



**Northgate
Methodist
Church
Warwick**

1801 - 1951



The 150th Anniversary Services

will be held

MAY 20th—MAY 27th, 1951

History

DURING the reign of George II, there was throughout Europe a striving amongst the working classes for more independence and a bigger share of the good things of life. This feeling was fairly strong in England, but owing to the fact that the Established Church supported the opposing side, religious feeling was at a very low ebb, until John Wesley started his Evangelical crusade. In the following reign the country was faced with the conflict with the American Colonies, the fear that the discontented section of this country might attempt to copy the French revolution, and later, the threat of invasion by Napoleon. John Wesley had by this time established such a tremendous stabilizing influence in the country as to carry it safely through the danger of revolution.

John Wesley himself probably never visited Warwick, but the County Town did not miss the effect of the Methodist revival, which spread like a fire throughout the nation.

At the close of the eighteenth and the beginning of the nineteenth century, extensive alterations and repairs at the Castle, the erection of the new River Bridge, and other works, brought a large number of craftsmen into the town. Among these workmen was a local Preacher from Yorkshire, a Stonemason named Facer, who began to teach and preach in his own house, and sometimes in the open air. A small Society was founded and in 1810 they were joined by a few residents from Leamington Priors. The Services were held in a room over a Carpenter's shop in Gerrard Lane, where a class meeting was conducted by a Mrs. Pritchard. In those days Preachers came from Hinckley, but in 1815 the Society was attached to the Banbury circuit, until, two years later, Coventry became the headquarters for this circuit.

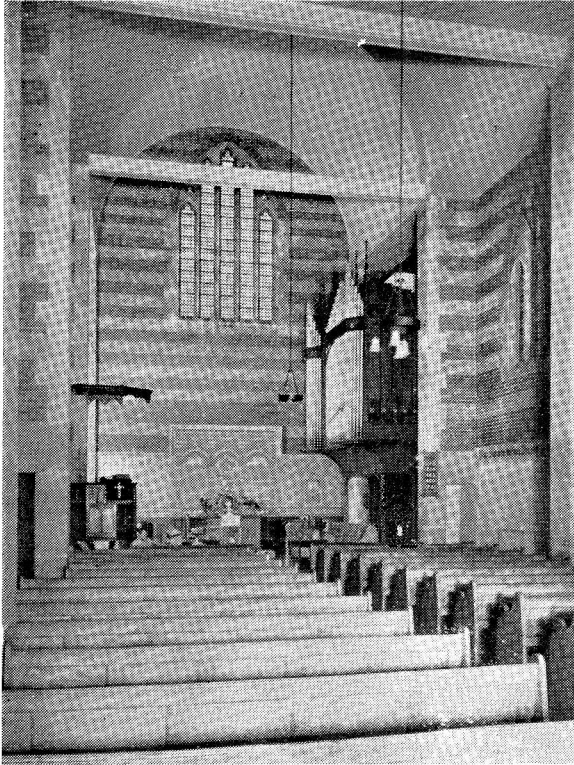
By 1820 the membership at Warwick had so much increased that a Chapel was built in Chapel Street and was used for worship until 1834, when owing to a depleted membership due to the closing of a wool factory in the town, the Trustees became in financial difficulties and the building had to be sold, and became the Borough National Schools. The Chapel was eventually pulled down and the present school erected on the site.

For the next four years by the courtesy of the Baptist Minister the members were allowed to meet in his Church, when by much toil and perseverance on the part of the small society another Chapel was built in Stand Street in 1838. The Leamington Circuit was formed the previous year.

The Stand Street Chapel remained the place of worship until 1863, when it was sold to the Primitive Methodists and the Wesleyan Trustees erected a new Chapel in Market Street, just outside the old town walls. This building was neither beautiful or convenient, and it soon became too small owing to the increase in the membership. In 1891 the Trustees decided to build the present Church at Northgate. This stands on the site of an ancient malthouse, and the carved oak pulpit and canopy were formed from material from this old building.

Northgate was one of the first Methodist Churches to be built in the true ecclesiastical style and the architecture although founded on mediæval precedents, is distinctly modern in conception.

Generally, the Warwick Society has been ready to show a spirit of enterprise and initiative. Its Wesley Guild was one of the first in the



country. At one time a feature of its work was the Sunday evening "cottage services" when the neglected and despised were offered an opportunity to hear the gospel.

Warwick Methodism made similar efforts in a different form in 1925-26 when hundreds of people who normally never entered a place of worship gathered together in a local cinema for services of devotion and intercession.

Overseas Missionary work has been generously supported, and interest has been sustained for many generations. Northgate has also always been a pioneer in youth work, although the succeeding years have necessitated changing methods.

Numerous testimonies have been pa'd by young recruits stationed at Budbrooke during the two World Wars as to all Northgate meant to them when away from home, and to the friends they found amongst strangers.

It is, of course, impossible to assess the work accomplished, and the number of those influenced is quite incalculable. In closing this brief survey it only remains to be said that when efforts have been made again and again in the Name of God and His Church, the members have nobly shouldered the burden, and by devoted loyalty and faithful service have sustained the Methodist Witness started by a Stonemason in 1801.

150th Anniversary Celebrations

SUNDAY, MAY 20th, 11 a.m. & 6-30 p.m.

REV. D. O. WILLIAMS, M.A.
(Of Rugby). (Minister, 1940-45).

WEDNESDAY, MAY 23rd, at 7-30 p.m.

Circuit Rally at Northgate

Chairman: **A. GODFREY K. BROWN, Esq., M.A.**
(Headmaster, Royal Grammar School, Worcester,
and formerly of Warwick).

Speakers: **REV. JOSEPH McCULLOCH, M.A.**
(Vicar of St. Mary's Collegiate Church)

REV. A. STANLEY BEATY (Minister, 1939)

REV. J. EDGAR NOBLE (Supt. Minister)

P. W. F. LABRUM, Esq. (Circuit Steward) and others.

THURSDAY, MAY 24th, at 7-30 p.m., at Market Street
Schoolroom.

Family Evening and Supper

Speakers: **PHILIP STYLES, Esq., M.A.**
(of Birmingham University)

Subject: "WARWICK IN 1801."

REV. T. W. THOMPSON, M.A.

Subject: "WARWICK METHODISM AS I KNEW IT."

FRIDAY, MAY 25th, at 7-30 p.m., at Market Street.

SUNDAY SCHOOL ENTERTAINMENT.

SUNDAY, MAY 27th, at 11 a.m. & 6-30 p.m.

REV. J. VALENTINE DIBBEN.

List of Ministers

Stationed at Warwick since 1866



1866	Samuel Simpson
1867-68	George E. Polkinghorne
1869-71	Joshua Hawkins
1872-73	Charles F. Nightingale
1874	E. Blanshard Keeling
1875	D. Arundel Hay
1876	John Leal
1877-79	Timothy Wheatley
1880-82	William J. Boote
1883-85	John Thompson
1886-88	William Scarborough
1889-91	S. Birt Coley
1892-94	Thomas E. Brigden
1895-97	Josiah Flew
1898-1900	Daniel Bate
1901-03	George E. Waterhouse
1904-06	Harry Edwin Dean
1907	Alfred Hardy
1908-10	William Hoad
1911-13	James Wakely
1914-17	B. Howard Clark
1918-20	Sidney Lawson
1921-23	Robert E. Newton
1924-26	Ernest F. Drew
1927-29	W. Loxley Chamings, B.Sc., B.D.
1930-32	J. Willis Benneworth
1933-38	John R. S. Hutchinson
1939	A. Stanley Beaty
1940-45	D. Oliver Williams, M.A.
1945-47	H. Hubert Partridge, B.A.
1948-	J. Valentine Dibben

TRUSTEES, 1838

John Muddiman
J. V. Schofield
Joseph Spence
Robert Coulson
William Turner

Richard Fletcher
Daniel Mace
Samuel Whitehead
George Whitehead

TRUSTEES, 1849

Robert Coulson
Richard Fletcher
Samuel Whitehead
Job Key
Thomas Wakelin
Charles Flint

Richard Hodkisson
Thomas J. Stratton
Thomas Whitehead
Thomas Bellamy
William Attwood

TRUSTEES, 1866

Robert Coulson
Richard Fletcher
Joseph Hankinson
Thomas J. Stratton
Thomas Mason
Thomas Bellamy
John Bishop

Richard Hodkisson
George Kent
James Pringle
John W. Newcomen
George Bate
William Attwood

TRUSTEES, 1890

Edwin Hunt
Thomas H. Gorle
Horatio Wood
Edward Knibbs
Richard Hodkisson
James Thacker
Simon Bradshaw
William Hodsmen
Edward Tallis
Alfred Caleb Boyce
William Beech
Samuel Hunt

James Bullock
William Hipkins
John Atkins
William Hawken
George B. Stratton
Alfred Baker
Thomas Hamblen
John W. Newcomen
John Bailey
Thomas Timms
Frederick N. Baker
Joseph Ernest Ledbrook

TRUSTEES, 1951

Joseph Mountford Lear
Robert Hopkins
Walter E. Hadland
Bertie Augustus Tandy
Reginald Charles Hope
Roy Fallen
Raymond W. Bailey
William John Orton
Alfred T. England

Kelynge Alfred England
William James Webb
Philip W. F. Labrum
Alfred Vernon Liggins
John Donald W. Field
Sidney H. Lawrence
Frank Harry Stiles
Francis E. Lowe
Reginald Lowe

LIST OF MEMBERS, 1951

Mr. P. Arthurton	Miss E. Kench
Mr. J. F. Armstrong	Miss H. Jones
Mrs. M. A. Armstrong	Mr. J. Jones
Mr. A. Armstrong	Mrs. E. R. Jones
Mr. G. G. Andrews	Mr. A. V. Liggins
Mr. R. Bailey	Miss M. Liggins
Mrs. E. Bailey	Mr. J. W. Lawson
Mr. E. L. Bailey	Mrs. M. Lawson
Mrs. M. Baker	Mr. F. R. Lawson
Miss P. Baker	Miss M. G. Lawson
Mr. D. M. Bratt	Mr. F. E. Lowe
Mrs. H. Bratt	Mrs. O. M. Lowe
Mrs. W. Balfour	Mrs. J. M. Lorenzo
Mr. F. Billings	Mr. R. Lowe
Mrs. E. S. Billings	Mrs. E. M. Lowe
Miss F. Billings	Miss E. D. Lowe
Mrs. S. J. Baibour	Mr. J. M. Lear
Mr. T. A. Bufton	Miss M. H. Lear
Mr. A. Bennet	Mr. R. Langdell
Miss A. Cloney	Mrs. N. Langdell
Miss E. Cloney	Mr. F. A. Langdell
Miss P. M. Checkley	Miss A. Langdell
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Mrs. F. Day	Mrs. F. Metcalfe
Mr. J. Day	Mrs. M. Osborne
Mrs. D. M. Dodd	Mr. A. Armstrong
Mr. E. G. Davies	Miss G. Osborne
Mrs. D. J. Davies	Mr. P. Newman
Mrs. M. I. G. Dibben	Mr. D. L. Miles
Miss E. V. Dibben	Mr. G. E. Miles
Mr. R. Davis	Mrs. A. H. Miles
Mrs. R. Davis	Miss P. D. M. Mills
Miss M. R. Davis	Mr. C. F. Parsons
Mr. J. Fallen	Mrs. E. H. Parsons
Mrs. A. Fallen	Mrs. A. Perry
Mr. R. Fallen	Miss G. Perry
Mrs. E. J. Fallen	Mr. I. G. Richards
Mr. L. A. Field	Mrs. H. G. Richards
Mrs. L. M. Field	Mrs. A. Stiles
Mrs. J. A. Gough	Mr. F. H. Stiles
Mr. J. M. Gough	Mrs. I. D. Stiles
Miss J. Gough	Miss E. Snowden
Mrs. O. Goddard	Mr. J. Smith
Mr. B. J. Goddard	Mr. A. B. Symons
Mr. W. E. Hadland	Mrs. M. Symons
Mrs. D. E. Hadland	Mrs. J. Tandy
Mrs. E. Hathaway	Mr. J. Tweddle
Mr. K. Hathaway	Mrs. M. Tweddle
Mr. F. N. Hayward	Mr. R. W. Tweddle
Mrs. D. V. Hayward	Miss M. Tweddle
Mr. G. H. Hobbis	Mr. G. Tweddle
Mrs. B. H. M. Hobbis	Mr. B. A. Tandy
Mrs. E. A. Hope	Mrs. F. Tandy
Mr. R. Hopkins	Mrs. J. B. K. Halfacre
Mrs. E. M. Hopkins	Mrs. E. M. Timms
Miss M. J. Hopkins	Mrs. M. A. Steele
Mrs. E. A. Hunt	Miss H. J. Timms
Mrs. L. Hall	Mr. P. F. Vittle
Mrs. A. Hayes	Mrs. M. E. Vittle
Mrs. P. Holt	Mrs. P. Wallace
Mr. R. C. Hope	Mrs. E. Wells
Mrs. E. G. Hope	Mr. H. R. Walden
Miss B. A. Hope	Mr. E. Weston
Mr. P. W. Hollyoak	Mr. A. J. Wells
Mrs. E. M. Hollyoak	

