

**NOTES FROM VARIOUS SOURCES ON WESLEYAN CHURCH KEELBUNDORA.**

**Extracted by Beryl Patullo 1984**

**Public Record Office : Minute Book Denominational School Board 1848 – 1857**

**Series 63**

**Item 20: Minutes 3 March 1854 – Special Meeting Denominations Schools Board**

To consider an application from Rev W Butters for aid in the erection of a school house in the parish of Kilbundoora (sic) to the amount of 400 pounds. Approval subject to the usual conditions and the sanction of the Executive council.

**Grants for Building – Denomination Schools Board Series 886, 1852-1862 (p427)**

**Keelbundoora Wesleyan School**

**T'tees Francis Thomas, Samuel Jeffrey & Robert Christie**

**School house total cost 600 pounds**

**Certificate signed by P Dredge**

**Local Subscription 200 pounds**

**Amount granted by Board 400 pounds in 1854**

**Uniting Church Archives: Methodist History Vol 111 reprinted from "The Spectator".**

**Mr Horner writes**

p2 1863 Preston Heidelberg circuit comprises, Preston Heidelberg, Sth Preston, **Thomastown**, Woollert, Yan Yean, Woodstock, Linton, Eltham, Greensborough & Alphington.

p3 First meeting held **Thomastown Schoolroom** 25 June 1863. Rev F L Stephenson resided with Messrs Dredge, Hurlstone, Harding, Olney, Cooper, Perry King, Isard, Harmer Jeffrey, Hunter Britnell, Lucas, McClure, Abbey, Reid & Thomas.  
The numbers of new circuit was 115.

p5 At **Thomastown** one of the oldest residents is Mr John Bower, who with Miss Craig opened a Sunday School in 1851, when services were held in Mr Thomas's house.

April 1892 Alphington circuit formed, leaving Preston, Sth Preston, Thomastown, Bundoora, Sth Yan Yean, Whittlesea, Sth Morang & Woollert.

**Early Story of the Wesleyan Methodist Church in Victoria by the Rev. W.L. Blamires & Rev John B Smith.**

A Jubilee Volume – 1886

p122 1855 Pentridge separated from Melbourne West & Brunswick. Rev Barnabus Walker.

p124 The first local preachers meeting was held at Pentridge on 3 April 1855. Rev B E Walker in the chair. Messrs F Thomas, Cooper, D Brown, Lucas & Dredge were present.

The circuit comprises, Pentridge (*Coburg*), Thomastown, Irishtown (*Preston*), Mickleham, Philliptown (*B'wick*), Rocky Water Holes (*Kal Kallo*), Back Creek, Tullamarine, Plenty, Doutta Galla (*Melbourne*), Box Forest, Greensborough and they were even then, reaching out from time to time to such places as Epping, Campbellfield, Kilmore, Keelbundoora, Upper Plenty, Merriang and other sundry farms and Stations.

P128 **Thomastown** is an old preaching place named after Mr & Mrs J Thomas, who sleep with other "*rude forefathers of the hamlet*" in the little graveyard at the back of the School.

Preaching was first held in a thatched house of Mr Francis Thomas, then weatherboard church was built 700 pounds and then the present bright and comely brick church.

Early friends, Messrs Thomas, Cooper, Perry, Abbey, Standina, Bishop, Sanson, B & S Johnson, Bower, etc..

**Irving Benson published 1935**

p42 Yan Yean is Great Granddaughter of Melbourne Circuit, its grandparents being Pentridge, parents Preston.

Wesleyan Church ~~St. Thomas~~ Thomastown. (Spring St.)

Read at 24 LARCH ST. TOWN 13-4-80

Minutes: 18th Aug. 1875.

Mr. Joseph Cooper sold  $\frac{1}{4}$  acre of land for £20-0-0

Bricks were purchased from Gottlieb ARNDT, cnr Raglan + Hotham St.  
St. Preston. £2-2-0 per thousand.  
12-0 per thousand cartage.

MR Thomas MITCHELL of Epping bldr. to complete building.  
£275-00 (not incl bricks + sand.)

At this Meeting the building was handed over to the Trustees.  
who were: -

Francis Thomas Secretary, Edward Perry Treasurer.

Cad Statement, (at end of book.) PERRY. TREASURER.

Receipts  
from Educ Dept. 160.0.0

+ other sundries

Payments

CONTRACT	275.0.0
additional foundation	10.10.0
BRICKS	77.10.0
ORNAMENTAL BRICKS	5.15.6
Sand.	12.9.6
Sheet v ?	22.0.0
Bennetts Bill	13.5.7
LAND	20.0.0

GALLERY	2.17.1 $\frac{1}{2}$
Chairs + Table	1.16.0
Sundries	5.13.0

?  
18..

Bell to be removed & erected at Church,  
Mr. Mitchell to do same.

Also erect Stable & Water Closet.

29-7-1877

Francis Thomas not there, or Perry  
John Bower Richard Batchelor James Olney, Rev. USHER

1879

Building had to be underpinned.  
Donald Fullerton offered to cart bricks, unable to use his offer,  
it was included in the tender price.

21-4-1879

Donations for Public Meeting, (names of those who gave Donations)

Kreitchner  
Giff Thomas  
Mrs. Hayes Hollet  
Kreftling  
Batchelor  
Olney  
Sheffield  
GRITZNER

1880

John Bower in chair Robert Maguire Secretary & Treasurer.

1882

Trustees 26/1/1882 Olney, Batchelor, Bower, Maguire.  
members of Church present. Messrs A. J. Thomas, Robt Bower  
Edwin Cooper Frank Olney & Miss Cooper.

1883

(Names appearing different to above)

Mr. Prescott,

1884

Mrs Prescott.

1886

Mr. Volkinson Mrs Selkirk.

1896

Wm. Fullerton, Wm. Hammond, Boyle. Mr. Perry Leith

Wesleyan Church Thomaston Minutes Read 24 Larch St. Town 12/9/84

Cont.

1898

Anniversary Donations

Bowes, Nebal, Alfred Thomas, JNR & SNR.  
W. Hammond, J. Bower, Fullerton, Mrs KREITLING  
Mrs CLINNICK, Joseph Thomas, Mrs LEGGET, Mr. POTTS  
Mr. Batchelor, Boyle, Mrs PUNCH, MR. GRITZNER, NOOD  
MR WAFER, PRESCOTT, MRS STEVENS, M. GREENFIELD

1901

BOWER, GRITZNER, OLNEY, LEGGETT, STEPHENS, W. HAMMOND  
KREITLING, Alf. THOMAS JNR + SNR, W. FULLERTON, MRS PUNCH  
MRS DYER, MRS T. PRESCOTT, F. LEGGETT, MRS HENDERSON

1902

Ralph BROWN + above names 1901

1903

R. BOWER, NEBAL, KREITLING, GRITZNER, Alfred THOMAS JNR + SNR  
HAMMOND, BATCHELOR, LEGGETT, DYER, PRESCOTT, HANSEN  
FULLERTON, J. BOWER, TOWNSEND, PUNCH, J. THOMAS, MCCOY  
C. WUCHATSCH, J. SEEBEL, Miss ZIEBEL, Mrs GRAFF, Mrs. A. ZIEBEL  
ILES, COGHIAN, STEVENS, ISAAC BARON.

1907

MISS ELIZABETH THOMAS, MISS WUCHATSCH, ~~J. B.~~ GRITZNER  
PROPOSCH, A. WINTER, JOHN THOMAS, Alf. THOMAS JNR + SNR.  
JACOB GRITZNER.

1908

MR + MISS WUCHATSCH, MATZANN, J. GRAFF, MISS WAINAGE, NILL THOMAS

1909

F. HARMER, C. GRAFF.

1910

H. ROBIN, BRANDT, D. MANN

1912

ELLIS, McMAHON

1913

EVON MYLIUS

1915

HANSEN, STAN ERB, MRS MEAD.

(1908 - 1915 other names were listed, I only picked out new names)

MEETING at Robert BOWERS House

19.. 12th May, NEW TRUSTEES, to replace deceased.

James BOWER	in place of	JOHN BOWER	dec	10.9.1909
Alfred THOMAS	"	"	RICHARD BATCHELOR	dec. 3.10.1911
FRANK HARMER	"	"	JAMES OLNEY	dec. 17.4.1911

AT rear of book. "CEMETERY TRUSTEE MEETING"

1892 Sept. 5th. James THOMAS in the chair

present. MR. BOWER, James OLNEY, R. BATCHELOR,

Jas. Thomas proposed, John Bower 2nd, that MR OLNEY be caretaker & receive applications

grave 3ft x 8ft 20/-, 15/- for sinking a grave & cemetery be open to all.

carried, meeting 13-10-1892 S. Adomson Superintendent

- 1892 Miss WALLIS £ 2.0.0 for 6ft x 8ft grave
- 1893 MR. B. CLINNICK £ 1.0.0 for 3ft x 8ft grave.
- 1896 MR. W. PRESCOTT £ 2.0.0 for 2 graves 3ft x 8ft.
- 1896 MR. M. MAHONEY £ 1.0.0 for 3ft x 8ft. grave.

Information Extracted by Beryl Patulle Thomastown. names known as at March '8

Headstones Thomastown Methodist Cemetery, in 1954, from Manuscript, Church of Latterday Saints, Fairfield.

	Alderoft	Edna May	14.3.1921	7 yrs 4 months. only dau. St-E Alderof
✓	✦	Blakenore	27.11.1903	78 years.
✓	✦	Bower John	8. 9.1909	81 years. husband of ELIZABETH
✓	✦	Bower Elizabeth	1903	78 years
✓	✦	Bower Robert Crothers	24. 3.1914	50 years. husband of ELLEN
✓	✦	Bower Ellen	3.8.1955	85 Years (LAST BURIAL)
		Cotohin Samuel	18.5.1915	68 years
		Cotohin Rosanna née Thomas	8. 8.1919	61 years
		Dyer George		
		Margarett	17. 5.1857	28 years from a fallen broken stone
✓	✦	May		
✓	✦	Mary		
✓	✦	William		
✓	✦	Gilbert Margaret (nee Dyer?)	no detail	
✓	✦	Grutzner Jacob	20.11.1912	89 years resident 60 years LOT No 44
		Dunn		
✓	✦	Hirt		
✓	✦	Hosie Agnes	27. 7.1937	86 years had issue
✓	✦	ILES Beryl Jean	29. 7.1925	6 years 2 months died at Regen
✓	✦	Leggett Moses; husband of Martha	2.1. 1919	93 years
✓	✦	Olney James	17. 4.1911	74 years
✓	✦	Olney Maria	19.12.1916	78 years wife of James
✓	✦	Owens	no detail	
✓	✦	Prescott Thomas	23.7.1895	76 years
		Agnes	2. 6.1896	72 years wife of Thomas
✓	✦	Prescott Sgt. Walter, interred Pretoria South Africa.		
			1.11.1904	35 Years
✓	✦	Prescott Henry	14. 3.1926	64 years
		Sheffield	no detail	
✓	✦	Thomas John	30.10.1855	67 years (FIRST BURIAL)
✓	✦	Thomas Mary	6. 4.1859	67 years wife of John
✓	✦	Thomas Joseph husband of Anne	12. 8.1907	88 years
✓	✦	Thomas Alfred Amos	15. 7.1915	30 years 3 months
		wife C. Jane		
		infant son	10.12.1913	of Alfred and C. Jane died at URANAN
✓	✦	Thomas Alexander W.	9. 1.1944	81 years 10 months.

*AMP*

Names Thomastown Methodist Cemetery continued.

page 2.

Thomas William	10.11.1925	73 years
Elizabeth	11.7.1935	65 years wife of Alfred
Nellie	7.11.1938	daughter of Alfred
Alfred	4. 1.1939	84 years
Christina	18.5.1909	75 years wife of Alfred and
Alfred	24.10.1913	80 years.

♠ These headstones were still legible in 1978

♠ These headstones were still legible in 1984, and position of Graves known.

The following information was received by the courtesy of H.J.Lewis Undertakers

- \* Batchelor Elizabeth age 78 years buried 21st Sept.1900, usual residence Garnet St. Preston. wife of Richard Batchelor.
- \* Batchelor Richard age 92 years buried 3rd Oct. 1912 buried by son John Batchelor of South St. Preston.
- \* Batchelor William age 36 years buried 1st Sep. 1891, buried by his father
- \* Blakemore Christina age 76 years buried 12th Dec. 1941 buried by P.Blakemore her husband.
- \* Blakemore Percival J. age 81 years buried 4th Apr.1946, by his daughter Mrs. Gildea, Spring St. Thomastown.
- Bower Alice Maud. ? years buried 29th Jun 1943 by daughter Mrs. Ritol Cambrian Ave. Preston.
- \* Bower/Bauer John 81 years buried 10th Sep.1909, by son C. Bower.
- \* Bower Robert C. 50 years buried 26th Mar.1914 usual residence Thomastown buried by wife.
- Childs Emma. 72 years buried 21st June 1928 died at private hosp. Jessie St. Preston. buried by Rev.J.McIlroy Regent.
- Chitts Charles 91 years buried ~~21st~~ 17th May, 1932, by cousin Mrs. Chitts, 25 Derby St. Northcote. Grave No.38 died at Royal Melb. Hosp.
- Craig Maggie 17 years buried 9th July, 1900 dau of Alfred Thomas.
- Dyer George 81 years buried 8th Jul, 1900 buried by son.
- \* Dyer Mary Hartnell 84 years buried 22nd Jun, 1943, by daughter, Mrs. H. Gilbert Compton St. Reservoir.
- \* Dyer May 62 years buried 14th October, 1948 by daughter Mrs. C.Robinson Compton St. Reservoir.
- \* Dyer William 85 years buried 3rd Jan, 1938, by wife, usual address Compton St. Preston.
- \* Gilbert Margaret A. 68 years buried 24th Mar.1949 by daughter Mrs.Thomas Church St. Richmond.
- Goodman Ann. 88 years buried 2nd Jul,1896 by son-in-law, Mr. P. Mahoney of Epping.
- Gordon Gertrude.a. 47 years buried 29th Sep,1949, by brother-in-law Mr. Tuin, McMahon Road, Reservoir.
- Hansen Emily 63 years buried 7th Jun,1913 by Mrs. Wallis her sister.

*Handwritten mark*



H.J.Lewis names continued.

- \* Hosie Agnes 86 years buried 29th Jul, 1937 by her daughter Mrs. Nebel
- \* ILES see 'SURREY' 'Rookbank' Epping Rd. Thomastown.
- Irwin James 78 years buried 13th Nov. 1914 by wife.
- \* Leggatt/Leggett Martha 87 years buried 24th Aug. 1926, by son Francis, Spring St. Thomastown.
- \* Leggett Moses 93 years buried 3rd Jan, 1919 by wife.
- \* Olney James 74 years buried 10th Sep. 1909 by wife Epping Rd. Thomastown.
- \* Olney Maria 78 years buried 11th Nov. 1916 by Mr. T. Cox, Crawley St. Preston, relationship not known.
- \* Prescott Agnes 72 years buried 4th Jun, 1896 by son.
- \* Prescott Thomas 76 years buried 25th July, 1895 by son.
- Sheffield Elizabeth 83 years buried 1st July, 1949 by husband C.B. Sheffield.
- (Surrey) Beryl Jean. 6 years buried 31st July, 1925 by father Mr. Edw. G. G. (Surrey ILES SURRE HOUSE)
- (ILES???) Berwick St. Preston.
- \* Thomas Alexander 82 years buried 11th Jan, 1944, buried by daughter / niece Miss McKinnie (miss McKimmie?)
- Thomas Alfred 84 years buried 5th Jan, 1939 buried by son Walter.
- Thomas Alfred 80 years buried 27th Oct. 1913 by son 'Darebin' Thomastown
- Thomas Christina 75 years buried 19th May, 1909 wife of Alfred.
- Thomas Elizabeth 66 years buried 12th Jul, 1935 by son Walter, Spring St. T.
- Thomas Janet 38 years buried 18th October, 1888, wife of Alfred.
- Thomas John 23 years buried 17th <sup>OCT 1870</sup> Nov. 1938 buried by ~~brother Walter~~ father Francis.
- Thomas Nellie Miriam 31 years buried 7th Nov. 1938 buried by brother Walter.
- Thomas William 73 years buried 12th Nov. 1925 by brother J. Thomas
- Wallis Emily Mary 79 years buried 15th Oct. 1890 by daughter
- Wallis Florentina 81 years buried 30th May, 1923 by brother T. Wallis.
- Wallis Theodore 82 years buried 28th Jan 1931 by nephew P.H. Wallis Caulfield.

APPS FUNERAL PARLOR. FITZROY.

PERRY

still to obtain detail.

from denominational school file. d. 28-11-1909.

*APP*

WESLEYAN CEMETERY 1855 - 1955

GRUTZNER grave is beside fire hydrant  
Near S W Boundary.

There is more land west of these graves

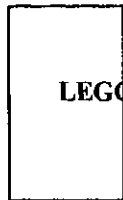


Trees



Post

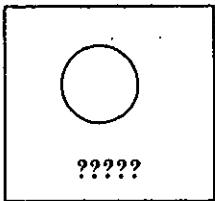
SCHOOL  
GROUND



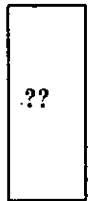
LEGGETT



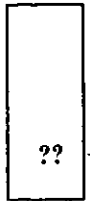
OWENS



?????



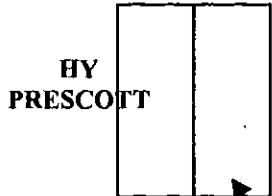
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DUNN

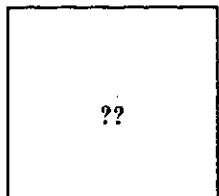


BY  
PRESCOTT



HOSIE

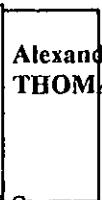
Thos & Agnes  
PRESCOTT



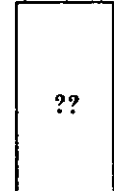
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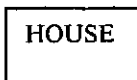
Alfred  
Amos  
THOMAS



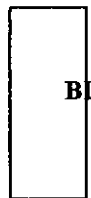
Alexander  
THOMAS



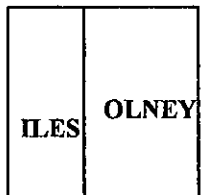
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HOUSE



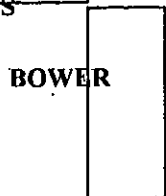
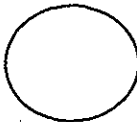
BLAKEMORE



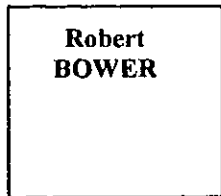
ILES OLNEY



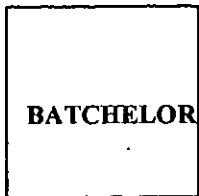
HIRT



BOWER



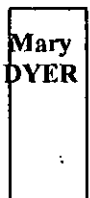
Robert  
BOWER



BATCHELOR



Nellie  
& Mrs Elizabeth  
THOMAS



Mary  
DYER



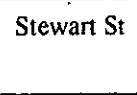
William  
DYER



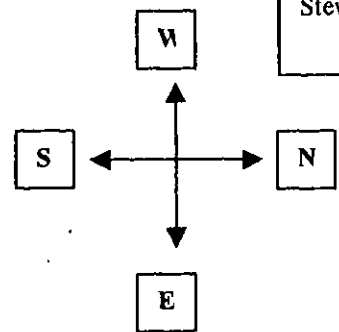
May  
DYER



Margaret  
GILBERT



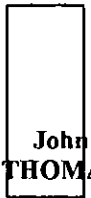
Stewart St



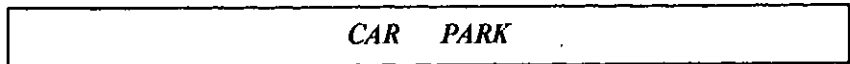
Not to Scale.



TREE



John  
THOMAS



CAR PARK