

WALTHAM ABBEY AND HERTFORD METHODIST CIRCUIT

Introduction

Until 1885 this circuit was known as the Bishop's Stortford and Hertford circuit and included chapels existing at different dates throughout the whole of East Hertfordshire and West Essex. In 1831 these were Bishop's Stortford, Hertford, Ware, Saffron Walden, Newport, Dane End, Benington, Brickwell, How Green and Braughing. In 1885 the chapels at Bishop's Stortford, Hare Street, Braughing, Berden and Harlow split away to form a separate circuit later known as the North West Essex Mission (see introduction to Bishop's Stortford circuit NM9). From 1902-1912 the churches of the North West Essex Mission were again amalgamated with the Hertford circuit to form the much larger London and Hertford Mission circuit. In 1912 two circuits were again formed and Cheshunt, Waltham Abbey, Ordnance Road (Enfield Lock), Hoddesdon, Hertford, Ware, Wareside, and Watton-at-Stone became the new Waltham Abbey and Hertford circuit. Sewardstone also formed part of this circuit from 1931 until its closure in 1970 and the church at Wareside was closed in 1973.

Today this circuit consists of the churches at Waltham Abbey, Hoddesdon, Cheshunt, Hertford, Ware and Watton-at-Stone.

The circuit forms part of the London North East District of the Methodist church.

Add 2601 1/14

Methodist Church - Hertford

26447/17

MAR 1996

HERTFORDSHIRE RECORD OFFICE

NM10

WALTHAM ABBEY AND HERTFORD METHODIST CIRCUIT

NM10/1	Quarterly meeting minutes: Bishop's Stortford and Hertford circuit up to 1885, thereafter known as the Hertford circuit [see also NM10/6]	1 vol	Mar 1864-Sep 1888
NM10/2	Bishop's Stortford and Hertford circuit book containing accounts of disbursements and collections made for tickets and funds	1 vol	Sep 1831-Jan 1859
NM10/3	Schedule of deeds and documents: Hertford circuit trust estates (Hertford, Ware, Wareside, Watton-at-Stone)	1 vol	1897 - 1898
NM10/4	Return of numbers of sittings: Bishop's Stortford and Hertford circuit (Hertford, Bishop's Stortford, Ware, Braughing, Berden, Benington, Dane End, Hare Street, Matching, Aspenden, Ayot St Peter and Watton-at-Stone)	1 item	Feb 1874
NM10/5	Return of numbers of sittings: Hertford circuit (Hertford, Ware, Wareside, Essendon, Chapmore End and Watton-at-Stone)	1 item	Dec 1891
NM10/6	Bishop's Stortford and Hertford circuit: local preachers' minutes, Jan 1833-Jun 1860 with quarterly meeting minutes, Mar-Jun 1853 at end	1 vol	1833 - 1860
NM10/7	Local preachers' minutes: Bishop's Stortford circuit, 1864-1886 and Hertford circuit thereafter	1 vol	Sep 1864-Mar 1897
NM10/8	Missionary accounts: Bishop's Stortford and Hertford circuit 1862-1886 and Hertford circuit thereafter	1 vol	Oct 1862-Feb 1891

HERTFORDSHIRE RECORD OFFICE

NM10

WALTHAM ABBEY AND HERTFORD METHODIST CIRCUIT

NM10/9	Register of baptisms: Bishop's Stortford and Hertford circuit	1 vol	1838 - 1885
NM10/10	Index to NM10/9 above [see also microfilm of Bishop's Stortford baptism register 1827-1837 PC26/1]	1 vol	n.d.
	<u>London and Hertford Mission Circuit (1902-1912) and Waltham Abbey and Hertford Circuit 1912 onwards</u>		
NM10/11	Quarterly meeting minutes	1 vol	Sep 1902-Oct 1913
NM10/12	Quarterly meeting minutes [see also NM10/26]	1 vol	Dec 1913-Jun 1935
NM10/13	Quarterly accounts	1 vol	Mar 1917-Dec 1930
NM10/14	Quarterly accounts [see also NM10/27]	1 vol	Mar 1931-Dec 1954
NM10/15	Circuit Steward's accounts	1 vol	Oct 1909-Jul 1911
NM10/16	United trustees: minutes of annual meetings	1 vol	Mar 1903-Mar 1914
NM10/17	Schedule of deeds of circuit property [see also NM10/39]	1 vol	c1900
NM10/18	Schedule of deeds and lists of trustees	1 vol	c1921
NM10/19	Return of accommodation giving dates chapels erected and numbers of sittings [see also NM9/2]	1 item	Jan 1912

HERTFORDSHIRE RECORD OFFICE

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WALTHAM ABBEY AND HERTFORD METHODIST CIRCUIT

NM10/20	Finance and invitation committee minutes, Nov 1937-Dec 1941 and Circuit General Purposes Committee, Dec 1942-May 1956	1 vol	1937 - 1956
NM10/21	Wesleyan Foreign Missionary Society, Hertford Branch (Hertford, Ware, Wareside and Watton-at-Stone): secretary's accounts	1 vol	1891 - 1906
NM10/22	Wesleyan Foreign Missionary Society Hertford Section: secretary's accounts	1 vol	1907 - 1923
NM10/23	Missionary Society accounts	1 vol	Jan 1887-Oct 1917
NM10/24	Circuit plans and directories	1 bdl	Oct 1945-Apr 1946; Oct 1957-Jan 1958; Apr-Jul 1970; Jan 1978-Dec 1978; Apr-Jun 1979; Jan-Mar 1987; Jul-Sep 1987; Apr 1988-Jun 1990
NM10/42	Circuit plans	20 items	Jul 1990-Jun 1995
NM10/43	Annual directory	1 item	1990 - 1991
NM10/25	Accounts of fund raising activities for benefit of Cheshunt, Waltham Abbey and Enfield Lock trusts	1 vol	Oct 1908-Dec 1910
NM10/26	Quarterly meeting minutes	1 vol	Mar 1954-Sep 1970
NM10/27	Quarterly accounts	1 vol	Jun 1912-Dec 1916

HERTFORDSHIRE RECORD OFFICE

NM10

WALTHAM ABBEY AND HERTFORD METHODIST CIRCUIT

NM10/28	Circuit schedules	1 vol	Sep 1953-Dec 1973
NM10/29	Minutes of local preachers' meetings	1 vol	Jun 1917-May 1940
NM10/30	Minutes of Manse trustees (Waltham Abbey manse) and from Oct 1969 minutes of circuit manse trustees	1 vol	Jun 1935-Nov 1973
NM10/31	Correspondence and papers concerning purchase of manse (33 Ware Road, Hertford), 1896 and its sale in 1907 including sale particulars, 1907	1 bdl	1896 - 1908
NM10/32	Correspondence and papers concerning purchase of manse (11 Queens Road, Hertford), 1920 and its sale in 1967	1 bdl	1920 - 1967
NM10/33	Correspondence and papers concerning sale of manse in Monkswood Avenue, Waltham Cross and purchase of houses in Church Lane, Cheshunt and the Beeches Estate, Hertford	1 bdl	1965 - 1970
NM10/34	Survey report on 86 Church Lane, Cheshunt with schedule of repairs required	1 item	Nov 1968
NM10/35	Correspondence and papers concerning sale of 86 Church Lane, Cheshunt	1 file	1977 - 1978
NM10/36	Inventories of contents of circuit properties at Waltham Abbey, Hertford, Ware, Wareside, Sewardstone and Enfield	1 bdl	1940 - 1941

HERTFORDSHIRE RECORD OFFICE

NM10

WALTHAM ABBEY AND HERTFORD METHODIST CIRCUIT

NM10/37-38	War damage insurance policies on circuit properties	2 bdl	1941 - 1943
NM10/39	Schedule of deeds of circuit property	1 item	1941
NM10/40	Insurance policies: circuit manses and Ware Road church, Hertford	1 bdl	1958 - 1974
NM10/41	Correspondence and papers concerning sale of Sewardstone church and Temperance Hall, Wareside	1 bdl	1968 - 1973

Hertford Methodist Church (Wesleyan)

John Wesley preached in Hertford on a number of occasions in the 1770's but not until 1818 was the first chapel erected in Railway Street. The second chapel built in 1840 was on a different site in the same street. A site was acquired in Ware Road, Hertford in 1865 and a chapel opened in 1867. This building was renovated in 1929 but finally demolished in 1962 on the opening of the new church and hall.

/1	Minutes of trustees	1 vol	Feb 1902-Aug 1929
/2	Correspondence concerning renovations, 1929, applications for grant to meet costs and general upkeep of property	1 file	1929 - 1951
/3	Correspondence concerning erection of new chapel with plans, 1960 and order of service for dedication of site, 10 Nov 1962	1 file	1958 - 1965
/4	Trust accounts; at end building fund account, Mar 1957-Nov 1964	1 vol	Jan 1951-Aug 1965
5	Minutes of Leaders' meetings, Jun 1909-Sep 1928; at end reversed minutes of executive council, Mar 1924-Jan 1927	1 vol	1909 - 1928
/6	Minutes of Leaders' meetings	1 vol	Oct 1940-Dec 1954
/7	Minutes of Leaders' meetings	1 vol	Mar 1955-Dec 1965
/8	Register of baptisms	1 vol	Jul 1885-Apr 1971
/9	Trust treasurer's accounts	1 vol	Jan 1960-Aug 1975
/10	Chapel insurance policy: Wesleyan Methodist Trust Assurance Co Ltd	1 item	Mar 1921
/11	Society steward's accounts	1 vol	May 1949-Aug 1982
/12	Envelope collection accounts	1 bdl	1973 - 1975
/13-14	Envelope collection accounts	2 vols	1974-1977
/15	Women's fellowship: treasurer's accounts	1 vol	Jan 1956-Jan 1979
/16	Good Neighbour Campaign committee minutes	1 vol	Feb 1970-Jan 1973
/17	Pulpit notices	1 vol	Jan 1942-Nov 1945
/18	Pulpit notices	1 vol	Nov 1947-Oct 1949

Ware Methodist Church (Wesleyan)

There was a Wesleyan Methodist Society in Ware by 1831 as part of the Bishop's Stortford and Hertford circuit (see NM9). A chapel in New Road, Ware was erected in 1839 and enlarged in 1886. It was rebuilt in 1906. This building still exists in ecclesiastical use. The Methodist church, however, has recently amalgamated with the United Reformed Church (formerly Congregational) and now uses their buildings in High Street, Ware known as the Leaside Church.

/1	Minutes of trustees, Nov 1902-Dec 1907 with minutes of building committee, Mar 1906-Apr 1907 and statement of accounts 24 Apr 1907	1 vol	1902 - 1907
/2	Trustees correspondence concerning chapel premises and organ [Enclosed with NM10B/1]	1 bdl	1906 - 1923
/3	Minutes of trustees	1 vol	Feb 1944-Jul 1963
/4	Memorandums of agreement between trustees and caretaker setting out duties	3	9 Jan 1946; 24 Sep 1958
/5	Copies of original certificate of registration as a place of worship - building certified by John Radmall of Ware, grocer	2	Oct 1839
/6	Certificate of registration as a place of worship	1 item	Mar 1854
/7	Certificate of registration for the solemnization of marriages	1 item	Jul 1890
/8	Accounts of building fund	1 vol	1900 - 1906
/9	Trust treasurer: bills and accounts	1 bdl	1900 - 1911
/10	Correspondence and memorandum of agreement concerning gift to church by Bertha Barnett	1 bdl	1917
/11-12	Correspondence and papers concerning legacy to church given by Amos Lewis Ashwell of Widbury Villa, Ware died 1918	2 bdls	1918 - 1919; 1927
/13	Insurance policy on chapel building: Wesleyan Methodist Trust Assurance Company	1 item	1921
/14	Correspondence concerning war damage to chapel	1 bdl	1941 - 1942
/15	Lists of trustees and related papers	1 bdl	1958; 1967
/16	Lease of chapel school room to Hertfordshire County Council	1 item	19 Jan 1956

JUN 1990

NM10B

Ware Methodist Church (Wesleyan)

/17	Schedule of deeds relating to land in Blue Coat Yard, Ware and house and premises in New Road, Ware property of chapel trustees	1 item	n.d.
/18	Collection Journal	1 vol	Sep 1907-Sep 1928
/19	Sermon notes for use in services Easter to Ascension Day	1 vol	n.d.

Wareside Methodist Church (Wesleyan)

A Methodist church at Wareside was acquired in 1889 as part of the Hertford Circuit. Numbers attending became very low until in 1964 services were being held only once a month. The church was finally closed in 1965 and sold very shortly afterwards. The trust property at Wareside also included the Ebenezer Temperance Hall built in 1893 by a society of that name. During the Second World War this building and the adjoining cottage began to be let to a series of tenants, the hall being used for light industrial use. These properties were sold in 1973 and the hall itself later converted into a private house. Further papers concerning the sale of the Temperance Hall and cottage can be found in NM10/41.

/1	Minutes of trustees	1 vol	Mar 1925-Feb 1934
/2	Minutes of trustees, Feb 1941-Jan 1950; at end accounts of trust fund, Aug 1932-Dec 1950	1 vol	1932 - 1950
/3	Minutes of trustees	1 vol	Feb 1957-Jun 1973
/4	Minutes of society and leaders' meetings. Volume also includes minutes of trustees' meeting 26 Nov 1963 and statement of accounts 1962/63	1 vol	Apr 1961-Mar 1963
/5	Certificate of registration as a place of worship	1 item	Aug 1890
/6	Memorandums of choice and appointment of new trustees	6	1920 - 1961
/7	Correspondence and papers concerning Temperance Hall and cottage and renewal of trust including insurance policies on chapel and hall, 1920	1 bdl	1908 - 1948
/8	Correspondence and papers concerning Temperance Hall including trust treasurer's accounts, Apr 1925-Jan 1933	1 file	1925 - 1948
/9	Correspondence concerning repair of bomb damage, Oct 1940 and removal of iron railings for scrap	1 bdl	1940 - 1943
/10	Trust treasurer's general correspondence and bills concerning Temperance Hall and cottage including memorandum of agreement for lease of hall, 29 Jun 1949	1 bdl	1946 - 1953
/11-12	Trust correspondence concerning maintenance of chapel, hall and cottage, closure of chapel and proposed sale of hall and chapel	2 bdls	1957 - 1967; 1966 - 1970

Cheshunt Methodist Church (Wesleyan)

The house of Samuel Lane in Cheshunt High Street was certified as a place of worship for Methodists in September 1808. By 1854 the society was using Cheshunt Hall in Crossbrook Street (now the Comrades Club). The site at the junction of Cecil Road and the High Road, Cheshunt was acquired in 1896. Opening services of the new church were held in March 1901. Alterations were made to this building in 1931. It was finally closed in 1975 and the site sold. The congregation now share a building with the Anglicans known as Christ Church, Waltham Cross [see also the parish records D/P29B].

NM10D/1	Minutes of trustees including minutes of bazaar committee [see also NM10D/10-11]	1 vol	Feb 1897-Feb 1930
NM10D/2	Insurance policies on chapel and boiler with related correspondence [Found enclosed with NM10D/1]	1 bdl	1925 - 1930
NM10D/3	Trust treasurer's accounts	1 vol	Jun 1901-Mar 1944
NM10D/4	Trust treasurer's accounts	1 vol	Jan 1945-May 1970
NM10D/5	General income and expenditure accounts [see also NM10D/16-17]	1 vol	Jan 1954-May 1964
NM10D/6	Society steward's accounts	1 vol	Jan 1955-Feb 1965
NM10D/7	Pulpit notices	1 vol	4 Jun 1967-18 May 1969
NM10D/8	Pulpit notices	1 vol	25 May 1969-2 May 1971
NM10D/9	Minutes of finance committee	1 vol	Apr 1948-Dec 1952
NM10D/10	Minutes of trustees	1 vol	Jun 1954-Oct 1973
NM10D/11	Minutes of trustees	1 vol	Jun 1974-Oct 1975
NM10D/12	List of trustees as at 1968 and papers concerning renewal of trust, 1969	1 bdl	1968 - 1969
NM10D/13	Papers concerning erection of new church and subsequent reduction of debt including account with building contractor, Nov 1901	1 bdl	1899 - 1917

HERTFORDSHIRE RECORD OFFICE

NM10D

Cheshunt Methodist Church (Wesleyan)

NM10D/14	Schedule of deeds and documents, 1889-1969	1 item	c.1969
NM10D/15	Correspondence concerning proposed alterations	1 bdl	1931
NM10D/16	General income and expenditure accounts	1 vol	Jun 1964-Aug 1973
NM10D/17	General income and expenditure accounts	1 vol	Sep 1973-Aug 1985
NM10D/18	Society steward's accounts	1 vol	Jun 1975-Aug 1985
NM10D/19	Methodist Guild Executive Committee minutes [including Annual General meeting minutes April 1937-March 1946]	1 vol	May 1943-Sep 1946
NM10D/20	Methodist Guild Annual General Meeting minutes	1 vol	Apr 1952-Apr 1964
NM10D/21	Methodist Guild Roll Book	1 vol	1953 - 1975
NM10D/22-25	Methodist Guild Programmes and lists of officers	4	1965 - 1966
NM10D/26	Programme for "Harlequin Hall" church bazaar	1	Nov 1969
NM10D/27	Service sheet for the Harvest Festival Service	1	[c 1960s]
NM10D/201	Order of service for induction of Reverend Simon Hughes at Waltham Cross Baptist Church	1	3 Sep 1994
NM10D/28-36	Hoddesdon and Cheshunt Methodist Churches, newsletters [February - November]	9	1959
NM10D/37-43	Hoddesdon and Cheshunt Methodist Churches, newsletters [January; June - December]	7	1960

Cheshunt Methodist Church (Wesleyan)

NM10D/44-53	Hoddesdon and Cheshunt Methodist Churches newsletters [January-July; September-December]	10	1961
NM10D/54-64	Hoddesdon and Cheshunt Methodist Churches, newsletters [January-June; August-December]	11	1962
NM10D/65-74	Hoddesdon and Cheshunt Methodist Churches, newsletters [January-October; December]	10	1963
NM10D/75-81	Hoddesdon and Cheshunt Methodist Churches, newsletters [January-August]	7	1964
NM10D/82-85	Hoddesdon and Cheshunt Methodist Churches, newsletters [July-October; December]	4	1965
NM10D/86-96	Hoddesdon and Cheshunt Methodist Churches, newsletters [January-December]	11	1966
NM10D/97-104	Hoddesdon and Cheshunt Methodist Churches, newsletters [January-June; October]	8	1967
NM10D/105-120	Cheshunt Methodist Church, newsletters [January-March; May-June; August-December]	16	1968
NM10D/121-126	Cheshunt Methodist Church, newsletters [January-May; July-August; November]	6	1969
NM10D/127-138	Cheshunt Methodist Church, newsletters [February-June; September-December; special Christmas issue]	12	1970
NM10D/139-147	Cheshunt Methodist Church, newsletters [February-April; June; August-December]	9	1971

Cheshunt Methodist Church (Wesleyan)

NM10D/148-161	Cheshunt Methodist Church, newsletters [January 1972- January 1973]	13	1972-1973
NM10D/162-172	Cheshunt Methodist Church, newsletters [February-December]	11	1973
NM10D/173-179	Cheshunt Methodist Church, newsletters [January-August]	7	1974
NM10D/180-189	Cheshunt Methodist Church, newsletters [February 1975- January 1976]	10	1975-1976
NM10D/190-197	Cheshunt Methodist Church, newsletters [February-November]	8	1976
NM10D/198-200	Cheshunt Methodist Church, newsletters [April (two copies) and November]	3	[c1960s]
NM10D/202-229	<i>The Cross: The Magazine of Christ Church Waltham Cross</i> [Joint magazine of the Anglican and Methodist congregations. Most issues also contain a copy of <i>See Round</i> , the newsletter of the Diocese of St Albans]	28	Apr 1992-Jan 1995

Sewardstone Methodist Church (Wesleyan)

A chapel at Sewardstone built on the site of the Old Forge was opened on 28 May 1931. It was closed and sold in 1970. Further papers concerning the sale of this property can be found in NM10/41.

/1	Minutes of trustees	1 vol	Mar 1931-Jan 1963
/2	Minutes of trustees Enclosed: surveyor's report 21 Oct 1967, copy of final account, Sep 1969-Apr 1970 and general correspondence, 1951-1966	1 vol	Nov 1963-Jul 1970
/3	Minutes of leaders' and society meetings; at end reversed, minutes and accounts of Sunday School Anniversary, Jun 1932 and Jun 1933	1 vol	Jan 1932-Mar 1950
/4	Minutes of leaders' meetings	1 vol	Mar 1950-Dec 1953
/5	Collection journal	1 vol	Jan 1960-Apr 1970
/6	Pulpit notices	1 vol	Jan 1954-Feb 1962
/7	Pulpit notices	1 vol	Feb 1962-Apr 1970
/8	Register of baptisms	1 vol	May 1932-May 1968
/9	Accounts of subscriptions for erection of new school-chapel	1 vol	1931
/10	Leaflets advertising opening ceremony and dedication service of new building	4	May 1931

Waltham Abbey Methodist Church (Wesleyan)

A Methodist church at Waltham Abbey was opened on 13 July 1824. This first chapel was sold in 1903 and a new building erected in Sewardstone Road at the corner of Monkwood Avenue. The church has recently been taken over by the Catholic authorities. [See also NM10/25]

/1	General church accounts [see also NM10F/14]	1 vol	Jan 1855-Jan 1894
/2	Finance committee minutes: at end lists of members of committee 1924-1928, 1933 and 1938	1 vol	Aug 1922-Jan 1940
/3	Minutes of Waltham Abbey minister's house trust (No 1 Farm Hill, Waltham Abbey) Enclosed: account of purchase of property 1921 with list of trustees	1 vol	May 1921-Apr 1935
/4	Minutes of leaders' meetings	1 vol	Jan 1885-Jan 1903
/5	Minutes of Pleasant Sunday Afternoon Council	1 vol	Sep 1910-Apr 1916
/6	Typed list of inscriptions on foundation stones, buttresses and marble pillars at ex-Methodist Church, Monkwood Avenue, Waltham Abbey (church taken over by Catholic authorities)	1 item	n.d.
/7	<i>Fifty Years of Local Preaching</i> by W Smith: manuscript history containing chapter on Waltham Abbey	1 vol	1881 - 1930
/8	Baptism register	1 vol	Jun 1860-Jan 1953
/9	Baptism register	1 vol	May 1953-Aug 1967
/10	Stubs of marriage certificates giving details of parties	1 vol	1911 - 1946
/11	Minutes of trustees Jul 1853-Nov 1904 together with minutes of chapel improvement committee, 1886 and Society accounts, 1853-1891	1 vol	1853 - 1904
/12	Letters concerning appointment of trustees [found inside NM10F/11]	1 bdl	1904
/13	Minutes of trustees	1 vol	Jan 1939-Feb 1959
/14	General church accounts. At end account 1931-1932 of bequest to church under will of John Turner dated 1 Jul 1921	1 vol	Jan 1894-Sep 1951

Waltham Abbey Methodist Church (Wesleyan)

/15	Certificate of registration for the solemnization of marriages, 1896 with related correspondence from Registrar General concerning appointment of authorised persons under the Marriage Act 1898	1 bdl	1896 - 1945
/16-17	Correspondence and papers concerning purchase of site, 1899 and erection of new church Monkswood Avenue, Waltham Abbey, 1901-1904 with architect's [J Wills] drawing and plan of proposed church; correspondence concerning sale of old church; and papers concerning installation of organ, 1912	2 bdls	1899 - 1912
/18	Correspondence concerning sale of old church in Sewardstone Street, Waltham Abbey to Enfield Highway Co-operative Society	1 bdl	1904
/19	Correspondence and accounts concerning Waltham Abbey manse [see also NM10/30]	1 bdl	1922 - 1926
/20	Plan of church site	1 item	1949
/21	Order of service for dedication of new organ	1 item	25 Sep 1955
/22	Minutes of leaders' meetings	1 vol	Feb 1903-Jan 1917
/23	Minutes of leaders' and annual society meetings	1 vol	May 1935-Jan 1944
/24	Minutes of leaders' and annual society meetings	1 vol	Jan 1944-Sep 1957
/25	Chapel steward's accounts	1 vol	Feb 1940-Dec 1946
/26	Minutes of Sunday School teachers meetings	1 vol	Jan 1902-Apr 1924
/27	Methodist Missionary Society: accounts of collections	1 vol	1897 - 1918

Introduction

The first Biggleswade circuit was formed in 1795. It extended north to St Neots in Huntingdon and south to Stevenage. In 1800 St Neots became the head of this large circuit until in 1810 two circuits were created to be known as the Biggleswade and St Neots circuits. By 1839 these circuits consisted of chapels at the following places:

ST NEOTS: St Neots, Tempsford, Great Barford, Buckden, Bourn, Gamlingay, Eltisley, Toseland, Eaton Socon, Great Staughton, Potton and Great Paxton.

BIGGLESWADE: Biggleswade, Hitchin*, Baldock, Beeston, Weston*, Stevenage*, Langford, Stotfold, Arlesey, Steeple Morden, Ashwell, Newnham, Hinxworth, Norton, Pirton*, Shefford, Walkern*, Ickleford*, Royston, Graveley, Codicote* and Clifton

In 1842 the Hertfordshire churches marked with an asterisk combined to form the Hitchin circuit [see NM4]

On the union of the Methodist churches in 1933 a new Biggleswade circuit was formed to consist of the chapels at Biggleswade [Trinity and Bourne], Beeston, Shefford, High Street Stotfold, Steeple Morden, Langford, Caldecote, Northill, Henlow, Moggerhanger, Meppershall and the Hertfordshire chapels at Baldock, Ashwell and Hinxworth [see NM11B and C].

The chapel at Brook Street Stotfold was transferred to the Letchworth circuit at this date [see NM4S].

In 1970 on the formation of the Hitchin and Letchworth circuit the Biggleswade circuit chapels at Baldock, Ashwell, Hinxworth and High Street Stotfold were transferred to this new circuit [see NM4].

Records of the St Neots and Biggleswade circuits are held at the Bedfordshire Record Office, County Hall, Bedford MK42 9AP.

TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH, BIGGLESWADE (WESLEYAN)

NM11A

A Wesleyan Methodist society was meeting in Biggleswade by 1794. A chapel, financed by Miss Harvey of Hinxworth, was built at Cowfairlands, Biggleswade and opened in 1795. A new site for a chapel was purchased in 1834 and the new building opened in November of the same year. The Cowfairlands chapel was sold and subsequently converted into four cottages. The chapel was renovated in 1889 and additional school and class rooms erected in 1905.

A primitive chapel known as the Bourne, Biggleswade was built in 1874. Until 1933 this chapel formed part of the Hitchin Primitive Methodist circuit (see NM4). It was closed and sold in 1948.

/1 History of Biggleswade
Methodism: booklet
published on celebration
of centenary of Trinity
Church.

1 vol 1934

Hinxworth Methodist Church (Wesleyan)

John Wesley preached on many occasions in Hinxworth. Services were held in the home of a Miss Harvey. A site for a chapel was purchased in 1831 for £7 raised by public subscription. This building was demolished in 1863 and a new chapel erected on the same site. The church was closed in 1970 and the premises sold in 1975.

In 1970 this society was transferred from the Biggleswade circuit to the newly formed Hitchin and Letchworth circuit [see NM4].

- | | | | |
|----|---|--------|-------------------|
| /1 | Society steward's accounts | 1 vol | Jun 1872-Sep 1879 |
| /2 | Register of baptisms
[there is a note at the front
that all baptisms at Hinxworth
prior to 8 Dec 1870 are listed
in the Baldock register] | 1 vol | Dec 1870-Sep 1960 |
| /3 | Volume containing names of
members 1863 onwards with
names and addresses of
visitors to the centenary
services, 16 and 19 May 1963 | 1 vol | 1863 - 1963 |
| /4 | Correspondence concerning
closure and final sale of
chapel | 1 file | 1963 - 1976 |

SEP 1987

NM11C

Ashwell Methodist Church (Wesleyan)

Methodist services were being held in Ashwell at least from 1799. The house of Francis Gentle at Ashwell was certified in February 1824 as a place of worship for Wesleyan Methodists. A church was erected in 1833 and rebuilt in 1880. The last services were held in September 1977 and the building demolished in 1980 for housing development.

In 1970 this society was transferred from the Biggleswade circuit to the newly formed Hitchin and Letchworth circuit [see NM4].

By 1890 there was also a small Primitive Methodist chapel in the village attached to the Hitchin Primitive Methodist Station. It was closed in 1903 [see NM4/2].

/1	Marriage register	1 vol	Jan 1942-Jan 1971
/2	Baptism register	1 vol	Jan 1873-Aug 1970
/3	Minutes of trustees	1 vol	Mar 1899-Nov 1976
/4	Correspondence concerning chapel organ, bequests, repairs and maintenance and trust accounts	1 bdl	1951 - 1967
/5	Correspondence concerning proposed installation of electricity	1 bdl	1964 - 1967
/6	Correspondence concerning appointment of trustees, accounts, closure and final sale of chapel	1 file	1966 - 1978
/7	Minutes of leaders meetings	1 vol	Jan 1906-Sep 1977

HERTFORDSHIRE RECORD OFFICE

NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE METHODIST CIRCUIT

NM12

Introduction

264447/11
The North Hertfordshire Methodist Circuit was formed from the Hitchin and Letchworth Circuit (see NM4) and the Stevenage Circuit or Team Ministry (see NM6) and was inaugurated in September 1993.

Records of the individual churches which now comprise this circuit will continue to be found under NM4 A-V for those formerly in the Hitchin and Letchworth Circuit and NM6 A-C for those formerly in the Stevenage Circuit.

The North Hertfordshire Circuit is part of the London North West District of the Methodist Church.

HERTFORDSHIRE RECORD OFFICE

NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE METHODIST CIRCUIT

NM12

NM12/1-2 Order of Service to inaugurate the North Hertfordshire Circuit 2 items 7 Sep 1993

NM12/3-4 Order of Service to celebrate the Golden Jubilee of Methodist Homes for the Aged 2 items 12 Sep 1993

Circuit Plans and Directories

NM12/5 Circuit Plans 1 bdl Sep 1993-Dec 1994

Newsletters

NM12/6 Circuit Newsletter: Volume 1, issues 1-4 1 bdl Sep 1993-Jun 1994

NM12/7 Circuit Newsletter: Volume 2, issue 1 1 item Sep 1994