

NEWS BULLETIN

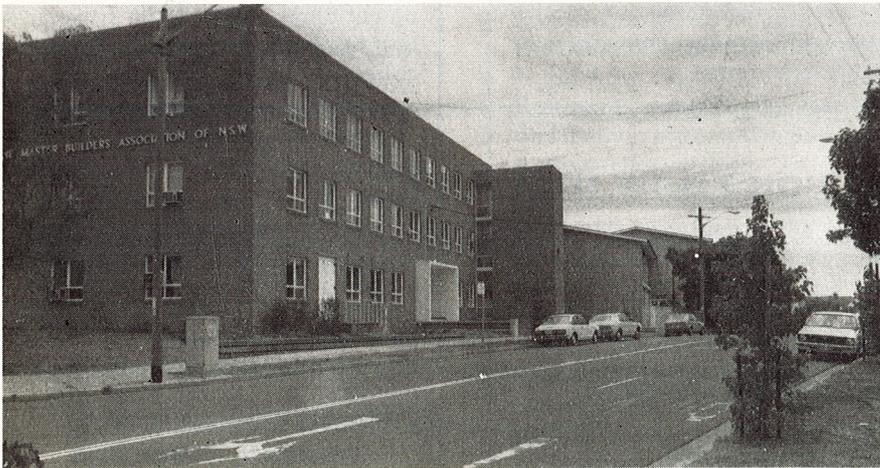
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MOORE COLLEGE

Carillon Avenue, Newtown 2042

Long History of Old Church Site



Moore Theological College has purchased the Master Builders Association headquarters on the corner of King Street and Carillon Avenue for \$400,000.

The principal (Dr. Broughton Knox) said last week that the strategic position and the well-designed building would permit library expansion immediately the college takes possession next year.

"The present library is most inadequate both for book storage and for reading space," the principal said.

"The College is looking to its friends to help with the purchase.

"We plan to occupy the building immediately the debt is reduced to manageable proportions."

The 20-year-old building is well constructed, with the greater part of the third floor double glazed and air-conditioned.

It is expected that administrative offices will be on the ground floor, library and reading room on the second, and an assembly or lecture room on the top storey in addition to library accommodation.

Donald Robinson

The Master Builders property on the corner of City Road and Carillon Avenue, which the College has now acquired, is on a site originally part of a larger triangular block which was reserved by the Government in 1846 for the erection of a church "at the corner of Grose Farm". The original block included what is now covered by Nos 3-11 King Street, the T. C. Hammond Common Room and vestibule, and the space between. (West of this block, the area now covered by the Dining Hall and all the College houses between King Street and Carillon Avenue, was part of Governor Bligh's Camperdown Estate, and has a separate history.)

The proposed church site was contiguous to two half-acre sites on Grose Farm itself which had already been authorised for "an Episcopalian Minister's dwelling and school-house". These two sites were where the older part of the College now stands, but there was then no street between them and the site for a church. Bligh Street (now Carillon Avenue), was a narrow lane extending from Missenden Road only as far as The Maples, which is now incorporated into the Women's College of the University.

Nothing was done with the church site for years. It was fenced when Bligh Street was put through to Newtown Road (City Road), but the fence disappeared when Bligh Street was widened in 1866. The boys of

• Continued over

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Sampson's Academy, which stood where the Dining Hall now is, used it for play. The property was formally conveyed to the churchwardens of St. Stephen's Camperdown in 1871.

In 1872 it was decided to build the new St. Stephen's Church in the Camperdown cemetery, and an Act was passed to permit the sale of the vacant site and the application of the proceeds to help pay for the new church. There was some contention about this, as some residents living in Newtown Road and Wilson Street opposed the alienation of the site, and claimed that a church would be needed there as soon as the estates in Darlington behind the Deaf and Dumb Institute were subdivided.

Anyhow, the site was sold for about £1,000 to Joseph Abbott, who built his home there in 1873. Abbott was to become a leading Sydney business man, managing director of Mort and Co., and the senior wool auctioneer of the colony. He was an alderman of Newtown, and represented Newtown in the N.S.W. Parliament.

His eldest son, Dr. G. H. Abbott, who as a boy had attended Sampson's Academy, wrote in 1937 that, after the family moved from Newtown in 1880, the house became the home of five medical men in succession.

1937 was, as it happens, the year my family went to live at Moore College, and the doctor's house on the corner, directly opposite our home, was then occupied by Dr. La Touche. I remember the trees around the house, and the high fence. A large Moreton Bay fig tree stood in its grounds, its branches shading the footpaths. Of course, long before that time, half the original site had been sold for shops in King Street, and for three terrace houses in Carillon Avenue, with a prolongation of Campbell Street behind the houses and into Carillon Avenue.

Since the College moved to Newtown about 1890, it has acquired the whole of the original church site bit by bit; first the houses in Carillon Avenue, ("the hostel"), then the row of houses and shops in King Street, and now the corner block. The old house continued as a doctor's house until 25 years ago when the last occupant, Dr. Emdler, sold to the Master Builders' Association who demolished the house and trees and built their headquarters there.

COLLEGE STIMULATING SAYS SENIOR STUDENT

He's an ex-schoolie, his wife is a physiotherapist at RPA and last year he topped Australia in Th.L. to take the Hey Sharpe Prize. We introduce Alan Mugridge — senior student for 1980.

Alan and his attractive wife Wendy have moved into "Colonial Cottage" in Campbell Street where they hope to exercise a ministry amongst the students.

Their romance started at college when Wendy (whose home town is Cowra) was boarding at Deaconess House to study. Alan, who comes from Hurstville Grove parish, had come to college after teaching Maths. at Newcastle and Mascot.

"I first became interested in theological studies when I started Th.C. as a schoolboy at Sydney Tech.," says Alan. "Even then I was thinking of the ministry. I saw Dr. Knox before going to uni. and for B.A. degree majored in maths. and history."

One of the features Alan and Wendy enjoy about being on campus is fellowship with staff and students. Being able to encourage one another in preparation for future ministry is a valuable experience.

Alan finds college life stimulating and believes he has grown as a Christian through his studies.

"No one finds it easy," he warns, "what with pressure of work and family commitments. There are dangers, of course, in becoming obsessed with questions where there is debate and forgetting about central issues such as the nature of the gospel, evangelism, prayer and so on. I certainly value the sympathetic attitude of the staff in their advice and tuition."

Alan seeks to strike a balance between college commitment and his pastoral ministry as senior student and also as catechist at St. Andrew's, Roseville. On the other hand, he finds that having such responsibilities helps determine priorities between the academic and pastoral roles.

His experience gives the lie to criticism that theological colleges must inevitably be spiritually cold. Meeting in a small group where members share experiences each week and pray for one another is a great encouragement.

Last year he and Wendy spent their first 12 months of marriage at Oatley, but now Wendy will be able to join with student wives in bible study.

Alan, who is planning for his ordination at the end of the year, says one of the things he looks forward to is maintaining friendships formed at college.

Did you know that . . . ?

- There is a correspondence course which will help you become a better-informed Christian?
- You virtually set your own pace?
- Last year 1297 students enrolled, of whom 130 came from overseas?
- Examinations are not compulsory, but two-thirds of the students realise that they are helpful and so sit for them?
- It takes two years for the preliminary course and another four years for the Certificate in Theology?
- There are three compulsory and another optional term each year?
- So reasonable is the cost that \$8 per term covers cost of the study and material and another \$2 is charged for each examination?
- Enrolment forms are available from The Secretary for External Studies, 7 King Street, Newtown 2042?
- There are three levels and each member is free to choose or to change?
- The three levels are (i) Guided reading (no exams.); (ii) Pass level (2-hour exam.); (iii) Honours level (for the more ambitious student)?
- Notes are provided for every subject, plus a comprehensive manual?
- Subjects include New and Old Testament; Doctrine; Epistle to Romans; Historical Theology; Church History; Prayer Book or Worship?
- Notes are provided for every subject, plus a comprehensive manual?
- The course is suitable for (and used by many) non-Anglicans? Electives Christian Missions, Worship, Christian Education and Greek?



The Reverend Ronald Palmer retired from the position of Honorary Organising Secretary of the College Appeal at the end of last year. He held this position going on for a quarter of a century and the College owes him an enormous debt of gratitude for his single minded dedication and wonderful efforts on behalf of the College.

During his office two audio visuals of the College's life and work were produced and circulated widely, not only in Sydney but throughout Australia and overseas.

Interest in the College was stimulated in the parishes and prayer as well as gifts grew.

The College evenings of prayer were instituted and the College financial appeal from small beginnings grew year by year till last year it raised nearly \$70,000; a tremendous tribute to Mr. Palmer's work which he carried out so quietly, diligently and so unobtrusively that many people were scarcely aware of how much was being done by him.

All associated with the College are most appreciative of Mr. Palmer's work.

April 14th — 7.45 p.m.

**T. C. Hammond
Common Room**

ANNUAL LIBRARY LECTURE

**Dr. Robert Withycombe
on**

Archdeacon F. B. Boyce

An opportunity to hear about an interesting and important figure in the history of Sydney and the Diocese, and also to see something of the work of the Library.



Enthusiastically dispatched by the students of the College (who tied me up in a mailbag and tried to send me airfreight via Qantas), I led my family of four to Oxford in September 1976. Among the first people we met on our arrival in England were the Principal and Mrs. Knox, who had only just farewelled us from the College. This was to set a pattern for our stay in Oxford, since scarcely a month went by without the pleasure of meeting folk from Sydney.

The chief purpose of our journey, however, was for me to study for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy. I became, therefore, a member of Magdalen College, and worked under the supervision of a Baptist theologian, Dr. Barrie White. Under his direction I studied the theology of the English Reformation during the time of Elizabeth I (1558-1603), and wrote a thesis on the subject.

Long before this labour was complete, the junior members of the family developed English accents (at present being rapidly discarded) and we all acquired pale skins and many English friends. I was very fortunate to be able to have a part-time ministry in the church of St. Andrew, North Oxford. Besides being a source of many friendships, this was an invaluable experience of parish life..

While we were away a whole generation of Moore College students passed through the College. It was therefore especially encouraging to receive more than once a generous gift from the students, many of whom were certainly no better off than we were. We had clear evidence that we were not forgotten, even by busy folk with their own worries and concerns.

While we were in England, University fees rose dramatically, and the rises

yet to come will be even worse. This suggests that post-graduate study abroad is going to be very difficult in future unless adequate support is available.

Our chief acquisition while we were abroad was a son, Stephen Phillip, who was born at the end of 1978. It was also pleasant, however, to be told by my examiners that I was going to be awarded the degree for which I had been working. My study of historical theology had been a most satisfying experience, and I learnt many things which, I hope, will equip me better as a Christian pastor. The chief result for me, however, was that it made all the clearer something that I had known before I left, that 'all the promises of God find their *Yes* in Christ (2 Cor. 1:20).

This concept was also the leading theme of my very first experience of theological study. in the early 1960s I enrolled as a member of the Th.C. course, the correspondence course offered by the College, and I still remember the benefit of this study. It was fitting, therefore — if somewhat daunting — to be asked by the Principal to follow David Peterson as the faculty member with a special responsibility for the course. I can't guarantee that study in it will lead a person to Oxford, but, used properly, it will have a better result — mature Christian thinking.

Under David's leadership the course has recently received much revision, and many of the notes are completely new. Elsewhere in this issue of the Bulletin there is some information about the course, and an enrolment form. Why not join up?

Peter Jensen.

COLLEGE JOTTINGS

At long last it appears that the block at the corner of Carillon Avenue and King Street has "come home" to the college.

Negotiations started over 30 years ago. There were two or three serious attempts to secure it in that time, both before and after the Master Builders Association bought the property.

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The Lord commanded His followers to pray and we can share in this privilege at the next College Prayer Meeting.

Kindly note the date — Thursday, May 1, with sessions at 7 and 8 p.m.

If you are unable to be with us, make a point of praying for the college on that day.

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You will notice a sketch of the vice-principal's residence upon your envelope for the building appeal.

In our next issue, we hope to have another interesting historical feature by Bishop Robinson on this building, which was "home" for the Robinson family for some years.

We are grateful to the bishop for his strong support of the college and look forward to further contributions from him.

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The second Banner of Truth Ministers' Conference in Australia is expected to meet at Vision Valley from August 27 to 30.

Several places are reserved for theological students, but early

The Editor regrets that the item concerning the appointment of the Rev. Iain Murray of St. Giles' Hurstville is incorrect. The item was accepted in good faith. We apologise for any embarrassment this might have caused.

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Prices at Impact Bookshop are highly competitive with those in England despite high freight and postage costs.

Dr. Peter Jensen said this was one of his first impressions upon returning to the college.

"I was thrilled when I saw the low charges for books at Impact," he said

The manager, Mr. Charles Mann, has a

sound knowledge of his stock and has full information about latest publications.

★ ★ ★

Latest staff appointment is that of the Rev. Graham Cole, who until recently was curate at St. James', Turramurra. He will lecture in church history, Greek syntax, Hebrew I and biblical exposition.

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Cassettes of sermons preached in college chapel are now on sale. Buy a set, listen, learn and profit from the studies, then send them to a friend or to a missionary for whom you pray.

★ ★ ★

Both the senior student and one of the lecturers cut their teeth (theologically speaking) on the SPTC studies available through the college. They are just two of those who have benefited from the course. You may never be called to the ministry, but every Christian should be well-informed on the Bible and other aspects of the Christian life. Details are in this issue.

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For the last three years, Jeanette Logan has been happily caring for the PTC administration. She came to the college after studying at QBI.

Her next position will be at the Uni. where she will be secretary to a professor in the pharmacy department.

Jeanette is a member of Chester Hill Baptist Church. We wish her well in the new sphere.

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Enrolment at college this term is highest for several years, but first year figures are lowest for some time.

figure is 139, compared with 126 last and 117 and 115 in 1978 and 1977 respectively.

Year I contains 32 men (3 youth workers, 29 men) and 17 women (1 youth worker, 16 women). Six are studying for the Diploma of Bible and Missions, of whom 10 are women.

An interesting trend is that 81 students are married.

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Students from Moore gained three first class honours, twelve second class honours and four passes in last year's Th.L. examinations. Alan Mugridge won the Hey Sharpe prize for coming top in Australia.

In the B.Th. examinations, there were three second class honours and six passes awarded to students from the College.

By the time this Bulletin appears, Principal Knox and Mrs. Knox expect to be in England where Dr. Knox will spend sabbatical leave in special study. They planned to visit their daughter Deborah in Japan before flying to London. Rosemary, their youngest daughter, is with her parents.

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PERSEVERE IN STUDY!

"To the last day of life, regard your mental powers as given you to be kept in continual working order, and continual improvement, and this with reference to the work of preaching and teaching.

"You will find all great preachers to have lived thus.

"I earnestly charge you to hold all studies as only means to this end, the glory of God in the salvation of souls.

"The day is near when your whole ministerial life will seem to you very short in retrospect."

Dr. J. W. Alexander, Letters to Young Ministers, published by Banner of Truth.

CHALLENGE FOR TODAY

I cannot forget that the early Christians of the first four centuries turned the world upside down with their doctrine, emptied the heathen temples of their worshippers, stopped the bloody gladiatorial combats, con-founded the Greek and Roman philosophers, gave a new position to women and children, and raised the moral standard of all Europe.

And yet they had none of our many advantages; no printed books, no Cathedrals or grand churches, no Religious Societies and no subscription lists!

But they had that which we seem to lack in 1897, the real presence of the Holy Spirit in their work, their preaching, their characters, and their lives.

This was the secret of their power! That is what we want among us at the end of the nineteenth century, more prayer, closer union with Christ, more of the real presence of God the Holy Ghost!

J.C. Ryle