

Church of St. Matthew

Cheltenham.



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1850
80

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH
OF ENGLAND - CH
DIAMOND JUBILEE

Sourvenir

Diamond Jubilee

(of Present Building)

1867=1927

H. Nauwer
45. August 18. Cheldentam

The FOREWORD

BY THE PRESENT VICAR.

MY DEAR PEOPLE.—

For at least seventy-five years Mother Church has been attending to the needs of her children in the Cheltenham district. First, the two church schools that looked after the spiritual and secular education of the settlers, and then the gradually growing church buildings, as population demanded it. We thank God that our fathers' had something of vision and realised that the little temporary buildings, like the Spring Grove Church, while being the best that a handful of settlers could

same vision and courage and the same devoted service for the Master. Cheltenham, must, in a very few years, be a big place. The church must be a big place too, ready to minister to the needs of an ever increasing population. The church must be ready, and courageous enough to face new problems, and old problems in new settings—ready to receive and use new sides of the Truth, which an increasingly scientific age may have to bring from its storehouse. And ever as we press on



SPRING GROVE CHURCH, 1854

1850 Rev. Brickwood
1852 Rev. Taylor.

manage was not the best that a bigger community could do, so in 1867 the first portion of the present Parish church was built, and, at the beginning of this century, it was completed. It is good in looking over old minutes to see names of church workers in the sixties, seventies and eighties, that are being nobly represented in their descendants in the present generation.

It is worthy of note that some twelve years ago there were only two male candidates for confirmation—there was a lack of quantity, but the quality was there—because those two boys are the secretary and treasurer respectively, of the church this year.

Looking backwards, then, we thank God for the courage, the vision, and the devoted service of those who have gone before. We thank God for the lives of those many who have worshipped Him in St. Matthews, and now worship Him somewhere in His great Universe

Looking forward we pray for a large measure of the

there must always be as guiding star and our goal—the Cross of our Lord Jesus, and all that it means.

Then:

"Forward! be our watchword,
Steps and voices joined.
Seek the things before us,
Not a look behind;
Burns the fiery pillar
At our army's head;
Who shall dream of shrinking,
By our Captain led "

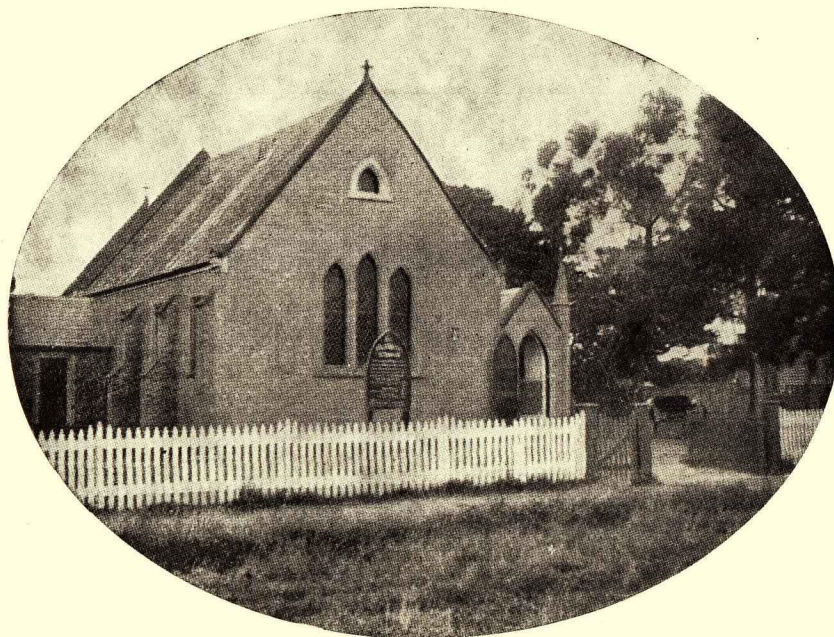
With a great hope for a fruitful and blessed time at the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations, and that our work, and the work of those who follow in this place may be greatly blessed, to the Glory of our Lord Jesus Christ and His Church.

Yours sincerely, in His service,

A. H. H.

Church of St Matthew, Cheltenham

Diamond Jubilee, 1927



THE PRESENT DAY CHURCH

Committees, 1862, 1865, and 1868.
1862.

Vicar: Rev. Samuel Taylor, M.A., St. Andrew's, Brighton.

Committee: Messrs. Henry George Freame, Richard Goldstone, Frederick Plumridge, William Francis, and B. Buckley.

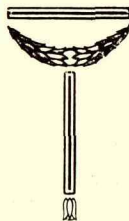
Building Committee, 1865.

Messrs. J. M. Smith, W. Francis, H. Comport, T. Tilley, and F. Plumridge.

First Committee Elected After New Church was Built.

Vicar: Rev. William Singleton, M.A.

Committee: Messrs. Attenborough, Booker, Etheridge, Wells, Mundy, F. Plumridge, and H. Plumridge.



Diamond Jubilee Vestry, 1927.

Vicar: Rev. R. North, Th. Schol., A.C.T.

Assistant-Curate: Rev. A. B. Brown.

Churchwardens: Messrs. Alec. Biehl, H. J. Cullen, and E. G. Williams

Vestrymen: Messrs. C. H. Burnett, T. K. Davidson, D. Gratian, H. F. Harvey, R. M. Kellett, F. Petschack, W. O. Rowe, and W. Shepherd.

Hon. Sec.: Mr. H. F. Harvey, Argus street.

Hon. Treas.: Mr. T. K. Davidson, Station street.

Parochial Nominators: Messrs. H. J. Cullen, H. F. Harvey, and E. G. Williams.

Lay Representatives of Synod: Messrs. C. H. Burnett and H. J. Cullen.



REV. R. NORTH, Th. Schol. (A.C.T.)
The Present Vicar



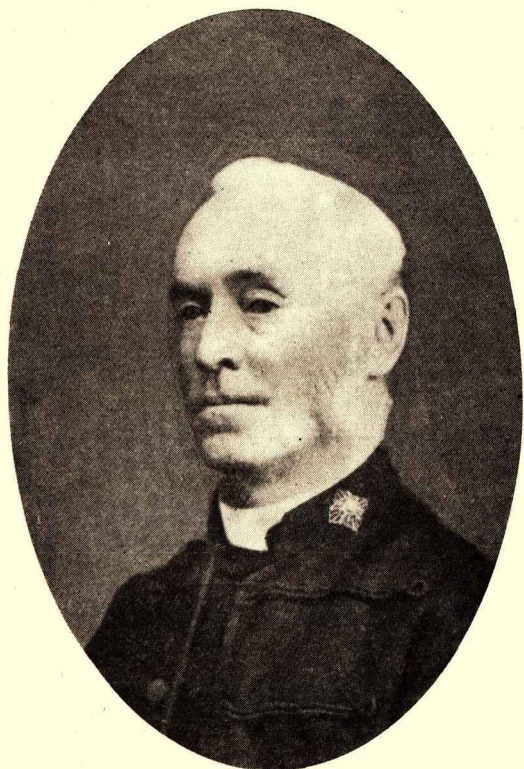
DIAMOND JUBILEE VESTRY, 1927 (R. M. Kellett (absent))

Historical Notes

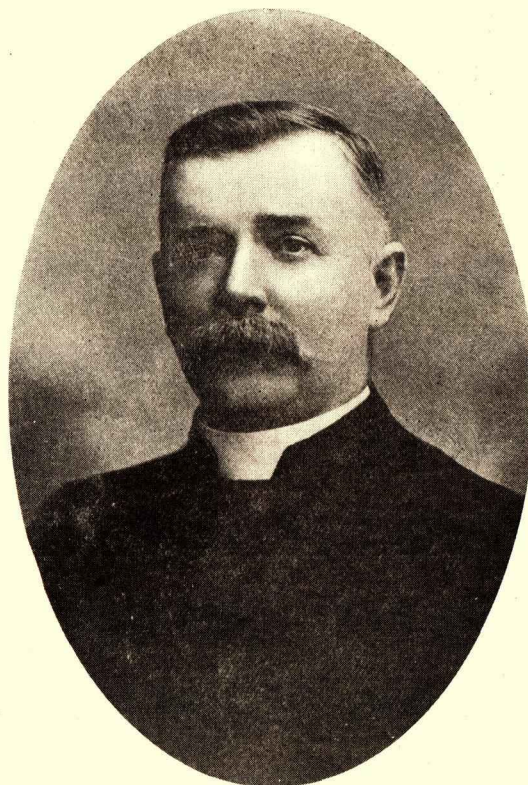
General: St. Matthew's was until 1867 part of the extensive Parish of St. Andrew's, Brighton. The Vicar of Brighton, Rev. Samuel Taylor, M.A.,

The nave of the present building was opened on Sunday, 14th April, 1867. The preachers for the day were Rev. S. Taylor and Rev. Canon Perks.

Caffin—1887-1902. During his incumbency the vicarage was built. Up until that time Mr. and Mrs. Caffin lived in what has been known ever



Rev. W. PLOW KANE, M.A., Second Incumbent.



Rev. CANON GASON, who worked as a stipendary reader.

visited his scattered charge as often as was possible. In 1867 a new district was formed, with Cheltenham as its centre (though the Vicar did not live at Cheltenham for some years) embracing from North road to Carrum and extending easterly to Spring Vale. We can see now the large number of daughters and grand-daughter churches to St. Matthews.

In the early fifties church services were held in two buildings, used on week-days as church schools. One of these was in Weatherall road and the other in Silver street. The church still owns the land in Silver street.

Incumbents: The first incumbent of the parish was the Rev. Wm. Singleton, M.A., who was appointed in 1867 and died suddenly on a Sunday morning in 1873.

The Rev. Henry Plow Kane was the next vicar, being appointed in 1877. Before his appointment and afterwards there were a series of locum tenens and lay readers, including the late Rev. Canon Gason (then a lay reader), the late Rev. J. Barley Sharp, the Rev. H. E. Potter, and the late Bishop of Newcastle, the Rt. Rev. J. F. Stretch, M.A., D.D. The third Vicar was the Rev. Alfred

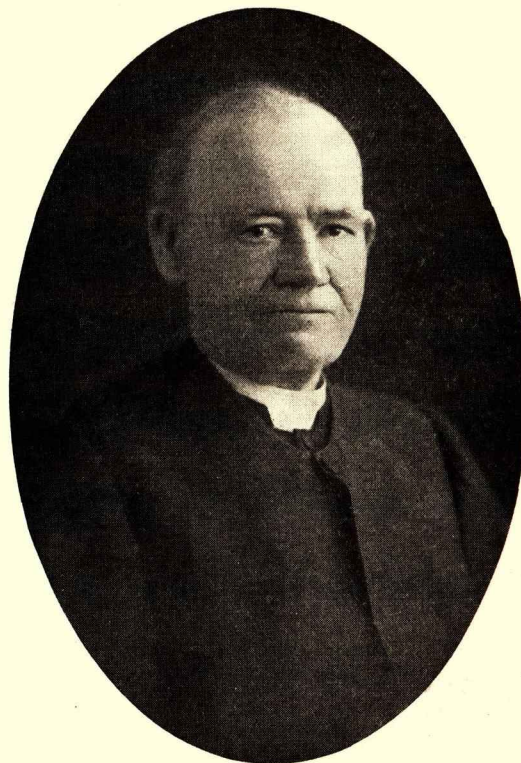
since as The Glebe.

The Rev. T. E. Moorhouse was incumbent from 1902 to 1912. The chancel was erected in 1906, during his incumbency. Mr. Moorhouse was afterwards Chaplain to the Benevolent Asylum, and is now living in retirement in Cheltenham.

Note.—It is hoped that he will be well enough to attend some of the celebrations. The Rev. Cassian Crotty was incumbent from 1912-1917. During his time the kindergarten was built, and several improvements put into the church. The Rev. Canon Maemichael was Vicar for



Rev. ALFRED CAFFIN, Third
Incumbent



Rev. THOS. MOORHOUSE, Fourth
Incumbent.

some two years, and did excellent work. Then the Rev. A. J. Thompson was Vicar for a short time before his call to the Mission Field, where he and Mrs. Thompson have been doing excellent work for six years.

Rev. H. T. Fowler, B.A., was appointed to succeed Mr. Thompson and did faithful work for more than five years.

The present incumbent was appointed in September, 1926. The history of his work remains to be written.

Day Schools.

In the early days of the State there was little education but that which the Church provided. In the fifties at Cheltenham there were two schools, one of which appeared to have been a church school, or semi-parish school, without aid from the State. This was presided over by Miss Gott. The first schoolmaster here was Mr. T. W. Courtney, father of Mr. W. W. Courtney, who was in charge of the board school, that is, a church school with State aid. It

is interesting to know that Mrs. Courtney (Mr. W. W. Courtney's mother) had a school at what was then known as Gypsies' Camp—now Ricketts Point.

MINUTES

The first recorded minutes are for a meeting held on Sept. 18th, 1862. By a coincidence our Diamond Jubilee celebration commences on September 18. We publish the minutes in full.

"Minutes of public meeting of the Church of England Congregation, attending for public worship at the Cheltenham Church of England school-room, held by notice this day for the election of a church committee. Henry George Freame in the chair."

The minutes of the last meeting, held 14th April last, were read and confirmed.

The meeting proceeded with election of a committee.

It was proposed by Mr. Tant that

Mr. Richard Goldstone be a member of the committee; seconded by Mr. Buckley, and carried unanimously.

Proposed by Mr. Buckley that Mr. Frederick Plumridge be a member of the committee; seconded by Mr. Nowell and carried unanimously.

Proposed by Mr. Nowell that Mr. Hy. George Freame be a member of the committee; seconded by Mr. Tant and carried unanimously.

Proposed by Mr. Goldstone that Mr. William Francis be a member of the committee; seconded by Mr. Nowell and carried unanimously.

Proposed by Mr. Nowell that Mr. B. Buckley be a member of the committee; seconded by Mr. Tant and carried unanimously.

The committee then elected Mr. Freame as their chairman and secretary, and Mr. Frederick Plumridge their treasurer.

HENRY GEORGE FREAME,
Chairman.

Note.—The step mother of Mr.

Goldstone is still an attendant at St. Matthew's.

Extracts from minutes of 18th April, 1864.

"Mr. Goldstone moved. . . . Mr. Plumridge seconded, 'That application be made to the Board for the recognition of this school, and in the event of its being recognised, that the first offer of appointment as teacher be made to Miss Gott.'"

REV. S. TAYLOR,
Chairman.

the Mechanics for a sum not to exceed 15/. The furniture consists of forms with backs, the pulpit, cedar box, and singing desk."

Church Lands.

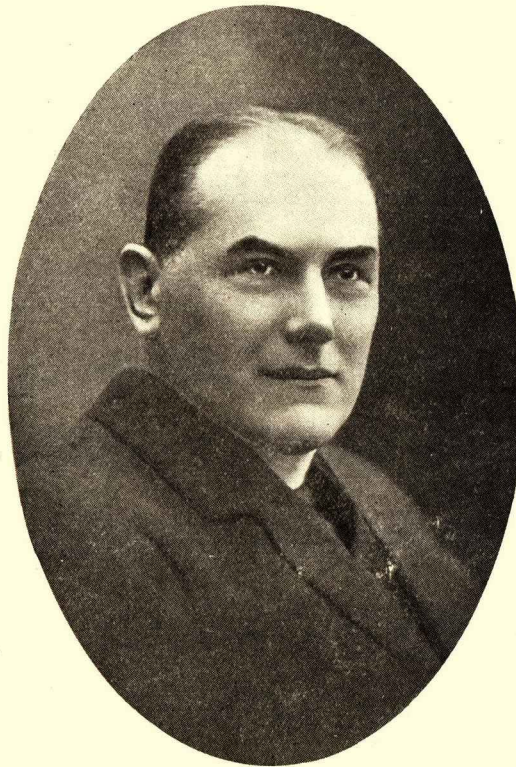
Mr. Newell proposed and Mr. Buckley seconded that the Rev. S. Taylor be authorised by this meeting to apply to the Government for a grant of land, for the use of the Church of England in the Government Reserve, in the Parish of Moorabbin. Carried.

"That a building committee of five members, three to form a quorum, be elected. Carried.

The following gentlemen were then elected:—

- Mr. J. M. SMITH, hon. treas.
- Mr. W. FRANCIS.
- Mr. H. COMPORT.
- Mr. T. TILLEY.
- Mr. F. PLUMRIDGE.

Note.—Unfortunately the minutes for the next two years are missing.



Rev. CASSIAN CROTTY, B.D.
Fifth Incumbent

Note.—Miss Gott was then resident teacher of the church school.

At a meeting of the congregation, held in the Silver street schoolroom, on Feb. 1st, 1865, it was decided that the congregation should meet for public worship, at the Mechanics' Hall, instead of in the schoolroom. A Mr. Smith undertook to pay for the use of the hall.

Resolution by committee meeting, 5th Feb., 1865:—

"That Mr. Goldstone be instructed to make four new forms at a cost not to exceed nine shillings each; also to remove the church furniture to

Proposed by Mr. Nowell, seconded by Mr. Buckley, "That Messrs. J. M. Smith and Francis be associated with the Rev. S. Taylor in selecting the proposed site." Carried.

Extract from minutes of public meeting, 9th May, 1865:—

"The site chosen by the sub-committee for the proposed church was approved by a majority." (Note.—That is the present church land.)

Mr. Tant proposed and Mr. Nowell seconded:—

and there is nothing to show how or by whom the money was raised, or the cost of the building.—Ed.

Extract from minutes of meeting, April 17, 1867:—

"Mr. Buckley stated that Mr. and Miss Attenborough had presented the church with a set of oak Communion service, consisting of Communion table, two chairs, and lectern."

Note.—The sanctuary chairs, lectern, and oak table in the porch are those referred to in the above minutes.

Diamond Jubilee Messages from Former Vicars

From Rev. Alfred Caffin.

Dear People,—

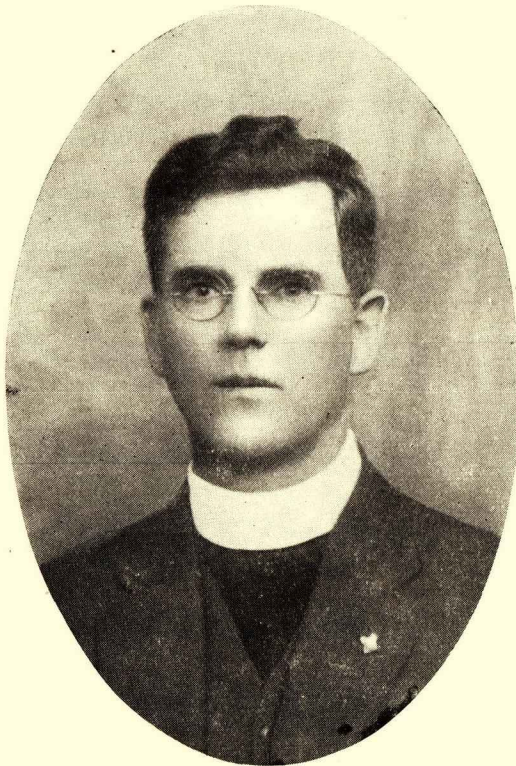
My loving greeting to you.

So your beloved church has reached that notable age of three score years

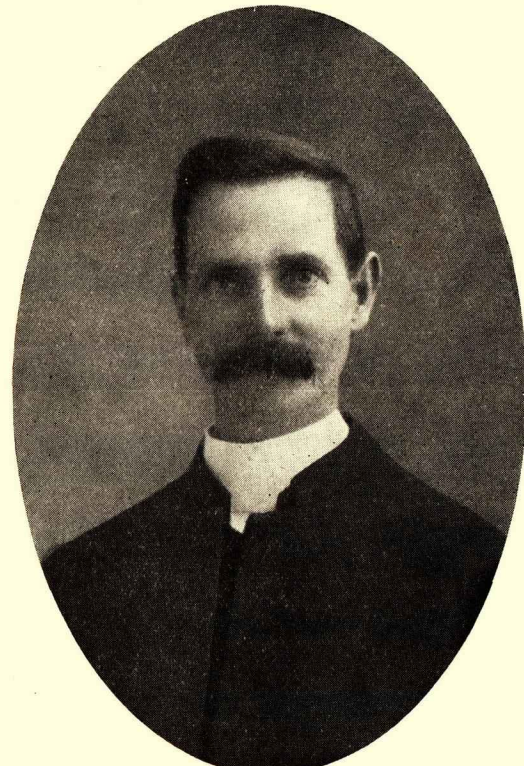
God bless her to you is the earnest prayer of one of your pastors of earlier days. Your Vicar has asked me

an elder sister, in Mills street, Little Brighton, under the charge of Mr. Robinson, the schoolmaster, with his scholars in the same building, St. John the Less, commonly known as Little Jack, was the training ground of the Hon. Thomas Bent, whose monument stands on the Point Nepean road at the top of Bay street. We must also remember that both of these churches are within the Moor-

engagement to Mr. Dendy, and travelled on board Mr Dendy's ship. Now may I mention a beautiful tribute to the memory of that dear man by the Rev. Samuel Taylor, who was Vicar of Brighton at the time of my appointment. On the occasion of my first call, he said: "You have two good men in your district, Mr. Booker and Mr. Lawrence, of Little Brighton, and during the time they were



Rev. CANON MACMICHAEL, Th.L.,
Sixth Incumbent.



Rev. H. T. FOWLER, B.A., Eighth
Incumbent

to revive some of the parish incidents which may be of general interest to you.

Dr. Fuller says: "Memory is the treasure-house of the mind, wherein the monuments thereof are kept and preserved." I hope my memory may help to revive in yours some facts of the happy days we spent together.

When we think of St. Matthew's of olden time we must remember as a child of St. Andrew's, Brighton, with

abbin Shire. Mr. Dendy, who named the town Brighton, obtained a special survey from the British Government, and virtually settled the whole district. He brought his own ship, laden with all necessaries, for settlement, and a number of immigrants whom he employed on the estate.

Two interesting incidents in this connection may be mentioned here.

The one is that Mr. John Booker, one of the oldest parishioners, came out to Australia with his wife, under

spared to me I proved the truth of his words up to the very hilt, and beyond Mr. Booker's dear wife and family seem to have all been cast in the same mould.

The other incident is of a different character.

Dendy's survey was part of Moorabbin, and he gave by trust deed nine acres for the benefit of the church in Moorabbin, and a day came when St. Andrews, which was built upon it, wanted to have exclusive right to the whole block, but the

trust deed stood in the way until the consent of the Vicar of St. Matthew's (Cheltenham) was obtained; so there

ders around me, and the work began to grow. My only regret was that I could not establish a theological

brated our silver wedding in the public hall during our term of office with a splendid gathering of parishioners.



The Church as it appeared before the Chancel was built

was nothing for it but that the wealthy old grandmother should ask her poor little daughter to give up her claim. The vestry held a special meeting) one of the (most important they ever held), and ungrudgingly consented to sign her fortune away; hoping perhaps that her mother would treat her generously. One bean produced Jack's Famous Bean Stalk, but no bean came St. Matthew's way from Brighton.

The parish, as I accepted, was bounded on the north by North road, west by Hampton street, and bay frontage to Carrum, east Boundary road, Dandenong line, Carrum swamp and Lower Dandenong road. So that your church is now the mother of a large family. On my arrival there were, besides yours, St. John the Less, S. Nicholas, Christ Church, All Souls. I spent the first fortnight at Rooding, Brighton, with my much-beloved friend, R. Hales Budd and his charming family. Mr. Budd took the care of Mordialloe entirely off my hands. Dingley was only an afternoon service. We had morning service at Mentone alternately with the Presbyterians, in a Recreation Hall. I soon got a staff of stipendiary rea-

college on your church ground.

There being no vicarage at Cheltenham, nor any house available, we took up our residence at Mentone, but it proved so inconvenient that we availed ourselves of the first opportunity for leasing a cottage and paddock in Charman road. This was afterwards subdivided and still bears the name which we gave, namely, The Glebe. Thanks to the dear people we soon had the commodious vicarage designed by Mr. Backhouse, and built on church land as a permanent home.

We had a well balanced choir at S. Matthews under the leadership of Mr. Plumridge, and an excellent churchwarden in Mr. Comport who, by the way, being a councillor, has to his credit the establishment of the iron track on Point Nepean road. A splendid secretary in Mr. Henry Wells, whose mother was one of the most saintly women I have ever had the joy of knowing. The Sunday-school was in competent hands, under Mr. Booker, but when Mrs. Caffin settled down to the work the school grew, and flourished. She had a splendid staff of workers, one of whom was the dear girl who left her property to the church. We cele-

Message from the Rev. Cassian Crotty, B.D.

The booklet published in 1917 showed the growth of the church in the parish in 50 years from the little wooden buildings, including parish church, Sunday school, kindergarden, hall, and vicarage, at Cheltenham, as well as buildings at Dingley and Moorabbin. Since then further important developments have taken place, for Dingley and Moorabbin are now in separate charges from the mother church of St. Matthew. Looking back on the history of the parish there is much to thank God for. This should encourage parishioners to press on to the goal, unto the prize of our high calling in Christ Jesus.

This needs faith, hope, and love. May these increase more and more among you. By the grace of God we can all do great things if we will. As God has blessed us in the past so must we believe that He will bless our efforts in the future.

So I say to you, as I say to myself, Let us thank God and take courage.

From Canon Macmichael.

I have the happiest recollections of my short vicariate of the parish of Cheltenham, which then included Christ Church, Dingley, and St. David's Church, Moorabbin. There was plenty to do. I had three State schools in which it was my privilege to give religious instruction, and there were four places in which I took services regularly. I remember taking a parochial mission just before my induction as vicar, ten years ago now. The kindness and sympathy of the people in a serious illness which I had soon afterwards; the numbers of young people who came to social gatherings frequently held in the Parish Hall; and the friendliness and fellowship of the people in lots of ways which are a joy to remember. Some at least have kept in touch with me through the years which have intervened. What a lot the parish church has meant to the community and to church people during those sixty years of its his-

tory! May every blessing rest upon the present congregation and its priest! May the Diamond Jubilee bring to the minds and hearts of many thanksgiving and praise to God for His past mercies to them

ture to set before you the watchword, "Speak unto the children of Israel that they go forward."—Exodus XIV., 15.

Be not content with the fruits of

vision of His Greatness, and inspire you to go forward with and under Him; so that the coming years at St. Matthew's may record the victorious progress of His Church to His Glory.



Rev. A. J. and Mrs. THOMPSON, of Wanegeta Mission, New Guinea. Mr. Thompson was Seventh Incumbent.

and to others, leading to renewed devotion and self-consecration to Christ's service in His church!

With hearty congratulations and prayerful, fraternal goodwill,

I am,

Yours faithfully,

C. C. MACMICHAEL.

Christ Church Cathedral, St. Arnaud, 27th August, 1927.

From Rev. F. A. J. Thompson, Th. L., Wamgela, N. Guinea.

At the request of your vicar I submit a message for the year of your Jubilee.

The year of Jubilee, an ordinance of God for the regulation of the social life of Israel, gave opportunity for the release of the oppressed and unfortunate from their straitened circumstances, and their restoration to full privilege as members of the nation. The principle is a dual one—retrospect upon the past, with thanksgiving and looking forward and outward toward increased social and spiritual service.

With this principle in mind I ven-

ture to set before you the watchword, "Speak unto the children of Israel that they go forward."—Exodus XIV., 15.

Be not content with the fruits of vision of His Greatness, and inspire you to go forward with and under Him; so that the coming years at St. Matthew's may record the victorious progress of His Church to His Glory.

the past; these are in great measure due to the labours of those who were before you. But go forward in social service at home and abroad. Seek to free the oppressed and unfortunate through sin, and reach forward and outward to assist in setting free your brothers of the coloured races in the various mission fields, from the evil oppression of fear and superstition. You are not alone. The Israelites were assured of the presence of God, and so are you. "Lo, I am with you always."—I. Matt., XXVIII., 20.

From Rev. H. T. Fowler, B.A.

St. Matthew is represented in art with a book in one hand and a pen in the other. That book is the Gospel according to St. Matthew. Herein are recorded the messages learned in daily companionship with Jesus, and proved in after years by spiritual fellowship. He wills men to know, when his is gone, of Jesus. His concluding words are the promise, "Lo, I am with your always, even unto the consummation of the ages."

May the contemplation of this book bring home to you a growing

The Rev. T. E. Moorhouse.

We had hoped for a message from a much-beloved old Vicar—Rev. T. E. Moorhouse, but unfortunately Mr. Moorhouse has been very unwell for some weeks, and did not feel equal to the task. Mr. Moorhouse and the late Mrs. Moorhouse are well remembered and loved through the whole Parish.

Renovations.

The whole of the interior of the Church has been renovated for the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations. The Sanctuary has been enlarged by two feet. Previously the Sanctuary was far too cramped. The Chancel is being draped in blue, with carpets to match. Jubilee gifts include a blackwood Credence from some of the men, a Church Notice Board from Mr. R. McDonald, and a Porch Notice Board from an anonymous donor. Towards the cost of the renovations a parishioner has promised to donate £20, provided the parish raises at least £100 during September.

Our Schools

Sunday School, 1927.

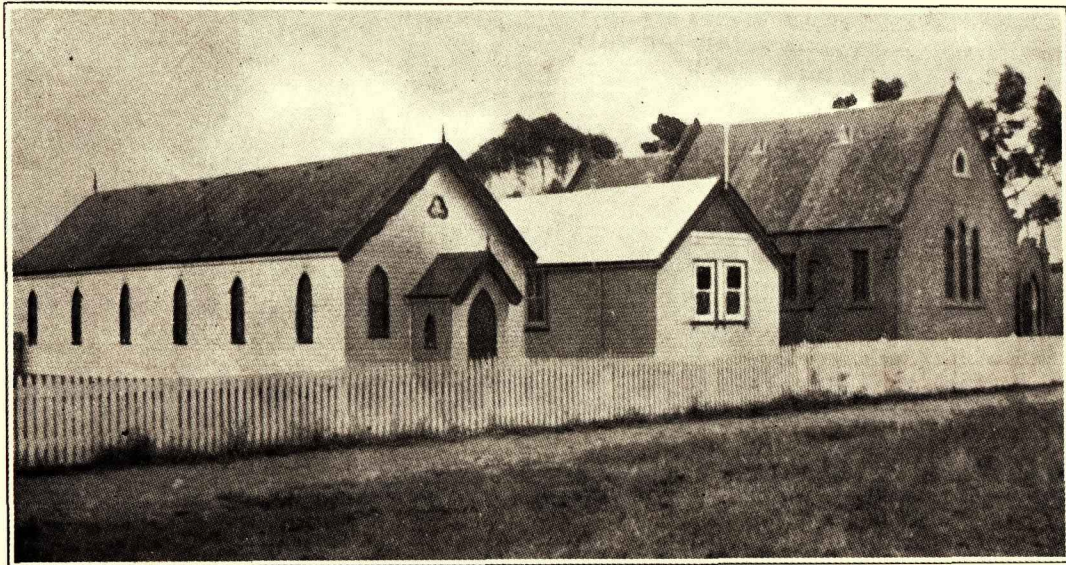
Superintendent: The Vicar.
Hon. Sec.: Mr. J. Brown.

Senior School.

Misses McKnight (2), Brown, Harvey and Rogers; Messrs. C. A. Channon, B. A. Billings, and H. Mickelborough.

Kindergarten.

Leader: Miss C. Marriott, the Misses McKnight, Courtney, Mickleborough (2), and D. Hannish.



GENERAL VIEW OF CHURCH AND SCHOOL

SCHOOL BUILDINGS.

In 1879 the first part of the Parish Hall was built. Plans were drawn up for a brick building, but we have been unable to find out why the plans were not carried out. The building was first enlarged in Mr. Caffin's time and again during the incumbency of the Rev. Thos. Moorhouse.



CAPTAIN T. W. COURTNEY,

The kindergarten was erected, 1916, in memory of Miss dergarten was erected in 1916, in memory of Miss Sweetnam. Both buildings are temporary or wooden buildings. It is hoped that there will be before many years a fine block of permanent brick buildings on the corner.

Some Recollections of the Sunday School.

(By Chas. E. Booker)

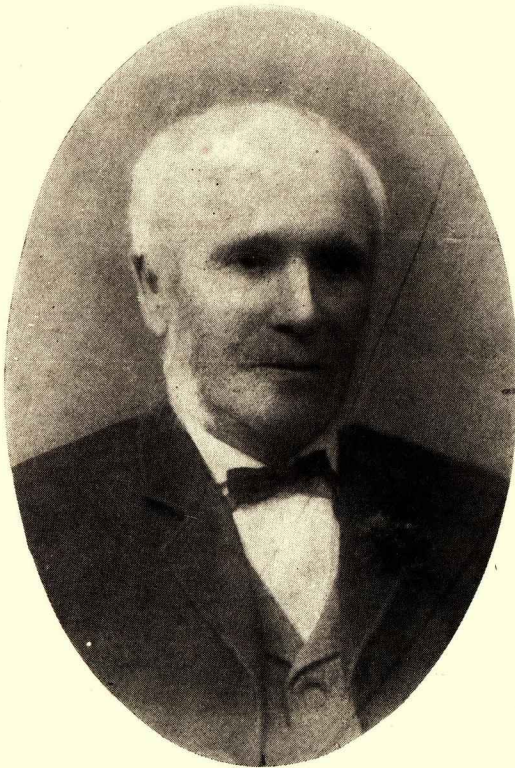
At the wish of the Vicar, Rev. R. North, I have jotted down a few particulars of the past history of our Sunday School. As I am writing almost entirely from memory, having no written records of the past to help me, I cannot claim to be strictly accurate, more especially with regard to dates, which, in most instances, are only approximate.

My first recollection of St. Matthews Sunday School dates back to

the pulpit erected by the congregation, and Mr W. H. Richards, who on my father's retirement from the school in 1878, became Superintendent. These faithful souls for years labored earnestly in the good work and rendered true and loyal service to the church, and all know how long since entered into the Rest that remaineth. All honor and reverence to the memory of the faithful servants of the Lord and Master.

afternoon service, held in order to have the church available for the church service.

When the Rev. H. P. Kane became incumbent in 1877, he saw the desirability of having a separate building for the Sunday School and set to work to raise funds for that purpose, with the result that early in the year 1880 the first portion of the schoolroom (40ft.) was built. I was then one of the teachers, and I re-



Mr. JOHN BOOKER, Superintendent from 1867 for many years.



Mr. CHAS. BOOKER, son of John Booker, Superintendent 1899-1926

about 1868- or 9 when as a boy of 7 or 8 years of age, I first attended the school. My father, Mr. John Booker, was then Superintendent, but whether he was the first Superintendent I cannot now say. My father was assisted by a small band of loyal workers, some of whom I would like to mention. Mrs Munday, Mrs. Wells, whose memorials we have now in the church in the stained window erected by her family, and

My father's successor, Mr Richards, continued the work for some years; for how long I cannot say positively, as I left the parish in the year 1883. Up to the year 1880 we had no Sunday schoolroom, the school was held in the church, and as for several years the church services were held twice a day on alternate Sundays, on the other Sundays in the afternoon, it was rather inconvenient, as we had to meet earlier, when there was

member how pleased we were to have a building all to ourselves with none of the inconveniences we suffered when holding school in the church.

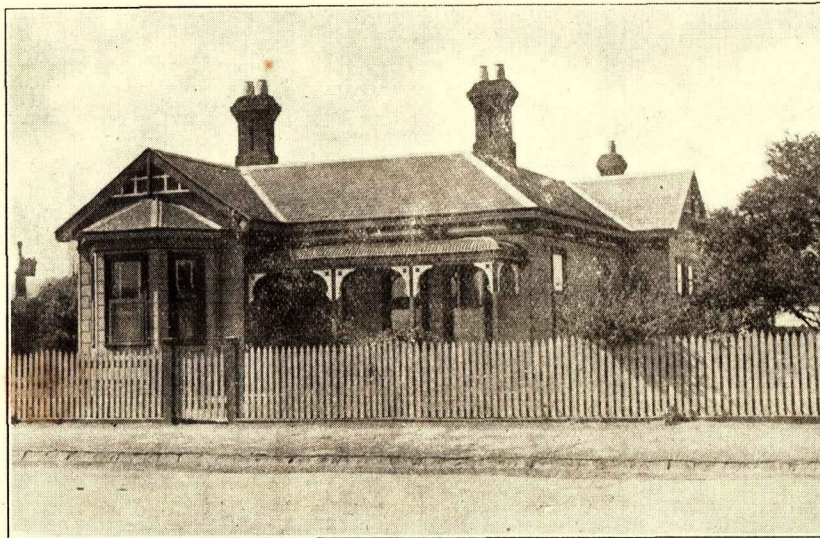
When I came back again to the parish in 1898, I found the school being conducted by Mrs Caffin, wife of the Vicar, and I resumed my work in the school. Finding that the schoolroom was becoming small for the increasing number of scholars,

and that it was becoming more and more inconvenient to teach the infants class in the same room as the older scholars, we, about the beginning of this century, added another 20 feet to the present building and used it as an infants room for some years, when, as additional space was required for the older scholars and also for the better accommodation of the athletic and other clubs which had been started by the vicar, the Rev. T. Moorhouse, the partition be-

work of teaching the little ones, until compelled by illness, which ended only with her life, to give up the work which she had carried on so lovingly and faithfully for many years.

It was found, after her death, that her great love for the church and school had moved her to bequeath one half of her estate to the church. It was decided to use the money to

the church's Sunday School by one of the early scholars, and looking back over the past years, during which it has been my privilege to help in the good work, I cannot but feel thankful to our Heavenly Father that He has been pleased to use me in His service and earnestly pray that His richest blessing may be upon the Sunday School and all who help in the good work of instructing the young in the great truths which make wise unto salvation.



THE VICARAGE, CHELTENHAM

*demolished
in the 1960's
n.w. corner
of intersection
of Chorman Park
Road.*

tween the two rooms was removed, thus making one large room, 60ft. in length, and the smaller side room, now used as an ante room, was built for the infants school, and used as such till the year 1916, when the present Kindergarten room was built and equipped for the use of the little ones on the Kindergarten system.

I would like now to relate how this Kindergarten room came into existence. During the latter part of the Rev. A. Caffin's ministry, and also in the Rev. T. Moorhouse's time, the little ones were in charge of Miss Sweetnam, a lady who took great interest in the work, and devoted herself whole-heartedly to the

erect the Kindergarten room and to dedicate same to the memory of the deceased lady, and I am sure that no more fitting memorial could have been chosen.

It was thus, in the year 1916, when the Rev. C. Crotty was incumbent of the parish, that we were able to introduce the splendid Kindergarten system into our Sunday school. I would like to add that the lady who has for many years, in fact, since its inauguration, been our head Kindergartenist, was one of the late Miss Sweetnam's scholars.

This is a brief history of St. Mat-

NOTE.—Mr. Chas. E. Booker, was far too modest to tell you that the help given by him, referred to in the article, included 28 years as Superintendent. The writer was here for only a few months of Mr Booker's superintendency, but there was manifest all the love and energy that he put into the work.—Ed.

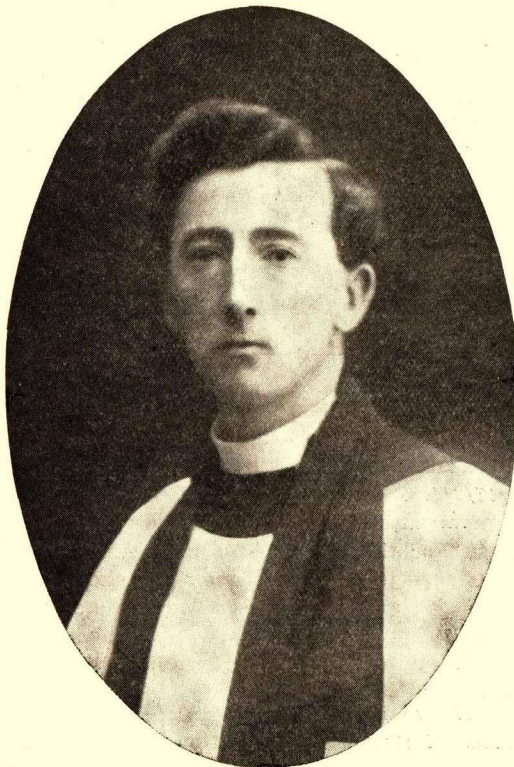
Clubs.

St. Matthew's is blessed with a very active and efficient Ladies' Guild, a large and live branch of the Girls' Friendly Society, a full troop of girl guides, as well as an athletic club.

The Choir



THE CHOIR IN 1927 (10 Unavoidably Absent)



Rev. A. B. A. BROWN, Hon. Asst.
Curate and Choirmaster, 1926-27

The Choir.

Hon. Master: Rev. A. A. Brown.

Organist: Mrs. Jenkyn.

Members: — Sopranos: Mesdames Byrne, Cullen Flatman, and McLaren; the Misses Brown (2), Bunce, M. Courtney, Dwight, L. and B. McKnight, C. Marriott and C. Wilson. Contraltos: Mesdames Butler and North. Tenors: Messrs. Butler, Burnett, Davidson, Gibson, Lyndon, Petschack. Bass: Messrs. H. C. Boughton, F. Doward (on leave), G. Sanders, G. Sarkies. Boys: S. Reynolds, J. McKenna, D. McKenna, G. McKenna, L. Knowles, W. Barry Brown, L. Plowright, Pat. McLaren, L. Biehl, L. Gratton.

Christ Church, Dingley

Our Youngest Daughter, separated from St. Matthews. September 30, 1926.

Historical note from "The News."
September 22, 1923.

The inscription on the foundation stone tells us that it was laid by Rev. J. H. Gregory on February 12, 1873. For weeks the workmen had been busy. The foundations have been excavated and the work has been going on. But further back there is something more. There is the conception of it all in her mind. There is more. The Bible, still in

workmanship that has withstood the ravages of time.

The crowning day came for the dedication for the service of God. The Bishop of Melbourne, the Right Rev. Charles Perry, preached from the text, "Now we are here present in the sight of God." The preacher alluded to the special circumstances connected with the building of the church and hoped that as many as were able would show their thankful-

completely furnished, was the gift of Mary Attenborough. On the west wall a tablet tells a story of love, gratitude, purpose and influence.

To the Glory of God.
and in Memory of
Robert Attenborough,
Braverbrook, Northamptonshire,
England.

This Church is erected
By his Grateful Niece
Mary Attenborough.
A.D. 1873.



CHRIST CHURCH, DINGLEY

the church, was in use in 1861, for it bears that inscription. During those preceding years church services were conducted in a room in the paddock, but there came the desire to build a house for Him that must be "exceedingly magnificent." The old building is gone, and in the present stands "a thing of beauty" and for all true church people "joy for ever."

The work progressed, watched by many dutiful people. The building was completed in no perishable material but in material and with a

ness by attending as often as possible. There was an attendance of 180 and an offering of £7/3/4. Rev. J. H. Gregory preached in the afternoon at 3.30 from the text, "For the palace is not for man but for the Lord." The attendance again was 180 and the offering of £3/10/9 was given to the Alfred Hospital. At this service the font was used for the first time for the baptism of two infants with the family names of Dyer and Girdler.

The church, standing on a triangular piece of land, two acres in extent,

"The memory of the just is blessed."

But her work was not yet done. Her soul had not yet expressed the fulness of its desires. There was more—still more—and yet still more to be done. So she endowed the church with seventy acres of land.

But the end was near at hand. She who had done her duty so faithfully, so wisely, so unselfishly here was to be given scope beyond this limited sphere of time and space. She fell ill and her sickness was unto death. On Thursday, June 22, 1876, God's finger touched her and she slept only to

awake in a larger sphere, clothed with a new body, to carry on some new, some greater service for her Master.

She was gone and it remained for those who mourned her to give expression to their love, their gratitude, their sorrow. They did so. The windows on the south side of the church were replaced with stained glass. They were given by her four brothers, George, Richard, Thomas, James, and illustrate the beatitudes.

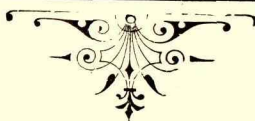
The congregation and friends placed another stained glass memorial in the north side of the church and a tablet in December 1876 with this inscription:—

In affectionate remembrance of
Mary Attenborough,
of Dingley Grange,
by whom this church was built
and endowed,
who died 22nd June, 1876,
aged 57 years.

"Their works do follow them."

For only a few years was she privileged to worship with her neighbors in that magnificent house, and then she was moved upwards.

But her work here was not yet finished. She being dead yet speaketh. Through her influence and by her desire her brother, Thomas, built the fine substantial Sunday school. This was handed over to the people on his behalf by Mr McKenzie at the opening on September 29, 1889.



Celebrations and Church Services

Sept. 18th—8 a.m., H.C.

11 a.m., Confirmation, The Most Rev. the Archbishop.

7 p.m.: Evensong, The Very Rev. G. E. Aickin, M.A., Th. Soc. (Dean of Melbourne.)

Sept. 21st—Feast of St. Matthew.

6.30 a.m., H.C.

10 a.m., H.C.

8 p.m., Evensong, Rev. A. J. Thompson, Th. L., of Wani-gela, N. Guinea.

Sept. 25th—8 a.m., H.C.

11 a.m., Matins, Rev. A. Caffin

7 p.m., Evensong, Rev. Canon Hancock, M.A.

Social Gatherings.

Monday, Sept. 19th—Grand Diamond Jubilee Concert, in Mechanics' Hall. Tickets 1/.

Wednesday, Sept. 21st—Parishioners' Social, and Welcome to Rev. and Mrs. A. J. Thompson. No charge.

Monday, Sept. 26th—Grand Diamond Jubilee Dance in the Soldiers' Hall, Tickets 2/6.

Thus we keep our Jubilee, a time of grateful Thanksgiving to God for the 60 years life and work of our Parish Church, from within whose walls from so many lips the voices of Praise and Prayer and Intercession have ascended to the Throne of Grace and at whose Altar the Sacrifice of the Cross has for 60 years been pleaded as our only Hope, our only Plea.

Trusting in that Sacrifice alone, strengthened with the Living Bread, true to the Faith of our Fathers, realising the Communion of Saints, we go forward compassed about by the great cloud of witnesses of the Faithful who have gone before, and praying that with them we may be at last partakers of God's Heavenly Kingdom.

Onward, ever onward,
Journeying o'er the road
Worn by Saints before us,
Journeying on to God;
Leaving all behind us,
May we hasten on,
Backward never looking
Till the Prize be won.



HOUSE OF MERCY, CHELTENHAM.

The House of Mercy at Cheltenham is extra-parochial, belonging to the whole Church, but we, of St. Matthew's, are proud to have the work going on within our border.

Sister Christina and the Sisters have done, and are doing, a wonderful work for the girls who need caring for. This work is not only for the Church, but also for the State.