

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910819299503321
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Titolo	God's gentlemen : a history of the Melanesian mission, 1849-1942 // David Hilliard
Pubbl/distr/stampa	St Lucia, Qld., : UQ ePress, 2011
ISBN	1-921902-02-7
Edizione	[Second edition.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (438 pages)
Collana	Pacific studies series
Disciplina	266/.3/93
Soggetti	Missions - Melanesia
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	First published 1978.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Sommario/riassunto	David Hilliard's God's Gentlemen, originally published in 1978, remains the only detached and detailed historical analysis of the work of the Melanesian Mission. Starting with its New Zealand beginnings and its Norfolk Island years (1867-1920), the work follows the Mission's shift of headquarters to the Solomon Islands and on until the beginning of the Second World War. The Mission, which grew out of the personal vision of the first Church of England Bishop of New Zealand, George Selwyn, formally defined its field of work as 'the Islands of Melanesia' although its activities were confined almo