

**History
of
Tamworth Road Strict Baptist Chapel Croydon**

(Formerly at Pump Pail Croydon)

1721-2001

The end of the year 2000, marked the 40th year of the Pastorate of Mr C.A.Wood. It is felt that this would be a suitable time to give a brief account of the Lord's goodness and mercy in maintaining a Cause of Truth for so many years. An account of the Chapel is given in the Surrey and Hampshire volume of the series of books by Mr R.F.Chambers, entitled 'The Strict Baptist Chapels of England.' The following is an abridged extract from his account:

The commencement of the cause now worshipping at Tamworth Road Chapel may be traced to a registration made on July 8th 1721, when the house of Amos Harrison was licensed for 'worship by Baptists.' In this small house began a course of hundreds of years of gracious Ministry. Soon the need was felt for a more convenient place of worship, and the first Chapel was erected in the valley, near to the spring which gave to the place the name of 'Pump Pail.' The building was called 'Salem', and was opened in the year 1729. Amos Harrison laboured until his death in 1761. His was a quiet, faithful Ministry, the effect of which will only be revealed to the full in that great day of reckoning. During the Ministry of Amos Harrison, a young man named Peter Webb was chosen to assist him in the Ministry, who, after the death of Mr Harrison, was chosen as Pastor and continued until 1772.

The next servant of the Lord to Minister to the people was Jonathan Franklin, a good, sound, solid herald of the gospel. John Kershaw, who knew him in his latter days when Pastor of Red Cross Street Chapel, London, speaks very highly of him. The following is an extract from the autobiography of John Kershaw. On one visit to London he states "I preached at Red Cross Street for dear old Mr Franklin, who was then in a declining state. On my second visit to London, the friends with whom I was to stay, said, 'We are glad you are come, as the friends belonging to Red Cross Street Chapel have been here twice today to see if you had arrived. Your aged friend Mr Franklin is dead. He is to be buried tomorrow, and you are particularly requested to be present.' The last words that Mr Franklin uttered were, 'I love the Lord, because he hath heard my voice and my supplications. Because he hath inclined his ear unto me, therefore will I call upon him as long as I live.' (Psalm 116 vs 1-2) Many times have I read these precious words since his death, and felt a response in my soul in the truth of them."

Mr Franklin wrote a number of hymns, three of which are in Gadsby's selection, numbers 511, 512 and 513. His Pastorate ended about 1806.

We have no Church Records prior to 1816. The Church Book opens with an account of the call to the Pastorate, of Mr William House. As will be seen from the list of Pastors at the close of this account, he was the fifth Pastor. There were seven more Pastors until the Pastorate of Mr George Rose in 1923 — a period of 103 years. The duration of each Pastorate was relatively short.

In reviewing the Church Books from 1816, there is a cause to record the Lord's blessing attending the Ministry of the Word, as is evident from the fact that there came a time when it was needful to seek larger premises. Sadly, there were also times of discouragement. It is evident that there was much poverty, as it is often recorded that money was owing to the Treasurer, and there was difficulty in supporting a Pastor. A few items of interest follow:

The minute of the Church Meeting on Lord's Day 5th July 1818 reads,

“A most interesting circumstance took place when the Ordinance of Baptism was performing. Mr House's father, who had been many years a member of an Independent Church, and a great opposer of baptism by immersion, being overcome by the force of truth, came forward and requested his son to baptise him. It being complied with, the son led the venerable father, in the 70th year of his age, in the footsteps of his Divine master. This was a most interesting season. May the Lord grant us many more.”

“Tuesday 28th March 1826. A special Prayer Meeting for the abolition of the slave trade. May the Lord send deliverance to the poor captive natives.”

“19th April 1829. Agreed each member should invite the Minister in rotation to dinner, and Prayer Meetings Sabbath mornings at 7 a.m. to conclude at 8 a.m.”

The next Church Book covers the period 1838-1877. It opens with the names of 75 members and names four Deacons. There was no Pastor at the time. In examining the Church Book it is encouraging to note that many of the Church Meetings were called to inform members of some wishing to join the Church, the appointment of visitors, and then to hear the testimonies. It is a matter of regret that no details are given of the testimonies — merely a statement that the friends were able to give satisfactory accounts of the Lord's dealings.

It is evident that there was a Sunday School, as at a meeting on 30th May 1840, it was agreed that it should continue.

“A special Church Meeting was held on Lord's Day afternoon on 24th November 1850 to unite in prayer and in returning thanks unto God for His upholding, preserving, and protecting mercies, and for the privileges afforded to us and His Church universally. And we do pray that they will be continued to us, so that we may be enabled to worship under our own vine and fig tree, none daring lawfully to make us afraid.”

“The Church stopped behind on Lord's Day 29th July 1860, when the letter was read regarding the dismissal of our Brother Thurston from Halstead to Croydon, when it was unanimously agreed that he be received into full communion with us. It was moved, seconded and carried unanimously, that the old seats in the middle of the Chapel be removed,

and that new ones be prepared to make more seat room to accommodate the congregation.”

It is encouraging to read that the congregation was increasing, so that it became necessary to consider what action to take — whether to enlarge the present building, or to build a new one. At a special Church Meeting on 5th December 1863,

“It was agreed that we have a new Chapel to accommodate the increasing congregation, and that the amount required be raised by donations and subscriptions and collections, and as soon as we have raised £100 among ourselves, that we have a Public Meeting and appeal to the congregation to help us.”

A special Church Meeting was called for 29th March 1866,

“...for the purpose of deciding upon the propriety of selling either by public auction or private contract, the fee simple and inheritance of the Chapel now occupied by us, and the land whereon the same stands, and to give the necessary authority for that purpose.’ It was reported that a plot of ground was available in Tamworth Road, the freehold of which could be purchased for £350, having a frontage in the main road of 50 feet and a depth of 120 feet, thus affording us an eligible site for a much larger Chapel, and being convenient to reach by all our members as well as the congregation. After reasonable deliberation, it was agreed that the Chapel in Pump Pail be sold, and the purchase be made of the freehold in Tamworth Road.”

Visitors to the Chapel at Tamworth Road will notice the Memorial Tablet to the Chandler family — three sisters and a brother, affectionately attached. They supported the Cause by an annual gift of £20. They expressed the wish to make a gift of £400 instead of the annual gift. It was agreed by the Church that a marble tablet should be put in the Chapel, in appreciation of their kindness.

A special Prayer Meeting was held after the evening service on Lord’s Day 3rd March 1867 before leaving Pump Pail, and on Monday evening 4th March in the new Chapel, to seek the Lord’s blessing on the opening services the next day.

The Treasurer presented the audited accounts for the building of the new Chapel, at a Church Meeting on 4th March 1869. The total cost was £2162.5s.4d. The sale of the old Chapel and donations, realised £1735.8s.0d., leaving a debt of £426.17s.4d. This was met by an interest-free loan from the Baptist Society, repayable in ten years by half-yearly instalments. £150 was borrowed at 4% interest, and the balance of £76.17s. 4d. was due to the Treasurer.

It would appear from the minutes that for some time the Church was favoured with spiritual prosperity, but at a Church Meeting held on 17th November 1870, it was reported that the Pastor’s (J C Thurston’s) health had been declining for some months, preventing him preaching at times. Medical advice was that he should rest from his ministerial labours for at least six months.

“It was agreed that as it had pleased God to lay this heavy affliction upon our dear Pastor, it would be our duty to continue to pay his stated salary for the period named by the physician, and also to free him from his labours for the same period. It was then also agreed that a special Prayer Meeting be held, and that the seat-holders be invited to attend, on

Tuesday 22nd November to consider the best means of meeting the expenses of carrying on the worship of God during the Pastor's cessation of labours."

It would appear that his health must have improved, as there is no further reference in the minutes.

At this time, one source of income was from 'seat rents'. At a Church Meeting,

"...it was suggested whether it might be prudent, for the future, to have a fixed price for the sittings instead of leaving it to the seat-holders as at present, allowing those who now occupy seats to retain at what they have hitherto paid. After some discussion, it was agreed that the charge for central sittings be 5/- quarterly, and those at the side 2/6d, allowing the Deacons to make exceptions in some cases, where in their discretion they thought it desirable."

Sadly, divisions appeared in the Church, resulting in a letter of resignation from the Pastor, Mr Thurston. This was read at a Church Meeting on 14th October 1875. An extract from the letter is as follows:

"...I am fully persuaded the time has come for me to resign the Pastorate. My peace has been broken; my heart has been wounded. Had not the Lord supported me, I could not have borne it so long. I trust many have been blest under the Ministry of the Word. It is painful for me to part from you as a Church after being with you many years, but I believe it is the Lord's will. ... I shall now cast myself on the providence of God who has hitherto helped me and who has said 'I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.' "

The Church continued without a Pastor for some time, but with evidences of blessing. Sadly divisions in the Church began to appear over the question of Supply Ministers, resulting, during November 1877, in several members leaving the Church. They met for worship in the Public Hall, and Mr Thurston ministered to them. Eventually a Chapel was built in Derby Road Croydon.

At a Church Meeting on 4th July 1878, the desire was expressed that Mr J. Willis of Needingworth, who had been heard with acceptance, be asked to preach for the month of September. At a later Church Meeting it was resolved to give an invitation to the Pastorate, and extracts from the letter of invitation are as follows:

The Church at Tamworth Road Croydon sendeth greeting.

Dear Brother,

Being without a Pastor, we have long waited, praying that the Lord would send us one, a man after His own heart, and after having many Ministers of Truth, in the order of His providence (who worketh all things after the counsel of His own will) you came to preach for us in the months of June and July — a sweet savour attended your Ministry, and our souls were greatly blessed. The result of this has been that we have held a special Church Meeting, and our unanimous desire is that you should serve us for a time. We therefore unanimously invite you to fill the pulpit for twelve months with a view to the Pastorate. We hope and believe that the congregation will increase and that your labours will be acceptable, and our prayerful desire is that many may be added to our numbers through your instrumentality, by the Holy Spirit attending your messages with His almighty power. This decision on our part, has been

arrived at after prayerful consideration, and we now submit it to you, trusting that after you have also sought the Lord's guidance, you will write and let us know your mind. Of course, none of us can see what is in the future. May we and you therefore, act according to our present light and knowledge, and watch the unfolding of the Divine will concerning us. "God is His own interpreter, and He will make it plain." Should you yield to the wish of the Church thus expressed to you, we shall be glad to know how soon you will be able to arrange and commence the term. Commending you to the great Head of the Church, and praying that He may by His wisdom direct you, and that His richest blessing may rest upon you.

We are, dear Brother,

Yours sincerely in Him,

Deacons

To this he replied, seeking a little time to consider the matter, which was granted, and at a Church Meeting on 28th November, his letter of acceptance was read, an extract of which follows:

To the Church of Christ meeting for the Worship of God at Tamworth Road.

Dear Brethren and Sisters in Christ,

After due consideration and prayer for direction, I have decided to accept your kind invitation to supply the Pulpit for twelve months with a view to the Pastorate...I do hope I have the mind of the Lord in the matter, so that we may expect His blessing. I must beg an interest in your prayers that the great Head of the Church will help and bless both Minister and people.

Wishing you every needed favour,

I am,

Yours sincerely

J. Willis

At a Church Meeting on 31st July 1879, it was reported that the Ministry of Mr Willis was being blessed, and it was unanimously agreed to invite him to be Pastor. It was not until 4th September that a letter of invitation was sent, a copy of which is given below:

The Church of Christ meeting in Tamworth Road, Croydon, to Mr Joseph Willis,

Dear Brother,

At a special Church Meeting (convened in accordance with our Trust Deed) on the 4th September, a resolution was passed without a dissenting voice, that you should be cordially invited to take the Pastorate, and as this proposition has the hearty concurrence of the rest of the members who could not be present, we affectionately ask you to take the oversight of the Church, believing as we do that the Lord has sent you into our midst, in answer to our united prayers. We think it must be evident to you after eight months labour among us, that your Ministry is acceptable, owned of God, and made a blessing to many. It must also be an encouragement to you as well as us, being gathered under the sound of the Gospel, many of whom we hope may by the power of the Holy Ghost be made wise unto salvation. We therefore pray that

the great Head of the Church will direct you in this important matter, and that His sealing approbation may rest upon your decision, by which you will have this testimony that you please Him. That He may help you, strengthen you, uphold you and abundantly honour you in a faithful discharge of the Ministry you have received of Him. That He alone may be glorified, is the prayerful desire of,

Yours in the best of bonds,

Deacons

The reply of Mr Willis was as follows:

To the Baptist Church, meeting at Tamworth Road, Croydon

Dear Brethren and Sisters in the Lord,

I think I have reason to believe my coming among you as a people, was of God. I feel therefore I cannot but accept your very kind and unanimous invitation to become your Pastor; and I am glad to say I have no wish but to do so. I am glad for your sake, as my own, that you are of one mind in the matter. I must confess I have been at times much encouraged and humbled at the improvement in the attendance. I feel the praise is due to the Lord only. I trust you as a people, and I as a Minister, will never have to repent of the step we have taken. I still hope to be helped to pray that I may be blessed and made a blessing, both to saint and sinner, and shall hope to have an interest in your prayers.

Believe me,

Yours in the best of bonds,

J. Willis

During the following months, the Church was favoured to hear the testimonies of friends wishing to join the Church. At a meeting on 30th September, the testimony of Mr James Haddow was recorded. He subsequently was made a Deacon. His testimony was as follows:

“Mr Haddow related how opposed he once was to God and the ways of His people, and whilst under parental restraint, what enmity he felt from being obliged to go to the Chapel with his godly father. When he left his home, how he went in the ways of sin, that he might indulge the desires of his unconcerned heart. Then he stated the effects produced by a sentence in one of his father’s letters (The wicked shall be turned into hell with all the nations that forget God) by which he was convicted of his state as a sinner; described the distress and agony of mind he passed through, fearing he should be lost and sink into endless perdition: then how the Lord was pleased to bring him sweet relief by different portions of His Word, and under sermons he heard from time to time. At last brought under the Ministry of our Brother Willis, and having been greatly blessed, he felt constrained to seek communion with us as a Church, stating his approval of our order and rules.”

His testimony was received.

At the Church Meeting of 28th April 1881, a very simple testimony was given. The visitors considered the candidate very young in the Divine life, or, as they expressed

it, 'a babe in grace'. But her simple testimony as recorded below was unanimously received:

"A marked simplicity appeared in her utterances, respecting her state as a sinner, and her knowledge of the Lord Jesus as the Saviour of such as she felt herself to be. Her love to Him as having forgiven her, and her desire to follow Him in the Ordinance of Baptism, that she might be united with us, being much blessed under the Ministry of the Word. Brother Willis said he thought from what the visitors had stated, and what she had expressed herself, that the Lord had commenced a work of grace in her heart, and he therefore proposed that she be received into membership, after being publicly baptised."

A special Prayer Meeting for the Nation was called for the second Monday in April 1884, that the Lord in mercy would put a stop to war and bloodshed and mercifully spare those who may be engaged in the same. (*War in Sudan.*)

During the same year, experiments were made with the provision of a sounding-board over the pulpit to try and prevent the echo, but after experimenting with different types of board, the Church agreed there was no improvement.

It is interesting to note that at the Church Meeting on 2nd July 1885, it was agreed that the Church Meetings should begin with prayer.

A special Church Meeting was called on Lord's Day evening, 12th July 1885, after Divine Service, to obtain consent of the Church for use of the Chapel by the Sunday School during July, August and September, as the School Room had got too 'strait' for the children. The attendance still increased, and the Superintendent would have had to send some away if the school room was not enlarged, or if they did not have use of the Chapel. It was agreed to allow use of the Chapel for this purpose.

The last Church Meeting in 1886, was on 31st December, and the minute book states 'Pastor presided.' The next Church Meeting on 29th March 1887 states that one of the Deacons presided. The Minute Book records the routine business of the Church, and gives a list of Ministers to be called on as 'Supplies.' Then, it seems, almost casually, that a resolution was passed that the Church should pay the funeral expenses of Brother Willis, and that a collection be taken on behalf of Sister Willis. There is no mention of the circumstances of his death!

The enlargement of the school room was approved at a Church Meeting on 1st July 1889, the estimated cost being £81.10s.0d. New Trustees were nominated on 17th November 1890. One of them was Mr E. Wilmshurst, later to become Pastor. The Trustees were appointed on 2nd March 1891.

The concern for a Pastor was expressed at a Church Meeting on 26th October 1891, and it was resolved to ask Mr Wilmshurst to supply for twelve months with a view to the Pastorate. Mr Wilmshurst agreed to supply for several Lord's Days in 1892, and if it was the Lord's will, to commence as Pastor in 1893. The Minute Book closes with the meeting of 4th April 1892, when it was agreed that Mr Wilmshurst should have as many Lord's Days in 1892 as he could arrange with other Ministers to exchange.

The Church Minute Book of May 1892 to October 1924, opens with the minutes of a special Church Meeting called to invite Mr E. Wilmshurst to the Pastorate. At the next Church Meeting, the reply of Mr Wilmshurst was read, which was described as '...a most sweet and encouraging letter to the Church which was received with much

feeling and pleasure that Mr Wilmshurst felt constrained to accept the unanimous wish of the Church to become their Pastor.’

Lighting of Chapel and School Room was considered on 29th October 1900, and it was agreed to change from Gas to Electricity!

The need for more room for the Sunday School was again raised in May 1901. It was agreed to open a Building Fund, and until £100 had been raised, not to do anything definite. The amount was soon raised, and a Building Committee appointed to prepare plans. The cost was not to exceed £450, and when half this amount was received, the Committee was empowered to proceed. The eventual cost of the work was £526.10s.4d., and this cost was met. The following proposition was recorded at a Church Meeting on 26th January 1903:

“That the accounts be accepted as correct, and entered in the minutes, with an expression of our deep sense of gratitude to the Lord for His goodness and manifold favours to us, so that we have been enabled to open the new School Room free from debt, and we pray that His blessing may at all times rest upon the teachers and the children meeting from time to time under this roof, and that the scriptural teaching, and the good seed sown, may find an abiding place in the hearts of the young, and in His own time bring forth abundant fruit to the praise of the glory of His grace.”

From 1892 to early 1906, the Church was favoured with prosperity. Most of the Church Meetings record testimonies of friends wishing to join the Church. It is recorded in the memoirs of Mr Wilmshurst, that in the first year of his Pastorate, thirty-one friends were added to the Church.

At the meeting of 29th January 1906, it was reported that Mr Wilmshurst had been returning home from supplying at Greenwich Chapel on Lord’s Day 24th December, when he was suddenly seized with severe bodily illness. A letter from him was read, asking to be relieved of all Pastoral duties for three months. This was granted with the expression that as Pastor of the Church, he had their deepest sympathy and love, and their prayers that the Lord would graciously restore him again. It was not the Lord’s will, and Mr Wilmshurst passed away on 14th March 1906. It was a sad Church that met on 2nd April, and at this meeting, it was agreed that a Memorial Stone be erected in the Chapel.

In 1916, the Church was concerned about another Pastor, and Mr C. Midmer of Clapham was invited, but he felt unable to accept the invitation.

At a meeting on 4th February 1920, the Register of Members was considered. The Register, commenced in 1896, contained the names of 149 members. 81 were now deceased, leaving a membership of 68. Some had removed to a distance, but wished to retain their membership.

The Church, still seeking a Pastor, resolved at a meeting on 11th October 1922, to extend an invitation to Mr George Rose of Cranbrook, and a letter was written to Mr Rose on 25th October. Thirty-two members were present at a Church Meeting on 20th November, when Mr Rose gave an account of his call by grace, exercises concerning the Ministry, leadings to Cranbrook, and the long continued bondage experienced in preaching, which led him to consider that the work at Cranbrook was now done, and that he was to resign. He desired that grace might be given to each one, that they might seek to know the Lord’s will concerning his future step. The formal invitation

was sent on 6th December 1922, and acceptance of the invitation was read at a Church Meeting on 12th December.

The last entry in this book was of the meeting on 15th October 1924. The meeting closed with prayer by Brother Chatfield, who opened with prayer the first meeting recorded in the book thirty-two years earlier.

The next Church Minute Book covers the period from October 1924 to October 1935. The book opens with a list of members, totalling forty-six. The last surviving member from that time, Miss C J Farncombe, passed away in June 2000. The book records a period of prosperity, many being added to the Church.

In 1938, attention was drawn to the alterations to the Chapel property, due to the widening of Tamworth Road. It was felt desirable that if possible, space should be left at the side of the Chapel, to prevent any building being constructed close up to our present building. The cost of acquiring a piece of land, 10 feet wide, by the side of the Chapel, having frontages to both Tamworth Road and the new road at the rear, would be £100. In addition, the Church would have to bear the cost of the work involved in the alterations, amounting to £225. The alternative was for the Council to do the work, and pay us £100, but this would have involved the erection of a building too close to our present boundary.

In 1939, Mr G. Rose expressed the feeling that he believed his work at Croydon had finished. He had received an invitation to be Pastor, from the Church at Kirkland. The news caused the Church much concern. At a special Church Meeting, it was unanimously agreed that our Pastor's work was not finished, and then Mr Rose said he felt it would not be right for him to leave. But as time went on, Mr Rose felt increasingly that his work at Tamworth Road was finished, and in April 1940 he resigned as Pastor, but agreed to stay on until the end of the year. War had broken out in September 1939, and conditions were very difficult. Thankfully the Chapel was preserved from serious war damage.

Brethren A. Russell and F. Fletcher were appointed Deacons in November 1944.

In April 1945, the Church suffered a great loss in the sudden homecall of Brother F. J. Farncombe. Brother H. Rose was elected Sunday School Superintendent in place of Mr Farncombe. Brethren H. Rose and A. Miles were appointed Deacons in 1946. Much prayer was made that another Pastor might be given to the Church.

This concern for a new Pastor is expressed in the next Church Book, which covers the period from April 1955 to 1968.

Some Ministers were laid on the minds of some members, but it was not the Lord's will that they should come. In 1959, the Ministry of Mr C. A. Wood was much blessed, and this resulted, in due course, in an invitation being sent to Mr Wood, which he was led to accept in the letter reproduced below, dated 13th May 1960:

To the Deacons and Church, Tamworth Road Strict Baptist Chapel, Croydon,

My Dear Brethren,

I feel I should no longer delay in answering your letter dated 28th April 1960, giving me the unanimous invitation to the pastorate at Tamworth Road.

I have sought grace to prayerfully consider such an important and solemn step, and I have gone back in my mind over the way the Lord has mutually led us,

right from my first visit until now, and I do firmly believe that the Lord has been in the matter from the commencement, granting tokens of His blessing and favour, and giving me an increasing love to you all, and in view of this, I feel I can do no other but to accept the call to the Pastorate at Tamworth Road, but I do so in a spirit of much felt weakness and insufficiency. This has been the most important, solemn, and weighty decision that I have been called upon to make in my life, and I tremble at the burden of it, but have felt the word given to me before I commenced to preach "And a door was opened unto me of the Lord" is truly applicable at this time, and though feeling so unworthy and unfit for such a solemn and sacred office, yet I dare not do otherwise than go forward in utter dependence upon the Lord for all needed help, grace, and ability, determined not to know anything among you, save Jesus Christ and Him crucified. I can truly say the Lord has increasingly placed you all in my heart's affections and prayers, and I am willing, as all needed grace is bestowed, to devote myself to your service, desiring that the bond of love and unity between us may be strengthened as time passes "with all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love, endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in peace." May it please the Lord to graciously grant His sweet confirmation that this decision is in accordance with His will, and that there may be among us a manifest growing in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To Him be glory, both now and for ever. Amen. My heart's desire for you all is found in Ephesians Chapter 3 Verses 14-21.

With my Christian love to all,

Yours in the bonds of the Gospel,

Clement A. Wood

Mr Wood commenced his Pastorate in January 1961.

In 1999, the Church suffered a great loss in the homecall of Mr H. Rose, who had been a loyal member for over 70 years, a Deacon for 53 years, and Sunday School Superintendent for over 40 years.

During the 40 years of Mr Wood's Pastorate, there have been many changes, as our Pastor outlined in his Annual Letter at the end of the year 2000. We are thankful for the faithful Ministry of the Word during those years, and for the loving care he has bestowed as a Pastor. May it please the Lord to spare him to us for a season, and to favour him with tokens that his labours are not in vain.

*"'Tis Jesus the First and the Last,
Whose Spirit shall guide us safe home:
We'll praise Him for all that is past,
And trust Him for all that's to come."*

Compiled by the late Mr F.C. Farncombe a former deacon

July 2001

Pastors of Pump Pail and Tamworth Road Chapels

Mr A Harrison	1729-1761
Mr P Webb	1761-1772
Mr J Franklin	1793-circa 1806
Mr J Morris.....	1806-1808
Mr W House	1816-1820
Mr Raxworthy	1822-1823
Mr N Tidd.....	1824-1829
Mr W Chappell.....	1831-1836
Mr T Woodington.....	1849-1858
Mr J Thurston	1860-1875
Mr J Willis.....	1879-1886
Mr E Wilmshurst.....	1893-1906
Mr G Rose	1923-1940
Mr C Wood.....	1961-2005