Part 1 February 2017

‘Legal Fiction’ or Exigence of Necessity’? Re-Investigating Wesley’s Deed of Declaration

Joseph Wood, (Nazarene Theological College, Manchester)

The author reviews the exhortation of John Wesley at the First Conference 1774 ‘To keep to the Church’ Wesley said ‘This was our peculiar glory, not to form any new sect, but abiding in our own Church to do to all men all the good we possibly could’. Joseph Wood continues to examine the relationship between the Methodists and the Church of England when Methodist Preaching Houses were built. The author looks at the implications of the Deed of Declaration 1784

Our hearts vigorously engaged in religion ’: The Reception of Jonathan Edwards by Early Evangelicals in Wales

Joshua Reynolds (Aberystwyth University)

In the article the author directs us to largely overlooked influence of Jonathan Edwards in Wales. He examines The Benchmark of Genuine Revival, The Concert for and Post-Millennial Eschatology. In a section he examines The Influence of Edwards upon Williams Pentycelyn and others.

The Impact of the Sino-Japanese War on Methodism in China

John Pritchard (Hassocks)

The article starts with an incident on 18th September 1931 on the outskirts of Shenyang in north east China which opened up political charges and counter charges between the Japanese and Chinese. We are told of the continuing skirmishes and wars between the two nations and the impact on the Wesleyan Mission started in 1852 and Methodism post 1932.

Notes and Queries

1607 – Who was “the famous preacher” Mr Glascock? John Lenton WHS Librarian
1608 – Folk Religion and Methodism – both Wesleyan and Primitive David Leese (Ashbourne)

NOTES

Membership

OCMCH – Forthcoming Events

Wesley Historical Society Annual General Meeting and Lecture, Kingswood School, Bath

BOOK REVIEWS


Part 2 May 2017

John Anthony Newton (1930-2017) Obituary

John A Hargreaves

Methodists at War in the 1913 Clay Strike

Colin C Short (St Austell)

This is a study of the Methodist engagement with the 1913 China Clay Strike in Cornwall. The study examines the involvement of the Wesleyan, Primitive and United Methodist Churches in the ‘clay area’ at the time. The role of Methodist ministers and other denominational clergy is discussed.

A Mystery Methodist: Is this John Wesley, Charles Wesley or someone completely different?

Gareth Lloyd (John Rylands Library, Manchester)

This article is illustrated with pictures of an unknown but claimed portrait of John Wesley and know and verified pictures of John and Charles Wesley.

NOTES AND QUERIES

1609N James Parkes: Wesleyan Minister and Inventor Donald H. Ryan (Wolverhampton)
BOOK REVIEWS


**Bibliography of Methodist Historical Literature – Forty-third Edition 2016**

Dr Clive D. Field Research Fellow, Birmingham University A detailed and carefully researched list of all known publications of Methodist Historical Literature published in 2016

_Part 3 October  2017_

**John Cennick and his Role as a Methodist Preacher**

Gary M Best

The article was first delivered as the Wesley Historical Society Annual Lecture 2017. The article explores the role of John Cennick who was the right-hand man first of John Wesley and then George Whitefield. Cennick became the leading British evangelist of the Moravian Church. The article explores the relationships with early Methodist leaders, his family and his impact on the religious scene of the 18th century.
The First Methodists in South America: Lay Pioneers in Demerara

John C. Neal

The article focuses on the Methodist lay pioneers in Demerara which were occupied by Britain between 1796 and 1802/3 in the Dutch Colonies. They were ceded by Holland in 1814 and became British Guiana 1831. The article explores the roles of the first know Methodists William Augustus Claxton (c1770-1838) and William Powell, along with Mrs J Clifton, and the support of Thomas Coke.

Wesleyan Methodist Sunday Schools during the First World War

Caitriona McCartney

This well researched article explores the background of the attachment of most British persons with the Christian faith through a local Sunday School and focuses on the Wesleyan Methodist Sunday Schools in particular. In the sections ‘Response to the Outbreak of the First World War’, Relationships of Sunday Schools and the British Armed Forces, The Spiritual Significance of Sunday Schools to the Armed Forces, and The First World War and Wesleyan Methodism Decline? The article concludes by showing how the Wesleyan Methodist Sunday Schools played a part in the lives of serving soldiers.

NOTICES

Message from the President

General Secretary’s Report to the WHS AGM

BOOK REVIEWS

David Ceri Jones Martin Luther at 500 A brief Guide to some anniversary reading


John A Hargreaves College, Chapel and Culture in Edwardian Manchester: The Diary of Frank C Davidson in his first term of training for the Primitive Methodist Ministry by Rachel
Part 4 February 2018

The Origins of Kingswood School and its Continuing Influence
Gary M. Best

This article traces the history of the Kingswood School from the invitation of George Whitefield to John Wesley not only preach in the open air in Bristol but to create a school for the colliers of Kingswood. The article traces the development of Wesley ‘the teacher for Methodism’ from 1745 to the present day. Wesley’s concern for good teaching, the social welfare of the children, character building of the boys and spiritual values. How the school developed to provide residential education for preacher’s sons as well as other boys. The article ends by reminding the readers that the school is an independent day and boarding school, offering education to over 1000 boys and girls and has a worldwide reputation and influence.

An unpublished letter from John Wesley to John Mason concerning the origins of Methodism on the Isle of Man
Donald H. Ryan

This letter, which is in the archive of John Wesley’s Chapel – The New Room, Bristol gives an important insight into the origins of Methodist preaching in the Isle of Man. The article traces the oversight from the Cumberland Whitehaven Circuit ministers from 1771. The ministry of John Crook, the ‘Apostle of the Isle of Man’ on the Isle of Man and the mainland is explored. The relationship and opposition of the Methodists with the Anglican Bishop and the ‘Established Church’ is revealed. Wesley’s visits are recorded, In 1778 Wesley separated the pastoral oversight from the Whitehaven Circuit and created the Isle of Man Circuit.

A Circuit Account Book
Brian G. Gowenlock

The accounts for the Oldham Circuit from its separation from the Manchester Circuit in 1791 are examined showing the purchase of the account book to its closure in 1857. The article gives an interesting insight to the essentials that had to be paid for from the minister’s remunerations to the cost of hiring horses.

Obituary - Dr Thomas Harold Crowder Jr USA
Donald H. Ryan

Membership information
Wesley Historical Society Annual General Meeting and Lecture – Cambridge 23 June 2018 Programme
John A. Hargreaves

Book Reviews


John Lenton – *The Methodists of Arnold (Nottinghamshire)m 1795-1875*. Arnold Harris (Nottingham Harris 2017) pp 111 Paperback £12.50

Part 5 May 2018

‘None but Presbyterian Baptism’: Samuel and Susanna Wesley, monarchy and marriage
William Gibson

The article examines the return which Samuel Wesley made to Bishop William Wakes visitation queries in 1712 and especially the baptismal status of Susannah Wesley being baptised as a Presbyterian. It also looks at the legitimacy of ejecting an appointed monarch which was to root of the dispute between Samuel and Susannah Wesley.

Who were the Benefactors of Wesleyan Methodism in the Nineteenth Century? David J. Jeremy

This article offers quantitative estimates of the changing levels of generosity of Wesleyan laity across the century.

Charles Crump (1840-19230: ‘The Grand Old Man of Football’ Donald H. Ryan

The remarkable commitment of Charles Crump to his Wesleyan roots and life long service to the Church is outline. Crump the founder of one of the earliest football teams is reviewed. His
pivotal roll in the development of organised football both in the Football Association and Football League is for over 40 years is revealed.

Wesley Historical Society Annual General Meeting and Lecture 22/23 June at Cambridge
Clive Norris

Notice relating to General Data Protection Regulation. Jonathan Morley, Donald H. Ryan

BOOK REVIEWS

