
**UNITING CHURCH NATIONAL HISTORY
SOCIETY CONFERENCE**

DARWIN

Thursday 24th to Saturday 26th August 2023

**TRUTH TELLING:
FROM COLONISING TO COVENANTING**

VENUES AND PROGRAM

(Subject to alteration)

Thursday 24 August

**Darwin Uniting church, hall and grounds
78 Smith Street, Darwin City**

- 5.30pm Meal for conference members.
7.00pm Welcome to country including smoking ceremony
7.30pm Keynote speaker, Yingiya Mark Guyula MLA.

Friday 25 August

Darwin Uniting Church and Hall

9.00am Session One

Judith Raftery: Mission – Impossible? Accomplished?

Jonathan Barker: Rev Wali Fejo, Larrakia man and minister

Stuart McMillan: Uniting Church History of Covenanting

10.30am Morning tea

11.00am Session Two

Alison Longworth: Two Journeys: Truth-telling and Covenanting on Noongar Country

Andrew Watts: Kunmunya and JRB Love: True stories around relationship beginnings

Gail Cresswell and Robert Hoskin:

A comparison of historical experiences of Aboriginal education during two key periods: the 'assimilation era' (1960s) and the present day, based on the history of Mowanjum, an Aboriginal community in far North Western Australia.

12.30pm Lunch

1.30pm Session Three

Margaret Reeson: Eye witness: a personal view of social and religious change from 1961 in the Southern Highlands of Papua New Guinea.

Emily Hayes: John Flynn and Charles Duguid: Contested Narratives of the Inland.

David Goldney AM: *"It Makes One Smile and it Makes One Weep"*

In this paper, a light is shone on a now little-known episode of religious life in South Australia. The Rev Victor Henry Goldney (VHG) was appointed as the pioneer Methodist Home Missionary. This paper also examines how once significant figures in the Methodist and Presbyterian Churches, Dr William Torr (Methodist Intelligentsia) and John Flynn (Presbyterian social reformer) need to be reappraised in the light of their attitude towards Aboriginal people.

3.00pm Afternoon tea

3.30pm Session Four

Visit to Chung Wah Society Museum and Temple
Talks on Methodist ministry with Chinese

5.00pm Free evening

Option to attend Darwin Festival for meal and shows.

Saturday 26 August
Nungalinya College,
72 Dripstone Road, Nakara

9.00am Session Five

Walk around Nungalinya College

Ben van Gelderen: Adjustments, adaptations and awakenings:
a brief history of Yolŋu 'bothways'
contextualised Christianity.

10.30am Morning tea

11.00am Session Six

Howard Amery: A First Gupapuyŋu Dictionary:
The Linguistic Frontier.

Bronwyn Shepherd: Conceptualising a mission space
on Yolŋu lands.

Louise Hamby and Lindy Allen: The Legacy of 50 Years of
Collecting at Milingimbi

12.30pm Lunch

1.30pm Session Seven

Tony Goodluck: The Overlap in 1960s Arnhem Land,
through the eyes of a child

Lindsay Parkhill: Cross dedications in West Arnhem Land

Gwenda Baker and Gwen Warmbirrirr: The Three Covenants:
Yolŋu Christians and the First Covenants.

3.00pm Afternoon tea

3.30pm Session Eight

Yolŋu Storytelling, song and dance

5.00pm Evening meal