



**CHURCHES VISITED AND REVISITED
(17/12/16 TO DATE) – BOOK 16**



WEDNESDAY 25th OCTOBER 2017



St Mary's, London Road, Widford, Chelmsford

The Parish Church of St. Mary the Virgin, Widford, proudly stands in the gateway of Chelmsford on the Chandlers Roundabout leading to Hylands Park and House. It was built in 1862 (for just £4,500!) by Arthur Pryor from Hylands House, the then centre of Widford Village.

Church of the Holy Spirit (CHS) was built in 1961 when Widford was ever expanding with housing and industry. CHS is in Forest Drive, as well as our Parish Centre is attached to Church of the Holy Spirit which is used on a weekly basis to hold events and gatherings.



St Mary's, Penny's Lane, Margaretting, Ingatstone

The church in Margaretting can be traced back with certainty to the 12th Century, but there are suggestions that bricks discovered during a restoration in the late 19th Century indicate an earlier Roman structure. The church is dedicated to St Margaret of Antioch in Pisidia, a popular Saint of the Middle Ages. It was probably started in the 12th century, as the earliest surviving wall dates from this time. There may have been an earlier church on the site, but no trace now exists. The remoteness of the building from the present village is probably because most churches were built adjoining the Manor House or Hall, whether this was in the centre of the village or not. The first building was simple and oblong in shape; possibly with a circular East wall. The extension to this wall and the building of a south aisle and westward extension of the Nave dates back to the early 15th Century.

Other notable additions of the time were the Tower and the porches added later in the same century. The exterior is mainly of the same period. Substantial restoration work took place in 1869-70, at which time the East wall was rebuilt and the Spire renewed. Internally open pine benches replaced the high-backed pews and the Orchestral Gallery across the west end, which had held an orchestra for accompanying the hymns, was taken down. The Pulpit and the Clerk's Desk were also removed and replaced. Further large scale work was completed in 1930 -31 when the Pipe Organ (dated 1881) was moved from the South Aisle and sited above the entrance to the Vestry, and the four Pre-Reformation Bells tuned and re-hung. (A new bell was cast at the 'Whitechapel Bell Foundry' in London to join the others, in 1996). The Roof was also replaced and the Tower and Spire re-shingled at this time. According to the Vicar of the time, the architect retained as much of the old Church as was possible. Thanks to the love and care of its Officers over the years, the Church remains in excellent condition. A new oak doorway with glass panels into the Vestry and an imaginative pine staircase leading to the Organ Loft from the Vestry, were built and dedicated in the early 1990's. These won a Diocesan Design Award.



St Edmund's and St Mary's, High Street, Ingatestone

St Edmund and St Mary's Church is the Church of England parish church in the village of Ingatestone in Essex. It dates to the 11th century and received major modifications in the 17th century. Its west tower is in red brick and is described by Simon Jenkins in his 1999 book *England's Thousand Best Churches* as "magnificent, a unified Perpendicular composition of red brick with black Tudor diapering. Strong angled buttresses rise to a heavy battlemented crown, the bell openings plain."

A chapel built onto the chancel contains several family tombs of the Petre family, which lived locally at Ingatestone Hall - these include the monuments of William Petre, his second wife Anne Browne, John Petre, 1st Baron Petre and his wife.



St Thomas of Canterbury, St Thomas Road, Brentwood

Brentwood began as a clearing made in the woods by burning trees (hence 'burnt wood' which became Brentwood) to provide a stop-off point about one day's journeying from the Thames for pilgrims en route from East Anglia to the shrine of Thomas Becket at Canterbury.

The first church building dedicated to St Thomas in Brentwood was a chapel built around 1221 to serve these pilgrims. The ruins of the original chapel are still to be seen in the High Street. Brentwood remained part of the Parish of South Weald until 1873, but in 1835 a new church was built on the site of the present church to cater for the growing population in Brentwood. The new building had a short and unhappy history, being poorly designed and structurally unsound. Not long after Brentwood became an independent parish, the church was demolished to make way for the third St Thomas's in Brentwood.

On 14th February 1881 the local MP, Octavius Coope (a member of the brewing family), laid the foundation-stone in the west wall of the present church. Two years later the main part of the church had been completed, and it was consecrated on 26th April 1883 by the Bishop of St Alban's (in whose diocese Brentwood then was). A total of seven services were held between 5.00am and 9.00pm that day. The present church is Victorian Gothic in the early English style, and it was designed by Mr E C Lee, also responsible for the design of St Paul's Bentley, a nearby parish.

A generous gift from the Reverend Charles Belli, a former vicar of South Weald, made it possible to rebuild the chancel, and the following five years saw further collections and gifts towards the building fund. The tower was completed in 1887 and dedicated by the Bishop on 19th October. The following year saw the installation of a peal of bells, and the old organ was replaced in 1897. A beautiful reredos depicting the crucifixion was bequeathed by George Larkin in 1896. Originally uncoloured, colour was added during as a memorial to those who died in the second world war during the redecoration of the chancel by Laurence King in the late 1950's.

The church centre was added in 1988, to replace the old church hall which was located on Queens Road near the present vicarage. The centre contains the foyer where refreshments are served during the day, a hall, kitchen, sacristy, choir vestry, office and meeting rooms.







Catholic Cathedral, Ingrave Road, Brentwood

The Cathedral Church of St Mary and St Helen lies in the town of Brentwood in the county of Essex. The first church to be built on the site was erected in 1837 on land donated by the Petre family. As the Catholic community in Brentwood increased, this building became too small and so, in 1861, a larger church dedicated to St Helen was built in the Gothic style, on an adjacent site.

In 1917 the new Diocese of Brentwood was created, with the church of St Helen's as its Cathedral Seat. In 1989 work began on the current Cathedral designed by the leading Classical architect Quinlan Terry.

While the Gothic heart of the old St Helen's was retained, a magnificent new classical-styled structure was added and in 1991 the new Cathedral of St Mary and St Helen was formally dedicated by the then Archbishop of Westminster, Cardinal Basil Hume. Since 1998 the Cathedral has been linked with the parish of Holy Cross & All Saints, Warley with priests from the Cathedral serving both parishes. In addition to being the Mother Church of the Diocese the Cathedral also has a thriving parish community and is open every day for prayer and worship.



St Stephen's, St Stephen's Crescent, Ingrave, Brentwood

The new St Stephen's was built in 1953 to care for the spiritual needs of the people newly relocated to the Ingrave area. The patron's name of St Stephen was retained and the title of 'East Ham Estate' given to the surrounding area for continuity and retention of the East End roots.

Since that time the church has been the spiritual home to many 1000s of people and to this day still serves the spiritual needs of a developing community.



Free Church, Hanging Hill Lane, Hutton, Brentwood

Everyone has a history. It helps us to know where we've come and can inspire us to face the future with confidence and hope. Hutton Free Church has its origins over 160 years ago. Local people started meeting for worship in the woodshed of a house called Caprons, on Rayleigh Road, before moving to another house, West View, on Hanging Hill Lane.

By 1860 the church had put up its first building on the corner of Hanging Hill Lane and Hall Green Lane, Hutton, next door to where it is now. It was called Hutton Mission and was established as a joint outreach project by the then Brentwood Congregational [now United Reformed] Church and Brentwood Methodist Church. Later on we changed to our present name, 'Hutton Free Church'.

By 1900 church numbers had grown so that the existing wooden structure was too small and a proper brick building was put up on next door site. It opened in 1906 and is the worship centre you see today. In the 1970s, the halls complex and a front foyer were added.

However the church is about people and not a building. For much of the first half of the twentieth century, Hutton Free had been supported by the Shenfield and Hutton Union Church but since the 1950s has been fully independent.

Hutton Free is linked to the Congregational Federation and the Baptist Union but encourages worshippers of all Christian traditions to come.

In case you wondered, the "Free" bit is not about money but indicates that the church is independent both financially and in how we manage our day to day running.

Thus in order to be financially self-supporting, we do invite those who come to help with the upkeep of the ministry and buildings.

During the 1st World War, the church was used as a recreational centre for troops billeted in this area. In later years local people came along for lantern shows when people talked about their holidays and also social evenings.

In the 1930s the church had a scout troop, and after the Second World War opened Boys' Brigade and Girls' Brigade Companies. Even today the Boys Brigade Company is still active.

In the 1950s and 1960s Hutton Free grew rapidly, as the local population expanded when all the estates were built. This enabled the church to become fully independent, a position which has been maintained to the present day.

The church runs a variety of groups covering all ages and the halls are also hired out by various community organisations.

Mindful of its long history, the church continues to be in good heart and is here to welcome all who come. Hutton Free has always been a community-based church and continues to support those in need both spiritually and in their everyday lives.



St Joseph the Worker, Highview Crescent, Hutton, Brentwood

St. Joseph the Worker Hutton is a Christian congregation serving the Hutton community and seeking, engaging, and encouraging others through a life-changing Christian journey. St. Joseph the Worker at Hutton, Essex seeks to be a loving, friendly community that worships God, and serves others. We place a high priority on teaching from the Bible and following the example of Jesus. Our vision is to impact and renew Hutton, Essex and beyond with the transforming message of Jesus Christ through words and actions. Everyone is welcome. Come as you are - we'd love to get to know you.



Christchurch, Perry Street, Billericay

The consecration of Christ Church in Perry Street was on 11th December 1965. This new church was a replacement for the wooden mission hut which was erected on this site in 1933. This was an outreach church of the parish of Ingatestone to cater for the new housing in the area. The mission hut was taken down in 1982. Originally it was a small wooden hut. Now of course it has been replaced by a fine red brick building which is 50 years old.



Methodist, Western Road, Billericay

Billericay Methodist Church is a vibrant church that is always looking at what they can offer the community by offering a variety of different activities and services. They have two sites one being Western Road Methodist Church CM12 9DT and the other Queens Park Community Church CM12 0GP





St Mary Magdalene, High Street, Billericay

The tower is the oldest part of the church and dates to the 15th century. The chapel to which it was attached was entirely rebuilt about 1785 and was further extended in 1845-6 by the surveyor William Fry when the West ends of the aisles were rebuilt in brick to match the tower and the interior was refitted with N, S and W galleries. It was restored in 1950 to designs by G S Amos. In the 1950s the church was linked to the adjacent Church House to the S. It was repaired again by Laurence King in 1974-5 when it was stripped of many of its furnishings, and was renovated as a multi-use space about 2006-7.

MATERIALS - Brick with tiled roof. Gallery on cast iron columns. **PLAN:** Wide nave with shallow bowed North and East apses, West tower flanked by lower North and South staircases. Galleries on North, South and West Exterior

The 15th century W tower has a moulded W door set in a square frame, with contemporary Spanish blue and white tiles in the spandrels. The West window is of 2 lights and has cusped brick tracery, with a clock on a projecting open bracket above. There are pairs of uncusped lights in each face of the upper stage below a pinnacled, crow-stepped parapet set on a band of trefoiled arches. The west ends of the North and South aisles were extended alongside the tower circa 1845 to form staircases.

Their parapets copy the tower, and they have 15th century style windows. The upper stage of the tower is abutted to N and S by the pitched roof of the 1780's rebuilding, the slopes of which create a pedimented effect to the West end. The 18th century nave is also of brick and has Georgian style windows with arched heads at upper and lower level, except in the apses which have only one set of arched windows. There are pilaster buttresses on the corners.

INTERIOR – The interior is a very plain preaching box. The walls are plastered and painted and have a string course forming a cornice in the apses and linking the heads of the upper windows. The galleries stand on slender cast-iron columns. The altar stands in the E apse. WC's and a kitchen were added in the early 21st century, by when all of the remaining liturgical fittings save the altar had been removed. PRINCIPAL FIXTURES - Turned altar rails in E apse. Reredos with pilasters, entablature and riddel posts in N apse as a monument to Rev. W S Smith (incumbent 1928-52). HISTORY - The chapel of St Mary Magdalene was built as a chantry chapel probably in the 14th century, and subsequently rebuilt or extended in the C15, when the present tower was built. Sold with other chantry property at the Reformation, it came into the possession of the inhabitants of Billericay, but remained a chapel of ease dependent on Great Burstead until 1844.

By the late 18th century, the old chapel had become too small for the growing population of the town, and it was rebuilt in a contemporary style but retained the medieval tower, following a collection made in 1784-5. It became independent in 1844, and the following year the interior was provided with additional galleries for more seating, accessed via staircases at the W ends. The orientation, having formerly faced north, was turned eastwards in line with new liturgical fashions. It was stripped of many liturgical furnishings in the 1970s, when the pulpit and choir stalls were removed and the altar moved forward. The church went out of regular liturgical use in 1992, when the new church of Emmanuel was opened; it was stripped of its pews, and provided with flexible seating and new kitchen and toilet facilities as a multi-use space. Internally it has galleries of 1845 to North, South and West. The combination of late medieval tower with tall Georgian body, a fusion of Gothic and Classical form, is usual and possesses high townscape value.



Most Holy Redeemer, Catholic, Laindon Road, Billericay

The Most Holy Redeemer Billericay is a Christian congregation serving the Billericay community and seeking, engaging, and encouraging others through a life-changing Christian journey.

The Most Holy Redeemer at Billericay, Essex seeks to be a loving, friendly community that worships God, and serves others. We place a high priority on teaching from the Bible and following the example of Jesus.

Our vision is to impact and renew Billericay, Essex and beyond with the transforming message of Jesus Christ through words and actions. Everyone is welcome. Come as you are - we'd love to get to know you.



Emmanuel, Church View, Laidon Road, Billericay

Emmanuel is a lively, gently charismatic, evangelical church, which has a very relaxed, informal and contemporary feel with a whole range of activities to cater for people of all ages and we believe there is a genuine place for everyone whether you have a young family, are a young person; single; your children have "flown the nest" and (dare we say?) those of mature years. Everyone is a valued member of our church family.

On Sundays we provide a varied pattern of Worship alongside groups for Children and Young People. They have a wide range of groups meeting regularly throughout the week, which provide an opportunity for people of all ages to learn more about their Christian faith, and offer practical Christian friendship for everyone.

They take 'being church' very seriously - especially when it comes to our Worship and the Preaching of God's word. However, they enjoy having lots of fun along the way (some would say we do chaos well!) with laughter being an important, though often forgotten, part of our Christian faith.

But don't take our word for it, we give you a warm invitation to come and join with us to see for yourself - they hope you will enjoy your time with them.

At the heart of our life together is the conviction that our calling as Christians is to serve Jesus and to serve one another, and this is summed up in our church motto: "A Christian Community Seeking To Serve Jesus".

Their website (they're always in the process of upgrading and adding new information) will also tell you something about their many activities, all of them aiming to help you, and your family if you have one, to find a place where you can receive what we have to offer but, also, where you are able to contribute to the ongoing life, and ministry, of God's Church in, and through, Emmanuel.

They would, of course, be delighted if you chose to join our church family and to make Emmanuel your spiritual home. However, becoming part of a Christian community takes time and so we ask that you will be patient with us - we're still learning - and take the time to enjoy all that we have to offer to you!

MONDAY 30th OCTOBER 2017



Unitarians, Friars Street, Ipswich

The congregational was founded some time after the 1662 Act of Uniformity had excluded from the Church of England those clergy who would not conform, hence the name "Non conformists" – to its provisions. In 1672 this Non conformist or Dissenting congregation of combined Presbyterians and Independents.





Bethesda Baptist, Fonnereau Road, Ipswich



Bethesda is an Evangelical Baptist Church fellowship made up of around 200 people who meet in a landmark building in the heart of the Ipswich Town centre.





Quaker Meeting House, Fonnereau Road, Ipswich

The meeting house is in central Ipswich. There is car parking at the meeting house for about 7 cars. From Ipswich railway station take corporation bus to Tower Ramparts - meeting house 4-5 minutes walk. The Old Cattle Market bus station for country buses is 6-7 minutes walk. **Meeting for worship:** Sundays 10.30-11.30 am in the Meeting House and Wednesdays 1.00-1.30 pm in the Library. Children are always welcome, especially on the first Sunday of the month.



St Margaret's, St Margaret's Street, Ipswich

The present organ, by J W Walker & Sons started life as a two-manual organ installed in 1859 at Holy Trinity, Bedford. It has been modified since then and was purchased by St Margaret's Church in 1981 and installed by Bishop and Son, Ipswich.

The oldest part of St. Margaret's Church dates back to the end of the 13th century, and was built by the Priors of Holy Trinity Priory to house the growing town population which could not longer be accommodated in the nave of the Priory Church. The nave arcades, doorways and the windows in the north aisle are all that is left of that first church.

About 1450 the nave walls were cut away to put in the clerestory windows, and the double hammer-beam roof was constructed. The roof panels were painted towards the end of the 17th century and have recently been restored. The decorative scheme in this roof is unparalleled and therefore of national importance.

In 1800 twisted iron stays were introduced to prevent the walls from splaying out under the weight of the roof. The south elevation and the rebuilt, higher tower are Victorian alterations and additions. A small extension was added in 2005 with toilets and kitchen area and the chapel area was re-furbished in 2007.



St Michael's, Upper Orwell Street, Ipswich

For more than 120 years, St Michael's church has been an Ipswich landmark after being built in the Victoria era. It was constructed in the 1880's, the red-brick church features a vast east facing window and Regency-style windows throughout. It has large wooden doors which open almost directly on to Upper Orwell Street.

It was built for an expanding congregation but in the post second War years attendances declined. The church was closed more than a decade ago and had since fallen into disrepair but was then bought by the local branch of Muslim organisation JIMAS.

The charity bought the church and its hall last year and was planning a conversion and restoration costing hundreds of thousands of pounds.

It was proposed to convert the building and make it into a community centre, not a mosque, that would serve and be open to the whole town. However in March 2011 there were fears last night that an historic Ipswich town centre church hit by a devastating fire might collapse. It was badly hit by the blaze at St Michael's Church in Upper Orwell Street was reported at just before 9.50pm and due to the severity of the flames ten fire crews were soon on the scene.

A safety cordon was put in place around the building as the roof was consumed by fire and neighbouring properties were evacuated.

At its height, the blaze was being fought by 70 firefighters. The worst of the flames were out by 11.30pm but smoke continued to billow through the church windows well into the night. Upper Orwell Street is near the Regent Theatre, which hosted an evening showing of Spamalot last night.

The audience came out of the show shortly before 10pm to be greeted by the dramatic scene but their journey home was not hampered by the firefighting operation.

Staff from fast food shops including Fresh Kebabs, in Upper Orwell Street, were ordered to close the shop by the police as part of the safety cordon and evacuation process. Police closed Upper Orwell Street from its Tacket Street junction to where it joins St Helen's Street.

Fire crews from Princes Street and Colchester Road stations in Ipswich, Woodbridge, Holbrook, Felixstowe, Needham Market, Colchester and Hadleigh Fire Stations were all sent to the scene. A turntable unit, aerial ladder platform and a command support vehicle were also involved.

Mark Sanderson, assistant chief fire officer, said the fire quickly spread throughout the entire structure. "Parts of the roof have been collapsing and there was debris coming off the roof including tiles which fell inside the building," he said.

The church is a listed building and was built in the 1880s but has stood empty for more than a decade. It was bought last year by a Muslim charity which had plans to turn it into a community centre.



St Helen's, St Helen's Street, Ipswich

The South porch and part of the South nave wall 15th century. Transepts, chancel and part of nave N wall, 1848 to designs by William Patisson. West end of nave and South West tower 1875 to designs by Frederick Barnes. Interior sub-divided late 1980s.

MATERIALS - Knapped flint rubble with stone and white brick dressings. Slated roofs.

PLAN - Wide, unaisled nave with transeptal chapels and a broad, shallow chancel. North East vestry, South porch and South West tower.

EXTERIOR - Of the medieval church, only the South porch and the South nave wall remain, everything else having been rebuilt in stages in the 19th century. The South nave wall has 15th century windows and a simple, flint flush work decoration. The South porch is also 15th century, and has a worn image niche above the outer entrance with a 16th or 17th century sundial above it. The outer opening is set in a square frame with carved spandrels, and there are two light windows in the porch side walls. The inner door has a medieval ring handle.

The 19th century South West tower is in a Decorated style, with ogee-headed openings in the second stage and a polygonal top with a parapet of pierced quatrefoils. Simple polygonal spire. Large 19th century perpendicular-style window with vertical tracery. The rest of the church is also largely in a perpendicular style, with some of the tracery modelled on the S nave windows.

INTERIOR - The interior is plastered and painted, with a broad, queen-post roof on stone corbels in the nave. In the 1980s, the chancel was partitioned off to form a hall, the transepts closed off to form a vestry (North) and cloakrooms (South) with rooms above them.

The nave stripped of furnishings and reordered to form an open worship space orientated to the North. Organ gallery of 1982-3 at the East end of the nave with a metal spiral stair.

PRINCIPAL FIXTURES - The church was re-ordered in the late 20th century and has no liturgical furnishings of interest. 15th century South door with large, medieval ring handle. A little 19th century glass, including chancel South East by Clayton and Bell, 1872; nave South East possibly by Hardman and another, also possibly by Hardman in the South transept. Some 18th and 19th century memorial tablets, including The Rev Richard Canning, died.1775 and another Richard Canning, died 1726.

HISTORY - St Helen's is probably late 11th or early 12th century in origin, and was built outside the medieval city walls. The medieval church comprised a short, unaisled nave with a chancel, South porch and small West tower. Of this structure only the South porch and South nave wall survive. The tower was early 12th century, and early engravings show it with an embattled parapet and a small spike, the latter removed before the early 19th century. The nave had large, perpendicular windows, and the chancel was apparently brick, with square-headed windows, and was probably built in the 16th century. The church was altered and enlarged in phases in the 19th century. The chancel was rebuilt, again in brick, before 1828. North and South transepts were added in 1837, when the medieval chancel arch was removed. This work was all demolished in 1848-9, when the present chancel, transepts and nave North wall were built, making the whole church much wider.

The medieval tower was repaired in 1856, and its top stage and parapet were removed in 1871. In 1874-5, the tower was demolished and the nave extended westwards to the line of its former West wall. The present SW tower was also built at this time. The church was restored in 1926. It was reordered and subdivided internally in the 1980s.



Mosque, Bond Street, Ipswich

Welcome to the Ipswich & Suffolk Bangladeshi Muslim Community Centre and Mosque. Suffolk has been a beacon in the East of England for Muslims all over the world. Suffolk has had some local prominent people such as Muhammad Marduke Pickthall, translator of the Quran to English (1930) and Lady Evelyn Zainab Cobbold, first British born woman to do the pilgrimage to Makkah (1934). It was only natural that this beacon should grow richer in culture and spirituality.

The major influx of Muslims into Ipswich happened after WWII, when Bangladeshi Muslim came to work in the factories of Ipswich. The first Imam was appointed in the late 1970's to look after the spiritual needs of the community. There was no fixed place of worship at that time. He would lead congregational prayers in various halls hired for that purpose. The religious teaching of children was from four designated centres in Ipswich. These centres were often the houses of Muslims willing to lend their homes for the greater good. Ipswich Mosque was founded in 1984 by local Bangladeshi Muslims. The building, a former Victorian fire station, was purchased for use as a community centre and place of worship. The capacity of the mosque was about 50 worshippers. It was a male only congregation as there was no separate area for women. The facilities were very basic as it was a dilapidated building. The number of people attending on an average Friday was 15 to 20 people. There was a substantial Muslim community but they were mostly single men and working on a Friday and for that reason the attendance was low. There would be classes for children six days a week and this was better attended. However at that time there were some 20 families living in Ipswich. The establishment of the mosque led people to me more aware of their spiritual needs and gradually the congregation and the children attending the mosque grew.

The increase of the congregation led to the purchase of a Portakabin. However, this was often not enough. The mosque on any Friday in the 1990's would get so overcrowded that the worshippers had to pray outside in the car park. The situation was getting urgent and an expansion and renovation project was started. They were very fortunate that a building in Upper Orwell Street became vacant and was purchased by the community to expand the mosque and to accommodate women. The existing community centre was extended and renovated for use as classrooms and general community purpose.

They have recently purchased another building on Upper Orwell Street for extending prayer hall facilities. We hope to be bringing this into use in the near future. This expansion and growth has only been possible with the financial and moral support of our users and the Community of Ipswich. They are a small, diverse community united by our love of Islam. They come to the mosque to worship Allah, find solace and balance in our lives. They actively strive to get on well with our neighbours and the wider community.

FRIDAY 3rd NOVEMBER 2017



Noak Bridge Revival Centre, Wash Road, Basildon

In 1977 prophesy was given at the church that God was going to send the FIRE of an Holy Spirit Revival starting in Basildon at the Central Hall as it was called then. Soon after the Church was closed and the fellowship scattered and the Church remained empty for more than six months. In parallel with this in 1977 the Church which Shirley and Alan were leading with David Masters in the Palace Hotel Southend had to close as the White Room there was to be converted into a bar. We had been there for a number of years free of charge after Henri's conventions at the request of Mr Bernstein the owner who was so blessed by his relationship with Henri. So it was at New Year in 1978 the Basildon Glory Fellowship was founded at the empty Central Hall starting with a three day convention. For four days all the people who came on that New Year's Eve were snowed in.

As a result many slept on the floor at our house until the roads were reopened. Since then the congregation has grown and we have had to make four extensions to the church. In 1999 the seating in the church was increased to 140 after the floor area was doubled. During that year a tower with a weather vane was added with a motif of a fire signifying our faith that our hearts passion the fire of revival, our ultimate goal for Basildon. There always been a tangible spirit of love in the church and we are thankful for the history of those who founded the church in 1905. It was built as a free church by a group of Plot-Landers who bought a twenty feet plot and by subscription and built a substantial small brick chapel. One old lady took in washing to fund the project. Shirley and I used to visit it in our teen years Shirley sang and we always felt that love there. After we were filled with the Spirit in 1958 we used to go with a team, and we were not invited back because the old ladies thought we were too noisy with our tambourines.

The Pastor a gracious old man called Mr Lyse was sad but the love he showed us was precious and we used to visit him at home thereafter. Paradoxically when the meetings started in 1978 two of these ladies joined us and were filled with the Spirit, one I baptised at 88 in a four foot swell in the sea at Lowestoft. We have had many significant manifestations of powerful anointing in our meetings since 1978 and there has always been a hunger for a greater deeper powerful move of the Holy Spirit in our congregation. Since 2009 there has been a fresh wave of the fire among us and the congregation has grown with people coming to us from all nations. We are grateful for the blessings of the Lord and his faithfulness in prospering what he started with us 33 years ago



Kingswood Baptist, Codenham Straight, Basildon

THURSDAY 9th NOVEMBER 2017



Christchurch, London Road, Braintree

Christ Church is a town centre community of Christians that meet in Braintree. We are passionate about our mission to

'Transform Community by nurture and healing through faith in Jesus'

and want to see the community of Braintree transformed in Jesus name.

We are seeking to serve the community through various projects and ministries all founded upon our faith in Jesus Christ, God's Son, our saviour.



They believe that God loves the world so much that he sent his son to repair and restore the relationship between humanity and God so that they can live as God's children.

In the power of the Holy Spirit they seek to bring this restoration to individuals, families, and the community they live in so that people can once more know the real presence of God in their lives and find freedom through it.

They meet for worship of different styles (both traditional and contemporary) on Sundays.

During these times they enjoy singing, hearing about Jesus, ministering to one another, and being transformed by God's Spirit to better imitate Jesus in our daily lives.

The people of Christ Church are a great bunch who love God and one another and would love to welcome anyone to join us as we lift God's name in Braintree.

If you want to know more about the church or about what it is to know Jesus then please look at our website or contact us.

In the meantime may God give you every blessing in the name of Jesus.

WEDNESDAY 16th NOVEMBER 2017



All Saints, High Street, Walton-on-Naze

Whether you're a regular visitor or member of our church, or someone from the other side of the world, I am glad that you have expressed an interest in All Saints'. We are the parish church for the beautiful seaside town of Walton-on-the-Naze in North Essex. They exist to know God's love and to show God's love in our community. God's love is made known to the world in Jesus Christ, and so it is in His name that they welcome you.

The parish church is open every day of the year. It stands in the heart of the High Street, its tower overlooking the town we serve. Whenever the bell is rung, public prayer is offered: each day of the week, morning and evening. I pray that the Lord would bless you richly as you explore these pages. Do come and see us when you can!



Hebron Pentecostal, High Street, Walton-on-Naze

Rochdale AoG was one of the first 'church plants' by the newly formed Home Missions Council which had been brought into being at the general conference, this was as a result of the vision of George Oldershaw of South Normanton. Evangelist George Reed was sent to check out the land in Rochdale in preparation for a pioneer crusade and in 1943 he knocked on the door of 169 Drake Street, the residence of the Whittaker family. The whittaker's, Robert and Gertrude, and their two sons, Robert and Colin (a lifelong Methodist family) moved from Haslingden in the summer of 1941. They attended Champness Hall, where on Remembrance Sunday 1941, both sons gave their hearts to Christ and were 'born again'. In May 1942 Robert was called up for National Service. The whittakers had close contact with Pentecostals in Haslingden through Fred and Isobel Ramsbottom who went to the Belgium Congo in the early 1930's with Morrice Hugo a new convert. It was through this contact that George Reed came to ask Mr and Mrs Whittaker if they would support a new Assembly of God church in Rochdale, to this they agreed.

Owing to sickness George Reed was unable to conduct this pioneer campaign so veteran Welsh evangelist George Every took on the job. Mr and Mrs Every and a friend were all accommodated in the Whittakers home during the campaign, which was held in the hall over the cafe in Butts Chambers in the centre of Rochdale.

After the campaign Douglas S Quay, discharged from the RAF for health reasons was appointed follow up pastor. Pastor Quay was also accommodated by the Whittakers for two years. David and Rosemary Griffiths from Stoke on Trent succeeded him. Pastors Quay and Griffiths both nurtured and built up the little group of faithful members.

After the war Colin Whittaker on his discharge from RAMC in December 1947, spent his demob leave working in the assembly. Before his call up in 1944 he attended Hampstead Bible School under Howard Carter and in the spring of 1944 he worked with Home Missions in their first caravan as a trainee evangelist under George Oldershaw and Henry Shave. The caravan was located at Huthwaite and the campaign also covered Stanton Hill. When his leave finished he sought a temporary job so that he could help build the young church. He was employed by Turner's Asbestos Ltd. as a clerk, but after a short period he was invited to take over the pastorate which had been vacated by Pastor Griffiths some months before in 1947.

The Reid family joined the Assembly during 1947 and when Colin took over he and Kenneth Reid became firm friends. Colin and Ken started spending half nights praying together on Fridays.

On Wednesday 28th July 1948 the church reported that 57 decisions to follow Christ had been made in the first six months of the year, 25 under 15 years of age and 32 over that age. 17 were baptised in water at Beulah AoG, Bury in co-operation with Pastor Arthur Blythe.

The Sunday school was started during the war by Mrs Gertrude Whittaker and at this time there were 81 members recorded, 47 girls and 34 boys with an attendance of between 30 and 40.

Between March and July 1948 16 open air meetings were held, 5 on the streets, 2 in Newgate and 9 in the Town Hall Square. An average of 7 people distributed 10,000 tracts. Sunday attendances at this time were 18-24 in the morning and 25-35 in the evening. Attendances Monday were 18-25, Wednesday 25-35 and Saturday 30-40.

A campaign with Harold Miles an evangelist from Peniel Chapel, London was held for one week in the summer of 1948. On his last night Harold Miles was unable to preach because of a sore throat, so Colin preached in his place and God gave him the joy of seeing Mr and Mrs Diggle and Sheila raise their hands at the appeal. Robert Whittaker had been training as a student teacher at Sheila's school before he went to Leeds training college. He had visited the Diggles home and invited them to the campaign. To God be the glory!

Another important event happened in 1947 when the Cliff College Trekkers held a campaign at Brimrod Methodist Church with evangelist Tom Butler. During this campaign Hazel Lee and Joan Fitton both found Christ and supported each other in their new found faith. They both attended the Assembly and in due course Colin married Hazel Kenneth married Joan.

A building fund was started in 1949 as it was realised that if the church was going to grow it needed its own premises.

It was a big burden for the small assembly to support a single young man especially as membership declined due to two deaths of older members, people moving away from the town and the loss of new converts. Consequently, in 1949 Colin sought a temporary job and was employed as a wages clerk at Sharrock and Sharrock Ltd. Colin and Hazel married on 2nd of September 1950 and in 1951 after Colin was invited to the pastorate of the Radcliffe Assembly, Ken and Joan took over the local pastorate in April 1951. This was meant to be a temporary arrangement but they filled the gap so effectively and caringly that they continued to shepherd the Assembly for many years until their retirement in 1990. It was due to their sacrificial labours that the church continued to grow.

In 1966 the church applied to the council for land, as the premises over Taylor's cafe were unsuitable. Seven years later permission was granted to build the present church. Quotations for the building of the church were over budget so it was decided that with God's help we would carry out the building work ourselves. As work progressed God in his mercy provided the finance. The building was opened in March 1974 and an extension was added in 1987.



Emmanuel, Woodberry Way, Walton-on-Naze

A Methodist/U.R.C.situated near the coast in Walton-on-the-Naze, Essex. This church has the most welcoming congregation for its services and also provides coffee mornings, drama-group, pre-school play/lunch for mothers with toddlers. You would be made to feel at home very quickly within this group.

SATURDAY 25th NOVEMBER 2017



Zoar Baptist, St Helen's Lane, Ipswich

The first Zoar Chapel, Ipswich opened for worship in David Street (now demolished) on the 7th January 1842. The present chapel situated in St. Helen's Street was opened for worship on Wednesday 18th March 1925. The first minister of Zoar Chapel was Pastor J. B. Bateman who was called to the pastorate on June 19th 1842. He was followed by Pastors W. Felton (1855-59), J. Wilkins (1862-66), S. Willis (1867-70), J. Morling (1872-79), S. Cozens (1882 - 1887), R.C. Bardens (1891-1907), P. Reynolds (1912-34), J.S. Smith (1941-58), R.G. Martin (1960-65), E.D. Eldridge (1968- 82), R.J. Howells (1984-89) and P.F. Hughes (1991-2005). Church officers include Dr. Graham Eldridge (Elder and Church Treasurer), Mr. John Woodcock (Elder and Church & Mission Secretary), Mr. Peter Cornish, Deacon, and Ovidiu Timpescu , Deacon. They are thankful to God for our Pastor, James Paton, formerly Elder at Surrey Chapel, Botolph Street, Norwich and who was inducted as our Pastor on 11th September 2010 - pictured above right. We were delighted that the Lord brought along a soulmate for our Pastor James who married Joanna Fisher in July

OMITTED – THURSDAY 17th AUGUST 2017



St Barnabas, Brook Road, Great Tey

SATURDAY 16th DECEMBER 2017



St Peter Parmentergate, King Street, Norwich

St Peter Parmentergate, Norwich (also *Permountergate*) is a Grade I listed redundant parish church in the Church of England in Norwich. History. The church is medieval and was rebuilt in 1486. The church closed in 1981 when the congregation moved to St Julian's Church, Norwich. In 1994 the vestry was leased by the Norwich Historic Churches Trust to the Magdalene Group. In 2005, the church became the Norwich Centre for Martial Arts.



Norwich Cathedral, The Close, Norwich

Norwich Cathedral is an English cathedral located in Norwich, Norfolk, dedicated to the *Holy and Undivided Trinity*. It is the cathedral church for the Church of England Diocese of Norwich and is one of the Norwich 12 heritage sites. The cathedral was begun in 1096 and constructed out of flint and mortar and faced with a cream-coloured Caen limestone. A Saxon settlement and two churches were demolished to make room for the buildings. The cathedral was completed in 1145 with the Norman tower still seen today topped with a wooden spire covered with lead. Several episodes of damage necessitated rebuilding of the east end and spire but since the final erection of the stone spire in 1480 there have been few fundamental alterations to the fabric. The large cloister has over 1,000 bosses including several hundred carved and ornately painted ones.

Norwich Cathedral has the second largest cloisters in England, only exceeded by those at Salisbury Cathedral. The cathedral close is one of the largest in England and one of the largest in Europe and has more people living within it than any other close. The cathedral spire, measuring at 315 ft (96 m), is the second tallest in England despite being partly rebuilt after being struck by lightning in 1169, just 23 months after its completion, which led to the building being set on fire. Measuring 461 ft (140.5 m) long and, with the transepts, 177 ft (54 m) wide at completion, Norwich Cathedral was the largest building in East Anglia.



Princes Street URC, Norwich

Reverend John Alexander first came to Norwich as a student in 1817. He so impressed a group from the Tabernacle that he was invited to become the first pastor of a proposed new Congregational Church when it opened in 1819. He stayed for 47 years. The site for the church was on Hungate (now Princes Street) where a group of tenement houses were situated round a courtyard. The original building was a simple non-conformist style and cost £4,800. The flat roof was found to be unsafe so alterations were carried out in 1828. After other serious problems it was decided to engage Edward Boardman to redesign the building. This was completed in 1868.

The quality reflected the increasing prosperity and influence of many in the congregation. There is spectacular plasterwork on the ceiling and bold decorative ironwork round the balcony in an otherwise simple interior. The original box pews and benches were replaced with pine pews and in 1927 payment for pews was replaced by freewill offering. Stairs connecting the Sanctuary to the Church Rooms in the adjoining Boardman House were added in 1969. Some rear pews were removed and a screen erected in 1977 to create the Conversation Area.

Their millennium project was the installation of glass doors making the church more visible to passers-by and the outside more visible to ourselves. The platform at the front of the church was extended and the high level pulpit removed to reflect changes of style in worship. In 2013 it was decided to sell Boardman House and develop the Sanctuary and attached buildings to create a flexible, modernised space for worship and church and community use, together with a number of meeting rooms.

Today they are one of seven URC Churches in the Norwich area. Four churches are in the city, Princes Street, Ipswich Road., Jessopp Rd. and Trinity on Unthank Road and three in the surrounding area at Wroxham and Hoveton, Mattishall and Wymondham. The churches are served by a Team Ministry. They are also part of Norwich Central Churches Together (NCCT) which has 19 members including the Anglican and Roman Catholic Cathedrals, Norwich Central Baptist Church, Chapelfield Road Methodist Church and the Salvation Army. Pulpit exchanges and joint celebration of festivals result from this partnership.

The United Reformed Church on Princes Street has been transformed. Following two years of planning and a year of action, the church has reopened its doors to all for worship, mission and community support in the city centre. A large, versatile space has been created in the Sanctuary with the removal of pews. A spectacular glass screen has been built to create a bright new welcoming area at the front of the church. The re-design, by Purcell Miller Triton has also created a variety of high quality, attractive rooms with refreshment facilities.

In the Sanctuary, state of the art lighting, audio visual equipment and under-floor heating add to the attraction for worship, concerts, exhibitions and meetings. An adjacent, fully equipped kitchen provides meals for Luncheon Club and for special occasions. Altogether, a fresh and stimulating new look offering a warm welcome to all.

For many years the church was a place for seven day activities, with Sunday Worship and Tuesday Prayers at its heart. Groups and individuals found support, education and recreation within its walls. Concerts, exhibitions together with our regular "Good Cause" raised a considerable amount for charities. As well as church use we continue to have rooms for hire.

As a result of the innovative changes, carried out by W.S. Lusher & Son Ltd, our new look premises provide a vital setting for both worship and a wide range of church and community activities adding to the cultural life of the city.



St Peter Hungate, Princes Street, Norwich

St Peter Hungate, Norwich is a Grade I listed redundant parish church in the Church of England in Norwich. The church is medieval. The date of 1460 appears on a buttress of the porch. After closure, the church was converted to Hungate Medieval Art museum. The church purchased a positive organ in 1938 from a monastery at Lucca, near Florence in Italy. A specification of the organ can be found on the National Pipe Organ Register. A 13th century and later flint, brick and stone former parish church with the date 1467 on a buttress by the north door. It consists of a two stage west tower, nave and chancel, north and south transepts and a two storey south porch. The chancel was rebuilt in 1602, re-using the north and south windows. Inside is a hammerbeam roof. Since restoration in the 1930s it has been used as a museum of church history, and opened as the Hungate Medieval Art Centre in 2009.

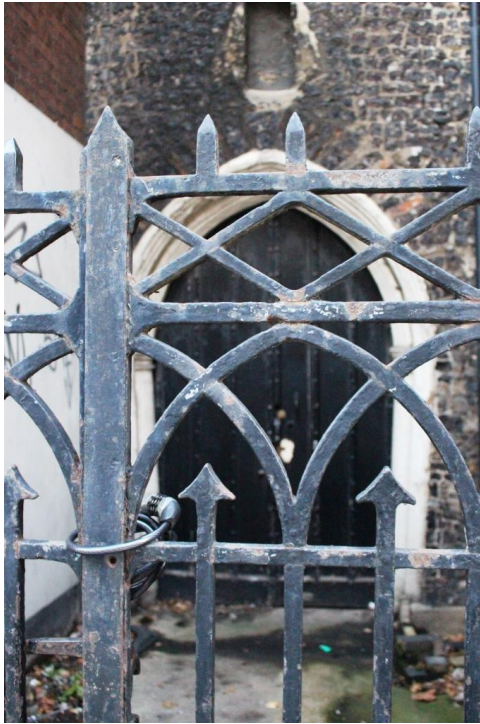
Former parish church now museum. 1460 incised in north buttress. Flint with stone and brick dressing. 13th century. Chancel partly brick. Lead fragments. Pintiles on chancel. West tower nave and chancel. North and south transepts and south porch. Unbuttressed two-stage tower. Three bay nave, two-storey porch. Two bay chancel rebuilt in 1602 re-using north and south windows. Hammerbeam roof. For more details see Rebuilt 1460. 1970. Sherd of bellarmine, 17th century, found under floor of church (NHER 456) when putting in central heating. W. Milligan (NCM). (S2) notes; in the 19th to early 20th century this was only a mildly Ritualist church. The vicar, Reverend Hunt, died of grief after the City Corporation pulled down his house to make way for trams. E. Rose (NLA), 24 April 2006. 2009. Opened as Hungate Medieval Art Centre (S3). D. Gurney (NLA), 2 February 2010.





St Michael at Plea, Rodwell Street

St Peter Hungate, **St Michael-at-Plea, Norwich** is a Grade I listed redundant parish church in the Church of England in Norwich. The church is medieval. The church was restored in 1887 when a partition separating the chancel from the nave was removed, and new windows were inserted in the Transepts. The box pews were replaced with chairs and the angels in the roof were gilded. The church purchased an organ dating from 1887 by Norman and Beard. A specification of the organ can be found on the National Pipe Organ Register. At present it is a bookshop and café.



St Mary the Less, Queen Street, Norwich

St Peter Hungate, **St Mary the Less, Norwich** is a Grade I listed redundant parish church in the Church of England in Norwich. The church is medieval but became redundant during the 16th century. It became a hall where Dutch merchants sold cloth. In 1637 it was converted into a French Protestant church, and this survived until 1832 when it was sold to the Swedenborgians. In 1869 it became a Catholic Apostolic Church. After closure in the 1950s it became a furniture shop.



Salvation Army, St Giles Street, Norwich

NCB History

Norwich Citadel Band was established in 1882 following a visit by General William Booth, founder of The Salvation Army, who came to preach at the newly opened corps (church) based in a former roller skating rink in the heart of the old medieval city of Norwich. The General implored its citizens to "Get a drum and rouse Norwich from one end to the other." This directive was immediately acted upon, instruments were purchased and a band was formed. By December 1882 the band was heard playing and marching the streets proclaiming the message of God's love for all.

1882 was a prolific year for The Salvation Army. Its work commenced in Canada, India, Switzerland and Sweden as well as the opening of corps number 304 in Norwich, England. Some of the bandsmen of today can trace family roots back to those early days and are justly proud of their heritage.

Today the band is very much involved in the life of the city and provides music for many civic, church and cultural events including the annual Lord Mayor's Civic Service and the Remembrance Sunday Parade. It also regularly plays in the magnificent 11th century Cathedral and in concert halls around the region.

Travel to other parts of Great Britain giving concerts and leading worship at Salvation Army centres is part of the band's raison d'etre. Appearances at famous venues include London's Royal Albert Hall, Royal Festival Hall and Queen Elizabeth Hall, Amsterdam's Concertgebouw, the concert hall of the University of Cape Town, the Centennial Memorial Temple in New York City and Sandringham, the Queen's residence in Norfolk.

For many years the band has toured overseas and has visited the Netherlands (1959 and 2012), Sweden (1971 and 2004), Norway (1990), the USA (1985, 1998 and 2010), Canada (1985 and 2010) and South Africa (1993), where NCB were the first Salvation Army band ever to visit the African continent from overseas and the first ever brass band to travel to that country.



St Giles on the Hill, St Giles Street, Norwich

St Giles' Church, Norwich is a Grade I listed parish church in the Church of England in Norwich. The church is medieval and is noted in the Domesday Book. It was restored between 1866 - 1867 by Richard Phipson. The tower is the tallest in Norwich at a height of 120 ft. There are a number of wall monuments including those to: Thomas Churchman 1742 by Sir Henry Cheere, 1st Baronet. Sir Samuel Churchman 1781 by Thomas Rawlins Philip Stannard 1747 by Thomas Rawlins. The church contained an organ which dated from 1896 by Norman and Beard. A specification of the organ can be found on the National Pipe Organ Register.