

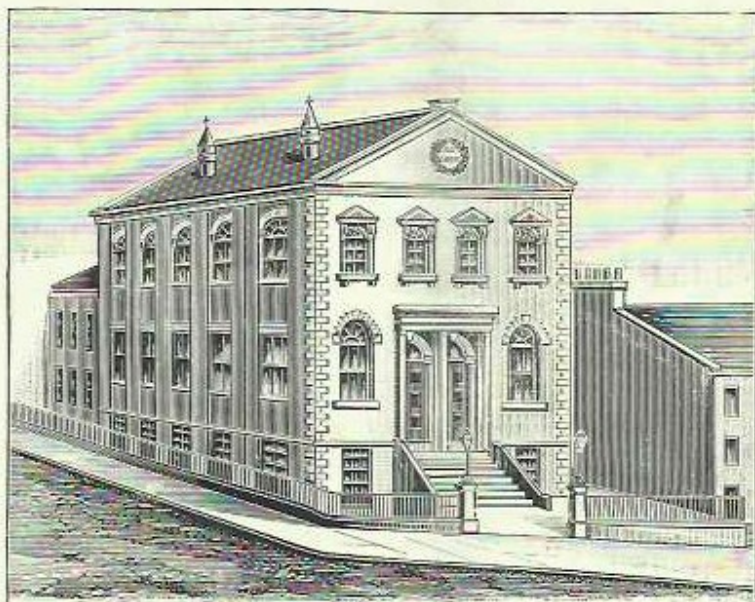
North Parade Baptist Church

HALIFAX

CENTENARY

OF THE PRESENT CHAPEL

1854-1954



Resolution of Church Meeting, 1855 :

"That this Church, looking at the Word of God, and addressing the Throne of grace for guidance, should endeavour to be a model Church"

Celebration of this Historic Event :

SATURDAY and SUNDAY,
OCTOBER 16th and 17th, 1954

Preacher : Rev. HOWARD MAISHMAN
(Former Minister)

Extracts from the History of the Church.

Although we are celebrating the centenary of our present chapel, our history as a Church of the New Connexion of General Baptists began in the year 1772 when the Rev. Dan Taylor, minister of Birchcliffe Baptist Church, Hebden Bridge, preached occasionally in Halifax. The result of his preaching was that a small company of believers in the year 1775 hired a room in Goul Lane and commenced preaching services, but few people attended except when Dan Taylor himself preached. One whose father attended these services says that "the preaching was so powerful that the hearers must either be converted or absent themselves from the place." Two years later in 1777 the people decided to build a chapel of their own, a plot of land was bought at the bottom of Haley Hill, and thereon was built what was considered to be a neat and commodious chapel which was opened on September 3rd, 1777, by Dan Taylor, of Birchcliffe, and his brother John, of Queenshead. In 1782 the Church which had hitherto been united in membership with Queenshead separated and thirty people formed themselves into a Church at Haley Hill. The next step was to secure a suitable minister and in 1783 Dan Taylor became minister of the Church at Haley Hill. The Church prospered but in 1785 to the dismay of the people he was called away to an important Church in London.

With the departure of the Rev. Dan Taylor from Halifax there set in a long period of depression and disputation which wore away the energy of the Church and threatened its life, but in 1823 the Rev. Jonathan Ingham began a pastorate which at its close in 1833 left the Church full of life and vigour.

Progress was made and in 1829 five cottages were built in Garden Street, New Bank, and a long room over four of them was used as a Sunday schoolroom to accommodate the scholars of the school formed in 1811 at Haley Hill.

The old chapel was from time to time improved but steadily the conviction grew amongst the people that if any further progress was to be made either the chapel would have to be rebuilt or a new chapel built nearer the town. The church decided on the latter alternative, and in 1851 a plot of ground in North Parade was purchased with a view to the erection of a chapel thereon. It is surprising to learn that at this time the Church was composed of less than one hundred members, mostly of the working class, and utterly unable of themselves to carry out their design; how they were going to do it they had not the slightest idea. Building commenced in 1853 and by the following June it was so far covered in that the Sunday School moved from Garden Street and occupied the new premises. The Church also held its services in the schoolroom until the chapel was completed.

The new chapel was opened on Thursday, the 21st of December, 1854. It was Dan Taylor's birthday, for he was born on December 21st, 1738, at Sour Milk Hall, Horley Green, Halifax.

The opening sermon was preached by the Rev. Prof. Raleigh, of the Rotherham College, and the services were continued on the following Sunday.

The cost including the ground was about £3,600, and when all was balanced up it was found that the Church was in debt to the extent

of £1,500. How this amount was successfully cleared off by the adoption of a Five Year Plan to repay £300 per year, and the unique way in which the ladies of the Church co-operated in the plan, forms a romantic and separate story in itself, quite worthy of being told on its own account.

The Crossley brothers of Dean Clough have been generous donors to many churches in Halifax, and when they heard of the position at North Parade after the opening of the new chapel, they generously came forward with an offer that if the Church would pay £300 per year off the principal for five years, they would pay the accruing interest. The Church regarded this offer as providential, a sign that God was working with them, and concluded that they could do no other than accept it, although they knew not how it was to be accomplished. Further encouragement came from their minister, Dr. Ingham, who co-operated in the plan by promising to serve the Church for the first year without salary. All members of the Church were urged to support the scheme according to their ability, and the ladies of the Church formed a Sewing Society to make goods for sale. At first these goods were stored in the house of one of the members, but when this accommodation proved too small a shop was rented at the bottom of North Parade. This shop, managed by the ladies of the Church, proved successful and at the end of the five years the stock remaining was sold, and when a balance sheet was drawn up it was seen that a profit of nearly £200 had been made. It should be added that Dr. Ingham fulfilled his promise to serve the Church for one year without salary and that at the end of it the Church marked its appreciation of his generosity by a suitable gift of money.

The early years of the Church at North Parade were full of endeavour, and whilst money raising loomed large at this time the Church found opportunity to extend its interests beyond its own borders.

In June, 1863, it was reported to the Church that "there was an opening for the introduction of our cause at West Vale, a rising village, three miles south of Halifax." A committee was formed and the position investigated, and the report being favourable it was resolved to form a branch. After some difficulty a suitable room was obtained. This room was furnished and opened as a Sunday School and place of Divine Worship on the 16th of August, 1863. It also served as a day school.

So much did the work prosper that in 1864 a meeting was held to consider the desirability of building a chapel, and in July, 1866, a plot of land was purchased, building commenced in 1868, and the new chapel was opened on the 5th August, 1869.

After the chapel was opened it was found to have been a movement in the right direction, the congregations were much increased, a good number professed their faith and were baptized and became members of the Church.

Hitherto united with us in membership the friends at West Vale now decided that the time had come to form themselves into a separate Church, and in July 1871, a document was prepared, signed by 53 persons, being the whole number of members in communion with our branch at West Vale, thanking the Church at North Parade for the assistance rendered in establishing and supporting the cause there, and asking to be separated from the fellowship of the Parent Church in order that they may be formed into a Church of their own.

This request was graciously and favourably received by the Church at North Parade, and it was resolved that we affectionately dismiss the brethren and sisters whose names are affixed to the said document, in order that they may become a separate Church with a pastor of their own, most fervently commending them and their Pastor-elect to God and to the Word of His grace which is able to build them up, and to give them an inheritance among all them that are sanctified. The date of the separation was the 19th July, 1871, and the first minister was the Rev. Thomas Gill.

To celebrate the formation of the Church a gathering was held at West Vale on September 2nd, 1871 at which a framed and illuminated Address inscribed "From the West Vale General Baptist Church to the Mother Church, North Parade, Halifax" was presented by Mr. Robert Dempster on behalf of the West Vale Church to our senior deacon, Mr. Daniel Wilson, representing the North Parade Church.

This Address, expressive of the Church's gratitude, was gratefully received and it was ordered to be hung up in the Minister's vestry where it may now be seen.

The Church now turned its attention to our Lee Mount branch. In 1857 a waning cause at Ovenden had been taken under our care. For a long time it had struggled on under great difficulties. The people had worshipped for many years and had their Sunday School in a small, overcrowded and ill-ventilated room, which materially interfered with their success. It was resolved, however, to continue, and a movement was started for the erection of a new building. In 1869 land was purchased at Lee Mount and in 1871-2 a new school was erected which served both as a School and Chapel.

From the time that Divine worship was commenced in the new place and the Sunday School opened, prosperity attended their efforts. The schoolroom was let to the Halifax School Board, and in 1875 for their accommodation an additional classroom and an infant school were built, together with a chapel keeper's house. In the years that followed the Church continued to report increases in the number of Sunday School scholars and Church members, and a growing confidence in their ability to manage their own affairs led them at the end of 1891 to ask the Parent Church to allow them to separate. A resolution was passed stating that the time was now opportune for such a move to be made and setting forth their reasons for this decision. At this time (1891) the New Connexion of General Baptists had decided to amalgamate with the larger body of Baptists, and the members at Lee Mount desired freedom of action to seek admittance to the Yorkshire Association of Baptist Churches along with other churches in the county. The resolution testified to the valuable assistance rendered by the Mother Church, and to the many benefits which had accrued from association with us. The friends at North Parade welcomed this approach to them and on the 6th of April, 1892, it was resolved that we dismiss from our fellowship 134 members who have been associated with our branch chapel to form a separate Church to be known as the Lee Mount Baptist Church, and we take this opportunity to express the fervent hope that the step now taken may under the Divine blessing result in the continued progress, harmony, and general prosperity of the new Church.

Meanwhile our own Church at North Parade continued to prosper under a succession of devoted ministers and fifty years ago, on the occasion of its Jubilee in 1904 it undertook an extensive scheme of renovation. The chapel was repainted and decorated, electric light was installed, new windows were put in, and the heating apparatus extended.

After being closed for ten weeks Reopening Services were held on the first Sunday in October, 1904, when the Rev. D. Tait Patterson commenced a memorable ministry at North Parade. In this year also, pew rents were abolished, and a system of self assessment was introduced whereby the income of the Church was much increased. The Jubilee celebrations proper were held in the following February.

During Mr. Patterson's ministry an excellent piece of social rescue work, which brought untold blessing to the poor women of the surrounding district, was undertaken by the ladies of the Church. A Thursday evening Women's Meeting was commenced, and was well attended, in which the Christian way of life was set forth. This was followed up by visitation of the people in their dingy, insanitary and often overcrowded homes in the courts, squares, yards and ginnels of the district. Ultimately a rehousing scheme which removed the people of this human "warren" to an outer district brought the work to an end, but no words of praise can be too high for those who gave of their time and of themselves for this service.

The Organ was not installed until the end of 1864, since which time considerable additions and re-arrangements have been made to it. Previously to this the singing was accompanied by a harmonium, and earlier still by a violincello.

The Recognition Meeting of the Rev. D. Tait Patterson took place on Saturday evening, the 8th October, 1904, in the Chapel, and at the organ on that occasion was Mr. George Dyson, F.R.C.O., now Sir George Dyson, whose father, John William Dyson, was for over 50 years a member of the Choir, and for nearly 27 of those years Choirmaster.

Organists

1865-1896	Mr. A. BRENARD.	
	Mr. J. H. HARRISON	} Joint Organists.
1896-1899	Mr. H. HOLMES	
1899-1920	Mr. H. HOLMES.	
1920-1926	Mr. H. V. DYSON.	
1926-1944	Mr. J. H. HARRISON.	
1944-1944	Mr. F. MILNER (pro tem).	
1944-	Mrs. J. H. HARRISON.	

The Individual Communion Cups were used for the first time at the Ordinance of the Lord's Supper on Sunday, September 1st, 1901. The service was conducted by the Minister, the Rev. Carey Hood, and passed off successfully and decorously, and with a feeling that every hindrance to complete devotion had now been removed. The Communion Set was the gift of Mr. J. Armitage Drake.

List of Ministers

NORTH PARADE.

1854-1862	Rev. Dr. INGHAM.
1859-1859	Rev. T. D. MATTHIAS (Supply).
1862-1864	Rev. CHARLES CLARK.
1866-1869	Rev. Dr. INGHAM
	Rev. J. H. ATKINSON } Co-Pastors.
1869-1877	Rev. ISAAC PRESTON.
1878-1887	Rev. WATSON DYSON.
1888-1903	Rev. CAREY HOOD.
1904-1912	Rev. D. TAIT PATTERSON.
1914-1919	Rev. F. T. BLOICE SMITH, B.D.
1919-1925	Rev. C. C. CHAMBERS, B.D.
1927-1933	Rev. HOWARD MAISHMAN.
1934-1937	Rev. VIOLET HEDGER, L.L.A., B.D.

Since 1937 the Church has maintained a Ministry of the Word and Sacraments by the aid of Ministers and laymen. To all these we acknowledge our indebtedness, and return our grateful thanks.

Dr. Ingham

The Rev. Dr. Richard Ingham, our first Minister at North Parade, began his ministry on the first Sunday in November, 1854. His first period as minister continued until 1862 when health reasons compelled him to leave and take up a less strenuous sphere of labour at the Vale Church, near Todmorden. There he remained until 1866, when the pastorate at North Parade, having been vacant for nearly a year and a half, the Church decided to invite him to resume his work at North Parade with the assistance of Mr. J. H. Atkinson, a young man fresh from College, as his co-pastor. They began their united labours on the first Sunday in July, 1866, and continued until January, 1869, when Mr. Atkinson's health broke down, and he was compelled to resign. Dr. Ingham, however, continued to serve the Church until the settlement of the Rev. Isaac Preston as minister in October, 1869.

He was the author of two books, a "Handbook on Baptism" and "Christian Baptism; Its Subjects." For these two works he had conferred upon him the degree of Doctor of Divinity by the American College at Hillsdale. He died at his residence in Akeds Road, Halifax, on Sunday evening, the first of June, 1873, in his 63rd year, and was buried at Heptonstall Slack Baptist Chapel, of which district he was a native.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16th, 1954

RECEPTION IN THE CHAPEL 4 to 4.30 p.m.

by the

Rev. HOWARD & Mrs. MAISHMAN,
Pastor 1927-1933.

TEA at 4.30 p.m.

Evening 6.0 to 6.50 p.m.

Chairman: Coun. W. E. HORSLEY, LL.B. (Lond.).

Speakers: Representatives from Sister Baptist Churches,
Birchcliffe, Queensbury, West Vale, Lee Mount,
and the Yorkshire Association.

Reply on behalf of the Church by the

Rev. J. W. TITHERINGTON.

Service at 7 o'clock

Conducted by the Rev H. MAISHMAN.

HYMN.

PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER.

SCRIPTURE READING.

ANTHEM - "The Lord is my Shepherd" - Schubert

ADDRESS.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OFFERTORY.

HYMN.

BENEDICTION.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17th 1954,

10-30 a.m. and 6-30 p.m.

Preacher: Rev. HOWARD MAISHMAN.

Morning Service.

INTROIT.

HYMN 1

Tune—"Hanover"

f O WORSHIP the King,
All-glorious above;
O gratefully sing
His power and His love;
Our Shield and Defender,
The Ancient of days,
Pavilioned in splendour,
And girded with praise.

O tell of His might,
O sing of His grace,
Whose robe is the light,
Whose canopy, space;
His chariots of wrath
The deep thunder-clouds form,
And dark is His path
On the wings of the storm.

The earth, with its store
Of wonders untold,
Almighty, Thy power
Hath founded of old:
Hath established it fast
By a changeless decree
And round it hath cast
Like a mantle, the sea,

p Thy bountiful care
What tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air,
It shines in the light,
It streams from the hills,
It descends to the plain,
And sweetly distils
In the dew and the rain.

Fraïl children of dust,
And feeble as fraïl,
In Thee do we trust,
Nor find Thee to fail:
Thy mercies, how tender,
How firm to the end,
Our Maker, Defender,
Redeemer and Friend!

f O measureless might!
Ineffable love!
While angels delight
To hymn Thee above,
Thy humbler creation,
Though feeble their lays,
With true adoration
Shall lip to Thy praise. Amen.

PRAYER, FOLLOWED BY LORD'S PRAYER.

LESSON.

HYMN 2 Tune—"Little Cornard"

f HILLS of the north, rejoice;
 River and mountain-spring;
 Hark to the advent voice;
 Valley and lowland, sing;
cr Though absent long, your Lord is nigh;
f He judgment brings and victory.

Isles of the southern seas,
 Deep in your coral caves
 Pent be each warring breeze,
 Lulled be your restless waves;
cr He comes to reign with boundless sway,
f And makes your wastes his great
 high-way.

Lands of the East, awake,
 Soon shall your sons be free;
 The sleep of ages break,
 And rise to liberty.
cr On your far hills, long cold and grey,
f Has dawned the everlasting day.

Shores of the utmost west,
 Ye that have waited long,
 Unvisited, unblest,
 Break forth to swelling song;
cr High raise the note, that Jesus died,
f Yet lives and reigns, the Crucified.

f Shout, while ye journey home;
 Songs be in every month;
 Lo, from the north we come,
 From east, and west, and south,
cr City of God, the bond are free,
f We come to live and reign in thee!
 Amen.

CHILDREN'S ADDRESS.

ANNOUNCEMENTS. OFFERTORY.

PRAYER.

HYMN 3 Tune—"Arizona"

f O THOU to Whom in ancient time
 The lyre of Hebrew bards was strung,
 Whom kings adored in songs sublime,
 And prophets praised with glowing tongue.

mf Not now on Zion's height alone
 The favoured worshipper may dwell;
 Nor where, at sultry noon, Thy Son
 Sat weary by the patriarch's well.

f From every place below the skies,
 The grateful song, the fervent prayer,
cr The incense of the heart may rise
 To heaven, and find acceptance there.

mf To Thee shall age, with snowy hair,
 And strength and beauty bend the knee;
dim And childhood lisp, with reverent air,
 Its praises and its prayers to Thee.

f O Thou to Whom in ancient time
 The lyre of prophet bards was strung,
f To Thee at last in every clime
 Shall temples rise, and praise be sung. Amen.

SERMON.

HYMN 4 Tune—"North Parade" (H. Holmes)

f AWAKE, our souls! away, our fears!
 Let every trembling thought be gone!
 Awake, and run the heavenly race,
 And put a cheerful courage on.

mf True, 'tis a straight and thorny road,
 And mortal spirits tire and faint;
cr But they forget the mighty God,
 That feeds the strength of every saint.

f O mighty God! Thy matchless power
 Is ever new and ever young;
 And firm endures, while endless years
 Their everlasting circles run.

From Thee, the ever-flowing spring,
 Our souls shall drink a fresh supply;
 While such as trust their native strength
 Shall melt away, and droop, and die.

Swift as the eagle cuts the air,
 We'll mount aloft to Thine abode;
 On wings of love our souls shall fly,
 Nor tire along the heavenly road. Amen.

BENEDICTION.

Evening Service.

INTROIT.

PRAYER, FOLLOWED BY LORD'S PRAYER.

HYMN 1 Tune—"Diadem"

f ALL hail the power of Jesu's name!
 Let angels prostrate fall;
 Bring forth the royal diadem,
 And crown Him Lord of all.

Ye gentile sinners, ne'er forget
 The wormwood and the gall;
 Go, spread your trophies at His feet,
 And crown Him Lord of all.

Crown Him, ye martyrs of our God,
 Who from His altar call;
 Extol the stem of Jesse's rod,
 And crown Him Lord of all.

ff Let every kindred, every tribe,
 On this terrestrial ball,
 To Him all majesty ascribe,
 And crown Him Lord of all.

Ye seed of Israel's chosen race,
 A remnant weak and small,
 Hail Him Who saves you by His grace,
 And crown Him Lord of all.

O that with yonder sacred throng
 We at His feet may fall,
 Join in the everlasting song,
 And crown Him Lord of all. Amen.

LESSON.

HYMN 2 ----- Tune—"Dennis"

mf BLEST be the tie that binds
Our hearts in Christian love;
The fellowship of kindred minds
Is like to that above,
When we asunder part,
It gives us keenest pain;
cr But we shall still be joined in heart,
And hope to meet again.

Before our Father's throne
We pour our ardent prayers;
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one,
Our comforts and our cares.

mf This glorious hope revives
Our courage by the way,
While each in expectation lives,
And longs to see the day.

f We share our mutual woes,
Our mutual burdens bear,
And often for each other flows
The sympathising tear.
From sorrow, toil, and pain
And sin we shall be free;
And perfect love and friendship reign
Through all eternity. Amen.

PRAYER.

ANTHEM ----- "Te Deum" ----- Stanford

ANNOUNCEMENTS. OFFERTORY.

HYMN 3 ----- Tune—"Convent"

RISE, my soul, and stretch thy wings,
Thy better portion trace;
Rise from transitory things
Toward heaven, thy native place;
Sun, and moon, and stars decay;
Time shall soon this earth remove;
Rise, my soul, and haste away
To seats prepared above,
Rivers to the ocean run,
Nor stay in all their course;
Fire, ascending, seeks the sun;
Both speed them to their source:
So my soul, derived from God,
Pants to view His glorious face,
Forward tends to His abode,
To rest in His embrace.

Cease, ye pilgrims, cease to mourn,
Press onward to the prize;
Soon our Saviour will return
Triumphant in the skies;
Yet a season, and you know
Happy entrance will be given,
All our sorrows left below,
And earth exchanged for heaven.
Amen.

SERMON.

HYMN 4 Tune—"Eventide."

p ABIDE with me; fast falls the eventide:
The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide!
When other helpers fail, and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, O abide with me.

Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;
Earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away;
Change and decay in all around I see;
O Thou, Who changest not, abide with me.

I need Thy presence every passing hour;
What but Thy grace can foil the tempter's power?
Who like Thyself my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, O abide with me.

mf I fear no foe, with Thee at hand to bless;
Ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness;
cr Where is death's sting? where, grave, thy victory?
f I triumph still if Thou abide with me.

p Hold Thou Thy Cross before my closing eyes,
cr Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies;
f Heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me. Amen.

BENEDICTION.

VESPER "Seven-Fold Amen" Stainer

CENTENARY GIFT DAY

Saturday, 23rd October, 1954

Reception 4.0 p.m. by Mr. & Mrs. H. V. DYSON
(Darlington)

TEA 5.0 p.m. GIFT TREE and STALLS

CONCERT at 7.0 p.m.

by the "THIS IS IT" Concert Party