

1920 — — — — — 1970

**GOLDEN  
JUBILEE**

of the

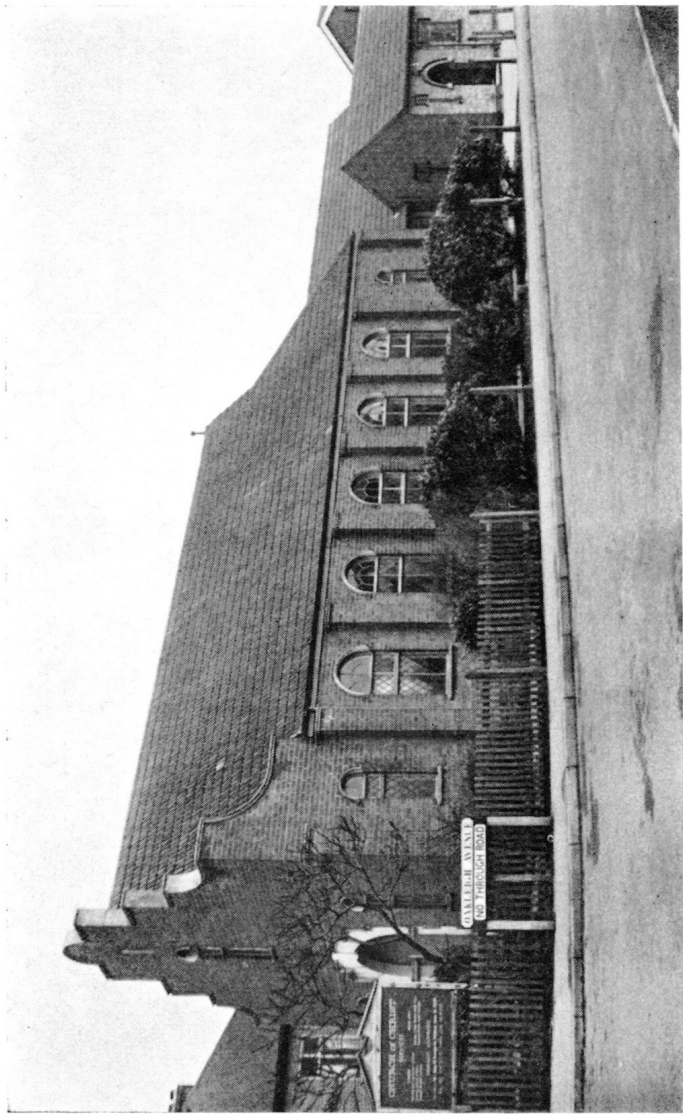
**CHURCH OF CHRIST**

Reginald Road,

Chaddesden

**DERBY**





THE CHURCH AND SUNDAY SCHOOL BUILDING IN THE REAR



**GOLDEN JUBILEE**  
**OF**  
**THE CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
**Reginald Road (South) Derby**

The first note to be struck on such a momentous occasion as this, is one of praise and thankfulness to Almighty God for His spiritual directives which prompted a few worthy people to establish a church of New Testament order in Derby. Gratitude for their vision and labours is firmly rooted in our hearts. All except one of that company have passed to higher service and, for the remaining 'foundation member,' we pray that God's blessing may rest upon her.

**A Great Adventure**

On Sunday, May 9th, 1920, the first services were held in the Reginald Street Schools, Derby, at which seventeen members undertook to form a Church of Christ. Preliminary arrangements had been made by the esteemed Evangelist, Bro. W. Webley, Bro. J. W. Black (Chairman of the G.E.C.) and Sister Birkinshaw (Netherfield). Bro. Webley served the Church until July, 1921, with the exception of a short period of service by Bro. W. J. Clague. Additions were made by baptism and by April, 1922, the membership was thirty-three. Later in 1921 the Church moved to Whiston Street Hall. In June, 1924, the Church again moved to the Co-operative Hall, Nightingale Road, in an area where a considerable number of members resided.

**Vision Becomes Reality**

In March, 1935, Bro. C. E. Mellors offered the gift of a building site at Reginald Road, Chaddesden, which

was gratefully accepted, and due preparations for building were made, and the Stone-laying ceremony took place on January 16th, 1937. The principal Stone was laid by Bro. F. W. White; other stones were laid by Sister E. Prince and Bro. C. E. Mellors.

On May 1st, 1937, the Church doors were opened by Sister E. A. Mellors and the building was dedicated by Bro. W. Mander, a crowded congregation was addressed by Brethren F. W. White and L. Colver.

So, the Church was established in a settled location after seventeen years of worthy and effective witness in three different premises.

Valuable short ministries were immediately launched, first by Bro. L. Colver (National Sunday School Organiser) who, with his wide knowledge and experience, helped to establish a strong Sunday School, also creating Mid-Week activities, and giving great attention to visitation of householders in the vicinity. This period of ministry was followed by Bro. Alan Bell, a young New Zealander, who, after completing his training at Overdale College, became an Overseas Missionary.

### **A Fully Constituted Church**

In December, 1938, the government of the Church was placed upon a New Testament basis by the Ordination and Induction of Elders and Deacons, this very important Service was effectively and solemnly conducted by Bro. F. W. White. Those ordained were :

Elders :— Brethren E. Bonser, W. J. Holmes, C. E. Mellors and A. Newns.

Deacons :— Brethren C. W. Cook, G. B. Humphries, H. Blackmore, G. Brown, H. J. Miller, F. A. Whitfield, B. Andrews and R. G. Barclay.

Subsequently additions were made as follows :

Deacons :— Brethren H. Hicking and G. Metcalfe (Senior).

Deaconesses :— Sisters M. Holmes, E. A. Mellors,  
E. B. Metcalfe and D. Hicking.

### **A Great Tent Mission**

The work received a great impetus in July, 1939 through the Henrichsen-Kay Mission, held in a marquee on land in close proximity to the Church. Bro. E. Henrichsen proved to be a powerful and effective Evangelist, in that eighty-six baptisms took place, and the Church became strengthened both numerically and spiritually.

This Special Mission was followed by ministries of varying periods by Brethren A. McMillan, A. E. Winstanley, W. Aiton (who is at the time of writing President of the Churches of Christ, Gt. Britain and Ireland), K. Simnett, D. Morgan and Sister Etta Proctor.

In February, 1944, the Ministry of Bro. and Sister W. Lister was commenced and this association has proved a vital factor in the life of the Derby Church right up to the present moment, and one which we trust will continue, as God gives grace and health to them. Bro. Lister served as Minister for eight and a half years and, on retirement from H.M.C. Staff in 1956, came to live in Derby, becoming an Elder and giving leadership in many of the church's activities.

THE SILVER JUBILEE of the Church was observed with much enthusiasm and the inclusion of the salient features herewith, will evoke happy and cherished memories of great occasion celebrated from May 5th to May 12th, 1945.

Saturday, May 5th. Social Meeting.

Chairman, C. E. Mellors (Elder).

Speakers :— Dr. W. Robinson, D. Morgan.

Soloist :— Bro. T. Barker (Riddings).

Sunday, May 6th. Preacher, W. Lister.

Soloist :— Miss Freda Holmes (L.R.A.M.).

- Monday, May 7th. Home Missions Night.  
 Chairman, W. J. Holmes (Elder and Secretary).  
 Speakers :— W. Mander, B.A., W. Webley.  
 Soloist :— Miss D. Lister.
- Tuesday, May 8th. Women's Night.  
 Chairman, Mrs. W. Lister.  
 Speaker :— Miss Etta Proctor (H.M.C. Sister).  
 Soloist :— Mrs. G. Humphries.
- Tuesday, May 8th. United Women's Rally at 3 p.m.  
 Speaker : Miss Etta Proctor.  
 Singing by Women's Party.
- Wednesday, May 9th. Overseas Missions Night.  
 Chairman, A. Newnes (Elder).  
 Lecturer :— Bro. Arnot McDonald (London).  
 'My trip to India.'  
 Soloist :— Mrs. G. Humphries.
- Thursday, May 10th. Youth Night.  
 Chairman, L. Colver.  
 Bible Play entitled 'The World's Greatest Hero.'  
 (Written by W. Lister, Presented by Teachers and  
 Young People).  
 Soloist :— Miss D. Lister.
- Saturday, May 12th. Thankoffering Service.  
 Chairman, E. Bonser (Elder).  
 Speaker :— H. Soar (Norton-on-Tees).  
 Soloist :— Miss Freda Holmes.

### **May, 1945 — We embark upon the Second Twenty-Five Years**

This period of our history saw the ending of World War Two and, in due course, those members serving in H.M. Forces returned home safely. The church building had been used for Community Welfare, being a Fire-Watching Centre, Depot for distribution of clothing and for First-Aid training under the capable leadership of Sister Froggart.

We shared in the United Services of Thanksgiving to God for the cessation of hostilities, and observed the Days of Prayer in the district.

In 1953 under the Treasurership of Bro. J. H. Muggleton, a public handing over of the deeds to Bro. C. E. Mellors took place, to mark the redemption of our debt to the Chapel Building Committee whose help in financing the erection of the Church Building was much appreciated.

### **Overdale College Students' Crusades**

In April, 1953, a Crusade of Christian Witness by a team of students was launched by H. Bell (Leader), J. Francis (now Principal of the College), A. Kettle, T. Cheeseborough and G. Sharpe (now an Overseas Missionary). A few years later another similar effort under the Leadership of K. Forrest, was carried out, both of which brought fruitful and stimulating results to the Church.

### **New Sunday School Building**

On November 17th, 1955, the Stone-laying ceremony for the above took place. The Chairman was Bro. L. Colver and stones were laid by Brethren R. C. Weston and C. E. Mellors. At the following Service of Thanksgiving, Bro. E. Bonser was the preacher.

The Opening of the New Building was performed by W. Lister on March 24th, 1956, the Dedication Service being conducted by W. Mander, supported by Brethren A. Murray and J. Garrow, the latter continuing his ministry over the week-end, when on Sunday he took charge of a most impressive dedication of Sunday School Staff—and gave much encouragement for the furtherance of the work, made possible by the increased accommodation.

## **Isolated Members**

We would remember at this Jubilee those who have served the Church in various capacities but are now separated by distance. These include Bro. and Sister E. Bonser (Leicester), Sister M. Holmes, Bro. H. Soar, Sister F. Drage (Upminster), Bro. and Sister K. Holmes (Carshalton), Bro. and Sister E. Corner (Hogsthorpe, Lincs), Sister V. Mears (Exeter) and Bro. and Sister H. Higon (Dundee).

## **Links with Australia**

In February, 1952, W. Lister (Minister), was honoured by being appointed a Chaplain on a Migrant Ship going to Australia, and consequently contacted many members of our Churches whilst overseas preaching and conducting Missions. Then in 1967-68 Bro. and Sister G. B. Humphries visited their daughter, Pat, and son-in-law, Paul, and their family, as well as making extensive visits to our churches in many parts of Australia. Whilst all our hearts were saddened at the 'passing to higher service' of their beloved son-in-law, Paul Gerand, the Derby Church will retain fragrant memories of his constant attendance and loyal service rendered whilst over here for two years. Naturally, our thoughts are constantly with Pat and her children, praying God's blessing upon them. Her parents mostly worshipped with Pat and the family in the Church at Caringbah, N.S.W., where, incidentally, Bro. E. Henrichsen was the first Minister. They also spent some time in the home of Bro. and Sister H. Hicking, who were members of our Church's Diaconate and are now in fellowship with the Church at Christie's Beach, Adelaide. We enjoyed the occasional visits of Bro. and Sister Macdonald, who was a Lecturer at the Derby College of Technology for one year, now being back home worshipping with the Church in Adelaide (S.A.).

Also, we record our highest praise for the splendid services rendered to the Derby Church by Sister E.

Lawson (Melbourne), and now of revered memory, in that she was responsible for supplying children's clothing and sending gifts to the Women's Bright Hour at Christmas-time during the war years.

Recently, the Church had the fellowship of Bro. and Sister A. Camps from the Church at Hamilton, N.S.W. Sister Camps is the daughter of Bro. and Sister Lister. Both our visitors expressed their sincere thanks to the Church for the wonderful 'Welcome,' and also for the heartening 'Send-Off' upon their return home. They brought to the Church a fine pictorial Greetings Card from Hamilton, N.S.W., and favoured us by taking back a similar form of Greeting to their Home Church.

### **Ecumenical Activities**

Since the establishment in Chaddesden, we have sought fellowship with other churches in the area. Largely due to our prompting, a United Service takes place each Good Friday, the venue being on a rotation basis. United Witness is also made in the local park by the combined Sunday Schools and Youth organisations, on the first Sunday in July, with processions in the area prior to the OPEN-AIR SERVICE OF WORSHIP. Observation of the WEEK OF PRAYER for Church Unity has made gradual progress and in 1970 there was an exchange of Pulpits, Bro. W. Lister ministering to an Anglican Church and an Anglican Vicar being the preacher at Reginald Road.

There was also a United Service followed by a Vigil of Prayer throughout the night of Friday, 23rd January, each church in turn attending to one and a half hours of prayer and devotion.

We give loyal support to the Derby Free Church Council (of which Bro. G. B. Humphries is a Past-President). The Derby Christian Education Council finds our active support, and we have supplied chief officers from time to time. We are affiliated to the Derby and District Council of Churches, as well as

taking part in the local auxiliary of the British and Foreign Bible Society. The organisation of Evangelical Missions, such as the Leighton Ford Campaign in 1969, found ready helpers from our members.

For a number of years we have been responsible for House to House collections in the vicinity of the Church during Christian Aid week. This work was supervised with success and efficiency by Bro. D. Martin, who had a loyal band of workers behind him.

Since the inception of Section Two of our Notts. District Churches, willing service and support have been given and much useful and profitable work accomplished.

### **Looking Ahead**

Preliminary plans are afoot for structural improvements which include the provision of an Open Baptistry, recessing of the platform and a connecting passage from the Church building to the School Hall, containing Cloak Room facilities.

We are committed to a contribution of five per cent. of our offerings towards relief of World Poverty, and have covenanted through Stage One of 'Steps towards Christian Unity' as planned by the Central Council of our Churches, to place work and prayer for Unity in the forefront of our life and action.

Membership has been reduced by death and transfers to other churches, but we shall strive by God's Grace and Guidance to remain faithful witnesses of the Founders of Derby Church, and prove ourselves worthy of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, which we are called upon to proclaim.

Our deep-felt gratitude and thanks are expressed to all the Preachers who have served the Church, through the years, and we fully appreciate the sacrifices entailed by them and trust the blessings and encouragements which have been brought to the Church at Derby are mutual.



THE CHURCH OFFICERS

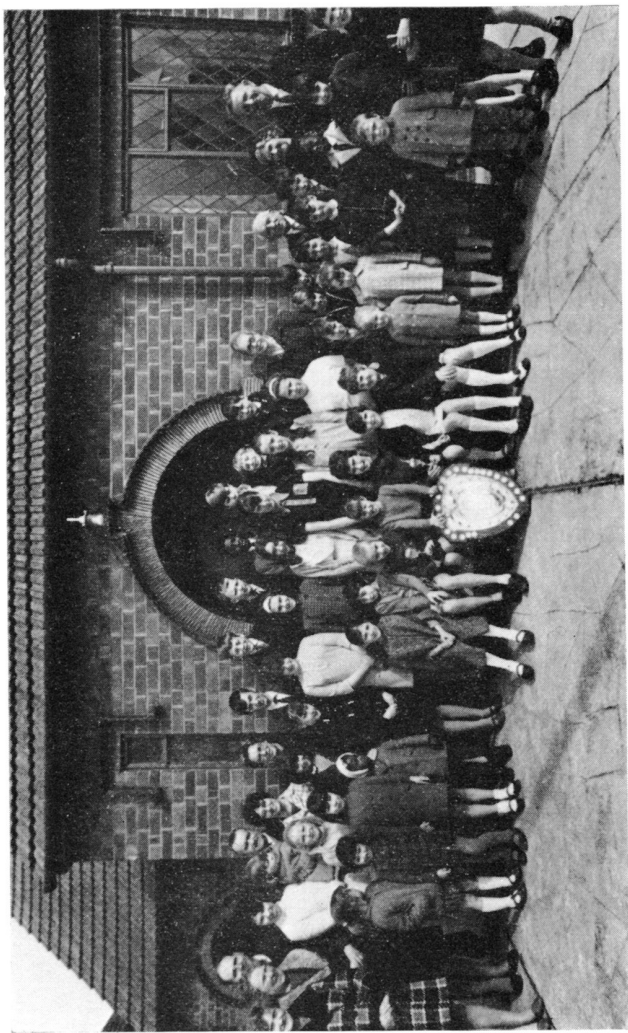
*Front Row:* H. Miller, M. Martin, A. Stone, W. Lister, M. Copestick, I. Miller, D. Humphries, R. Abercrombie (Elder)

*Back Row:* G. Humphries (Elder), G. Metcalfe, L. Stone (Elder), A. Hill, K. Brown, J. Humphries, D. Martin (removed to Scotland)

### THREE SENIOR SISTERS OF THE CHURCH



Mrs. Humphries, sen. Miss B. Gelsthorpe, Mrs. Lister  
(oldest and Founder member),



S.S. Staff, Scholars and helpers in the Notts, District Musical Festival 1969

## IN MEMORIAM

‘Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord.’

- 1946—Bro. B. Andrews (Deacon)
- 1946—Bro. G. E. Standidge
- 1948—Sister Wass
- 1949—Bro. A. Newns (Elder) \*
- 1950—Bro. G. Thurlow (First Secretary of the Church) \*
- 1951—Sister A. Williamson \*
- 1952—Bro. G. Metcalfe (Deacon and Treasurer)
- 1953—Bro. Savage
- 1953—Sister A. Barratt
- 1953—Bro. J. H. Muggleton (Elder and Treasurer)
- 1954—Sister F. M. Clark
- 1955—Sister Weston
- 1955—Sister E. A. Mellors (Deaconess) \*
- 1955—Bro. J. Colley
- 1955—Sister F. White
- 1958—Sister M. Phipps
- 1959—Sister G. Clark
- 1959—Sister E. Metcalfe (Deaconess)
- 1959—Bro. W. Williamson (Deacon)
- 1960—Bro. A. Boden
- 1961—Sister Muggleton
- 1962—Bro. H. Needham
- 1962—Bro. C. E. Mellors (Elder) \*
- 1963—Bro. W. J. Holmes (Elder and Secretary)
- 1963—Sister Froggart
- 1964—Sister O. Fuller
- 1965—Sister B. Soar
- 1966—Sister Jeffries
- 1966—Sister M. Osman \*
- 1967—Sister K. Stoddart
- 1968—Bro. W. C. Cook (Elder)
- 1968—Sister Eaton
- 1969—Bro. C. Prince
- 1969—Bro. G. Brown
- 1969—Bro. J. C. Davidson (Deacon)
- 1969—Bro. F. A. Whitfield (Elder and Secretary)

\* Foundation Members of the Church

## RECOGNITIONS AND TRIBUTES

- 1945—**Bro. A. Newns**—A Foundation Member who came from Chester. He was an energetic and beloved Elder, with special interest in Sunday School Work, being the Superintendent for seventeen years.
- 1952—**Bro. G. Metcalfe**—He joined the Church during the Henrichsen Mission and eventually became a Deacon and Treasurer of the Church and gave great assistance in Youth Work.
- 1953—**Bro. J. H. Muggleton**—was transferred from Moseley Road, Birmingham, and became an Elder and Treasurer. He was a loveable character, of quiet disposition and dignified and efficient when leading Worship.
- 1955—**Sister E. A. Mellors**—A Foundation Member, originally from Heanor, a gracious, considerate and most generous person, who exercised a wonderful ministry as a Deaconess.
- 1962—**Bro. C. E. Mellors**—A Foundation Member, originally from Heanor, and the Church and School Buildings testify to his great love of the Church. Also, the erection of the structures being his responsibility, showed his capabilities as a Material Builder. These qualities were allied with equal foresight in his loyal service as a Spiritual Builder in that he was a beloved Elder and gifted Precentor of the Church.
- 1963—**Bro. W. J. Holmes**—Was transferred from Ilkeston and in God's good purposes, proved a great blessing in that he readily filled the vacant office of Secretary, which he carried out with thoroughness and distinction for thirty-seven years. As an Elder of the Church for twenty-five years, he brought to bear his natural gifts for Church Leadership.

- 1966—**Sister Osman**—A Foundation Member being transferred from Swindon, was the widow of the first Church Treasurer. She was active in early days, and still maintained her interest in the Church's Welfare on our removal to Chaddesden.
- 1968—**Bro. W. C. Cook**—Came to the Church from Underwood, and was one of the first Deacons, being subsequently ordained an Elder. He never sought the limelight, but still exercised an influence upon all who watched his constancy and compelling worthiness, not only spiritually, but also materially as he became responsible for attendance to electrical matters.
- 1969—**Bro. J. C. Davison**—Became a member as a result of listening to a Dr. Billy Graham Relay Service. He was a Deacon of the Church and his sermons always rang with conviction and sincerity. Incidentally, in life he was a gifted Draughtsman and had the honour of designing the Buildings in which he worshipped.
- 1969—**Bro. F. A. Whitfield**—The preliminary arrangements for our Golden Jubilee were set in motion by our esteemed brother (now of revered memory) and it is inevitable that he will be very much in our minds and hearts as we approach this historic occasion. He was a member of the Church of Christ in Canada, and upon returning to England, found a most fruitful place in the witness of the Church here in Chaddesden. In due time he became a Deacon and subsequently, an Elder of the Church. He was a keen Bible student, and in his responsible task as Secretary, proved his efficiency and loyalty for some nine years. All his gifts were quietly exercised and his ministry extended from most menial work to Spiritual Leadership.

## OFFICERS — GOLDEN JUBILEE YEAR

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### Church

Elders : W. Lister, G. B. Humphries, H. J. Miller,  
L. Stone (Secretary).

Deacons : R. M. Abercrombie, D. Martin, J. Humphries,  
A. Hill, K. Brown, G. Metcalfe (Treasurer).

Deaconesses : M. Martin, A. Stone, D. M. Humphries,  
M. Copestick, I. Miller.

Organist : D. M. Humphries (A.N.C.M.).

### Sunday School Staff

Superintendent : G. B. Humphries.

Secretary : M. Cornes (Mrs.).

Treasurer : M. Dodd (Mrs.).

Staff : M. Metcalfe (Mrs.), J. Humphries (Mrs.), S.  
Beswick (Mrs.), C. Metcalfe, M. Mold (Miss),  
D. M. Humphries (Mrs.), M. Martin (Mrs.), B.  
Lightfoot (Mrs.), J. Lowe (Miss).

### Women's Bright Hour

Secretary : D. M. Humphries (Mrs.).

Treasurer : D. Pollard (Mrs.).

Birthday Secretary : M. Copestick (Mrs.).

### Fellowship of Youth

Secretary : B. Lightfoot (Mrs.).

### Junior Play Hour

Staff : M. Mold (Miss), A. Millward (Miss).

### Elocution Class

Tutors : M. Metcalfe (Mrs.), T. Larimore.

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