KOORINGA METHODIST CHURCH WINDOWS

BURRA
SOUTH AUSTRALIA



Burra Uniting Church 2006

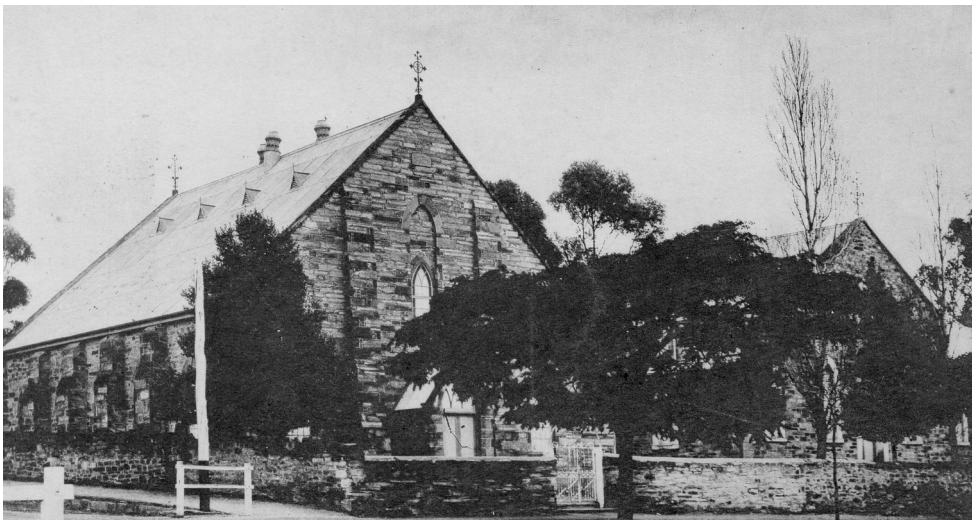
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Burra Uniting Church

The First Church in Burra (1847)
Formally the **Kooringa Wesleyan Church**
The first Wesleyan chapel and schoolroom was built on this site in 1847 and was the first church in Burra.

The Wesleyans - Kooringa
The first Wesleyan service in Burra was conducted by John Chapman a local preacher in his own home in 1846. In all probability this home was a dugout in the bank of the Burra Creek. Services continued there until the first chapel was built in Kooringa in 1847. A minute in the April Quarterly Meeting of 1847 recorded that 'permission was granted to build this chapel at Kooringa on condition that the building be opened free of debt' with the foundation stone being laid in August and the opening ceremony was held in December of that year. The cost of this chapel building being £250, it had no floor or ceiling, its walls were not plastered and it had a shingle roof. Because of a continual influx of Cornish miners to the town, this chapel was enlarged, at a cost of £450 in 1849 to seat 450 people and later a gallery was erected.
In 1851 church services ceased because all officers of the church had moved to the Victorian goldfields; a situation that continued until 1853. The Wesleyan Church saw a great revival in 1858 and 1862 with a considerable increase in membership.
The original chapel was demolished in 1914 and the existing building, opened on 12th December 1914, was erected in its place. It has been used as the main Methodist Church in Kooringa since 1900, when the Bible Christians, the Primitive Methodists and the Wesleyans combined to become the Methodist Union.

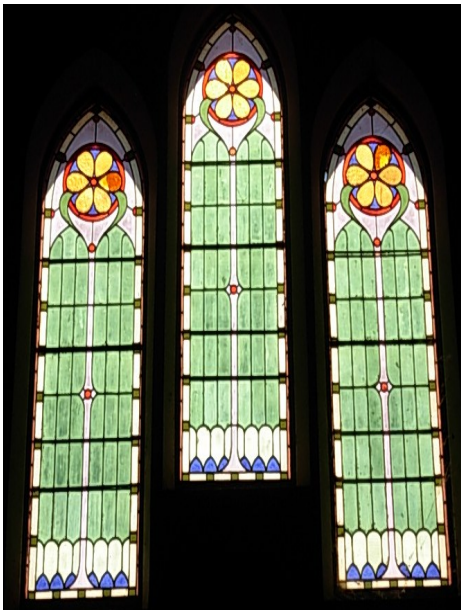
The Kooringa "Public" School
In 1884, 200 students were enrolled at the Wesleyan Day School in Kangaroo Street Kooringa. In 1885, Frederick Holder as a young man of 27 was the headmaster of the Kooringa "Public" School, which was run in the dilapidated and unsuitable premises of the Wesleyan day school building behind the church, got up a deputation to urge the government to erect a government school in Burra. This school closed in 1877 in anticipation of the building of the Burra Model School.



The Original Kooringa Wesleyan Church with Sunday School Hall alongside







Chapel Windows

These are examples of the coloured glass windows that are a feature of the church.
This floral motif is repeated in the vestries at the back of the church as well as in the chapel.

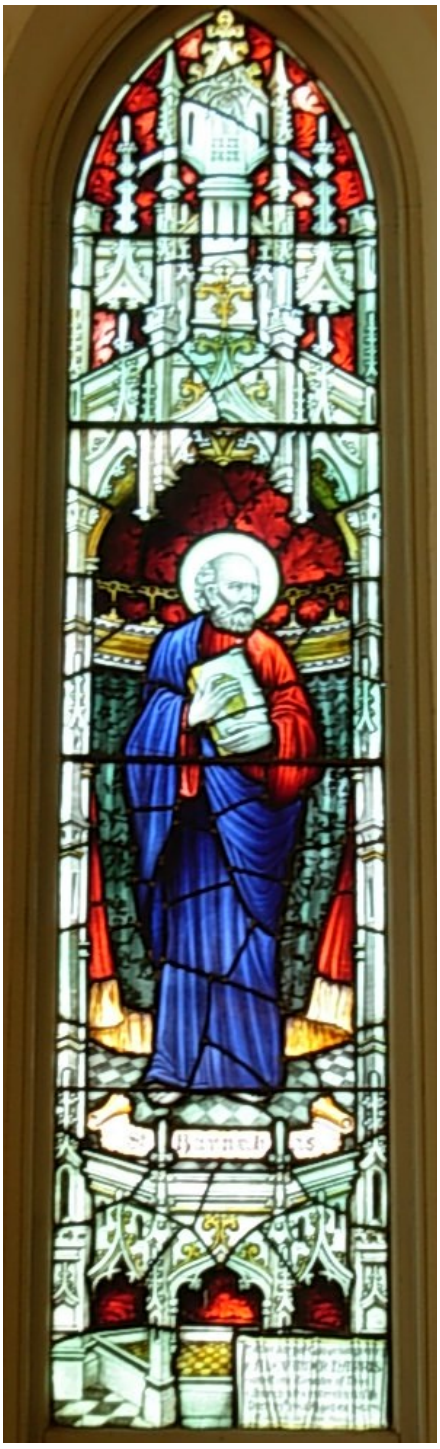


Hope

Inscription:
'To the Glory of God in loving memory of
Mother, Father, Alice, Frank and Trix'

Erected by the John Pearce family
Dedicated September 1927

John Pearce was a carpenter and builder, building many prominent buildings in Burra



St. Barnabas

Inscription:
'To the Glory of God and in loving memory of
Alexander Harris
Sometime Trustee of this Church
who entered into life Dec. 25th 1901
Aged 61 years

Erected by his family and unveiled at the opening of the church in Dec. 1914

Alexander Harris was a storekeeper and wood merchant in the town.
He was a Councillor for The Corporation of Burra and was elected as Mayor shortly before his death



The Good Samaritan

Inscription:
'To the Glory of God in loving memory of
Philip Lane
Sometime Trustee of this Church
who entered into life Dec. 21st 1912
Aged 79 years'

Erected by his family and unveiled at opening of the church in Dec 1914

Philip Lane saddler and businessman of Burra was the town's first Mayor



‘I am the Light of the World’

Inscription:
To the Glory of God and in loving memory of
Edward Wilks (husband)
Edith and William Thomas (parents)

Erected by Eva Wilks 1976

William and Edith Thomas were landholders at Mt. Bryan



The Church interior 2008

Compiled by Julian Ratcliffe
The Burra History Group 2008