

DOORS WIDE OPEN

Church Welcomes Aborigines

"The Church has opened its doors widely to all our people," said the Manager of the Wreck Bay Station, Mr. Robert Brown, when he spoke at the second shared service in the Nowra Methodist Church one Sunday recently.

The first of these services was held when a party from Wreck Bay enjoyed the fellowship of the members of the Shoalhaven Methodist Church and provided a choir of young people for an evening service. Accompanied on the guitar by Mrs. Bell McLeod, the youngsters charmed the large congregation with their singing, and the message of Mr. Bob Brown was an inspiration. The party was entertained by Mrs. A. W. Bray to supper in the Parsonage.

The second service was held under the happiest conditions, transport was arranged by members of the Methodist Men's Brotherhood who conveyed nine children and a large party of adults to Nowra and returned them safely after the service. This entailed upward of 100 miles of travelling by the motorists and was much appreciated. The Brothers who performed this service were J. R. Reid, Ray Bishop, T. Tait, L. Boyd and Roy Winston. The Rev. A. W. Bray, Superintendent Minister of the Shoalhaven Methodist Circuit, extended a cordial welcome to the party, and assured them that the doors of the Methodist Church in Nowra would always be wide open to the residents of the district who enjoyed the privilege of Aboriginal blood in their veins.

"As fellow Australians we are pleased to have fellowship in the Christian Church," added Mr. Bray. Among those present at the service was Mr. P. Sephton, the officer in charge of Aboriginal Welfare Work in the Shoalhaven district. Mr. Sephton is a member of the Men's Brotherhood which has played such an important part in the task of breaking down the social barriers that still persist between the people of dark and white blood.

The theme of the address given by Mr. Brown was that of "The Glory of God" as revealed to those "who had eyes to see and ears to hear," and was inspirational and apt.

Mr. Percy Stewart, who came from La Perouse to accompany the choir, was assisted by Mr. Brown, and his guitar playing was a great help to the singers. A sweetly sung duet by Leonard Scott and Phyllis McLeod, and several choral numbers by these young singers and Colleen Moore, Elaine Ardler, Lurline Moore, Beverley Pittman, Bobby Brown, Victor McLeod and Ken Ardler were highlights of the service. The Methodist Church choir under the leadership of Mr. T. Tait also rendered an anthem.

The beautiful Church was filled to capacity, and impressed many who claimed that they had not been in a church before.

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ANDREW CALDWELL PASSES ON

Local Residents Help Relatives

Andrew, who previously lived at Casino, passed away at the Brisbane General Hospital recently, after a short illness. He had been brought from Casino by ambulance only a few days before. *Dawn* extends sincere sympathy to his mother and other relatives.

Mrs. Caldwell has asked *Dawn* to convey her heartfelt thanks to all those friends who stood by her in her time of trouble; to the Board and its Officers, especially Mrs. English, who arranged her transport to Brisbane, and Mr. James Attell and Miss McCredie of the Brisbane Office of the Department of Native Affairs who met her at the train and accompanied her to the Hospital. Mrs. Caldwell will never forget their kindness to her.

She has asked *Dawn* to thank the Casino District Ambulance and also Mr. L. Austen of Casino for his efforts regarding the payment of funeral expenses which were contributed as follows:—

Casino Rotary Club	...	...	£10
Casino Apex Club	...	...	£5
Casino Lions Club	...	...	£5
Residents of Tabulam Aboriginal Station	...	...	£3

The thanks of the Aborigines Welfare Board have already been conveyed to these organisations.



Margaret and Peter Miller (children of the Headmaster), and the Manager's daughter, Lilibet, on their way to the school concert on Boggabilla Station.

A lovely supper was provided by the ladies of the Church and was dispensed by Mrs. A. W. Bray and her lady helpers.