

6th August 1930 and about 300 were present at the men's meeting, mostly down-and-outs.

Archdeacon R.B.S. Hammond led, as the hearers sat through an hour and a half of gospel preaching before they received their tea and food. Arthur noticed six people on a separate seat, all looking very clean and quite different from the 300 grubby-looking men in the room. The man sitting next to him was a well-known criminal and Arthur asked him, 'Who are they?' The man replied, 'I reckon that they are Christians'. Arthur responded, 'Well look at them and look at us. I want what they have got'. Arthur Stace knew that his life was in a mess. He knew that he needed to change. And he knew that he needed help. He was wonderfully converted and he left the meeting a changed man. Over the next few weeks, God him gave strength to give up drink and find a job.

A few months later, the evangelist John Ridley came to preach in Sydney. Arthur was particularly interested in hearing him as Ridley had been awarded the Military Cross for his bravery in France in 1917. When Ridley said, 'I wish I could shout "Eternity" through the streets of Sydney', the word resonated with Arthur who, like Ridley, had faced his own mortality daily on the battle-fields of France.

Arthur never forgot the refrain of Ridley shouting 'Eternity! Eternity!' and the words stayed with him as he left the church. He recalled, Suddenly I began crying and I felt a powerful call to write 'Eternity'. I had a piece of chalk in my pocket and I bent down there and wrote 'Eternity'.

Stace never forgot Ridley shouting 'Eternity! Eternity!' and the words would continue to do this for the next 33 years of his life. As he walked, every so often he would stop, pull out a yellow crayon, bend down and write on the pavement in large, elegant

copperplate, the word 'Eternity'. He would move on a bit further and write it again.

His daily routine for over 35 years was to rise at about 4:00 am, pray for an hour and have breakfast. He would then set out for the inner-city suburb or district he had in mind or had felt led to, arriving there before dawn and commencing his work.

Over twenty years passed before he was found to be the 'Eternity' writer. Years later, Arthur said, 'I've been writing it at least 50 times a day ever since'. The word appeared over half a million times around Sydney during Stace's lifetime.

Arthur was illiterate, hardly able to write his own name, but he could write Eternity in elegant script. He also memorised parts of the Bible and preached on the streets of Sydney. Saturday nights would see him with a loudspeaker on a makeshift podium outside Sydney Town Hall, preaching to down-and-outs.

On 22nd January 1942, Arthur married Ellen Esther (Pearl) Dawson at St Barnabas Anglican Church, Sydney. Pearl died in 1961 and Arthur died in a nursing home, aged 83, on 30th July 1967.

Ten years after his death, the architect Ridley Smith (designer of Sydney Square by St Andrew's Cathedral) had the word Eternity cast in aluminium and set in pebbles near the Sydney Square waterfall. It is also found at the foot of Arthur's grave in the Botany Cemetery. The years pass by so quickly but eternity is forever. May we be determined to make the best use of our short time on earth. If you do not know the Lord Jesus as your Saviour, think about eternity and the awful plight of an eternity without heaven and without God

Eternity ! Eternity! Where will you spend

*Eternity*

# PORTRUSH BAPTIST CHURCH

## MAY / JUNE 2021

**This I recall to my mind, therefore have I hope. It is of the Lord's mercies we are not consumed because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is Thy faithfulness.....therefore will I hope in Him.  
Lamentations 3 vs 21-24**

**We are thankful that restrictions have relaxed recently and we trust that church services will be back to normal again very soon.**

[Recording Ministry CD/DVD](#)

If you wish to order on CD/DVD of any of the services please speak to the recording team. You can freely watch, listen to, or download from the website, audio and video sermons of the services.

T- Loop System Operating

Find out more on the Web @ [www.portushbaptistchurch.org](http://www.portushbaptistchurch.org)

**Sunday Morning Services DV**  
**May 2021**

**Sunday 2nd May at 11.00 am**  
Pastor Alan Hoey ,

**Wednesday 5th at 7.30pm**  
Bible Study and Prayer Meeting  
Pastor Alan Hoey

**Offering for Baptist Missions**

**Sunday 9th May at 11.00 am**  
Pastor Alan Hoey

**Wednesday 12th at 7.30 pm**  
Bible Study and Prayer Meeting  
Pastor Alan Hoey

**Sunday 16th May at 11.00 am**  
Pastor Alan Hoey

**Wednesday 19th at 7.30 pm**  
Bible Study and Prayer Meeting  
Pastor Alan Hoey

**Sunday 23rd May at 11.00 am**  
Pastor Alan Hoey

**Wednesday 26th at 7.30 pm**  
Bible Study and Prayer Meeting  
Mr Billy Causby Iron Hall

**Sunday 30th May at 11.00 am**  
Mr Billy Causby Iron Hall

**Wednesday 2nd June at 7.30 pm**  
Pastor Alan Hoey

Early Morning Prayer meeting  
Saturday 29th May at 8am

**Sunday Morning Services DV**  
**June 2021**

**Sunday 6th June at 11.00 am**  
Pastor Alan Hoey

**Wednesday 9th at 7.30pm**  
Bible Study and Prayer Meeting  
Pastor Alan Hoey

**Offering for Baptist Missions**

**Sunday 13th April at 11.00 am**  
Pastor Alan Hoey

**Wednesday 16th at 7.30 pm**  
Bible Study and Prayer Meeting  
Pastor Alan Hoey

**Sunday 20th June at 11.00 am**  
Pastor Alan Hoey

**Wednesday 23rd at 7.30 pm**  
Bible Study and Prayer Meeting  
Pastor Alan Hoey

**Sunday 27th June at 11.00 am**  
Pastor Alan Hoey

**Wednesday 30th June at 7.30 pm**  
Bible Study and Prayer Meeting  
Pastor Alan Hoey

Early Morning Prayer meeting  
Saturday 26th June at 8 am

**THE ROD THAT BUDDED.**  
**Reading : Numbers 17**

Let me leave you a few thoughts about The Rod That Budded which have been a blessing to my soul. You see, the rod that budded is a lovely type of the Lord Jesus Christ.

**Firstly : In His Calling :** Like this rod, the Lord Jesus Christ was set apart, and the name of the High Priest put upon Him. Verses 1-10. This reminds me of the uniqueness of the Gospel, for while there may be many in the world, who would want to be a saviour, there is only one. Jesus said "I am the way, the truth and the life no man cometh unto the Father but by Me."

**Secondly : In His Life :** Like this rod He was common in appearance, there was no beauty that we should desire Him, He was the root out of the dry ground. This reminds me beloved, that the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ is for the whosoever will, and there are none outside its scope.

**Thirdly : In His Death :** Like Aaron's rod, He was laid up with others on Calvary's cross. Oh yes they were dying for their own sins, but He was dying for the sin of the world.

**Fourthly: In His Resurrection:** Like the rod He budded and blossomed and brought forth fruit. We who are saved are that fruit of His death and resurrection.

**Finally : In His Ascension :** Like the rod, He is lifted up again before the Father, and lives to make intercession for us. Beloved, as this living and fruitful rod was an evidence that God had chosen Aaron, so the life of the Christian is a token to this ungodly world that the Father has sent His Son into the world to save sinners.

Oh beloved, we are kept in His presence to enjoy His love, and kept here for a witness to the power of His grace.

Your Brother In The Power Of His Resurrection

Pastor Alan Hoey

+ + + + +

**MR ARTHUR STACE - 1885 - 1967**

On 1st January 2000, over two billion people throughout the world saw the word 'Eternity' illuminated and written large on the side of the Sydney Harbour Bridge. A remarkable story lies behind the reference to that word. Arthur Stace was born in a Sydney slum on 9th February, 1885. His parents were alcoholics and their five children also became addicted to alcohol. Both his parents and four siblings eventually died as drunkards and derelicts.

Deprived of parental support, Arthur had to survive by his wits and also fell into petty theft. He would steal milk from doorsteps, pick scraps of food out of garbage bins and pilfer goods from shops. He was illiterate, having had hardly any education. By fifteen he was in jail.

Arthur joined the army in 1916, serving in the Great War. Short of troops, the Australian Army accepted Arthur in spite of his small stature (5ft 3ins and 7 stone) and his criminal record.

He served in France as a stretcher bearer and would have witnessed the most appalling scenes when recovering the shattered bodies of his mates. He returned from the war after being gassed and partially blinded in one eye.

Back in Sydney, Arthur returned to his old habits and became so addicted to alcohol that he could only afford to drink methylated spirits. He heard that a cup of tea and something to eat was available at St Barnabas Church, Broadway. It was Wednesday,