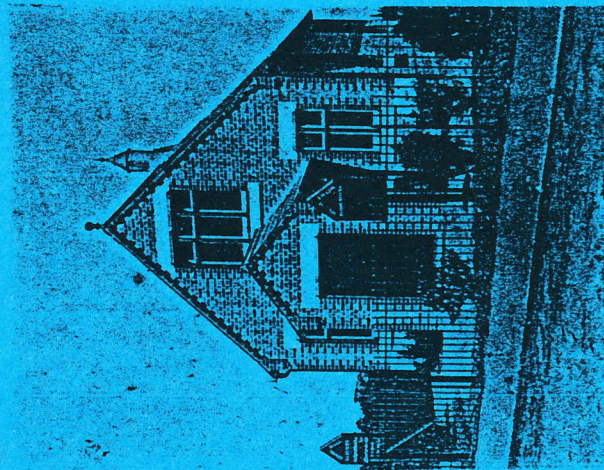


HYTHE FIELDS GOSPEL HALL CENTENARY BOOK

1897



1997

Hythe Fields Gospel Hall, 160 Thorpe Lea Road, Egham, Surrey, TW20 8HA.

Hythe Fields Gospel Hall

*is "to be used, occupied and enjoyed
as a place for the
Public Worship of God
and the
Preaching of the Gospel."*

**HYTHE FIELDS GOSPEL HALL,
160 Thorpe Lea Road,
Egham, Surrey, TW20 8HA.
Tel: 01784 457456/453935**

BASIS OF FAITH

1. The full inspiration of the Holy Scriptures; their Authority and Sufficiency as not only containing, but being in themselves, the Word of God; the reliability of the New Testament; and the need of the teaching of the Holy Spirit to a true and spiritual understanding of the whole.
2. The unity of the Godhead and the Divine Co-equality of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit; the Sovereignty of God in creation, providence and redemption.
3. The total depravity of human nature in consequence of the fall, and the necessity for regeneration.
4. The true and proper Deity of our Lord Jesus Christ; His virgin birth; His real and perfect manhood; the Authority of His teaching, and the Infallibility of all His utterances; His Work of Atonement for sinners of mankind by His Substitutionary sufferings and death; His bodily resurrection and His ascension into Heaven; and His present Priestly Intercession for His people at the Right Hand of the Father.
5. The justification of the sinner solely by faith in our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.
6. The necessity of the work of the Holy Spirit in regeneration, conversion, and sanctification; also in ministry and worship.
7. The universal Church, the body of which Christ is the Head, embracing all the redeemed, called by God through the Gospel, born of the Spirit and justified by faith; the local Church, comprising such believers as the expression of the universal Church; and fellowship between such churches manifesting the unity of the Body of Christ.
8. The ordinances of Baptism and the Lord's Supper as being instituted by our Lord Jesus Christ, but not in Baptism as conveying regenerating grace, nor in the Lord's Supper as being a sacrifice for sin nor involving any change in the substance of the bread and wine.
9. The personal return of the Lord Jesus Christ in glory.
10. The Resurrection of the body; the Judgment of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ, with the Eternal Blessedness of the righteous and the Eternal punishment of the wicked.

1897-1919

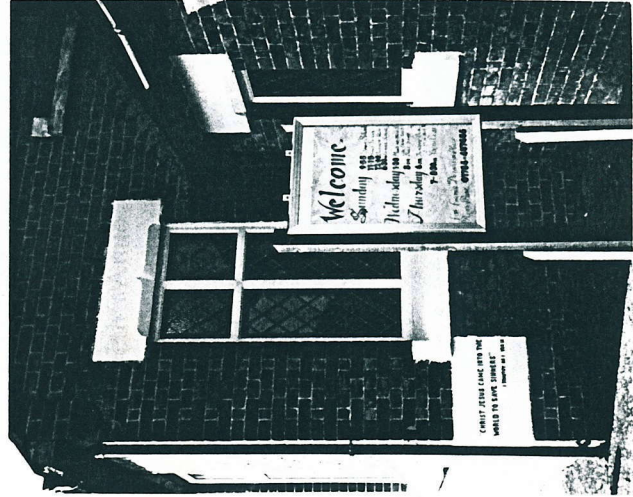
Little is known between these years and most of the information has been gained from the Centenary Book written by Bishopsgate Evangelical Church in 1994.

Mrs. Nicholson, the wife of the Vicar of Egham Parish Church, had the Gospel Hall built in 1897. This was also the year of Queen Victoria's 60th Jubilee.

Hythe Fields was a rural farming community. Hythe Farm was where Magna Carta School is now situated. There was a large pond at Pooley Green, which has since been filled in. Opposite the pond was an area known as Frogs Island.

Mrs. Nicholson also had 4 other Gospel Halls built in the area. These were at Old Windsor (now Old Windsor Methodist); Staines (now New Road Pentecostal Church); Englefield Green (now Bishopsgate Evangelical Church); and Stroud, Virginia Water (now closed and converted into a house).

Mr. and Mrs. Nicholson gave a Bible to Elizabeth Anne Sherman and Charles Hutton on the occasion of their wedding on 6th November, 1897. The Bible is now owned by Hythe Fields Gospel Hall - Mr. Hutton was the Caretaker of the Gospel Hall for many years.

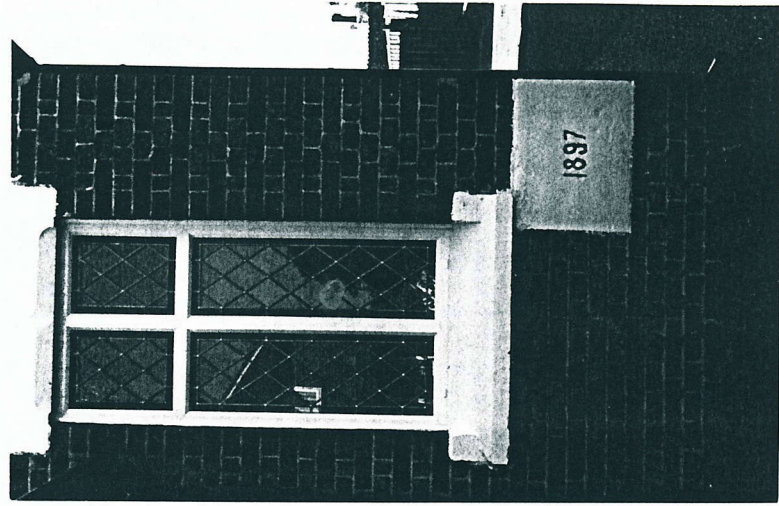


Bishopsgate and Hythe Fields both have corner stones situated on each side of the front porch. Hythe Fields has the text

“Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners,”
1 Timothy 1:15

and the other has the date:

A.D.1897

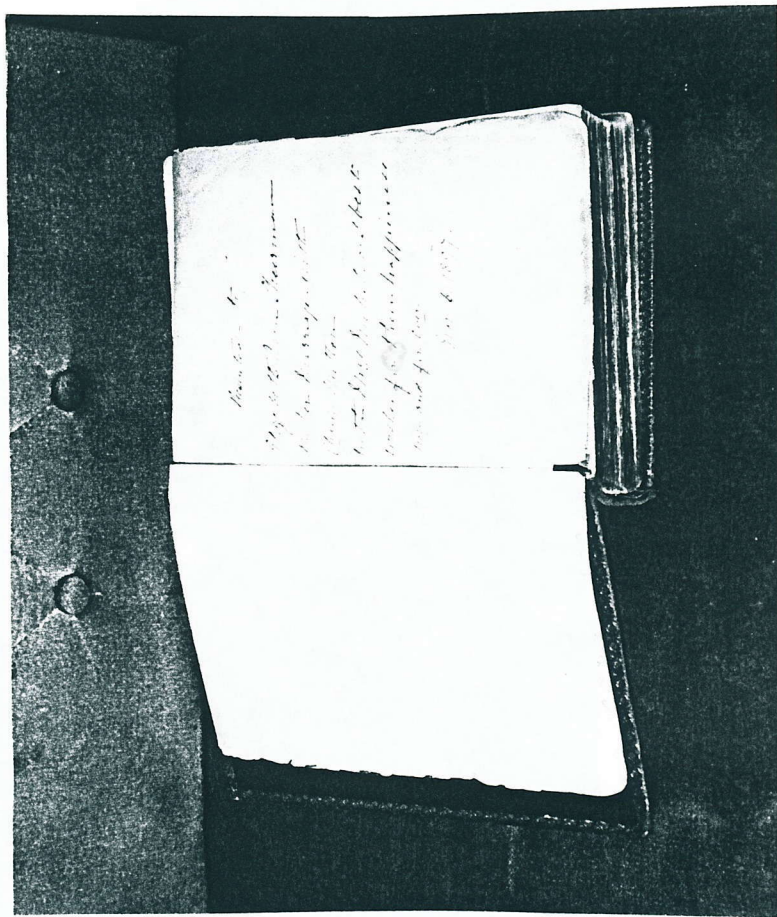




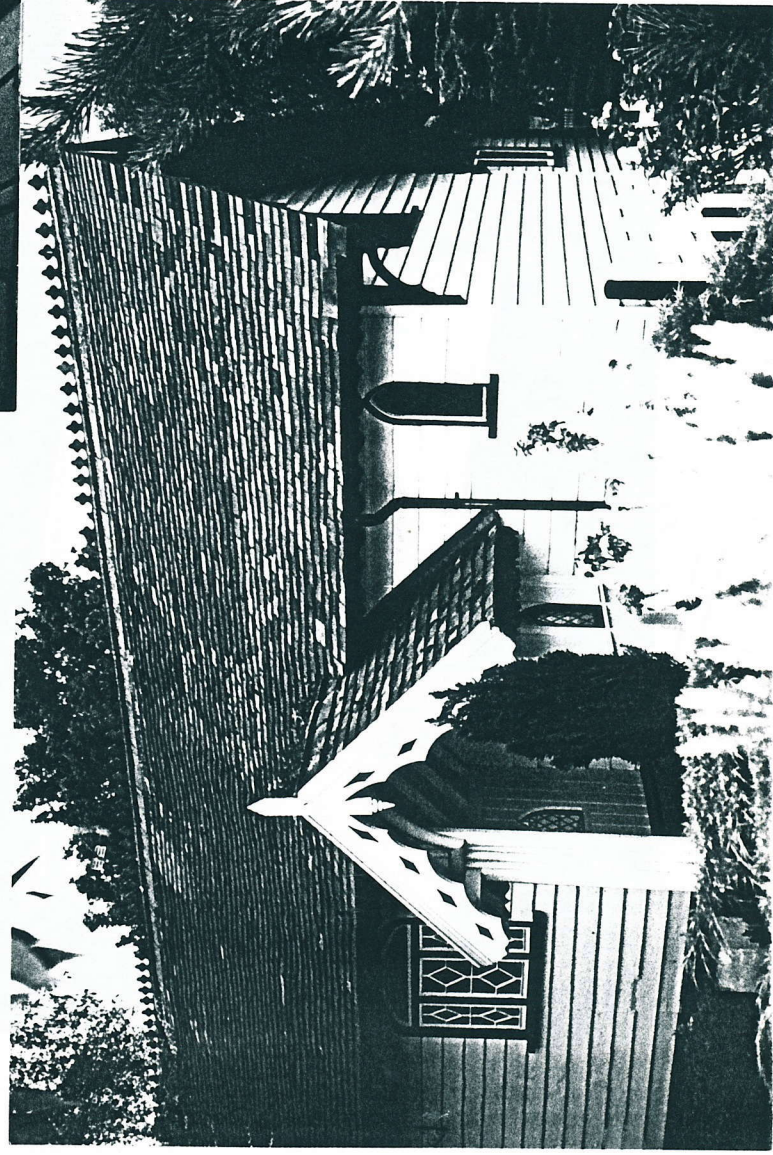
**HYTHE FIELDS
GOSPEL HALL
Thorpe Lea**

100 YEAR OLD BIBLE

*Presented to
Elizabeth Anne Sherman
on her marriage to
Charles Hutton
by Mr. and Mrs. Nicholson
November 6th, 1987.*



**OTHER CHAPELS
BUILT BY
MRS. NICHOLSON
IN THE 1880'S**



(ABOVE)

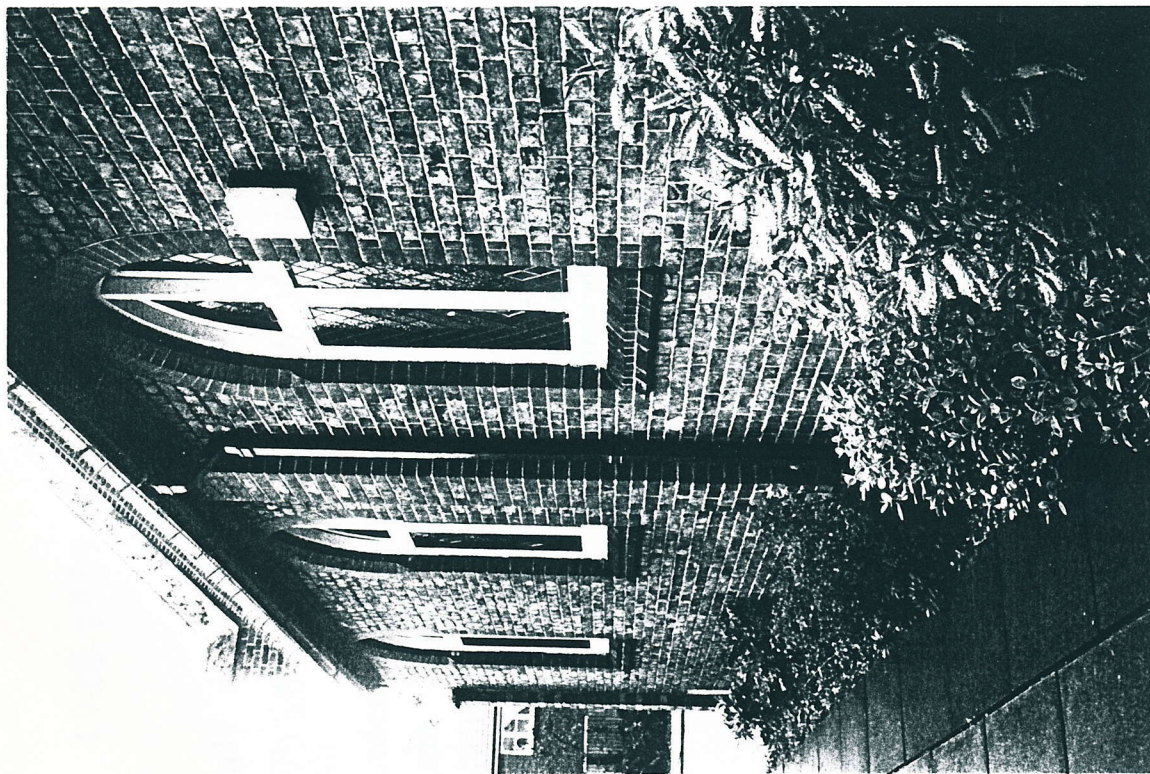
**NEW ROAD
MISSION ROOM**

*This has been demolished and this
new building has replaced it.*

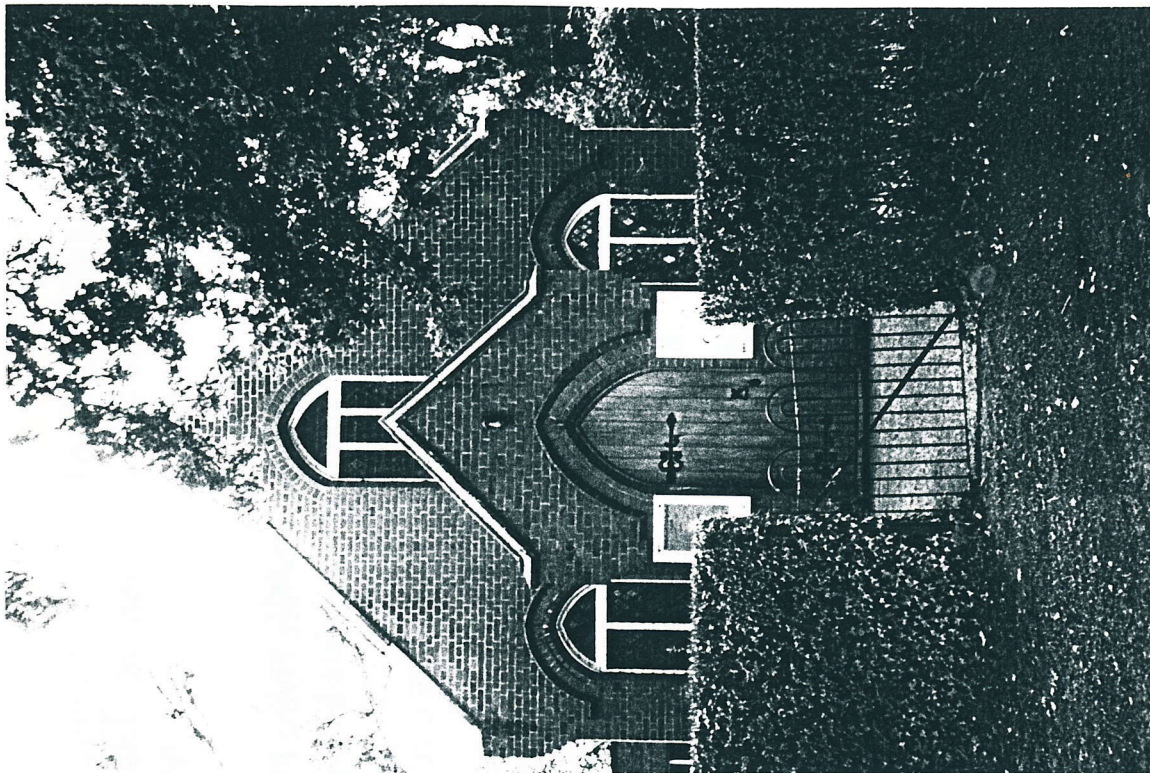
(LEFT)

STROUDE

*This Chapel has now been converted
into a residential dwelling.*



OLD WINDSOR
now Old Windsor Methodist Church.



BISHOPSGATE
ENGLEFIELD GREEN
Now called Bishopsgate Evangelical Church.
Built 1884

THE CYCLE MISSION

This was started in the 1800's long before Hythe Fields Gospel Hall was built. We do have a report of the Cycle Mission - by kind permission of Bishopsgate Evangelical Church:-

THE CYCLE MISSION 1895-96

"During last Summer visited Thorpe Lea, Stroude, Old Windsor and Datchet, distributing Tracts from house to house, and holding meetings in the Open Air and Mission Halls, which were usually well attended, and doubtless proved a blessing to many souls, several having testified to blessings received by hearing the Gospel spoken in the Open Air.

This year we hope to extend our Cycle Mission work, having several young men workers anxious to join us but unfortunately they have no Machines, and their wages being small, they are unable to purchase any. Mrs. Nicholson having kindly offered £3 towards buying two or three Machines to be kept entirely for Mission work, we propose to buy a few second-hand Cushion or Solid Tyred Machines about £3 to £4 each. We hope many of our readers will kindly help us in this grand work, either by giving a Donation or presenting us with a Bicycle.

At Salisbury Conference last year, Captain Rivington generously gave Mr. Gostelow a Tricycle which was sadly needed for Colportage purposes, and it is now doing good work in the Master's service. Two of our former workers who commenced speaking with the Cycle Mission have been accepted as Colporteurs in the Christian Colportage Association."

1919-1927

Mr. Sid Andrews from Hanworth Gospel Hall and Mr. Lewcock were with the Cycle Mission during this time and met for prayer at Hampton. In 1926 Jim Ashby joined the Cycle Mission and later became an Independent Evangelist who often visited the Gospel Hall in later years. Mr. Ashby will be 90 on 19th July, 1997.

1928-1939

In the early days Mr. Bird was Superintendent. In 1928 Frank H. Bustin became the Superintendent of the work at both Bishopsgate and New Road Gospel Halls. He had a salary paid by the Evangelization Society and was also responsible at some time for the work at Hythe Fields Gospel Hall.

At this time Mr. Charles Hutton, a Postman, who lived in Park Avenue, was the Caretaker. He was responsible for stoking up a coal fired boiler which stood in the centre west of the chapel, and which was temperamental. Mr. and Mrs. Hutton "adopted" Ethel Alward. Ethel later married Mr. Cheeseman and attended Thorpe Gospel Hall. (Mrs. Cheeseman

kindly donated a large sum of money to Hythe Fields in her Will).

In 1925-30 Mr. Prior from the Salvation Army came to take services in the week. He also lived in Park Avenue.

During this time there was a Sunday School, Evening Service on Sundays, a Midweek Meeting, Sewing Class for girls and a Children's Meeting. Communion was once a month on Sunday evenings.

Organist was Miss Bennett and Choir Practice was on a Monday evening.

The Scripture Gift Mission's Young Sowers League Bible Searching Course was run by Edie Richards.

In the 1930's Mr. Jim Ashby came to a field opposite Pooley Green. He came with a tent and a caravan with the words on the side "The wages of sin is death but the gift of God is eternal life".

At about the same time in 1936-37 another Evangelist Mr. Patching from the Caravan Mission to British Children - C.S.S.M., had a tent mission in the area. Many came to put their faith and trust in the Lord Jesus Christ.

In 1938 Mr. Stuart Hine from Poland, who translated the well known hymn "How Great Thou Art", took a series of meetings at Hythe Fields Gospel Hall. The place was so crowded, that people were sitting on the window sills.

THE WAR YEARS 1939-1946

Many people seemed to come and go during the War Years. Various people from Hale Street Gospel Hall came to support the work - Harry Bishop, Ted Clark, Mr. Stevens, Mr. Scott, Les Perkins, Albert Dexter, Doug Stratton, Frank Johnson.

For a short while Hythe Fields Gospel Hall and New Road Gospel Hall were used as extra school rooms for the Hythe School which was overcrowded when there were a lot of evacuees from London in the area.

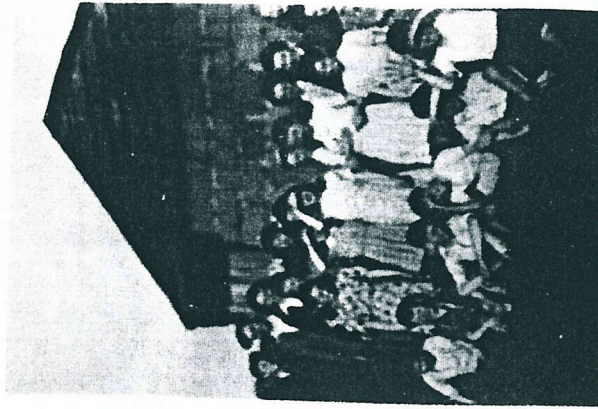
In 1943 Edie Perkins, a Sunday School Teacher at Hythe Fields was married to Les Perkins. They were married at Hale Street Gospel Hall but had their reception at Hythe Fields on 26th June.

Mr. and Mrs. Headington were Sunday School teachers for 12 years at Hythe Fields after their marriage at Bracknell in 1937. They later moved to Staines.



EDIE RICHARD AND LES PERKINS
26TH JUNE, 1943

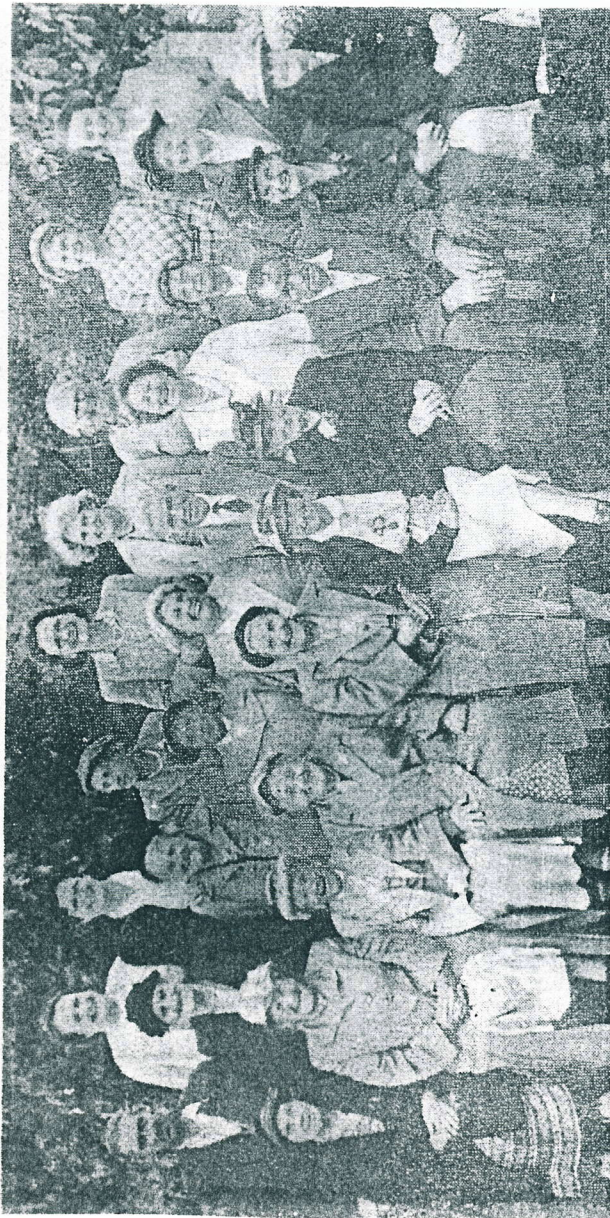
**TUESDAY MEETING
PRE 1947**



PRAYER WARRIORS

Enjoying a lovely afternoon at the beach
Lily Brooker (Hetherington), Marjorie Howells,
Ellen Johnson and Hilda Sperling (Hill).

TIME TO REMEMBER



The Annual Outing to Eastbourne in about 1941 was an unforgettable experience. Here we see members of the Hythe Fields Mission Ladies Meeting.

Names of some present:-

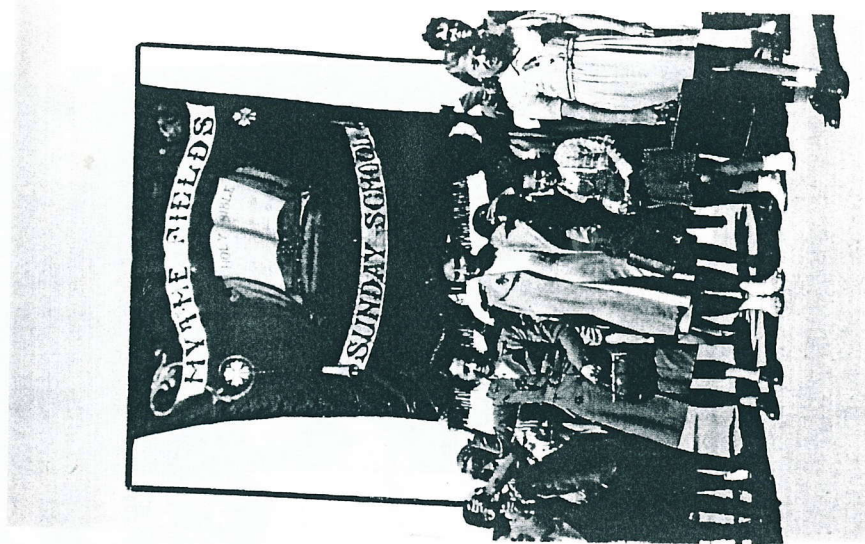
Top row - Mrs. Ford, Miss Bessant

Middle row - Mr. Matthews, Mr. and Mrs. Ruby, Mrs. Eldridge.

Bottom row - Mrs. Matthews, Mr. and Mrs. Bessant, Mrs. Lucas, Mrs. Roberts, Mrs. Parfitt, Mr. Parfitt junior, Mrs. Snelling.

JULY 13TH
1947

OUTING TO
LITTLEHAMPTON



STORIES FROM THE PAST

MR. R.C.W. RUBY

"I was born nearly 75 years ago at 2 Pond Road (which remarkably still stands, while my previous homes at Thorpe Lea Road and Charta Road have been demolished). Later my family lived quite close to the chapel, opposite the top of South Avenue and next to Edie Richards (Mrs. Perkins) house. Then we moved to the then luxury of a new house on the Charta Road estate in 1934. I have happy memories of the chapel and the area around it.

When I was about seven my parents decided that I should learn to play the violin and arranged for me to have lessons from a Miss Nellie Riddle who lived in South Avenue. In those days the News of the World newspaper used to include the words and music of the popular songs of the period and Sunday evenings were often spent entertaining my parents by playing them. At that time I used to attend Sunday School at the little chapel.

One of the highlights of the year was the Magic Lantern Show when a lecture illustrated with slides would be given by a Missionary about the Holy Land. Another was the 'Annual Bun Fight' as many called it when local children were entertained and sat at tables laden with food and small gifts. On one such

occasion, I must have been nine or ten years old, I was persuaded to play Handel's Largo on my violin accompanied by the rather wheezy chapel harmonium. This was well received and as an encore I started to play Schubert's Melody in F. Unfortunately mid-way through it one of the violin strings broke. In remarkable silence I replaced the string and played the piece again from the beginning. The applause at the end nearly raised the roof!

Once a year there were day excursions organized by the chapel, either by train or road, usually to Bognor or Littlehampton. My brother Tony and myself regularly attended the chapel. I particularly remember that the children attending Sunday School in the afternoon were given illustrated texts to take home - perhaps to prove to parents that we had actually been there! I seem to recall that the sermons were usually given by a Mr. Bustin and the organ was played by a Miss Bennett".

Written by Mr. Ruby of Thorpe Lea Road, Egham, 1996.

THROUGH THE EYES OF A SEVEN YEAR OLD

Hythe Fields Gospel Hall appeared to have a "vaulted roof". A machine which had a light and smoke coming out of it projected an image onto a sheet draped across a clothes line.

A Missionary told stories about people who lived in the jungle. The white Missionary had soap with which to wash. The black people tried the soap too, only to find they could not make themselves white. They were taught that only Jesus can make us pure in our hearts.

This young boy (Mr. George Nash) is now 67 and Jesus has transformed his life giving him not only a clean heart, but peace and joy.

Born 1914

50 YEARS OF SERVICE

Called home 1994

MR. STEPHEN DOUGLAS STRATTON

WAS SUPERINTENDENT OF
HYTHE FIELDS GOSPEL HALL
FROM 1944 TO 1994

Mr. Stratton came to work in Staines in 1937 at the International Stores and shortly after married and came to live in Goring Road, where he always kept a lovely garden.

He and his wife first worshipped at Hale Street Hall. For a year Mr. and Mrs. Stratton were helping with children's work at New Road Evangelical Church before being called to working with others at Hythe Fields Gospel Hall.

Mr. Stratton always had a great love for children and their families. He would organize convoys of coaches to Littlehampton and Bognor for the Annual Sunday School Outing.

After the war Mr. Stratton worked for Mr. Roberts, before taking over his business. In this job he met many families in their homes and there were regular visits to the London warehouses to buy their needs. This gave Mr. Stratton lots of opportunities to meet people and tell them about the Lord Jesus Christ whom he loved.

In the early part of the 1960's he and



Mr. Stratton always put his family first. Thursday evening was his special time to be with his boys; Jon, Andrew and Phil. They enjoyed camping with him in their holidays.

Mr. Stratton was involved in the Counties Evangelistic Work by moving caravans all over the country, helping them by putting up tents and doing repair jobs. He also raised a lot of money by collecting stamps and selling them on - the proceeds going to C.E.W. But this did mean bags of stamps packed high in the house awaiting sorting!

He always had a care for people and was involved in the work of "CARE" driving people backwards and forwards for hospital appointments.

As a Church Leader and Counsellor he was very well respected. His wisdom and integrity is challenging. He and his wife prayed for everyone in their family and in our Church daily, and their support was and is an encouragement to us all. He was faithful, obedient and committed to the work of the Lord. His life has left us a very high standard and a great example to follow.

others worked every Thursday building the new Youth Hall here which was opened on the 1st May 1965.

Born 1927

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER FOR 46 YEARS MR. FRANK W. JOHNSON

Called home 1987



Frank Johnson

Frank William Johnson, a Sunday School teacher at the Hythe Fields Gospel Hall, Thorpe Lea Road, Egham, for 46 years died at last week at Ashford Hospital, aged 60.

Mr Johnson, of Richmond Road, Staines, spent his boyhood days in Englefield Green and was a member of the Hale Street Gospel Hall.

He later moved to Staines and had worked as an agent for Pearl Assurance for 23 years.

He was also a member of Gideons International, and he sent copies of the New Testament to most schools in the area.

Mr. Stratton and Mr. Johnson worked as a team for many years under the Trusteeship of the Evangelization Society. Others later joined the happy team. A highlight in 1953/4 was a visit to a very crowded Hythe Fields Gospel Hall from Colonel Munro who was Head of The Evangelization Society. Later the T.E.S. decided to concentrate on Preaching, Teaching and Encouraging Churches and not to own buildings. Therefore in the late 1960's Hythe Fields came under the Trusteeship of the Fellowship of Free Independent Churches.



Early in the 1960's Open Air Services were conducted on the Lammas Recreation Ground on Sunday afternoons in the summer. Mr. Johnson and Mr. Stratton have just finished telling the story of the Walls of Jericho. Here we see Peter Smith and Jim Harris singing a song.

MORE STORIES FROM THE 1940-50's

WILMA FARRINGTON/LACEY MISSIONARY TO INDIA



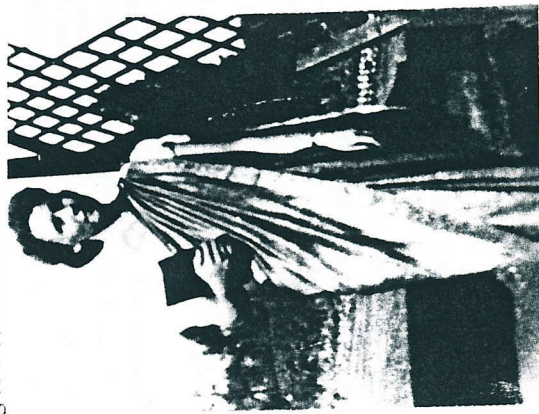
"My involvement with the work at Hythe Fields began some time in 1946. I had been demobbed a year earlier and came into fellowship with the assembly meeting at Hale -street Hall, Staines. In those days it was a large and thriving assembly with good Leadership. Young people were encouraged to get involved in Bible study, Missionary endeavours and Witnessing. This was just up my street. I had accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as my own personal Saviour in 1944 while serving with the W.A.A.F. and had experienced so much joy and peace through the forgiveness of sins, that I wanted everyone to know Him too. My life now had meaning and purpose that it didn't have before. With World War 2 now over there was renewed emphasis on the Great Commission "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel".

Some young people from Hale Street were waiting to go to China. Others were reaching out to those nearer home. Mr. Stratton then of Hale Street had taken over the Superintending of Hythe Fields Sunday School. He and Frank Johnson were diligent in open air witness, house visiting and getting more children to attend Sunday School. As the numbers grew so did the need for more teachers. I had never taught Sunday School before and was rather reluctant at first to be drawn into this work. But Mr. Stratton was a great encourager and reminded me "we learn by doing"! Lily Brooker (now Hetherington), Eileen Howells, Jim Smythe, Pat Johnson and others were Sunday School teachers at this time. We were a happy little band of workers. Fellowship was sweet as we walked together down the road (no one had cars then). We usually ended up at the Stratton's home, where Mrs. Stratton always had a warm smile and welcome for us. Her homemade cakes were soon demolished by the hungry gang.

My call to serve the Lord in India came while actually standing outside Hythe Fields Gospel Hall. (The new building hadn't been put up then). By 1947 other meetings had been started on Sunday mornings and evenings and we found it necessary to hive off from Hale Street to give ourselves to developing the work at Hythe Fields. We still kept our links with Hale Street and it was through that assembly I heard about the need of a helper for Mr and Mrs. R.T. Gander of South India. They were running a children's Boarding School at the time. So we brought this need to the Lord and waited and wondered who

the Lord would choose. This was the subject of our conversation as Lily Brooker and I stood outside Hythe Fields on this unforgettable Sunday evening. In the quietness of my heart the Lord said to me 'you are the one'. Within six months I was sailing for India! Hythe Fields and Halestreet followed me with their support and prayers. Over the years as I returned for a break, I fellowshipped mostly with Hythefields. Numbers were still small but it was encouraging to see the new hall put up and new people coming. Mr. Stratton and Frank Johnson, along with their wives and children stand out in my memory of over 50 years as those who never ceased to abound in the work of the Lord. I thank my God upon every remembrance of them and for the blessing and encouragement they have been to me.

In 1975 I became the wife of Mr. Edgar Lacey and we spent one year together in India before moving to Red Deer Canada.



JIM SMYTHE

Mr. Jim Smythe came from Ireland to find work in England. He writes "I have many happy memories of my time in Hythe fields Gospel Hall. When I came to Ashford to stay with my sister and her husband, I was in fellowship in the Gospel Hall, Staines. I believe it was Mr. Lee who encouraged me to help at Hythe Fields.

I came as a stranger and you took me in. I do remember with affection some of the dear believers who are now with the Lord. Mr. Stratton, Frank Johnson and myself used to go out in the open air. Frank would set up his flannelgraph and speak to the children and we would go around the corner and have a word to adults. I can see Mr. Witts coming to speak to the children in the hall. He had a saw with which he would cut a piece of wood and then use the saw to play choruses to the children. These were happy days and we spent many happy times together.

Now almost 100 years of testimony - how we praise God for this. May God bless, and may the light be kept burning until the Lord returns."

*"He tells the number of the stars...
He heals the broken in heart" Psalm 147*

The mighty God at whose command
creation had its part,
Who tells the number of the stars,
does heal the broken heart.
The distance 'twixt those myriad orbs
and breaking hearts of man,
Seems vast, immeasurable - a gulf -
no human thought can span!

Yet God, in human flesh disguised
in person of His Son,
Rejected, sorrowful, despised
the perfect, sinless One.
Stooping beneath that heavy cross
with bleeding, thorn-crowned head.
Amid the jeering, hateful throng
to Calvary was led.

And dying there 'twixt earth and Heaven,
atoning for our sin
this Son of man, yet Son of God
did bridge that gulf between
those glistening gems - and hearts that break,
the stars - and human tears.
Thus contemplating Love Divine
our doubting disappears.

Each throb in grief-torn human heart
is echoed in His own,
The secret tear, though shed apart
is never shed alone.
O condescending, matchless love -
O gracious Majesty
That He who spins the world in space
reveals such sympathy.

Written by Mrs. P. Stratton

Andrew Stratton

REMEMBERING HYTHE FIELDS SINCE 1947

"I was taken to Hythe Fields Gospel Hall from my very earliest days. In a sense it was as familiar as home to me - we seemed to spend the whole of Sunday and parts of several other days along there every week.

I can remember Sunday School being held in the original and ancient wooden hut, to the rear of the main hall, with its rickety floor, drooping ceiling-boards, wheezy pedal organ, and wiring over the windows. Lily Brooker was the first teacher I can recall. The memorable events of those days included Sunday School parties, with their fish-paste sandwiches (did anyone really like those?), jelly on a flat plate and chocolate and marshmallow tea-cakes. Then there were outings to the seaside in elderly coaches that broke down or overheated. Rambles to Windsor Great park - often walking all the way.

I remember Children's Missions at either Hythe Fields, or in a tent on the corner of Pooley Green Road. An ancient horse or two used to graze in the field there except when Mr. Biddle & Mr. Coney turned up with their Gospel Tent. There was a Mr. Ball as well. These men always taught us a new batch of choruses, (accompanied by the inevitable piano accordion) which we'd sing in Sunday School for the next year or two until they came again and taught us some more.

Tuesday night it was Children's Meeting, when the big event was a film-strip - the very latest

technological marvel projected onto a big white(fish) sheet on the wall. My mental images of Pilgrim's Progress and many other Christian classics owe much to the illustrations absorbed from those film-strips. Colour had even been invented by that time, though the old tear-jerkers like Christy's Old Organ were still firm favourites, despite their turn-of-the-century black and white pictures. Behaviour of the attending hoard of kids ranged from poor to appalling, but this never seemed to deter the enthusiastic leaders, usually Mr. S.D. Stratton with the assistance, by this time, of a youthful Mr. Frank Johnson. One serious source of grief, however, were greasy potato crisps - readily available from the pub next-door - which, when dropped from greasy little fingers, left indelible marks on the polished wooden floor.

On another night of the week attempts were made to cultivate the Bible knowledge of the more serious youngsters, and the Christian Endeavour group and Young Sowers' League were among the activities that provided the early Christian teaching for not a few young teens, including myself.

Winters were something special in those days, and I can remember us walking to and from the hall on nights when the fog was too thick to even think of driving. Or sometimes, when the fog (or was it smog?) came down while we were out, having to walk in front of the car to give the driver an idea of which way to steer. It seemed to snow more whole-heartedly in those days too, but even that never prevented us from getting to the Hall in the middle of winter, with the old pot-bellied stove glowing

brightly and the heat melting the resin from the backs of the pine-wood forms.

The youth group of our day had its moments. Camp and Climbing at Whitsun, Saturday evening events, Bible quizzes, trips to London for various reasons including a Billy Graham Rally - followed by fish and chip suppers on the way home. An amusing incident some may still recall was an occasion when we had been viewing the West End Christmas lights from the upper deck of a London bus. Arriving at our alighting point at Piccadilly Circus, our leader, wishing to ensure his group followed him, called out "Everybody off, then". However, such was his authoritarian tone that the bus emptied completely, leaving numerous passengers wondering why they had been ordered off the bus! Another incident was when we went to a park in Lyne and I had to top up a bottle of orange with water from a public tap, which rapidly filled up with water and an unbelievably large family of earwigs!

My time at Hythe Fields taught me a fair bit about people. More importantly I learnt about God and the Bible, and learnt to memorize many Bible Texts."

Andy Stratton is now serving the Lord with Mission Aviation Fellowship in Africa with his wife Margaret who is a Physiotherapist. At present Andy has operational responsibility for a fleet of aircraft all dedicated to the service of God for use by Missionaries, Medical Personnel and Relief Workers intent upon reaching people in remote and often war-torn areas of Africa with the Gospel of Christ's love.

THE BUILDINGS

1944

Old Army hut erected at rear of property.

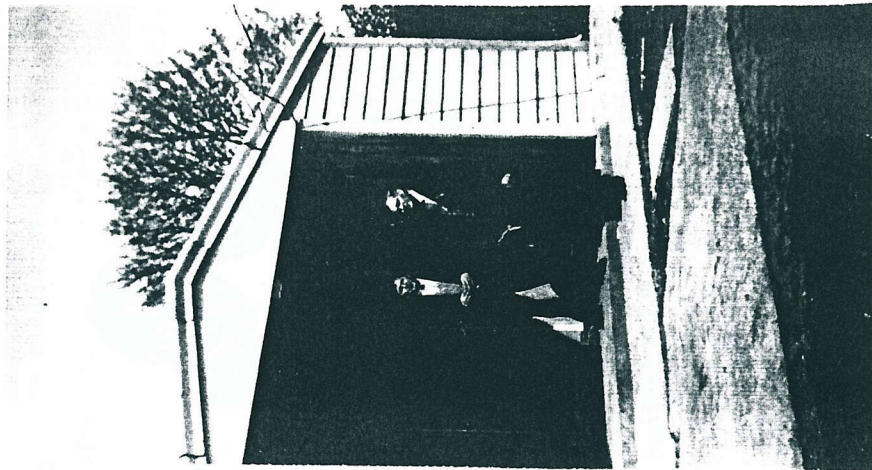
1965

New Youth Hall built to replace old hut. This was opened on the 1st May, 1965.



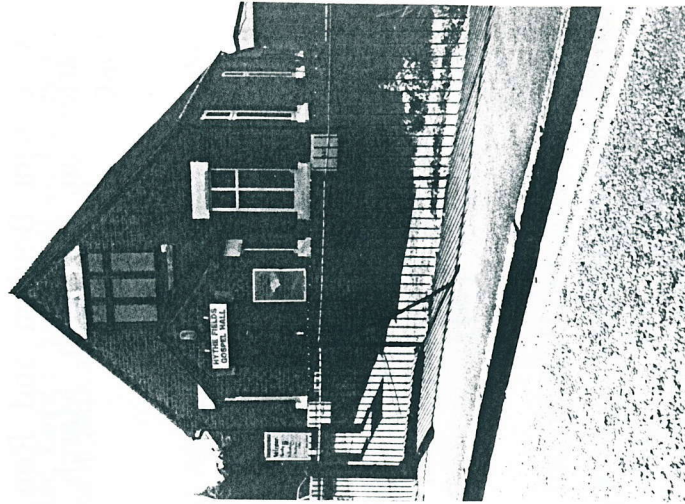
1966

Kitchen extended and old coal bunker removed.



1993

Renovation work commenced on Chapel.



1997

Final stages of renovation work to Chapel, including new windows.

MARRIAGES

The Chapel - Hythe Fields Gospel Hall - was first Registered as a Building for the Solemnisation of Marriages on 6th August, 1968.

Our first Bride and Bridegroom were Rita Boulton and Ron Carter on the 13th March, 1969.

The Youth Hall - Hythe Fields New Gospel Hall - was first Registered as a Building for the Solemnisation of Marriages on 21st December, 1992.

Our first Bride and Bridegroom to be married in this Hall were Maria Gale and Adam Guichard on the 5th June, 1993.

FIRST BRIDE AT GOSPEL HALL

Miss Rita A. Boulton, eldest daughter of Mrs. A. L. Boulton, of 58 South Avenue, Egham, and the late Mr. J. Boulton, was married at Hythe Fields Gospel Hall, Egham, on Saturday, to Mr. Ronald G. Carter, second son of Mr. and Mrs. H. Carter, of Maidenhead. It was the first wedding performed at the hall, where the bride has been attending ser-



vices since she was three years old. She is now one of the teachers of the infant classes.

Given away by her uncle, Mr. K. Gray, she wore a long white satin dress, with a Swiss lace bodice and matching, long train. Her elbow length veil was held in place by a coronet of orange blossom and pearls, and she carried gold tea roses, gardenias and stephanotis.

She was attended by Miss Christine Johnson, a friend, who wore a long, empire line dress of turquoise blue satin, and carried pink carnations and white freesias.

The best man was Mr. Geoffrey Blake, and the ushers were Messrs. Barry Carter and Roger Gale.

CARTER - BOULTON
(LEFT)



GUICHARD - GALE
(ABOVE)

*Hythe Fields Gospel Hall
is a Member of
The Evangelical Alliance.*

1965-1997

THE LORD'S SUPPER

This is held each Sunday after the morning Family Service.

FAMILY SERVICE

Normally held weekly at 11.15 a.m.
(except Special Family Services held at 10 a.m.)

EVENING GOSPEL SERVICE

Held every Sunday at 6.30 p.m. with visiting speakers.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

This continues every Sunday Morning at 10 a.m.

MUMS AND UNDER FIVES

This toddler club has been running on Wednesday afternoons during term time since October 1977.

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY AND PRAYER

This is a time for adults to be taught the Word of God.

THURSDAY CLUB

June and Sally-Ann with their helpers have great fun with the 5's to 10's each Thursday. This club has been running since 1993.

YOUTH CLUB

There was a Youth Club in the late 1950's to the early 1970's. After a break this was recommenced in 1991.

PRACTICES OF THE CHURCH

The customary observance of the ordinance of *Believers' Baptism* by immersion on personal confession of faith and commemoration of the Lord's death in the Lord's Supper on the first day of the week insofar as circumstances allow.

The reception at the *Lord's Supper* of all believers believed to be sound in faith and Godly in life.

The *Conducting of Meetings for Worship* under the guidance of the Holy Spirit with opportunity for the exercise in the Church of all true gifts for edification subject to the Lordship of Christ.

THE TRUSTEES

THE FELLOWSHIP OF INDEPENDENT
EVANGELICAL CHURCHES LIMITED,

3 Church Road,
Croydon, CRO 1SG.

MISSIONARY AVIATION FELLOWSHIP

Andrew Stratton, who was once a Sunday School Teacher at Hythe Fields Gospel Hall, and his wife Margaret are now serving the Lord in Kenya

THE EVANGELICAL ALLIANCE RELIEF FUND

Wendy Wright works in the office of TEAR Fund at Teddington and is part of the Child Support Team

MISSIONS

*Hythe Fields Gospel Hall
supports; many Missions
both in the U.K. and
Overseas.*

LABOURERS STREET EVANGELISM

Since May 1st, 1997 Norman Smith has been distributing the Word of God with the Labourers Street Evangelism.

COUNTIES EVANGELISTIC WORK and

HOME EVANGELISM

(formerly the Christian Colportage Association)
Are regularly supported by Hythe Fields Gospel Hall.

In the 1970's the C.C.A.'s Office was gutted by a fire and whilst their new premises were being rebuilt, they continued their work from our Youth Hall.



(LEFT)
SOME OF THE TEACHERS
AND SUNDAY SCHOOL
CHILDREN.
January 5th, 1997

(BELOW)
"MOTHERS DAY" 1997
CHARLENE AS
QUEEN VICTORIA AND
TOM AS PRINCE.
*"Queen Victoria presents a Bible
to a Prince."*



MY PERSONAL TESTIMONY - BY NORMAN SMITH

"When I think that I was chosen before the foundation of the world and what our Lord Jesus Christ suffered and went through to redeem a sinner such as I, it just makes me realise what a selfish, ungrateful, unholy, unthankful, person I am.

How often my heart is 'cold' in its affections to my dear Lord and His Saints, how often I have to cry "Lord I believe, help my unbelief!" How often my call goes out to the Most High "be merciful to me a sinner!" and my life is a testimony to "what a wretched man that I am".

How much God has blessed me with His Service down here, and how I abuse all that He provides through taking it all for granted. How I can always seem to find time for this and that but don't find time for prayer, reading His Word and proper meditation upon, and application of that Word. Where are my tears for the lost?

I am unworthy to be called His son, I call myself a Christian". I have taken a Name which is above every name. I just pray that the Lord in His grace and mercy will help me live the most holiest life that it is possible a fallen human being can live. Amen."

LORD, FOR THE YEARS YOUR LOVE HAS KEPT AND GUIDED,

Urged and inspired us, cheered us on our way,
Sought us and saved us, pardoned and provided:
Lord of the years, we bring our thanks today.

Lord, for that Word, the Word of Life which fires us,
Speaks to our hearts and set our souls ablaze,
Teaches and trains, rebukes us and inspires us:
Lord of the Word, receive Your people's praise.

Lord, for our land in this our generation,
Spirits oppressed by pleasure, wealth and care:
For young and old, for commonwealth and nation,
Lord of our land, be pleased to hear our prayer.

Lord, for our world where men disown and doubt You,
Loveless in strength, and comfortless in pain,
Hungry and helpless, lost indeed without You:
Lord of the world, we pray that Christ may reign.

Lord, for ourselves; in living power remake us -
Self on the cross and Christ upon the throne,
Past put behind us, for the future take us:
Lord of our lives, to live for Christ alone.

Timothy Dudley-Smith

***"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever."
Hebrews 13:8***