

**Wesley Historical Society**  
***PROCEEDINGS***  
**An abstract of contents**  
**In each Part there is a Notes and Queries section**  
**Volume 57**  
**Editor E. Alan Rose**

**Part 1 February 2009**

**Methodist Entries in the Oxford DNB**

Dr John A Vickers – Editor The Dictionary of Methodism in Britain and Ireland

The new Oxford Dictionary of National Biography, published in 2004 in 60 volumes and on line. The online version allows you to search the text for names and phrases. The Dictionary is regularly updated. A number of the Methodist entries are by written by outstanding Methodist historians.

**Methodist opposition to Britain's proposed cession of The Gambia to France 1866-76**

Rev Dr John H Darch – Director of Ordinands and Initial Ministerial Education for the Anglican Diocese of Blackburn

The article examines events in The Gambia in West Africa, when Britain proposed to exchange this territory with France and examines the response of Wesleyan Methodist Missionaries.

**Some Further thoughts on the Irish Wesleys and the Wellesley Connection**

Rev Dr Peter W. Gentry – The Church of the Nazarene

The question of the relationship, if any, between the Wesley family and the Wellesley and Colley families is reviewed. The evidence of the long held view by some Methodist Historians that John and Charles Wesley were related to the Duke of Wellington is re-examined.

**Book Reviews by**

E. Alan Rose *Benjamin Rushton, Handloom Weaver and Chartist* by John A. Hargreaves (Friends of Lister Lance Cemetery, Halifax, 2006), pp.40, £4.50

Colin C. Short *Cornubia's Son: A Life of Mark Guy Pearse* by Derek R. Williams (Francis Boutle, London, 2008), pp.388, 44 illus, £12.99

Henry D. Rack *Protestant Nonconformist Texts. Volume 1:1550-1700*. Ed T Tudur Jones, Arthur Long, Rosemary Moore (Ashgate 2007) pp.421, £75

D. Colin Dews *Angels and Impudent Women: women in Methodism; papers given at the 2005 Conference of the Wesley Historical Society*, Ed Norma Virgoe (Wesley Historical Society 2007) pp.212 £7.50

D. Colin Dews *A Story to Tell: 200 years of Methodism in Brighton and Hove* by Michael Hickman, (Brighton & Hove Methodist Circuit 2007), pp.148 £7.50

John C. C. Probert *Machin Porcelains and Earthenwares...* by Bill Thorn and Philip Miller (Castlehills Publishing 2008) pp179 £40

E. Alan Rose *Tavistock's Methodist Chapels* by Brian W Giles (Tavistock and District Local History Society 2007) pp.76

## **Part 2 May 2009**

### **Preachers at the Pit**

Jonathan Fryer – Post graduate student at Keele University

The role of the Primitive Methodist and Wesleyan Methodist ministers, local preachers, lay people and trade union officials in the *County Durham Mining Disasters 1880 – 1909* is examined. Prayer meetings led by trapped miners who were Methodist local preachers is highlighted along with above ground pastoral care and finance support given by Methodist and Wesleyan ministers to the miner's families.

### **The 1829 Minutes of the Arminian Bible Christians**

Rev Colin C. Short, Methodist Minister Mounts Bay Circuit, Cornwall

In 1829 the founder of the Bible Christians William O'Bryan had a disagreement with James Thorne and others which led to him leaving the denomination and founding the Arminian Bible Christians. The contents of the recently discovered printed minutes of the AMC found in New Jersey USA are discussed.

### **An unpublished Pawson letter**

John H Lenton MA M Phil, Wesley Historical Society Librarian

A manuscript letter written by John Pawson (1739-1804), one of Wesley's Travelling Preachers, and President of the Wesleyan Conference in 1793 and 1801. The letter, which is in the Sugden collection at Queen's College, University of Melbourne, is printed in full with comments.

## **Bibliography of Methodist Historical Literature – Thirty-Fifth Edition 2008**

Dr Clive D. Field Research Fellow, Birmingham University

A detailed and carefully researched list of all known publications of Methodist Historical Literature published in 2008

### **Book Reviews by**

Robert Glen *A Bibliographic Survey of the Published Works of the Eighteenth-Century Wesleys (Samuel the Elder, Samuel the Younger, Mehetabel, John, and Charles)* compiled by Samuel Rogal, (Lewiston, New York: Edwin Mellen Press, 2008) pp.370 £74.95

John Munsey Turner *Selina, Countess of Huntingdon* by Alan Harding (Epworth 2007) pp. xiii, 120 £12.99

Jonathan Rodell *The Bousfield diaries. A middle-class family in late Victorian Bedford* Ed Richard Smart (Bedfordshire Historical Record Society, 2007) pp. xxxll, 214 £25

D. Colin Dews *Dissent and the Gothic Revival: papers from a study day at Union Chapel Islington* Ed Bridget Cherry (The Chapels Society occasional paper 3. London 2007) pp105(2) £15.

D. Colin Dews *From Pedagogy to Photography: the life and work of John William Righton* By Tom Norgate (Petersfield 613 books 2008) pp152 £14/95

Roger Thorne *Feet of Clay. The Life and Ministry of William O'Bryan, Founder of the Bible Christian* by T Shaw., and C.C. Short (C.C. Short Portleven 2007) pp256 + Bibling Index and List of works by Shaw £15

Roger Thorne *Issac Foot. A Westcountry Boy. Apostle of England* by Foot, M and Highet, A (Politico's London 2006) pp352, Index. Illus £25

Roger Thorne *Michael Foot. A Life* by Morgan, K.O. (Harper Press 2007) pp568 Index, Illus £25

D. Colin Dews *Southside Story: the first hundred years, 1907 – 2007* Eds Sheila Crossman & Bob Preston (Peter Tuffs 2008) pp184 £11.99

D. Colin Dews *Ben Rhydding Methodist Church 1909-2009* by Kathleen Pinder (Smith Sttle, Yeadon 2008) £6

Donald H. Ryan *Wesley Historical Society Index to the Proceedings of the Local Branches Volume 2 1995-2005* compiled by C Jeffrey Spittal (John Wesley's Chapel The New Room, Bristol 2009)pp45

## **Part 3 October 2009**

### **The Methodist Revival Fellowship 1952-1987**

Rev Dr Martin Wellings, Superintendent, Oxford Methodist Circuit

The Methodist Revival Fellowship 1952-1987 traces the history of the MRF from its inception in 1952 to its merger with Conservative Evangelicals in Methodism (CEIM) in 1987, touching on the issues of fundamentalism (1950s), ecumenism (1960s) and theological pluralism (1970s) and assessing the strength, influence and role of the Fellowship.

### **More Marxism than Methodist**

Professor Peter Ackers, Loughborough University

Hugh Clegg, the son of Herbert (Wesleyan Minister) and Mabel Clegg, was one of the two founding fathers of British academic Industrial Relations and a major trade union historian. Hugh Clegg has been described as 'the most influential academic of the Wilson and Callaghan years' This article is the story of how a nervous outsider became a confident pillar of the Kingswood school establishment, while developing highly deviant political beliefs.

### **Book Reviews by**

Robert Glen *A Bibliographic Survey of the Published Works of the Eighteenth-Century Wesleys (Samuel the Elder, Samuel the Younger, Mehetabel, John, and Charles)* compiled by Samuel Rogal, (Lewiston, New York: Edwin Mellen Press, 2008) pp.370 £74.95

Clive D Field *John Wesley's Preachers: A Social and Statistical Analysis of the British and Irish Preachers who Entered the Methodist Itinerancy Before 1791*, by John Lenton (Milton Keynes: Paternoster, 2009) pp. xxviii, 506. £34:99

D Colin Dews *Living the Christian Life: selected thoughts of William Grimshaw*, by Paul & Faith Cook (Evangelical Press, Darlington, 2008) pp. 87(2) bib. £7.95

## Part 4 February 2010

### **The Long Courtship: Methodist Union in the Whitby Area**

Christopher K Metcalfe MA., M Phil, F.H.E.A. Research Student, Oxford Centre for Methodism and Church History, Oxford Brookes University

The purpose of this article is to consider in outline the process by which the 1932 Methodist Union took place in the Whitby area of what was then the North Riding of Yorkshire. The article examines the process that took 12 years for the amalgamation of the Wesleyan and Primitive circuits to form the Whitby Methodist Circuit.

### **John and Charles Wesley Tercentenary Well-Dressings.**

Rev Donald H Ryan M.Th., Former Chairman of the North Wales Methodist District, Registrar, Administrator Wesley Historical Society

The essential element of water to life which has from ancient and Biblical times been a source of veneration, sacrifice and celebration. In the article the medieval and modern tradition of 'Well Dressing' in Derbyshire is examined. In the Tercentenary years of 2003 and 2007 some Derbyshire villages celebrated the life and ministry of John Wesley and Charles Wesley by creating their image in flower petals and placed them by the well to be blessed.

### **Book Reviews by**

John A. Hargreaves *'A Victorian Class Conflict?' School teaching and the Parson, Priest and Minister 1837-1902* by John T. Smith (Sussex Academic Press 2008) pp.viii + 233 £49.50  
H.B

Arthur Mignot *Chapel and Swastika: Methodism in the Channel Islands during the German Occupation 1940-1945* by David M. Chapman (ELSP, St Helier, Jersey 2009) pp. 256. £10.

D Colin Dews *Religion and Place: Liverpool's historic places of worship*, by Sarah Brown, Peter de Figueiredo (English Heritage Swindon 2008) pp. 96 £7.99

The Methodist Chapels and Preaching Places of Liverpool and District, 1750-1971 by Ian Sellers (revised by Donald A, Bullen. (Bullen Liverpool 2008) pp. 56 £3.

*Edward Rogers: a portrait of a Christian citizen* by John Pritchard (Wesley Historical Society, Norwich 2008) pp.32(2) £3.50

Simon Ross Valentine *Two Centuries and More, memories of Low Moor Methodist Churches* by Geoff & Mary Twentymann (Eds) (n.p. 2009) pp.68 £4

E Alan Rose *Worsted to Westminster* by J. B. Williams (Darcy Press 2009) pp.i v, + 322 £8.99

Rex Owen *Children of Dissent* by Pauline Ashbridge (Kershaw Publishing, London 2008) pp. vii + 284 £8.99

Roger Thorne *The Next Chapter, Cornish Methodism 1965-2005* (Cornish Methodist Historical Association Truro 2009) pp.254+illus.

The Methodist Revival Fellowship 1952-1987 traces the history of the MRF from its inception in 1952 to its merger with Conservative Evangelicals in Methodism (CEIM) in 1987, touching on the issues of fundamentalism (1950s), ecumenism (1960s) and theological pluralism (1970s) and assessing the strength, influence and role of the Fellowship.

### **More Marxism that Methodist**

Professor Peter Ackers, Loughborough University

Hugh Clegg, the son of Herbert (Wesleyan Minister) and Mabel Clegg, was one of the two founding fathers of British academic Industrial Relations and a major trade union historian. Hugh Clegg has been described as 'the most influential academic of the Wilson and Callaghan years' This article is the story of how a nervous outsider became a confident pillar of the Kingswood school establishment, while developing highly deviant political beliefs.

### **Book Reviews by**

Robert Glen *A Bibliographic Survey of the Published Works of the Eighteenth-Century Wesleys (Samuel the Elder, Samuel the Younger, Mehetabel, John, and Charles)* compiled by Samuel Rogal, (Lewiston, New York: Edwin Mellen Press, 2008) pp.370 £74.95

Clive D Field *John Wesley's Preachers: A Social and Statistical Analysis of the British and Irish Preachers who Entered the Methodist Itinerancy Before 1791*, by John Lenton (Milton Keynes: Paternoster, 2009) pp. xxviii, 506. £34:99

D Colin Dews *Living the Christian Life: selected thoughts of William Grimshaw*, by Paul & Faith Cook (Evangelical Press, Darlington, 2008) pp. 87(2) bib. £7.95

Part 5 MAY 2010

**“Hat’s Off”: Methodism and Popular Protest in the West Riding of Yorkshire in the Chartist era: a case study of Benjamin Rushton (1785-1853) of Halifax’**

This article explores Methodist influences derived from Wesleyanism, the Methodist New Connexion, the Primitive Methodists, the Primitive Methodist Revivalists and the Independent Methodists on the radical politics of Benjamin Rushton, a handloom weaver and Methodist preacher. It argues that his anti-clerical preference that no paid minister officiate at his funeral should not be interpreted as evidence of apostasy and challenges meta-narratives of secularisation which may have obscured the religious underpinning of Chartism, which may have owed more than has been hitherto allowed to the culture as well as the organisation of Methodism.

John A. Hargreaves - Visiting Research Fellow in History University of Huddersfield

**The Rev. John Stamp: Primitive Methodist Secessionist**

D Colin Dews Secretary of the Yorkshire WHS

**Bibliography of Methodist Historical Literature—Thirty -Sixth Edition 2009**

Dr Clive D. Field Research Fellow, Birmingham University

A detailed and carefully researched list of all known publications of Methodist Historical Literature published in 2009

**Book Review by**

David Ceri Jones *The Making of Methodism* by Barry W. Tabraham (Second Revised and Enlarged Edition: (Epworth Press 2010), pp 250 £16.99

## **Part 6 October 2010**

### **Keeping the Faith: Ireland's Primitive Methodism**

Rev Robin P. Roddie. Belfast, Archivist, Wesley Historical Society in Ireland

For almost ninety years after John Wesley's death a branch of Methodism in Ireland perpetuated a form of Methodism modelled on Wesley's design for his Connexion. Following Disestablishment in Ireland and the failure of the original Methodist-Anglican 'conversations', the Primitive Wesleyan Methodists united with the Irish Wesleyans in 1878, but a remnant continued within Anglicanism into the twentieth century.

### **Laity in Denominational Leadership**

David J Jeremy, Emeritus Professor of Business History, Manchester Metropolitan University Business School.

A survey and analysis of the Vice Presidents of the Primitive Methodist Conference. Their 'Gender and social origins', 'Age', 'Geographical location', 'Occupation', 'Political activities', 'Religious experience', 'Behaviour as capitalist employers'. There are 2 detailed appendixes

### **Book Reviews by**

David Ceri Jones *The Last Wesleyan: a Life of Donald Soper*, by Mark Peel (Lancaster: Scotforth Books 2008) pp.308 £17.99

David Ceri Jones *The Cambridge Companion to John Wesley*, edited by Randy L. Maddox and Jason E. Vickers (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press 2010) pp. xxi, 343. Paperback £17.99

Donald H Ryan *A History of Trinity Church Sutton 1907-2007* by Colin Howard (Sutton: Trinity Church, 2009) pp. 136 Paperback £10.

Donald H Ryan *A Memoir of Samuel Barber-A black "ranter" from the Mother Town* Forward and introduction by Cedric Barber (Stoke-on-Trent: Tentmaker Publications, 2007) pp 26: No price given

Donald H Ryan *Slaves Sinners and Saints*, by Cedric Barber (Stoke-on-Trent: Tentmaker Publications, 2008, pp 252 £10:49

Notes and Queries 1589 Mrs Anna Onstott - Donald H Ryan