

**A HISTORY OF GRIFFYDAM WESLEYAN  
METHODIST & WESLEYAN REFORM CHAPELS**



**BY SAMUEL T STEWART - MAY 2021  
(UPDATED 2017 & 2022)**

## **PREFACE**

If the reader refers to the publication on the website entitled "A Complilation of Transcribed Old Newspaper Reports on Griffydam, Peggs Green, Worthington, Gelsmoor & Osgathorpe from 1814", numerous articles for both these chapels will be found under the Griffydam section which will provide a further insight into the activities that took place at both of the chapels recorded here.

Also, the history of the Sunday School which was built onto the Wesleyan Methodist chapel in 1931 and opened in 1932 is recorded in the publication entitled "Griffydam Wesleyan Methodist Sunday Schools"

## **COMPLIMENTARY READING**

- Griffydam Wesleyan Methodist Sunday Schools
- The Development of Primitive & Wesleyan Methodism in the Local area
- A History of the Providence Wesleyan Methodist Chapel, Gelsmoor
- Griffydam Wesleyan Methodist Day School (1853 - c.1921)

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## GRIFFYDAM WESLEYAN METHODIST CHAPEL



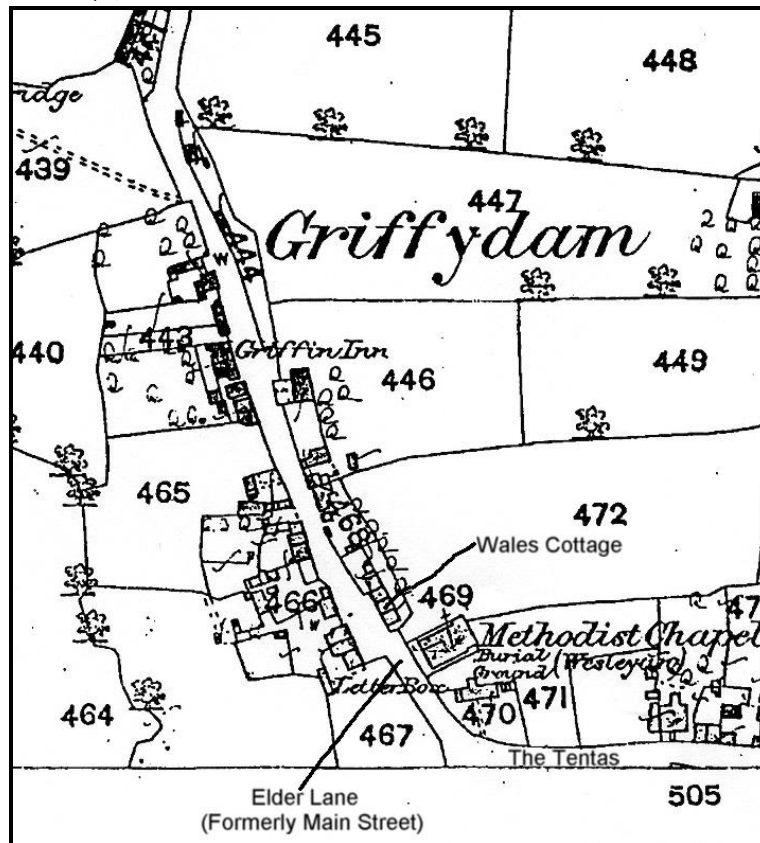
**Photograph taken prior to the cottage originally built by William Garner in the area of what became the graveyard being demolished. This can be discerned to the right of the chapel.**

Griffydam Wesleyan Methodist Chapel is one of the oldest Methodist Chapels in the country, and is of significant historical importance. The Chapel has now been converted into a private residence. An audit of the old graves in the cemetery is appended, and there are many interesting and historically important graves there. Burials took place here from around the area, such as Coleorton, Peggs Green, Breedon, Lount, Swannington, Worthington, Stordon Grange and Newbold etc., as well as Griffydam. The Chapel closed in 2005, and the last service was held on Oct 16<sup>th</sup> at 3.00 p.m. The preacher was the Rev. Harry Jones, and the organist was David Haywood. The graveyard still remains open for new burials.



Looking down Elder Lane

The Wesleyan Methodist Chapel is on the right with the end of the cottage, both originally built by William Garner, on the extreme right (more details on this later in the article). Wales Cottage (depicted on the map below) is lower down on the same side as the Chapel. The Griffin Inn is further down on the left.



Section from an old map showing the area around the chapel with William Garner's cottage on the plot marked 470

**WILLIAM GARNER BUILT THE COTTAGE PRIOR TO THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE BUILDING OF THE CHAPEL  
(SEE LATER INFORMATION RELATING TO THIS)**





**A further photograph of the Chapel,  
with the end of William Garner's cottage on the RH side**



**An alternative view of the chapel again showing the end of  
William Garner's cottage built by him prior to the chapel being built. In this view a  
gravestone can be discerned just to the left of the rear extension on the cottage.**



**MRS SARAH WITHAM SITTING OUTSIDE THE 18TH CENTURY COTTAGE  
ORIGINALLY BUILT BY WILLIAM GARNER JUST TO THE SOUTH OF WHERE  
THE CHAPEL WAS SUBSEQUENTLY ERECTED IN 1778. THE COTTAGE BECAME  
A HOME FOR THE CHAPEL CARETAKERS' AND MR & MRS WITHAM WERE THE  
LAST KNOWN CARETAKERS' TO LIVE THERE PRIOR TO IT BEING DEMOLISHED  
TO MAKE ROOM FOR FURTHER BURIALS IN THE GRAVEYARD. THE EXACT  
DATE OF WHEN THE COTTAGE WAS DEMOLISHED IS NOT KNOWN BUT IT  
WAS POST 1931.**



**A Wedding re-enactment by children of the Sunday School - by the time this photograph was taken, William Garner's original cottage had been demolished. Note the Minister in the foreground and the horse on the RH side. Chris Richards, who currently lives at Newbold is behind the horse.**





Plaque above front door 2011  
METHODIST CHAPEL  
ERECTED 1778 ENLARGED 1791  
RESTORED AND ENLARGED 1862



The bust of "John Wesley"  
which stood in the  
chapel to his memory



Internal photograph of Chapel taken from the upper gallery, thought to have been added during the chapel enlargement in 1862.  
The chapel then provided seating for approx 200 people.





Photograph of interior taken 2005 following closure. This shows John Wesley's bust moved to a position under the clock with a commemorative plaque underneath it.



Photograph taken at the opening of the new Sunday School building in 1932 on the LH side of the Chapel. This was built by Ramsdens' of Castle Donnington  
 Left to Right :-

- Walter Davies - Local Preacher and Sunday School Superintendent
- Frank Rowell
- Herbert Rowell - Local Preacher and Trustee (grandfather of Herbert Eric Rowell).
- John Johnson (Miss Florrie Johnson's Father) - Local Preacher and always first up to speak at the "Love Feast"
- Leonard Wesley Rowell (Steward for 40 years) with his son Herbert Eric Rowell



Internal photograph of the Sunday school taken after the chapel closed

The Sunday school was not built onto the side of the chapel till 1931 and opened in 1932. A history of the Sunday school appears as a separate free to download and read publication on the author's website entitled "Griffydham Wesleyan Methodist Sunday Schools".

When the author's wife Sheila Stewart (nee Bannister) was at the Griffydham infant school on the top road in the 1950's, during which time Miss Florrie Johnson and Miss Kitty Wright (headmistress) were the teachers, all the children used to go down in double lines to the Chapel for their lunches, which were provided in the schoolroom attached to the Chapel on the left hand side. The lunches arrived in hot containers from an outside source, and were then dished out by Mrs. Silverwood and Mrs. Wilton. After the Christmas party at the school, they would also go down to the Schoolroom for their Christmas tea. Miss Florrie Johnson who died aged 99, and is buried in Griffydham Cemetery, was fondly remembered by her pupils, and a feature on her retirement appears earlier in the book.



The above photograph is of a Sunday School outing in the late 1940's  
 The people known to be in the photograph are **A** - Rose Bradford, **B** - Archie Burton,  
**C** - Dennis Else, **D** - Ron Burton, **E** - Mrs. Liquorish, **F** - Florence Hilda Burton.

It was recorded in the Methodist magazine of 1825, that John Wesley held a service in the fields at Griffydam in 1743, even before the chapel itself was built.

The beginning of Griffydam Wesleyan Methodism is attributed by Jane Sanson to William Garner who "*was the means of forming a society and of erecting a chapel at Griffy-Dam where he resided for several years*" (Methodist Magazine 1825 Pg 585). See the later feature entitled - "A History of the Wesleyan Methodist Chapel Burial Ground" for more details on William Garner.

John Wesley preached at Griffydam Wesleyan Methodist Chapel on at least two occasions - the second being on July 19th 1779 at the new chapel, when it was only one year old. In his journal he wrote.....*About 9 00 a.m. I preached in the Market Place at Loughborough, about noon at Griffydam and in the evening at Ashby.*

The Chapel was built in 1778, enlarged in 1791 and thrived for decades, and in 1862 it was refurbished and enlarged again to accommodate around 200 people. The building's certification as a place of worship is dated 1.6.1854 and it was registered for marriages on 8.2.1870.

There was already a fellowship of Methodists in the area when John's brother Charles, as early as 1743 and possibly earlier, "*had preached the gospel to the poor at Cole Orton who heard it with great eagerness*". John was invited by some of the Methodist converts to preach at Griffydam on one of his northern tours. He stood on the spot from which the preceding photograph of the Chapel was taken to deliver his sermon (Methodist Recorder March 1898).

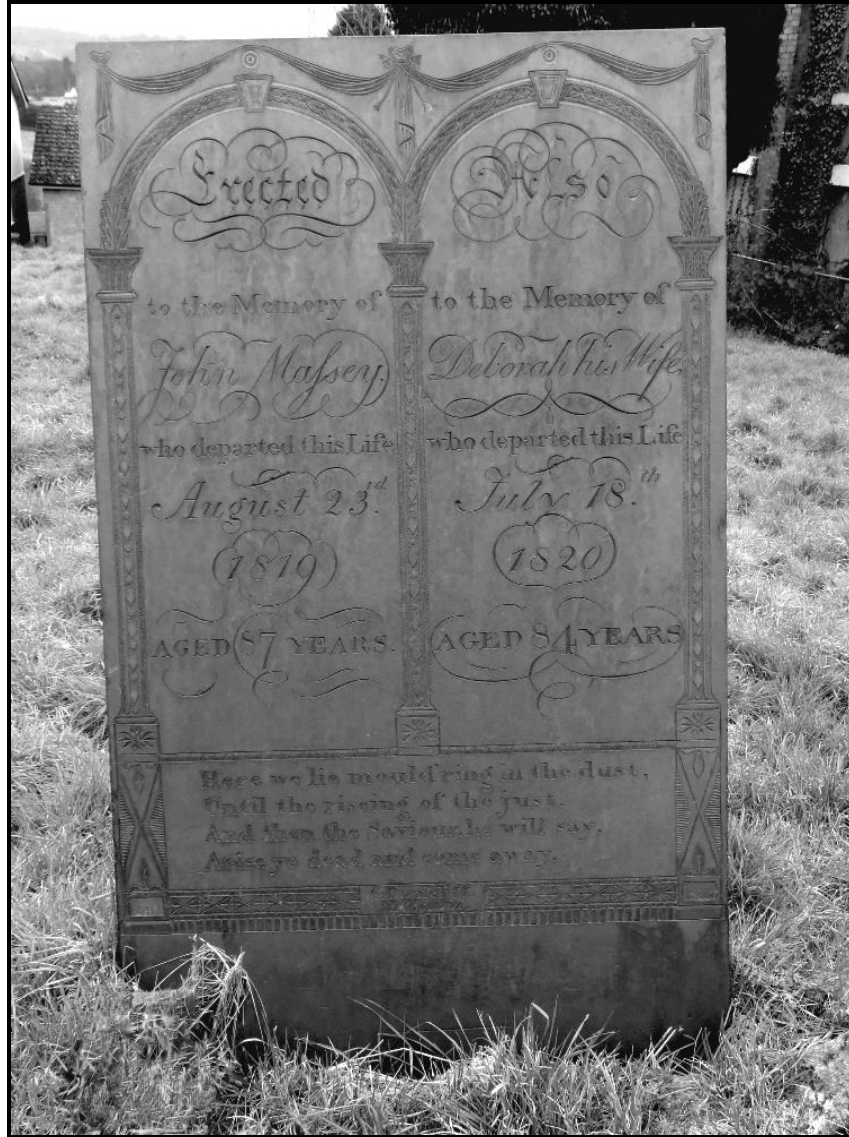
News that Wesley intended preaching at Cole Orton had spread far and wide, and there was a large congregation. A local squire (Sir George Beaumont) who had great influence amongst the colliers, resolved if possible to hinder the preaching. He primed the men with liquor. Armed with truncheons, the swarthy guardian of orthodoxy gathered on the brow of the hill. John Massey, an athlete and renowned pugilist, the terror of every wake and fair in North Leicestershire, was appointed captain of the anti - Methodist gang. No doubt the little evangelist was aware of the plot against him. He calmly proceeded with song and prayer. As he was about to commence the sermon, Massey looked at him savagely, but thought he would just hear a little of what he had to say.

Under the spell of that wonderful voice, the athlete's heart began to beat violently, and a big tear rolled down the swarthy cheek. The colliers became impatient. One man cried out "John, why dunna ye give the word", John's reply must have come like a thunderbolt - "If any mon touches the praicher I'll straighten wi' im on th' pit bonk tomorrow mornin' ". There was not a man who wished to meet John Massey on the pit bank or anywhere else.

The converted collier became one of the most useful preachers in the neighbourhood. John Massey became a well-known and much loved preacher in the area drawing large crowds to hear him. It is believed that he was a member of the Tonge Society which met in Mr. John Hall's house there (now Brookside Farm). John Massey's preaching was accomplished. A regular visitor to the area was Wesley's heir apparent, the Rev. John Fletcher. On one occasion he had been appointed to preach at Tongue but was delayed so John Massey stepped into the breach. When Rev. Fletcher arrived the house was packed, so, instead of attempting to make his way through the crowd, he decided instead to stand at the back to listen and was greatly impressed by what he heard. At the end of the service, Fletcher shook his hand and congratulated him. There can be little doubt but that John Massey assisted John Hall in his missioning of Breedon, Worthington and Diseworth.

It is difficult to pinpoint the date of Massey's conversion at Coleorton Moor. While his brother Charles had visited Coleorton on 24<sup>th</sup> May 1743 and recorded in his journal "I preach the gospel to the poor at Coleorton who heard it with great eagerness", John Wesley did not record his visit. The incident was related in the Methodist Magazine for 1856 where the author refers to almost a

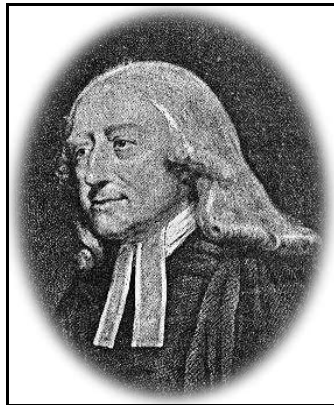
century having elapsed, so it puts Wesley's visit to around the 1760s when John Massey would be in his early 30s. He served his Lord well and did not pass to his reward until 1819 at the ripe old age of 87. Deborah died in 1820 aged 84 and was buried with her beloved husband in Griffydam's Methodist graveyard. They were living in Griffydam at that time.



There are a number of historically interesting grave stones in the cemetery, however, this is by far the most important in relation to Griffydam Wesleyan Methodist Chapel. It is the head stone of John Massey & his wife Deborah who feature in the preceding article. Both John and Deborah have the earliest recorded birth dates in the graveyard - 1732 & 1736 respectively



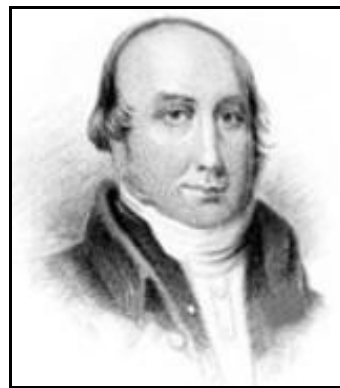
## The Development of "Wesleyan" and "Primitive" Methodism in Local Areas



**John Wesley**  
1703 – 1791



**Hugh Bourne**



**William Clowes**

In the *Methodist Recorder* dated 1898, it mentions that John Wesley's brother Charles, as early as 1743, and possibly earlier, "**had preached the gospel to the poor at Cole Orton, who heard it with the greatest eagerness**". It was recorded in the *Methodist* magazine of 1825, that John Wesley held a service in the fields at Griffydam in 1743, even before the Wesleyan Chapel itself was built. John Wesley preached at Griffydam Chapel on at least two occasions - the second being on July 19th 1779 at the new chapel when it was only one year old.

Methodism has its roots in eighteenth century Anglicanism. Its founder was a Church of England minister, John Wesley (1703-1791), who sought to challenge the religious assumptions of the day. Wesley was a High Church Tory Clergyman, whose methodical system for obtaining personal salvation, was never meant to become a separate religious denomination. His preaching of evangelical revival was to revitalise the Church of England, and it was only because the Anglican Church did not accept his ideas that Wesley broke away. Wesley's impetus was his belief in salvation for all men, and he would preach this whenever and wherever he went.

His travelling preaching was the cornerstone of his Ministry. The formation of the early Methodist societies in the early 18<sup>th</sup> century was brought about by those who had heard Wesley's preaching, so Methodism was always a movement in which the momentum came from the people involved.

The Wesleyan Methodist Church was set up within Wesley's life-time and remained under his autocratic control until his death in 1791.

In 1792, the "Ashby-De-La-Zouch Circuit" was formed, and as the reader will see later in the book, this eventually became the controlling organisation for Primitive and Wesleyan Methodism over a wide area covering villages such as Griffydam, Staunton Harold, Swepstone, Whitwick, Coleorton, Swarkstone, Osgathorpe, Tonge, Ibstock, and so on. A copy of an old document is appended on the next page which gives a list of Ministers who travelled on the circuit for 100 years from 1792 to 1892.

## Names of Ministers.

who have travelled on the Ashby-de-la-Zouch Circuit since its formation, from 1792 to 1892.

<p>Joseph Taylor, 1792. Richard Hardacre, 1792. Joseph Pascoe, 1793-94. George Morley, 1793. William Hicks, 1794. Jonathan Perkin, 1795. John Abkin, 1795. Thomas Rought, 1795. Thomas Cooper, 1796. Richard Watson, 1796. John Burdull, 1796. John Liles, 1797-98. George Smith, 1797. William McAllum, 1798. John Reynolds, 1799-1800. William Harrison, 1799. Thomas Simmonite, 1800. Jonathan Edmonson, 1801-2-3. Joseph Hallam, 1801. Richard Wintle, 1802. John Knowles, 1803. George Button, 1804-5. Barnard Slater, 1804-5. John Simpson, 1806-7. John Lee, 1806. Thomas Biggins, 1807. William Palmer, 1808-9. John Denton, 1808-9. Marshall, Claxton, 1810-11. Anthony Triffit, 1810. Samuel Webb, 1811-12. William Shelmerdine, 1812-13. Lewis Andrews, 1813-14. Daniel Jackson, 1813. Lawrence Kershaw, 1814-15. William Arnett, 1814. Edward Burks, 1815. Elijah Morgan, 1815. John Townsend, 1816. William Bird, 1816-17. William Mowatt, 1816. William Warrener, 1817.</p>	<p>John Roadhouse, 1817-18. John Rossell, 1818-19-20. John Raby, 1818. John Hobson, 1819-20-21. John Dredge, 1819. Thomas Fletcher, 1820-21. Robert Harrison, 1821-22-23. Thomas Pinder, 1822-23. John Smith, 2nd, 1822-23. James Bridgell, 1824. William P. Miller, 1824. George Tunall, 1824. Thomas Graham, 1825-26-27. John Tayldr, 1825-26. John Walsh, 1825-26-27. Samuel Broadbent, 1827-28-29. Benjamin Wood, 1828-29-30. George Barwell, 1828. William Stokes, 1829-30. Joseph Brodhouse, 1830-31. George Russell, 1831-32. James Cheeswright, 1831-32. Thomas Newton, 1831-33. James MacLam, 1831. Thomas Gibson, 1831-35-36. William Bate, 1834-35-36. Walter Fuller, 1837-38. William Binning, 1837-38. William Worth, 1839-40. Frederick Slight, 1839-40-41. Thomas Staton, 1841-42-43. William Bond, 1842-43. George Birley, 1844-5. James Cheeswright, 1844-45. William Bullivant, 1846-47-48. John Crawshaw, 1846-47. William Swallow, 1848-49. Joseph Cheeswright, 1849. John Hague, 1850. George Hobill, 1850-51.</p>	<p>Richard Rymer, 1851-52-53. John Richards, 1852-53-54. Seth Dixon, 1854-55-56. William J. Duncan, 1855-56-57. John Bonser, 1857-58-59. John Dowty, 1858-59-60. Thomas Crosby, 1860-61-62. James Godden, 1861-62. James Brownell, 1863-64. Samuel S. Taylor, 1863. William Rodman, 1865. William Robinson, 1864-65. Robert Brown, 1866-67-68. James Bunting, 1866-67-68. John Stevenson, 1866-67-68. Joseph Sutton, 1869-70-71. James W. Winspear, 1869-7-71. William J. Rogers, 1869. John Gibson, 1870-71-72. Robert Renton, 1870-71. James Kendall, 1872-73-74. Robert Odery, 1872-73-74. George E. Cutting, 1873-74-75. A. Wood, 1873. Thomas Leach, 1875-76-77. George Gregor, 1875-76-77. George C. Coad, 1875-76-77. John Bate, 1878-79-80. Michael Thompson, 1878-79-80. S. J. Burrell, 1878-79-80. Joseph R. Cleminson, 1881-82-83. William Robinson, (B) 188-82. James Green, 1881-82. Stephen Parkes, 1883. Christopher B. Sykes, 1884-85-86. John N. Broad, 1884-85-86. Walter Fuller, 1887-88-89. F. Stuart Kirkness, 1887-88-89. Henry Gibson, 1890-91-92. Christopher Whitfield, 1890-91. George Barnley, 1890. W. D. Johnson, 1892.</p>
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### CENTENARY NOTES.

In the year 1792, when the Ashby Circuit was formed, there were about 550 Ministers, and 145,807 Members belonging to the Methodist Societies in Europe, America and Africa. Now there are nearly 40,000 Ministers, and upwards of 6,000,000 Members in the various Methodist Churches all over the world, and these represent, at the usual rate of calculation, nearly 30,000,000 of attendants on Methodist Worship, and form the Largest Protestant Church, and the Largest body of English Speaking Christians on the face of the earth.

The Rev. Joseph Taylor, the first Superintendent of the newly formed Ashby Circuit, who afterwards became President of the Conference, was converted under the preaching of Mr. Slater, of Shottle, near Belper, who was the Great-Grandfather of one of the Class Leaders in this Circuit and the Great Great Grandfather of two Local Preachers who are on this present plan.

Although Wesley declared, "I live and die a member of the Church of England", the strength and impact of the Methodist movement made a separate Methodist body virtually inevitable. In 1784, Wesley gave legal status to his Conference, the "Yearly Conference of the People called Methodists", which moved towards the legal separation of Methodism from the Anglican Church, and ensured the continuation of the Methodist movement after his death. He also ordained ministers for America, where there was a drastic shortage of clergy to administer the sacraments, following the War of Independence. The Bishop of London had refused to ordain ministers for this purpose, and Wesley felt he was forced to act. Disputes about the status of the travelling preachers, and the administration of the sacraments were resolved by the "Plan of Pacification (1795)", four years after Wesley's death, which was a decisive break with the Church of England. For the first time, Methodists in Britain became legally able to conduct marriages and perform the sacraments.

The **Primitive Methodists** were a major offshoot of the principal stream of Methodism - the **Wesleyan Methodists**. In the early decades of the 19th century, there was a growing body of opinion among the Wesleyans that their Connexion was moving in directions which were a distortion of, not to say a betrayal of, what John Wesley had brought to birth in the 18th century. In 1808, a Methodist lay-preacher **Hugh Bourne**, became the catalyst for a breakaway, to form the Primitive Methodists, resulting in him being expelled from the movement. **William Clowes**, at the age of 24, had a long lasting conversion after attending a Wesleyan Methodist love feast (communion service) on Jan 20<sup>th</sup>, 1805. From that time, he grew rapidly in his new found faith, and soon became a Wesleyan Methodist class leader. He joined with Hugh Bourne and others in promoting open air camp meetings from 1807 onwards. Because of his involvement and commitment to these events, he was expelled from the Wesleyan Methodists in 1810. This expulsion resulted in Clowes and Bourne beginning a separate movement, which took the name **Primitive Methodists** in 1812. Their followers then became known as Primitive Methodists. These "open air" preachers were known as '*Ranter Parsons*', because of their enthusiastic preaching.

The Primitive Methodists differed from Wesleyan Methodists in several regards, including the encouragement of woman evangelists. Both Wesleyan and Primitive Methodist communities grew rapidly during the 19th century. It was from among the Primitives, that many Trade Union leaders emerged towards the end of the century. The Methodist Church wasn't without its internal schisms. Another major Methodist branch was the United Methodist Church, which itself was formed from earlier mergers of smaller Methodist groupings. It joined with the Primitive Methodists and Wesleyan Methodists in 1932 to form the present Methodist Church in Britain.

"Primitive" was probably used to clarify their self-understanding that they were the true guardians of the original, or primitive form of Methodism. The sorts of issues which divided the Primitives and the Wesleyans were these:-

- The Primitives focused attention on the role of lay people.  
The Wesleyans developed a high doctrine of the Pastoral Office to justify leadership being in the hands of the ministers.
- The Primitives stressed simplicity in their chapels and their worship.  
The Wesleyans were open to cultural enrichment from the Anglican tradition and more ornate buildings.
- The Primitives concentrated their mission on the rural poor.  
The Wesleyans on the more affluent and influential urban classes.
- The Primitives stressed the political implications of their Christian discipleship.  
The Wesleyans were nervous of direct political engagement.
- The Primitives encouraged women Evangelists

## TEMPERANCE

In the 19th century, Methodism identified itself with the 'total abstinence' temperance movement. This was at a time when social evils such as poverty and domestic violence were greatly exacerbated by drunkenness. Strong drink was cheap, and many suffered. By encouraging and helping people to abstain, many lives were improved. Methodism has retained a reputation for temperance, but today, alcohol consumption for Methodists is a matter of personal choice, but excessive drinking is discouraged.

### Key Points

- **Wesley's Childhood**

Samuel and Susannah Wesley raised their many children in a home where faith, discipline and concern for justice went hand in hand.

- **The Holy Club**

At Oxford, John and his brother Charles were part of a group of friends who met regularly to pray, study the Bible, and encourage good works.

- **A storm at sea**

Travelling to America, the brothers were much affected by the faith of a group of Moravians during a dangerous storm.

- **The "Conversions"**

Within a few days of each other, both John and Charles experienced a renewal of their faith and assurance of salvation.

- **Preaching**

John began his countrywide teaching ministry when he reluctantly preached in a field in Bristol.

- **Social justice**

The Wesleyans encouraged practical care and reform in many areas of social justice.

- **Wesleyan Theology**

John Wesley followed Armenian teaching, which, unlike Calvinism, believed that all could be saved, not just the 'elect'.

- **Societies and classes**

The regular and intense small group was a key feature of Methodism's growth.

- **The birth of the Methodist Conference**

As the Methodist Societies grew, an annual conference of preachers was a way of keeping in touch.

- **Separation from the Church of England**

Though John Wesley did not intend a split, this became inevitable.

- **Primitive Methodism**

In the early 19th century, there was a split between those who favoured open air evangelism, and the Wesleyans' who were by now more institutional.

- **Temperance**

Methodism identified itself with the "total abstinence temperance movement". Today, alcohol consumption is a personal choice.

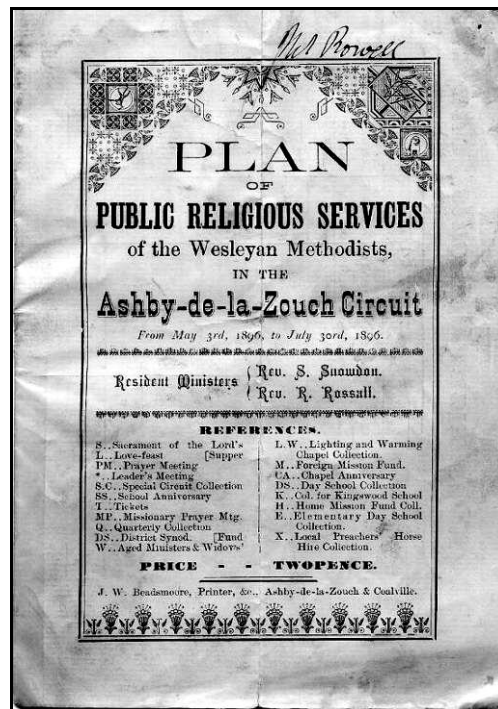
**The worship of Methodism, centres on the expounding of the "word" - the sermon being considered the most important part of the service, together with the energetic and emotional hymn singing. As the latter was almost the only aspect of worship in which the congregation played an active part, it was very popular. Methodism considers itself to have been "born in song" and hymns were often rousing, illustrating the Methodist evangelical doctrine and revivalist roots.**



19th & 20th CENTURY ASHBY WESLEYAN METHODIST  
CIRCUIT PREACHERS PLANS ETC.



1898 Ashby Wesleyan Methodist Circuit Plan (front cover)



1896 Ashby Wesleyan Methodist Circuit Plan (front cover)







# WESLEYAN PREACHERS' PLAN.

## Ashby Circuit.

1829.

### MORNING AND EVENING LESSONS.

	April		May		June		July		August		September		October																
	3	10	17	24	31	7	14	21	28	5	12	19	26	3	10	17	24	31											
Ashby	7	2	3	2	16	3	1	3	4	1	2	6	7	21	2	9	3	1	3	13	1	2	1	24	2				
Griffyd	10	2	3	6	12	3	1	2	15	1	2	18	24	21	2	3	1	2	16	3	14	2	3	1	28	3			
Malbourne	104	2	32	16	18	3	1	2	14	3	4	1	2	16	1	16	6	8	29	10	20	26	12	13	13	3			
Tachell	104	D	24	9	1	28	10	2	29	2	16	4	21	3	23	9	11	13	14	28	2	30	15	7	3	33	17		
Roather	16	6	3	1	2	13	1	2	13	1	2	13	1	2	13	1	2	13	1	2	13	1	2	13	1	2	13	1	
Mousham	2	3	1	2	13	1	2	13	1	2	13	1	2	13	1	2	13	1	2	13	1	2	13	1	2	13	1		
Swaclimote	2	12	6	3	4	23	20	1	24	17	16	2	29	6	22	26	18	4	23	1	31	16	13	2	6	23	12		
Ebeneser	10	12	C	34	4	14	20	D	19	13	13	8	5	9	8	20	6	4	9	33	31	11	19	36	6	D	10		
Oakhorse	10	6	9	11	34	23	24	30	22	6	31	20	C	19	8	10	28	13	17	8	28	24	19	13	6	9	22	20	C
Breedon	2	1	29	4	16	26	6	6	31	10	3	21	33	26	D	12	18	22	2	15	17	27	3	23	30	24	1	16	
Tomge	10	6	1	26	21	24	29	4	16	3	21	24	18	25	7	18	27	2	17	29	3	4	24	1	1	1	21		
Thringstone	10	2	25	21	5	18	16	24	15	27	22	26	14	31	29	10	7	25	28	22	18	15	17	34	16	4	6	24	
Whitwick	10	6	17	7	27	31	C	18	19	21	6	28	16	27	15	31	17	22	24	C	19	2	3	3	3	7	25		
Hartthorse	2	24	3	30	13	13	34	18	22	22	22	14	15	9	12	31	11	13	C	10	10	12	17	17	17	17	17		
Blackfordby	2	31	22	35	10	36	34	D	11	28	14	5	30	19	11	31	9	10	29	8	30	5	17	32	33	35	18		
Itateck	2	33	10	20	21	26	16	13	C	25	31	27	20	35	21	16	7	6	31	D	24	32	36	20	34	19	33		
Shakerstone	104	2	16	31	17	20	6	9	18	29	13	30	C	24	16	29	33	10	16	13	20	34	24	9	13	31	30	6	
Wilson	6	24	12	15	15	26	32	18	4	29	7	12	27	24	32	7	7	12	33	24	21	21	27	27	27	27	27		
Engley	2	24	33	12	27	34	26	12	27	27	24	32	7	7	12	33	24	21	21	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27		
Swarlestone	6	29	A	B	9	11	26	34	23	27	33	4	34	12	16	27	34	24	12	9	33	7	11	21	35	36	23		
Barrow	2	29	A	B	9	11	26	34	23	27	33	4	34	12	16	27	34	24	12	9	33	7	11	21	35	36	23		
Stanton	6	36	15	12	82	35	11	14	30	21	3	35	12	9	7	31	14	31	30	4	32	10	22	22	22	22	22		
Heath-end 2. . . . . Lount	6	18	27	24	14	23	22	7	4	33	34	32	15	33	10	36	29	18	7	21	14	31	30	4	32	10	22		
Ravenstone 2. . . . . Swainington	6	16	17	21	6	7	19	6	18	31	24	18	31	24	18	31	24	18	31	24	18	31	24	18	31	24	18	31	
Ravenstone	6	28	6	26	28	33	25	21	19	27	22	26	36	25	31	22	26	36	25	31	22	26	36	25	31	22	26	36	
Providence	6	19	27	31	E	17	25	4	33	E	16	18	21	28	18	21	28	18	21	28	18	21	28	18	21	28	18	21	
Ogathorpe	6	18	7	17	16	25	E	27	16	19	4	26	14	31	14	31	14	31	14	31	14	31	14	31	14	31	14	31	
Worthington	6	19	15	E	10	7	14	17	23	26	27	12	21	24	17	28	19	29	16	E	18	15	7	27	25	E	36		
Domsthorpe	2	9	11	10	23	36	30	22	6	31	9	19	8	10	35	13	32	8	36	24	19	35	31	9	22	20	C		
Pockington 2. . . . . Motra	6	35	13	9	20	36	6	22	8	13	11	23	C	17	17	23	C	17	17	23	C	17	17	23	C	17	17		
Suarestone 10. . . . . Norton	2	34	33	11	13	8	31	C	20	30	9	34	10	19	23	35	22	27	19	35	34	16	20	30	33	16	20	30	
Staisy	3	33	25	17	36	31	28	13	20	23	22	27	19	35	34	16	20	30	33	16	20	30	33	16	20	30	33		
Normanton	6	33	25	17	36	31	28	13	20	23	22	27	19	35	34	16	20	30	33	16	20	30	33	16	20	30	33		
Appley	6	36	20	11	19	13	35	6	28	10	11	30	32	20	36	34	8	11	6	30	13	22	20	19	8	13	35		
Castle Gresley	6	9	32	8	35	36	10	33	36	10	33	36	10	33	36	10	33	36	10	33	36	10	33	36	10	33	36	10	
Newbold	6	4	18	34	32	14	7	18	E	21	36	28	E	29	13	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	
King's Newton	2	4	7	12	24	33	27	21	4	6	29	26	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	

It is expected that every Preacher will fulfil his own appointments, or in case of sickness or necessary absence, himself provide, as a substitute, an accredited Local Preacher.

W. HENTALL, PRINTER, ASHBY.

## 1829 Ashby Wesleyan Methodist Circuit Preacher's Plan

- S. Sacrament.  
 L. Lovefeast.  
 C. Anniversary Collection, for the spread of the Gospel at Home.  
 P. Preachers' Names.  
 1 Wood.  
 2 BAWWELL.  
 3 BROADBENT.  
 4 Shevry.  
 5 Watts.  
 6 Rowland.  
 7 Joyce.  
 8 Mellor.  
 9 Atkins.  
 10 Limb.  
 11 Smith.  
 12 Bates.  
 13 Croxall.  
 14 Banton.  
 15 Pywell.  
 16 Stinson.  
 17 Proudman.  
 18 Burton.  
 19 Dennis.  
 20 Hudson.  
 21 Dunning.  
 22 Durant.  
 23 Archer.  
 24 Adcock.  
 25 Bamkin.  
 26 Scott.  
 27 Aucutt.  
 28 Abell.  
 29 Airt.  
 ON TRIAL.  
 30 Cooper.  
 31 Baghurst.  
 32 Ward.  
 33 Atkins.  
 34 Yates.  
 35 Villiers.  
 36 Harrison.  
 Derby Preachers.  
 A Jones.  
 B Hill.  
 C Edcock.  
 D Clarke.  
 E Farp.



# PLAN OF THE WESLEYAN PREACHERS, IN THE ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH CIRCUIT.

1838.

They read in the book in the law of God distinctly, and gave the sense, and caused them to understand the reading.  
Neh. viii. 8.

Placess and Time.	YOUNG LESSONS.												PREACHERS.																	
	March.			April.			May.			June.																				
	4	11	18	25	1	8	15	22	29	5	13	20	27	3	10	17	24													
Asbby, <i>Thursday</i> , 7	10	1	14	2	29	3	5	1	13	1	15	2	23	1	33	2	3	1												
Griffydan, <i>Monday</i> , 10	2	29	1	3a	2q	26	1	3a	2	2	1a	3a	2	11	1q	1a	2	27												
Melbourne, <i>Thursday</i> , 7	10	21	28	17	15	25	7	29	22	20	12	40	8	9	26	36	18	23												
Ticknall, <i>Friday</i> , 7	10	30	29	30	17	38	8	15	32	30	23	21	5	12	7	40	37	39												
Heather, <i>Monday</i> , 10	33	2	11	14	24	2	6	1	13	23	11	11	14	14	20	23	1	33												
Measham, <i>Tuesday</i> , 7	5	33	40	14	37	2	15	36	17	29	38	18	12	27	9	5	22	13												
Swadlincote, <i>Thursday</i> , 7	2	17	6	2q	27	1	14	23	11	5	25	24	33	1q	5	2T	27	1												
Ebenezer, <i>Monday</i> , 10	31	10	21	20	18	19	32	30	84	29	10	29	23	6	8	19	9	9												
Oakthorpe, <i>Tuesday</i> , 7	104	17	18	11	39	32	84	37	27	24	8	13	6	29q	37	15	14	22												
Breadon, <i>Wednesday</i> , 7	2	26q	9	37	34	25	40	38	22	18	26	40	38	30	25q	42	18	2												
Fonge, <i>Monday</i> , 10	6	7	21	22q	29	28	33	1	20	2	30	37	10	22	7	41	38	2T												
Thringstone, <i>Monday</i> , 10	3r	34q	18	38	22	3	2*	42	33	1	28	15	39	36	1T	40	41	1												
Whitwick, <i>Monday</i> , 10	6	7	1q	32	41	38	3	28	7	33	12	39	35	1	94	2T	15	1												
Hatock, <i>Thursday</i> , 7	2	2q	37	15	18	17	29	64	33	13	7	11	22	37	13	12	23	18												
Hartshorne, <i>Monday</i> , 10	6	42	22	2	15	2	2	6	43	40	41	37	18	34	13	35	36	2q												
Moirs, <i>Wednesday</i> , 7	2	17	14	23	20	20	9	9	5	17	29	5	36	40	15	29	1q	11												
Shackleton, <i>Friday</i> , 7	2	7q	23	38	15	25	36	41	43	40	13	41	18	6	37	23	22	33q												
Blackfordby, <i>Monday</i> , 10	6	39	12	44	30q	34	9	17	30	23	11	32	5	5q	40	8	31	9												
Smaby, <i>Monday</i> , 10	3	18	43	9	5	32	44	15	21	45	10	19	6	12	43	31	44	39												
Ingleby, <i>Thursday</i> , 7	2	45	1	30q	17	23	29	20	20	20	21q	18	2	1	1	1	1	1												
Stanton, <i>Monday</i> , 10	3	20	13q	7	9	10	45	19	19	19	19q	28	1	18q	28	1	1	1												
Swardestone, <i>Wednesday</i> , 7	6	20	27	13q	30	7	17	9	23	10	29	33	27	19	26	18q	13	36												
Wilson, <i>Thursday</i> , 7	6	30	19q	10	28	27	7	13	21	22	30	19	7	42	30q	33	10	38												
Heath-End, <i>Friday</i> , 7	2	43	30	10	42q	19	45	21	7	22	20	44	28	43q	40	43	45	38q												
Worthington, <i>Thursday</i> , 7	6	29q	3r	7	34	21	35	38	19	36	39	30	42	36	42	7	20	1												
Providence, <i>Wednesday</i> , 7	6	11	25	37	12	1	21	17	21	17	32	15	2	6	1	1	1	1												
Swanington, <i>Tuesday</i> , 7	6	2	7	3q	35	2	23	28	3	6	1	9	3	11q	1T	32	1	1												
Havenstone, <i>Monday</i> , 10	6	13	15	11q	22	37	29	37	35	12	7	22	24	14	23q	13	9	18												
Packington, <i>Wednesday</i> , 7	2	45	21	6q	2	13	12	39	1	24	31	17	17	17q	17q	13	1	1												
Narmonton, <i>Friday</i> , 7	6	15	41	6q	45	40	31	39	43	37	34	41	32	18	37	12q	42	74												
Osgilby, <i>Monday</i> , 10	6	24	18q	27	7	26	13	33	47	18	35	47	42	10	38q	22	21	27												
Appleby, <i>Friday</i> , 7	6	32q	2	8	34	39	52	43	10	12q	10	1	12q	10	1	1	1	1												
Stanton, <i>Monday</i> , 10	6	30q	12	45	7	10	28	28	10	28	40q	15	1	1	1	1	1	1												
Scopthorpe, <i>Monday</i> , 10	2	40	43	22	36	16	32	32	13	32	41	17	1	1	1	1	1	1												

- 1 Dawes, Ashby
- 2 Hinning, Ditto
- 3 Rought, Griffydan
- 4 Sheavys, Ticknall
- 5 Watts, Woodsea-box
- 6 Rowland, Oakthorpe
- 7 Joyce, W. Tonge
- 8 Mellor, Swadlincote
- 9 Limb, Hartshorne
- 10 Banton, Ticknall
- 11 Froudman, Ashby
- 12 Dennis, Ditto
- 13 Dannielliff, Breedon
- 14 Archer, Hartshorne
- 15 Abel, Ashby
- 16 Murby, Measham
- 17 Beech, Woodsea-Box
- 18 Riley, Ashby
- 19 Hutton, Ticknall
- 20 Banton, Ditto
- 21 Kinsey, Wilson
- 22 Stinson, Whitwick
- 23 Harrison, Woodsea-Box
- 24 Orgill, Smaby
- 25 Forman, Chellington
- 26 Bamford, C. Devington
- 27 Adcock, Melbourne
- 28 Pope, Worthington
- 29 Albrighton, Milway
- 30 Franks, Melbourne
- 31 Hall, Ashby
- 32 Crossall, Swadlincote
- 33 Joyce, J. Breedon
- 34 Sherwin, Ashby
- 35 Hought, Griffydan
- 36 Baxter, Ashby
- 37 Moore, Smaby
- 38 Toplis, Ashby
- 39 Haynes, Ditto
- 40 Jordan, Ditto

### ON TRIAL.

- 41 Shaw, Ravenstone
- 42 Sherwin, Ashby
- 43 Bussett, Ditto

### EXHORTERS.

- 44 Bennett, J.
- 45 Berry

Appleby, June 6—1  
 \* Thringstone Sunday School Sermon

Lovefeast at Griffydan, on Monday, April 16th,  
 8 Sacrament  
 9 Lovefeast  
 10 Quarterly Collection  
 11 Tickets  
 12 Baptisms

The Quarterly Meetings will be held at Ashby, on March 26th, and June 25th. The Local Preachers to meet at half past 10 o'clock on each of those days.

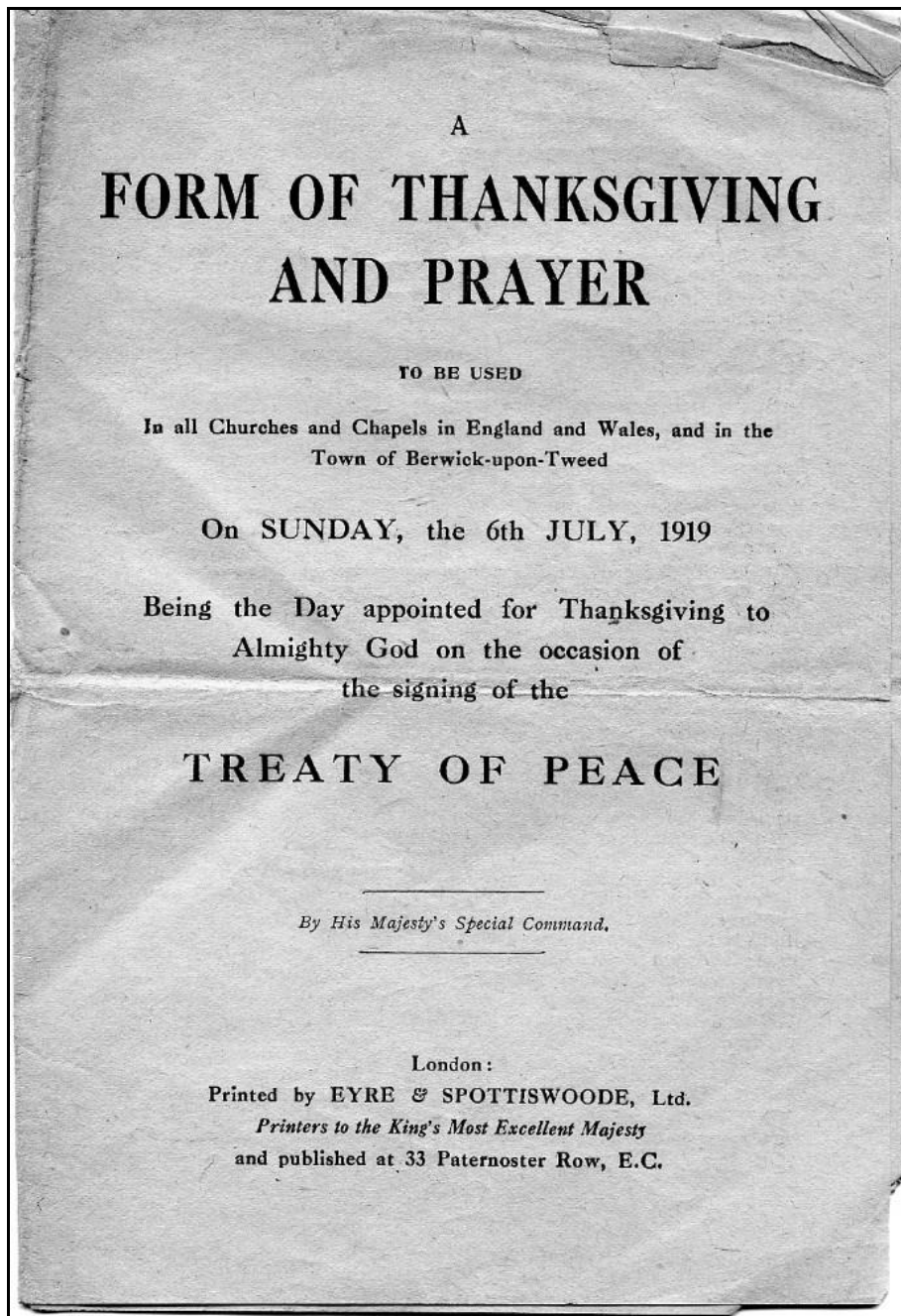
Every Preacher is expected punctually to fulfil his appointments, and in case of unavoidable absence, he himself must procure a substitute from those who are on the plan as preachers.

The Stewards are requested to give due notice of the Sacraments, Lovefeasts, and Collections.

The Wesleyan Hymn Books, Catechisms, Magazines, and any other Book published in London may be had of the Wesleyan itinerant Preachers, Ashby. The profits are devoted to the spread of the Gospel.

1838 Ashby Wesleyan Methodists Circuit Preacher's Plan





This is a copy of the front cover of an old publication issued by "His Majesty's Special Command" following the signing of the "Treaty of Peace" after the First World War. It was issued to all Chapels and Churches in England and Wales, plus the Town of Berwick-Upon-Tweed. It contains the following:-

1. The order of holy communion
2. Morning and evening prayers
3. A form of praise and prayer

## FURTHER TWENTIETH CENTURY HISTORY

It seems fairly certain that Ashby was the first society in the present circuit, and Griffydam Wesleyan Methodist Chapel was the oldest Methodist building still in use in the circuit in 1978, and the oldest in use in Leicestershire when it closed in 2005.

The last trustees appointed prior to the new Methodist constitution were:- Florence J. Johnson, L. Wesley Rowell, May Rowell, William and Gertrude Bird, May Clamp, Annie Hodges, Hilda M. Hutchinson, Herbert E. Rowell, John C. Campion, F. Mary Lacy, John c. Purling, William G. Conibear. The chairman of the meeting was the Rev. William M. Nicholas.

The extension which can be seen on the rear of the chapel was probably added in 1862. It was originally used as the vestry, but when the organ was purchased second hand from a Chapel in Leicester, it was put into the vestry area. The installers, Porrit's of Leicester, moved the pulpit forwards, and positioned the organ at the front. There was an outcry from the members about this, because it wasn't going to be possible to accommodate the platform for the anniversary, and this couldn't possibly be allowed to happen. Therefore, Wesley Rowell was approached to do something about it. This resulted in the church members led by Wes, man-handling it to the rear of the extension themselves. Eric Rowell, a senior citizen of Pegg's Green, and the son of Leonard Wesley Rowell who was chapel Steward for 40 years from 1939, related this story to the author. Eric was organ blower for many years until it was electrified. The organ was probably installed c.1940.

In addition to his other chapel activities,

Eric was also grave-digger for 25 years, and followed his father Wesley into the profession. He explained that in those days, people needed to be buried quickly after death. A local person would often do the laying out of the body. Due to his father being Chapel Steward, people who had experienced bereavement would knock on their house door in Anchor Lane to request a grave to be dug. Eric relates the story that he would arrive home from his shift at Whitwick Pit, and on occasions, his mother would inform them that a double-grave needed digging as misses so and so's husband had died. His work clothes would be ready for him, and he and his father would have their tea, and then go down to dig the grave. He remembers that in the early days they would do this by candle-light. Eric took a great pride in his grave digging, and relates how in those days, the grave was dug to the shape of the coffin, and the coffin must lie exactly horizontally.

The Rowell family were staunch Methodists, and his grandfather, Herbert Rowell, was received on the full plan as a local preacher in 1886. He passed away in 1933. Herbert lived on the Tentas opposite the graveyard and ran a grocer's and bake-house there. He is listed in the 1901 census.

**In those days, local preachers usually travelled around the district by horse and cart, which was certainly the case for Herbert Rowell. There is a rather amusing note recorded on the front cover of the 1898 Ashby Circuit Wesleyan Methodist Preacher's Plan, which reads:-**  
***The treasurer of the "Local Preachers Horse Hire Fund" was a Mr. J. T. Broxholme.***  
**In the 1933 Ashby Circuit Wesleyan Methodist Preachers Plan, the following local officer positions were listed at Griffydam:-**



**Mr. Walter Davies**



**Leonard Wesley Rowell**

**Society Steward** - Mr. Walter. Davies, Olga Terrace, Coleorton (Also local preacher and Sunday School superintendent)

**Poor Stewards** -

Mr. W. Rowell (became Chapel Steward for 40 years from 1939)  
Mrs. W. Davies.

**Society Steward** -

Mr. H. Johnson, Hill View, Griffydam (Also local preacher)

**Chapel Stewards** -

Mr. H. Johnson and Mr. S. Johnson.

**Sunday School superintendent** -

Mr Walter Davies.

**Organists** -

Miss Rowell, Griffydam, Miss Johnson and Mrs. Hull.

**Wesley Guild Secretary** -

Miss Johnson, Hill View.



## THE EASTER MONDAY LOVE FEAST (Courtesy of Michael Green)

The Lovefeast originated by the meals shared by early Christians where the hungry were also given food. The meals also had two elements which were sacramental and, in time, the two separated and became Holy Communion and the Lovefeast. The latter gradually disappeared to be resurrected in the early part of the 18<sup>th</sup> century mainly by the Moravians by whom it is still celebrated today.

The Moravians had a strong influence on John Wesley, On the 1736 voyage to Georgia he had been impressed by their deep faith and peace during the dreadful storm and it was in 1743, while attending a meeting of Moravians in Aldersgate Street London, that he felt his heart "strangely warmed". It is unsurprising, therefore, that the Lovefeast became an established feature of Methodism from its very beginnings. It would have been held at Griffydam from the forming of the Methodist society there in the early 1760s and, until the chapel opened in 1778, it would have taken place in the homes of followers.

It was an annual event held on Easter Monday and the first account of it is found in a letter of 25<sup>th</sup> April 1821 from William Kidger, a Griffydam class leader, to his daughter and son in law, Mr and Mrs Tucker, which began "I hereby give you an account of our memorable Love Feast. It commenced at two o'clock and we left the chapel with some difficulty at half past five. Had there been time, I doubt not but that scores, if not hundreds more, would have declared what the Lord had done for them.

In 1856 it was felt that the time allotted for the Lovefeast was too short and a proposal was made that it should start at 1.00 instead of 2.00 pm which prompted an amendment that it should start at 11.00 am!

From the 1870s onwards, reports on the Griffydam Lovefeasts appeared in local newspapers Throughout the history of the Lovefeast it seems that the format remained largely unchanged. It opened with singing and prayer. The early Christian feast by now was symbolic represented by the passing round of water in the two handled [loving cups](#) followed by bread or biscuits, which was overseen by stewards. The remainder of the Lovefeast was taken up in prayer, testimony and song and the atmosphere was highly charged. The essence is well caught by the following account of the 1910 Lovefeast

*The service began at 1. 30. and lasted till four o'clock, the chapel being crowded with a large and most enthusiastic congregation, members of whom gave spontaneous testimony to the Christian life, which was given to a running fire of interjected "Praise the Lord", "Hallelujah", and expressions of praise and approval. Some speakers.....were lively, some were solemn, and some gave sacred songs, but all were obviously filled with great enthusiasm and earnestness. Some gave their testimony with tears running down their faces as they described their rescue from the depths of degradation. After some especially touching testimony, someone would burst out with a hymn, which was heartily taken up by the congregation, the refrain being sometimes repeated several times.*

The same report goes on to indicate the hymns sung which are much as would be expected but with surprises.

*These included "Amazing Love", Glory to the bleeding lamb", when the roll is called up yonder", "When I get home", "I need thee", "When I survey the wondrous cross", "All hail the power of Jesu's name" etc.*

"The saviour died upon the tree, Glory to the bleeding lamb" and "I shall wear a golden crown when I get home" are barely known today.

The chapel was always full to overflowing with some 500 there following the chapel's enlargement in 1862. The opening of the second railway station at Swannington in 1839 later to be followed by the one at Worthington in 1874 allowed those from further afield than the immediate neighbourhood to attend. A 1934 report recounts that *"There was a time when special trains brought people from Yorkshire and enthusiasts from other parts of the country attended in large numbers."*

Following the end of the Lovefeast, a public tea was provided in the schoolroom and everyone attended the evening service at 6.00 pm taken by the Superintendent Minister or a guest preacher. There were frequent conversions. One notable conversion was that of [Mary Buck](#) on Easter Monday 1830, who went on to become a celebrated female Primitive Methodist preacher. [See the following article.](#)

By the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the Lovefeast no longer took place in the vast majority of Methodist chapels but the collection for the poor, an important part of the Lovefeast service, became a part of Holy Communion.



By the 1930s the Griffydam Lovefeast had started to lose its appeal and the chapel was no longer packed on an Easter Monday .but in 1948 was still attracting a congregation of some 300. The last newspaper report was in 1950. While it does not give the number attending, it does mention there being 6 loving cups each 100 years old and that taking part were the twin brothers Mr. Walter Davies and Mr. Herbert Davies and Mr. John Johnson, who had attended all Griffydam Lovefeasts for more than 60 years. The latter, Local Preacher and Sunday School Superintendent, was always the first to be on his feet and speak.

It is not known just exactly when the Griffydam Lovefeast ceased to be held but it was probably the late 1960s early 1970s. Speaking in 2014 the late Sidney Haywood aged 92 recalled that in the later years the service had become much shorter commencing at 2.30 pm and ending at 4.00 pm. By now people had become aware of how germs were spread and many declined the water. Everyone stopped for the evening service which commenced at 6.00 pm.

So, the Griffydam Lovefeast was continuously held for some 200 years. This has been surpassed, however, by the Methodist one held on the first Sunday in July in the barn at Alport in the Derbyshire Dales started in the 1760s and still held even last year via Zoom in view of the Covid pandemic.

Sadly, Griffydam chapel closed in 2005.

## MARY CLARISSA BUCK



Mary Clarissa Buck was born on the 5<sup>th</sup> of January 1810 in Newbold and followed Elizabeth Evans, immortalised as Dinah Morris, to be the second famous woman preacher to be born in this tiny village. We are told that her parents, William and Mary, were hard working, though poor. In 1818, Ashby and the adjoining area, including Coleorton, were visited by Primitive Methodist missionaries as a result of which William and Mary opened their house for services and provided accommodation for visiting preachers, both itinerant and local. Services continued to take place there **until the first Primitive Methodist chapel was opened in Coleorton some 21 years later in 1839.**

Although in constant contact with the Primitive Methodist preachers, it was not until she was 20 that Mary came to know her Lord and accept him as her saviour, when she was converted, not in a Primitive Methodist service or at a camp meeting, but at the celebrated "Annual Love Feast and Watch Meeting" held on Easter Monday 1830 in the Wesleyan Methodist chapel

at Griffydam. Perhaps she was invited to go there by a friend, perhaps she went out of curiosity, but in fact, we shall never know the reason for her going to Griffydam that day.

Following her conversion, she joined the small Primitive Methodist Society at Coleorton, where it was soon discovered that she had the gift for preaching. She had gone with her sister, Jane, to her preaching appointment at a small cottage in Lount, where the Primitive Methodist Society met, and she was persuaded by her sister to speak, which she did with some effect, since, at the preachers' quarterly meeting in March 1831, she was added to the preachers' plan as an exhorter. Later she became a local preacher and walked miles to take services. Even in her early days as a preacher, she would attract large congregations.

She was somewhat large in physique, being described as *built on ample lines*. Her appearance though was equally matched by her intellect which was *not less impressive than her physique*. A few other Primitive Methodist women preachers were distinctive in another way, as they were particularly tall for the time. However, there was an aspect in which all of them would be similar, and that was in the nature of their attire. The Primitive Methodist Conference had laid down that *our female preachers be patterns of plainness in all their dress* which was interpreted as requiring the wearing of a black dress and white bonnet with matching tabs. If it was felt that any of them had broken the strict dress code, then they would be subject to censure.

In 1835, Mary became a hired preacher in the Northampton Mission of the Burland circuit, and a year later a travelling preacher. Later she served in the Kidderminster and Darlaston circuits for three years before returning to the Burland circuit for a further five.

In 1847, she retired from active ministry so that she could serve in a wider circuit and, thereafter, travelled the length and breadth of the country to preach at chapel openings, anniversaries and other special services.

Such was the power and eloquence of her preaching, that often chapels were so crowded by those wishing to hear her, many could not get in. Not only would all the seats be crammed with people, but also the aisles and even the steps to the pulpit would have people on them! According to one writer, *she was one of the most popular of all our women preachers.*

Eventually, the wear and tear of twelve years as a travelling preacher and twenty five years of criss-crossing the country to preach took its toll. In 1872, she suffered a severe stroke and was then confined to her room until she died on the 19<sup>th</sup> of July 1876 aged 66. She made Leicester her home and is buried in a cemetery there.



## THE WESLEY GUILD PARADE



**"The Wesley Guild Parade" marching down "The Tentas"  
and on to Elder Lane near the Chapel in 1931.**

**The first gentleman on the left is Tom Saddington and Mrs. Sarah Witham, the Chapel caretaker is looking on from the garden of the caretakers cottage**

The Wesley Guild originated as a youth movement aimed at countering secular influence, and retaining young people within the Church. The Guild idea was first suggested by the Wesleyan minister W. B. Fitzgerald, and was championed at the Liverpool Conference of 1896 by C. H. Kelly, Book Steward and former Secretary for Sunday School affairs.

The Guild, as it was approved by the Conference, was defined as a "Young People's Society closely linked to the Church, holding weekly or periodical meetings for devotional, literary or social purposes, and centring around various branches of Young People's work". There were however, no age limitations imposed, and the Guild gradually acquired a membership which was not particularly youthful.

Fitzgerald served as the first General Secretary of the Guild, and by 1909 there was 2,200 local Guilds with 152,000 members. There was then a sharp decrease attributable to the effects of the First World War, and an increase in secular attractions. From 1922 however, membership again increased, reaching a peak of 174,202 senior and 57,790 junior members in 1934, after which it again declined to a membership of between 25,000 and 50,000 by 1970.

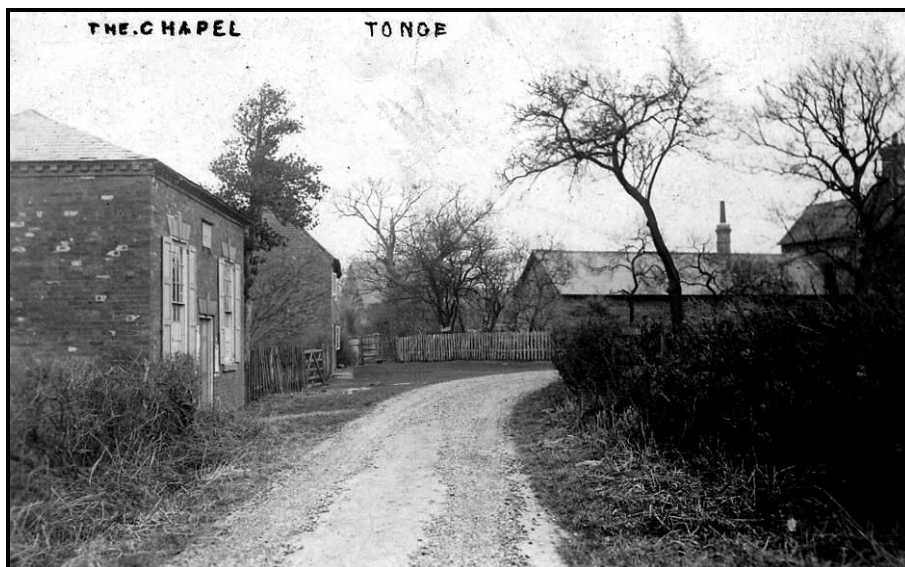
**The Primitive Methodist equivalent named "Christian Endeavour" provided great competition between the two factions.**

## ARTEFACT FROM CHAPEL RESTORATION IN 1862

During the recent renovation of the chapel to convert it into a private residence, the owner Mr. M. Stretton, discovered part of a pew seat pictured below. This is an important find as the engravings confirm that this was made at the time the chapel was restored and enlarged in 1862. The initials could be those of the carpenter who made the pew leg and possibly stand for Thomas G..... There were three carpenters in the Griffydam 1861, census, but unfortunately no one with these initials, however, the search goes on!



The writer is of the view that the original chapel would have been a single story building and when it was restored and enlarged in 1862 a second story was added to include the balcony shown in a preceding photograph. An example of what the original building may have looked like prior to this is depicted in the photograph below of the old Tonge Wesleyan Methodist Chapel shown on the left. This was typical of numerous local methodist chapels at that time, and some have survived as just single story buildings to the present day.



## OUR METHODIST ANCESTORS RELATED TO GRIFFYDAM WESLEYAN METHODIST CHAPEL

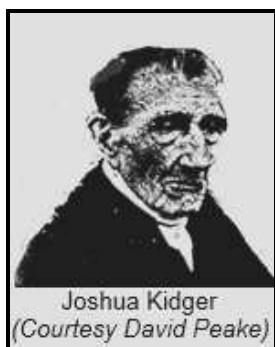
To complete this story, the memoirs of John Kidger taken from the Wesleyan Methodist Recorder of 1826 follow on:-

### THE KIDGERS

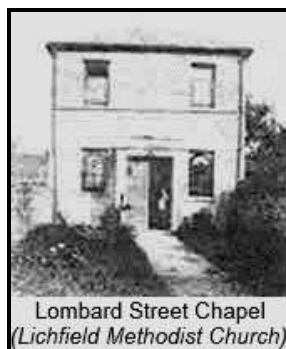
by Michael Green

William Kidger was born at Newbold in 1770 and his brother, Joshua, at Worthington in 1775 to William Kidger, a colliery overseer, and his wife, Mary. In his youth, William had attended Anglican services, but the turning point in his spiritual life occurred when, at the age of 21, he went to the Griffydam chapel in March 1791 to listen to the preaching of the sermon which followed John Wesley's death. He then became an ardent member there and played an important part in the great revival of 1794 when the Ashby circuit increased its membership from 450 to 700. As a result of his role in that revival, the then minister, Rev Joseph Pescod, appointed him a class leader.

Little is known about Joshua's early life. It would seem though, that he continued to live in the area until at least 1804, as the Griffydam Baptism Register records that his youngest daughter, Ann, was baptised on 7th October 1804 having been born in Swannington. He then appears in 1811 in Lichfield at Gallows Wharf, on the former Wryley and Essington canal, the wharf taking its name from the gallows erected nearby in 1532. All places where dissenters (non-Anglicans) worshipped had either to be registered with the bishop or the justices sitting at Quarter Sessions. Many of these records still exist and we know that one of the signatories to an application to register a house at the wharf in 1811 was Joshua Kidger. Joshua was the wharfinger (wharf manager) and the house was presumably his. What had brought Joshua Kidger to Lichfield is not known. Obviously, he was one of those instrumental in establishing a Wesleyan society there which was done, we are told, with the aid of preachers from Birmingham. The society soon grew to such an extent that it was not long before there was a desire for a chapel and a suitable site was found in Lombard Street, Lichfield and, on the application to register it in 1813, the signature of "J Kedger" appears. Joshua was well enough off to be able to employ an ostler who it is said found a purse containing money. Despite extensive enquiries the money was unclaimed and it became the first donation towards the chapel



Joshua Kidger  
(Courtesy David Peake)



Lombard Street Chapel  
(Lichfield Methodist Church)

The Lombard Street chapel opened in 1814. Interestingly, it seems that Joshua brought with him a feature of the Griffydam chapel which was the associated burial ground. Methodist chapels rarely had them, but the land in front of the chapel was set aside for one, albeit on a far smaller scale! Amongst the trustees of the chapel were William, his brother, and James Burton from Swannington but there is no evidence that either had played any active role in its establishment.

It was necessary for Joshua to find further help with the work at the newly erected chapel and this time he called on another member of the family. This was John who was, William's son and

Joshua's nephew, who was born in 1795 at Griffydam. On 27th December 1812 aged 17 he had been converted along with around 12 others at a prayer meeting at the Griffydam chapel. It was while working at a colliery near Alfreton, where he had been appointed a class leader at a chapel nearby, that he was called in the spring of 1815. He was engaged at Lombard Street for 2 - 3 years before returning to North West Leicestershire to live with his parents in Coleorton from where he moved in 1820 to Belton to carry on a grocer's business. He opened his house to both itinerant and local preachers and, in his mid-twenties, married Mary, one of the daughters of James and Ann Burton (founder of JMA) of Swannington. Sadly the marriage was only a short one. At the age of 29 he died on 30th April 1825 of scarlet fever.

William carried on his work at Griffydam and was particularly interested in the mission field. He continued as a class leader until his death aged 55 from a stroke on 14th October 1825 which followed a period of intense nursing of his wife and other close members of the family through cholera.

Joshua remained in Lichfield, presumably with the Lombard Street cause. He left the wharf and established a grocer's and tea dealer's shop in Bird Street, Lichfield. Later, by way of complete contrast, he became a house agent and coal dealer! He died on 12th May 1861.

There is an interesting footnote. Not only were the Kidgers connected with Lichfield but there was also a link with Tamworth too as Joshua and John were parties to the lease and trust deed of Tamworth's second Wesleyan chapel in Bolebridge Street built in 1816.



**MR JOHN KIDGER - A LOCAL MAN'S CONVERSION TO  
METHODISM TAKEN FROM  
"THE METHODIST RECORDER 1826"**

**BIOGRAPHY.**

From the Wesleyan Methodist Magazine.

**MEMOIR OF MR. JOHN KIDGER,**  
Of Belton, Leicestershire:  
**BY THE REV. B. SLATER.**

**MR. JOHN Kidger**, eldest son of Mr. William and Elizabeth Kidger, was born at Griffydam, in the Ashby-de-la-Zouch circuit, June 7th, 1795. Educated in the strictest principles of Christianity, he was preserved from the grosser follies of the age, but did not fully embrace the salvation of the gospel until he was about seventeen years old. At a prayer-meeting he was truly awakened, made to feel his wretched condition as a sinner, and began to cry to God for mercy. His amiable mother, not knowing of the anguish of his mind, conversed with him concerning the absolute necessity of a change of heart. He was so deeply impressed with this conversation, and so powerfully affected, that he retired to an out-building to give vent to the feelings of his soul, and cried with the publican, "God be merciful to me a sinner." It was in December, 1812, that he was thus awakened. His convictions continued about eight or nine days; and on the 27th of December, he and twelve or fourteen others, at the same prayer-meeting, were enabled to believe in Jesus Christ, and to rejoice in the pardoning mercy of God.

A short period after his conversion, he was removed to a situation, as agent in a colliery, near Alfreton, in Derbyshire. His religious and moral worth was soon discovered, and he was appointed to be the leader of a class.

In the spring of 1815 he was called to leave his beloved friends in Derbyshire, to reside at Lichfield. Before his removal to this

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*Memoir of MR. JOHN KIDGER.*

city he enjoyed much of God, and, I believe, walked before him in simplicity and uprightness; yet he had not acquired a very extensive and accurate knowledge of Christian doctrine, and was therefore less capable of encountering the sophisms of those who wrest the Scriptures to their own serious injury. Being occasionally in company with a person who lowered the standard of Christian faith, he was attacked on the subject of assurance; and at length embraced the notion that a man may be in the favour of God, and not know it. When on a visit at his father's, he entered into conversation with several of his old friends on that subject. His pious and sensible father saw with grief that the new views which his son had imbibed retarded his progress in piety, and injured his usefulness in the church. His bowels yearned over his son, now fallen in some measure from the grace he had once received; and he addressed to him the following admonitory letter, which was rendered, by the blessing of God, a means of John's entire recovery:—

“ My dear John,—Since you returned to Litchfield, I have reconsidered the conversation we had when you were at Cole-orton, and I assure you that I do not recollect a single circumstance of your whole life that has given me so much pain of mind. How very different were your visits when you came to see us from Derbyshire! I believe, in those days it was your only aim to receive good and to do good: but the spirit in which you last came was very different; your aim appeared to me, and to others, to make proselytes to a set of opinions which could not have the least tendency to make people either more holy or more happy. You contend about opinions as if they were your Saviour; but were you as orthodox as the greatest divine that ever lived, without holiness you would be eternally lost. I would ask you, John, as in the presence of God, What has your new creed done for you?—Are you more humble, holy, and happy? Has it created in you a more ardent desire to have souls converted to God? Does the reflection, that mankind in general are hastening to endless ruin, affect you more now than when you first received Christ? Do you mourn over a perishing world more than formerly? Do you see it to be your duty, more than usual, to visit the sick and the dying? Do you pray more in private, and more in public? Are you more watchful, more spiritual, in your conversation? If your new opinions have produced these blessed effects, hold them fast; but if the contrary, (which I am sure is the case,) frankly acknowledge it to the Lord, and amend your ways.

“ I want you, my dear John, and myself likewise, to get possessed of that faith which works by love, and purifies the heart; a faith that will secure our justification with God, and be productive of such works as will justify us in the sight of men.

“ Do not say that it is our ignorance that prevents us from believing as you do. Detest the thought ‘that you are the man, and wisdom will die with you.’ I recollect a person who spoke at one of our love-feasts. He blessed God that though he could not say he grew in love, yet he could say he grew in knowledge. The preacher justly replied, ‘Bro-

ther, that is the experience of devils: they grow in knowledge, but to love they are strangers.'

"For Christ's sake, John, be watchful: examine yourself whether you be in the faith. God, I fear, has somewhat against you. I am afraid you are falling from God. Oh that I may be mistaken! I had rather follow you to your grave than that you should become an apostate. I would rather see you working at the most laborious employment, and reduced to the lowest degree of poverty, and yet living in the enjoyment of real religion, than see you in the most prosperous circumstances, and destitute of the life of God in your soul.

"Oh, pray that the zeal of God's house may eat you up! Labour all you can to promote God's glory; visit the sick, especially the sick poor; if this duty be a cross, take it up. Conduct yourself in a becoming manner before all men; let your words be few; think much, read much, pray much. Let your principal book be the book of God. Desire to know its contents, not that you may be able to cavil about particular tenets; but in order that your judgment may be informed, and your mind be renewed. Do not treat sacred things in a light and trifling manner. The Bible contains a revelation of the mind of God to man;—do not hastily make up your mind about peculiar tenets, against which some of the most holy men now living have raised their voice. Do not lightly esteem the preachers of God's word. I should be very much grieved to hear you say any thing disrespectful of them. Oh John! I should consider it the greatest honour to have a son that lived and died a Methodist preacher.

"I am of opinion that those, in general, who are for so much refinement in religion, content themselves with the form of it, and leave the power and spirit of it for the enjoyment of others.

"I conclude by praying that God will bless and preserve you from every evil, and make you holy and happy. I am your affectionate father,

WILLIAM KIDGER.

"Coleorton, July 24, 1815."

This letter produced the most happy effects. From this period John acquired a love of reading, and began to think closely on what he read and heard. Alluding to this period, he says, in a letter to a friend,—“My mind was roused from its natural dormancy. Before this period I was in the habit of believing all I read and heard, without examination: but then I met with persons who overturned all my received opinions. By this means I saw the necessity of thinking for myself.” Having abandoned the erroneous opinions he had entertained, and received a fresh baptism of the Holy Spirit, he believed it to be his duty to preach the gospel; and he was admitted on the plan, as a local preacher. His talents were respectable; and he was highly esteemed in Lichfield and its neighbourhood. He entered on the sacred work under a full conviction of the worth of immortal souls.—His manner in the pulpit was peculiarly solemn: for it was his anxious wish to reach the consciences of his hearers. His views of the sacred function will appear in his own words:—

“I feel,” says he, “that a preacher of the gospel needs much religion: for when he goes beyond his own experience on the subject of personal godliness, he can but feebly enforce the truths upon which he expatiates. A person may have some idea of the warmth of a climate by ascertaining the latitude in which it lies; but he can give the best description of it who has felt its warmth in his own person. Christ is frequently spoken of under the idea of a sun: it is especially upon his church that he shines; and all the members of it feel his genial rays in proportion as they live near to him.” Many of the preachers who knew our young friend thought that he ought to be employed in our itinerant work;—and the late Mr. Benson advised him to hold himself in readiness for the various examinations through which the preachers have to pass, prior to their entering into the ministry: but he was prevented by his revered father; whose chief objection was a fear lest he should run before he was sent of God. He continued, however, to preach in a local capacity, with great acceptance and considerable usefulness, to the end of his life.

After residing at Lichfield two or three years, he returned to his father’s house, where he continued till March, 1820, when he entered into business for himself, at Belton, a village in the Loughborough circuit, a short distance from Cole-orton. The itinerant and local preachers were hospitably entertained at his house: he was a liberal supporter of the cause of Christ in that neighbourhood, and a great friend to the poor and the sick.

In August, 1820, he was married to Miss Burton, daughter of Mr. James Burton, of Swannington. He and his amiable partner conducted themselves with so much propriety as to gain the confidence and esteem of those with whom they transacted business. They were remarkably conscientious in the sanctification of the sabbath; and though frequently pressed by some of their customers to infringe upon its sacred duties, they resolutely refused. On one occasion, John was closely pressed on the sabbath day for an article in his shop, when it was said that it would be wanted very early on the Monday morning, and that it had been forgotten on Saturday night. He replied that he would rise at any hour after the termination of the sabbath; but that, sooner than transact business on the Lord’s day, he would lose all that he had in the world.

The career of this excellent young man was but short. He attended a missionary meeting at the Griffydam chapel, on April 20, 1825, when he was called upon to second a resolution on a subject very congenial with the ardour of his soul,—the general outpouring of the Holy Spirit on all Christian missions. He entered into the subject with considerable fervour. I was present on the occasion, and witnessed with delight the glow of



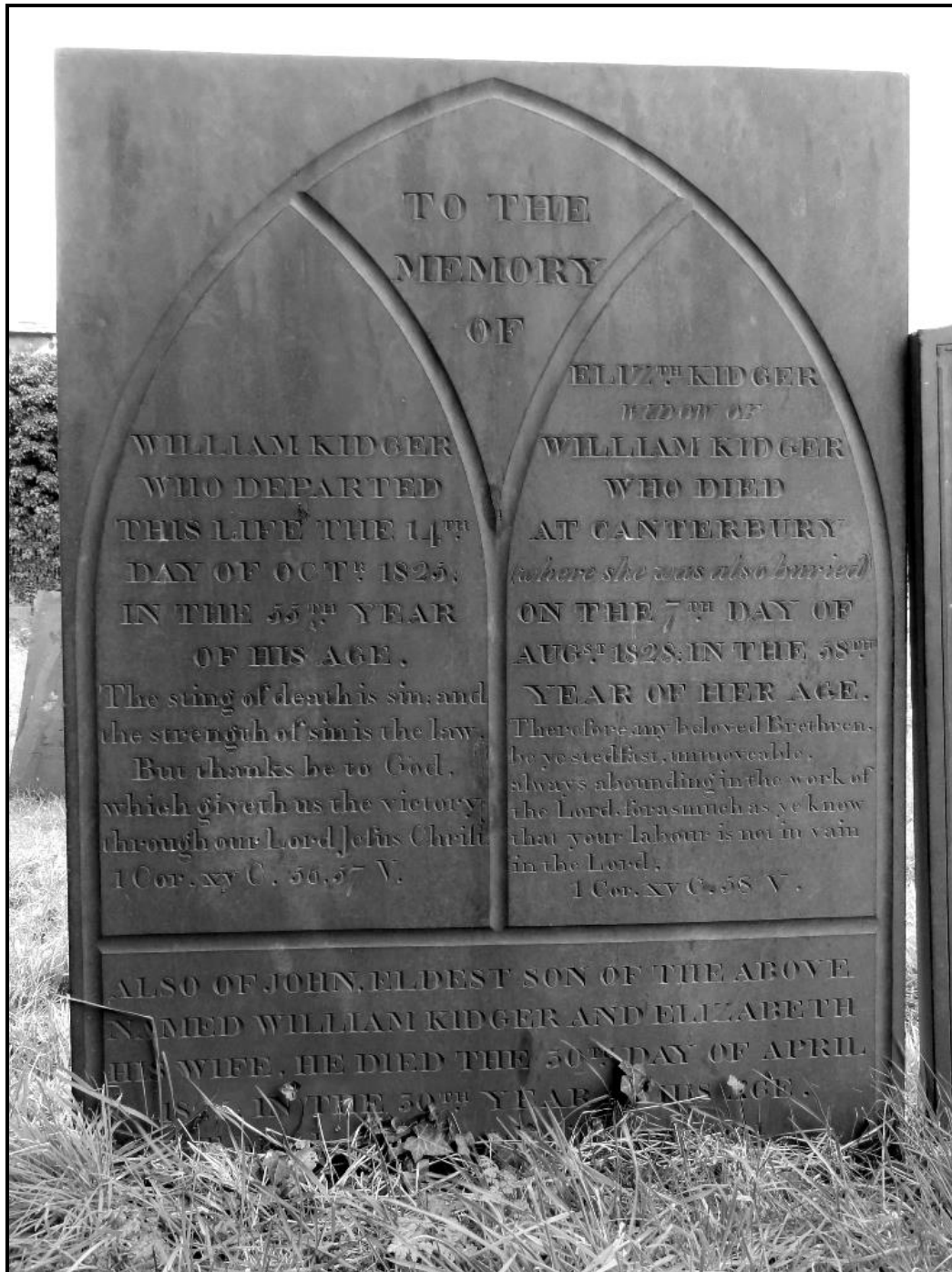
pious feeling in my young friend. On returning home from this meeting, he felt some symptoms of ill health ; and on the next day he was seized with the scarlet fever, accompanied with an affection in the throat. His complaints baffled the power of medicine ; and after nine days of severe affliction, he departed this life in the triumph of faith. He died April 30th, 1825, aged twenty-nine years.

From the whole, it appears our young friend lived to Christ. In all things he walked circumspectly, labouring "to have always a conscience void of offence towards God and towards man."— He had been made a blessing to many souls in Belton and its vicinity, and I believe felt the force of the apostolic caution, "Giving no offence in any thing, that the ministry be not blamed." He remarked on his deathbed, that he frequently had been invited by travellers to accompany them to the inn, and spend an hour ; and though there might have been no harm in this, yet he had invariably refused, because, he added, he thought it best to "abstain from all appearance of evil."

As he lived to Christ, so in Christ he died. In one of his last letters to his sister, after exhorting her to strong confidence in God, assuring her that "they who trust in him shall be as Mount Zion, which cannot be moved," he said, "I still feel my greatest pleasure in working for the good of souls. The words of the poet are the language of my heart :—

‘ Happy, if with my latest breath,  
I may but gasp his name !  
Preach him to all, and cry in death,  
Behold ! behold the Lamb ! ’

His desire was granted, and he now rests from his labours.



**William, Elizabeth and their son John Kidger's Gravestone in the graveyard. Elizabeth died in Canterbury and was buried there. She went to live there after the death of her husband and son in the same year.....SEE THE FOLLOWING ACCOUNT .....**

It is interesting to note that Elizabeth who survived her husband by 3 years died in Canterbury, Kent but was buried in Griffydham. The reason for this is that William and Elizabeth had a daughter Mary who married a John Tucker of Deal in Kent in Worthington St. Matthew's Church on 18th February 1817. Witnesses were John Kidger and Mary Hood. It is presumed therefore that Elizabeth went to live with her daughter Mary and son-in-law John Tucker somewhere in the area of Canterbury after her husband's death. It is known from a record in the "Methodist recorder" that John and Mary Tucker were living in Ramsgate in 1821.

## THE MEMOIR OF WILLIAM KIDGER (b.1771)

AN EXTRACT FROM THE "1826 METHODIST RECORDER"

### MEMOIR OF MR. WILLIAM KIDGER,

*Of Cole-Orton, Leicestershire :*

*BY THE REV. BARNARD SLATER.*

MR. WILLIAM KIDGER, father of the excellent young man of whom an account is given in the Methodist Magazine for March last, was born at Newbold, in the parish of Breedon, Leicestershire, Feb. 10th, 1771. From his early youth he appeared to possess a measure of the fear of God. The Christian conduct, and pious conversation, of a distant relation, discovered to him the value of religion; yet, like many others in similar circumstances, he did not heartily embrace it till about the twentieth year of his age. At that time, being in the habit of attending the services of the Church of England, he was more fully awakened by hearing a funeral sermon preached by a stranger.

The first sermon he heard among the Methodists was preached at the chapel in Griffydam, in the Ashby-de-la-Zouch Circuit, on occasion of the death of the Rev. John Wesley, in March, 1791; and previous to the Conference in 1792, he received a note of admittance into the Methodist Society. From this period he became decidedly serious, and gave

*Cont'd over page*

himself "to the Lord, and unto us by the will of God." His prejudices against Methodism had been so remarkably strong, that he prayed, most earnestly, that God would save him, without his becoming a Methodist. He was at length, however, convinced of the advantages of Christian fellowship with the people whom he had ignorantly despised, and determined with them to bear the "reproach of Christ;" resolving that "this people should be his people, and their God should be his God."

It pleased the Lord, in the year 1794, to pour out his Spirit on the congregations and Societies in the Ashby-de-la-Zouch Circuit, and a considerable revival of religion took place, under the ministry of the Rev. Messrs. Joseph Pescod and William Hicks. In that year the Society was increased from four hundred and fifty, to seven hundred. In this revival Mr. Kidger took an active part, and in prayer and exhortation was made very useful. The late Mr. Pescod, marking his piety, activity, and ardent zeal, appointed him to be a Class-Leader; in which capacity he continued till his death. In that office he was eminently useful, and God made him a blessing to many. Clear in his own Christian experience, he was urgent with the members of his Classes to press into the kingdom of God. He thought that the religion which is not attended with the witness of God's favour, falls far below the scriptural standard. In spiritual things, he was extremely penetrating, and not easily imposed upon; specious pretensions to lofty attainments he keenly scrutinized, and if not accompanied by simplicity and godly sincerity, he did not fail to expose them, and show the individual by whom they were made his own heart. High attainments in Christian purity he ever encouraged; aware that they are the privilege of all the followers of Christ.

Warmly attached to the sacred Scriptures himself, he strove with all his might to direct the attention of the souls committed to his care, to the pure fountain of truth. He loved "the gates of Zion;" I believe he preferred "Jerusalem above his chief joy." He regarded her interests, with more than paternal affection; and the members of his Classes will long remember his faithfulness and zeal in watching over them, and in administering reproof, admonition, and comfort, as occasion might require. In the punctual discharge of all the duties of religion he continued, from the commencement of his Christian life, to the termination of his earthly existence. His perseverance was steady, he walked with God, for upwards of thirty-three years, without the slightest blemish on his moral and religious character.

As some proof of his uniform and holy walk, I subjoin a few extracts from his letters, chiefly addressed to his own children. His epistles are numerous and exceedingly valuable. The following were addressed to his daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Tucker, of Ramsgate:—  
 "April 25th, 1821, I herewith give you an account of our memorable



**Love-Feast.** It commenced at two o'clock, and we left the chapel with some difficulty at half past five. Had there been time, I doubt not but scores, if not hundreds more, would have declared what the Lord had done for them. At the watch-night God was present in a most powerful manner. The cries of the distressed might be heard at a considerable distance. The friends from the neighbourhood joined most heartily in prayer, in behalf of the penitents; and He who is abundant in mercy, heard their united supplications, and released the prisoners. I know not how many were blessed with a knowledge of salvation; and we were obliged to leave many in distress. The first that found peace with God was a backslider. Many will bless God eternally for yesterday's mercies. It was indeed a high day."

"June 19, 1821.—I am glad to learn that you, and some others, are attempting to bring glory to God, by going forth to speak in his name. I wish you all success: work as for the Lord; feel for immortal souls; do all the good you can. Live and preach for God; think, and speak, and act for Him; and may you be made an abundant blessing. Pray that you may be eminent for piety. The work of God goes on among us.—Two individuals were very lately converted. The Lord's name be praised.

"A Missionary-Meeting will be held to-morrow at Ashby. I wish there may be nothing of lightness. The work which God is carrying on by our Missionaries is a great work; and I pray that what I do, and what others may do, for the furtherance of it, may be done in a godlike spirit. Jesus wept over Jerusalem; and could we weep over the heathen world, how profitable would it be to us, and how pleasing in the sight of God!

"Be bent upon being more holy; and try to promote it in others. Strive to draw each other into God whenever you meet together. It is to the disgrace of many of us who profess religion, that we should be so light and trifling when we meet. Could we always remember, "the Judge is at the door," we should act a better part. A poor backsliding Methodist was engaged in a dance at —, last week; and as soon as he had finished, he said he would never dance more. He immediately dropped down, and expired! He was once zealous in the cause of God."

"Jan. 3, 1822.—The Lord has spared us to see the beginning of a new year. The old one is gone; O what a report has it taken with it! What unfaithfulness on my part! The Lord be merciful to me! I do not recollect, on the commencement of a new year, that I ever felt more gratitude to God, or stronger desires to be entirely and eternally the Lord's. I hope it will be the best year we have any of us ever witnessed; and that it may be so, let us leave our concerns and ourselves in the hands of that God who careth for the sparrows, and hath numbered the very hairs of our head."

"Feb. 6, 1822.—Take as good care of your health as you can; and, above all, guard well the hidden treasure God hath committed to you.

May you never sustain any loss in spiritual things! Pray that you may ever enjoy communion with God, and go on from strength to strength in his ways. The promises of God hang in clusters, like the grapes of Canaan. They are for you, and for me; and O how exceedingly willing is our God to bless us! O for a faith like that of Abraham! I hope you are both labouring to be useful in the Redeemer's cause. Get your minds deeply affected with the awful fact that your fellow-creatures are dropping into hell, even while there is a Saviour at hand. Recommend Jesus Christ to lost sinners."

"Dec. 13th, 1823.—How very near eternity are we all living! O my children, let us daily pray that God may enable us to 'spend our life's short day, obedient to his will.' Let us seek for greater things in religion. I have lately found it to be very beneficial to be importunate with God as soon as I awake in the morning, that each succeeding day may be the best I ever had; and that I may be kept more watchful and more attentive to the teaching of the Holy Spirit: and I am sure that these prayers have been heard by my heavenly Father. It is well to begin the morning with God. In our own family, we have been improving in spiritual things."

"Sept. 20th, 1823.—A convoy of angels was in attendance this morning, at my dear mother's, to conduct her happy spirit to the paradise of God. She was truly happy, and so long as she could speak, she expressed the strongest confidence in God. She left a testimony behind her, which gave the greatest satisfaction to surviving friends. We are overwhelmed with gratitude to God, for his abundant goodness manifested to her. She called your mother, and said, 'My Saviour stands at my right hand,' and attempted to add, 'Heaven and earth shall pass away, but not one jot or tittle shall fail of all that God has spoken.' Just at the closing scene, she said, 'Happy, happy.' How valuable is religion! Let us honour God while we sojourn here, and He will honour us with his presence, when crossing the swellings of Jordan."

The following letter was sent soon after the death of his beloved son John; and it discovers his perfect reconciliation to that painful event.

"May 11th, 1825.—We were anxious to hear from you, and are truly thankful that the Lord supports you under the severe stroke; not that I would intimate, that God has done wrong in thus visiting our family, by taking away a beloved and affectionate son and brother: for, while writing this, with gratitude to my Maker I can say, I do not know that I have a desire within my soul to undo what my Lord hath done, supposing it were possible for me to undo it. I am thankful that the Lord gave me such a child; I may say such children; and as He has been pleased to resume what he gave, I am thankful that the Lord has taken him. I call upon you, and upon all my family, to say,

' Rejoice for a Brother deceas'd,  
Our loss is his infinite gain.

“ The many pithy sayings that fell from his lips would have affected you much, and, at the same time, have caused your souls to burn with love to God. He was a pattern of patience during his affliction. I never once heard him utter a word about worldly things. Jesus wept at the grave of Lazarus; and so do I, and you, and all of us, at the loss of my dear John; but how different is our grief from that of the men who sorrow without hope! I can assure you, the Lord supports us under the heavy trial, in a most astonishing manner. It might truly be said, that ‘ Belton (the village in which his son resided) mourned.’ Such a feeling in the neighbourhood I have not seen produced on any occasion before. It is most gratifying, that a child of mine should leave such a character as he has done.”

These extracts, which might have been greatly extended, discover the man of God, and the Christian parent, aiding his beloved family in all that was good, soothing them under sorrow, encouraging them in affliction, and constantly directing their minds to the Saviour of men. The last six months of his life were, with him, a period of extraordinary trial. On the 30th of April his son John died, and from that time his house was a scene of almost constant affliction. His wife, one son, two daughters, and a grandson, were attacked with the cholera morbus, which was followed with the typhus fever, and brought them near the grave.

Mr. Kidger attended his suffering family by night and by day; and this, in addition to his ordinary engagements, rendered more pressing from the loss of that assistance which he usually derived from those who were then deprived of health, together with loss of rest, at length overcame his shattered frame. How he was supported in these trials, will the best appear in his own words. In a letter to Mr. Tucker, dated September 21st, but a short time before his death; the last, I suspect, he ever wrote; he remarks, “ In the midst of our afflictions we find the Lord to be very good. Though I never had such a house as I have lately had, yet, I thank God, I know it must be all for the best; and I wish to bear it all in a Christian spirit. I bless Him, that I am enabled to submit to his will. To God be all the praise. The Lord bless you; and may we all be made meet for the kingdom of our God, where separation, affliction, and distresses, are no more !”

On Thursday, October 16th, this amiable servant of Christ sunk under his complicated suffering. Medical aid was obtained. He said to a friend who called to see him on the 11th, that “ he had had stroke upon stroke;” referring to the afflictions of his family; “ but that the Lord had kept him from murmuring.”

His case not being deemed hopeless, it was thought the best, by his medical attendants, to keep him as still as possible. This prevented him from seeing many of his friends, to whom undoubtedly he would have spoken more largely of the goodness of God. To all, however, to

whom he did speak, there was the fullest satisfaction, that "the eternal God was his refuge, and underneath him were the everlasting arms." To one friend he said, "I find religion of value to me now." His mind was kept in perfect peace, and he possessed a constant sense of his acceptance with God, through Jesus Christ; and though willing to live, if such were the will of God; yet he had "a desire to depart, and be with Christ." Attempting, on one occasion, to take a little food, in doing which he found great difficulty, he said, "I cannot do with common fare; I must go and partake of angels' food." In the morning of the day on which he died, he said, "The Lord has been very good to me through the past night." For a short time he appeared better; but soon after his pain became very violent, and he gradually sunk under it. His family, with indescribable anguish, saw that death was fast approaching. Mrs. K. said to him, "You will soon be where the inhabitants shall not say, I am sick;" he replied, "I believe, I shall; God will not leave me." He spoke no more; but in a few minutes fell asleep in Jesus, on Friday, October 14th, 1825, in the fifty-fourth year of his age. "Mark the perfect man, and behold the upright; for the end of that man is peace."

I had the privilege of a close personal acquaintance with this admirable man for upwards of twenty-one years; during which time our friendship was uninterrupted; our hearts were knit together in Christian love.

1. His piety was deep, unaffected, and fervent. It was of an order that raised him above the level of ordinary Christians. A spirit of devotion rested upon him. It pervaded his mind, and imparted a sanctity to his whole life. Experimentally acquainted with the saving grace of God in his early days, he retained a clear sense of the divine favour to the end of his life. His consolations were abundant; his hope was full of immortality; and his gentleness, humility, and zeal, were known to all. His love to Christ was, I believe, supreme: he loved "the Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity." He understood religion well; he saw on what it was founded, and yielded up his heart to its sacred claims. He was deeply pious, without singularity; truly serious, without the least mixture of gloom. He regularly discharged all the duties of religion with fidelity. His piety was at once solid and rational.

2. Considered in the character of a friend, he will appear to great advantage. He possessed all those ingredients which are requisite to form true friendship. The law of kindness was written on his heart, and nothing was deemed too much for those who shared his confidence and affection. He possessed a large share of Christian sympathy; and hence he readily entered into the feelings of his friends. He was an able counsellor, and used to give a full view of any subject on which he was consulted, without reserve. As a friend he was also faithful, and failed not to deliver his soul. Manly and upright in his intentions, when he





saw it was his duty, he feared not to give reproof. Yet in his friendship he was eminently affectionate, tender, and kind.

3. Benevolence was extremely prominent in his character. He entered into various walks of usefulness with alacrity. Frequently was he known to apply to different parishes on behalf of the poor, and if he failed of success, he would relieve them himself. Such was his concern for the destitute, that, during a period when they suffered much, through the dearness of provisions, he and his family (on all occasions ready to second him in his acts of charity) cheerfully gave up one of their meals daily, to add to his ability of doing good to his neighbours. He sought not his own, but denied himself, that he might contribute to the comfort of others.

4. Humility was also distinctly marked in his character. He was "clothed with humility;" he had put it on as a garment. This temper was visible in all he did, and in all he said. It was at once seen in his countenance, in his language, and in his manners. It was not assumed to secure the applause of men; but his heart was humble; he had low thoughts of himself, and did not overrate his talents or his piety. During his last affliction, when a friend was speaking of his past usefulness in the church of Christ, it evidently gave him pain. He wished to hear no more on that subject; but that all the glory might be given to God, to whom alone it is due.

5. His integrity, as a tradesman, will be long remembered. Of industry, punctuality, and uprightness, he was a striking example. He was free from duplicity; and it was his constant aim, in all his dealings with others, to act openly, and without disguise. Every thing that bore even the semblance of imposition was viewed by him with abhorrence. The Lord greatly prospered him in business. Worldly prosperity has not unfrequently been attended by a decay of piety. "If riches increase, set not thine heart upon them." William Kidger felt the force of this admonition, and acted upon it. He sustained the smiles of the world with Christian simplicity.

6. His attachment to Methodism was firm and cordial. He possessed a comprehensive acquaintance with its doctrines, which he heartily believed, on account of their strict accordance with the word of truth; he had also an accurate knowledge of its discipline, which he received and exemplified, deeply convinced that nothing more closely resembled apostolical simplicity; and he admired its numerous institutions, so admirably fitted to assist and encourage the souls of men in their journey to the kingdom of heaven. Viewing Methodism as a work of God, he afforded it all the help in his power, and liberally supported it both at home and abroad. He possessed a Missionary spirit, and was one of the most zealous advocates for sending the Gospel to the Pagan world, where every form of vice has been consecrated, and held up for the imitation of the worshippers.

7. As a man of prayer he was very remarkable. In public prayer he was fervent and animated. His gift in prayer was extraordinary and very powerful. Often have I seen considerable effects produced on the minds of his fellow-worshippers, when he has been addressing the throne of grace. His prayer was evidently the effusion of a heart which had been touched with "a live coal from the heavenly altar." Divine power accompanied his pleading.

## A HISTORY OF THE WESLEYAN METHODIST CHAPEL GRAVEYARD

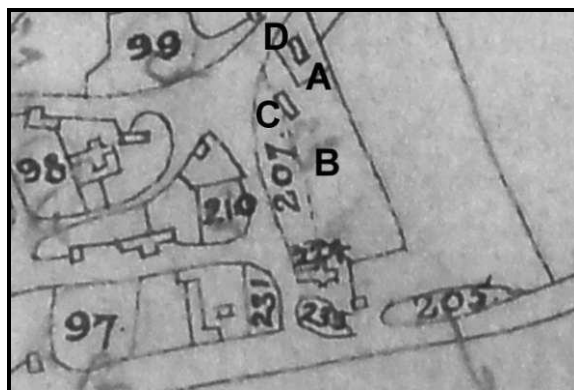
### A HEADSTONE TO THE GRAVE OF MARY KNIGHT READS:-

*Sacred  
To the memory of  
Mary Knight  
Who departed this life  
March 12<sup>th</sup> 1811  
Aged 69 years  
She had been a member of  
The Methodist Society for  
More than 50 years and she  
Knew well in whom she had believed*

Assuming that "more than 50 years" means what it says rather than "for as long as can be remembered", the Griffydam society had been in existence since before 1761. It was in 1759 that the Rev Walter Sellon became curate at Breedon on the Hill and Smisby and it was he who ignited the fire which took Methodism to the villages and hamlets of North West Leicestershire, including Griffydam, through the likes of John Hall, John Massey and others.

Rev Sellon had also been curate at Long Whatton for a year and whilst there he had impressed one of the villagers William Garner so much so that when he left there for Breedon and Smisby, William, with others, would travel to listen to him, and it was on one occasion whilst hearing the Rev Sellon preach that we are told he found peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

By trade William Garner was a bricklayer. He moved from Long Whatton to Worthington and, in July 1776, he and Ralph Pope, who appears to have been his labourer, bought part of a close comprising one acre in Griffiths Damm for £57 15s. This was adjoining a cottage at one time owned by William Dexter, being the west part of the close. It was bounded on the south by what later became the Tentas. The close is marked **B** on a section from the 1806 inclosure map below.



In April 1778, they sold part of their land marked **A** described as situated in the north corner of the one acre close and being 16 yards in width to Elder Lane, 20 yards on the north side, 18 yards on the south and 16 yards at the remaining end. The building now erecting and to be erected on the plot of land to be used as a place of public worship called a Methodist Meeting House". It was sold to the following trustees for £6 13s:-

John Hall of Tonge, yeoman  
Thomas Varnham of Lount, farmer  
John Farmer of Ogasthorpe, farmer  
William Newbold of Packington, flax dresser



Robert Heathcote of Packington, tammy weaver  
Samuel Clarke of Ashby de la Zouch, framesmith  
John Skermer of Tonge, maltster  
John Massey of the Gelsmoore, collier  
Matthew Finch of Swannington, collier

By reason of his occupation in a cottage marked **C** that William Garner had built to the south side of where the future chapel **D** was to be erected, there can be little doubt that William Garner would have played a prominent part in the erection of the chapel itself which opened in 1778. The Methodist Magazine dated 1825 refers to William Garner building the chapel and residing there for many years.

At this time apparently, there had been no thought of a graveyard adjacent to the Chapel, nor did William Garner and Ralph Pope retain the remainder of the close to enable it to be used for this purpose since, in 1783, they sold the land together with the cottage which had been erected by William Garner to William Haywood and William Follows, who appeared to have no connection with the Methodists, for £80. 10s.

However, in 1789, this piece of land was acquired by Methodist trustees, Samuel Clarke of Ashby, hosier and Matthew Ingle of Ashby, grazier for the same price. It seems the reasons for the purchase were twofold. Firstly, it was clear that the congregation had grown to such an extent that more land would be required to extend the chapel which took place in 1791 and, secondly, land was needed as a graveyard. The area of land was far in excess of that which would be required for an extension to the Chapel alone and it had been realised that burials in the nearest graveyard, which was some distance away was proving inconvenient. A side benefit following on from the acquisition of the remainder of the close was that William Garner's former cottage lying to the south of the chapel was used first as the preacher's house then later the caretaker's. The last person to occupy it was apparently a Mrs. Witham (from Eric Rowell).

There is some confusion in respect to the purchase of the land by Samuel Clarke and Mathew Ingle, as in the 1806 inclosure agreement at Griffydam, what appears to be a strip of land marked 207 adjacent to the Tentas as awarded as an intake to John Burton and Samuel Clarke, both given as trustees of Griffydam Meeting House. This suggests that this strip of land was in dispute or was never part of the original one acre plot.

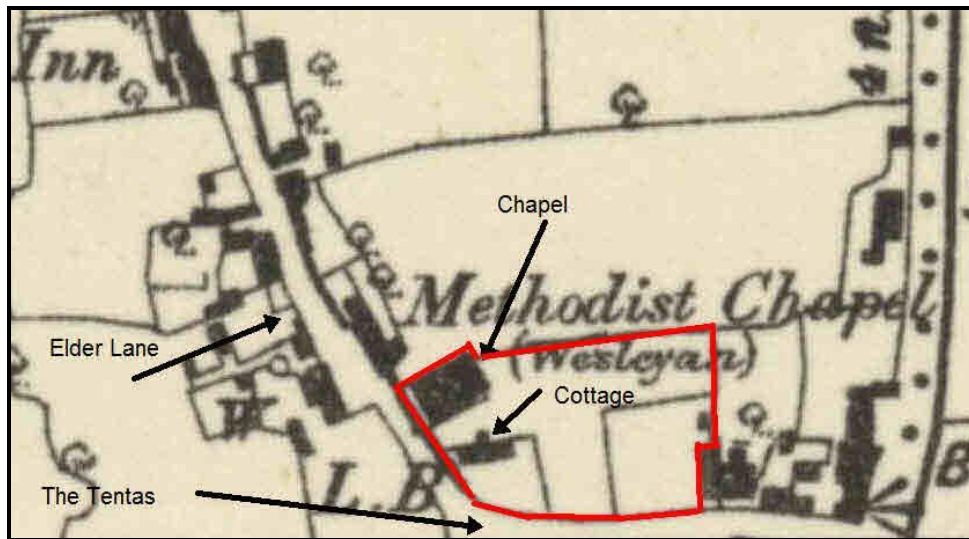
**1806 inclosure allotment - To John Burton and Samuel Clarke who are the Trustees of Griffydam Meeting House (the chapel) -** An intake No. 205 in Froggat's Lane containing 7 perches, an intake called the Meeting House Close No.207 on Griffydam containing 1 rood 7 perches. *(Until the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century nonconformist places of worship were called meeting houses but around the turn of the century they were often referred to in the alternatives of meeting house or chapel, and it wasn't long before meeting house was dropped altogether).*

Unfortunately, no old burial records exist so it cannot be said with certainty therefore, that the land had been used for burials since 1789. However, one cannot imagine that would not have been the case as providing a burial ground could have been the only reason for acquiring such a large area of land.

In 1813, the whole area of land including the chapel, cottage and "burying" ground was now being described as comprising 1 acre and 11 perches and lying in a ring fence. This was now brought into the common ownership of new trustees, these being:-

Ambrose Beaumont of Melbourne, surgeon  
Thomas Gilbert of Osgathorpe, cordwainer  
Samuel Shakespear of Staunton Harold, farmer  
John Bindley of Ashby de la Zouch, felmonger  
John Knight of Newbold, farmer

Richard Smith of Newbold, farmer  
David Wardle of Worthington, coal bailiff  
William Woodward of Southwood, farmer  
William Kidger of Thringstone, grocer

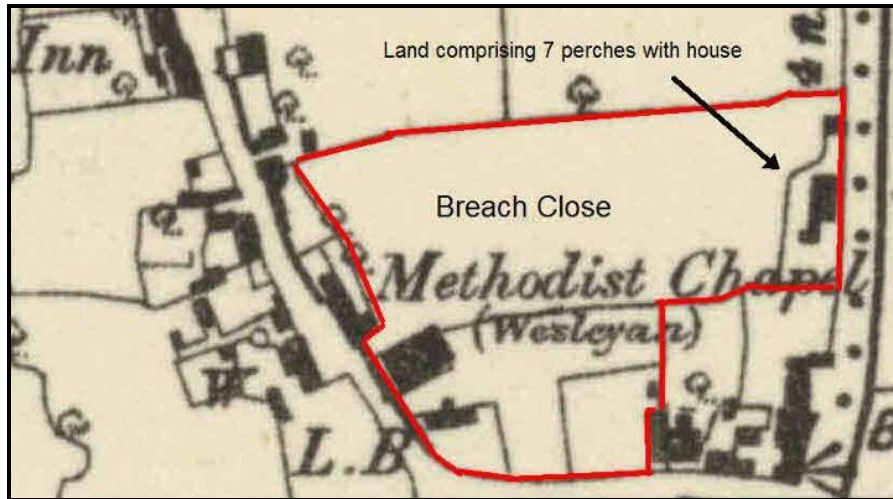


**The site of the chapel, cottage and graveyard superimposed on the 1885 OS map and shown edged red.**

For decades, the chapel thrived, and in 1862 it was refurbished and enlarged again to accommodate around 200 people.

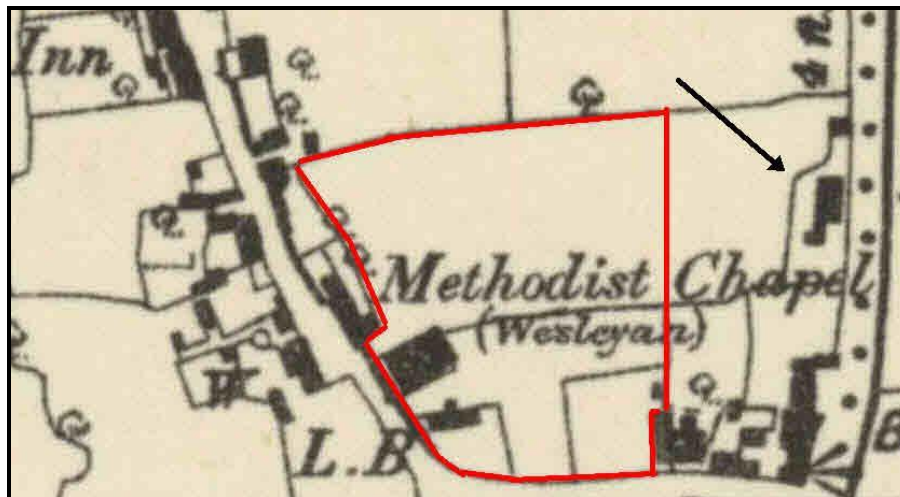
By the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, it had become clear that the graveyard would soon be full and that additional land was needed to extend it, so, on 19<sup>th</sup> December 1900, some 2 acres of land on the north and known as Breach Close along with adjoining land on the east comprising 7 perches (just under half an acre) together with the house on it was bought for £335.00 by the chapel trustees who were:-

John Pearson Adcock of Ashby de la Zouch, merchant miller  
William Wells of Ashby de la Zouch, general dealer  
David Sketchley of Griffydam, farmer  
Herbert Rowell of Griffydam, grocer  
John Wardle of Worthington, farmer  
Charles Chester of Worthington, farmer  
Robert Hazelwood Plowright of Swannington, schoolmaster  
Joseph Luger of Coalville, butcher  
John Willars Weston of Thringstone, draper  
Henry Spencer of Twickenham, gentleman



The enlarged site following the 1900 purchase

For reasons that are unclear, the house with seven perches of land together with some two thirds of an acre of Breach Close on the east were sold off in 1919.



The site following the 1919 sale

The beginning of Griffydam Methodism is attributed by Jane Sanson to William Garner who "was the means of forming a society and of erecting a chapel at Griffy-Dam where he resided for several years" (Methodist Magazine 1825 page 585).

Although Griffydam Wesleyan Methodist Chapel was sadly closed in 2005, the graveyard remains open for new burials. Burials here took place from around the area, such as Coleorton, Peggs Green, Breedon, Lount, Swannington, Worthington, Stordon Grange and Newbold etc., as well as Griffydam.

**GRIFFYDAM WESLEYAN METHODIST CHAPEL  
GRAVEYARD AUDIT CARRIED OUT BY  
SAMUEL T STEWART AND HIS WIFE SHEILA IN 2013 &  
UPDATED IN 2017 AND 2022**



View of the Chapel and old part of Cemetery from "The Tentas"

The older part of Griffydam Wesleyan Methodist Chapel Cemetery is of significant historical importance, and as far as the writer is aware, no old burial records exist for this. It was therefore agreed between the author and the Rev Alan Dawson, that an audit should be carried out for those gravestones that are currently accessible and readable. This audit would also prove useful in providing information for those who are researching their ancestors, who may be buried there. It was decided not to audit the relatively recent burial area **D** at this time, as these deaths will have been registered in the normal way (hopefully). However, these are now partially recorded at the end.

Although the Chapel is now closed, the cemetery remains open for new burials. It should be remembered, that burials took place here from a wide area, including Coleorton, Peggs Green, Breedon, Lount, Swannington, Worthington, Stordon Grange and Newbold, in addition to Griffydam of course.

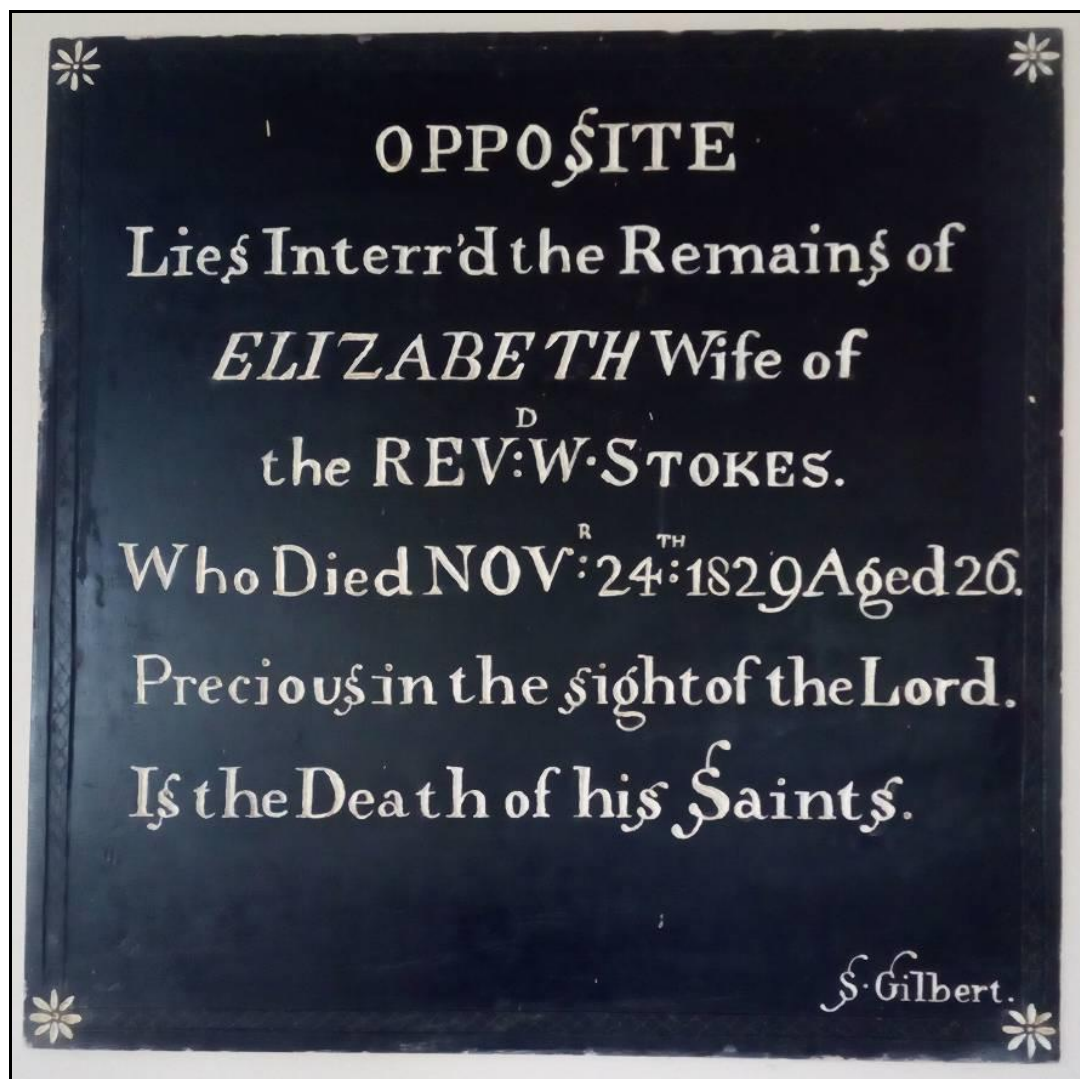
The path through the cemetery provides a natural boundary between areas **A / B** and **C / D**. Due to the difficulty in defining the exact boundary lines in the other direction, there may be some slight overlap of grave stones on the boundaries for **A** and **C**, however, there is an old path line which can still be discerned. Together with the information given below for gravestones in each area, it should only take a short time to locate a particular grave. The Chapel has now been sold, and converted into a private residence. Some of the gravestones situated on land in close proximity to the Chapel, which has been allocated to the purchaser will be moved to a specified area at a later date. A small number of gravestones currently situated behind a safety fence at the rear of the Chapel could not be audited properly, but reference to these has been made.



The graveyard remains in the ownership of the Methodist Church and is overseen by the Griffydam Management Committee comprising of the Superintendent Minister (Chairman), a Supernumerary Minister (who manages burials), the Circuit Treasurer, an allotment holder, a former member of Griffydam Methodist Church and a Methodist historian (Secretary).

A plain black tablet in the Chapel bears the following inscription: "Opposite lies interred the remains of Elizabeth, wife of the Rev W. Stokes, who died 24<sup>th</sup> November 1829, aged 26. Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints". The young wife lies buried under the floor of the chapel. She died in the minister's house" (taken from the Methodist Recorder).

There is however, some conjecture about this, as it also thought that the overgrown grave immediately adjacent to the side of the chapel which is enclosed by iron railings is where she was buried, based on the reference to "Opposite lies interred....." probably referring to this grave.



**"LEST WE FORGET"  
COMMONWEALTH WAR GRAVE IN  
GRIFFYDAM CEMETERY  
A. SHAKESPEARE - LEICESTERSHIRE REGIMENT**



**(See grave number 30 - Area A)**

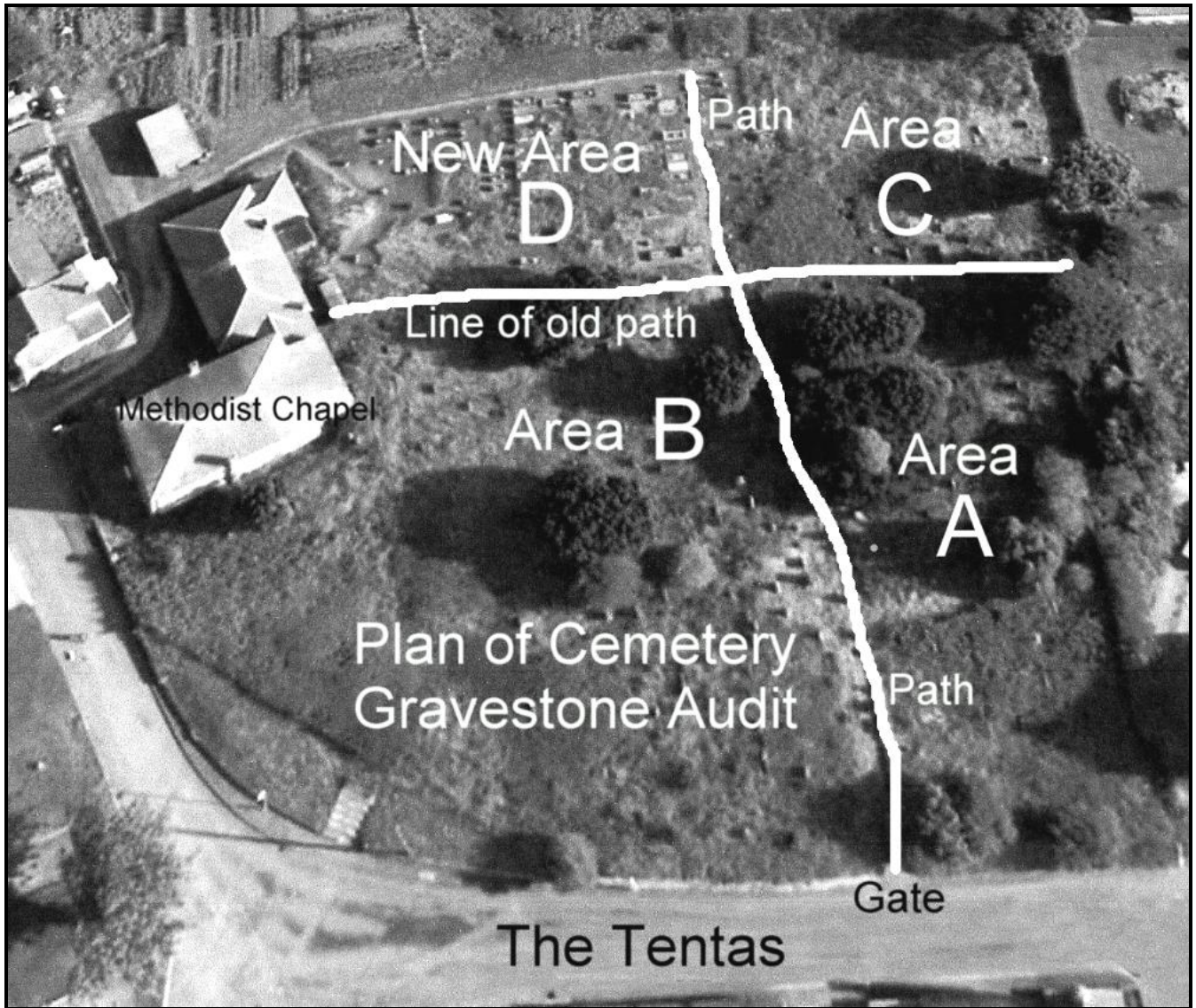
## A TRIBUTE TO CHARLES BATSON BORN IN GRIFFYDAM IN 1888

William Batson who was landlord at the Travellers Rest Beer House, Griffydam in 1901 and was given as a beer retailer and coal miner hewer.

He had also previously been landlord at the Rising Sun from mid 1886 to mid 1893. William was born in 1850 in Hardwick, Bucks and his wife Susan was born 1851 in Long Sutton, Lincs. They had three children born in Breedon - Mary born 1877, William John born 1882 and Eliza born 1884. After moving to the Rising Sun, they had three children there - Jemima born 1886, Charles born 1888, and George born 1889. In 1901,

Charles Batson, aged 13, was employed as a coal miner (hewer u/ground) and residing at the family home, **The Travellers Rest**, with his parents and sibling Jemima.

In the 1<sup>st</sup> W.W. Charles Batson enlisted with the "Battalion - 1/5 Unit - Leicestershire Regiment Section at Ashby de la Zouch. During the fighting in France on the 14<sup>th</sup> of August 1917, in the morning a Battalion raiding party left Noyelles and marched up to the line. On the march up through Vermelles 11 men of B Coy were killed and 14 wounded by one shell. Charles died from his wounds on the 17<sup>th</sup> of August 1917. His burial place is Vi C 11, Bethune Town Cemetery and his burial commemoration is Bethune Town Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France. His name is on the War Memorial Plaque in Holy Trinity Church, Ashby de la Zouch.



Due to the fact that the older graves are not maintained, certain areas have become difficult and dangerous to walk around. Therefore, care and respect should naturally be observed by anyone inspecting the gravestones, and should only be done if information on a particular gravestone is sort. This will minimize further damage to the graveyard.

## Area A

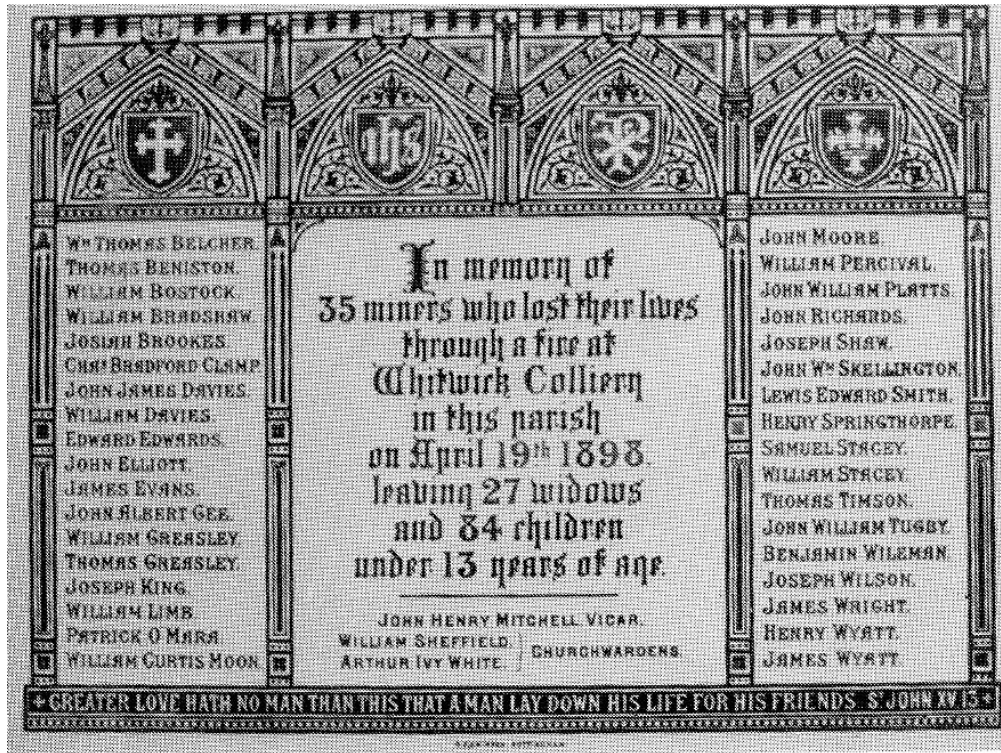
No	Name	Born	Age	Died	Lived	Status
1	William Bailey	1829	68	Jun 21 <sup>st</sup> 1897		Husband
	Maria Bailey	1833	81	Jun 19 <sup>th</sup> 1914		Wife
2	John Harrison	1845	57	Mar 3 <sup>rd</sup> 1902		Husband
	Hannah Harrison	1847	67	Apr 10 <sup>th</sup> 1914		Wife
3	Lawrence Birch	1893	82	Dec 17 <sup>th</sup> 1975	Coleorton	
4	Walter Platts	1887	26	Sep 5 <sup>th</sup> 1913		Son of Thomas and Emma Platts
5	Fanny Weston	1840	76	Sep 19 <sup>th</sup> 1916	Worthington	Wife
	Josiah Weston	1831	86	Feb 22 <sup>nd</sup> 1917	Worthington	Husband
6	Robert Plowright	Dec 2 <sup>nd</sup> 1862	56	Jul 9 <sup>th</sup> 1918	Swannington	Eldest son of Robert H & Sarah Plowright
7	William Edward Knight	1872	50	Sep 4 <sup>th</sup> 1922		
8	Eleanor Knight	1846	80	Jul 23 <sup>rd</sup> 1926	Newbold	Wife
	Joseph Knight	1839		Mar 11 <sup>th</sup> 1929	Newbold	Husband
9	Frederick Morley	1855	72	Jun 21 <sup>st</sup> 1927		Husband
	Julia Morley	1857	82	Aug 3 <sup>rd</sup> 1939		Wife
	Frederick Morley Howkins	1925	5	Apr 22 <sup>nd</sup> 1930		Grandson
10	George Henry Hewitt	1863	82	Jan 24 <sup>th</sup> 1945		Husband
	Jane Hewitt	1869	36	Feb 23 <sup>rd</sup> 1905		Wife
11	Charles Wright	1844	66	May 1 <sup>st</sup> 1910	Coleorton	Husband
	Ann Wright	1841	64	Oct 7 <sup>th</sup> 1905	Coleorton	Wife
12	Maria Rowse	1843	62	Oct 21 <sup>st</sup> 1905	Swannington	Daughter of William and Mary Rowse
13	Ezra Harwood	1862	53	Jan 3 <sup>rd</sup> 1915		
14	George Henry Hewitt	1893	25	Jul 14 <sup>th</sup> 1918		
15	Aaron Whyman	1857	60	Oct 12 <sup>th</sup> 1917		Husband
	Emma Whyman	1852	40	Aug 8 <sup>th</sup> 1892		Wife
16	Maria Knight	1848	71	Mar 25 <sup>th</sup> 1919		Wife of Jonas Knight
17	Rebecca Haywood	Nov 5 <sup>th</sup> 1844		Nov 4 <sup>th</sup> 1922		Daughter of Thomas and Ann Haywood
18	Herbert Elliot	1885	87	Feb 16 <sup>th</sup> 1972		Father
	Frances Elliot	1910	16	Apr 1 <sup>st</sup> 1926		Daughter
	David Elliot	1921	9	May 29 <sup>th</sup> 1930		Son
	Esther	1885	94	Dec 27 <sup>th</sup> 1979		Wife
19	Charles Jones	1875	54	May 4 <sup>th</sup> 1929		Husband
	Maria Jones	1872	88	Jan 5 <sup>th</sup> 1960		Wife
20	John Ison	1822	82	Dec 2 <sup>nd</sup> 1904	Griffydham	Husband
	Charlotte Ison	1829	85	May 10 <sup>th</sup> 1914		Wife
21	Sarah Nicklinson	1837	77	Nov 21 <sup>st</sup> 1914		Wife
	William Cooper Platts	1842	76	Oct 25 <sup>th</sup> 1918		Husband
22	Wilson Wright	1855	64	Oct 15 <sup>th</sup> 1919	Outwoods Worth'n	Husband
	Fanny Wright	1851	80	Apr 3 <sup>rd</sup> 1931		Wife
23	William Wardle	1844	80	May 27 <sup>th</sup> 1924		Husband
	Cathrine Wardle	1843	83	Oct 29 <sup>th</sup> 1926		Wife
24	William Sant Horsfield	1855	71	Oct 9 <sup>th</sup> 1926		



25	Thomas William Witham	1898	31	Mar 11 <sup>th</sup> 1929		
26	Handford John Haywood	1866	63	Dec 13 <sup>th</sup> 1929		
27	Jonas Knight Fanny Knight	1844 1852	62 55	Jun 9 <sup>th</sup> 1906 Jun 17 <sup>th</sup> 1907	Gelsmoor Gelsmoor	Husband Wife
28	John Simpkin Knight Mary Ann Knight	1835 1839	74 94	July 4 <sup>th</sup> 1909 Mar 9 <sup>th</sup> 1933	Outwoods Worth'n	Husband Wife
29	John James Knight	1875	66	Jan 27 <sup>th</sup> 1941	Outwoods Farm	
<b>30</b>	<b>16637 Private A Shakespeare. 3<sup>rd</sup> Btl. Leicester Regiment</b>		<b>22</b>	<b>Aug 27<sup>th</sup> 1917</b>		
31	David Gilbert Harold Alwyn Gilbert	1863 1907	71 21	May 29 <sup>th</sup> 1934 Sept 28 <sup>th</sup> 1928		Husband of Mary Ann Youngest son
32	George Edwin Marriot Martha Marriot	1849 1845	73 83	Apr 4 <sup>th</sup> 1922 Aug 22 <sup>nd</sup> 1928		Husband Wife
33	William Bird Sarah Bird <b>William Bird</b>	1857 1867 <b>1892</b>	80 58 <b>23</b>	Oct 8 <sup>th</sup> 1937 Dec 15 <sup>th</sup> 1925 <b>Sept 25<sup>th</sup> 1915</b>		Husband Wife <b>Son (Killed in action in Great War)</b>
34	Clara Maria Reed Miriam Reed	1885 1915	95 12	1980 1927		Mother Sister
35	Nancy	1924	8 m	July 14 <sup>th</sup> 1925		Daughter of Howard & Sarah Burton
36	Harry Burton Nellie Burton	1884	41	Apr 7 <sup>th</sup> 1925 Sep 14 <sup>th</sup> 1959		Husband Wife
37	John Jackson Barker Fanny Mee Barker	1850 1857	74 78	Jan 27 <sup>th</sup> 1924 July 21 <sup>st</sup> 1935		Husband Wife
38	Joseph Freeman Betsy Freeman	1855 1853	66 78	Jan 18 <sup>th</sup> 1921 Sept 16 <sup>th</sup> 1931	Of Gelsmoor	Husband Wife
39	Lois Horne Joseph Horne	1860 1859	59 81	Nov 11 <sup>th</sup> 1919 Jun 25 <sup>th</sup> 1940		Wife Husband
40	Benjamin Johnson Mary Johnson Amelia Marshall			Dec 29 <sup>th</sup> 1923 Feb 26 <sup>th</sup> 1925 Dec 3 <sup>rd</sup> 1953		Husband Wife Daughter married name
41	Joseph Brooks Nicklinson	1856	68	Nov 20 <sup>th</sup> 1924	Swepstone Fields	
42	Joseph Ward Turner James Turner Elizabeth Turner	1899 1866 1852	27 63 87	July 3 <sup>rd</sup> 1926 Jan 18 <sup>th</sup> 1929 Apr 8 <sup>th</sup> 1939		
43	Sidney Johnson Sarah Harriet Johnson <b>Pte John Sidney Johnson 1896 Leics Reg</b> Margaret Addie Johnson	1869 1870 <b>1903</b>	77 81 <b>22</b> 25	Sept 1 <sup>st</sup> 1946 Oct 3 <sup>rd</sup> 1951 <b>Missing Mar 22<sup>nd</sup> 1918</b> 1928		Husband Wife <b>Grandson ?</b> Daughterr ?
44	Jane Statham Joseph Statham	1828 1826	82 90	Apr 18 <sup>th</sup> 1910 Sept 16 <sup>th</sup> 1916	Of Coleorton	Wife
45	John Hartshorne Jane Hartshorne	1830 1829	74 82	Feb 17 <sup>th</sup> 1904 Sept 2 <sup>nd</sup> 1911	Of Coleorton	Husband Wife
46	Michael Richards Maria Richards	1832 1833	69 75	Aug 7 <sup>th</sup> 1901 Jan 14 <sup>th</sup> 1908		Husband Wife
47	Grace Rouse George Underwood Rouse	1839 1839	64 82	Sept 14 <sup>th</sup> 1903 May 9 <sup>th</sup> 1921		Wife Husband

48	Francis William Illsley	1845	55	Dec 3 <sup>rd</sup> 1900	Of Coalville	
49	Ann Sketchley David Sketchley	1846 1844	55 75	June 8 <sup>th</sup> 1901 Mar 29 <sup>th</sup> 1919	Of Griffydam	Wife Husband
50	Hannah Rowell Charles Rowell	1825 1830	71 81	Mar 3 <sup>rd</sup> 1896 Apr 12 <sup>th</sup> 1911		Wife Husband
51	Amos Platts	1866	19	June 1 <sup>st</sup> 1885		Son of William & Jane Platts
52	John Farmer Sarah Farmer	1799 1791	81 85	July 18 <sup>th</sup> 1880 Dec 22 <sup>nd</sup> 1876	Of Worthington	Husband
53	Richard Slingsby	1801	78	Mar 19 <sup>th</sup> 1879	Of Griffydam	
54	Phoebe Stewart Sarah Jane Stewart	1834 1867	38 5	Mar 31 1872 Dec 11 <sup>th</sup> 1872		Mum Daughter
55	William Platts	1805	66	Aug 17 <sup>th</sup> 1871		
56	Joseph Smith Richards Mary Richards	Apr 23 <sup>rd</sup> 1805 Sep 20 <sup>th</sup> 1806	71 79	Dec 2 <sup>nd</sup> 1876 Apr 11 <sup>th</sup> 1885	Of Gelsmoor, Worthington	Husband Wife
57	Harry Brooks	1847	26	Jan 20 <sup>th</sup> 1873	Of Swannington	Son of Robert & Elizabeth Brooks
58	William Rouse Mary Rouse	1818 1810	50 75	May 5 <sup>th</sup> 1868 Oct 23 <sup>rd</sup> 1885		Husband Wife
59	Frederick Allen Philips	1868	22	Mar 31 <sup>st</sup> 1890		
60	Ann Turner Mark Turner	1833 1832	65 70	Aug 11 <sup>th</sup> 1898 Mar 5 <sup>th</sup> 1902		Wife Husband
61	Thomas Upton Mary Upton	1800 1800	82 83	Oct 18 <sup>th</sup> 1882 Feb 22 <sup>nd</sup> 1883		Husband Wife
62	John Cooper Fowkes John Cooper George Eliza Fowkes	1832 1885	50 4	June 13 <sup>th</sup> 1882 Dec 9 <sup>th</sup> 1889	Of Coleorton	Grandson Grandad Grandson
63	John Harrison Hannah Harrison	1845 1847	57 67	Mar 3 <sup>rd</sup> 1902 Apr 10 <sup>th</sup> 1914	Of Lount	Husband Wife
64	William Bailey Maria Bailey	1831 1833	66 81	Jun 21 <sup>st</sup> 1897 June 19 <sup>th</sup> 1914		Husband Wife
65	Robert Oaton	1780	90	July 9 <sup>th</sup> 1870	Of Sutton Coldfield late Swanningtom	
66	Sarah Ann Fowkes George Fowkes	1825 1823	76 81	Apr 6 <sup>th</sup> 1901 Dec 3 <sup>rd</sup> 1904		Wife Husband
67	Mary Ann Willet James Willett	Feb 12 <sup>th</sup> 1843 Aug 23 <sup>rd</sup> 1838	60 74	Mar 22 <sup>nd</sup> 1903 Sept 21 <sup>st</sup> 1912	Of Coleorton	Wif Husband
68	May Leech	1892	6	Oct 19 <sup>th</sup> 1898		Daughter of Henry and Sarah Leech
69	Elizabeth Ann Bath	1888	6	June 18 <sup>th</sup> 1894	New Swannington	Daughter of Alfred & Hannah Bath
70	Francis Pope Hannah Pope	1811 1813	68 72	Jan 28 <sup>th</sup> 1879 July 23 <sup>rd</sup> 1885		Husband Relict
71	William Davies <b>William Davies</b>	1836 <b>1869</b>	59 <b>29</b>	Dec 14 <sup>th</sup> 1895 <b>Apr 19<sup>th</sup> 1898</b>	Peggs Green	Father <b>Son - Lost his life in the Whitwick Colliery Disaster</b>

The writer understands that William's brother John James Davies' body was not recovered from the pit.



*A memorial in Whitwick Parish Church to the 35 miners who were killed in Whitwick Colliery fire of April 1898.*

72	William Stinson	1828	63	May 28 <sup>th</sup> 1891	Coleorton	
73	Ellen Rowell	1876	16	Feb 26 <sup>th</sup> 1892		Son & Daughter of John & Eliza Rowell
	Thomas Rowell	1882	14	Aug 9 <sup>th</sup> 1896		
74	Annie	41/2 Months				Daughter of John & C.Mary Johnson
75	Edward Johnson	1811	76	Jan 12 <sup>th</sup> 1887	Gelsmoor	Husband
	Jane Johnson	1823	64	Apr 9 <sup>th</sup> 1887	Gelsmoor	Wife
	Joseph and Maria					Children died in infancy
76	James Adcock Knight	1837	76	July 13 <sup>th</sup> 1913		Husband
	Sarah Ann Knight	1854	75	Mar 4 <sup>th</sup> 1929		Wife
77	Thomas Smith	1810	84	Dec 16 <sup>th</sup> 1894		Husband
	Mary Smith	1815	82	Apr 14 <sup>th</sup> 1897		Wife
78	William Farmer	1833	41	Oct 28 <sup>th</sup> 1874	Osgathorpe	Husband
	Hannah Farmer	1832	80	May 5 <sup>th</sup> 1912		Wife
79	Mary Gray	1860	15	May 12 <sup>th</sup> 1875		Daughters of Thomas Henry & James Gray
	Jane Gray	1858	20	Jan 16 <sup>th</sup> 1878		
80	Simeon Stacey	1840	79	Jan 14 <sup>th</sup> 1919	Of Gelsmoor	Husband
	Francis Stacey	1846	98	Jan 7 <sup>th</sup> 1944		
81	Sarah Wardle	1806	67	Apr 26 <sup>th</sup> 1873	Worthington Fields	Wife
	John Wardle	1809	73	Dec 4 <sup>th</sup> 1882		Husband
82	Jessie Sketchley	25.9.1815	78	Jan 12 <sup>th</sup> 1893	Griffy Hill	Husband
	Mary (Knight) Sketchley	1838	69	Dec 24 <sup>th</sup> 1907		Wife
83	Harriet Sketchley			Jan 30 <sup>th</sup> 1817	Griffy Hill	Wife
	Jessey Sketchley			Feb 8 <sup>th</sup> 1872		Husband
84	John Lakin		60			Husband & Father
	William Lakin	1856	30	Oct 6 <sup>th</sup> 1886		Son
	George Lakin	1851	35	Oct 6 <sup>th</sup> 1886		Son

Elizabeth Lakin                      1829      79              Jan 1<sup>st</sup> 1908                      Wife & Mother

**Both sons killed in accident due to Choke Damp at Staunton**

**In 1886, an accident occurred at Staunton Harold Colliery because of a combination of “ a complete lack of practical knowledge” and “disregard for all rules and regulations” by the management when re-opening old workings, with the result that four persons - three members of the management and a pony driver - were overcome by choke damp. The ventilation system was deficient in every respect, and all the necessary precautions required, such as making adequate bore holes, were neglected. (Taken from “The Leics & South Derbys Miners Vol 1)**

85	Hannah Nicklinson William Haywood	1833 1832	53 61	Mar 13 <sup>th</sup> 1886 July 13 <sup>th</sup> 1893	Griffydham	Wife Husband
86	John Nicklinson John Nicklinson	1814 1848	76 70	Dec 15 <sup>th</sup> 1890 Nov 6 <sup>th</sup> 1918	Worthington Fields St. George's Hill	Father Son
87	Margaret Nicklinson Sarah Nicklinson	1820 1850	60 39	Aug 22 <sup>nd</sup> 1880 Aug 8 <sup>th</sup> 1889	Isley Walton	Mum & wife of John Daughter
88	Francis George	1878	3y 3m	Nov 22 <sup>nd</sup> 1881		Aged 3 yrs 3 Mths
89	Lydia Shaw	1811	66	July 15 <sup>th</sup> 1877		Wife of Thomas Shaw
90	Joseph Hickling Joseph Lovett	1822 1878	55 8m	Jun 26 <sup>th</sup> 1877 Feb 6 <sup>th</sup> 1879	Swannington	Father Son - 8 Mths
91	Joseph Chester  Sarah Chester Eliza Chester Sarah Chester	1821  1821 Aug 18 <sup>th</sup> 1848 1856	82  94 109 70	Apr 19 <sup>th</sup> 1903  June 21 <sup>st</sup> 1915 Sept 13 <sup>th</sup> 1857 Feb 9 <sup>th</sup> 1926	Of "Springfield" Swannington	Husband  Wife Youngest Daughter
92	John Vernon Hannah Vernon	1816 1825	73 84	Oct 8 <sup>th</sup> 1889 Feb 14 <sup>th</sup> 1909		Husband Wife
93	Henry Cooper	1850	44	Dec 1 <sup>st</sup> 1894	Worthington	
94	John Fletcher Ann Fletcher	1807 1808	83 91	Jun 23 <sup>rd</sup> 1890 Jul 13 <sup>th</sup> 1899	Gelsmoor	Husband Relict
95	Sarah Cooper  Thomas E Cooper	1848  1848	42  53	Jan 24 <sup>th</sup> 1890  Sep 5 <sup>th</sup> 1901	  Gelsmoor	Wife - Of the Smoyle Worthington Husband
96	Benjamin Johnson	1876	14	Jan 18 <sup>th</sup> 1890		Son of Mary and Benjamin Johnson
97	Emma Willet	1847	40	Mar 19 <sup>th</sup> 1887	Newbold, Worth'n	
98	Jane Platts	1821	56	Dec 2 <sup>nd</sup> 1877		Wife of John Platts
99	Joseph Platts Mary Platts	1831 1831	60 77	Mar 3 <sup>rd</sup> 1891 Mar 21 <sup>st</sup> 1908		Husband Wife
100	Albert Jones	1903	10	Jan 26 <sup>th</sup> 1913		
101	Thomas Costelow Charlotte Harrison Costelow	1827 1827	65 90	May 11 <sup>th</sup> 1892 Dec 11 <sup>th</sup> 1917		Husband Widow
102	Hannah Reed Edward Reed	1828 1834	63 72	May 27 <sup>th</sup> 1891 Aug 30 <sup>th</sup> 1906	Of Woodville late of Gelsmoor	Wife Husband
103	Hannah Hickling  Charles Frederick Lovett	1834  1877	52  16	Jan 20 <sup>th</sup> 1886  Aug 15 <sup>th</sup> 1893		Wife of Joseph Hickling of Swannington Only son of Levi & Bessie Lovett
104	William Costelow	1826	60	Feb 24 <sup>th</sup> 1886		
105	John Haywood Mary Haywood	1806 1806	73 75	Jul 3 <sup>rd</sup> 1879 Mar 30 <sup>th</sup> 1881		Husband Wife
106	Maria Pebody	1851	18	May 29 <sup>th</sup> 1869	Of Swannington	Only daughter of John & Elizabeth Pebody

107	Hannah Kendrick	1830	58	Dec 22 <sup>nd</sup> 1888		Wife
	Elizabeth Ellen Kendrick	1859	21	Feb 20 <sup>th</sup> 1880		Daughter
	William Kendrick	1865	6m	Feb 11 <sup>th</sup> 1866		Infant 6 Mths
	John Kendrick	1828	72	Jul 25 <sup>th</sup> 1900		Husband & Father
108	Mary Pitt	1785	80	Oct 14 <sup>th</sup> 1865		Wife
	John Pitt	1792	77	May 19 <sup>th</sup> 1869		Husband
	Mary Pitt	1821	46	July 22 <sup>nd</sup> 1867		Daughter
109	William Hickling	1821	66	Jan 22 <sup>nd</sup> 1887	Late of Coleorton Died at Finedon Coleorton	Husband
	Hannah Hickling	1827	39	Aug 14 <sup>th</sup> 1866		Wife
110	Elizabeth Brinsley	1789	76	Jun 26 <sup>th</sup> 1865	Of Swannington	Wife of William Brinsley
111	Mary Bird	1811	55	Apr 8 <sup>th</sup> 1866		Wife
	Thomas Bird	1811	75	Mar 24 <sup>th</sup> 1886		Husband
112	Sarah Ward	1799	66	Dec 25 <sup>th</sup> 1865		Daughter of Thomas & Mary Ward of Coleorton
113	William Richards	1820	52	Dec 4 <sup>th</sup> 1872	Of Newbold	
114	Joseph Fletcher	1814	54	Jul 22 <sup>nd</sup> 1868		Husband
	Sarah Fletcher	1816	67	Dec 15 <sup>th</sup> 1883		Wife
115	John Chester	1794	78	Apr 15 <sup>th</sup> 1872	Of Swannington	Husband
	Mary Chester	1791	75	Jul 11 <sup>th</sup> 1866		Wife
116	John Knight	1793	72	Oct 22 <sup>nd</sup> 1865	Of Peggs Green	Husband
	Elizabeth Knight	1799	71	Jan 18 <sup>th</sup> 1870		Wife
117	Catherine Platts	1794	67	Jul 11 <sup>th</sup> 1861		
118	Joseph Whirledge	1803	61	Jun 12 <sup>th</sup> 1864		
119	Railings around grave - Can't read					
120	William Knight	1803	67	1870		Husband
	Sarah Knight	1804	67	1871		Wife
121	John Litherland	1800	67	Sept 23 <sup>rd</sup> 1867		Husband
	Elizabeth Litherland	1790	80	1870		Wife
122	Gilbert Hurst	1840	26	Sept 6 <sup>th</sup> 1866		
123	Thomas Hurst	1807	57	Nov 18 <sup>th</sup> 1864	Of Thringstone	
124	William Wayne	1813	66	Dec 11 <sup>th</sup> 1879		Husband
	Esther Wayne	1816	48	Apr 6 <sup>th</sup> 1864		Wife
125	William Deacon	1787	77	Jul 3 <sup>rd</sup> 1864	Of Newbold	Husband
	Elizabeth Deacon	1795	69	Nov 16 <sup>th</sup> 1864		Wife
126	Thomas Birch	1807	57	May 4 <sup>th</sup> 1864		Husband
	Rebecca Birch	1807	68	Jan 6 <sup>th</sup> 1875		Wife
127	Edward Marshall	1855	58	Jan 22 <sup>nd</sup> 1913		Husband
	Harriet Marshall	1845	84	Mar 10 <sup>th</sup> 1929		Wife
128	Colin		2			Grandson
129	Robert Hazlewood Plowright	1825	79	Jan 21 <sup>st</sup> 1904		Husband
	Sarah Plowright	1838	87	Jan 31 <sup>st</sup> 1925		Wife

## Area B

1	Ann Kidger	1845	85	Feb 17 <sup>th</sup> 1930	Breedon Brand	Wife
	Edward Price Kidger	1872	88	Aug 5 <sup>th</sup> 1960	Breedon Brand	Husband



2	Joseph Roe Elizabeth Roe	1830 1835	74 70	Apr 7 <sup>th</sup> 1904 May 24 <sup>th</sup> 1905	Breedon Brand Breedon Brand	Husband Wife
3	Henry Lakin Rebecca Lakin	Apr 18 <sup>th</sup> 1834 1837	66 88	Mar 8 <sup>th</sup> 1900 Jan 27 <sup>th</sup> 1925	Gelsmoor Gelsmoor	Husband Wife
4	Helen Nicklinson Ethel Elizabeth Nick'son	1868 1896	79 94	Sep 25 <sup>th</sup> 1947 Jan 23 <sup>rd</sup> 1990		Widow of Joseph Brook Nicklinson Daughter
5	Matthew Bott Mary Ann James Harry	1851 1849 1889	70 70 17	Mar 23 <sup>rd</sup> 1921 Mar 12 <sup>th</sup> 1919 Nov 6 <sup>th</sup> 1906	Coleorton Coleorton Coleorton	Husband Wife Son
6	Price Kidger Sarah Elizabeth Kidger	1847 1841	61 69	May 18 <sup>th</sup> 1908 Dec 7 <sup>th</sup> 1910	Peggs Green Peggs Green	Husband Wife
7						
8	William Stevenson	1841	71	Jun 29 <sup>th</sup> 1912		
9	Stinson Fairbrother William Stinson Fairbrother	1892 1909	22 4	Jan 26 <sup>th</sup> 1914 Nov 8 <sup>th</sup> 1913		Son of Robert & Dinah Fairbrother Grandson
10	Robert Thomas Hance James Robert Hance	1862 1907	53 8	Feb 7 <sup>th</sup> 1915 Sep 23 <sup>rd</sup> 1915		H'Master of G'Dam School for 26 years Son-Lies in West Bromwich cemetery
11	Mary Hannah Stevenson	1882	33	Feb 15 <sup>th</sup> 1915	Peggs Green	Daughter of William & Mary Ann Stevenson
12	Maria Crane	1826	85	Feb 4 <sup>th</sup> 1911	St. George's Hill Swannington	
13	Annie Wardle William Radcliffe Wardle			July 3 <sup>rd</sup> 1908 Jan 25 <sup>th</sup> 1929	Weston Underwood, Derby	Wife Husband
14	S.F.			1913		
15	Aurthur Draper Mary Draper	1858 1865	74 87	May 10 <sup>th</sup> 1932 May 25 <sup>th</sup> 1952		Husband Wife
16	Clara Draper	1901	51/2 m	Sep 17 <sup>th</sup> 1907		Daughter of Aurthur & Mary Draper
17	James Richards Sarah Richards	1847 1843	62 63	July 14 <sup>th</sup> 1909 Feb 27 <sup>th</sup> 1906		Husband Wife
18	Clara Rowell Maria Rowell Herbert Rowell Frank Rowell	1895 1858 1858 1878	23 74 74 70	Sept 22 <sup>nd</sup> 1918 June 27 <sup>th</sup> 1932 Dec 23 <sup>rd</sup> 1932 Aug 2 <sup>nd</sup> 1948		Daughter of Herbert & Maria Rowell Mum Dad Son
19	James Willet Cooper	1869	32	Feb 11 <sup>th</sup> 1901		Son of Mark & Mary Cooper
20	Thomas Stinson Albert Stinson Eliza Stinson	1856 1887 1858	46 23 77	May 29 <sup>th</sup> 1902 Nov 16 <sup>th</sup> 1910 Aug 30 <sup>th</sup> 1935	Cresswell Cresswell	Husband Son, died in New Zealand Wife
21	Annie Wale	1845	14	July 20 <sup>th</sup> 1859		Daughter of William & Martha Wale
22	Henry Lakin	1814	41	Dec 9 <sup>th</sup> 1855		
23	Thomas Richards Rebecca Richards	1805 1808	64 80	Apr 23 <sup>rd</sup> 1869 Apr 23 <sup>rd</sup> 1888	Coleorton	Husband Wife

24	Charles	1844	21	Jan 3 <sup>rd</sup> 1865		Son of Thomas & Rebecca Richards
25	Ann Reed	1817	40	Dec 28 <sup>th</sup> 1857		Daughter of Joseph & Mary Reed
26						
27	Jane Hoult	1827	34	May 22 <sup>nd</sup> 1861		Daughter of Thomas & Elizabeth Hoult
28	Mary Hoult	1824	53	Jan 3 <sup>rd</sup> 1877		Sister to Jane
29	Thomas Hoult Hannah Hoult	1832 1835	68 88	Feb 23 <sup>rd</sup> 1900 Feb 7 <sup>th</sup> 1923		Husband Wife
30	Thomas Hoult Elizabeth Hoult	1796 1791	63 78	Mar 30 <sup>th</sup> 1859 July 31 <sup>st</sup> 1869		Husband Wife
31	Reuben Waldron	1862	11	June 19 <sup>th</sup> 1873		Son of Reuben & Jane Waldron
32	Sarah Burt	1830	30	Sept 16 <sup>th</sup> 1860	Breedon	Daughter of James & Elizabeth Burt
33	Samuel Gilbert Ann Gilbert	1783 1785	80 89	Jan 11 <sup>th</sup> 1863 Feb 22 <sup>nd</sup> 1874		Husband Wife
34	Sarah Wood	1812	59	May 19 <sup>th</sup> 1871		
35	William Whyman Harriet Whyman	1830 1828	31 53	June 17 <sup>th</sup> ? 1861 Aug 5 <sup>th</sup> 1881?	Griffydram	Husband Relict of William & Wife of Mathew Bakewell
36	Hannah Kinsley John Kinsley	1795 1791	68 68	May 29 <sup>th</sup> 1863 ?? 2 <sup>nd</sup> 1859		Wife Husband
37	Thomas Richards	1823	34	Jan 6 <sup>th</sup> 1857		Son of John & Jane Richards
38	Jane Richards	1797	61	Apr 7 <sup>th</sup> 1858		Wife of John Richards
39	John Richards	1830	32	May 14 <sup>th</sup> 1862		Son of John & Jane Richards
40	Samuel Stinson	1818	39	Mar 1 <sup>st</sup> 1857		
41	John Toon	1838	21	Dec 25 <sup>th</sup> 1859		Son of Thomas & Ann Toon
42	Frances Elliot	1828	38	Oct 9 <sup>th</sup> 1866		
43	Joseph Sheffield Shaw	1836	27	June 24 <sup>th</sup> 1863		
44	James Miller	1843	16?	Dec 1 <sup>st</sup> 1859		Son of ? & Sarah Miller
45	Thomas & Mary Ann Marriot		6&7	17 <sup>th</sup> / 22 <sup>nd</sup> Oct ????		Twins of John & Emma Marriot
46	James and Mary	1854	6m	Mar 2 <sup>nd</sup> 1855		Son & Daughter of ???cheater
47	Joseph Edeston Fowkes	1849	10	Aug 1 <sup>st</sup> 1859		Son of George & Sarah Ann Fowkes
48	John Edward Marriot Emma Marriot	1816 1819	60 64	Aug 21 <sup>st</sup> 1876 Oct 12 <sup>th</sup> 1883		Husband Wife
49	Joseph Brooks	1815	41	June 7 <sup>th</sup> 1856		Son of Thomas & Frances Brooks
50	John Thompson Hannah Thompson	1775 1778	89 75	Oct 25 <sup>th</sup> 1864 June 14 <sup>th</sup> 1853		Husband Wife

51	Robert Lakin Sarah Lakin	1809 1813	58 72	June 7 <sup>th</sup> 1867 Apr 3 <sup>rd</sup> 1885		Husband Wife
52	John Lakin	1839	14	Dec 3 <sup>rd</sup> 1853		Son of Robert & Sarah Lakin (51)
53	Robert Lakin			Apr 9 <sup>th</sup> 1854		Son of William & Hannah Rest of Gravestone buried in ground
54	George Cooper George Aurthur Cooper Harriet Cooper John Henry Cooper	1857 1863 1865 1866	2 10m 7m 7m	May 15 <sup>th</sup> 1859 Feb 8 <sup>th</sup> 1864 July 8 <sup>th</sup> 1865 Dec 14 <sup>th</sup> 1867		Rest of Gravestone sunk
55	Lizzie Richards	1853	19	Aug 10 <sup>th</sup> 1872		4 <sup>th</sup> daughter of James & Sarah Richards of Newbold
56	Joseph Webster	1842	11	May 12 <sup>th</sup> 1853		Son of John & Sarah Webster
57	William Knight	1792	92	Feb 21 <sup>st</sup> 1884	Of Willesley	Husband of Mary Knight
58	Mary Knight	1794	67	Oct 5 <sup>th</sup> 1861		Wife of William Knight
59	Charles Robbins	1775	82	Apr 26 <sup>th</sup> 1857		
60	Broken Grave Can't Read					
61	??inah Cooper	1813	39	May 7 <sup>th</sup> 1852		
62	Thomas Cooper Sarah Cooper	1786	69	Apr 29 <sup>th</sup> 1855 1870	Of Newbold	Husband Wife
63	Elizabeth Hickling	1790	77	Mar 8 <sup>th</sup> 1867	Of Griffydum	
64	William Whyman Martha Whyman	1793 1792	80 83	Feb 19 <sup>th</sup> 1873 May 4 <sup>th</sup> 1875		Husband Wife
65	Thomas Ison Mary Ison	1791 1787	72 84	Dec 28 <sup>th</sup> 1863 Feb 4 <sup>th</sup> 1871		Husband Wife
66	John Knight Ann Knight	1764 1769	83 64	Jan 13 <sup>th</sup> 1847 Aug 16 <sup>th</sup> 1833	Stordon Grange	Husband Wife
67	??? Massey	1780	57	Sept 11 <sup>th</sup> 1837		
68	Benjamin Platts Amy Platts	1766 1770	70 78	Feb 18 <sup>th</sup> 1836 July 12 <sup>th</sup> 1848	Of Griffudam Of Griffydum	Husband Wife
69	Amy Platts  William Platts Thomas Stretton Platts Thomas Oliver Platts Clara Platts	1836  1837 1841 1843 1853	3  13m 9m 11weeks 6m	Nov 24 <sup>th</sup> 1839  Dec 25 <sup>th</sup> 1839 June 7 <sup>th</sup> 1842 Nov 12 <sup>th</sup> 1843 Mar 1 <sup>st</sup> 1854		All Children of William & Elizabeth Platts
70	Joseph Leeson	1861	36	Oct 27 <sup>th</sup> 1897	Of Coleorton	Husband of Phoebe Leeson
71	Joseph Leeson Sarah Leeson Horton Leeson	1795 1810 Jan 25 <sup>th</sup> 1845	51 79 4	Nov 14 <sup>th</sup> 1846 June 30 <sup>th</sup> 1889 Nov 30 <sup>th</sup> 1849		Husband Wife Son
72	Thomas Leeson	1834	6yrs 4m	Sept 28 <sup>th</sup> 1840		Son of Joseph & Sarah Leeson
73	Sarah Marson	1771	64	Aug 10 <sup>th</sup> 1835		Wife of James Marson
74	Emily Dodd	1838	7	Mar 7 <sup>th</sup> 1845		
75	Kezia Toone	1857	3	Jan 22 <sup>nd</sup> 1860		Daughter of Charles &

						Martha Toone
76	Elizabeth Tugby	1801	69	Apr 26 <sup>th</sup> 1870		Wife of John Tugby
77	Sarah Tugby	1840	19	May 13 <sup>th</sup> 1859		4 <sup>th</sup> Daughter of John & Elizabeth Tugby (76)
78	Amy Scott	1812	27	Nov 22 <sup>nd</sup> 1839		Wife of Robert Scott
79	Eli Haywood	1818	20	Mar 20 <sup>th</sup> 1838		
80	Margaret Haywood	1778	74	Feb 20 <sup>th</sup> 1852		Daughter of Margaret
	Zilpha Massey	1813	71	Nov 25 <sup>th</sup> 1884		
81	Elizabeth Statham	1821	20	Jan 13 <sup>th</sup> 1841		
82	Robert Hartless	1770	65	Jan 4 <sup>th</sup> 1835		Husband
	Mary Hartless	1770	87	Feb 4 <sup>th</sup> 1857		Relict of Robert
	Thomas Hartless	1811	29	Jun 23 <sup>rd</sup> 1840		Son
83	Robert Hartless	1804	29	Nov 11 <sup>th</sup> 1833		
84	S. Elliot			1838		
85	Thomas Brooks	1790	82	June 7 <sup>th</sup> 1872	Of Griffydham	Husband
	Frances Brooks	1792	88	Sept 30 <sup>th</sup> 1880		Wife
				Also of four daughters interned near this grave		
86	Catherine Stinson Tugby	1837	20	July 20 <sup>th</sup> 1857		3 <sup>rd</sup> Daughter of John & Elizabeth Tugby (76)
87	Joseph Guthridge	1795	42	Sept 16 <sup>th</sup> 1837		
88	Ann Tugby	1832	18	Feb 24 <sup>th</sup> 1850		2 <sup>nd</sup> Daughter of John & Elizabeth Tugby (76)
89	Mary Hickling	1848	2yrs 11m	June 25 <sup>th</sup> 1851		Daughter of William & Hannah Hickling
90	Amy Harvey	1792	55	Apr 12 <sup>th</sup> 1847		Wife of John Harvey
91	Susanah Farmer	1767	69	May 27 <sup>th</sup> 1836	Of Worthington	Wife of John Farmer Son
	Thomas Farmer			Gravestone Sunk		
92	Miss Mary Farmer	1804	53	Nov 12 <sup>th</sup> 1857	Of Worthington	
93	Thomas Haywood	1791	68	Feb 7 <sup>th</sup> 1859		Husband
	William Haywood	1818	22	June 4 <sup>th</sup> 1840		Son
	Frances Haywood	1788	63	Oct 19 <sup>th</sup> 1851		Wife & Mother
94	John Hall	1813	21	Feb 19 <sup>th</sup> 1834		Son of Joseph & Mary Hall
95	William Lakin	1803	70	Apr 10 <sup>th</sup> 1873	Of Coleorton	Husband Wife
	Hannah Lakin	1808	80	June 21 <sup>st</sup> 1888		
96	Joseph Else	1768	68	Apr 5 <sup>th</sup> 1836		Husband
	Elizabeth Else	1772	61	June 21 <sup>st</sup> 1833		Wife
97	Herbert Bird	1859	1	May 28 <sup>th</sup> 1860		Son of Joseph & Selina Bird
98	Elizabeth Hodges	1841	23	Mar 24 <sup>th</sup> 1864		Wife of Joseph Hodges
99	Thomas Hodges	1770	66	Apr 26 <sup>th</sup> 1836		
100	Richard Fletcher	1775	59	Nov 27 <sup>th</sup> 1834		Husband Relict
	Mary Fletcher	1774	72	Dec 24 <sup>th</sup> 1846		
101	Ann Fletcher	1817	26	Feb 15 <sup>th</sup> 1843		

102	Joseph Knight Hannah Knight Hanah Hoult	1777 1775 1810	80 72 43	Oct 2 <sup>nd</sup> 1857 Apr 24 <sup>th</sup> 1847 Mar 6 <sup>th</sup> 1853		Husband Wife Daughter
103	Joseph Knight Hannah Knight Thomas ????? 1801	1749 1753 33	86 86	Nov 6 <sup>th</sup> 1835 July 6 <sup>th</sup> 1839 Dec 23 <sup>rd</sup> 1834		Husband Wife Grandson
104	Ann Fletcher	1811	23	June 2 <sup>nd</sup> 1834	Of Breedon Brand	Daughter of George & Elizabeth Fletcher
105	Frances Dent		??	June 9 <sup>th</sup> 1826		Daughter of Frances & Sarah Dent
106	William Stinson	1745	82	Oct 27 <sup>th</sup> 1827		
107	Mary Stinson	Mar 31 <sup>st</sup> 1741	70 1741	Mar 16 <sup>th</sup> 1811		Wife William Stinson (106)
108	Thomas Costelow	1828	6	Jul 27 <sup>th</sup> 1834		
109	William Stinson	1776	30	Feb 12 <sup>th</sup> 1806		
110	Ann Hodson	1777	41	Jan 26 <sup>th</sup> 1818	Of Swannington	Wife of James Hodson
Left six children - Ann, James, Mary, Cathrine, Hannah and Amos - James and Amos have become citizens of the United States						
111	Mary Hodson	1773	34	Apr 11 <sup>th</sup> 1807		Wife of James Hodson
112	Mary Knight of she had	1751	60	Mar 12 <sup>th</sup> 1811		She had been a member the Methodist Society for more than 50 years and knew well in whom she believed
113	Hannah Walker	1797	22	June 1 <sup>st</sup> 1819		Wife of James Walker (My days on earth were few, They withered like the morning dew, When I could stay no longer here, I left my friends and kindred dear, therefore prepare make no delay, I suddenly was snatched away)
114	Hannah Knight	1751	60	Mar 12 <sup>th</sup> 1811		Wife of James Knight
115	Thomas Haywood Ann Haywood	1821 1822	56 79	June 29 <sup>th</sup> 1877 Jan 5 <sup>th</sup> 1901		Husband Wife
116	Thomas Smith	1783	28	Jan 8 <sup>th</sup> 1811		
117	Rebecka Haywood	1829	3Yrs 10m	Feb 18 <sup>th</sup> 1833		Daughter of Thomas & Frances Haywood
118	Joseph Potter Amy Potter	1749 1753	84 68	Dec 17 <sup>th</sup> ? 1833 Apr 22 <sup>nd</sup> 1821	Of Swannington	Husband Wife
119	William Walker	1818	16m	Feb 6 <sup>th</sup> 1820		Son of Sarah of Swannington
120	Thomas Gibson Amy Gibson	1825 1852	27 2Yrs 7m	May 12 <sup>th</sup> 1852 Jan 16 <sup>th</sup> 1855		Father Daughter
121	William Earp	1824	2Yrs	April 11 <sup>th</sup> 1826		Son of William & Frances
122	Selina Smith	1840	6	Nov 28 <sup>th</sup> 1846		Daughter of Samuel & Frances
123	William Johnson Millicent Johnson	1776 1777	77 63	Apr 30 <sup>th</sup> 1853 Dec 16 <sup>th</sup> 1840	Of Griffydam	Husband Wife



124	Joseph Johnson Sarah Johnson	1781 1783	77 68	Aug 31 <sup>st</sup> 1858 Apr 24 <sup>th</sup> 1851	Of Worthington	Husband Wife- Interred at Castle Donnington
125	Sarah Rowse (Dent)	1808	81	May 23 <sup>rd</sup> 1889	Of Swannington	Wife of John Rowse (126)
126	John Rowse Caroline Rowse	1801 1834	39 7	May 14 <sup>th</sup> 1840 May 3 <sup>rd</sup> 1841		Daughter of John & Sarah Rowse (Dent)
127	Benjamin Smallwood	1770	82	Mar 22 <sup>nd</sup> 1852		
128	George Handford Isabella			Apr Apr 3 <sup>rd</sup> 1822 To Do - inaccessible		
129	Charles Yeomans Elizabeth Yeomans	1750 1741	65 82	July 10 <sup>th</sup> 1815 Feb 28 <sup>th</sup> 1823		Husband Wife
130	Thomas Handford Isabella Handford	1789 1791	67 58	May 23 <sup>rd</sup> 1856 June 2 <sup>nd</sup> 1849		Husband Wife
131	Isabella Cliff	1858	2Yrs 5m	June 25 <sup>th</sup> 1860		Daughter of George & Hannah
132	Richard Wardle Ann Wardle		65 66	Apr 22 <sup>nd</sup> 1851 To Do - inaccessible		
133	William Wardle			To Do - inaccessible	Of Coleorton	
134	Maria Anne Wardle			To Do - inaccessible	Of Coleorton	Wife of William (133)
135	William			To Do - inaccessible		
136	John Field Capella Field	1758 1761	84 78	Apr 5 <sup>th</sup> 1842 Jan 4 <sup>th</sup> 1839		Husband Wife
137	Harriet Bird Smith Thomas Bird Smith	1853 1853	27 47	Nov 11 <sup>th</sup> 1880 Feb 11 <sup>th</sup> 1900		Wife Husband
138	Ann King	1795	61	1856		Wife of Alfred King
139	Thomas Costelow Catherine Costelow	1779 1791	81 85	Mar 29 <sup>th</sup> 1860 Jan 6 <sup>th</sup> 1876		Husband Wife
140	William Springthorpe	1803	67	Oct 16 <sup>th</sup> 1870		
141	Elizabeth Pope	1774	81	Mar 21 <sup>st</sup> 1855		Widow of the late Ralph Pope Sn'r
142	Sarah Smith Samuel Smith Frances Smith	1809 1818 1815	84 88 42	Nov 20 <sup>th</sup> 1893 Mar 7 <sup>th</sup> 1906 Nov 25 <sup>th</sup> 1857		Wife of Samuel Smith Husband Wife of Samuel Smith
143	Thomas Walker	1849	4Y 5 m	1853		Only child of James & Emma Walker
144	Mary Walker Thomas Walker	1793 1792	59 67	Oct 28 <sup>th</sup> 1852 Jan 27 <sup>th</sup> 1859		Wife Husband
145	Joseph Brookes Sarah Brookes	1792 1798	66 50	Mar 23 <sup>rd</sup> 1858 Feb 23 <sup>rd</sup> 1848	Of Newbold	Husband Wife
146	Joseph Edwards	1836	29	Nov 8 <sup>th</sup> 1865	Of Newbold	
147	Jane Stewart Ann Stewart	1832	31	Sept 16 <sup>th</sup> 1863		Wife of Moses Stewart Daughter died in infancy
148	Joseph Walker	1799	57	Mar 20 <sup>th</sup> 1856		
149	Reuben Stevenson	1814	44	Oct 19 <sup>th</sup> 1858		

150	Sarah Farmer	1843	22	Sept ? 1865	Of the Gelsmoor	Niece of John & Sarah Vernon
151	Sarah Vernon	1809	52	June 10 <sup>th</sup> 1861		Wife of John Vernon
152	William Willett	1861	16	Nov 11 <sup>th</sup> 1877		
153	Mary Smith Dolman	1835	24	Sep 24 <sup>th</sup> 1859		Wife of Thomas Dolman of Whitwick
	Joseph Smith Dolman	1842	18	Jan 6 <sup>th</sup> 1860		Son of Mary
154	John Nicklinson	1774	71	Dec 4 <sup>th</sup> 1845		Husband
	Elizabeth Nicklinson	1778	71	Feb 4 <sup>th</sup> 1849		Relict
155	Hannah Nicklinson	1803	41	July 14 <sup>th</sup> 1844		Daughter of John & Elizabeth Dickinson (154)
156	Martha Stewart	1832	31	May 11 <sup>th</sup> 1863		Wife of John Stewart
157	Joseph Roe	1797	65	Dec 30 <sup>th</sup> 1862		Husband
	Ann Roe	1796	78	July 22 <sup>nd</sup> 1874		Wife
158	William Knight	1778	84	Feb 21 <sup>st</sup> 1862	Of Worthington	Husband
	Catherine Knight	1785	84	Jan 4 <sup>th</sup> 1869		Wife - Died at Willesley
159	William Vernon	1789	72	Mar 7 <sup>th</sup> 1861	Late of Swann'ton	Husband
	Martha Vernon	1784	68	Apr 3 <sup>rd</sup> 1852		Wife
160	Thomas Kidger Ayre	1838	22	July 7 <sup>th</sup> 1860		Son of Thomas Kidger & Elizabeth Ayre of Thringstone
161	Thomas Pickard	1812	42	Mar 1 <sup>st</sup> 1854		Husband of Charlotte Pickard (162)
162	Charlotte Pickard	1812	37	Oct 27 <sup>th</sup> 1849		Wife of Thomas Pickard (161)
	Harriet Pickard	1849	10m	Apr 10 <sup>th</sup> 1850		Daughter
163	William Knight Fletcher	1842	8	Aug 2 <sup>nd</sup> 1850		Son of John & Ann Fletcher
164	Hannah Deacon	1780	65	July 11 <sup>th</sup> 1845		
165	Mattilda Faith Chambers	1841	29	Feb 4 <sup>th</sup> 1870		Wife of Joseph Allt. Daughter of Ralph & Elizabeth Mould
166	John Cooper	1774	87	Apr 12 <sup>th</sup> 1861		
	Sarah Cooper	1773	82	Jan 31 <sup>st</sup> 1855		
167	Henry Knight	1808	46	May 19 <sup>th</sup> 1854		
168	Joseph Wilton	1754	91	Aug 10 <sup>th</sup> 1845		
	Susanna Cowson	1829	19	June 24 <sup>th</sup> 1848		
169	Thomas Whyman	1822	81	Jan 3 <sup>rd</sup> 1903		Husband
	Sarah Whyman	1822	57	Mar 19 <sup>th</sup> 1879		Wife
170	Maria Dolman	1829	29	Sept 3 <sup>rd</sup> 1858		Wife of Thomas Dolman
171	Charles Darby	1854	1	Mar 22 <sup>nd</sup> 1855??		Beloved children of William & Ann Darby
	Eliza Darby	1854	11m	Apr 2 <sup>nd</sup> 1855??		
172	John Bailey	1774	57	Oct 11 <sup>th</sup> 1831		Husband
	Phoebe Bailey	1775	77	Dec 25 <sup>th</sup> 1852		Wife
173	Isaac Waterfield	1830	8	May 27 <sup>th</sup> 1838		

174	Elizabeth Elverson	1769	58	Oct 1 <sup>st</sup> 1827		Husband
	James Elverson	1767	66	June 12 <sup>th</sup> 1833		Wife
	John Elverson	1794	68	Dec 9 <sup>th</sup> 1862		Son
<b>Written on gravestone - The ancestors of the above are buried in Whitwick Churchyard - The stone was erected by the sons of James &amp; Elizabeth Elverson who now reside in Newark N.J. - U.S.America.</b>						
175	Thomas Platts	1761	71	Jan 10 <sup>th</sup> 1832		Husband
	Frances Platts	1761	73	June 12 <sup>th</sup> 1834		Wife
176	Thomas Platts	1801	71	Dec 14 <sup>th</sup> 1872		Husband
	Elizabeth Platts	1801	69	Nov 26 <sup>th</sup> 1870		Wife
177	Charles Knight			Nov 14 <sup>th</sup> 1858		Sunk Gravestone
178	John Knight	1824	19	Nov 7 <sup>th</sup> 1843		Son of William & Mary Knight of Willesley
179	James Sharpe	1760	76	Jun 12 <sup>th</sup> 1836		
180	Ann Sharpe	1755	71	Apr 7 <sup>th</sup> 1826	Of Newbold	Wife of James Sharpe (179)
181	Francis Doman	1789	94	Dec 12 <sup>th</sup> 1883	Of Coleorton	Husband
	Elizabeth Doman	1799	73	Dec 7 <sup>th</sup> 1872		Wife
182	John Knight	1801	69	Sept 24 <sup>th</sup> 1870	Late of Stordon Grange	Husband
	Ann Knight	Oct 29 <sup>th</sup> 1804	71	Feb 27 <sup>th</sup> 1875		Relict
183	Richard Doman	1784	59	Mar 15 <sup>th</sup> 1843		
184	Sarah Watson	1852	14Wks	Nov 15 <sup>th</sup> 1852		2 Children of William & Emily Watson
	Arthur Watson					Sunk Gravestone
185	William Watson	1844	12	May 24 <sup>th</sup> 1856		
	Emma Watson	1858	1	Feb 18 <sup>th</sup> 1859		Sunk Gravestone
186	Edward Kinsey	1746	86	Feb 3 <sup>rd</sup> 1832	Late of Mousley	
	Hannah Storer	1798	33	Apr 29 <sup>th</sup> 1831		Wife of John Storer
187	Abraham Hancock		24			Died in the Lord
	George Ross Hancock					Died in his infancy
188	Sarah Hoult	1822	4	Aug 23 <sup>rd</sup> 1826		
	Elizabeth Hoult	1830	7	May 8 <sup>th</sup> 1837		
189	Thomas Green Henson	1827	2Yrs 6m	Nov 15 <sup>th</sup> 1829		
190	Mary Robinson	1798	32	Oct 11 <sup>th</sup> 1830		
191	George Hurst	1882	6	Dec 23 <sup>rd</sup> 1888		
192	James Radford	1804	21	Oct 26 <sup>th</sup> 1825		Son of James & Hannah Radford
193	John Bakewell	1773	56	Mar 1 <sup>st</sup> 1829		Husband
	Ann Bakewell	1776	78	Oct 31 <sup>st</sup> 1854		Relict
194	Patience Bakewell	1817	55	Dec 19 <sup>th</sup> 1872		Wife of Matthew Bakewell
195	Jane Halfpenny	1808	21	July 26 <sup>th</sup> 1829		Daughter of Henry & Jane Halfpenny
196	William Knight	1767	72	Sept 28 <sup>th</sup> 1839		Husband
	Mary Knight	1769	85	May 10 <sup>th</sup> 1854		Wife
197	William Kidger	1803	87	Dec 2 <sup>nd</sup> 1890		Husband
	Hannah Kidger	1799	81	Oct 7 <sup>th</sup> 1880		Wife
	William Kidger	1831	53	Feb 6 <sup>th</sup> 1884		2 <sup>nd</sup> son

198	Joseph Knight	1831	17Y 9m	Feb 10 <sup>th</sup> 1849		Son of William & Mary Knight (196)
199	Elizabeth Burton	1798	32	Aug 25 <sup>th</sup> 1830		Daughter of William & Mary Knight. Died in childbirth
	James Burton	1831	6	Dec 29 <sup>th</sup> 1837		Son of James & Elizabeth Burton
200	William Kidger	1770	55	Oct 14 <sup>th</sup> 1825		Husband
	Elizabeth Kidger	1770	58	Aug 7 <sup>th</sup> 1828		Wife
	John Kidger	Jun 7 <sup>th</sup> 1795	29	Apr 30 <sup>th</sup> 1825		Eldest Son
201	Sarah Kidger	1833	4Y 5m	July 25 <sup>th</sup> 1837		Daughter of William & Hannah Kidger (197)
202	William Price Kidger	1870	10Wks	Aug 19 <sup>th</sup> 1870		Eldest son of Price & Elizabeth Kidger
	Sarah Kidger	1873	5Y 2m	Apr 10 <sup>th</sup> 1878		Interned in grave 201
203	Jonas Knight	1772	68	Jan 15 <sup>th</sup> 1840		Husband of Mary 204
204	Mary Knight	1775	61	Apr 9 <sup>th</sup> 1836		Wife of Jonas 203
205	Edward Price	1771	73	Sep 25 <sup>th</sup> 1844		Husband
	Sarah Price	1772	86	Dec 19 <sup>th</sup> 1858		Wife
206	David Wardle	1754	87	Jan 31 <sup>st</sup> 1841		Husband
	Ann Wardle	1761	78	Oct 9 <sup>th</sup> 1839		Wife
207	Sarah Coltman	1794	63	Mar 30 <sup>th</sup> 1857		
208	George Cooper	1811	27	Mar 22 <sup>nd</sup> 1838		
209	William Elliot	1823	52	Jan 4 <sup>th</sup> 1875	Of Worthington	Husband
	Hannah Elliot	1814	62	Oct 12 <sup>th</sup> 1876		Relict
210	Cannot Read Gravestone					
211	Mary Roper		31			Daughter of Francis & Sarah Dent
212	Harriet Thompson	1834	6	Sept 22 <sup>nd</sup> 1840		
213	Sarah Pare	1770	62	Nov 9 <sup>th</sup> 1832		Wife of John Pare
	Martha Pare	1811	7	Feb 25 <sup>th</sup> 1818		
	Martha Storer Pare	1830	16 Mths	Feb 4 <sup>th</sup> 1832		Daughter of William & Susanah Pare & Granddaughter of Sarah & John Pare
214	John Massey	1732	87	Aug 23 <sup>rd</sup> 1819		Husband
	Deborah Massey	1736	84	July 18 <sup>th</sup> 1820		Wife
215	John Birch	1819	19	Sept 10 <sup>th</sup> 1838		Son of Isacc & Hannah Birch
216	Mary Durant			Mar 27 <sup>th</sup> 1821		Daughter of John & Elizabeth Durant
217	Sarah Walker					Wife
	Thomas Walker	1763	70	Jan 3 <sup>rd</sup> 1833		Husband
218	William Stevenson	1801	30	Mar 3 <sup>rd</sup> 1831		
219	James Gilbert	1791	76	Aug 29 <sup>th</sup> 1867		Husband ??
	Hannah			Gravestone sunk		Wife ??
220	Samuel Gilbert	1805	35	Apr 16 <sup>th</sup> 1840		Husband
	Margaret Gilbert	??	??	??		Wife
221	Ann Hu ?????		59			

222	Thomas Gilbert Martha Gilbert Emma	1788 1788 1816	58 35 13	Aug 22 <sup>nd</sup> 1846 Oct 26 <sup>th</sup> 1823 1829		Husband Wife Daughter
223	William Birch	1834	18	Mar 30 <sup>th</sup> 1852		Eldest son of Thomas & Rebecca Birch
224	John Adcock	1804	18	Apr 13 <sup>th</sup> 1822		Son of Robert & Mary Adcock (225)
225	Robert Adcock Mary Adcock	1778 1783	77 85	Oct 11 <sup>th</sup> 1855 Jul 6 <sup>th</sup> 1868		Husband Wife
226	Thomas Smith  Joseph Smith	1846  1849	4Y 6m  1Y 5m	Mar 27 <sup>th</sup> 1851  Apr 3 <sup>rd</sup> 1851		Children of Thomas & Priscilla Smith
227	Richard Wainwright Sarah Wainwright	1773 1778	63 67	May 18 <sup>th</sup> 1836 Apr 30 <sup>th</sup> 1845		Husband Wife
228	Harriet Handford	1831	22	Mar 21 <sup>st</sup> 1853		Youngest daughter of Thomas & Isabella Handford
229	Joseph Swann Mary Swann	1761 1768	87 80	Mar 5 <sup>th</sup> 1848 May 4 <sup>th</sup> 1848		Husband Wife
230	Tamar Smallwood	1763	71	Mar 9 <sup>th</sup> 1834		Wife of Benjamin Smallwood
231	Elizabeth Smallwood	1800	20?	May 7 <sup>th</sup> 1820		
232	Hannah Haywood	1805	69	Dec 1 <sup>st</sup> 1874		Wife of Joseph Haywood
233	James Burton Ann Burton	1773 1770	78 62	Nov 29 <sup>th</sup> 1851 Dec 12 <sup>th</sup> 1832	Of Swannington	Husband Wife
234	Elizabeth Knight	1838	11	Apr 12 <sup>th</sup> 1849		Daughter of John & Ann Knight of Stordon Grange
235	Sarah Ann Knight			May 5 <sup>th</sup> 1831		Daughter of John & Ann Knight of Stordon Grange
236	Robert Henson	1770	78	Aug 3 <sup>rd</sup> 1848	Of Thringstone	
237	Eliza Price	1808	27	July 12 <sup>th</sup> 1835		Wife of John Price
238	Mary Burton	1810	19	May 7 <sup>th</sup> 1829		Wife of W.O.Burton & only daughter of Robert & Sarah Hanson of Thringstone (could be Henson)
239	Ann Lakin William Shaw Lakin	1835 1852	32 15	Dec 13 <sup>th</sup> 1867 Dec 1 <sup>st</sup> 1867		Wife of James Lakin Son of James & Ann Lakin
240	George Handford Sarah Handford	1776 1792	73 46	Feb 18 <sup>th</sup> 1849 Jan 7 <sup>th</sup> 1838		Husband Wife
241	Sarah Wardle	1741	71	Nov 28 <sup>th</sup> 1812		Wife of William Wardle

## Area C

1	Nancy Doreen Blakey	1930	5	Dec 20 1935		
2	Phylis Mary Dimmock  Diane Joy Stone	1921  Sept 20 <sup>th</sup> 1944	9  50	Apr 15 <sup>th</sup> 1930  Feb 15 <sup>th</sup> 1994		Child of Francis & Eliza Dimmock Much loved wife mother & friend
3	John Bradford Fanny Bradford	1870 1870	60 80	Feb 25 <sup>th</sup> 1930 Mar 13 <sup>th</sup> 1950		Husband Wife



4	George Knight Annita Knight	1862 1864	67 66	Aug 14 <sup>th</sup> 1929 Aug 3 <sup>rd</sup> 1930	Husband Wife
5	Samuel Walker Catherine Walker	1879 1878	51 83	May 15 <sup>th</sup> 1930 Apr 15 <sup>th</sup> 1961	Husband Wife
6	Enoch Bird Susannah Bird	1857 1851	74 80	Apr 2 <sup>nd</sup> 1931 Nov 17 <sup>th</sup> 1931	Husband Wife
7	James Richards Bertha Mary Richards Dorothy Eileen Richards	1875 1876 1915	59 82 94	Apr 17 <sup>th</sup> 1934 Oct 20 <sup>th</sup> 1958 Dec 3 <sup>rd</sup> 2009	Husband Wife Daughter
8	Thomas Johnson Sarah Ann Johnson	1881 1893	53 79	Jan 12 <sup>th</sup> 1934 Aug 15 <sup>th</sup> 1972	Husband Wife
9	Herbert Hull	1869	62	Apr 26 <sup>th</sup> 1931	
10	Eliza Ann Knighton Robert Willis Knighton Robert Percy Knighton  Wilfred Knighton			June 19 <sup>th</sup> 1931 Aug 27 <sup>th</sup> 1904	Wife Husband Son Interned at Flint North Wales Son Interned at Flint North Wales
11	Fannie Kilby George Henry Kilby	1870 1864	62 82	Mar 1 <sup>st</sup> 1932 Oct 11 <sup>th</sup> 1946	Wife Husband
12	Edith Ellen Whyman Thomas Whyman	1889 1889	43 56	June 3 <sup>rd</sup> 1932 Nov 16 <sup>th</sup> 1945	Wife Husband
13	Annie Holland James Holland	1873 1869	59 77	July 6 <sup>th</sup> 1932 Jan 27 <sup>th</sup> 1946	Wife Husband
14	Dorothy Wilton	1919	15	Aug 17 <sup>th</sup> 1934	
15	Sydney Robert Warrington	1899	36	Jan 1 <sup>st</sup> 1935	Husband of Lillian Mable
16	James William Whyman	1908	27	Mar 8 <sup>th</sup> 1935	
17	Fred Hodges		97	Died 97 Years	Son of Thomas & Sarah Hodges
18	Albert Hedley Lakin Edith Annie Lakin	1882 1885	51 51	Apr 10 <sup>th</sup> 1933 Dec 28 <sup>th</sup> 1936	Husband Wife
19	Sarah Frearson Goodman Alderman John Aurthur Goodman J.P.	1858 1861	74 84	Oct 5 <sup>th</sup> 1932 July 11 <sup>th</sup> 1945	Wife Husband
20	Gladys Mary Marshall Sarah Ellen Marshall	1904 1878	28 73	Oct 3 <sup>rd</sup> 1932 Mar 17 <sup>th</sup> 1951	Daughter ? Mother ?
21	Kenneth George Marshall	1910	46	Oct 12 <sup>th</sup> 1956	
22	Edward Gamble	1890	57	June 8 <sup>th</sup> 1947	
23	Wallace Barkby Sgt. George Barkby	1921 1913	26 28	May 29 <sup>th</sup> 1947 Dec 10 <sup>th</sup> 1941	Killed in action in Malaya
24	Charles Edwards Olive Esther Edwards	1891 1897	73 38	Oct 6 <sup>th</sup> 1964 Aug 5 <sup>th</sup> 1935	Husband Wife
25	James Orton Leeson	1895	38	May 31 <sup>st</sup> 1933	
26	Thomas William Driver	1885	48	Apr 4 <sup>th</sup> 1933	
27	John Waterfield Annie Elizabet Waterfield James Waterfield	1862 1862 1890	84 74 45	Nov 21 <sup>st</sup> 1946 Feb 17 <sup>th</sup> 1936 Dec 17 <sup>th</sup> 1935	Husband Wife Son

28	Leslie Herbert Hodges Herbert Hodges	1918 1895	17 56	Sept 23 <sup>rd</sup> 1935 Nov 2 <sup>nd</sup> 1951	Son Father
29	Ernest Kendrick Hetty Kendrick Winson Oswald Kendrick	1871 1875 1894	62 79 61	Oct 21 <sup>st</sup> 1933 Nov 21 <sup>st</sup> 1954 May 8 <sup>th</sup> 1955	Husband Wife
30	Kezia Whyman	1880	60	Jan 20 <sup>th</sup> 1940	
31	George Gilbert Harriet Gilbert	1875 1878	62 84	Jan 5 <sup>th</sup> 1937 March 20 <sup>th</sup> 1962	Husband Wife
32	John Thomas Nichols Margaret Nichols	1873 1869	63 69	Oct 22 <sup>nd</sup> 1936 Nov 15 <sup>th</sup> 1938	Husband Wife
33	Herbert Nichols	1876	60	March 24 <sup>th</sup> 1936	
34	Ellen Draper George William Draper	1888 1887	60 77	Jan 19 <sup>th</sup> 1948 Jan 24 <sup>th</sup> 1964	Wife Husband
35	George Barkby Sarah Alice Barkby	1886 1894	63 81	June 30 <sup>th</sup> 1949 Apr 24 <sup>th</sup> 1975	Husband Wife
36	Alice Elizabeth Booth Harold Samuel Booth	1934 1893	58 55	July 27 <sup>th</sup> 1992 June 8 <sup>th</sup> 1948	Wife Husband
37	Ann Adcock John Thomas Adcock	1870 1871	86 78	Nov 23 <sup>rd</sup> 1956 Mar 21 <sup>st</sup> 1949	Wife Husband
38	Florence May Clements Roy Clements	1909 1930	46 26	March 7 <sup>th</sup> 1955 March 11 <sup>th</sup> 1956	Sister Brother
39	Winifred Springthorpe	1925	29	Jan 9 <sup>th</sup> 1954	
40	John Bird Florence Bird	1889 1895	71 55	Apr 26 <sup>th</sup> 1960 July 18 <sup>th</sup> 1950	Husband Wife
41	Emma Marshall John Marshall Beatrice	1871 1872 1898	79 85 77	1950 1957 1975	Of "Wordsworth" The Outwoods Coleorton
42	Thomas Henry Townsend	1912	24	May 7 <sup>th</sup> 1936	
43	James Burton	1902	35	Feb 20 <sup>th</sup> 1937	
44	George Wilton Mary Hannah Wilton	1882 1879	57 71	Oct 25 <sup>th</sup> 1939 Feb 17 <sup>th</sup> 1950	Husband Wife
45	Joseph Derby Sarah Darby	1871 1874	67 72	Nov 5 <sup>th</sup> 1938 Aug 16 <sup>th</sup> 1946	Husband Wife
46	Herbert Hodges Eliza Jane Hodges	1864 1868	73 72	July 7 <sup>th</sup> 1937 Aug 6 <sup>th</sup> 1940	Husband Wife
47	Annie Leech John Leech	1877 1870	61 91	July 16 <sup>th</sup> 1938 May 14 <sup>th</sup> 1961	Wife Husband
48	Alietha Annie Townsend	1893 ?	60 ?	1953 ?	
49	Will Draper	1899	54	Jan 6 <sup>th</sup> 1953	Brother
50	Elizabeth Ann Johnson John William Johnson	1894 1889	58 87	Dec 4 <sup>th</sup> 1952 Dec 1 <sup>st</sup> 1976	Wife Husband
51	Frances Wright William Wright	1892	59	Nov 9 <sup>th</sup> 1951 Aug 14 <sup>th</sup> 1958	Wife Husband
52	Joseph Barkby Hannah Barkby	1882 1887	69 85	Aug 31 <sup>st</sup> 1951 May 28 <sup>th</sup> 1972	Husband Wife
53	James Hall Mary Ann Hall	1854 1862	89 84	Sept 7 <sup>th</sup> 1943 Sept 23 <sup>rd</sup> 1946	Husband Wife
54	John Morley Wilton Mary Ann Wilton	1874 1876	85 80	Jan 24 <sup>th</sup> 1959 Aug 9 <sup>th</sup> 1956	Husband Wife

55	William Hill Eliza Hill	1873 1886	84 81	May 30 <sup>th</sup> 1957 May 27 <sup>th</sup> 1967	Husband Wife
56	Laura Mary Richards	1871	80	Apr 17 <sup>th</sup> 1951	
57	Thomas Smith Ethel Smith	1900 1892	51 85	Oct 22 <sup>nd</sup> 1951 May 4 <sup>th</sup> 1977	Husband Wife
58	John Bernard Walster	1945	7	Oct 5 <sup>th</sup> 1952	
59	Helen Wilton Joseph Wilton	1880 1878	73 83	Oct 21 <sup>st</sup> 1953 Jan 18 <sup>th</sup> 1961	Wife Husband
60	Lucy Wilton Thomas Wilton	1876 1880	80 74	Feb 12 <sup>th</sup> 1956 Oct 16 <sup>th</sup> 1954	Wife Husband
61	James Stewart Clara Stewart Hilda Stewart	1878 1880 1910	86 84 65	June 2 <sup>nd</sup> 1964 Oct 4 <sup>th</sup> 1964 June 20 <sup>th</sup> 1975	Husband Wife Daughter
62	Alfred Bird Gertrude Bird	1898 1901	55 97	Oct 24 <sup>th</sup> 1953 Feb 1 <sup>st</sup> 1998	Husband Wife
63	Edith Haywood George Haywood	1909 1907	44 85	Feb 15 <sup>th</sup> 1953 Jan 25 <sup>th</sup> 1992	Wife Husband
64	Joseph Haywood Lizzie Haywood Sarah Wright Ronald Haywood Eveline Haywood	1877 1878 1880 15.6.1917 26.9.1917	75 80 82 87 80	June 28 <sup>th</sup> 1952 Apr 17 <sup>th</sup> 1958 Nov 19 <sup>th</sup> 1962 27.6.2004 8.8.1997	Husband Wife Sister to Lizzie
65	George Frederick Stevenson	1884	64	July 2 <sup>nd</sup> 1948	
66	James Wright	1885	64	Oct 11 <sup>th</sup> 1949	
67	Sarah Ann Hodges Thomas Hodges Robert James Hodges	1879 1876 1977	66 87 20	Jan 3 <sup>rd</sup> 1945 Aug 24 <sup>th</sup> 1963 Aug 23 <sup>rd</sup> 1997	Wife Husband ?
68	Sarah Elizabeth Stevenson John Stevenson	1877 1876	69 71	Sept 22 <sup>nd</sup> 1946 Feb 22 <sup>nd</sup> 1947	Wife Husband
69	John Johnson Catherine Mary Johnson	1873 1873	78 94	Apr 9 <sup>th</sup> 1951 July 1 <sup>st</sup> 1967	Husband Wife
70	Thomas Clamp May Clamp	1910	59	Aug 25 <sup>th</sup> 1969 Mar 25 <sup>th</sup> 1983	Husband Wife
71	Joseph W Horne Mabel Letitia	1884 1883	70 91	June 11 <sup>th</sup> 1954 March 6 <sup>th</sup> 1974	Husband Wife
72	Leonard Thomas Horne Lily Horne	1898 1897	56 83	Oct 23 <sup>rd</sup> 1954 Jan 31 <sup>st</sup> 1980	Husband Wife
73	Millicent H Wilton	1911	44	Jan 30 <sup>th</sup> 1955	Sister

## ADDITIONAL GRAVES LOCATED IN THE PRIVATE GARDEN OF THE CHAPEL WHICH IS NOW A PRIVATE RESIDENCE

Surname	First Names	Born	Age	Died	Lived	Status
Field	William					
Field	John	1758	84	1842 Apr 5th		Husband
Field	Capella	1761	78	1839 Jun 4th		Wife
Field	Sarah		79	1878 Apr 29th		Widow of late Joseph Field
Field	George	1821	10	1831 Jun 7th		Son of Sarah Field
Field	Ann	1819	13	1832 Jun 27th		Daughter of Sarah Field
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Handford	George			1822 Apr 3rd		
Handford	Isabella					
Handford	Thomas	1789	67	1856 May 23rd		Husband
Handford	Isabella	1791	58	1849 Jun 2nd		Wife
-----						
Wardle	Richard		65			
Wardle	Ann	1785	66	1851 Apr 22nd		
Wardle	William				Of Coleorton	
Wardle	Maria Anne					Wife of William above
Wardle	Elizabeth		32	1838 Sept 28th		Wife of William Wardle & daughter of John & Elizabeth Nickerson
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## Area D - New Graves (1917 – 1999)

Surname	First Names	Died	Month	Day	Aged	Born	Status
ASHBRIDGE	Francis Norman	1957	5	31	27	1930	Husband
BARKBY	Ambrose	1981			(80)	1901	
BARKBY	George B	1965	4	4	88	1877	Father
BARKBY	George Henry	1962	9	16	50	1912	
BARKBY	Leonard	1963	8	18	55	1908	Son of Frederick & Violet
BARKBY	Mary	1961	1	20	83	1877	Mother
BARKBY	Sarah	1991			(90)	1901	
BERKIN	Frederick Henry	1970	9	4	56	1914	Husband & Father
BOTT	Mathew	1986	3	17	82	1904	
BOTT	Emily	1969	1	5	82	1887	
BOTT	Isabel	1993			73	1920	Sister of Kathleen, Coleorton
BOTT	Kathleen	1997			84	1913	Sister of Isabel, from Coleorton
BROOKS	Joyce May	1989	10	18	58	1931	
BUCKLEY	Elsie May	1980	5	30	83	1897	Mother
BUCKLEY	Frederick Irwin	1973	12	5	79	1894	Father
BURTON	Howard Leslie	1994	3	4	36	1958	Son, Brother, Uncle - tragically
CAVE	Barbara Leslie	1992	11	20	39	1953	Wife & Mother
	Jane						
CLAYFIELD	Annie Amelia	1993	10	27	83	31.10.1909	
COLLINS	James William	1968	7	22	63	1905	
COLLINS	Martha Elizabeth	1970	5	4	67	1903	
COOK	FLORENCE VERA	1985	8	26	65	1920	Wife & Mother
COOK	John Horace	1961	4	30	44	1917	Husband & Father
EARP	George William	1959	9	22	52	1907	
ELLIOT	Daphne O	1992	3	15			
FEARN	Elizabeth	1957	2	19	77	1880	
FEARN	Frederick	1960	2	10	77	1883	
FOWKES	Annie	1986	1	7	95	1891	"Reunited" (husband Wright)
FOWKES	George	1976	5	25	83	1893	Husband & Father
FOWKES	Mary Jane	1966			77	1889	
FOWKES	Newton	1917			31	1886	
FOWKES	Sarah Elizabeth	1992	11	13	101	1891	Wife & Mother
FOWKES	Wright	1967	6	6	78	1889	
FRETTSOME	Joseph	1997	9	7	70	1927	Husband
FRETTSOME	Frank	1959	12	3	69	1890	
FRETTSOME	Bertha	1980	7	29	89	1891	
GILBERT	David William	1956	10	6	26	1930	Son & Brother
GILBERT	Florence	1977	12	5	84	1893	Mother
GILBERT	George Harry	1964	10	6	70	1894	Father
GOACHER	George Thomas	1972	5	15	78	1894	Dad
GOACHER	Graham John	1984	7	3	24	1960	Died tragically, only son of ?
GOACHER	Laura May	1964	2	8	67	1897	Mam
HALL	Dorothy Mahala	1987	6	9	84	1903	Mum
HALL	Terrence Wilfred	1987	11	17	51	1936	Son of Wilfred & Dorothy
HALL	Wilfred James	1981	7	3	79	1902	Dad
HARDY	Florence May	1994	7	27	80	1914	Parent (wife of Kenneth)



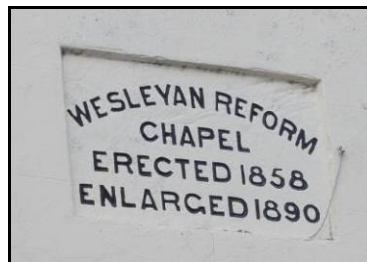
HARDY	Kenneth Sutton	1958	7	15	39	1919	Parent (Husband of Florence)
HILL	George	1961	10	26	78	1883	Husband, father
HILL	Mary Maria	1963	5	29	73	1890	Wife, mother
HITCHCOCK	Melanie Jayne	1995	2	25	30	1965	Wife, Daughter, Sister
HODGES	Emmeline	1990	3	4	99	1890	Wife, mother
HODGES	Frederick	1971	2	10	81	1889	
HODGES	Frederick	1967	10	24	74	1893	
HODGES	Frederick Turner	1967	10	8	45	1932	Son (of Frederick & Violet)
HODGES	Mark	1976	8	18	63	1913	
HODGES	Sarah Ann	1991	12	30	80	1911	
HODGES	Violet	1981	12	31	86	1895	Wife of Frederick
HODGES	William David	1994	2	3	4m	11.10.1994	Son & Brother
HUTCHINSON	Barbara Elaine	1967	1	24	35	1932	Daughter of Ida May
HUTCHINSON	Leeson						
HUTCHINSON	Bernard	1971	1	10	72	1899	Husband of Louisa
HUTCHINSON	Sabina						
HUTCHINSON	Kenneth H	1983	11	3	61	1922	Husband & Father
HUTCHINSON	Louisa Sabina	1989	4	26	92	1897	Wife
JACKSON	Minnie (Annie)	1978	6	30	69	1909	Wife & Mother
JAMES	Emlyn	1991	1	14	85	1906	Husband, father, GG
JOHNSON	Benjamin Hubert	1976			77	1899	Husband
JOHNSON	Winifred	1975			76	1899	Wife
KILBY	Agnes Lina	1957	3	15	65	1892	My wife
KILBY	Joseph Frederick	1967	1	26	71	1896	
KILBY	Mary Ellen	1974	11	21	74	1900	Mother
KILBY	Walter Frank	1974	2	25	69	1905	Father
KILBY	John William	1965	4	24	65	1900	
KIRK	George	1967	7	23	75	1892	Husband & Father
KIRK	Sarah Emma	1978	5	28	84	1894	Wife & Mother
LEECH	Amy Annie	1957	10	12	55	1902	Daughter & Sister
LEESON	Elizabeth	1962	11	17	67	1895	Wife & Mother
LEESON	Ida May	1959	5	18	54	1905	Wife & Mother
LEESON	Thomas Henry	1980	4	13	87	1893	
LOWE	Hellen	1996	7	18	52	1944	Wife & Mother
MARSHALL	Tom	1973			(51)	1922	Husband
MORLEY	Lewis	1959	8	13			
MORLEY	Sarah E	1956	11	26			
NICHOLLS	Gladys Nellie	1978			(68)	1910	
NICHOLLS	John	1994			(80)	1914	Husband of (Gladys), of ?
NICHOLLS	Father						
NICHLINSON	Joseph Osbourne	1961	4	12	64	1897	Husband & Father
NICHLINSON	Gertrude Stella	1969	2	4	71	1898	Wife & Mother
PEARCE	Alexander Louis	1991			(83)	1908	Husband
PEARCE	Eva	1991			(83)	1908	
PHIPPS	Elizabeth	1956	5	23	80	1876	Mother of Frederick
PHIPPS	Frederick	1993	5		78	1915	Son of Elizabeth
PICKERING	Alan	1972	4	27			
PICKERING	Donald	1982	8	17	52	1930	Husband & Father
PLATTS	Charles William	1980	4	22	86	1894	Husband & Father
PLATTS	Daisy Annie	1976	9	18	86	1890	Wife & Mother
RAMSELL	Ethel Salena	1988	4	29	77	1911	Wife, Mother & G.
RAMSELL	Mother						
RAMSELL	John William	1997	12	14	84	1913	Husband, Father, G.G.
ROWELL	Eva	1971	10	4			Mother
ROWELL	George	1972	2	18			Father
SHARPE	Charles Frank	1991	4	22	69	1922	Father
SHARPE	Elizabeth Ena	1987	7	28	68	1919	Mother
SKETCHLEY	David	1985	7	23	75	1910	
SKETCHLEY	Sarah Ann Knight	1972	6	11	93	1879	

SKETCHLEY	Winifred May	1981	5	14	78	1903	Wife of David
Sketchley							
SMALLWOOD	Mary Elizabeth	1985	10	27	89	1896	Wife, Mother, GG.
SMALLWOOD	David	1970	1	27	71	1899	Husband, Father
SMITH	William	1956	5	14	78	1878	Husband, Father
SMITH	Charles	1993	8	21	69	1924	Husband
STANLEY	Louis Edward	1963	4	25	53	1910	Husband & Father
STEWART	Ada	1960	5	3	81	1879	Wife
STEWART	Samuel	1955	7	8	76	1879	Husband
STINSON	Joseph						Parent
STINSON	Minnie						Parent
TURNER	James	1963	2	19	65	1898	Husband & Father
TURNER	Mary	1975	5	2	76	1899	Wife & Mother
WATSON	Bryan Mervyn	1994	9	27	64	5.11.29	Husband, Father, G.F.
WATSON	Dorothy	1998	8	11	94	1904	
WATSON	Freda Peggy	1999	1	20	72	1927	
WATSON	John Desmond	1991	1	26	65	1926	
WATSON	John Harry	1961	1	13	57	1904	Husband of Dorothy W
WATSON	Peter Emlyn	1993	12	22	60	1933	
WEBSTER	Ada Evelyn	1973	9	4	57	1916	
WEBSTER	Edwin D	1983	9	28	67	1916	
WEBSTER	Henry	1955	8	3	70	1885	Husband & Father
WEBSTER	Mary Harper	1965	4	4	84	1881	
WEBSTER	Rebecca Amelia	1960	5	26	75	1885	Mother
WEBSTER	Thomas Reginald	1960	5	25	50	1910	Son of William & Mary
W							
WEBSTER	William	1963	1	5	83	1880	
WESTON	Graham	1998	12	11	43	1955	Son
WHITE	Brenda May	1995	1	8	62	1933	Wife
WHITE	Peter	1984	3	29	54	1930	Husband
WILTON	Annie	1965	9	13	65	1900	Wife
WILTON	Herbert W	1968	1	4	83	1884	Husband & Father
WILTON	Mary	1981	10	1	47	1934	Wife & Mother

**GRIFFYDAM "WESLEYAN REFORM CHAPEL"  
(ALSO KNOWN AS "THE CHAPEL IN THE VALLEY" AND  
BOTTOM CHAPEL)**



**Recent photographs**



**Interior of chapel**



**Harvest festival 1992**



**Sunday School Anniversary at the Wesleyan Reform Chapel, Griffydam c.1968  
with the Waggon and Horses in the background.**

Almost as soon as "the people called Methodists" eventually broke away from the Anglican Church, divisions and schisms developed. These arose principally not due to theology but to matters of government, which many found autocratic and overbearing. There were a number of offshoots, but the one that had the most reverberations was the formation of the Wesleyan Reform Society in 1849 as a result of what has become known as the "Fly Sheets" controversy. The Fly Sheets, anonymously written, sought to expose the arbitrary rule of the Wesleyan Conference. They were often disparaging towards certain personalities including the Conference Secretary Rev. Jabez Bunting. It was strongly suspected that the author was a Rev James Everett (who neither admitted or denied it) and he was expelled, along with two others, Samuel Dunn and William Griffiths. The controversy cost Wesleyan dearly. These had a host of sympathisers, who, in turn, were expelled for their sympathies. Early in 1850, four hundred delegates representing the "Reformers" met in the Albion Street Chapel, Moorfields, London, and a document, outlining a

constitution was drawn up. This embraced sixteen points and was in conformity with the "Reform" proposals.

The new Griffydam Wesleyan Reform Chapel was opened on 27<sup>th</sup> April 1858 by Rev Jabez Burns DD of London, and services were conducted on 2<sup>nd</sup> May 1858 by Mr J W Acrill of Mansfield. Sabbath School was resumed on 16<sup>th</sup> May, when forty children attended.

The following are notes copied from the chapel minute book :-

*"The Wesleyan Methodist Reformers at Griffydam being summarily turned out of the old house in which they had conducted their services for several years, by the interference of the newly appointed Steward of the Nobleman whose property it is, had no place in which to conduct their Sabbath School and hold their Religious Services. At this period, namely Nov 10<sup>th</sup> 1857, an application was made to Miss Mary Farmer of Worthington for a piece of ground on which to build a Chapel, she consented to give a piece (sic), but dying three days afterwards it fell through, she leaving the Field to her brothers, they at once consented to give a piece (sic) of land on which to erect a Chapel.*

Richard Page was engaged to superintend the erection of the Chapel. John Ison was appointed Treasurer. The following were all appointed Trustees:-John Ison, Francis Pope, Joseph Smart, Thomas Coulson, Charles Walker, Richard Cooper, William Usherwood, William Stinson, John Biddle, William Harrison, James Langham and Richard Page.

The Chapel was extended in 1890 and was re-opened on the 9<sup>th</sup> of November by Mr J Parker.

The highlight of the Church calendar was the Sunday School Anniversary which was held on the first Sunday in May, when the children and choir would sing songs and hymns that they had been practicing for many weeks. There would always be a treat for the children some time after the event. In the early days there would be a tea, with sweets and games, in a local field, while in later years there would be a coach trip to the seaside (often Skegness or Wicksteed Park). All the local chapels and churches had a Sunday School Anniversary or "Sermons" and would close their own church to support others in the area. Today, the Chapel is open and active with normally two services on Sunday and various activities for all.

**Prior to the Wesleyan Reform Society being formed in 1849, members of the new chapel would have attended the Wesleyan Primitive Methodist Chapel in Griffydam before worshipping at their "New House" prior to the chapel being erected.**