



# WELCOME TO THE HOCKEN

FRIENDS OF THE HOCKEN COLLECTIONS : BULLETIN NUMBER 8 : JULY 1994

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## Religions and their Records

It is hardly surprising that the Hocken Library should be such a valuable resource for those interested in the origins and development of religious institutions in Otago-Southland. Dr Hocken's background was in the church. His father, Joshua, was a Wesleyan minister and Hocken himself was educated at one of two schools set up by the Methodist Church to educate sons of ministers. It might be said that, in spite of his years at Woodhouse Grove School near Bradford, Yorkshire, Hocken retained a lively interest in for church life.

In Dunedin he became fully involved in the life of St Paul's Cathedral where he was a Lay Canon, having served on the Vestry, and being a member of the Chapter at the time of his death. His generosity to the wider church in Dunedin was shown in the dispositions made in his will. The depth of Dr Hocken's interest in church affairs was also illustrated by the significant holdings of material in his own collections. It is not possible to describe here all that is to be found in the Hocken Collections: researchers should check the catalogues carefully.

### **Missionary period**

Hocken acquired from the Church Missionary Society in 1903 copies of Samuel Marsden's journals with their reports on the New Zealand missions from 1814–15 to 1837–38. Of equal importance are the journals of the mission station staff in the Bay of Islands — John Butler, George Clarke, Richard Davis, William Hall, James Kemp, Thomas Kendall and John King. These are the principal sources for the earliest years of Anglican missionary work. Other missionaries whose papers are held in the Hocken are Charles Baker, T.S. Grace, James Hamlin and William Yate. There are also significant holdings from Bishop Selwyn, Henry and William Williams, J.W. Stack, Octavius Hadfield, William Colenso, Robert Maunsell and many others. Hocken busily

obtained everything that he could by way of printed reports, pamphlets, sermons and other miscellaneous papers. Finally there is on microfilm the New Zealand Mission Papers of the Church Missionary Society, 1809–1914,

Arising from his Methodist background, Hocken acquired some Wesleyan missionary material, and this has been augmented over the years by the addition of material relating to some of the early missionaries, Samuel Leigh, Walter Lawry, James Watkin (the first Christian missionary in southern New Zealand), John Whiteley and William Woon. The Library also has on microfilm the Methodist Missionary Society records as they concern Australia, New Zealand and the South Pacific for the period 1814–1889. Finally there is the microfilm of the London Missionary Society records, the first of the missionary societies to enter the Pacific region. The records cover the period 1797–1909.

### **General Material**

From an age when religious controversy was front page news, Hocken Library has a wonderful collection of printed material of a polemic or apologetic nature. When the opinions of church leaders were publicly attacked, they could rely on friends to publish a 'vindication': printed exchanges invariably followed. For those interested in the orotundities of Victorian sermonising there are many examples of this medium.

There are, naturally, very considerable holdings of printed material relating to denominational and parish history. These often can help researchers since a local history may well go back to original sources recorded in no other place. It will also pay to explore the collected papers of such as G.C. Thompson and T.A. Pybus, which have much to do with early Anglican and Methodist history.

Apart from the major holdings in Anglican and Methodist archives, there are smaller

holdings for Presbyterian material — mainly, of course, because the major Presbyterian archive is at Knox College. Roman Catholic archival material is held in the Bishop's House in Rattray St. There are also holdings of printed material for the Salvation Army, Baptist and Congregational churches, and Society of Friends; as well as papers relating to the Unitarian Church, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, and even from the earliest days some referring to the Islamic and Baha'i faiths.

### **Yearbooks, almanacs, periodicals**

A major secondary source for the historian are the denominational almanacs and yearbooks, along with synod/assembly/conference reports and minutes. The Hocken Library is well endowed with such material going back to the earliest days of the establishment of the various national and regional church organisations. These printed records are of particular relevance to the local historian. There is, for example, a complete set of the earlier copies of the *Arminian Magazine*, first published by John Wesley in 1778 and carried on under other names (*Wesleyan Magazine*, *Methodist Magazine*) into the later years of the 19th century.

Finally there are the religious newspapers, listed separately in the Hocken catalogue. There are parish examples (e.g. Mornington Presbyterian Church, Hanover St Baptist Church); regional newspapers, such as the *Envoy* of the Anglican Diocese of Dunedin; and the national publications of the major denominations:

Anglican — *Church & People*, *Anglican News*  
Assemblies of God — *New Zealand Evangel*  
Churches of Christ — *New Zealand Christian*  
Baptist — *New Zealand Baptist*  
Methodist — *Methodist Times*, *Outlook*, *New Citizen*  
Methodist/Presbyterian — *Crosslink*  
Nat. Council of Churches — *Church and Community*  
Pentecostal — *New Zealand Times*  
Presbyterian — *N. Z. Presbyterian*, *Outlook*  
Roman Catholic — *Tablet*, *Zealandia*  
Salvation Army — *War Cry*

### **Registers**

Thanks to the interest of genealogists, Hocken has a substantial holding of transcriptions of baptismal, marriage and burial registers. These

are held at both Leith St and at Castle St and are widely representative of all the major denominations, with the exception of Methodist records which are held in the Connexional Archive at Christchurch.

### **Detailed Archives**

Archival holdings held at Leith St are set out here in alphabetical order, noting also any relevant material held at Castle St:

#### **1. Associated Churches of Christ**

This denomination first established itself in Nelson in 1844. A cause was established in Dunedin in 1870–71 in Great King St, and then at the Tabernacle in Great King St, and this continued until 1929 when the city congregation moved to its present site in St Andrews St.

There are substantial, though not complete, holdings for all the Otago–Southland parishes. The material goes back as far as 1873 and includes roll books, baptismal and marriage registers, minutes and correspondence, and some local histories.

#### **2. Baptist**

The first Baptist church was formed in Nelson in 1851. Initially the Dunedin Baptists worshipped with other Free Church groups, but by 1863 had established themselves at Hanover Street.

Two parishes, Caversham and Mosgiel, have deposited archival material. It includes registers; minutes of the Deacons' Court and other church meetings relating to property, women's groups and Christian education; general correspondence; some photographs.

#### **3. Church of England**

There was an Anglican presence in Dunedin from the very beginning, but the first formal meeting of Anglicans took place in 1852 with the arrival of the first resident clergyman, J. A. Fenton. The first purpose-built church as St Paul's in the Octagon, erected in 1862–63.

The Hocken Library is the approved repository for the Anglican Diocese of Dunedin, with the exception of some North Otago records. The following parishes have deposited their archives with the Library:

All Saints, Dunedin (incl. Leith Valley)  
All Saints, Gladstone, Invercargill  
All Saints, Tapanui

Dunstan  
Holy Trinity, Port Chalmers  
Holy Trinity, Winton  
Milton–Tuapeka  
St Barnabas, Warrington  
St John's, Invercargill  
St John's, Roslyn, Dunedin  
St John's, Waikouaiti  
St Mark's, Balclutha,  
St Mark's, Green Island  
St Martin's, North-east Valley  
St Matthew's, Bluff (some Stewart Is)  
St Matthew's, Dunedin  
St Mary's, Mornington  
St Mary's, Riverton  
St Michael's, Otago Peninsula  
St Paul's Cathedral, Dunedin  
St Peter's, Caversham, Dunedin  
Taieri (St Luke's, Mosgiel & Outram)  
Wakatipu (Queenstown, Arrowtown)

For all these parishes there are extensive holdings of minute books and correspondence covering the work of the parish at all levels — vestries, other church committees and ad hoc groups. In 1969 the former missionary unions and ladies' guilds combined to form the Association of Anglican Women and their records are in Hocken Archives.

Another important source of information are the registers. Hocken Archives contain about two-thirds of the total number of parish registers of births, baptisms/confirmations, marriages and burials. Castle St has a major collection of printed parish histories and such books as John Evans' *Southern See*. Moreover there is a wealth of biographical material, supplemented by such things as the clergy directories. Further resources are provided through the provincial and diocesan reports and minutes. The Dunedin Diocesan Archives are not yet held by Hocken, though much of the AAW material is there.

#### **4. Congregational**

While the Congregational cause was not organised until 1862, the lay preaching of J.G.S. Grant began a year or two earlier. The Moray Place Church, the earliest surviving church building in Dunedin, was built in 1864.

The principal sources are the complete records of the Moray Place church established in 1862. There are also records for the St John's Congregational Church, Ravensbourne, and the Port Chalmers Congregational Church. They include the minutes of the various church

meetings, and of the Women's Association. Marriage and baptismal registers exist from the earliest days for all these parishes and for Lawrence as well.

The manuscripts of William Mugford Grant, minister at Port Chalmers 1882–91 and 1906–25, comprise clipping books and papers relating to the Port Chalmers church and to Congregational Churches in New Zealand and Australia in general.

#### **5. Jewish**

The Jewish community had built their first wooden synagogue by 1863, replaced by a more substantial building in Moray Place in 1864.

Hocken Archives have incomplete congregational records going back to 1862, including minutes, correspondence and other administrative material.

#### **6. Lutheran**

One important archive is held at Leith St — a photocopied record of the Norddeutsche Missions Gesellschaft relating to the Ruapuke Island Station during the ministry of J.F.H. Wohlers, 1844–84. This material was used by Sheila Natusch in her biography *Brother Wohlers*.

#### **7. Methodist**

Methodism began with the establishment of a mission station at Waikouaiti (now Karitane) under James Watkin in 1840. Some Methodists were among the settlers in 1848 and the first church built was at Port Chalmers in 1855, followed by a Wesleyan place of worship in Dunedin in 1862. New Zealand Methodism inherited the English divisions into Primitive Methodists, Bible Christians and a coalition named in this country the Free Methodist church. The reunion of these branches had been achieved in 1913.

The Hocken Library is the official repository for Methodist archives for the region south of the Waitaki River. The archive is very complete, consisting of minute books, roll books, correspondence and miscellaneous papers of individual congregations (societies), circuits (groups of societies), district synods and other regional and sub-regional bodies. At local level there are Leaders' Meeting, Sunday School and Bible Class, men's and women's groups, and special interest groups, many of them matched at circuit level, overseen by the Quarterly Meeting.

The following congregational records are in the archives, the approximate date of establishment given:

<i>Abbotsford</i>	1891
<i>Balclutha</i>	1870
<i>Bluff</i>	1879
<i>Broad Bay</i>	1863
<i>Cromwell</i>	1891
<i>Dundas St PM</i>	1879
<i>Dunedin Mission</i>	1891
<i>Dunedin (Trinity)</i>	1862
<i>Gore</i>	1884
<i>Invercargill</i>	1863
<i>Invercargill PM</i>	1872
<i>Kew PM</i>	1876
<i>Lawrence</i>	1865
<i>Milton</i>	1863
<i>Mornington</i>	1876
<i>Mosgiel</i>	1885
<i>Oamaru</i>	1863
<i>Port Chalmers</i>	1855
<i>Queenstown</i>	1863
<i>Ravensbourne PM</i>	1880
<i>Riverton</i>	1890
<i>Roslyn</i>	1878
<i>Roxburgh</i>	1868
<i>South (Cargill Rd)</i>	1882
<i>Tapanui</i>	1880
<i>Waikouaiti</i>	1862
<i>Waitati</i>	1868
<i>Woodhaugh</i>	1884

### 8. Presbyterian

Dunedin was a Free Church settlement and Presbyterianism remains a dominant presence. The original church was in place late in 1848, succeeded by a temporary church in 1861, and the present First Church in 1873. Knox Church began in Great King St in 1860, the present building dating from 1874.

While Hewitson Library at Knox College is the official regional repository, there is an immense amount of printed material relating to this denomination at the Hocken.

### 9. Roman Catholic

Until the early 1860s, Catholicism in Otago was a missionary endeavour controlled first from Auckland, then from Wellington. The first

resident priest, Father Moreau, arrived in 1861 and the first St Joseph's Church, built of brick, was erected in 1862.

Though the official repository for Roman Catholic Archives is the Bishop's House, Rattray St, the historian will be amply rewarded by searching the Hocken catalogues for the large and varied holdings of Catholic material.

### 10. Salvation Army

The Salvation Army began in New Zealand with the arrival in Dunedin in 1883 of two officers sent in response to a local request.

The archival records of the Army are centralised in Wellington, but there is a fair amount of printed material available in the general Hocken collection.

### 11. Spiritualist

A small initial deposit of this church's administrative material has been placed in Hocken Archives.

### 12. General

Two significant deposits of ecumenical material are held in the Archives. The first goes back to the establishment, in the closing years of the 19th century, of the **Council of Christian Congregations/Churches of Dunedin**. This body was superseded by the **National Council of Churches, Otago branch**, and then by the **Dunedin Council of Churches**. A substantial quantity of material correspondence and circulars etc is available.

The second of these ecumenical holdings are the records of the **Student Christian Movement**, largely based on Otago University, but also incorporating the Dunedin Teachers College group. These records go back to 1893 and include minutes, correspondence etc.

It might be noted that there are no deposits as yet for the network of Pentecostal pastorates, under the names of Apostolic, Word of Life and New Life congregations.

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