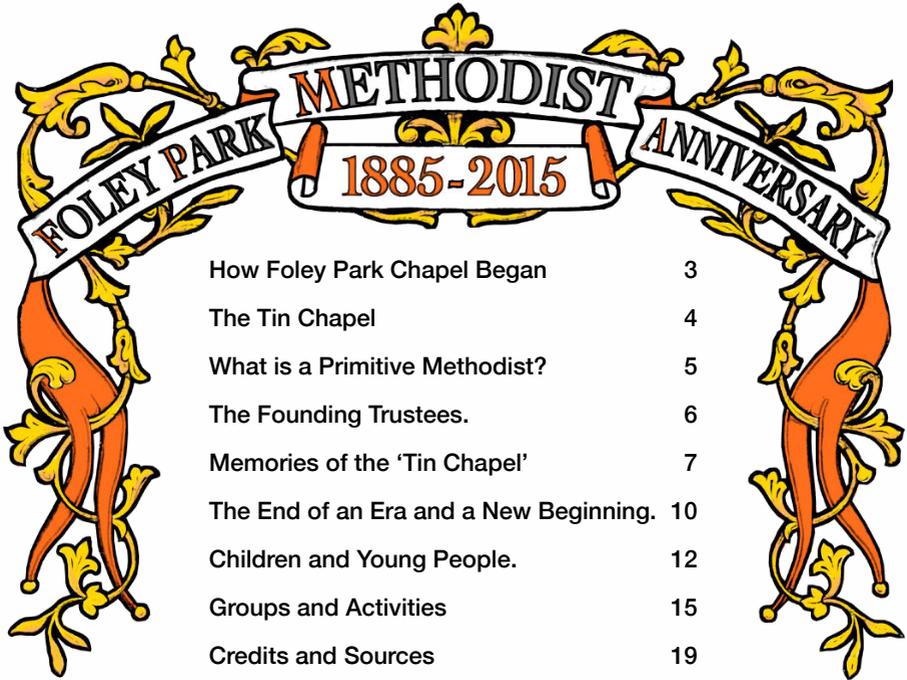




Celebrating 130 Years of Mission and Service

Rev. Denise Williamson



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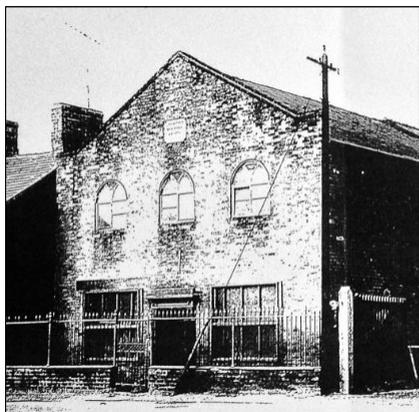


Rev Denise Williamson and members of Foley Park Methodist Church - 11 July 2015

How Foley Park Chapel Began

Kidderminster has a long history as a town of dissenters or non-conformists perhaps as a consequence of its link with Richard Baxter who between 1641 and 1660 'by his piety and zeal revitalised church life in the town'

Wesley first wrote of a visit to Worcester in 1768 and Worcester and Bewdley were mentioned in the preaching Circuit of Gloucestershire in 1771 which is when John Wesley visited Kidderminster and stayed with "that good man Mr Fawcett"- probably Rev. Benjamin Fawcett, minister to the congregation of Baxter's' Dissenters at the Old Meeting Chapel near the Bull Ring. A Methodist Society formed and in 1797 it had 94 members but it is not known where they met. However in 1803 they erected a Meeting House on Mill Street replacing one previously built on the site by 'Lady Huntingdon's Connection'.



The "Ranter's Chapel" in Cross Street

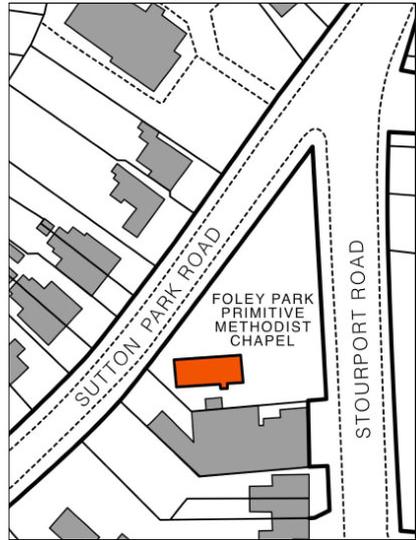
'The Primitive Methodists who commenced to preach in the streets of Kidderminster on July 5th 1820, built a small chapel in Lionfields (Cross Street) in 1824 and enlarged it in 1832. In the rate book for 1836 it is referred to, rather unkindly, as "The Ranters's Chapel". In 1883 the Primitives decided to build a new church on the corner of Leswall Lane and George Street to replace the smaller one in Cross Street. Work began in 1901 and the church opened on March 26th 1902.

The Beginnings of the Chapel. Foley Park Methodist Chapel began as a Mission to the people of Kidderminster in the area known as 'Kidderminster Foreign' which was the area outside the municipal borough boundary and was a Civil Parish. The Primitive Methodist Circuit Preachers Plan of October 1883 -January 1884 includes the name Foley Park for the first time. Later Plans in the same era use the name 'Park' rather than 'Foley Park'. We may wonder if the Primitives were meeting in a nearby hall in Neville Avenue or even in the open air of nearby Sutton Common or Park since the purchase of the triangular piece of land at the junction of Sutton Park Road and Stourport Road was not instigated until 1st August 1885 at a cost of £149.

The land was bought with an equitable mortgage by Rev. Richard Baxter from the Worcester Land and Investment Company. The chapel was erected, using a prefabricated kit of parts, adjacent to the new houses which were being built in Foley

Park and along the Stourport and Sutton Park Roads. The opening or dedication Ceremony of the chapel was held on Thursday evening on the 6th or 13th of November, just 3 months later. The 'Mother' church, Cross Street Primitive Methodist Chapel, must have been convinced that this was God's calling as they were also committed to building the larger church in George Street.

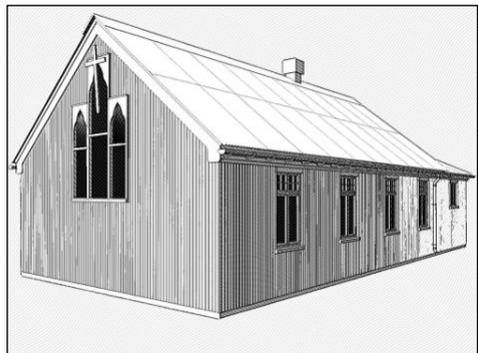
An unofficial census of Worshippers was taken on the evening of November 13th 1886 and records that the Town of Kidderminster had in total 5883 worshippers; 2792 were Anglican, 2559 were Nonconformist and 342 were Catholic.

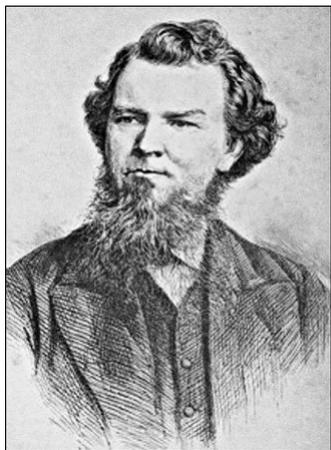


Amongst the Nonconformists, 180 were worshipping at the Wesleyan Methodist, 177 at Cross Street Primitive Methodist, 49 at Broadwaters Primitive Methodist and 85 at Foley Park Primitive Methodists. The date of this census coincides with the first anniversary of the opening of the chapel in 1885. Circuit plans of 1889 show membership of Foley Park to be 59, in 1902 this had risen to 61 but dropped again to 35 in 1909.

The Tin Chapel

"Mission Church for Foley Park - On Thursday evening, the Mission Church which has been erected by the Primitive Methodists of the town, on a site near Foley Park, on the Stourport Road, was opened for divine worship. The church is very conveniently fitted up and will hold about 200 worshippers. The need of such a place of worship had been keenly felt and the Primitive Methodists have shown themselves fully abreast of the times in providing this mission for the residents of Foley Park and Sutton Common. The Rev Richard Baxter preached at the opening service on Thursday evening." (*The Kidderminster Shuttle November 14th 1885*)





Rev Richard Baxter served as Minister in Kidderminster from 1881-1887. Born in 1828 in Leeds. Up to age 17 worked in a textile factory and attended church. However at age 17 he joined the Primitive Methodists and became a Local Preacher. His obituary states that he was an accomplished preacher and that during his ministry he brought 1,137 people into the faith.

He was passionately fond of children; he took so much notice of them in services that once the address to the children lasted so long that there was no time for the sermon, and the old folks had to go without.

What is a Primitive Methodist?

Primitive Methodism was a grassroots, mainly working class movement which began in north Staffordshire at the beginning of the 19th century by Hugh Bourne and William Clowes. It quickly spread across the country, and overseas to America, Australia and Africa. It fired the hearts and minds of agricultural labourers, miners, potters, mill workers, fishermen, dressmakers and domestic servants, inspiring a passion for justice which led many to become leaders of the early Trade Unions. Many women became gifted preachers, and were paid to go out as travelling or itinerant ministers from 1813, which was very radical at the time.

The first open air or camp meeting was held at Mow Cop in 1807, and the name 'Society of Primitive Methodists' was adopted in 1812. This reflects a wish to return to the earlier, purer form of Methodism started by John Wesley in the 18th century. The term 'Primitive Methodists' was used by John Wesley to describe the pioneering enthusiasm and simplicity of his early movement compared to the rather staid institution that it was becoming towards the end of the eighteenth century.

After his death the 'Wesleyan Methodists' lost touch with their roots, banning open air meetings and women preachers because they valued their new respectability and feared government repression. Those who held open air meetings also became known as 'Ranters' because of their enthusiastic style.

In 1932, the Primitive Methodists joined the Wesleyan and United Methodists in an Act of Union to become The Methodist Church of today.

The Founding Trustees.

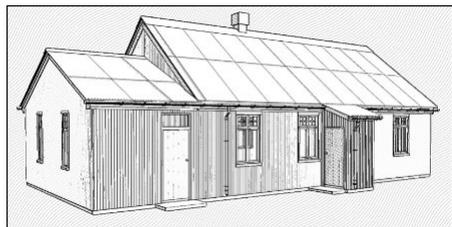
A church or chapel is not a building but a community of believers, without them God's Mission at the Tin Chapel would never have began. A meeting was held on 2nd December 1895 in the Vestry of Cross Street Chapel to list the Trustees of Foley Park Methodist Chapel. Under the Trustees Appointment Act 1850 -1890, the transfer of places of religious worship from one group of Trustees to another was allowed and simplified. It could be that after this meeting, Foley Park Chapel became independent from its 'mother' or supporting chapel, Cross Street.

The meeting recorded the names of the Trustees that were approved at an earlier meeting of 28th February 1887, 2 years after the opening of the chapel. The Chair of the meeting was Rev. W Clulow who would only just have been appointed to the Circuit.

Joseph Moore*	<i>Tuner</i>	Thomas Duffield*	<i>Labourer (Broadwaters)</i>
William Bowen*	<i>Agent</i>	Thomas Case	<i>Labourer (Oldborough)</i>
Thomas Bowen	<i>Labourer</i>	Charles Stevenson*	<i>Clerk (Stourbridge)</i>
Samuel Broadhurst	<i>Tailor</i>	George Walker*	<i>Butcher (Bridgnorth)</i>
F.B. Redman	<i>Manufacturer</i>	James F Lloyd	<i>Grocer (Highley)</i>
John Brain	<i>Foreman</i>	David Francis*	<i>Farmer (Upper Arley)</i>

It is interesting to note that the 12 Trustees, the equivalent of today's members of the Church Council are all men and from mainly the skilled or working class social groups which was typical of the adherents to the Primitive Methodist cause. The Trustees listed were probably those who first gave their support to the planting of the Mission Chapel prior to 1885. Half of them were from other Primitive Methodist Chapels in the Circuit of that time. It shows that the work of Mission and church planting was the shared work all of the churches in the Circuit. Those whose names are marked*continued to be Trustees at the 1895 meeting and were joined by 6 others. We can note from their occupations that many in the Chapel would have worked in the Carpet Industry.

William Stokes	<i>Wool Blender</i>
Benjamin Butler Rew	<i>Weaver</i>
Thomas Fletcher	<i>Commercial Clerk</i>
Evan Watkins	<i>Baker</i>
Charles Gittins	<i>Weaver</i>
Alfred Hardiman	<i>Shearer</i>



Memories of the 'Tin Chapel'

Local historian, Betty Park, records in her book 'Brinton Park and Sutton Common' some of the memories of Nell Bond, who was a member of the chapel with her family until her death at 99 years in 2014. 'She remembered the church fondly as having a very friendly group of members. The main room for the congregation was furnished with a platform, pews, an old organ and a piano. A solid fuel stove placed in the middle of the church provided heating, other heating was added later. Nell remembers the lively Sunday School Anniversaries with the children crowded on the stage singing their special hymns for the occasion.' Also remembered from that time are the Harvest Services where grapes were hung from the beams interwoven with Virginia Creeper and that either side of the platform steps, sheaves of corn were placed.

Others remembered the pulpit and the table (communion) which always had a beautiful white cloth on it and the inscription in large letters above the organ which read "O Worship The Lord in The Beauty of Holiness" Some had uncomfortable memories of the benches for the congregation which, after a fundraising Concert was held, were covered in the 1920's. A 'get together' was held every Monday evening in the back room of the chapel which had a piano and the choir also practised here. Until the 1960's there was no kitchen and the toilet was outside.



Inside of the chapel - 7 October 1894

The War Years 1939-45. During the war years the numbers of teachers and children in Sunday School dropped as members were called up for duty or war work. The commitment of members of the church meant that the Sunday School continued during these years. Sunday School was held at 2.30pm and the evening Service at 3.30pm because of the lack of street lighting due to blackout regulations.



But life at the Chapel did not stop. Anniversaries and parties were held as normal with the help of the Ministry of Food supplying extra coupons for sugar, jam, margarine and milk. Not forgetting those in need, an Overseas Missionary Festival was held by all the Methodist Churches in the area.

Pat Simmonds (nee Brown) and Sylvia Tudor-Hughes (nee Hiles) both now members at Callow Hill Chapel, remember attending Sunday School at the Chapel towards the end of the war. They remember the friendliness and welcome of the members and being packed in tight on Sunday School Anniversaries or when there was a Baptism to which all the children came. Pat remembers how loudly the rain sounded on the tin roof. Pat used to attend with her older sister Jean and a group of children used to walk together to Chapel from Stretton Avenue. Sylvia became a Sunday School teacher and remembers Mr Randal and Mr Oakley as Sunday School Superintendents.

Sylvia had her first child Baptised at the Chapel in 1961 and remembers that when the news came of the closure of the chapel she and others protested against this because although the Chapel was well past its best in condition by then, it was well loved as a place of strong and happy memories.

Sunday School was always an important emphasis in the chapel's activities, perhaps arising from the influence of its first Minister, Richard Baxter. At first all the children were able to meet in the Chapel and backroom but increased population from the building of new houses in the growing residential area meant that older children had their classes in a hut which used to be in Neville Avenue.

The Sunday School Anniversary was always a highlight in the year. Jean Herring and her sister Christine Grasso share their memories of them in the Tin Chapel.

WHAT'S THIS P WHY

**Foley Park Primitive Methodist
Sunday School**

ANNIVERSARY

May 25th, 1919

PREACHER

REV. J. PEARCE

Morning at 11; Evening at 6.30

In the Afternoon at 2.45 a

Children's Service

Chairman, Mr. E. MORRIS, of Longley,
Supported by Rev. J. PEARCE.

Collection in aid of the Sunday School Funds.
"Come with us, and we will do you good"

"Sunday School Anniversaries were very special to Christine and myself, all the girls had a new dress (usually White) we also had a little bunch of flowers pinned to our dress usually 'Lilies of the Valley'. The wooden platform was built for the occasion at the front of the Church it was very high it almost reached the roof. Some of the children said poems which were lovely. I remember Jo (Massey) saying one called 'Little Lamb who made thee'. We would sing lots of songs and there was always a few solo's. The Service was repeated in the afternoon and then again in the evening. It was such a wonderful day for us."

Sunday Schools in the town were always an important part of the Whit Monday Procession of

Witness. The origin of the Whit Week processions of "Sunday school scholars" dates back to 19th July 1821 when there was a procession of the children of Manchester to commemorate the coronation of George IV. The tradition spread being taken up by the Sunday School Union in 1823.

In the first United Procession in 1928, children from Foley Park Chapel would have joined with others from across the town at Baxter Church where a service was held. The Procession was held after the Service taking a different route through the town each year. Children from the different churches would walk behind their Sunday School Banner.

Jean and Christine recall that the Whitsun Walk was on the Monday morning after Whit Sunday. They say "Each Sunday School had a lorry where all the children sat, the older ones use to walk if they wanted to and we were given sweets and chocolate from spectators. Each Church had a banner which was carried in front of the lorry. In the afternoon we all used to be taken by coach for a picnic and games, usually to Kinver."



A Sunday School banner for Foley Park, slightly amended for the Anniversary, can be seen on the front cover of this booklet and in use in the photograph taken in the 1970's on the previous page.

Other childhood memories of the Special Occasions in the Chapel from Jean and Christine include; "The Harvest festival was wonderful with so much fresh produce. Everything was auctioned off on the Monday evening in the back room.

We had lots of social evenings with my Dad (Ron Bond) and Jim Smith (who a lot of people will know) doing comic acts together.

The kitchen was outside in a sort of shed, and the toilet was next to it and not very nice. On New Years Eve we had a social in the Church with the coal fire to keep us warm".

The End of an Era and a New Beginning.

In the late 1950's, due to the increase in traffic along the Stourport Road, the Council wished to widen the road and change the junction of Sutton Park Road with Stourport Road. The Council wished to buy the land on which the Tin Chapel stood. Fortunately this coincided with the desire of the Foley Park Chapel members for bigger premises and a new building. There was a campaign to keep the old chapel as it was so fondly thought of. However a site was chosen alongside the nurseries on Sutton Park Road and the fund raising began in earnest to raise the necessary £10,000. Many folk from across the Circuit today, remember buying a brick or two for the New Chapel.



By February 1962 £8500 had been raised and work began on the foundations. A stone laying ceremony was held on 14th April 1962 when the Chairman of the District, Rev. Brian S. O' Gorman laid the foundation stone and about 60 pupils of the Sunday School laid bricks. The building consisted of a dual purpose hall to be used for worship and social activities designed by architect Mr W.A. Greenway. The church hall was constructed so that in the future a Sanctuary could be built on top, at right-angles to the



hall with level access from Sutton Park Road. This was to be a project for the future after more money was raised.

Opening the New Church. The Church was officially opened on Saturday 10th November 1962 by Mr Samuel Parkes a trustee of the church and Mrs Whatmore the oldest member.

Rev. L.N. Tattershall, former Superintendent Minister of the Circuit gave the address in which he said "You have built for God; now you have to begin to build with God". A tape recording was made of the service and played at the Wesley Guild meeting on the following Monday. The words of the preacher are remembered as urging the congregation to be "living stones for a living church".

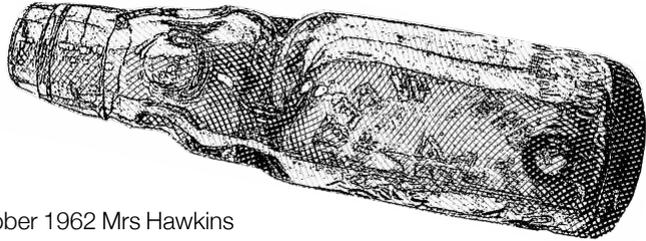
The ceremony was attended by many old friends, including the previous minister, Rev. Garrard who remarked "I used to have not dreams but nightmares' about the difficulties encountered with the building plans.

Also in attendance at the ceremony were the Mayor of Kidderminster, Cllr. B.W.Smith, Mr Gerald Nabarro, M.P. and Rev. D.G.Thornton Smith, the minister at the time as well as Anglican Clergy.



The final days of the old Tin Chapel. The last event to be held at the Tin Chapel was a bonfire and firework party on Monday 5th November when proceeds were for the Building Fund. The Tender for the demolition went to Mr. Issacs and Mr. Williams of Puxton Manufacturing who were going to re-erect the building to store carpet yarns. They paid £12 for the old building which was re-built in the summer of 1964 at Puxton. Whilst dismantling the church, Mr Issacs discovered a crate of empty

old-fashioned marble top pop bottles. When these were sold Mr Issacs made more money than he had paid for the old chapel.



Tin Chapel:

Last Funeral: October 1962 Mrs Hawkins

Last Baptism: September 1961 Dawn Ellen Anglin

Last Wedding: September 1962 Albert Bristow and Mary Ann Stevens.

Last Service: 4th November 1962. Led by LP Mrs Perrett.

New Church:

First Service: 11th November 1962; Led by Rev.D.G. Thornton-Smith

First Baptism: November 1962. Susan May Webb

First Wedding: October 1963; Malcolm Moore and Frances Spillman

First Funeral: William Bowen. Father of Mrs Nell Bond and grandfather to Jean Herring and Christine Grasso.

Children and Young People.

Since its very beginning, children have always been an important part of the life, outreach and mission of Foley Park Chapel. After moving into the larger building in Briton Close, the Sunday School continued to meet on the Sunday afternoons. This was later changed to 11.30am right after the morning service to enable families to spend their afternoons together. However many families also found this difficult. From the 1970's the need was felt for further accommodation so that families could attend church at the same time and share in a short time of worship together before going to meet in different rooms. Plans were made for extra classrooms and a new kitchen to be built. Fundraising began again and the new extension was opened on 9th May 1981 by Rev. John Dean.

Sunday School numbers grew and three different age classes were held; Seekers, Adventurers and Questers. Leaders during the late 1980's and 90's were Ron Bond, Roy Davies, David Warrington, John Cookson, Colin Eley, Roy Pickersgill, Ruth Cope, Sian Bonnet, Dorothy Corbett, Heidi and Richard Hague, David and Gill Atkin, John Thompson.

Festival of Queens from Link Magazine Dec 1982. "The annual Festival of Queens was held at the Town Hall on 12th November. Karen Greenfield was the Foley Park Queen and looked very pretty with her attendants, Gilly Bonnet and Dianne Oliver. Derek Bonnet presented the purse to Mrs Green, the President's wife. Mr Green did a speech as did the representative from the National Children's Home.



Two competitors in fancy dress parade organised by Foley Park Methodist Church, Kidderminster, meet the minister, the Rev. P. W. Trembath. Eight- year-old Helen Whitfield is "Miss News" and Yvonne Harrington (14) is the Welsh lady

Kidderminster Shuttle - December 1966

Ladies from Foley Park and Trinity hand- ed out the league of Light Lanterns and the entertainment was provided by Trinity Youth. There were some recorder playing, some singing and a very good Rock Band. Finally to round off the evening, there was a Magic Show which provided some discussion later among the Foley Park contingency as to how the tricks had been done. The evening was generally considered to be most enjoyable." 'Queens' and attendants from other years include; Kay Oliver, Emma Egan, Linda Cartwright, Sheree Johnson and John Stokes. In 1985, the church centenary year, the Queen was Janice and her attendants were Sharon, Elisabeth and Laura and Jonathan handed over the 'purse' of money.

Sunday School Anniversaries changed from the traditional

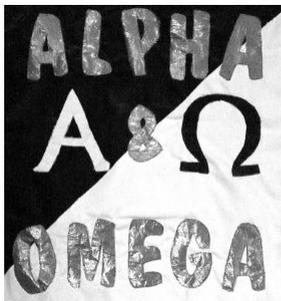
format of songs and recitations to full scale musical productions. In 1982 'Sir Oliver's Song' was the first of these productions followed by 'Animals' and 'The Amazing Fruit Tree' written by member David Atkin.

There were annual Sunday School Union Sports Days. Foley Park won the Cup several times and Frank Hill and his brother Steven Nichols used to win the 100m and 200m races. The Games were organised by Ron and Connie Cowdrey, members of Trinity and were held at Comberton School grounds. Again from the Link Church Magazine July 1982, it appears that Frank was still taking the prize in the mens races! Foley Park also held its own Sports Days in the Habberley Valley as well as Football teams competing against other Sunday Schools and a Table Tennis League team of which Rev. Peter Trembath, Frank Hill and Steven Nichols were all members in 1965.

Holiday Clubs were held regularly in the 1970 and 80's for the children in the neighbourhood. They were often held jointly with Holy Innocents Church and also with Cookley churches. The latest one was held in 2013 with the help of Rev. Linda Pearce.

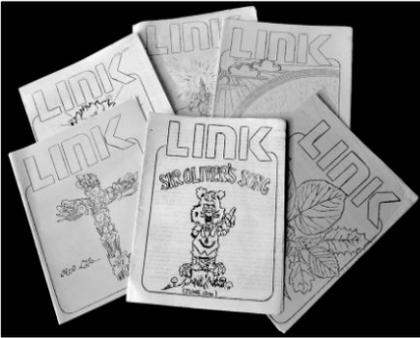
The church now runs an after-school club for 5 -11 year olds to provide a fun, creative opportunity to share the Good News with children from the neighbourhood. The club is called Get Set and meets every Thursday evening during Term Time. Leaders are Kirsty Williams, Ruth Cope and Les Fearnall. Lawrence Rudd keeps the children supplied with refreshments and Maggie Edwards and Rev. Denise Williamson add extra support when needed.

From the Adventurers and Questers came the name AQ for the Youth Club which has been part of Foley Park from the time of the Tin Chapel. Hundreds, if not thousands of local youngsters have been members of the club over its long history and today children and grand-children of former members attend. Many of todays members have played a part in its continuing success. A weekend away is an annual event at the Far Forest Centre.



Groups and Activities

The church has held many groups and activities over the years, some of which are mentioned below: Mothers and Toddlers, Midsummer Market held at Baxter Church, Spring Fair and Summer Fair (which sometimes included donkeys, Trap the Rat, Keep Fit display with Mair Edwards, Tombola, Bring and Buy and so on), Young Wives, Women's Fellowship, Ladies Quiet Group, Wesley Guild which had a variety of interesting speakers including Mary Whitehouse; Bonfire Nights and Fireworks, Barbecues, Praise, Prayer and Power meetings, Saturday Night With the King. - outreach events at Foley Park usually with guest speakers and live music! Church Family Holidays, Trips to Cliff College Weekend.



Link Magazine. A Foley Park monthly magazine began in January 1978 and was called "SALT" but then its name changed to "Link". It began under the zeal of Jeff Short and the expertise of Freda Clayton on the typewriter and Roy Pickersgill on the duplicator. (Who can remember typewriters and duplicators?) June Dalley later took on the Editorial role. The first Edition was a sellout and more followed until about 1985.

Mission across the World. Mission has always been a priority of the people of Foley Park Church. It began as a Mission Chapel so outreach is in the church DNA. Helping people overcome crises and natural disasters all over the world and learning about the problems and hardships faced by Christians in other countries has encouraged the church to give generously of their prayers and fundraising. For many years Foley Park has raised funds for the Leprosy Mission and also regularly gives to Christian Aid via Soup lunches and Coffee Mornings. It also supports emergency appeals through the Methodist Church and All We Can. The church has also supported the Omwabini Orphanage in Kenya.

Mission and outreach in our Community. The folk at Foley Park have never ceased in their friendliness and welcome to all who visit the church and to all that they meet outside the church. Past member Ron Bond is remembered with great love and gratitude as one who welcomed and invited everyone to a relationship with Jesus.

The church still welcomes many groups who use the church. The Women's Institute have met at Foley Park for 30 years and the New Life Together Choir also celebrate their 30th birthday next year and consider Foley Park as their 'home' base. Both groups have members from Foley Park. Outreach and service to the community continue to develop as we have welcomed a Rainbows group into the family of groups that use the building. A community coffee morning is also an opportunity for church members to enjoy fellowship together and to get to know people from the community.

Centenary Year 1985 As the Centenary year approached a great deal hard work was done to provide a whole year's worth of worship, activities and fellowship to give glory to God and to look back with thanks and stretch forward in faith. Many former Ministers were invited to lead Sunday services at special monthly Anniversary Weekend events. A guide to events was produced which also included a history and reminiscences of the old Tin Tabernacle. Many of those memories have been included in this booklet.



Ecumenical and Church Partnerships On November 6th 1983 a Local Church Covenant was made between Foley Park Methodists, Holy Innocents, St. John's and St. Peter's C of E churches to make the relationship between the churches more formal. The churches agreed to;

- Form an annual agreed education program, which will include a Lent Course.
- Do mission work together by visiting the homes of the area.
- Continue to publish and promote the Outlook Magazine.

All of the above were jointly achieved and the relationship continues today although development of ideas have moved things forward. Much of what was planned locally now takes place across the town via Churches Together in Kidderminster.

Foley Park have been active supporters of Churches Together in Kidderminster and taken part in the Ecumenical Lent Talks, Good Friday Walk of Witness and Christmas Carol Services outside the Town Hall. Our relationship with Holy Innocents Church has grown and strengthened since the years when our Mission Chapels were close neighbours on the Stourport Road. Unknowingly we displayed a drawing of their



Mission Chapel in our church, thinking that it was our own Tin Tabernacle! We have enjoyed shared and joint services in our churches when celebrating our Anniversary and Patronal days as well as on the 'Summer Safari' services when Kidderminster West Team Churches join us for worship at the end of August. Most recently Foley Park and Holy Innocents initiated the Service for the Commemoration of the beginning of World War One in Brinton Park in August 2014

as well as the Easter Treasure Hunt in the park on Easter Saturday 2015 for families and children in the area in which all churches across the town participated and supported.

CTIK also provide the Food bank with the Trussel Trust which is well supported by the church as well as being part of the Fair-Trade and Christian Aid networks and events.

Church Family Holidays. Have been a long tradition at Foley Park. Members and their families and friends have enjoyed a week or weekend away together to share fellowship and enjoyment in the Lord. Roy and Trevor Davis remember the holidays organised by Pastor David Adams which were to: Dinas Dinlle 1983 North Wales, Weston-super-Mare 1984, Paignton 1985, Boscombe 1986, later on to: Llandudno, Tywyn, Hastings, Llandudno (again) Scarborough, Blackpool, Saltburn 1994, Torquay 1995, 12 holidays in total. Every one of them was well supported especially by parents with young children but as it became more expensive fewer families came, which was



also reflected in church attendance. On the holidays a praise time was held before breakfast, but there were no bible studies -it was very much a relaxing holiday where people could go and do as they pleased. In the late 1990's the Weekend Away started which were geared more to a Spiritual Retreat. Roy adds "I enjoyed everyone of the holidays and weekends and was pleasantly surprised. You got to know and see people in different light, for me it was so much fun, if someone organised one now I'd want to put my name first on the list, but it's good to have fond memories and I praise the Lord that we were blessed for such things."



Ministers

1881-1887	Revd Richard Baxter	1911-1914	Revd John Brace-Evans
1888-1891	Revd T Pigott	1918-1920	Revd Joseph Pearce
1891-1892	Revd James Causland	1921-1923	Revd J T Wilkinson
1892-1894	Revd Reeve	1924-1929	Revd Charles R Vercoe
1895-1895	Revd Clulow	1930-1931	Revd Warbutton-Lewis
1898-1906	Revd David Oakley	1931-1948	Rev Charles E Deakin
1906-1909	Revd R Curson	1948-1948	Revd C Burgin
1909-1910	Revd Marmaduke Robinson	1949-1952	Revd T Wood
1910-1911	Revd Samuel Harry	1953-1959	Revd Ron C Garrud

1960-1965	Revd D G Thornton-Smith	1987-1989	Pastor Godfrey Nicholson
1965-1971	Revd Peter Trembath	1989-2001	Revd Colin Short
1971-1977	Revd James Kyle	2001-2004	Revd Roger Jones
1977-1979	Revd John Dean	2006-2009	Revd Pam Garrud
1980-1985	Pastor David Adams	2009-2012	Revd Crawford Logan
1985-1985	Pastor Steven Amos	2012-2014	Revd Mary Austin
1985-1987	Pastor Brian Burns	2013-2018	Revd Denise Williamson

Credits and Sources

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2. Inspired by Wesley: Two Centuries of Methodism in Bewdley, Sue Dernie. (pub. by Author, 1995)
3. Brinton Park and Sutton Common: A History of the Area, Betty I. Park. (pub. Kidderminster Civic Society and Friends of Brinton Park, 2008)
4. Exploring Methodism: Primitive Methodism, Geoffrey Milburn. (pub. Epworth Press, 2002)
5. Foley Park Methodist Church Centenary 1885-1985 Booklet.
www.engleseabrook-museum.org.uk - www.myprimitivemethodists.org.uk

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Page 3 Image courtesy of Kidderminster Library. ACCN No. 4246.

Page 5 Image of Rev. Richard Baxter. - www.myprimitivemethodists.org.uk

Page 8 Photograph of fellowship meal in Tin Chapel. Private Collection of Kaye Paine.

Pages 7 & 9 Photograph; Collection of Foley Park Methodist Church.

Page 11. Foley Park Methodist Church Opened Photo. Ken Stephens, Kidderminster Shuttle. Nov 1962.

Page 13. Image: Kidderminster Shuttle. December 1966.

Pages 17 & 18 Photographs from the collections of Roy Davis and Ruth Cope.

Page 20 Photograph of Church by Keith Sutherland. Photo on Retreat: Unknown.

Images and drawings by Simon Williamson. Photographs on pages 1, 2, 15, 16 & 17, Poster / Plans / Graphics on pages 2, 4, 9, 10, 11, 12 & 14, Drawings of Tin Tabernacle on pages 4 & 6

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1. Weekend Retreat 2014 at Shallowford House.
2. Banner made for the Wesley Bicentenary Celebration.
3. Foley Park Methodist Church
4. Pentecost Poster made by Get Set group 2015

