

St. Thomas Anglican Church.

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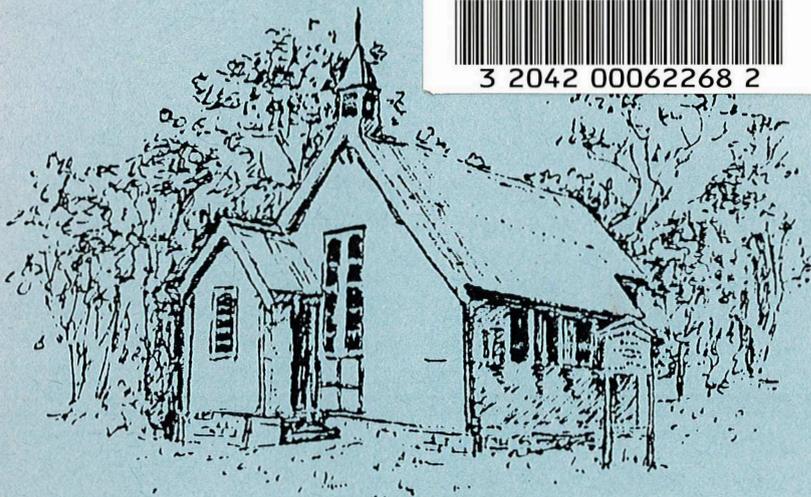
Windang A.S.B.

Diocese of Sydney - Wollongong Region.

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St Thomas' Anglican Church. Dec. 1940.

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YEARS

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Memorial Library

Golden Jubilee.

Serving Windang Community for Fifty years.

Moore College
Library

Margaretta Mary Woodriff
Memorial Library

FRONT COVER

Ink sketch of the Church of St. Thomas' 1940
by Mrs. Mary McKee, from an original photograph
by Mr. Tom Rieck.
Cover design & Graphics by Mr. Ron Mahoney.



Forward

My Dear friends,

The fiftieth anniversary of any Church Building is a great event, full of memories for so many, and gratitude to almighty God for the many blessings that have come through the work and the worship of the Church that meets in that building.

As we know, the Church is people, the building is God's house, and all of us feel an affection for the buildings that have in many cases been the place in which we have responded to the claims of Jesus Christ, and grown up in the faith.

The extensions and work at St. Thomas' have been the efforts of a small band of dedicated and able people using their expertise for the Lord. The finance has been raised by the ladies guild, and the help of friends of St. Thomas' Windang. We thank each and every person for the hard work that they have given so willingly.

As one looks at the almost completed building, the memories come flooding back. The dear ones who would rejoice to see the brick church. The goal of so much prayer and effort over so many years.

As one who has had the honour of being the Rector of this Parish twice, one can be but filled with joy at the prospect of seeing St. Thomas' Anglican church at Windang grow.

But even more exciting, is the thought that souls will be won for Christ, as this Parish has always been one in which the saving gospel and the love of Jesus Christ has been preached for fifty years at Windang, and even longer when our people met in private homes before the church building was erected.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.
Yours in Christian Love,

K. J. Leask
Rev. K. J. Leask.

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Memorial Library

ST. THOMAS' CHURCH OF ENGLAND WINDANG

DECEMBER 1940

RECTOR	Rev. C.A.Goodwin
CURATE	Rev. C.Craven-Sands
RECTOR'S WARDEN	Mr. H.Payne
PEOPLE'S WARDENS	Messrs Wilcox and Crozier
Hon. SECRETARY	Mr. B.Wilcox
Hon. TREASURER	Mr. B.Wilcox
Hon. AUDITOR	Mr. A.Searl
CHURCH COMMITTEE	Mesdames Crozier, Searl, Wilcox Messrs Wilcox, Crozier, Payne
ORGANIST (Assistant)	Mrs. S.Searl Miss. Betty Wilcox
SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPER.	Mr. B.Wilcox
SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS	Miss Bette Searl Miss Betty Wilcox

Attendance = 6 children.

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RECTORS of PORT KEMBLA PARISH 1940 - 1990

Rev. G.A.Goodwin	1940 - 1942
Rev. R.C.Kerle (War service leave 1945 - 1947)	1942 - 1947
Rev. F.J.W.Rice (Acting Rector)	1945 - 1947
Rev. A.H.Funnel	1947 - 1952
Rev. H.C.Ctercteko	1952 - 1957
Rev. R.O.Dykes	1957 - 1960
Rev. K.J.Leask	1960 - 1967
Rev. B.J.Bryant	1967 - 1973
Rev. D.F.Wann	1973 - 1978
Canon W.K.Deasy (Acting Rector)	1978 - 1979
Rev. D.C.Woodbridge	1979 - 1984
Rev. K.J.Leask	1984 - ????

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CURATES WHO HAVE SERVED AT WINDANG 1940 - 1990

Rev. C.Craven-Sands	1940 - 1942
Rev. L.A.Pullen	1943 - 1945
Rev. J.W.Holmes	1945 - 1947
Rev. R.B.B.Gibbes	1947 - 1948
Rev. J.Ross	1948 - 1950
Rev. K.W.Campbell	1950 - 1952
Rev. C.W.Rich	1952 - 1954
Rev. J.L.Drayton	1955 - 1957
Rev. G.W.R.Townend	1957 - 1958
Rev. G.Beard	1958 - 1962
Rev. R.D.Buckman	1960 - 1961
Rev. P.Byrne	1962 - 1964
Rev. T.A.Cuthbertson	1964 - 1965

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Rev. J.E.Hawkins	1966 - 1968
Rev. J.W.South	1969 - 1971
Rev. R.A.Farrell	1971 - 1972
Rev. C.G.F.Berryman	1972 - 1975
Rev. D.M.Pawley	1975 - 1976
Rev. D.J.Kirkaldy	1977 - 1978
Rev. G.C.M.Boughton	1978
Rev. D.Griffin	1978 - 1979
Rev. M.Harding	1980 - 1981
Rev. J.Larrea	1981 - 1983
Rev. S.G.W.Clay	1982 - 1984
Rev. D.C.Arthur	1982 - 1984

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EARLY CHURCH HISTORY. FROM PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

24:10:40 A circular letter received from his Grace the Archbishop, concerning the construction of More Churches in expanding areas.

28:11:40 The Rector advised of a gift of a block of land at Windang, by Frank Bevan & Sons, for the erection of a church thereon....The building has been made possible by negotiations between the rector and the Archbishop.

Mr. Kelly moved that a letter of thanks be forwarded to Frank Bevan & Sons for their donation of land on which the church at lake Illawarra/Windang was being erected.

30:1:41 The Rector reported in detail the particulars surrounding the erection of St. Thomas' at Windang.

27:2:41 Offers were received from messrs Jenkin, Lepastrier, & Goodwin to act as guarantors in connection with the #250 (pounds) loan for the building of St. Thomas' Windang.

26:6:41 Mr. B.Wilcox welcomed as Windang's first Parish Council representative.

10:12:41 Windang property transferred to Anglican Church property trust.

24:4:42 First mention of St. Thomas' Windang paying a quota to Parish Council...#3 (pounds) per month.

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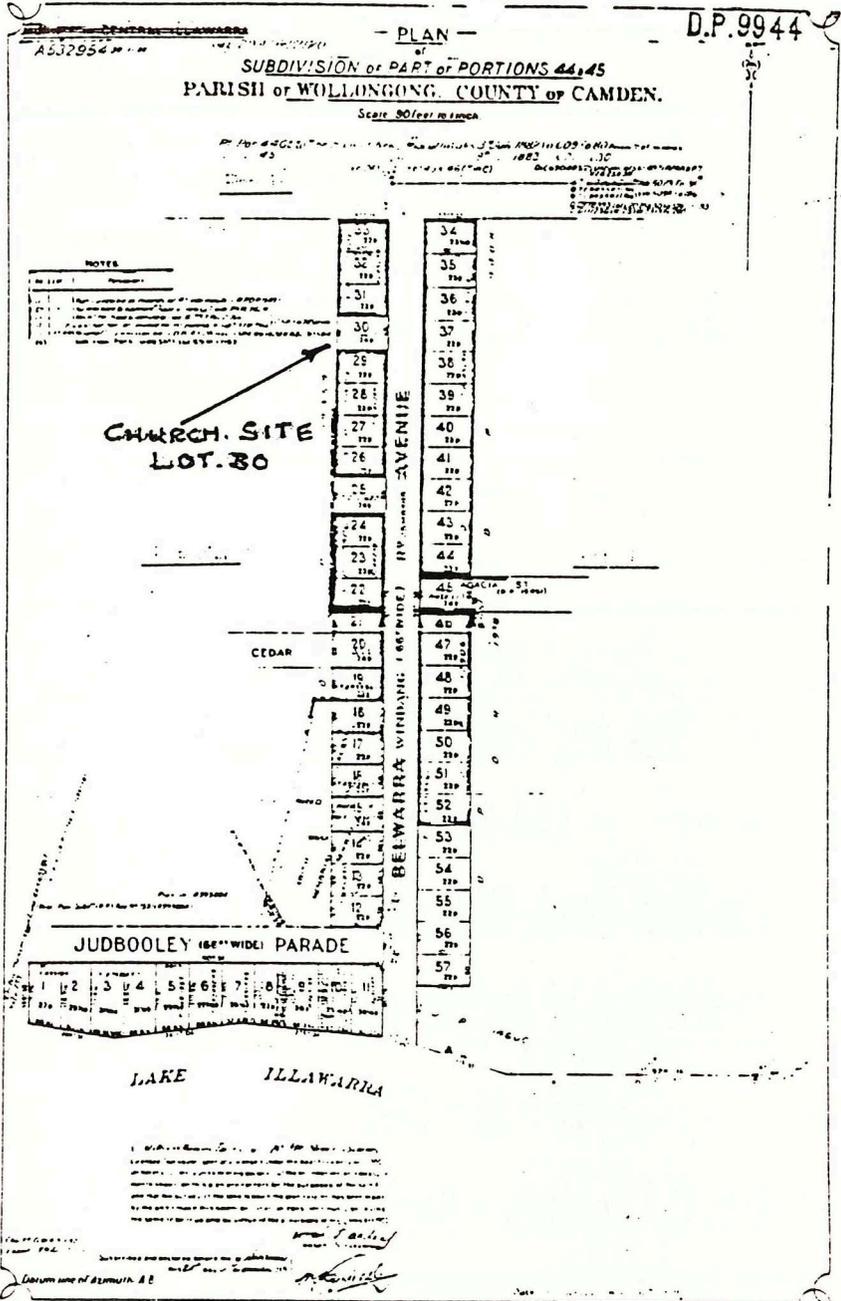
St. THOMAS' ANGLICAN CHURCH WINDANG

Archbishop Mowll of Sydney had a great desire to provide a church in the many growing areas of his Diocese.

The second world war made this very difficult, but under a project called THE ANGLICAN BUILDING CRUSADE, St. Thomas' Windang became one of those churches.

The Rector at the time was Rev.C.A.Goodwin, later to become Archdeacon of Sydney (1962) and Canon of St. Andrew's Cathedral (1967).

Erected in Connection With
The Anglican Building Crusade
and opened by
The Most Revd. H.W.K. MOWLL M.A. D.D.
Archbishop of Sydney and Metropolitan
23 - 12 - 1940
Rev. C.A.Goodwin - Rector.



HOWARD by Divine Providence ARCH-
BISHOP OF SYDNEY and METROPOLITAN.

SO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME.

CERTIFICAT:

WHEREAS it has been represented to us by the Petition of the Reverend CLIVE ANDREW GOODWIN licensed Minister in the Church of SAINTE THOMAS at WOLLONGONG in the County of Warran and of the several residents and inhabitants in and about the said Parish whose names are therunto subscribed that the Church recently erected at WINDANG LAKE ILLAWARRA in the aforesaid Parish and intended to be used as a place of Divine Worship to be called by the name of the Church of SAINTE THOMAS at WINDANG LAKE ILLAWARRA aforesaid being in length from East to West 25 ft. and in breadth from North to South 20 ft. (inclusive of the exterior walls) is so far completed and furnished with all things proper and appointed as to be appropriate for the celebration of Divine Worship therein and the said petitioners are desirous that we should grant a License or Authority for the same being used and frequented for the purpose of Divine Worship AND KNOW YE THAT taking the petition into our consideration we have thought fit to grant and do accordingly by these presents grant out full leave license and authority to the said CLIVE ANDREW GOODWIN (or other Minister for the time being duly authorized) to resort to the said Church at appointed times and therein to perform and celebrate Divine Worship according to the Rubric of the Church of England and also to administer the Holy Sacraments and solemnize Matrimony therein in all respects agreeable to law. And furthermore we do grant our full leave license and authority to all Christian people to resort to the said Church at all appointed times for silent prayer and meditation and to unite in Divine Worship according to the Rubric of the Church of England RESERVING unto us and our successors ARCHBISHOPS OF SYDNEY full power and authority of revoking these presents and all things herein contained whenever we shall see just cause therefor.

GIVEN under our hand and the seal of the see of Sydney which in this behalf is used this Twenty-third day of December in the year of our Lord One thousand nine hundred and Forty and of our consecration the Nineteenth and Eighth of our Translation.

Howard Sydney

REGISTERED at SYDNEY)
the day and year with-)
in written. By me,)

S. M. JOHNSTON,
Registrar. Per A

EXCERPT FROM PARISH MESSENGER FEBRUARY 1946

We are indeed thankful to Mr Taylor who plays the organ each Sunday, even though his eyesight is bad....We hope that when he goes into hospital for an operation of the eyes that his sight will be most improved.

(Ed. note. The Sanctuary chair in St. Thomas' was dedicated to the memory of Mr Arthur Taylor on 10:1:63.)

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EXCERPT FROM PARISH MESSENGER FEBRUARY 1958

The Windang committee on Wednesday March 19 decided to proceed immediately with the removal and renovation of the church building.....It was thought wise that the services of an experienced architect be secured before the work commenced, to ensure that this important work be carefully planned and properly executed in relation to the future layout of the Windang property.

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AUSTRALIAN BI-CENTENIAL CELEBRATIONS

St. Thomas' Anglican church played its part in the Bi-Centennial celebrations that were held in Windang on March 27th 1988.

The celebrations started with a combined church service in the grounds of St. Thomas' church, and it was during this service that the church bell and tower, which had been restored to its rightful place after an absence of many years, was re-dedicated by the Rector Rev. K.J.Leask Th.L.

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HISTORICAL FACTS

The church of St. Thomas' at Windang on Lake Illawarra was opened and dedicated on December 23rd 1940 by the Most Revd. H.W.K.Mowl M.A. D.D. Archbishop of Sydney.

First baptism Judith Roselyn English. Born 11:4:41
Baptised 17:5:41 by Rev. C.A.Goodwin.

First wedding Miss Ruby English to Mr. Richard Price 17:5:41 by Rev.C.A.Goodwin.

First funeral Information unavailable.

First Ladies Guild This was formed in October 1950 and was to meet on the 2cnd Wednesday of each month at 2:00pm

First Temple Day This was held on 16:8:53 at the 7:15pm service. Target #50 (pounds)

Land Donated by Frank Bevan & Sons.

Cost of Church Total cost unknown. Only amount mentioned in minutes was in relation to the loan of #250 (pounds)

Bank First bank account (savings) opened in the name of Windang Church of England in June 1940 with the Commonwealth bank at Port kembla.

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HISTORY of THE CHURCH HALL

13:4:55 Annual vestry meeting. Moved by Mr. O'Connor that small Sunday school be demolished and a new hall be erected to specifications of Church Wardens. Seconded by Mrs. Sainsbury.

2:5:57 For the purpose of expediting the erection of a new Sunday school hall, a building committee was inaugurated. On the motion of Mr. Sharpe and Mr. Jackson, Mr. Barnes was elected chairman, with initial members Mr. Ryder and Mr. H. Woodcock, with the power to add to this number. The motion was carried.

10:6:57 Mr. Barnes moved that two sets of plans and sketches of hall be obtained for approval by the congregation. Seconded by Mr. Ryder. Carried. The secretary was requested to make application for loan of £500 (pounds) from the church building fund.

7:8:57 1. Above forms received from building fund in Sydney. 2. Present Sunday School room to be advertised re selling as soon as space required for new building.

6:11:57 Mr. Ryder moved that present location of existing church be moved to North side of land, making adequate space for for S.S.Hall at South side. Seconded by Mr. H. Woodcock. Carried. Mr Barnes moved that loan of £500 (pounds) be accepted and a further loan from a bank be sought to cover remaining costs. Seconded by Mr. Sharpe. carried.

20:11:57 Received cheque for #500 (pounds) from church building loan fund.

19:3:58 Building fund bank a/c transferred from Commonwealth bank to bank of N.S.W.

2:5:58 It was decided to have an architect's opinion about removal of church to new site.

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27:5:58 Rector gave assurance to the committee that action was taking place in relocation of the Sunday school hall.

8:7:58 Present plan of Sunday school hall to be accepted. Church not to be moved to North side of block.

13:1:59 Meeting convened to discuss the moving of small hall (S.S.room) at rear of church. Mr. Barnes stated that distance between hall and North fence was 43 feet, length of new hall 40 feet. It was decided to move small hall 3 feet South.

10:2:59 Plans of hall presented by architect.. Some alterations suggested, but too late to make same.

14:5:59 Committee notified of additional expense by Mr. Parmenter. To save costs, painting to be carried out by men's group.

9:6:59 Colour scheme of new hall chosen by ladies guild.

30:6:59 Hall insured for #2500 (pounds). Hall to be opened 2:30pm 8:8:59.

28:7:59 Hall to be opened 2:00pm Saturday 22:8:59 by Rt. Rev. R.C.Kerle.

9:2:60 Hall rented to education department for #5 (pounds) per week.

10:8:76 Planning permission granted for building of 1. Vestry. 2. Toilet. 3. Southern extension of hall. (Kitchen and Kindergarten room.)

4:11:79 Extensions dedicated by Archdeacon R.H. Goodhew.

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INTERESTING EXCERPTS FROM EARLY MINUTE BOOKS

22:7:41 Meeting of parishioners at the Crozier's residence. Payment of £1 (1 pound). Licence of St. Thomas' Windang to be paid to Sydney diocesan registry, George St, Sydney. 5/- (5 shillings) to Shire of Central Illawarra building fee.

21:8:41 Meeting of parishioners. Proposed by B.Wilcox & seconded by H.Payne that talkies be held on Thursday 28:8:41 at Roy's Roadhouse in aid of the proposed Sunday school building fund. Admission:- Adults 1/- children 14 and under 6d. Proposed by Mrs. B.Wilcox & seconded by Mr. Payne that Reverend C.A.Goodwin approach Mr. Robinson concerning the water service a/c for £1.18.3.

24:2:42 Windang property. Preparing of deeds etc. Carried. Proposed by Mrs. Wilcox & seconded by Mrs. Searl that a loan of £1.10.0 be loaned from the Sunday school fund.

15:5:43
No services due to bad weather

23:5:43

22:3:47 Proposed by Mr.B.Wilcox,seconded by Mr.Taylor that a vote of thanks to Messrs A.O'Connor, R.Sinclair, & A.Gallop in appreciation for the completion of Sunday school hall

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22:3:47 Proposed by Mrs. Gallop, seconded by Mrs. Sharp that letters of appreciation be sent to the following Sunday school teachers:- Miss Findley, Miss Seilly, and Bette Searl for the good work.

21:4:49 Timber material for church front fence has been ordered from Wollongong Timber Builders Supply Co. #16.19.9. All dressed wood. Also blinds.

21:4:54 Annual Vestry Meeting. Moved by Mrs. Parmenter & seconded by Mrs. Sharpe that 3 dozen Common Praise hymn books, 1 music book be purchased, subject to approval of committee. It was decided to dispose of old hymn books as follows - 1 dozen to Cringilla, 1 dozen to Primbee.

10:10:72 Reed organ to be replaced with Yamaha. Inspected and played by Mr.& Mrs.J.Hurt, Miss Ruth Dien, and Mr.D.Merrifield. Price \$995.00, less sales tax \$865. less discount for church \$100. Total \$765.00. \$10.00 holding deposit was made. Full guarantees, and 3 free lessons for organist included.

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C.E.B.S. Windang 1961

The club started as a "Boy's club" in 1959/60, run by Mr. Barnes of Sassafras Ave. & assisted by Mr. Rothwell. 20 boys met in the hall after school, for games and activities.

In 1961 or 62 this club became a unit of the "Church of England Boys Society". Leon Rowland, from Wollongong was branch Governor, with Church warden Harry Woodcock as leader, and John Lacey as Junior leader. Rev K.J.Leask was chaplain.

Names of early members include: Philip Woodcock, Stuart Jackson, John Hurt, Les. Hurt, David Rowlands, Chris. Rowlands, Kieth Stafford, Bill Bein, Allan Weller, Gary Matters, Howarth, Barry Stuart.

John Lacey later became leader, with Mr.H.Woodcock as treasurer. Group ceased to operate in 1968.

Girls Friendly Society

This society was formed around 1961/62. the leader at the time being Mrs. Dorothy Rowlings with Mrs. Ellen Hurt as assistant leader. At a later time, Mrs Hurt became the leader in Windang, Among those who were members were: Lorraine Hurt, Ruth Dein, Robyn Jackson, Irene Barnes, Brenda Woodcock, Cheryl & Janette Matters, Leanne & Sharon Flint, the Steven's girls. It is understood that G.F.S. operated in Windang for about 10 years. Combined Church parades and other activities were held together with the C.E.B.S.

Sunday School

The Sunday school has continued to operate since its inception in 1940 with Mr. B.Wilcox as first superintendant. The first teachers being Miss Bette Searl & Miss Betty Wilcox. The Sunday school reached its peak of 80 children during the time that Mr. Harry Woodcock was both superintendant and treasurer.

St. THOMAS' ANGLICAN CHURCH of AUSTRALIA WINDANG
DECEMBER 1990

RECTOR	Rev. K.J.Leask
RECTOR'S WARDEN	Mr. D.Merrifield
PEOPLE'S WARDENS	Mr. E.Matters Mr. G.McKee
Hon. SECRETARY	Mr. D.Merrifield
Hon. TREASURER:	Mrs. M.Merrifield
CHURCH COMMITTEE	Mrs. P.Bruce Mrs. M.Merrifield Mr. A.Quin. Mr. J.Rankin:
ORGANIST	Mrs. E.Grant

READERS WHO HAVE ASSISTED AT St. THOMAS' WINDANG
THROUGH THE YEARS.

Bright. C.	Mayes. K.
Broadley. D	McKerrow. P.
Brunning. C.E.	Rowntree. R.A.
Day. H.E.	Orange. G.
Divine. J.	Piper. G.
Dronfield. E.	Rieck. T.H.
Evans. A.F.	Sainsbury. M. (Dr)
Evans. L.	Scandritt. P.
Immisedes. J.	Smiddlers. V.
King. J.	Stewart. K.
Laplastrier. E.P.	Stokes. J.G.
Lockrey. H.	Thomas. D.
Mahoney. R.	Treanor. G.
	Wiggins. G.

THE CHURCH

The church building remained in its original state until the late fifties, when due to increased attendance, the vestry, which was part of the main building, was removed to allow extra seating. From this point on many suggestions were formulated to enlarge the building. Several ideas were frustrated due to the peculiar method used to construct the building in 1940

Re-arrangement of building and seating were again considered in the 1980-82 period but were abandoned. However, the matter of alteration became more apparent as time progressed and traffic, with its associated noise factor, built up on the six lane highway onto which the church fronts. One suggestion was that the interior of the church be reversed, and all doors & windows facing Windang Road be eliminated.

From this suggestion evolved the plan to extend the church westward to create extra seating and undercover access to the church hall. Thus making the church more usable for other services such as weddings and funerals.

As a result, we have the church complex as it stands today, and all without going into any kind of debt. It is expected that another 12 months will be required to complete the remaining outstanding work.

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DETAILS of CHURCH RE-CONSTRUCTION

13:3:85 The Rector agreed to discuss with Archdeacon Victor Roberts the plans of complex at Windang.

1:5:85 Preliminary plans presented to committee.

Feb.86 Committee decided to proceed with re-construction of church interior.

6:4:86 Final service held with chancel at West end of church.

13:4:86 First service held with chancel at East end of church. Prayer desk and communion table from St. Peter's Lake Heights (which had been closed down) were used for the first time.

30:4:86 Committee advised that reversal of church had been completed on schedule, and extra seating provided in old West chancel area.

16:7:86 Second stage of carpeting completed.

27:2:87 Development application re extension of church and brick veneering of whole complex lodged with Wollongong City Council.

12:3:87 Above development approved by City Council

27:3:88 Bell restored as part of Bi-Centennial celebrations.

May 89 Church reroofed in color bond.

11:11:90 Church alterations & extensions dedicated at 50th anniversary by Rt. Rev. R.H. Goodhew

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SUNDAY 11th NOVEMBER 1990
FIFTY YEARS ON

Although the service held on this day is to celebrate our 50th anniversary, the actual date is December the 23rd 1990. Due to the fact of the closeness of Christmas to that date, it was decided to hold our celebration on the second Sunday in November. A Sunday which has been our temple day for many years.

The service took the form of 1662 morning prayer up to the Apostle's creed, at which time Bishop Harry Goodhew dedicated the rebuilt church, the memorial wall in memory of Mr. J.Hurt, (warden and worker in various capacities over many years), and an alms dish, a gift from the parishioners of St. Thomas' Windang, in memory of Mrs. Irene O'Connor, a stalwart and faithful member over a long period of time.

Bishop Goodhew preached the sermon, and others taking part in the service were Rev.K.J.Leask, Rector of Port Kembla Parish, Mr. T.H.Rieck, Reader; Mr. A.Quin - 1st Lesson; Mrs.P.Bruce - 2nd Lesson; Mr.D.Merrifield, Mr.J Rankin, Mr. G.McKee, Mr. E.Matters.

Organist Mrs. E.Grant.

The day concluded with a buffet luncheon where many past Rectors, Curates and Parishioners enjoyed renewing friendships of old, and making new friends.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.

Anglican Church Property Trust
Anglican Finance & Loans Board
University of Wollongong - Archives
Windang Bi-Centennial Committee
Mr. R.Mahoney - Printing & Graphics
Mrs. J.Medcalf - Research
Mr. T.Rieck - Research



The many friends, parishioners past & present, who
have provided information to include in this booklet.

