

THE BAPTIST RECORDER

No. 144, August 2019

PRESIDENT

Dr Alan Rice, AM

VICE-PRESIDENT

Mrs Barbara Coe

SECRETARY

Mr Ronald Cardwell

TREASURER

Mrs Pamela Windschuttel

ARCHIVIST

Mr Ernest Windschuttel

WEBMASTER

Mr Ernest Windschuttel

PUBLIC OFFICER

Mr Ronald Cardwell

JOURNAL EDITOR

Mr Ronald Cardwell

The Baptist Historical Society of NSW Incorporated

Morling College

122 Herring Road

Macquarie Park NSW 2113

Telephone: 9878 0201

Email: Hon Secretary

cardwell@mcks.com.au

CONTENTS

The Editors and Ministry of <i>The Australian Baptist</i>	1
Professor Clifford Hughes AO	8
Editorial	8
Rev Herbert Davies Archer.....	9
Little-known 19th century Baptist ministers in NSW: James Thornton (1813–1874)	11
Baptist Life in Tasmania	16
Roberts Family Origin	17
Baptists in the Colony of New South Wales in 1840	17
Stan Horswell New Guinea Pioneer Missionary 1950-51	18
The Baptist Preachers Fellowship of New South Wales	20
Believers' Baptism: A duty and a Privilege – A Pamphlet Addressed to Converts.....	22
Book Review	24

NEXT MEETING

Date: Saturday 10 August, 2019

Time: 2.30pm [afternoon tea to be served with meeting commencing at 2.45pm]

Where: Morling College

Guest: Rev. Dr. David Parker, Movement of Baptist Ministers between N.S.W. and Qld.

ISSN 2206-7922

The Editors and Ministry of *The Australian Baptist*

RONALD CARDWELL*

Rev AC Prior

(3 May 1949-31 May 1961)

I knew Alan Prior well. In fact, he dedicated me at the Goulburn Baptist Church in late 1953. If I was to say a few words about him I would say he had a fearless spirit and a fertile mind. He was a true evangelist and one of our outstanding Baptist leaders in Australia and on the world stage. He may have had his detractors but often his wisdom and advice would surface for the benefit of all concerned.

The appointment of Alan Carl Prior (1910–1996) was an inspired choice. He appears to have been approached by the Board to accept the appointment. Prior accepted what many said was a difficult task. I recall Prior saying to me in early 1982 that he

‘saw his appointment as an important one as the Baptists of Australia were embarking on a new ministry for the church in Australia’.

The Australian Baptist was a weekly publication and Prior combined the editorship with being the pastor of the Mosman Baptist Church until 1956. In the book titled *The Prior Family Story* by AC Prior published in December 1994, Prior records his time simply by saying

‘The record of my work as Editor over twelve years may be found in the bound annual volumes of the publication which may be consulted at the headquarters of the Baptist Union of New South Wales or in the library of the Baptist Theological College of NSW’.

He was leaving it up to the reader to determine the effectiveness of his time as editor.

In a front-page piece in his first edition Prior set a high benchmark. Titled ‘Reflections on Approaching The Editorial Chair’, he said:

‘I will do my uttermost to make ‘The AB’ the best piece of literature which comes into Baptist homes, to make it an effective tool in the hands

*At the February 2019 meeting a paper was presented on the eight editors of *The Australian Baptist*. This is the second part of the paper that considers the editors, Rev A.C. Prior, Rev I. Emmett, Rev D.K. Morley, Rev T.J. Cardwell and Rev P.R. Green.

The rest of the Baptist Recorder is available by contacting the secretary cardwell@mcks.com.au