

## **CLOSING OF ST PETER'S CHURCH, TATARAIMAKA**

(From July 1968 *Church Newsletter*)

"It is a sad thing that this church which has been a centre of worship for so many years is now to be demolished. The progress of time and transport has made the position uneconomical to maintain this church when there are two other Churches in very close proximity. On Sunday 14th July 1968 at 11.15 a.m. there will be a service of thanksgiving and praise to God for all his blessings and all that St Peter's has meant to those who have had anything to do with the Church. Archdeacon Liggett will be the preacher at this service."

## **THE MEMORIALS and BRASSES OF ST PAUL'S**

### **Offertory Plate:**

"Given to St Paul's Church Okato in loving memory of Richard Frederick Purser. Aug 1898"

### **Prayer Book Holder:**

"To the Glory of God and in loving memory of Robert Bawn Addis Colwall, England. Died Sept 23, 1947"

### **Christening Water Jug:**

"AMDG In loving memory of James D. Gray. Died 1937. R.I.P."

**Cross:** "In Memory of William James Gray. At Rest 22nd November 1929. Requiescat in Pace."

### **Processional Cross:**

"IHS AMDG Thank offering for Cessation of Hostilities August 15 1945. Gift from St Paul's Guild.

### **Lantern at the Gate**

In Memory of Reginald Pinhey.  
(Father of Mrs Ives.)

### **Bishop's Chair**

A gift from Mrs A.J. Fox in thanksgiving for the preservation of a grandson whose plane had crashed in the Bristol Channel.  
(John Clemance).

### **Carved Lectern**

The carved lectern was originally in St Mark's, Warea. It was a gift from Matthew and Dulcie Hill in memory of their son Reginal Inkerman Hill who was killed in action at Gallipoli.

**The Organ** was given by Mrs Isabel Hay (née Gray)

From St Paul's Church Magazine "*Action*", March-April 1971. G. Norton, Vicar's Warden writes: "Many of you will have noticed when attending St Paul's a polished gavel in a glass case on the wall behind the lectern and perhaps wondered how an article with generally so little reference to spiritual things came to be preserved in a Church. Its history has just been brought to light during an examination of old papers by Rev Aldworth prior to his departure. It is the gavel used by Archdeacon Govett in the laying of the foundation stones of both St Peter's Tataraimaka and St Paul's Okato and was apparently passed on after his death to the late Mr Stanley Shaw through whom it came in the possession of Newton King Ltd. Here it lay for years in the Board Room, used principally as a paper weight, until Mr Jack West after casually reading its inscription realized its sentimental association with St Paul's Parish and presented it to the then Vicar. It is intended to have a small card typed and placed in the case with it showing its origin for the information of future parishioners."

## STAINED GLASS WINDOWS

6th January 1898, in memory of the late  
Rev H.H. Brown

26th October 1941, in memory of the late  
James Fox, People's Warden for 32 years

28th March 1942, in memory of the late  
Mr W.J. Gray, who was Vicar's Warden for  
33 years

In memory of Mrs Margaret Gray

In memory of Mrs A.J. Fox, organist 1897-  
1965

In memory of William Honeyfield and his  
mother Caroline. (this latter window was  
installed and dedicated in St Peter's Church  
Tataraimaka, and removed to St Paul's  
when the church was demolished).

### The Oak Tree

The magnificent large oak tree near the  
church door was grown from an acorn. It  
was planted by Mrs Vera Putt soon after  
she came to Okato from London following  
the first world war as the war bride of Mr  
Clyde Putt.

The "Ideal Clergyman" from "Action",  
March-April 1971:

"The ideal clergyman of tomorrow would  
first of all be well grounded in theology, be  
an interesting and relevant preacher, and  
then have a lively concern for young  
people. In addition he should be a good  
visitor, well adjusted to older people, a  
good administrator, and effective fund  
raiser, a knowledgeable conversationalist,  
keen on all sports and recreation  
(preferably rugby, golf and surfing), be  
good at public relations, be head of his

family, be knowledgeable in all forms of  
business and farming practice, and be a  
good gardener. In fact there is a 50-50  
chance that "he" will be a WOMAN."

## OKATO MOTHERS' UNION

Okato Branch was formed about 1928.  
Unfortunately early records are not  
available but in November 1969 enrolling  
member Mrs J.M. Bellringer in her annual  
report wrote that "there were 32 financial  
members. Mrs B. Blundell had been  
enrolling member for 9 years, Mrs Mary  
Clemance, Secretary." Other office  
bearers who come to mind are Mesdames  
Vera Putt, Tansie Gibson, Iris Putt, Beryl  
Larking, Mrs Lyn Clemance, organist.  
Mrs A.J. Fox was organist until her death  
in 1965. A church service taken by the  
Vicar was always held before a meeting.  
There was a link branch with Mothers'  
Union of Siota in the British Solomon  
Islands and parcels of childrens gifts,  
materials and letters were sent regularly.  
The World Day of Prayer Services were  
shared with Methodist and Catholic  
women. About 1972 members worked on  
a trial as a Family Fellowship Group which  
meant more open membership, new aims  
and wider outreach and service to the  
community. When Okato became a Co-  
operating Parish and joining with our  
Methodist ladies the title became the  
"Okato Christian Women's Fellowship"  
and it was then members of St Paul's Guild  
joined with the Fellowship.

Nola Corbett

## ST PAUL'S GUILD

This was probably formed before the  
Church was completed as there is on  
record after the opening ceremony 23rd  
June 1897 "a bazaar was held on the two  
following evenings, and the proceeds  
amounting to £45." The bazaar has been a  
popular annual event and well supported