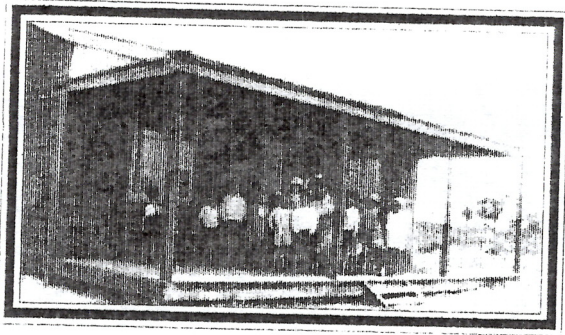


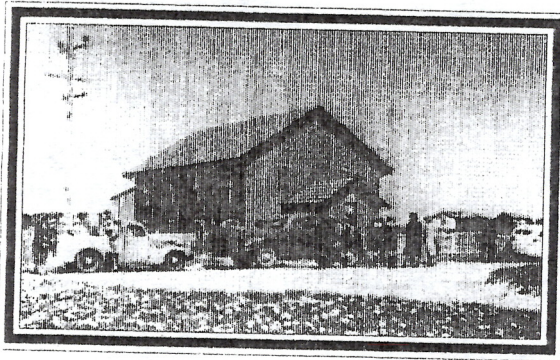
14/2000
BRIEF HISTORY OF THE
ROCKINGHAM-SAFETY BAY
PARISH



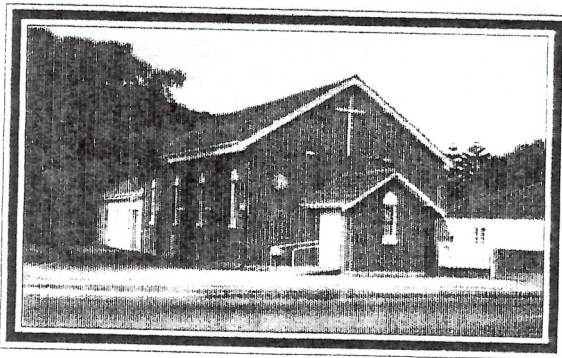
MR JULES E. JOHNSTONE
HOME MISSIONARY
FIRST MINISTER
1940 - 43



**Rockingham
Sunday
School
Circa 1933**



**Opening of
Parkin Street
Church
1940**



**Parkin Street
Church
2000**

**A BRIEF HISTORY OF ROCKINGHAM - SAFETY BAY
METHODIST CHURCHES 1940 - 1977
AND ROCKINGHAM UNITING CHURCH 1977 - 2000**

WORSHIP CENTRES & CHURCH PROPERTY

- ◇ 1932 Mr and Mrs Morrison commenced the first Sunday School in their home in Fisher Street, Rockingham. (See photograph).
- ◇ 1932 The Rev. Aldis, a Baptist Minister, and others conducted interdenominational worship services in Mr and Mrs Morrison's home.
- ◇ 1933 The Revd Arthur Meyer, while stationed at Spearwood Methodist Church, conducted services in Mr and Mrs Morrison's home.
- ◇ 1934-38 Interdenominational services were held in the Agricultural Hall (now the Rockingham Historical Society building). They were led by The Revd Purdey, an Anglican minister.
- ◇ 1938-39 Mr Jules Johnstone, a Home Missionary, came to live in the area and conducted services in the home of Mr and Mrs J.H. Stone and later in the Agricultural Hall.
- ◇ 1939 Land for the Church and Manse in Parkin Street were donated by Mr G. Grigg.
- ◇ 1940 The foundation stone of the Methodist Church in Parkin Street was laid on 22nd June by the Lt Governor, Sir James Mitchell, K.C.M.G., and by Mrs Morrison, in a service conducted by The Revd H. Pearson, President of the Methodist Conference of W.A., and father of Mrs Betty Cox. The Church was opened on 22nd September 1940, with Mr Johnstone as the Minister. It is the oldest building still standing in the Rockingham district, and is a Heritage Building.
- ◇ 1947 The Parkin Street Manse was opened. It cost £624 to build. Mr A. Hawkins was the first minister to occupy it.
- ◇ 1949 Services were commenced in the Progress Hall (now McLarty Hall), Safety Bay, led by The Revd. G.E. Jones. They were later held in the CWA Hall.

- ◇ 1952 Rockingham - Safety Bay was joined by the Methodist Conference with Kwinana and their status raised from Home Mission Stations to a Circuit.
- ◇ 1953 A block of land was purchased at Medina by the Methodist Home Mission Department and the first service held on it, in the open air.
- ◇ 1954 The Church Hall at Medina was built and opened. Kwinana was separated from Rockingham - Safety Bay circuit subsequent to the ministry of The Revd Don Pederick.
- ◇ 1954 An acre of land at the corner of Rae Road and Frederick Street, Safety Bay was purchased for £1240.
- ◇ 1955 A building from Woodman's Point quarantine station was purchased at a cost of £425 and erected on the site. The first service in it was conducted on 16th October of that year, by The Revd R. Ellis Bramley.
- ◇ 1960 The Parkin Street Hall was lined and the front porch enclosed.
- ◇ 1964 A further quarter acre of land adjoining the Safety Bay land was brought from Mr F.A. Payne for £50.
- ◇ 1970 The Opportunity Shop commenced operating on 29th August in a small cottage on the Rockingham waterfront. Six weeks later it moved to premises in Railway Terrace, now redeveloped as the ANZ Bank.
- ◇ 1971 The Opportunity Shop moved to Kent Street behind the travel bureau.
- ◇ 1977 The Uniting Church in Australia was inaugurated on 22nd June.
- ◇ 1979 One and a quarter acres of land were purchased at a cost of \$51,400 for the purpose of building the present Parish Centre.
- ◇ 1983 The Parkin Street Property was sold to the Lutheran Church and the Safety Bay property to the Churches of Christ.
- ◇ 1983 The Opportunity Shop moved to 43 Rockingham Road (see picture). It subsequently moved next door, to premises currently occupied by a restaurant.

- ◇ 1984 The Goongarrie Drive Manse was built and in April The Revd Ken Devereux and his family moved in.
- ◇ 1984 The present Parish Centre was opened on 14th October by The Revd Jim Moody, Chairperson of the Presbytery of Peel.
- ◇ 1991 The Opportunity Shop moved to its present, freehold premises on 31st May. The Uniting Church Investment Fund thirteen-year loan on the building was paid off in seven years.
- ◇ 1995 Evening services were moved to Baldivis Hall, in preparation for the opening of Tranby College.
- ◇ 1996 Services were commenced at Singleton Hall, with Miss Liz Langton, W.A.'s first Community Minister, conducting them. Services continued, subsequently conducted by Mrs Glenda Godfrey, until early 1999.
- ◇ 1997 Stage 1 of Tranby Uniting Church College in Baldivis was opened at a cost of \$5.1 million, by the WA Synod Moderator, The Revd John Dunn, in January with an initial enrolment of 220 students, under the Principalship of Mr Doug Burtenshaw. Evening services were moved there, with Mr Burtenshaw conducting a family service at 5 p.m. and The Revd Ian MacPherson conducting a second, informal service at 7 p.m. Services were relocated to the Parish Centre at the end of 1999 after Mr Burtenshaw's resignation.
- ◇ 200? Who knows? But we can be confident in this, that:
 “So long Thy power has blessed us,
 Sure it still will lead us on.”

—AHB Hymn 494

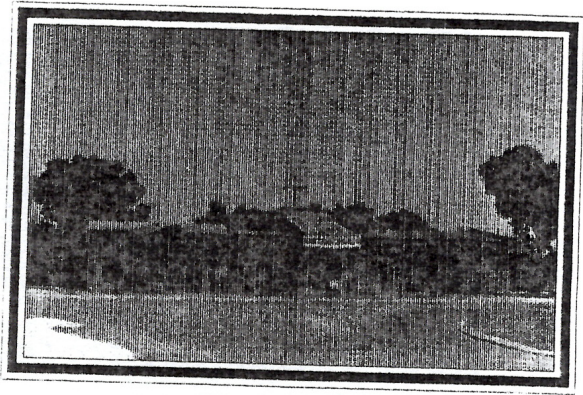


MINISTRY

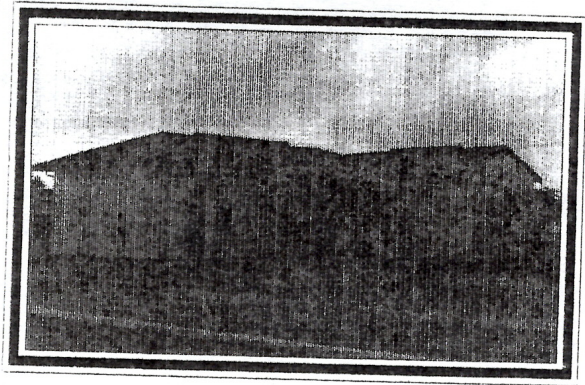
1932	Rev. Aldis ¹
1933	Rev. Arthur Meyer ²
1934-39	Rev. Purdey ³
1940-43	Mr Jules E. Johnstone, H.M.
1943	Mr F. C. Sampson, H.M. ⁴
1944-45	Mr S.W. Lawrence, H.M.
1945-46	Mr A. R. Wilbrey, H.M.
1946-47	Mr A. Hawkins, H.M.
1947-48	Rev. A.R. Wilbrey
1948	Rev. H. Lindley
1948-49	Sister Edie Owens, later Cowdell
1949-50	Rev. G.E. Jones
1950-51	Rev. F.E. James
1951-53	Rev. T. Cook
1953-57	Rev. R.E. Bramley
1953-71	Rev. M. Maley ⁵
1957-61	Rev. D.W. Pederick
1961	Rev. N. Hicks
1962-64	Rev. S.W. Croker
1964-66	Mr E. Green, H.M.
1967-68	Mr H. Willis, H.M.
1969	Mr P. Daley, H.M.
1970-72	Rev. G.R. Limb
1972	Rev. S. Shearn
1972-84	Rev. R.W. Hawker
1983-96	Rev. A.E. King ⁵
1984-90	Rev. K.D. Devereux
1990-2000	Rev. H.J.C. Cox ⁶
1990-1	Rev. K. C. Ogier
1991-	Rev. I.P. MacPherson
1993-	Rev. J.L. Edwards ⁵
1996-98	Miss E. Langton ⁷
1998-99	Mrs G.F. Godfrey ⁸

Notes: "H.M." denotes Home Missionary. ¹ Mr Aldis, a Baptist Minister, conducted ecumenical services in the home of Mr and Mrs Morrison. ² The Revd Arthur Meyer came to Rockingham to conduct services while stationed at Spearwood Methodist Church. ³ The Revd Purdey was an Anglican, conducting services which Methodists attended, in the Rockingham Agricultural Hall. ⁴ The Revd Fred Sampson was later ordained. ⁵ Supernumeraries. ⁶ The Revd Harold was "Contact Minister" in 1990 and "Minister in Association" from 1991 to 2000. ⁷ The Revd Liz Langton was a Community Minister at Singleton. She was ordained in 2000. ⁸ Mrs Glenda Godfrey was a Community Minister at Singleton.

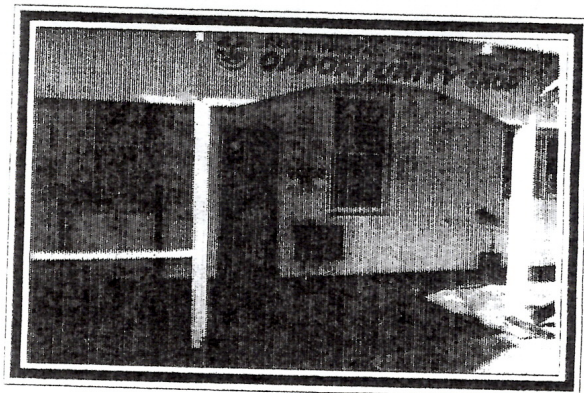
**Rockingham
Uniting
Church 2000**

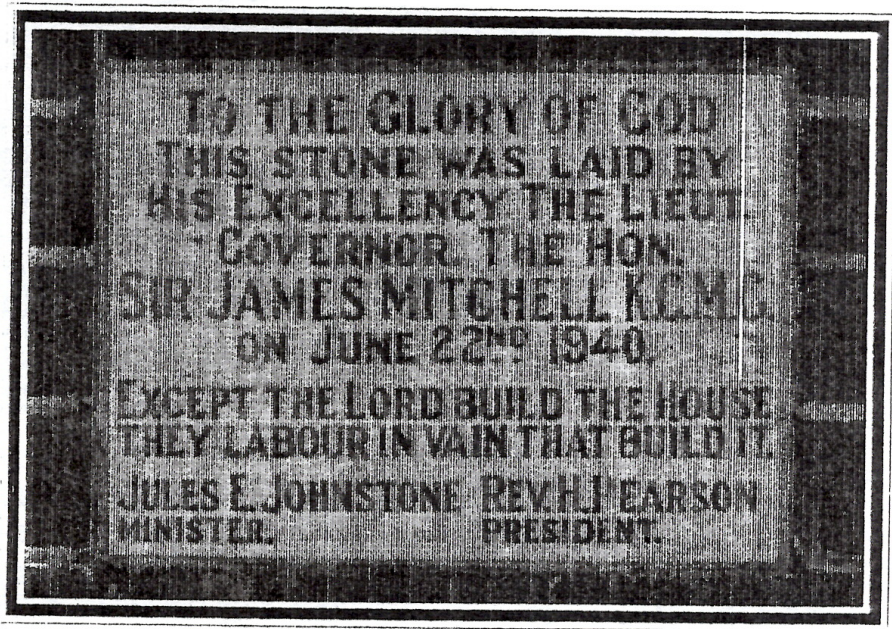


**Safety Bay
Church after
sale to
Church of
Christ**



**Op-Shop
when at 43
Rockingham
Road**





Foundation Stone of Parkin Street Church,
Laid 22 June 1940

Rev. H. Pearson, President of Methodist Conference,
was the father of Mrs Betty Cox.