Adventist Heritage Centre

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Newsletter, November 2014

New Exhibition in the Adventist Heritage Centre

For the next three months our new exhibition – Treasures of the Heritage Centre – will be on display in the Adventist Heritage Centre, lower level of Avondale College Library. The exhibit features some of our unique and precious documents, serials and artefacts. We have the several Bibles; the Maori Old Testament of Francis Nicholas Waugh, 1898, and the Complete Domestic Bible of Earnest Frederick James Brittain. We have old year books from several schools; the 1968 Orasm from Hawthorn High, the 1970 Fulton Fare, 1997 Images from Nunawading Adventist College, and the 1971 Hari from Longburn College.

Also on display from Longburn College is the old wind up clock which hung for decades on the wall of the chapel. By 1957 people took the clock down, tired of the difficulty of winding it back up and replacing it high back on the wall. It apparently did not keep good time – though no surprise with the pendulum strap being made from fencing wire.

Come take a look at these Heritage Treasures in the Adventist Heritage Centre. We are open 1-4pm, Monday to Thursday, or by appointment.

Staff Changes

The Adventist Heritage Centre would like to say a big “hello” to Caleb William Hawkens, born on the 16th of October, 2014. Rebecca and her family have been enjoying the new baby, and even paid us a visit to the Centre this week. We presented Caleb with a few small gifts, and were even lucky enough to each have a cuddle.
The Adventist Heritage Centre also officially welcomes Emma Kalaf to the team, taking over from Bec. Emma will be working Tuesdays and Thursdays with us, databasing and archiving documents. These include books, pamphlets, manuals and other publications by the church. We are delighted to have you on the team Emma, and hope you enjoy your new role at the Adventist Heritage Centre.

Five Weeks and 50+ Museums – Part 2

Near Lancaster I visited to the ‘Sight and Sound Theatre’ (www.sight-sound.com) and saw a stage production titled ‘Moses’. This theatre is a must see - outstanding performers mixed with live animals and birds. Simply incredible! Then through a chance meeting, I spent a day with two wonderful Amish ladies who showed me the area and a couple of quilt shops (one of my hobbies). I also visited the Mennonite Information Centre which has a full-sized Biblical Tabernacle that was originally build be a Baptist down south and was bought by them; and the Science factory, a hands-on educational activity museum for children (and bigger kids too!).

Then it was onto New York, a city full of museums and art galleries. Here I saw the Solomon R Guggenheim Museum (architecturally interesting www.guggenheim ), the Museum of Jewish Heritage (their Holocaust -very sobering), the American Indian Museum (very different to that in Washington – more of a cultural history), the Museum of Biblical Art, MOBIA (very disappointing – two small rooms, abstract creation exhibition. I guess I prefer a more traditional approach), the Gunther Von Hagens-Body Worlds (the dissected human body can be beautifully displayed), the American Museum of Natural History (their pacific collection was extensive, but visually very crowded), the New York Botanical gardens (250 vast acres), the Museum of Modern Art, MoMa (impressive artworks), the Museum of Art and Design (smaller spaces for art, craft and amazing designs), and of course ‘Time Square’.

In New Haven I was able to see the Yale’s Peabody Museum of Natural History (their Egyptian collection was impressive), New Haven Museum (a lovely old building with good exhibits), New Haven Museum and Historical Society (amazing what they have done), plus the Knights of Columbus Museum (their ‘Illuminating the Word’ calligraphy exhibit was outstanding). See www.kofcmuseum.org past exhibits).


Next newsletter I will tell you about visiting Chicago, Battle Creek and Los Angeles museum/art facilities. – Rose-lee
Full size Tabernacle outer-courtyard, Lancaster

One of the Amish ladies I spent the day with.


Peabody Museum of Natural History

New Haven Museum
Christian Science Plaza and reflection pool, Boston.

Replica House - Harvard Sematic Museum, Boston

100 Years Ago

This month, featured from the November 9, 1914 issue of the ‘Australasian Record’, is a news item of a shipment of Bibles to the Gilbert Islands. What is fascinating is the process described to protect the books against insects and weather – threats all too familiar here at the Adventist Heritage Centre.

The Bible House at New York City has recently made a shipment of one thousand Bibles on a voyage of fifteen thousand miles. Poison was worked into the covers of the books to hinder the operations of destroying insects. The Bibles were soldered up in tin boxes containing ten each for protection against waves and weather. The tin boxes were repacked in pairs in heavy wooden crates designed to withstand the hard knocks incident to many reloading and to long journeys under varying conditions. These Bibles, being a part of the eight edition printed in the language of the Gilbert Islands, are to arrive ultimately at Ocean Island, a small speck in the Pacific five thousand miles southwest of San Francisco, lying almost under the equator. Ocean Island is only a mile and a half in diameter, but it is visited by many steamers on account of its rich deposits of phosphate. Hence its choice as a distributing centre for Bibles in the islands of the Gilbert group.

Mystery Photo

This is a group of juniors invested at Tauranga SDA Church, in 1954. If you can identify any of the people in the photograph, from left to right, please email us at heritage@avondale.edu.au.
If you have any comments or questions:

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**Your AHC Team**

If you wish to be taken off this mailing list, are receiving duplicate emails or if you know of someone who would be interested in receiving our news contact heritage@avondale.edu.au.