstone; Dalrymple; R. W. Bellmont; G. Young.

CHURCH TREASURERS:

It has been very difficult to trace all the treasurers from the records available.

From 1863 until 1940, the following have acted as Treasurer — Messrs W. H. Carwardine, Captain Wright, John Russell, K. Orme, W. S. Puckle, Dicker, Hayes, Butler, Braethwaite, Pelletier, Kendall, W. Davenport, Bailey, Rudd, Dr. Crick and Boys.

GOOD WORKMANSHIP:

The well proportioned freestone building, set on granite foundations, is still in a good state of preservation after the passing of a century.

The excellent workmanship brings favourable comment from interested visitors and stands as a worthy testimonial to the pioneer builders of the goldrush days.

LADIES' GUILD:

For many years, St. John's Ladies' Guild has been well-known throughout the district for its excellent catering service. Functions catered for include Shire Council Luncheons and dinners, balls, lodge socials and wedding receptions. This hard-working band gives very valuable financial assistance to St. John's.

In a publication such as this, it is impossible to list the names of all who have worked for the Guild. The Vestry and Parish Council extend thanks and appreciation for the excellent service rendered.

Ladies' Guild office-bearers in 1969 are:—

President — Mrs H. C. Shay; Secretary — Mrs D. Polinelli; Treasurer — Mrs J. Harris.

STAINED GLASS:

The interior of St. John's is enhanced by a beautiful stained glass window in the west end.

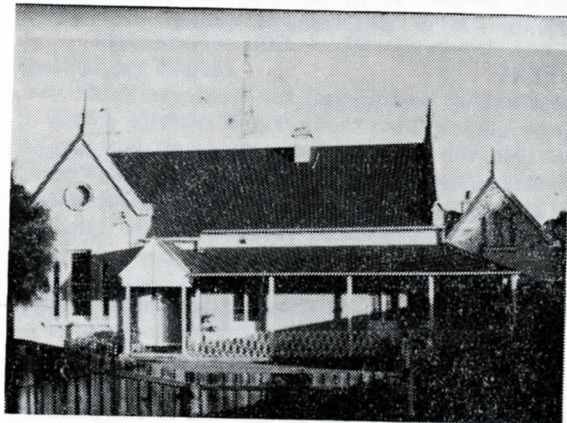
The window was installed as a thanksgiving to Almighty God for victory, and in memory of those who died and those who served in the Second World War, 1939-1945.

The window, set in a Gothic arch, is 19 feet by 12 feet, and cost about £200. It was dedicated on May 18, 1947, by Bishop James, First Bishop of St. Arnaud.

Sacred monograms of the Evangelists flank the depiction of the Ascension.

Above the main window are the badges of the armed services.

More recently, the sanctuary has been beautified by the installation of two stained glass windows by the Ladies' Guild, in memory of two former members, Ada Davenport and Emily Game.



The original St. John's Parsonage, built 1864. Also known as the Vicarage and Rectory. — "C" Classification by National Trust.

This photograph taken October, 1969. Now a private residence.

NATIONAL TRUST INTEREST:

The Victorian branch of the National Trust of Australia has included the following buildings connected with St. John's Parish, Dunolly, on its list of classified buildings:—

St. John's Church — "C" Classification.

St. John's original Vicarage, now a private residence — "C" Classification.

St. John's Parish Hall. Former Common School. — "D" Classification.

EXTENSION OF CHURCH WORK:

On August 30, 1903, whilst visiting Dunolly Parish, the Bishop of Ballarat travelled to Eastville State School where Anglican services had been commenced eight months before. As he neared the school, the Bishop remarked that the surroundings resembled a "county fair," with the array of vehicles in which the congregation had driven seven or eight miles.

On February 27, 1904, the first Church of England Harvest Thanksgiving was conducted in the Eastville State School by Rev. W. Puttock, of Dunolly. One hundred attended the morning service, and seventy at night. Collection for the day amounted to £2/10/10.

On November 14, 1914, Rev. Carr reported satisfactory progress at Betley, where the first Church of England service had been held. Services were to be held fortnightly.

During February, 1915, it was reported that a Sunday School had been started at Betley, where a Church Committee was functioning. It was also hoped to begin Sunday School at Bet Bet.

REV. HOWARD JOHN CARR:

Rev. H. J. Carr served at St. John's, Dunolly from 1912 to 1922, and to date, has the distinction of serving for the longest period on any minister appointed to the Parish.

His early ministry was spent in Western and South-western Victoria. On December 9, 1916, the Ballarat Church Chronicle announced the appointment of Rev. H. J. Carr as Rural Dean of Maryborough in recognition of his long and exceedingly faithful ministry in the Diocese of Ballarat.

During his ministry at Dunolly, Jubilee Celebrations to mark the 50th anniversary of the opening of St. John's, commenced on December 14, 1919, and continued for a week with special services and social functions.

During the celebrations, Rev. Carr paid tribute to the pioneers of the Dunolly goldfield for their courage, devotion and determination in erecting the noble building, also for the assistance given by Lay Readers, especially the work done by the late Joshua Thomas in fostering the work of the Church at Dunolly.

Canon Carr served under four Bishops, and was noted for his loyalty, spirit of brotherhood and endurance.

He died at Ballarat in 1930. At his funeral service on August 13, Archdeacon Best, of Ballarat, spoke of the late Canon conducting services in homes and small, outback communities wherever and whenever required. "He never faltered, never failed."

GREAT DAY FOR PARISH:

The Ballarat Church Chronicle described July 15, 1926, as a great day for Dunolly Parish.

On that day, a new brick and concrete church (St. John's), was opened and dedicated at Rheola by Bishop James, of St. Arnaud. (At this time, Rheola had been transferred to the Dunolly Parish). The new building, which replaced an old wooden structure, cost £1400.

On July 5, at the evening service at St. John's, Dunolly, a new oak altar, candlesticks and frontal were dedicated. St. John's sanctuary had been remodelled and rearrangement and decoration of the church carried out. The Vicar described the work as "a wonderful change."

From 1923 to 1926, nearly 1,000 feet of paling and picket fence had replaced old fences, the church grounds had been remodelled and improved, a new asphalt tennis court laid down and repairs carried out to the Parish Hall. In all £800 had been spent "and all this in what is sometimes called an old mining district."

DID YOU NOTICE:

Visitors returning for the Centenary Celebrations will surely notice one important improvement to the northern approach to the church. After being in existence and causing a hazard for many years, the deep drain in Thompson Street was replaced with underground pipes by the Bet Bet Shire Council during October, 1969.

MOTHER CHURCH:

The minister of St. John's, Dunolly, has been responsible for conducting services at a number of district churches. At present, services are held at the following places —

St. Saviour's, Tarnagulla. Dedicated November, 1864.

St. Paul's Eddington. Foundation stone laid on April 12, 1865. Opened, April 24, 1866.

St. Michael and All Angels, Moliagul. Foundation stone laid on September 29, 1864. Opened, March 14, 1865.

Moliagul, formerly in the Bealiba Parish, was transferred to the Dunolly Parish in 1967.

St. Peter's, Goldsborough. Services commenced in a small, wooden building at Old Dunolly in 1867. The building was shifted to its present site in Goldsborough township in 1879.

For many years, services were held regularly in the Dunluce Hall. A small, wooden church at Llanelly served as a centre for worship until 1964, when the building was sold and dismantled.

Prior to services being held at Old Dunolly, district residents gathered for worship in the Old Inkerman Common School, a brick building, which opened in 1862.

Members of St. John's Vestry, 1969. From left: back row — W. Barker, A. L. Lovel, J. W. Freemantle, P. J. Freemantle.

From left, front row — Mrs J. Best, Mrs L. Burns, Mrs J. W. Freemantle, Miss B. Graco.



MEMBERS OF ST. JOHN'S VESTRY, 1969 —

Secretary — Miss Beryl Graco; Mr. W. Barker, Mrs J. Best; Mrs L. Burns, Mr. and Mrs J. W. Freemantle, Mr. P. J. Freemantle and Mr. A. L. Lovel.

PARISH COUNCIL —

Representatives from the following churches form the Parish Council —

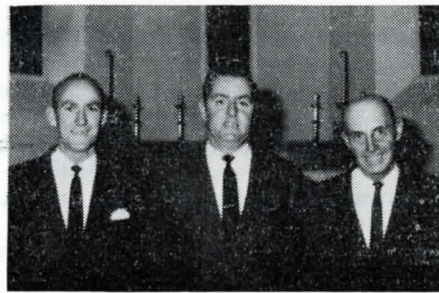
Dunolly — Mr. W. Barker (Treasurer), Mr. A. L. Lovel, Mrs J. Best.

Eddington — Mr. J. W. Freemantle, Mr. P. J. Freemantle.

Goldsborough — Mr. J. Lummis, Mr. G. Shay.

Tarnagulla — Mr. R. Heather (Secretary), Mr. D. Heather.

Moliagul — Mr. E. E. Shay, Mr. K. I. McClelland, Mr. G. M. Carless.



St. John's Church Wardens, 1969. From left — W. Barker, A. L. Lovel, J. W. Freemantle.

ODDS AND ENDS:

- July 24, 1899 — Service to mark 3rd anniversary of the Gleaners' Union.
- October 4, 1899 — League of Ministering Children in operation.
- June 1, 1905 — Bible Union Reading revived.
- December 2, 1907 — Branch of G.F.S. formed with Mrs Deeble as Secretary.
- December, 1907 — The removal of the organ from the north-west corner to the front south-east corner was completed, and found to be a great improvement. Gratitude was expressed to the workers of earlier days who had provided such a fine instrument.
- June 22, 1911 — Members of Dunolly Borough and Bet Bet Shire Councils, the Rangers, under the command of Captain Baker, and members of the Masonic and Friendly Society Lodges attended a special Coronation Day service.
- On February 2, 1915, the death occurred at Greensborough of Rev. William Puttock, former incumbent (1903-1907) of St. John's, Dunolly, at the age of 66. He had served in the Ballarat Diocese for 22 years.
- During 1915, Dr. and Mrs J. H. Wolfenden and family moved to Malvern after residing in Dunolly for 40 years. They were presented with a silver breakfast dish. Dr. Wolfenden, who served as Synod representative and Churchwarden, had also been Mayor of Dunolly Borough. He died at Malvern in 1922.
- Twenty dozen eggs and two large baskets of flowers were collected for the Dunolly Hospital when an Egg and Flower Service was conducted on November 19, 1917.
- It was reported on March 10, 1917, that Rev. F. Pelletier, a member of a well-known Dunolly family, had been appointed Archdeacon of Gippsland.
- On July 18, 1917, Mr. W. G. Couchman, a pioneer of the church and a surveyor, was farewelled by St. John's congregation. He had been a resident of Dunolly for 50 years. Major and Mrs W. H. F. Couchman and their daughters were also farewelled.

SPECIAL THANKS:

The compiler of this booklet expresses thanks to the following for kind assistance —

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To Rev. Dr. L. J. Somers-Smith, Rector of Dunolly, Mrs Somers-Smith, Miss Maureen Somers-Smith, St. John's Vestry, Parish Council, Sunday School, Ladies' Guild and all who have assisted in making this publication possible.



The Rev. Dr. L. J. Somers-Smith
Rector, 1969.

REFERENCES:

In compiling this booklet, the following publications were useful —

Minute books of St. John's Church, Dunolly, 1863-1881; 1908-1931; 1934-1940.

Old Sunday School Roll, 1919-1928.

Back To Dunolly Booklet, 1949 (Dunolly "Express").

Back To Dunolly Booklet, 1956. (Maryborough "Advertiser")

Dunolly, by James Flett. (Poppet Head Press, Melbourne, 1956)

A Memoir of Bishop Chalmers, by W. C. Pritchard. (Melville and Mullen, Melbourne, 1904).

Newspaper files of Dunolly and Bet Bet Shire "Express," covering 1862-1900, held in Latrobe Library, Melbourne.

Church of England Messenger, 1869-1888, files at Diocese of Ballarat, Ballarat.

Ballarat Church Chronicle, 1891-1933 files at Diocese of Ballarat, Ballarat.

Colonial Organs and Organ Builders, by E. N. Matthews.— (Melbourne University Press, 1969).

St. John's Vestry extends thanks to Mr. Ronald L. Carless, for compiling this Centenary History.

PRICES:

Prices quoted in this booklet are those in current use at that time. This has been done to retain the atmosphere of the period. For those who wish to convert the present day Decimal Currency, allow \$2 for £1 where quoted.

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