

-end Services

Monday, 8th September

Service at 3 p.m.

PUBLIC RALLY

in the MARQUEE at 7-0 p.m.

Preacher :

Rev. C. LEONARD TUDOR
OF CENTRAL HALL - WESTMINSTER

Soloist : Mr. Berwyn Dodd (Rhos)

Chairman : Mr. W. H. Woollam

PUBLIC TEA to be held in the MARQUEE
at 4-30 p.m. TICKET 2/-

ces for Trust Funds



This photograph was at the Annual Tea-meeting, September, 1951
Three friends present had each attended this gathering for more
than 60 years, Mrs. Roberts, Mrs. Shaw and Mr. Frank Willett.

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This is a picture of the Youth Service taken only a few Sundays ago when Barbara Jones, Margaret Meredith, Joan May and Michael Roberts senior Sunday School scholars, were made Junior Church Members

CREWE-BY-FARNDON METHODIST CHURCH

A BRIEF HISTORY 1858—1958

(Given by Mr. WILLIAM A. SHAW)

If we are to go back to the very beginning of the foundation of our Church, we shall have to go back before there was any building at all. My mind goes back to my early days at Crewe Hall when I heard the stories of those early Methodists in this village. Long before the Chapel was built a very few devout Christians used to meet in the home of one named John Baker. There they held the services in the kitchen, the preacher would stand on the stairs which would act as his pulpit. Great was their faith, and as their numbers increased they decided that they must rear an 'Altar to the Lord.

In the year 1858 a group of men who formed themselves into the first Trustees purchased a plot of land from a Mr. John Morrey, for the sum of £4-10-0 which was then used by the same John Morrey as a garden. This land to be used to build a Chapel or Meeting House and School—to be erected by the said members of the primitive Methodist Connexion. To be used in conformity with a certain Deed Poll under the hands and seal of Hugh Bourne, James Bourne and William Clowes. Whilst mentioning the names of the founders of Primitive Methodism like Hugh Bourne and William Clowes - for the introduction of Primitive Methodism to this Circuit we are largely indebted to two persons of Connexional note, John Wedgewood and Thomas Bateman, especially to John Wedgewood. This 'gentleman from the Potteries' as he was then called, visited most villages and hamlets and there are still those in the Circuit who can point to particular places where that pioneer missionary stood.

For many years there was no organ, my mother used to tell me of the great excitement when the first organ was purchased, no doubt some thought it a dangerous modern innovation. My mother was the first organist for many years, later my two sisters took turns on the organ. My wife is the present organist, it gives her great joy to serve in this way each Sunday.

Although the Chapel was erected in 1858 it was not formally registered as a Place of Worship until April, 1861. On 31st December, 1942 permission was sought for and accepted for Marriages to be held in the Church. The first couple married here were James Meredith and Gwendoline Davies.

On the 24th October, 1876 the Trustees purchased a piece of land forty five square yards for the enlargement of the Chapel from John Morrey for the sum of £3-7-6. It appears that in 1878 the Trustees borrowed £40 with interest 4% for the Extension of the Church (Pulpit) and the Porch.

The Sunday School was erected in 1927 at the cost of £120 and opened free of debt by voluntary contributions.

Electricity was installed at the Chapel in the year 1933. The last major interior decoration was done in 1956 at the cost of £84.

I should like to finish this review with a personal note. When I think of all the Ministers and Laymen I have listened to, and the blessings I have received, and the fellowship we shared at our home at Crewe Hall, I thank God for all past memories. Sometimes when I enter the Church and stand in the pulpit I think of the Great Cloud of Witnesses, I feel like Moses felt in days of old when he heard God say 'put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground.'

What of the future? In past days this Church has sent out as many preachers as any in the Circuit, we are glad that we have young people who seem to feel a 'call' to carry on this great work. The little Chapel still stands to day like a beacon light to all who pass by—a place of worship—God's House. Who knows how many a passer by has received a blessing from some word or prayer from within. May we carry on the work of our Father's that the Name of Jesus be glorified, long may it remain a place where we meet together with Him, until at last we too meet around in Heaven.

Original Trustees — 1885

John Harrison	Shopkeeper	Tilston
Charles Shaw	Mechanic	Tilston
John Weaver	Tailor	Tilston
Robert Woollam	Farmer	Farndon
George Morrey	Yeoman	Crewe-Farndon
James Baker	Brickmaker	Holt
Job Baker	Cordwainer	Caldicott
Abraham Thomas	Labourer	Churton
Thomas Woolley	Stonemason	Crewe-Farndon
Daniel Emberton	Farmer	Tilston
Jonn Baker	Tea Dealer	Tilston

Trust — Reformed in 1891

James Baker	Bricklayer	Holt
Abraham Thomas	Labourer	Churton
Phillip Woollam	Bricklayer	Crewe-Farndon
Francis Shaw	Farmer	Crewe-Farndon
Walter Shaw	Farmer	Crewe-Farndon
Noah Beckett	Labourer	Crewe-Farndon
Samuel Fleet	Labourer	Crewe-Farndon
John Fleet	Shoemaker	Crewe-Farndon
Thomas Fleet	Farm Bailiff	Crewe-Farndon
William Baker	Labourer	Caldicott
Eli Pugh	Farmer	Farndon
Thomas Rowland	Bricksetter	Farndon
Joseph Lewis	Joiner	Farndon
Matthew Lewis	Joiner	Farndon

Trust — Reformed in 1924

Noah Beckett	Labourer	Aldford
Samuel Fleet	Labourer	Crewe-Farndon
John Fleet	Farmer	Tattenall Lanes
Eli Pugh	Market Gardener	Farndon
William A. Shaw	Farmer	Crewe-Farndon
Harry Shaw	Farmer	Crewe-Farndon
James Simpson	Labourer	Crewe-Farndon
John T. Baker	Joiner	Crewe-Farndon
Herbert Lewis	Comm. Traveller	Crewe-Farndon
George Fleet	Labourer	Crewe-Farndon
Henry Walker	Boot Maker	Farndon
Robert Evans	Market Gardener	Crewe-Farndon
William Davies	Farmer	Crewe-Farndon
Walter Shone	Farmer	Farndon
Joseph C. Lewis	Farmer	Crewe-Farndon
William Cornes	Farmer	Crewe-Farndon
Walter Davies	Farmer	Crewe-Farndon
Frank Evans	Market Gardener	Crewe-Farndon
Alfred Evans	General Dealer	Crewe-Farndon
Morall Baker	Labourer	Crewe-Farndon

Present Trustees Appointed 15th June, 1956

William A. Shaw	Cattle Dealer	Crewe-Farndon
Herbert Lewis	Comm. Traveller	Crewe-Farndon
Henry Walker	Bootmaker	Farndon
Walter Davies	Farmer	Crewe-Farndon
Frank Evans	Farmer	Crewe-Farndon
Leonora Evans	Married Woman	Crewe-Farndon
May Shaw	Married Woman	Crewe-Farndon
Joyce H. May	Married Woman	Crewe-Farndon
José Simpson	Married Woman	Oswestry
William A. May	Clerk	Crewe-Farndon
William D. Shone	Farmer	Shocklach
John F. Willett	Farmer	Tilston
Elsie Appleby	Married Woman	Crewe-Farndon
Thomas E. Appleby	Farmer	Crewe-Farndon
Lizzie Fleet	Spinster	Crewe-Farndon
James Meredith	Farmer	Holt
John J. Griffiths	Farm Worker	Crewe-Farndon
Hilda Fleet	Widow	Crewe-Farndon
John C. Simpson	Auctioneer/Valuer	Oswestry

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