



## Uniting Church Archives Research Centre

### **MEMBERSHIP**

One 0.2 FTE staff member [honorary] plus 10 part-time volunteers. (An average of 49 voluntary hours a week 196 a month and a total of 1960 hours per year) working two days a week. In a normal year but not in this year.

### **CONTRIBUTION TO THE LIFE OF THE UCA**

- **The Archives exists** to preserve the history of the Congregational, Methodist, Presbyterian and Uniting Church in Western Australia.
- These records are made available to the public, both at 91 Edward St Perth and at Batty Library so that the people may understand the importance of the role of the church, in its own right and in the context of Western Australian history.

### **HIGHLIGHTS: ON HOLD FOR 2020**

#### **2019/2020**

This been an unusual year in the life of the team of dedicated volunteers. We decided to halt all work for volunteers on the 16 March 2020. Listed below are the task we have and will be involved in when we return:

- Sorting, collating and filing archival documents from Parishes and Presbytery
- Transfer of completed documents to Batty Library.
- Receiving of Baptismal and Marriage registers for data entry.
- Compiling and updating the Ministers Biographical Index. [retired & serving]
- Since last September we have completed 50 research inquiries. These requests are from a variety of people, congregations and agencies and on a variety of subjects, some taking a few hours to some that require four or five weeks of research.
- Scanning all the photographic collection and adding information where available. (Ongoing)
- Cassettes transferred to DVD.
- Checking early data entries for missed information.

#### **Projects Completed**

This year has seen a halt to our usual work of adding to our Data bases. We look forward to getting back to work, perhaps towards the end of the year. We encourage congregations to check their records and deposit them as and when they are completed. For a guide please consult the Synod website for the relevant documents or contact [archiveswa@wa.uca.org.au](mailto:archiveswa@wa.uca.org.au)

#### **Volunteers**

This year our volunteer numbers have remained the same, however our hours are reduced due to the closure of the Archive Research centre. Listed beside the names of the volunteers are the numbers of years and the tasks they undertake at the UCA Archives.

It is with great sadness that we note the passing of one of our volunteers Lionel Rose. Lionel has been a volunteer with the UCA Archives for 10 years. Lionel retired from his work in Banking and was persuaded to join the UCA Property Department by the late Kingsley Smout. When Lionel retired from the UCA office I suggested he could continue to share his wide knowledge of UCA property working in the Archives. Lionel's attention to detail and ability to remember past events was invaluable. In between teeing off for golf he managed to spend two days a week sorting through records and making order out of chaos. Lionel passed the



retirement age of 90 for Archive volunteers as he still had a lot of work to complete. Rest in Peace Lionel. You will be fondly remembered and sadly missed by your Archives family.

### **This Year in Archives**

2020 has been an unusual year to say the least. As you may be aware the ages of our volunteers made it necessary that the decision to close was the right thing to do. This is the first year we have not been able to celebrate milestone birthdays. Two of our volunteers celebrated in a Covid19 way their 80<sup>th</sup> birthdays. Congratulations on your birthdays Nancy and Brian.

I have continued to work from home and have managed with modern technology to keep up to speed with all aspects of my work.

Please continue to send to the archives, the records that you no longer need to hold. Please be aware we do not require day to day financial accounts. The guidelines for archiving can be found on the Synod Website or by contacting the Archives. [archiveswa@wa.uca.org.au](mailto:archiveswa@wa.uca.org.au)

If your congregation is closing or requiring help with the management of their records please get in touch. Moving into the digital age we are no longer able to accept paper copies of current Parish newsletters. Current copies may be sent in on memory stick or external hard drive. If your congregation is storing all your files electronically you need to establish Naming Conventions that are consistent throughout your various committees.

This year has been a challenge as I am not able to post on Facebook as often as I would like due to lack of access to the photographs and ephemera in our collection:

- **Baptismal Records:** Nancy Rhodes. (17 years)
- **Biographical Index :** Nancy Rhodes
- **Cassette Tape Transfer :** Richard McKenna (4 years)
- **Collating People & Places Files :** Linley Gould (21 years)
- **Computer Database Record Entry & Photographs:** Brian Jervis (19 Years) Reg Pearson (15 years)
- **Library :** Nancy Rhodes
- **Marriage Register :** Joan McKenna (8 years) Betty Pearson (28 years)
- **Memorabilia Data Base :** Julie Jenkinson (10 Years)
- **Music Library :** Nancy Rhodes
- **Office Administration :** Sheena Hesse
- **Parish Records for Battye :** Rev John Steed (10 years) and Lionel Rose (10 years)
- **Photograph Accessioning & Storage :** Julie Jenkinson
- **Photograph Scanning :** Brian Jervis and Reg Pearson
- **Plans Building :** Julie Jenkinson
- **Property Files :** Lionel Rose
- **Research :** Betty Pearson and Sheena Hesse
- **Revive :** Linley Gould

Once again to all the volunteers my grateful thanks. Even after 17 years you still make my job so easy and a lot of fun and laughs.

### **PROPOSAL**

To thank all the volunteers who regularly give of their time to further the work of this important aspect of the history and the record keeping for the Uniting Church in Western Australia.

**Sheena Hesse**  
**(Hon Archivist, WA Synod)**