

Records of Northbrook Street Wesleyan Methodist Church, 1682-1995.  
(10 vols, 22 bdls, 23 docs)

Deposited in July 1974 (acc. 1944 part); March 1979 (acc. 2369 part); June 1988 (acc. 4238 part); June 1990 (acc. 4571 part); November 1992 (acc. 5123); February 1993 (acc. 5172 part); May 1995 (acc. 5622); July 2007 (acc. 8073)

Cat : LS 5/2003; 8/2007

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### **Introduction**

John Wesley preached 19 times in Newbury between 1740 and 1795. Initially the Methodists met in an existing chapel situated in a back alley off Cheap Street, near the canal. By c.1755 they had moved to buildings in Northbrook Street. A chapel was registered for worship in 1804.

In 1837 a new church was built nearby, also in Northbrook Street. It was twice registered for worship, in 1838 and 1840.

For a brief history, including memories of quarterly meetings encompassing lunch with home-brewed beer, *see* D/MS 51/8/4.

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NEWBURY NORTHBROOK STREET WESLEYAN  
METHODIST CHURCH RECORDS

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Schedule of accessions

Acc. 1944 (part) : 1A/1; 1B/2-3; 1D/1; 2A/1; 2B/1; 3C/1-4, 9-11; 4A/1;  
7C/1; 8/1-4, 6

Acc. 2369 (part) : 3C/6; 8/5

Acc. 4238 (part) : 3C/5, 12

Acc. 4571 : 6C/1

Acc. 5123 (part) : 3C/7-8

Acc. 5172 (part) : 1B/1; 1C/2-6; 1F/1-3; 3C/13; 8/7-9

Acc. 5622 : 1C/1

Acc. 8073 : 1G/1; 4B/1-2; 8/10-20

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### Summary

#### Church administration

Trustees' meeting minutes, 1839-1928; trustees' bills and vouchers, 1831-1841; Chapel Renovation Fund statements of accounts, 1899, 1902; deeds of [chapel site], Northbrook Street, Newbury, 1682-[c.1835]; papers re building church, 1835-1841; fire insurance policy, 1839-1858; papers re closure of burial ground, 1855-1856; letters to trustees, 1928-1930; agreement to let stable and coachhouse, 1835; papers re manse, 1880, 1960; Church Council minutes, 1977; steward's accounts, 1930-1951.

#### Society organisations

Wesley Guild minutes, 1895-1908, 1932-1966, Christian Service Committee minutes, 1927-1940, accounts, 1909/10, 1925-1966, and miscellaneous, 1901-1910, 1927-1928; Newbury Methodist Tennis Club rules, 1948.

#### Service of the church

Pulpit notices, 1958-1962; special orders of service, 1963, 1990.

#### Membership

Membership tickets of Pullen family, 1817-1907.

#### Sunday School and Sunday Institute

Sunday School information brochure, 1914.

#### Printed material/Miscellaneous

Centenary programme, 1937; newsletter, 1964-1977, 1995 (incomplete); appeal booklet, 1983; history of church, 1990; church cookery book, 1955; organ recital programme, 1982; negatives of photographs of church, n.d. [20C]; transcript of MIs, n.d. [20C].

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Records in other collections

Circuit records	D/MC 7, 9, 13
Women's Own minutes, 1971-1972	DMS 2/3A/1
Young People's Guild minutes, 1939-1940	D/MS 2/3D/2
Baptisms, 1795-1837	MF 598
Burials, 1823-1837	MF 598

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1	<b><u>Trustees</u></b>		
1A	<u>Trustees' meeting minutes</u>		
1A/1	Minutes of trustees' meetings, December 1839-May 1928, and of sub-committee, January 1840.	1 vol	1839-1928
1B	<u>Trust accounts</u>		
1B/1/1-20	Bills and vouchers, mostly relating to the building of the chapel.	1 bdl	1831-1841
1B/2	Chapel Renovation Fund : statement of accounts (to October 1899; printed).	1 doc	1899
1B/3	Chapel Renovation Fund : 3 <sup>rd</sup> statement of accounts (to December 1901; printed).	1 doc	1902
1C	<u>Chapel property</u>		
1C/1/1-2	Deeds of a messuage in Northbrook Street, Newbury, and 1a. meadow ground in a common meadow called Brownes Meade, Hungerford.	1 bdl	1682
1C/2/1-6	Copy deeds of and agreements relating to messuage in Northbrook Street [premises used for worship].	1 bdl	1816- [c.1835]
1C/3/1-2	Agreement relating to wall at western boundary of premises in Northbrook Street. (Two copies.)	1 bdl	1816
1C/4/1-9	Correspondence and papers concerning building new church. (Includes Connexional Chapel Building Committee's sanction, 1835; specification and quotation for plastering work, 1837; rough outline plan of site (with measurements), 1837.)	1 bdl	1835-1841
1C/5/1-2	Fire insurance policy on chapel, 1839, endorsed with memorandum regarding altered heating system, 1858.	1 bdl	1839, 1858
1C/6/1-3	Papers relating to closure of burial ground by Order in Council.	1 bdl	1855-1856

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1	<b><u>Trustees</u></b>		
1D	<u>Correspondence</u>		
1D/1/1-7	Letters to the trustees. (Includes resignation of organist, 1928; the use by the Junior Guild of a room and cupboards in the old day school, [1928]; and a request to introduce the chanting of the Lord's Prayer in worship, 1930.)	1 bdl	1928, 1930
1F	<u>Other property</u>		
1F/1	Agreement to let stable and coach house adjoining premises in Northbrook Street.	1 doc	1835
1F/2/1-5	Letters concerning sale of minister's house, Cheap Street, Newbury. [For title deed conveying this property, 1880, <i>see</i> D/EX 1878/1.]	1 bdl	1880
1F/3	Connexional Chapel Committee offer of loan for minister's house, Castle Grove, Newbury.	1 doc	1960
1G	<u>Other records</u>		
1G/1	Photocopy of bill for purchase of pulpit Bible, baptism and burial register, and advertising material for opening of new schoolrooms, supplied to the trustees by M W Vardy of Newbury, bookseller, stationer, printer, etc.	1 doc	n.d. [20C]

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- 2            **Leaders and society stewards/Church Council**
- 2A           Leaders' meeting/Church Council minutes
- 2A/1/1-3   Minutes of Church Council meeting, October      1 bdl    1977  
                 1977.
- 2B           Accounts
- 2B/1        Society steward's accounts, January 1930-      1 vol    1930-1951  
                 February 1951.  
                 (Includes, near end, annual statements of  
                 accounts, 1946-1950.)

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3 **Society organisations**

3C Joint fellowship

Wesley Guild

[A branch of the Wesley Guild was formed in 1895. It united with the Bartholomew Street branch in c.1939.]

3C/1	Minutes of Wesley Guild business and executive [committee] meetings, October 1895-April 1908.	1 vol	1895-1908
3C/2	Minutes of annual and adjourned business meetings of Wesley Guild.	1 vol	1932-1966
3C/3	Wesley Guild annual statement of accounts, 1909/10.	1 doc	1910
3C/4	Wesley Guild accounts, April 1925-April 1964.	1 vol	1925-1964
3C/5	Wesley Guild accounts, May 1957-April 1966.	1 vol	1957-1966
3C/6	Wesley Guild programme, 1901-1902.	1 doc	1901
3C/7	Wesley Guild syllabus [programme], 1928-1929.	1 doc	1928
3C/8/1-9	Schedule [programme] for circuit Wesley Guild Eisteddfod, held at Wesley Hall, Northbrook Street.	1 bdl	1929
3C/9	Letter from Oxford District Wesley Guild Council concerning possible arrangements for summer programme and District Guild Rally.	1 doc	1910
3C/10/1-2	Wesley Guild Cycling Club programmes.	1 bdl	1901, 1903
3C/11/1-2	Wesley Guild Lawn Tennis Club rules.	1 bdl	1907, 1909
3C/12	Wesley Guild Christian Service Committee minutes, June 1927-May 1940.	1 vol	1927-1940

Miscellaneous

3C/13	Newbury Methodist Tennis Club rules.	1 doc	1948
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- 4            **Service of the church**
- 4A           Pulpit notices
- 4A/1        Pulpit notices, November 1958-November 1962.        1 vol    1958-1962
- Orders of service
- 4B/1        Order of service of rededication of the organ        1 doc    1963  
              following its reconstruction, with programme of  
              recital by Richard Lloyd.
- 4B/2        Order of service for "day of celebration", 10        1 doc    1990  
              March 1990, marking 250 years of Methodism in  
              Newbury, the restoration of Northbrook Street  
              Church and opening of the new Wesley Hall and  
              rooms, and the launch of the Christian  
              Stewardship Programme.

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5        **Registration**

5A       Baptism

[For baptisms, 1795-1837, *see* MF 598 (original at  
Public Record Office).]

5C       Burial

[For burials, 1823-1837, *see* MF 598 (original at  
Public Record office). Burials ceased in 1902.]

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6            **Membership**

6C           Other

6C/1        Album containing class membership tickets,        1 vol    1817-1908  
              mostly for John Pullen (1818-1908) and his wife  
              Caroline (née Titcombe) (1823-1902), 1835-1907,  
              with one for E. Edwards, 1817.  
              (Includes memorial cards for John and Caroline.  
              John became a Methodist in 1835 and Caroline in  
              1844, both originally at Lambourn. They married  
              in 1848 and later moved to Newbury.)

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- 7            **Sunday School and Sunday Institute**
- 7C           Other Sunday School records
- 7C/1        Sunday School information brochure, produced in        1 doc    1914  
                 January 1914.  
                 (Includes list of officers and teachers, summary of  
                 numbers of scholars, and annual statement of  
                 accounts, all for 1913.)

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8	<b><u>Printed material/Miscellaneous</u></b>		
8/1	Rules of the Newbury Idlers' Lawn Tennis Club ([membership card] of Mr Alec Herbert).	1 doc	1910
8/2	Handbill advertising annual lumber sale at church.	1 doc	n.d. [c.1930]
8/3/1-3	Programme for comic concert at "ye olde cuntrye faire".	1 bdl	n.d. [c.1930s]
8/4/1-2	Church centenary souvenir programme.	1 bdl	1937
8/5/1-2	Church newsletter, February 1964.	1 bdl	1964
8/6/1-4	<i>Witness</i> (church magazine), July/August, October-December 1977.	1 bdl	1977
8/7	Appeal booklet. (Includes photographs showing damaged parts of church building.)	1 doc	1983
8/8	Typescript extracts from the <i>Reading Mercury</i> relating to the laying of the cornerstone in 1837.	1 doc	n.d. [20C]
8/9	<i>Thy Chartered Freeman</i> , by Joan Booker (published by the church). (History of Methodism in Newbury.)	1 vol	1990
8/10	Photocopy of engraving of the Wesleyan Sunday and Day School building, n.d. [c.1850s].	1 doc	20C
8/11	<i>Cookery Book: 120 Tested Local Recipes</i> . (Compiled to raise funds for the church.)	1 doc	1955
8/12/1-2	<i>Northbrook Street News</i> , nos 2/1-2, June/July and September 1971.	1 bdl	1971
8/13/1-4	Church newsletters, March, April, August and December 1972.	1 bdl	1972
8/14/1-5	Church newsletters. (February-April, June, and November-December issues missing.)	1 bdl	1973
8/15	Church newsletter, June 1995.	1 bdl	1995
8/16/1-2	Programme and ticket for organ recital in the church, by William Davies.	1 bdl	1982
8/17/1-2	Christian Stewardship Programme brochure, with notes on the stewardship of money.	1 bdl	1990

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8	<b><u>Printed material/Miscellaneous</u></b>		
8/18	Press cutting: report on the Day of Celebration. [ <i>See also</i> D/MS 51/4B/1.]	1 doc	n.d. [1990]
8/19	Negatives of photographs of the church.	1 doc	n.d. [20C]
8/20	Transcript of three monumental inscriptions: tombstones outside the church.	1 doc	n.d. [20C]

## APPENDIX I

Concordance

The following documents were previously catalogued as D/N 4:

<u>Old reference</u>	<u>New reference</u>
D/N 4/1/17	D/MS 51/3C/6
D/N 4/2/1	D/MS 51/1A/1; 1B/3; 1D/1
D/N 4/2/2	D/MS 51/3C/1,3,9
D/N 4/2/3	D/MS 51/3C/2; 8/1
D/N 4/2/4	D/MS 51/3C/10
D/N 4/2/5	D/MS 51/7C/1
D/N 4/2/6	D/MS 51/4A/1
D/N 4/2/7	D/MS 51/1B/2
D/N 4/2/8	D/MS 51/3C/4
D/N 4/2/9	D/MS 51/2B/1
D/N 4/2/11	D/MS 51/8/2-3
D/N 4/2/12	D/MS 51/8/4
D/N 4/2/13	D/MS 51/8/6
D/N 4/2/14	DMS/51/2A/1
D/N 4/2/15	D/MS 51/8/5