

QUEEN VICTORIA MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY

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THE W H MacFARLANE COLLECTION

Historians, Tasmania
Clergy, Northern Tasmania
Torres Strait

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INTRODUCTION

William Harold MacFarlane was born on 30 September 1884 at Yorketown, South Australia, the eldest of nine children of Richard Thomas and Laura (nee Pryor) MacFarlane.

After obtaining his Th.L. degree from St Aidan's Theological College, Ballarat in 1909, Rev. MacFarlane served in three parishes in the Diocese of Ballarat before offering his services to the Australian Board of Missions. In 1917 he was appointed to Murray Island in the Torres Strait as Mission Priest and nine years later he became Priest-in-charge of the Western and Central Torres Strait Islands. From 1927 until 1933 he was Administrator of the Diocese of Carpentaria. On his return to Australia he was Victorian Secretary of the Australian Board of Missions in 1934 and 1935. He then came to Tasmania where he was rector of St Barnabas Church, Scottsdale, from 1935 to 1940 and of Christ Church, Longford, from 1940 to 1945. He served as North-central Rural Dean until his retirement from the active ministry of the Anglican Church in 1946.

In January 1915 he married Alexandra Gwendoline Hosken: a great support, she shared his keen interest in Church and Mission life. Five children were born of the union.

Rev. MacFarlane and Mrs MacFarlane retired to Bridport where he assisted at St Marks' Church. He died on 13 September 1963 after being struck by a car at Bridport.

A prolific writer of articles, usually on historical subjects, for periodicals, newspapers and scripts for ABC radio, Rev. MacFarlane also published under the pen names of 'C. Coral', 'Wandana', 'Derwent' and 'Rambler'. His Torres Strait missionary journals, anthropological writings and photographs are held by the Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies in Canberra.

Rev. MacFarlane bequeathed his entire collection of historical papers, notes and manuscripts to the Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery, where it was received in November and December 1963. The collection was used as a secondary reference source until this guide was produced in August 2005.

1. Correspondence

1/1	W H MacFarlane, correspondence	c1920-1947
1/2	Correspondence	1948-1949
1/3	Correspondence	1950-1951
1/4	Correspondence	1952-1953
1/5	Correspondence	1954-1956
1/6	Correspondence	1957-1961
1/7	Correspondence	1962-1963, nd
1/8	Letters from Rev. MacFarlane printed in <i>The Church Chronicle</i>	1920-1932

2. Published Material

2/1	W H MacFarlane, scrapbook of published articles on Torres Strait by 'C. Coral'	c1925-1929
2/2	Scrapbook of published articles on Torres Strait, 'When shadows lengthen' by 'C. Coral'	c1925
2/3	Scrapbook of published articles on Torres Strait by 'C. Coral'	c1926-1928
2/4	Scrapbook of 'Stories of the Strait' by 'C. Coral'	c1927-1930
2/5	Scrapbook of paragraphs on Torres Strait by 'C. Coral' published in <i>Bulletin</i> and <i>Sydney Mail</i>	c1928
2/6	Folder of published articles on Torres Strait by 'C. Coral'	1928-1945
2/7	Scrapbook of paragraphs by 'Derwent' published in <i>Bulletin</i> , <i>World's News</i> , <i>Australasian Post</i> , <i>Woman's Mirror</i>	1946-1950
2/8	Scrapbook of articles published in <i>Mercury</i>	1946-1951
2/9	Scrapbook of stories published in <i>Leader</i> , <i>Melbourne Sun</i> , <i>Australian Journal</i>	1947-1949

2/10	Scrapbook of articles published in <i>Age and Sun</i>	1947
2/11	Scrapbook of articles published in <i>Bulletin, Talk, Argus</i> etc	1947-1952
2/12	Folder of articles published in <i>Cummins & Campbell's Monthly Magazine</i>	1948-1950
2/13	Scrapbook of articles 'Along Bridport Highways' by 'Rambler', published in <i>North Eastern Advertiser</i>	c1947-1950
2/14	Scrapbook of articles 'Bridport Highways' by 'Rambler', published in <i>North Eastern Advertiser</i>	1948-1949
2/15	Scrapbook of newspaper cuttings on various subjects (including articles by Rev. MacFarlane, 1935-1960)	c1914-1960
2/16	Scrapbook of articles published in <i>North Eastern Advertiser</i> (includes articles by K W Church)	1951-1960
2/17	Scrapbook, 'Early Settlers of the North East', published in the <i>North Eastern Advertiser</i>	1952-1963
2/18	'The story of Tasmania's North East', published in the <i>North Eastern Advertiser</i> , pasted in 12 scrapbooks	1955-1963
2/19	Newspaper cuttings from various publications by and about Rev. MacFarlane	1932-1961, nd
2/20	<i>The Reibey church at Hadspen</i> (1957) (also typed order of service in the unfinished church, 1957)	1957
2/21	Scrapbook of articles on fossil prints at South Mount Cameron in <i>North Eastern Advertiser</i> (includes article by Rev. MacFarlane on turtle, 1957)	1962
2/22	Folder of published paragraphs on north-eastern Tasmania place names	nd
2/23	Newspaper cuttings by Rev. MacFarlane, including 'The story of Tasmania's North East', no. 1-94, and cuttings from the <i>North Eastern Advertiser</i> and <i>The Examiner</i> <i>Oversized item</i>	1948-1963

3. Typescripts

3/1	W H MacFarlane, typescripts on Torres Strait subjects	nd
3/2	Typescripts on Tasmanian subjects	c1950
3/3	Typescripts on Australian subjects	nd
3/4	Typescripts on general subjects	nd
3/5	Typescripts of short stories	nd
3/6	Typescripts of Brisbane ABC broadcasts	c1950
3/7	Typescripts of Hobart ABC broadcasts	c1950
3/8	Typescripts rejected by various journals and newspapers	nd

4. Torres Strait Records

4/1	Queensland parliamentary papers, 1866-1896; typed copy of letter by H M Chester, 1875; Henry M Chester, <i>Narrative of expeditions to New Guinea</i> , Brisbane, 1878; Mrs Sinclair's reminiscences, 1926; 'Story of a trip round some of the islands in Torres Strait, April, 1926', typescript by H M Chester's son; letters from Charles L Chester, 1952	1875, 1878, 1926, 1952
4/2	<i>Quetta Memorial Church, Thursday Island, Torres Strait</i> , 1895; typed notes on the wreck of the <i>Quetta</i> by Bishop of Carpentaria, 1902; typed notes on the church by H G Simpson, 1920 etc	1895-1920, 1927
4/3	<i>The Creed, Lord's Prayer, Ten Commandments, and Hymns in the Murray Island language, Torres Strait</i> , Sydney, 1924	1924
4/4	W H MacFarlane, 'Wrecks in the vicinity of Torres Strait', manuscript notebook	c1924,
4/5	J P Thomson, <i>Jubilee of Thursday Island</i> , Brisbane, 1927	1927
4/6	<i>The Diocese of Carpentaria</i> , 1927, also manuscript letter from Henry, Bishop of Carpentaria	1927

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| 4/7 | ‘Junius’, ‘Sea tragedies’, newspaper articles in the <i>Capricornian</i> , pasted in two scrapbooks, also loose ‘Sea tragedies’ newspaper cuttings | 1928-1929 |
| 4/8 | W H MacFarlane, Torres Strait nomenclature, manuscript notebook | nd |
| 4/9 | Diocese of Carpentaria, Quetta Memorial Cathedral, Thursday Island, <i>The Parish Gazette</i> , 1 September 1933 (includes article ‘Farewell to the MacFarlanes’, p.4) | 1933 |
| 4/10 | W H MacFarlane, three lists of photographs relating to Torres Strait | 1935, 1961,
nd |
| 4/11 | W H MacFarlane, typed list of exhibits for exhibition | nd |

5. Miscellaneous Records

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| 5/1 | Church of England, Bealiba, Christmas greeting card from Wm. H. MacFarlane, Deacon-in-Charge | 1910 |
| 5/2 | <i>Iona, magazine of S Aidan’s Theological College, Ballarat</i> (paragraph re Rev. MacFarlane, p.46) | 1910 |
| 5/3 | <i>United service of thanksgiving and intercession in the Mechanics’ Hall, Cressy...Coronation Day, Cressy, [Vic], [1911]</i> (Rev. MacFarlane was one of the officiating clergy) | [1911] |
| 5/4 | W H MacFarlane, National Geographical Society membership certificate | 1925 |
| 5/5 | Australian Broadcasting Commission, New South Wales Branch, invitation to Rev. MacFarlane to prepare talk forms | 1947-1949 |
| 5/6 | Australian Broadcasting Commission, Queensland Branch, invitation to Rev. MacFarlane to prepare script forms | 1948-1952 |
| 5/7 | Australian Broadcasting Commission, Tasmanian Branch, invitation to Rev. MacFarlane to prepare talk forms | 1948-1958 |
| 5/8 | Australian Broadcasting Commission, South Australian Branch, invitation to Rev. MacFarlane to prepare script forms | 1950 |

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| 5/9 | W H MacFarlane, notebook re travelling expenses to Sydney, Murwillumbra etc, with itinerary | 1960 |
| 5/10 | Tasmanian Gazetteer Committee, minutes of meetings etc (Rev. MacFarlane was a member of the committee) | 1959-1960 |
| 5/11 | National Trust of Australia (Tasmania), invitation to Rev. & Mrs MacFarlane to opening of Franklin House, 28 October 1961 | 1961 |
| 5/12 | W H MacFarlane, notes on Samuel Cox, compiled for <i>Australian Dictionary of Biography</i> | 1963 |
| 5/13 | W H MacFarlane, letterhead "Timoa", Bridport, Tas | nd |
| 5/14 | W H MacFarlane, obituary in <i>Church News</i> October 1963; biographical information compiled by his son Philip MacFarlane, 1990 | 1963, 1990 |

6. Miscellaneous Items

Scottsdale

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| 6/1 | <i>Township allotments for sale: plan of Heazleton, Scottsdale, county of Dorset</i> Oversized item | nd |
| 6/2 | North-Eastern Agricultural and Pastoral Society Exhibition, Scottsdale, certificate of merit Oversized item | c1890 |
| 6/3 | Scottsdale Floral, Art & Industrial Society, <i>Catalog first annual exhibition</i> , programme-catalogue second annual exhibition, catalogue third exhibition, schedule of prizes third exhibition, schedule of prizes fourth annual exhibition | 1910-1913 |
| 6/4 | <i>Coronation Day, June 22nd, 1911: grand patriotic concert in the Mechanics' Institute, Scottsdale</i> . Souvenir programme | 1911 |
| 6/5 | <i>Opening of Scottsdale-Branxholm railway extension: admit one to public luncheon</i> (card) | [1911] |
| 6/6 | A W Loone, <i>Tasmania's north-east</i> , advertising brochure (with two admission tickets to Loone's talk, 'A trip through the colonies', proceeds in aid of Launceston hospitals and Scottsdale Mechanics' Institute; 'Polling list, Ringarooma', annotated 'Polling List used during the Federation Campaign by A.W. Loone, Scottsdale Tasmania 27/7/99') | [1928],
nd, 1899 |

6/7	<i>Anzac commemorations, 1930: citizens in memoriam service, program</i>	1930
6/8	<i>St. Paul's Church, Springfield: 1884- (parish of Scottsdale) - 1944</i>	1944
6/9	Dorset Lodge, No.17, T.C., <i>Unique Masonic festival to mark the occasion of Wor. Bro. A.W. Biggs and his six sons... Bro., the Rev. Harold G. Biggs, Scottsdale, 1947 (pamphlet)</i>	1947
6/10	<i>Scenic Tasmania pictorial tour souvenir series, Scottsdale, (foldout photographs)</i>	[1947?]
6/11	St Barnabas' Church Patronal Festival, <i>Birthday social: programme</i>	1948
6/12	<i>North Eastern Advertiser</i> , scrapbook of newspaper cuttings on various topics relating to Scottsdale and north-eastern Tasmania	1950-1955
6/13	<i>To Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II on the occasion of her coronation June 2, 1953 from the Municipality of Scottsdale, order of service</i>	1953
6/14	<i>Souvenir of Scottsdale centenary celebrations 1855-1955, Scottsdale, 1955</i>	1955
6/15	St. Barnabas Players, <i>Rookery Nook</i> , program	[1955]
6/16	Parish of St. Barnabas, Scottsdale, <i>The order of services for centenary Sunday....27th November 1955</i>	1955
6/17	Scottsdale Centenary, 1955, scrapbook of newspaper cuttings	1955
6/18	Scottsdale Church of England, <i>Parish of Scottsdale combined funds canvass 1956</i> , Scottsdale, 1956 (includes receipts and expenditure etc for 1957)	1956
6/19	<i>Scottsdale Tasmanian "Thousand" souvenir booklet</i>	1962
6/20	St Barnabas' Church, Scottsdale, <i>70th anniversary service</i>	1962
6/21	RSS&AILA, Bridport Sub Branch, <i>Lest we forget, commemoration service, 1962</i>	1962
6/22	<i>Scottsdale "a way of life" in Arizona (brochure)</i>	nd

Bridport

- 6/23 Brimalaw House, Bridport, Mrs Heazlewood, proprietress, business card nd
- 6/24 *Osborne House Coffee Inn, Bridport...proprietors Irene Austin, Dodger Squires, opening day Nov. 14, 1948* (brochure) 1948
- 6/25 *Roll up, grand opening Nth. E. aerodrome, Bridport by The Rt. Hon. R. G. Casey Saturday, 21st Feb. 1953* (flyer) 1953
- 6/26 *Ceremony of Naturalization, Bridport Public Hall, April 20th. 1956 by the Warden of Scottsdale* (one typed page) 1956
- 6/27 Bridport Progress & Tourist Association, *Information for visitors and campers* (one page) nd
- 6/28 St Mark's Sunday School Hall, typed notes; names for Book of Remembrance c1960

Other Items

- 6/29 Edith Lade, Burnie?, letter to Walter ?, includes mention of people in north-eastern Tasmania 1894
- 6/30 *St Mary's Church, Hagley: 1861-1932* 1932
- 6/31 Suter family, Bridport, letter from Mrs E Greig, Queensland 1951
- 6/32 Editha Wilks, Westbury, manuscript notes re early settlement at Ringarooma 1951
- 6/33 K R von Stieglitz, *Christ Church, Longford* (duplicated pamphlet) 1954
- 6/34 Scott family, manuscript notes 1955
- 6/35 'The story of Tasmania's north-east' (32 manuscript sheets illustrating the history of north east Tasmania, possibly used during Scottsdale's centenary celebrations) **Oversized item** 1955?
- 6/36 W G Fitzgerald, *Examiner* articles on north-eastern Tasmania **Oversized item** 1955
- 6/37 *Church of the Good Shepherd, Hadspen, parish of Carrick: order of service for dedication of the completed church...* 1961

by the Rt Revd. G F Cranswick... 1961 (with newspaper cuttings etc)

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| 6/38 | Gwen MacFarlane, 'The tricks of Ha-Ten', short story in <i>Northern Australian Monthly</i> | 1957 |
| 6/39 | <i>St. Andrews Church, Carrick, Tasmania</i> | nd |
| 6/40 | Lette, Peter, typed inscription on tombstone (with note on names of some other people buried in Cypress Street Cemetery, Launceston) | nd |
| 6/41 | James Stafford Spotswood, typed notes | nd |
| 6/42 | Three pencil sketches of front and two side elevations of a vertical board house, perhaps at Bridport | nd |
| 6/44 | Exhibition display panel from WH MacFarlane's Australian Board of Missions exhibitions in Scottsdale | 1936? |

OTHER SOURCES

QVMAG, Community History, photograph database, search for MacFarlane collection

Beswick, John, *MacFarlanes' history of north east Tasmania* (Scottsdale, 2007)