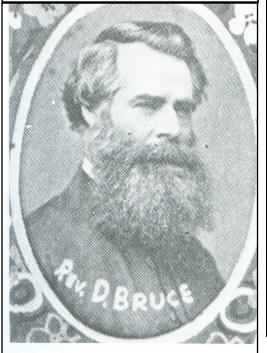
# SUMMARY OF THE HISTORY OF ALBANY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**BRUCE**, Rev David J.M.A., D.D.(St Andrews Symonds St Auckland)



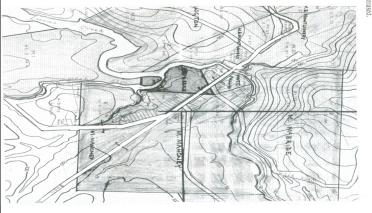
**1853** His charge included the whole of North Auckland, and was at first in the Synod of Eastern Australia.

1856 The Auckland Presbytery was formed

**1862** Up to this year he visited all outlying districts of Auckland

**1858** He purchased property near Lucas Creek later owned by the Kells

The darkened area is Rev D Bruce's' purchase of land



**1864** A building was established for schooling and worship. (Destroyed by Fire 1879)

**1874** The Education Dept bought property opposite the Village Cemetery where services were held

There was always difficulty arranging for preachers in Albany as the only access was by boat up Lucas Creek or by horse on a bridle trail through Titree and Cutty grass from Birkenhead as there were no roads yet formed

1876 Bruce's Church/School rented out



- **1879** Original Church/School burnt down
- 1879 First burial in cemetery
- **1883** Rev Bruce sold his Lucas creek property
- **1888** Church property Trustees (Presbyterian) purchased 1 acre next to cemetery
- **1896** It seems the Rev R Ferguson (Devonport) had oversight of Albany
- **1901** Albany came under the Northcote Parish as a preaching place
- **1901** Northcote given Albany as a preaching place also call an outstation
- **1902** Petition to Northcote Session signed by 17 people requesting regular services
- 1902 Rev Woollams (Northcote Presbyterian) a former Primitive Methodist took the first regular service
- 1903 Mr W H Carter (Interdenominational Committee) request to Presbytery to build a small church on the property, also wanting a 25 year lease at 1/- year plus repairs, maintenance and rates (lease never registered)

#### It seems there may have been a private arrangement for the Methodists who had 2 Sundays, Anglicans 1& Presbyterians 1 Sunday a month

**1903** Building constructed by undenominational group (100 pounds)

1904 Albany members wanted 2 services a month (deferred till summer because of bad roads)

1913 Birkenhead parish was formed and took over Albany until 1933

### Ministers of Birkenhead serving Albany

1914 C Campbell

1915-16 J Lilewall

1917 D McNeur

1919 G Cox

1919-22 J Mackie

1922-23 W G Stewart

1925-30 A McCracken



original Presbyterian Church, built in 1903

- 1930 Albany people wanted service time brought forward to 2.30 so members would be able to milk the cows before
- 1935 Rev Morgan Richards resigned from the Takapuna Parish and offered his services to East Coast Bays, Albany and Silverdale area so ended 30 years of Northcote/Birkenhead parishes
- **1941** At the Easter service 26 took communion
- 1944 Mr & Mrs Bagnall, Misses D & H Bagnall, Mrs Phillips, Hr & Mrs Dyson and Mrs Pannill were added to the roll
- 1944 Rev Morgan Richards resigned and W T Brabyn was inducted (East Coast Bays)
- 1948 Rev Brabyn retired and Rev J R Murray was ordained and inducted. The ECB Parish stretched from Castor Bay to Orewa
- 1951 A new Home Mission Station was formed under Rev Hugh Smyth
- 1953 Rev E A Way followed
- 1955 Sunday school rooms added



1956 This HMS was dissolved and Albany returned to the care of ECB's

1957 Rev D S Borne Ordained and Inducted to St Cuthberts East Coast Bays

**1961** Albany Diamond Jubilee celebration

1963 Glenfield Parish was created looped to Forrest Hill

1965 Presbytery of North Shore was formed

**1968** Glenfield given charge over Albany

## Glenfield Ministers

A Davie 1965-75 P Armstrong 1973-76 (assoc) I Galloway 1976-89 A Norton 1990-93

**1991** The tornado that ripped through Albany on April 24, took with it the 88-year-old Presbyterian Church. Mystery still surrounds the disappearance of several pews left standing, an altar and a cross, but they disappeared within a day.

#### Sunday after the Tornado

Salvaged were the Piano, Lectern and Communion Table still in use



# 1991- 94 Services were held in the Anglican Church

1992 Delegation of Albany members to Session Meeting at Glenfield requesting action to rebuild Albany

After the meeting someone suggested that they would be better off to form their own parish and should apply to North Shore Presbytery

1993 Presbytery agrees to Albany forming their own Parish

1993 Presbytery commissioned Don Stewart as "Presbytery elder" for Glenfield to establish the Albany parish

1993 He called the first session meeting with Rev A Norton as interim moderator along with W Knewstub where the foundation structure was formulated. This constituted the beginning of the separate parish

1993 Presbytery agreed for Albany to call a "Half time" minister as a member had underwritten half the stipend

**1994** Presbytery agreed for Albany to call a "Full Time" minister as the same member guaranteed \$50,000 p.a. for three year

1994 Albany purchased a relocateable building, a log -cabin- ski lodge (grass) as the motorway was to go through the ski lodge property. It then provides space for worship, for quiet, and for multipurpose community use. It includes a cafeteria area. It facilitates the life of a growing and diverse church that relates to Albany.



1994 Rev W Deason preached for a call in the Anglican Church



**1995** Rev Warren Deason was inducted as the first minister of the new stand alone parish

1995 Building dedicated

2001 Worship area added to front of complex





**2002** Three bedroom house added to rear of property for meetings and Sunday School use