

ST MATTHEW'S, WIDCOMBE, BATH
INTERNAL MEMORIALS

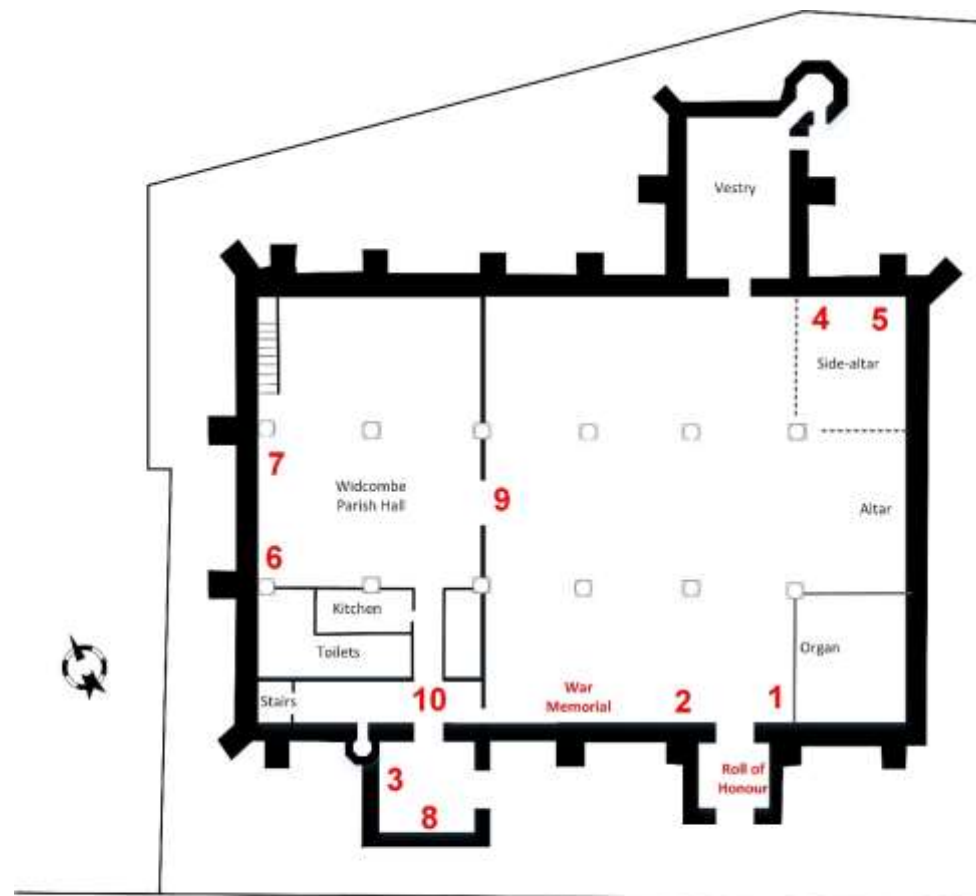
2016











This document contains transcriptions of the internal memorials at St Matthew's Church, Widcombe, Bath. It omits the Herring Charity memorial which is documented in the St Mark's document. It was originally in St Mark's but was moved to St Matthew's.

P J Bendall, 19 May 2016






WIDCOMBE HILL



Names	Inscriptions	Notes
<p>1 Charles Frederick Weston (1856-1884)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">IN LOVING MEMORY OF THE REV. CHARLES FREDERICK WESTON, B.A. FOR 2 YEARS A BELOVED AND ESTEEMED CURATE OF THIS PARISH WHO DIED AT JERUSALEM, APRIL 9TH 1884. AND WAS BURIED ON MOUNT ZION.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">— · — “THEY THAT BE WISE SHALL SHONE, AS THE BRIGHTNESS OF THE FIRMAMENT: AND THEY THAT TURN MANY TO RIGHTEOUSNESS AS THE STARS FOR EVER AND EVER.” DAN.XII.3. — · —</p> <p style="text-align: center;">THIS TABLET IS ERECTED BY THE SORROWING MEMBERS OF HIS BIBLE CLASS AND OTHER FRIENDS WHO DEEPLY MOUNT HIS LOSS. — · —</p>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;">   </div> <p>From the <i>Bath Chronicle</i> of Thu 10 Apr 1884 p5: THE REV. C. F. WESTON.—The Rev. Charles Frederick Weston, one of the curates at St. Matthew's church, Widcombe, is, we regret to announce, lying very seriously ill at Jerusalem. Mr. Weston left Bath some two months ago on a tour of the Holy Land, and about a month ago was attacked with typhoid fever, and the latest news that was heard of him by telegram on Monday when he was stated to be only just alive. Though he has not been long in the parish he is greatly esteemed and much anxiety is caused by his illness. On Sunday prayers were offered for his recovery at St. Matthew's, Widcombe Old Church, and St. Mark's.</p> <p>In the <i>Bath Chronicle</i> of Thu 17 Apr 1884 p7 was an announcement of his death. This states that he was 27 years old, had graduated BA at Clare College, Cambridge and had been ordained by the Bishop of Bath & Wells in 1881.</p> <p>From the <i>National Probate Calendar</i> 1884: 24 May. Administration of the Personal Estate of the Reverend Charles Frederick Weston late of Widcombe Bath in the County of Somerset Clerk a Bachelor who died 9 April 1884 at Jerusalem was granted at the Principal Registry to Emma Weston of Derby in the County of Derby Widow the Mother and only Next of Kin. Personal Estate £2,156 18s. 11d.</p>



Names	Inscriptions	Notes
<p>2</p> <p>Julia Frances Wilson (1840-1885)</p> <p>William Thomas Henry Wilson (1841-1919)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">This Tablet WAS ERECTED BY THE PARISHIONERS OF WIDCOMBE, In memory of JULIA FRANCES, WIFE OF THE REV. W.T.H. WILSON, VICAR, HER LOVING WORK, EXCELLENT JUDGMENT, AND CHEERFUL SYMPATHY, WILL NEVER BE FORGOTTEN. BORN JULY 17TH 1840, DIED MAY 16TH 1885.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">----- "WHOSE ADORNING WAS THE ORNAMENT OF A MEEK AND QUIET SPIRIT, WHICH IS IN THE SIGHT OF GOF OF GREAT PRICE." ----- I PETER 3.</p>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;">   </div> <p>The marriage of William Thomas Henry Wilson to Julia Frances Thornton at Little Amwell (Herts) on 15 Sep 1868 was registered 1868/Q3 Hertford.</p> <p>In the 1881 census at 7 Widcombe Crescent, Bath: William Thomas Henry Wilson, aged 40, married, vicar of Widcombe, Bath, born at Barbadoes, West Indies, son John Pinder, aged 3, born at Burlington (Norfolk), and three servants.</p> <p>The death of Julia Frances Wilson, aged 44, was registered 1885/Q2 Bath. From the <i>National Probate Calendar</i> 1885: 20 July. Administration of the Personal Estate of Julia Frances Wilson (Wife of the Reverend William Thomas Henry Wilson, Clerk) late of Widcombe Vicarage Widcombe-crescent in the City of Bath who died 16 May 1885 at Widcombe Vicarage was granted at Bristol to the said Reverend William Thomas Henry Wilson of Widcombe Vicarage. Personal Estate £3,913.</p> <p>The death of William T H Wilson, aged 78, was registered 1919/Q3 Bristol.</p>
<p>3</p> <p>Elizabeth Sophia Dallaway (1773-1864)</p> <p>Joseph Dallaway (1804-1873)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">BENEFACTIONS TO THE POOR OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL DISTRICT OF WIDCOMBE</p> <p>Jan^y 1861. M^{rs} Elizabeth Sophia Dallaway, of this Parish, widow, gave the sum of One hundred Pounds, In the New Three per cent Annuities, the interest Of which to be expended in the purchase of Coals, To be distributed to the Poor of this district, by The Vicar and Wardens of this Church at Christmas Annually for ever. 1865, Joseph Dallaway, of this parish, Esquire,</p>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;">   </div>

Names	Inscriptions	Notes
	<p>In affectionate remembrance and to embalm the memory of his beloved mother the above-mentioned M^{rs} Elizabeth Sophia Dallaway, who was born Dec^r 4th 1773, and died at N^o 1. Widcombe Crescent, June 6th 1864, in her 91st year, gave the Sum of One Thousand and Fifty Pounds, New Three per cent Annuities, in trust to "The Official Trustees of Charitable Funds" to provide for Twelve Virtuous and indigent Mothers of sixty years old And upwards, living in St Matthew's district Widcombe; Annuities of Two pounds twelve shillings Each, during good conduct and the term of their Natural lives, The annuitants to be selected and Paid by the Vicar and Wardens of this Church, for The time being, half-yearly on June 6th and Dec^r 4th Henceforward and for ever. This Charity to be called Mrs Elizabeth Sophia Dallaway's St Matthew's Widcombe. AGED MOTHERS CHARITY.</p>	<p>Baptised on 13 Apr 1804 at the Old Church, St Pancras, London: Joseph, son of Joseph James & Elizabeth Sophia Dallaway. Baptised on 26 Jul 1807 at the Old Church, St Pancras, London: Henry, son of Joseph James & Elizabeth Sophia Dallaway.</p> <p>The death of Elizabeth Sophia Dallaway, aged 90, was registered 1864/Q2 Bath. From the <i>National Probate Calendar</i> 1864: 7 September. The Will with two Codicils (the second of the said Codicils being contained in Writings marked A and B) of Elizabeth Sophia Dallaway late of 1 Widcombe-crescent in the City of Bath Widow deceased who died 6 June 1864 at Widcombe-crescent aforesaid was proved at the Principal Registry by the oaths of Joseph Dallaway of 1 Widcombe-crescent aforesaid Gentleman and Henry Dallaway of Beaumont Villa Lansdown near the City aforesaid Gentleman the Sons the Executors. Effects under £1,500.</p> <p>In the 1871 census at 1 Widcombe Crescent, Bath: Joseph Dallaway, aged 67, unmarried, landowner, born in London, and two servants.</p> <p>The death of Joseph Dallaway, aged 70, was registered 1873/Q4 Bath.</p>
4	<p>Thomas Charles Halls (1862-1928)</p>	<p>IN MEMORY OF THOMAS CHARLES HALLS PEOPLE'S WARDEN OF THIS CHURCH FROM 1915 TO 1928 WHO PASSED AWAY 16TH MARCH 1928 — THE MEMORY OF THE JUST IS BLESSED.</p> <div> </div> <p>The birth of Thomas William Charles Osborne Halls was registered 1862/Q1 Lambeth.</p> <p>In the 1911 census at 8 Macaulay Buildings, Bath: Thomas Charles Halls, aged 49, retired from dealer in antique furniture, born at Lambeth, London, wife Elizabeth Mary, aged 52, married 9 years no children, born at Marshfield (Glos), and Joseph Wicks, aged 47, single, brother-in-law, retired farmer, born at Marshfield.</p> <p>The death of Thomas C W O Halls, aged 66, was registered 1928/Q1 Bath.</p> <p><i>The Bath Chronicle and Herald</i> of Sat 24 Mar 1928 p21 has an obituary and a photograph. This states that he came to Bath aged 18 or 20, had entered the antique business, had retired 30 years previously, for</p>

Names	Inscriptions	Notes
		<p>nearly 20 years had been annually elected the people's warden at St Matthew's and had been buried in Lyncombe & Widcombe and St James' cemetery "where a large crowd witnessed the committal".</p> <p>From the <i>National Probate Calendar</i> 1928: HALLS Thomas Charles Osborne William otherwise Thomas Charles of 8 Macaulay-buildings Bath died 16 March 1928 Probate (save and except settled land) Bristol 5 June to William Paul Chesterman solicitor and Elizabeth Mary Halls widow. Effects £12697 16s. 1d.</p>
5	<p>Kate Elizabeth Bethell (1866-1930)</p> <p>TO THE CHERISHED MEMORY OF KATE E. BETHELL, FOR MANY YEARS A DEVOTED WORKER IN THIS PARISH DIED 14TH NOVEMBER 1930. "A WOMAN THAT FEARETH THE LORD, SHE SHALL BE PRAISED." PROV. XXXI. 30.</p>	 <p>In the 1911 census at Beechwood, Widcombe Hill, Bath: Alfred Bethell, aged 43, retired surveyor, born at Cartmel (Lancs), wife Kate Elizabeth, aged 44, married 14 years 1 child, born at Dover, and a servant.</p> <p>The death of Kate E Bethell, aged 64, was registered 1930/Q4 Bath. There was a report of her death on <i>The Bath Chronicle and Herald</i> of Sat 15 Nov 1930 p26 and a report of her funeral in <i>The Bath Chronicle and Herald</i> of Sat 22 Nov 1930 p8. She was buried in Bath Abbey Cemetery (grave 1.WB.6, MI).</p> <p>From the <i>National Probate Calendar</i> 1930: BETHELL Kate Elizabeth of 16 Prior Park-buildings Bath (wife of Alfred Bethell) died 14 November 1930 Administration Bristol 30 December to Eric McKinley Bethell motor engineer. Effects £332 7s. 11d.</p>

6	Names	Inscriptions	Notes
	<p>Susan Blair (1808-1857)</p> <p>Isabella Blair (1833-1857)</p> <p>Susan Blair (1840-1857)</p> <p>Arthur Wellesley Robert Newenham (1812-1857)</p> <p>Charlotte Newenham (-1857)</p> <p>Augustus Hay Alexander (1827-1857)</p> <p>Gilbert Augustus Master (1821-1857)</p> <p>James Kennedy(1778-1859)</p>	<p>IN AFFECTIONATE MEMORY OF SUSAN BLAIR, AND HER TWO DAUGHTERS ISABELLA, AND SUSAN BLAIR : ARTHUR NEWENHAM, M.D. CHARLOTTE HIS WIFE AND THEIR TWO INFANT CHILDREN : AUGUSTUS HAY ALEXANDER , LIEUT^T 68TH REG^T BENGAL INFANTRY : AND GILBERT AUGUSTUS MASTER , LIEUT^T 53RD REG^T BENGAL INFANTRY : THE BELOVED CHILDREN AND GRAND-CHILDREN OF GENERAL JAMES KENNEDY, C.B. BENGAL CAVALRY ALL OF WHOM DIED IN INDIA IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD 1857. --- "I WAS DUMB, I OPENED NOT MY MOUTH; BECAUSE THOU DIDST IT." --- PSALM. XXXIX. V. 9.</p>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;">   </div> <p>In the 1851 census at 19 Macaulay Buildings, Bath: Susan Blair, aged 43, widow, annuitant, born in the East Indies, children: Isabella, aged 17, Charles R, aged 14, and Susan, aged 11, a niece and three servants.</p> <p>Mrs Susan Blair (widow of Edward Macleod Blair (1803-1842)) and daughters Isabella and Susan were killed at Bibighar near Cawnpore on 15 Jul 1857 when 73 women and 124 teenagers and children were killed by the mutineers.</p> <p>From the <i>London Gazette</i> of 24 Nov 1857 p 4014: "SIR, Cawnpore, August 7, 1857. I HAVE the honour to inclose the names of those officers, their families, and civilians, together with the women and children of Her Majesty's 32nd Regiment, and Artillery, that were massacred at Cawnpore, the day the British troops entered; or that were murdered in the boats in endeavouring to escape to Allahabad; or that were killed in the entrenchment;—as furnished by Lieutenant Delafosse, of the 53rd Native Infantry, one of the four European survivors." In this list are:</p> <p>Dr. Newenham and children. Mrs. Newenham, fever. Lieutenant Master, wounded, brought back in boat.</p> <p>From the <i>Edinburgh Gazette</i> of 16 Feb 1858 p292 in a list of casualties: "Lieut. Augustus Hay Alexander, 68th N.I, June 7, Killed by mutineers, Allahabad"</p> <p>From the <i>Times</i> Wed Oct 21 1857 p 1: "Supposed to have been shot on board the boat by mutineers of Cawnpore, Lt Gilbert Augustus Master aged 25yrs and 8 mths, the</p>

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			<p>eldest and beloved son of Lt Col R A Master Comm 7th L Cav , deeply regretted.”</p> <p>The <i>London Gazette</i> of 20 Dec 1858 p4779 has a list of promotions following the deaths of various members of the Indian Military Services. Included in the list of deaths is “Lieutenant-General James Kennedy, C.B., Bengal Cavalry, on 26th September, 1859;”</p> <p>National Army Museum 1987-03-18: A historical geneaology tracing the descendants of Lt General James Kennedy CB, 1778-1920: 'An attempt to trace all the descendants of Lt General James Kennedy, CB (1778-1859), Col 5th Beng. Eur. LC.'</p>
7	William Augustus Cornwall (1822-1880)	<p style="text-align: center;">TO</p> <p style="text-align: center;">the Revered Memory of</p> <p style="text-align: center;">WILLIAM AUGUSTUS CORNWALL</p> <p style="text-align: center;">VICAR OF WIDCOMBE,</p> <p style="text-align: center;">WHO FELL ASLEEPP ON SUNDAY EVENING</p> <p style="text-align: center;">11TH JANUARY 1880.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">THIS TABLET IS ERECTED</p> <p style="text-align: center;">BY MANY SORROWING FRIENDS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">AND PARISHIONERS.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">—</p> <p style="text-align: center;">“GOD TOOK HIM.” GEN. V. 24.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">—</p> <p style="text-align: center;">“ACCEPTED IN THE BELOVED.” EPH. I. 6.</p>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;">   </div> <p>In the 1871 census at St Paul's Vicarage, Wolverhampton: William Augustus Cornwall, aged 47, vicar of St Paul's Wolverhampton, born in Ireland, and a servant.</p> <p>The death of William Augustis Cornwall, aged 57, was registered 1880/Q1 Bath. From the <i>National Probate Calendar</i> 1880: 26 February. Administration of the Personal Estate of the Reverend William Augustus Cornwall late of 7 Widcombe-crescent in the City of Bath Clerk a Bachelor who died 11 January at 7 Widcombe-crescent was granted at the Principal Registry to Elizabeth Mary Pakenham of 34 Tavistock-crescent Westbourne Park in the County of Middlesex Widow the Cousin-German and one of the Next of Kin. Personal Estate under £9,000. Resworn April 1880 under £10,000.</p> <p>Buried in Bath Abbey Cemetery (grave 2.B.27, MI).</p>

8	Names	Inscriptions	Notes
	Charles Davis	<p><i>These Doors are in Memory of CHARLES DAVIS Churchwarden of this Church 1966 to 1973.</i></p>	
9	<p>Thomas Reynolds</p> <p>James George Hayden (1796-1864)</p> <p>William John Brodrick (1798-1870)</p> <p>John Vaughan (1786- 1869)</p> <p>George Phillips Manners (1789-1866)</p> <p>John Elkington Gill (1820-1874)</p>	<p>This Church was erected in the year 1847, and contains accommodation for 1256 persons; a Grant of Six Hundred Pounds in aid of its erecting was made by the Incorporated Society for Promoting the Enlargement, Building, and Repairing of Churches and Chapels; and also a Grant of Five Hundred and Fifty Pounds by the Bath and Wells Diocesan Church Building Association on condition that seats for 791 persons should be set apart and declared to be free and unappropriated for ever.</p> <p>Thomas Reynolds James George Hayden Churchwardens</p> <p>W. J. Brodrick, Rector of Bath and Vicar of the Parish of Lyncombe and Widcombe</p> <p>John Vaughan Builder George Phillips Manners John Elkington Gill Architects</p>	 <p>See the Annex to this document on the consecration of the church.</p>

Names	Inscriptions	Notes
10	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>THE WIDCOMBE PARISH HALL</i></p> <p>Provided from the proceeds of the sale of the Widcombe Institute, the Vowles bequest & the gifts of the Parishioners & Friends was dedicated on the 11th January 1975 by The Rt.Rev.F.H. West, M.A. <u>The Bishop of Taunton</u></p> <p>Vicar John N.Coe Architects . Messrs. David Brain & Stollar. Builders W. L. Hunt & Co. Ltd Heating Engineers M.S. Frise & Sons Ltd.</p>	<p>The main door at the base of the tower used to have above it a notice stating 'THE WIDCOMBE PARISH HALL'. This was no longer present in April 2016.</p>

War Memorials



	LT-COL: J.H.M. HARDYMAN D.S.O.M.C.	
	LT-COL: E.DE D. WINTLE	
	SURGN F.W.T. CLEMENS (R.N.)	
	LIEUT: H.F. BAGGS	
	LIEUT: W. DENT-YOUNG	
	LIEUT: K.V. M^CKEAN	
	2 ND LT: W.H. DUCKWORTH	
	2 ND LT: J.L.K. RICHARDS.	
FLT-CDT	BLADWELL.S.F.	L'DG.S'MAN BULL.F.H.
SGT-MJR.	LANGBRIDGE.C.D.	L'DG. STOKER BALL.J.C.
SGT.	BRISTOW.D.	STKR GILLARD. W.
..	HOLLEY.F.W.	.. RIDEWOOD.W.
..	SMITH. H.T.	PTE ASHMAN.E.J.
CPL.	BRADFORD.S.	.. BARNES.G.K.
..	BRISTOW. H.	.. BILLETT.H.
..	HARRIS.C. (CdeG)	.. BOULTON.H.S.
..	VILES.C.	.. BOYCE.W.P.
..	YOUNG.F.	.. BROOKE.E.
L/CPL	BALL .F.W.	.. BROWN.W.J.
..	HOLE. C.E.	.. BROWN.W.W.
..	ROBBINS.W.	.. BUCK. E.E.
..	WEBBER.A.E.	.. BUTT. A.H.
..	WEST . E .	.. COURTNEY.C.Q.
BOMB	CHARLTON.F.G.O.	.. DENT-YOUNG.J.H.
..	RUSSELL.G.H.	.. DERRICK.J.H.
..	SMITH.A.G.	.. DIXON. R.
DVR.	RIDEWOOD.S.	.. DOMAN. F.
SPR.	WALLACE.A.	.. DURY W.H.
..	WYATT.S.J.	.. EADES. F.
	PTE. EVERARD.C.	
	.. EVERARD.G.	



To the Glory of God
and in
Loving Memory
OF OUR
Honoured Dead OF THIS Parish
WHO NOBLY LAID DOWN THEIR LIVES
IN THE Great War 1914-1919 FOR
God, King & Country.

“Thy kingdom come.”
ST. MATT. VI. 10



PTE FARMER.C.G.	PTE MILLARD.A.E.
.. FLOWER.A.	.. MORGAN.F.
.. FROST.G.S.	.. ODEY.J.H.
.. GIBBONS.J.B.	.. PEARCE.M.G.
.. GOODSON.F.T.	.. PLATT.E.
.. GOULD.G.T.	.. RIVETT.A.G.
.. GRANT.E.J.	.. ROBERTS.G.M.
.. HOBBS.F.G.	.. ROSWELL.R.
.. HOLLAND.W.	.. SHIPP .H.T.
.. HOLLEY.A.G.	.. STONE. G.
.. HOOPER.R.	.. STONE. W.L.
.. HOW.H.J.	.. STOYLE.A.W.
.. HURLEY.J.	.. TAYLOR.S.H.
.. ILES.H.C.	.. TAYLOR.W.
.. ILES.R.W.	.. THURSTON.E.C.
.. ILES.J.	.. TILEY. J.
.. JAMES. H.	.. TUCKER.A.
.. JENKINS.E.H.	.. TUCKER.F.G.
.. KEELING.G.	.. WALDON.A.E.
.. KERSLAKE.W.L.	.. WALDRON.A.S.E.
.. KING. E.H.G.	.. WINGROVE.W.H.
.. LEPPARD.J.	.. WOODMAN.J.E.
.. LIDIARD.W.G.	AirMec CHIVERS.J.S.



1939

L/CPL ADAMS.C.	SGT ASHMAN.A.C.
PTE ALLEN.A.J.	F/O BREAKWELL.R.
F/SGT ALLEN.D.	DVR BURGESS.L.C.

G ^{NR} CLARK,W.H.	SGT DREWITT,M.A.F.	L/CPL HAYWARD,D.S.	S ^{PR} HOOPER,S.G.	SGT MILLER,N.W.C.
SG ^N COMBSTOCK,W.H.	PTE EVANS,I.T.	T ^{PR} HAYWARD,S.T.	A.C.I. JONES,G.L.M.	F/O MOODY,C.L.
S ^{TR} DAVIS,G.W.	P/O GRAHAM,L.J.A		SGT LIDIARD,W.A.	W ^{TR} RICE,E.G.

L.A.C. RIDDLE,G.H.	G ^{NR} TILEY,J.
CPL SKINNER,G.E.	PTE WINSHIP,T.
S/GTMAJ TAVENER,R.W.	CPL WYATT,H.E.

1945



ROLL OF HONOUR

1939

E. ARNOLD .	R.C.S.	J. TREVOR .	S.L.I
J. ARNOLD .	R.A.F.	W.TREVOR .	R.E.
J.H. AVIS .	R.A.	J. WARREN .	R.E.
W. AXFORD	R.A.	R. WARREN .	R.N.
A. BAKER .	R.N.	R. J. WATSON.	R.A.F.
R. BEES .	R.E.	R. F. WARE .	D.L.I.
D. BOWLER .	R.A.M.C.	L. WEBB.	S.L.I.
C. BROOM .	R.E.	A. WHITE.	R.N.
C. BROOKS .	R.A.F.	E. J. WIBLEY.	N.S.Y.
E. BROOKS .	R.A.	H.B. WILSON.	R.A.F.
E. BROWN .	R.E.	H.H.WILTSHIRE.	
L. BURGESS .	S.L.I.	W. WRIDE	7 TH Queen'sHr
C. CARDY .	R.A.O.C.	M. ALDRICH	R.T.C.
L. CHURCHMAN	R.E.	V. FIELD.	R.A.F.
F. COLES ,	S.L.I.	E. FISHER.	R.A.F.
S. FIELD .	S.L.I.	K. FROST.	R.A.F.
R. FISHER .	S.L.I.	S.A.M.FROST.	R.N.
A. W. GRAY .	R.N.	D. MILLARD.	R.A.S.C.
E. HARRIS .	R.E.	H. C.NEWCOMBE.	R.A.F.
S. H. HARRIS .	R.N.	R.E.J.NEWMAN.	R.A.F.
S. C. HARRIS .	R.N.	J.POUND.	R.A.
L. HASKINS .	Dor:Regt.	D.A. POWNEY.	R.A.F.
W. F. HINGE .	N.S.Y.	S.H.WATTS.	R.A.
D. HURST .	A.M.P.C.	H.R. WEBB.	R.A.F.
V.LANGBRIDGE .	R.E.		
H. D. MACONCHIE.	R.E.		
I. NOAD .	S.L.I.		
D. NORRIS.	R.A.F.		
G. OFFERS	S.L.I.		
R. PHELPS .	Staffs.Yeo.		
T. POWNEY .	S.L.I.		
L. PREATER .	A.S.C.		
J. RAWLENCE	R.E.		
R. RUDDICK .	N.S.Y.		
J. RUDDICK .	N.S.Y.		
P. SHEPPARD.	S.L.I.		
W. STAPLEFORD	R.N.		
F. SYMONS	S.L.I.		
D. TAYLOR	R.E.		

Annex

The laying of the foundation stone for the new church in Widcombe was reported in a lengthy article in the *Bath Chronicle* of Thu 23 Apr 1846 p2. This has "The clergy, parish officers, and the parties connected with the works, assembled at the Dolemeads Chapel which for some years has been used for Divine Service under the Bishop's license, to supply the want of Church accommodation in this populous district." This is a reference to the Ebenezer Chapel which, originally Congregational, then Methodist, was used by the Church of England in the period 1838-1847. The stone was laid on 17 Apr 1846. Under the stone were deposited a few coins dated 1846 and an inscription which named the bishop, the Rector of Bath, the curates, churchwarden, architects and builders.

In 1846 there were objections by non-Anglicans in Lyncombe and Widcombe to the raising of 'church rates' which were collected by churchwardens for use by the Anglican parish. In the *Bath Chronicle* of Thu 8 Jan 1846 p3 is a letter from Rev David Wassell, Baptist minister, stating that his church rate "has been paid for me, it is done without my knowledge, and contrary to my wish." The *Bath Chronicle* was very unsympathetic to those who questioned the legality of or refused to pay the church rate.

From the *Bath Chronicle* of Thu 18 Feb 1847 p2:

ST. MATTHEW'S CHURCH, WIDCOMBE.

THIS Day is Published, a PRINT of the above Church. The profits from the Sales thereof will be added to the Funds for Building the Church.

The Prints are on Sale at Messrs. MANNERS & GILL'S, Architects, No. 1, Oxford Row; and at Mr. WITHERS'S, Abbey Churchyard, and Mr. PREST'S, Bath Street, Churchwardens of the Parish of St. Peter and St. Paul.—Prints, 1s. each; Proofs, 2s. each.

From the *Bath Chronicle* of Thu 25 Feb 1847 p3:

LYNCOMBE AND WIDCOMBE.—A vestry meeting was held in this parish on Thursday last, in pursuance of a requisition to the Churchwardens. Mr. Dallaway proposed, and Mr. Hayden seconded, a motion that the six bells now in the tower of the parish church be offered to the

Reverend the Vicar of the parish, to be placed in the tower of St. Matthew's church, building on Widcombe hill. The resolution was passed with hardly a show of opposition. In the event of the rev. gentleman accepting this offer, the Churchwardens were empowered to apply to the appropriate ecclesiastical authorities for a faculty to remove the bells from the old church.

From the *Bath Chronicle* of Thu 22 Apr 1847 p3:

St. MATTHEW'S CHURCH.—The peal of six bells is to be removed from Widcombe old church, and placed in the tower of the new edifice. Space will be left for the addition of two bells to complete the peal.

From the *Bath Chronicle* of Thu 17 Jun 1847 p3:

St. MATTHEW'S CHURCH.—We hear that a few of the younger members of the congregation of the Abbey Church have presented the Rev. the Rector with the two Communion Chairs for St. Matthew's Church. They have been beautifully executed (from a design of Messrs. Manners and Gill) by Mr. T Knight, of Bennett Street.

From the *Bath Chronicle* of Thu 15 July 1847 p3:

ST. MATTHEW'S CHURCH, WIDCOMBE.—We understand that the consecration of this church will take place on the morning of Tuesday, the 27th inst., at eleven o'clock. The Lord Bishop of the Diocese will preach on the occasion. As the funds for the completion of the have been provided prior to the consecration, it is intended that the collection to be made shall be appropriated in the aid of the improvements of St. James's Church, by which 450 free sittings are to be provided for the poor in a district greatly in want of church accommodation. As by the erection of St. Matthew's Church an additional and commodious place of worship has been provided for Lyncombe and Widcombe, mainly from funds raised out of the parish, it is believed that the collection on the day of consecration will be cheerfully contributed to, as being an opportunity of making a thank-offering in favour of a parish placed, as St. James's is, in less favourable circumstances. It may be confidently anticipated that the collection in question will be the all more liberal when it is borne in mind that the subscription which have been raised through the city

generally for the building of St Matthew's Church will make it more difficult to obtain contributions to defray the expenses consequent on the enlargement of St. James's Church.

From the *Bath Chronicle* of Thu 22 July 1847 p2:

ST. MATTHEW'S CHURCH, LYNCOMBE & WIDCOMBE

The Lord Bishop of Bath and Wells has appointed TUESDAY, JULY the 27th, for the CONSECRATION of this Church. Divine Service will commence at Eleven o'Clock,

Tickets of Admission may be obtained, between the Hours of Eleven and Three o'Clock, at Mr. RUSSELL'S, No. 6, Terrace Walk - SUBSCRIBERS are requested to apply on or before THURSDAY, July 22.

Widcombe, July 17th, 1847.

From the *Bath Chronicle* of Thu 22 July 1847 p3:

ST. MATTHEW'S CHURCH.—In our paragraph on this subject last week, we casually omitted to mention the clock, the circumstances respecting which were referred to as follows, by a contemporary :— "The bells of the old Widcombe Church have been removed to the tower of the new edifice, and the clock, under the superintendence of Messrs. Wright and Co, is nearly completed. As it has 'shewn its face' to the neighbourhood for some days, we may embrace the opportunity of urging upon the inhabitants of East Widcombe the propriety of their not suffering the funds for building the church to be treasured on for the cost of the clock, which is the only one of the parish. We therefore confidently trust that all those who avail themselves of the convenience will cheerfully contribute to the expense of providing it."

In anticipation of the opening of St. Matthew's church, Widcombe, the ladies of the Rev. E. Gillson's congregation have presented their pastor with a handsome set of clerical robes.

From the *Bath Chronicle* of Thu 29 July 1847 p3:
CONSECRATION OF THE NEW CHURCH
AT WIDCOMBE.

The consecration of the new church dedicated to St. Matthew, in the parish of Lyncombe and Widcombe, took place on Tuesday, the fine weather being an auspicious concomitant of the interesting ceremony. It is now about one year and a quarter since the foundation stone of the edifice was laid in the presence of the same dignitary whose official sanction has now constituted it a place sacred to the worship of the Deity. There was some when the scanty population of this parish rendered its spiritual wants so limited that the old and smaller churches afforded room sufficient for the then inhabitants. At that period the number of poor residents was few; but as the city of Bath became gradually extended, so also its suburbs became more and more studded with dwellings, and the number of their inhabitants, both rich and poor, progressively increased, till Lyncombe and Widcombe, in the last census, numbered about 10,000. Dr. Tunstall, in his "Rambles about Bath" says that "five and twenty years ago the first house on the 'beach', as Claverton Street was then called, was the Old Pack Horse—an ancient inn, where Allen, Pope, Graves, Warburton, Fielding, and other worthies, were wont to smoke their pipe and enjoy agreeable converse. This house was removed in 1824." How great is the change since then! and how extensively has the busy hand of art been employed in covering the once verdant and picturesque sites which so abounded in this parish with the abodes of man, from the imposing crescent and splendid villa to the humble cottage. By this means not only have many of the gentry been induced to make its various commanding and beautiful localities places of residence, but a vast amount of the working classes, enticed by the great number of small tenements which have been built in various parts of the parish, have conduced to swell the number of its population. To meet the increased demands of this suburb of our city for church accommodation, it was thought necessary, about sixteen years ago, to erect a new structure capable of holding a larger number of worshipers than could find room in the existing churches; and hence resulted the church of St. Mark, which was completed in the year 1832, and is capable of accommodating 1,200 persons. The Rector of Bath, indefatigable in his exertions to meet the wants of the immense population under his charge, and finding it highly desirable that the means of religious

instruction, according to the principles of the Church of England, show be more adequately and centrally provided, brought into effect the plan by which the new church, just consecrated, now adds to the architectural beauty of Bath, and meets the wants of a large portion of one of its most important parishes for the public service of God. The foundation stone of this edifice was laid on the 27th April, 1846, the contract for its erection being taken by Mr. Vaughan, who was bound to complete it by the month of September, 1847; but to his credit, as a builder, so expeditiously and judiciously has he carried into effect that undertaking, that the consecration took place more than a month sooner than was anticipated. The church has been erected at the cost of about £7,000. It is from the designs and plans of Messrs. Manners and Gill, of our city, on whose excellent taste and skill it reflects the highest credit. The church is in the style called decorated Gothic, and consists of a nave and chancel, with north and south aisles the whole length of the building. On the north side is a transept in which is a gallery for children, and here, also, is the vestry room. The porch, and the tower, are on the south side of the church adjoining the road. The tower is surmounted by a spire or "broach," about 155 feet high, on the top of which is a cross and weather cock. Internally the chancel is separated from the aisles by carved stone screens. The pulpit, which stands near the north side of the chancel arch, is of stone, with tracery work in the panels. The reading desk is on the south side, and is of oak, with carved panels on the front and sides. The pews, which are of stained deal with low doors, occupy the space right and left of the central avenue, which extends from the west end to the chancel; the other parts of the church, except the north aisle, are all free, so that the free seats are as well situated as the pews. The heads of all the windows are filled with flowing tracery of different designs. The church gives seats for 1250 persons, of which 500 are free; there are also 290 sittings for children.

The tower contains the six bells which were formerly fixed in the tower of the old parish church, and thence recently removed, on which several peals were rung before and after the service on Tuesday. A clock has also been put up (the work of Messrs. Wright and Son), with a convex dial facing the West, which strikes the hour, but not the quarters. This must be a great convenience to the surrounding neighbourhood. The only desideratum to make the church complete as a place of worship is an

organ, which it is hoped will ere long be supplied by the subscriptions of the congregation, and other friends of the church. The internal appearance of the edifice is light and cheerful.

The arrangements for the Consecration were admirably conducted, care being taken that by the issue of tickets of admission the church should not be overcrowded. The public anxiety, however, to witness the ceremony was so great that the whole of the tickets were applied for and obtained several days previous, so that many who delayed their applications were disappointed.

The Bishop having robed in the vestry, met the clergy at the principal door of the church, at which the procession as formed, his lordship and the clergy repeating alternately the verses of the 24th Psalm as they advanced up the middle aisle to the Communion Table. His lordship, standing at the north side of the Communion Table, proceeded with the Consecration Service to the place appointed for the reading of the sentences of consecration. This document, in which the character of the church as a chapel of ease is described, was read by his lordship's secretary, E. Davies, Esq., of Wells. The daily service was then commenced by the Rector of Bath, two prayers being offered up by the Bishop, the one after the collect for the day, the other before the prayer of St. Chrysostom, as are directed in the Consecration Service printed for the occasion. At the close of Morning Prayer, the Communion Service was commenced by the Bishop, the Epistle being read by the Rev. C. M. Mount, the Rural Dean, and the Gospel by the Ven. the Archdeacon of Bath. A prayer also was added after the collect for the Queen. After the Nicene Creed, the Bishop gave notice of the celebration of the Holy Communion on Sunday next. His lordship then ascended the pulpit, and delivered, as we believe will be admitted by all who were assembled within the sacred walls, a most appropriate and admirable sermon. The allusion to the efforts made by the Rector of Bath, and to the success with which they have been crowned, was most feeling on the part of his lordship, and most just to the character of the reverend gentleman. The subject was touched with great delicacy, yet in a masterly manner; and we are sure that the assembled congregation were gratified by his lordship's remarks on one who is so highly valued. The text was Leviticus xix.30, "Ye shall reverence my sanctuary: I am the Lord." After alluding to the circumstances of the Hebrew people to whom these words were addressed, and contrasting the Jewish ritual

with the colossal structures and gorgeous splendour of the religion of the Egyptians, among whom they had so long sojourned, the right rev. preacher proceeded to speak of the reverence which is due to God's sanctuaries. It is (his lordship observed) the crying sin of the present generation that they treat holy things as if they were common. We argue, and wrangle, and talk volubly about mysteries concerning which, if we felt but aright, we should hardly venture to speak at all. We pry into and speculate about the "secret things" which "belong to the Lord our God," as if they belonged exclusively to ourselves and our children. The faults thus described are frequent even among persons who, in the world's opinion, are considered religious; and, therefore, among those whose hearts are not set on seeking the kingdom of God and His righteousness, it is not to be wondered at that irreverence should have arrived at a perfect pitch. The particular point of irreverence about which he desired to speak was that which is exhibited with respect to our churches, and the forgetfulness of the truth that the church is a holy place. Having dwelt shortly on these topics, his lordship proceeded to observe,—“It is about fifteen months ago since I was invited to the pleasing task of laying the foundation stone of the edifice whose comeliness and beauty, and orderly arrangement, we this day see perfected by the work of consecration, and which holds within its walls accommodation for 1260 worshippers, with the proportion (I bless God for it) of 800 free sittings. It is needless that I bear testimony to the zeal with which this pious effort has begun, continued, and completed. Our assembly here to-day is the best proof that can be given of that; and no less needless is it that I should say, though I cannot deny myself the pleasure, a tribute of hearty commendation to one whose liberality of exertion this undertaking has been brought to a successful conclusion; for I am aware that public praise for that which has been done as an act of devotion to God would be most distressing to him, and I am very sure that the worth and devotedness of the Rector of Bath are well appreciated by the people of this city, and they have shown the nature of their feelings towards him by the readiness with which they have co-operated with him in effecting the completion of this church, so that, by the large aid which has been contributed to this object no less than seven thousand pounds have been brought to the assistance of a parish which, however willing, was unable to aid itself to the required extent.

. . .

After the sermon, the offertory sentences were read by the Ven. Archdeacon Brymer, during which the collection was made throughout the church, and amounted to a little more than £73.

The entire service was conducted in an impressive manner, and the chanting and singing added not a little to its solemn effect. Able singers were engaged for the purpose, who were aided by the children of the Blue Coat School, all sitting in the gallery. The voices were accompanied by a seraphine, at which Mr. Pyne, the Abbey organist, presided.

The Bishop and clergy, with many gentlemen and ladies, were afterwards received by Gen. Clapham, with whom they partook of a superb *dejeuné a la fourchette*. The following dignitaries and clergy were present on the occasion:—The Lord Bishop, Archdeacon Brymer, Rev. C. M. Mount, R.D., Revs. G. A. Denison, W. J. Brodrick, E. Gillson, W. Hazlewood, S. H. Widdrington, Geo. Gardiner, J. East, H. E. Cruttwell, J. E. De Visme, R. C. Christie, J. W. Sproule, A. Straghan, L. F. Thomas, W. Hutchins, G. Valpy, A. C. Richings, F. Kilvert, J. Evans, R. Lovett, F. Elwin, G. W. Newnham, J. Bond, Dr. Stamer, M. Brock, J. P. Scott, S. W. Mangin, A. Townsend, S. Madan, E. Tottenham, Geo. Ross, T. Lathbury, H. Blyds, C. Nutt, — Ferryman, J. Brownlow, E. Phelps, J. Wood, R. R. Godfrey, J. Awdry, &c.

In the evening the children of the parochial schools assembled in the field adjoining the residence of J. Brace, Esq., kindly lent by that gentleman for the purpose. Here the little folk were regaled with tea and cake, and afterwards, we are informed, addressed by the Rev. E. Gillson, and other friends.

At half-past three o'clock, the Bishop proceeded to the Union Workhouse, and consecrated a piece of ground for the interment of such poor persons as may die within the house. Thus the inconvenience of removing bodies to different parishes will in future be obviated.

Notes

- 1 A seraphine is a keyed instrument similar to a reed organ but has metallic reeds.
- 2 The un-named bishop of Bath and Wells at the time was The Hon Richard Bagot who was consecrated on 12 Nov 1845 and died in office on 15 May 1854.

- 3 The first curate of St Matthew's, referred to as 'E Gillson', was Edward Gillson who stayed until 1854. The Rector of Bath acted as Vicar of Lyncombe & Widcombe from the time that all Bath's parishes were united.
- 4 There is a story that the churchwardens of St Thomas à Becket put up a fight to prevent the removal of the bells from that church for transfer to St Matthew's. The press report of Thu 25 Feb 1847 contradicts this.
- 5 The Rector of Bath at the time was William John Brodrick (1798-1870) and his name appears on the metal plaque recording the consecration of the church. He was Rector in the period 1839-1854. He was responsible for the financing of Bath Abbey Cemetery. He became 7th Viscount Midleton in 1863, succeeding to the title held by his brother Charles.
- 6 The 'Gen. Clapham' referred to is Major-General William Clapham who owned Widcombe Manor. He had served with the Honorable East India Company's Madras Army. He died in 1851.
- 7 The long list of clergy includes Rev Edward Tottenham (1810-1853) who was the minister at the Laura Chapel, Bath. He was embroiled in controversy by engaging in a debate with Catholics (see the documentation of Bath Abbey Cemetery).
- 8 The church included the provision of 'free seats' in addition to ones for which a 'pew rent' was paid. The Widcombe Baptist Church made a virtue of having all its seats free. The pew-rents at St Mark's were abolished in 1914, the loss of income being made up by £100 per annum from the Ecclesiastical Commissioners for England.
- 9 The organist 'Mr Pyne' was James Kendrick Pyne (1810-1893) who was organist at Bath Abbey for 53 years. His son James Kendrick Pyne (1852-1938) was an organist and composer.
- 10 There is a reference to 'J Brace, Esq' and his field where the children had tea and cake. This was Joseph Brace (1776-1858), magistrate and landed proprietor, who lived at Widcombe Hill House, 300m further up Widcombe Hill.