



Hilliard Christian School in Hobart

Photo courtesy of Elize Celic and Stephen Littlewood.

Hilliard Christian School

PAUL DE VILLE

Paul de Ville, Math.Ed.D. (Curtin University, Perth, Australia) retired in 2013 as principal of Carmel Adventist College, Western Australia. He has worked for the Adventist Church in Australia, New Zealand and the United States over two decades as a teacher, principal, academic librarian, and academic registrar. He has previously served in senior management for government agencies and tertiary institutions in Australia, specialising in information management, medical records and libraries. He is married to Katrina, has an adult daughter and son, and seven grandsons.

Hilliard Christian School is a coeducational day school for students from pre-kindergarten to grade 10, located in the suburb of Moonah in Hobart, the capital city of the state of Tasmania in Australia.¹

Hilliard Christian School is operated by Adventist Schools (Tasmania) Limited, a company owned by the Tasmanian Conference. The school has registration as a primary and secondary school from the Tasmanian

State Government Non-government Schools Registration Board.²

Seventh-day Adventist schools in Tasmania commenced in Hobart following Ellen G. White's second visit to the state, during which she encouraged the establishment of schools. The first of these schools was associated with the Hobart city church. The school was established by Miss Katie Judge in two rented rooms in Harrington Street around 1901. In 1904 the school transferred to the front porch of the Warwick Street Church building. By 1908 two teachers were employed,³ although the enrollment fluctuated, resulting in a reduction in staff some years.⁴ In some years, it appears the school did not operate because no staff is recorded.⁵ In May 1933, this school, under the leadership of N. Sheppard, merged with a sister school in Fleet Street, in the suburb of Moonah, taking on the name Moonah Seventh-day Adventist School. The initial enrollment was 24 students. This primary school expanded to a secondary school in 1955. In 1957, a third primary classroom was built. Two years later, the school received full registration as a secondary school from the State Education Board.⁶ In 1971, a new science and primary classroom facility opened. The school subsequently changed its name to Hobart Seventh-day Adventist Primary and High School.

In 1982, under the leadership of G. H. Perry, the school was transferred to a new bushland setting that has panoramic views over the Derwent Valley. As the school enrollment grew, additional classrooms and a dedicated pre-kindergarten room were constructed. In September 1994, the school again changed its name, to the current name of Hilliard Christian School. The name of the school is derived from the surname of the first president of the Tasmanian Conference, Pastor E. Hilliard. In 2000–2002, undeveloped land was subdivided into housing lots, and funds were raised for a gymnasium and applied arts block. In 2017, the school was re-registered with the Non-government Schools Registration Board following a few weeks of de-registration.

Details of the current enrollment, finances and academic benchmarks can be found on the Australian Curriculum, Assessment, and Reporting Authority's My School website at <https://www.myschool.edu.au/school/40025>.

Principals

N. P. Sheppard	1933 ⁷
A. Westerman	1934–1937 ⁸
W. Whisker	1938 ⁹
G. Maywald	1939–1940 ¹⁰
E. A. Butler	1941
D. W. Dyson	1942–1946 ¹¹
Miss Evelyn Stewart	1947 ¹²

Miss Joan Davis	1948–1949 ¹³
I. Harvey	1950 ¹⁴
Lyle M. Davis	1951–1954 ¹⁵
W. G. Litster	1955–1959 ¹⁶
J. G. Litster	1960–1962
M. P. Cozens	1963–1964 ¹⁷
B. H. Howell	1965–1969 ¹⁸
R. A. Spoor	1970–1974 ¹⁹
J. A. Nicholls	1975 ²⁰
G. H. Blum	1975–1976 ²¹
Pastor Cyrus Adams (acting)	late 1976 ²²
A. E. Savige	1977–1980 ²³
V. Hill	1981 ²⁴
G. H. Perry	1982–1986 ²⁵
G. Coe	1987–1995
M. Hansen	1996–1997
K. R. Aveling-Rowe	1998
C. Szeszeran	1999–2002
B. J. Norman	2003–2010
S. M. Matthews	2011–2016
R. A. Reid	2017
S. J. Littlewood	2018–

SOURCES

Hilliard Christian School. Accessed September 1, 2019. <https://www.hilliardchristianschool.com.au>.

Neufeld, Don. F., ed. *Seventh-day Adventist Encyclopedia*, rev. ed., vol. 10 of the Commentary Reference Series. Washington, D.C.: Review and Herald Publishing Association, 1976.

Seventh-day Adventist Yearbook. Washington D.C./Hagerstown, Md.: Review and Herald Publishing Association, various years.

NOTES

1. Much of the information in this article comes from the personal knowledge of the author, who has been both a student and a teacher at the school.
2. Hilliard Christian School. Accessed September 1, 2019, <https://www.hilliardchristianschool.com.au>.
3. In the 1908 yearbook, the following additional entries appear under "Church School Teachers": Edith Hill (Hobart) and Ruth Cozens (Hobart). "Australasian Union Conference: Church-School Teachers," *Seventh-day Adventist Yearbook* (Washington, D.C.: Review and Herald Publishing Association, 1908), 93.
4. Details from the 1910 yearbook note only one church school teacher for Hobart, a Miss Edna Brown. *Seventh-day Adventist Yearbook* (Washington, D.C.: Review and Herald Publishing Association, 1910), 93.
5. The yearbook for 1911 records school staff for another location in Tasmania, but not for Hobart. By 1920, an entry notes a single church school teacher in Tasmania but does not specify the location. From 1928 there are multiple church school teachers noted in the yearbooks. It can be assumed that from 1928 the Hobart School operated continuously. "Victoria-Tasmania Conference: Church-School Teachers," *Seventh-day Adventist Yearbook* (Washington, D.C.: Review and Herald Publishing Association, 1911), 94; "Tasmanian Conference," *Seventh-day Adventist Yearbook* (Washington, D.C.: Review and Herald Publishing Association, 1920), 195; "Tasmanian Conference: Church School Teachers," *Seventh-day Adventist Yearbook* (Washington, D.C.: Review and Herald Publishing Association, 1928), 234.
6. Don F. Neufeld, ed., *Seventh-day Adventist Encyclopedia*, rev. ed., vol. 10 of the Commentary Reference Series (Washington D.C.: Review and Herald Publishing Association, 1976), s.v. "Moonah SDA School."
7. The text of the "Moonah SDA School" entry in the 1976 edition of the *Seventh-day Adventist Encyclopedia* notes the leadership of N. P. Sheppard but does not list him in the compilation of principals that follows. Neufeld, *Seventh-day Adventist Encyclopedia*, s.v. "Moonah SDA School." He does appear as a church school teacher in Tasmania in the 1933 yearbook. "Tasmanian Conference: Church School Teachers," (Washington, D.C.: Review and Herald Publishing Association, 1933), 70.
8. The principals from 1934 to 1975 are as recorded in the "Moonah SDA School" entry in the 1976 edition of the *Seventh-day Adventist Encyclopedia*. The names and dates have also been checked against the official entries for the Tasmanian Conference in each Seventh-day Adventist yearbook for these years.

9. It should be noted that Mr. W. R. Whisker appears in the listing of church school teachers for Tasmania in the 1938 yearbook and in the 1939 yearbook. "Tasmanian Conference: Church School Teachers," *Seventh-day Adventist Yearbook* (Washington, D.C.: Review and Herald Publishing Association, 1938), 74; "Tasmanian Conference: Church School Teachers," *Seventh-day Adventist Yearbook* (Washington, D.C.: Review and Herald Publishing Association, 1939), 75. His successor as principal, Mr. Maywald, is not listed until the yearbook. "Tasmanian Conference: Church School Teachers," *Seventh-day Adventist Yearbook* (Washington, D.C.: Review and Herald Publishing Association, 1940), 76. The years given in this listing reconcile with the list in the "Moonah SDA School" entry in the 1976 edition of the *Seventh-day Adventist Encyclopedia* rather than the yearbook listings of employees.
10. Mr. Maywald and Mr. Butler are listed as church school teachers in Tasmania in the yearbooks for 1940 and 1941. No designation of principal is made in the yearbook listings, so the years of tenure as principal given in the "Moonah SDA School" entry in the 1976 edition of the *Seventh-day Adventist Encyclopedia* are followed. "Tasmanian Conference: Church School Teachers," *Year Book of the Seventh-day Adventist Denomination*, 1940, 76; "Tasmanian Conference: Church School Teachers," *Seventh-day Adventist Yearbook* (Washington, D.C.: Review and Herald Publishing Association, 1941), 78.
11. Mr. Butler is listed as a church school teacher in Tasmania in the 1942 yearbook. Mr. Dyson is not listed for that year but is listed for 1943. "Tasmanian Conference: Church School Teachers," *Seventh-day Adventist Yearbook* (Washington, D.C.: Review and Herald Publishing Association, 1942), 60; "Tasmanian Conference: Church School Teachers," *Seventh-day Adventist Yearbook* (Washington, D.C.: Review and Herald Publishing Association, 1943), 69. The listing given here follows the list in the "Moonah SDA School" entry in the 1976 edition of the *Seventh-day Adventist Encyclopedia*.
12. Evelyn Stewart is listed as a church school teacher in the "Tasmania Conference" entry first in the 1948 yearbook. "Tasmanian Conference: Licensed Teachers," *Yearbook of the Seventh-day Adventist Denomination* (Washington, D.C.: Review and Herald Publishing Association, 1948), 74. The dates given here follow the list in the "Moonah SDA School" entry in the 1976 edition of the *Seventh-day Adventist Encyclopedia*.
13. Joan Davis is first listed in the "Tasmanian Conference" entry in the 1949 yearbook. She is also listed in 1950. "Tasmanian Conference: Licensed Teachers," *Yearbook of the Seventh-day Adventist Denomination* (Washington, D.C.: Review and Herald Publishing Association, 1949), 79; "Tasmanian Conference: Licensed Teachers," *Yearbook of the Seventh-day Adventist Denomination* (Washington, D.C.: Review and Herald Publishing Association, 1950), 81. The dates given here follow the list in the "Moonah SDA School" entry in the 1976 edition of the *Seventh-day Adventist Encyclopedia*.
14. I. Harvey does not appear in the listing of employees in the "Tasmanian Conference" entry in the Seventh-day Adventist yearbooks for any year near the date given in the listing in the "Moonah SDA School" entry of the 1976 edition of the *Seventh-day Adventist Encyclopedia*.
15. Lyle M. Davis was ordained subsequent to his ministry in Tasmania. He appears as the head teacher under the "Moonah Central School" entry in the 1955 yearbook. "Moonah Central School," *Yearbook of the Seventh-day Adventist Denomination* (Washington, D.C.: Review and Herald Publishing Association, 1955), 221. The dates given here follow the "Moonah SDA School" entry in the 1976 edition of the *Seventh-day Adventist Encyclopedia*.

16. Mr. W. G. Litster is first listed in the "Moonah Central School" entry as the head teacher in the 1956 yearbook. "Moonah Central School," *Yearbook of the Seventh-day Adventist Denomination* (Washington, D.C.: Review and Herald Publishing Association, 1956), 225. The dates given here follow the listing in the "Moonah SDA School" entry of the 1976 edition of the *Seventh-day Adventist Encyclopedia*.
17. Mr. P. Cozens first appears as the head teacher in the "Moonah Central School" entry in the 1964 yearbook. "Moonah Central School," *Yearbook of the Seventh-day Adventist Denomination* (Washington D.C.: Review and Herald Publishing Association, 1964), 307. The dates given here follow the list in the "Moonah SDA School" entry in the 1976 edition of the *Seventh-day Adventist Encyclopedia*.
18. Mr. B. H. Howell last appears as the head teacher in the "Moonah Central School" entry in the 1970 Seventh-day Adventist yearbook. "Moonah Central School," *Seventh-day Adventist Yearbook* (Washington D.C.: Review and Herald Publishing Association, 1970), 345. The dates given here follow the listing as given in "Moonah SDA School" entry in the 1976 edition of the *Seventh-day Adventist Encyclopedia*. Employment dates compiled by the author in 1989 indicate that he was employed at the school from 1965 to 1969.
19. Mr. R. A. Spoor first appears as the head teacher in the "Moonah Seventh-day Adventist School" entry in the 1971 yearbook. He is last listed as the headmaster in the "Moonah Seventh-day Adventist School" entry in the 1973/1974 yearbook. "Moonah Seventh-day Adventist School," *Seventh-day Adventist Yearbook* (Washington D.C.: Review and Herald Publishing Association, 1971), 354; "Moonah Seventh-day Adventist School," *Seventh-day Adventist Yearbook* (Washington D.C.: Review and Herald Publishing Association, 1973), 324. The dates given here follow the list in the "Moonah SDA School" entry in the 1976 edition of the *Seventh-day Adventist Encyclopedia*. Employment dates compiled by the author in 1989 indicate that he was employed at the school from 1970 to 1971.
20. Mr. J. H. Nicholls does not appear in the listing of employees in the Tasmanian Conference in the Seventh-day Adventist yearbooks for any year near the date given in the listing in the "Moonah SDA School" entry in the 1976 edition of the *Seventh-day Adventist Encyclopedia*.
21. "Tasmanian Conference" entry in the 1977 Seventh-day Adventist yearbook. Mr. Blum's appointment was terminated in September 1976. "Tasmanian Conference," *Seventh-day Adventist Yearbook* (Washington D.C.: Review and Herald Publishing Association, 1977), 129.
22. The conference president, Pastor Cyrus Adams, stepped into the breach, effectively acting as principal until the appointment of a new principal in January 1977.
23. Employment dates compiled by the author in 1989. A. E. Savige first appears in the "Tasmanian Conference" entry of the 1978 yearbook and last appears in 1981. "Tasmanian Conference," *Seventh-day Adventist Yearbook* (Review and Herald Publishing Association, 1978), 132; "Tasmanian Conference," *Seventh-day Adventist Yearbook* (Review and Herald Publishing Association, 1981), 149.
24. Employment dates compiled by the author in 1989. Mr. V. Hill first appears in the "Tasmanian Conference" entry for the 1980 Seventh-day Adventist yearbook and last appears in the 1982 yearbook. "Tasmanian Conference," *Seventh-day Adventist Yearbook* (Washington, D.C.: General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, 1980), 131; "Tasmanian Conference," *Seventh-day Adventist Yearbook* (Review and Herald

Publishing Association, 1982), 68.

25. Confirmed by e-mail from Dr. G. H. Perry, June 18, 2019.

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