

The Anglican Church in Melanesia

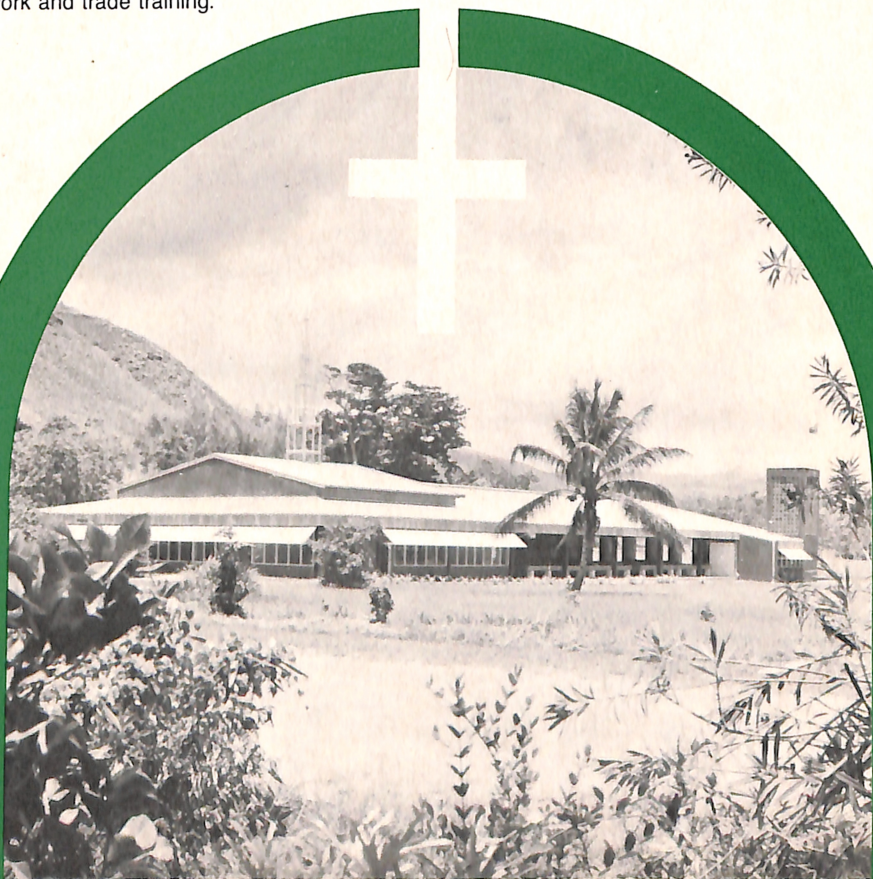
"Folks say that it is an ill wind that blows nobody good. This proved true when destruction of bush kitchens by Cyclone Wendy speeded up our plans for starting a system of community eating!"

The above paragraph appeared in a newsletter of Vureas School, on Aoba Island, Longana, in the New Hebrides. Intended for home consumption only, it demonstrates a remarkable degree of cheerfulness in adversity and a willingness to accept whatever may be in store—fruits of a living faith.

The Diocese of Melanesia is the only part of the Pacific where the Anglican Church is the largest church. Half the Christians of the region (who are about two-thirds of the people) belong to it. The diocese embraces the Solomon Islands, the New Hebrides and Santa Cruz Islands.

It is one of the most indigenous of the Pacific churches. Over 125 of its 138 clergy are indigenes. The Melanesian Brotherhood, an evangelistic order founded by Ini Koporia in 1925, is a remarkable expression of indigenous Christianity.

In Honiara, capital of the Solomon Islands, a strong urban ministry radiates from St. Barnabas' Cathedral. In the villages, important advances are coming from island village training centres, set up to meet a need for spiritual renewal at village level. The Patteson Theological Centre at Kohimarama on Guadalcanal provides excellent training for priests, lay evangelists, lay readers and Melanesian Brothers. Other important diocesan activities include education, medical work and trade training.



St. Barnabas' Cathedral, Honiara, Diocese of Melanesia.

At New
 Europe
 124 Mel
 800,000
Distance
 miles.

Founded: 1849. **1st Bishop:** John Coleridge Pattenon (martyred 1871). **Present Bishop:** Rt Revd J. W. Chisholm. **Bishops:** 3—1 European, 2 Melanesian. **Clergy:** 10 European, 124 Melanesian. **Clergy in training:** 55. **Area:** 800,000 square miles. **Population:** 225,000. **Distance:** From Sydney to Guadalcanal, 1,900 miles.



The Australian Board of Missions

N.S.W.: 4a Merchant Street, Stanmore 2048. Phone 560 5344. **Vic.:** 201 Flinders Lane, Melbourne 3000. Phone 63 2676. **Qld:** 417 Ann Street, Brisbane 4000. Phone 21 5826. **S.A.:** 18 King William Road, North Adelaide 5006. Phone 67 1411. **W.A.:** Anglican Missionary Council of W.A., 2nd floor, Law Chambers, Cathedral Square, Perth 6000. Phone 25 7455. **Tas.:** Overseas Department, Diocese of Tasmania, 125 Macquarie Street, Hobart 7000. Phone 23 7668. **HEAD OFFICE:** 109 Cambridge Street, Stanmore, N.S.W. 2048. Phone 560 9422.



3 2042 10099186 2