

Memorials in St Paul's Church, Woodhouse Eaves

By Keith Randon

List of Memorials

	Memorial	Date of death	Location in St Paul's
1	The Chell Diamond		Chancel
2	Major William Francis Martin	d. 1895	Nave – South Side
3	William Henry Salt		Nave – South Side
4	Harry Beaumont Heygate	d. 1897	Nave – South Side
5	Captain Claud Raymond Heygate	d. 1916	Nave – South Side
6	Sarah Jane Ellis	d. 1896	Nave – South Side
7	Colonel Sir Robert Edmund Martin	d. 1961	Nave – South Side
8	Colonel Sir Andrew St George Martin	d. 1993	Nave – South Side
9	Charles Allsop	d. 1836	Nave – West Wall
10	Wall Plaque – Bells		Nave – West Wall
11a	Mrs Caroline Elizabeth Close	d. 1850	Nave – West Wall
11b	Rev. Robert William Close	d. 1852	Nave – West Wall
12	Wall Plaque – Clock		Nave – West Wall
13	Catherine Elizabeth Wade	d. 1889	Nave – North Wall
14	Wall Plaque – Rev. A.J.W. Hiley appreciation		Nave – North Wall
15	Rev Arnold James Watkinson Hiley	d. 1929	Chancel – North Wall
16a	William Unwin Heygate	d. 1902	Outside (by boundary wall)
16b	Constance Mary Heygate	d. 1929	Outside (by boundary wall)

Opening Comment

In comparison with other churches, there is a remarkably high proportion of those commemorated in this church, who can be readily identified as having been in public life, or descendants of the same. Because of this, in recording, there is a broader scope than would be expected.

Further, the intention was to address just the memorials and wall plaques within the church, but a memorial in the Churchyard has also been mentioned and described because of its close association with our core intention.

CHANCEL

1. The Chell Diamond

Location: Central between the Choir Pews

Description

Thin sheet brass, flush with the floor tiles, set diamond-wise in centre of the main part of the Chancel floor in compliance with the tile pattern. The engraved inscription, which is normal to the church, reveals the use of paint on the characters, mainly black but certain letters were red. Dimensions 5.9" (150mm) square, set at 45 degrees.

Inscription

*Near this Spot
lie the remains of
Jane Chell d.1846 aged 50 yrs
William Chell d.1861 aged 62 yrs
Jane Chell d.1853 aged 32 yrs
Sarah Jane Chell d.1854 aged 9 months
Sarah Chell d.1863 aged 6 weeks
Mary Chell d.1867 aged 17 months
Ann Burkin d.1864
aged 35 yrs*



Memorial 1 – The Chell Diamond (By David Morley)

Thought to indicate graves covered during the extension of the chancel in 1871. In 1851, two generations of the Chell family lived in adjacent houses on New Road, Woodhouse Eaves. Father and son were wheelwrights and both were christened **William**. The elder **William** was at this time a widower and joined his wife **Jane**, in 1861. The son's wife, also **Jane** died in 1853 almost certainly after birthing complications and her baby, **Sarah Jane**, died 9 months later. **Elizabeth** Chell was sister to the younger William and in 1861 was living as a servant on Eaves Street (Main Street?) Woodhouse Eaves. By 1861, William jr is living on Beacon Road and has remarried to Sarah (from Desford) and already has two children by her. Later another daughter by his new wife (another **Sarah**) dies in 1863. **Mary Chell**. **Ann Burkin** can't be found but Thomas Burkin was an apprentice and living with the Chells in 1851.

NAVE – SOUTH SIDE

2. Major William Francis Martin d.1915

Location: South side, East wall

Description

Base plaque of black marble. Dimensions, 2'-4"x 2'-0"x 1.3" (610x460x30mm). Mounted on the above is a rectangular white marble of dims 2'-0" x 18¼" x 1.5" (610 x 460 x 38mm). The centre part of this piece is recessed 0.4" (10mm) and it is this part that carries the full inscription. Width of the white periphery strip is 3" (76mm). All upper edges are chamfered 0.4" (10mm)

Inscription

IN / MEMORY OF / MAJOR WILLIAM FRANCIS MARTIN / LEICESTERSHIRE
YEOMANRY / KILLED IN ACTION NEAR YPRES / MAY 13TH 1915, AGED 39.
/ CHRIST'S FAITHFUL SOLDIER AND SERVANT / UNTO HIS LIFE'S END.

Major Martin was the father of Sir Andrew Martin (memorial 8). Although his body could not be recovered at the time, it has recently been found on the old battlefield. His name is inscribed on the Menin Gate in Ypres.



Memorial 2 – Major William Francis Martin

3. Wall Plaque – Re William Henry Salt

Location: Fixed to South Column at eye level.

Description

Made out of 16 Gauge (1.59mm) sheet brass; engraved inscription. Dates and key letters are red; remainder of inscription is filled with black.

Inscription

WILLIAM HENRY SALT BARONET OF MAPLEWELL / BUILT THIS SOUTH
TRANSEPT AT HIS OWN COST. / AND GAVE THE ORGAN WHICH IT
CONTAINS / OCTOBER 13TH 1880 LAUS DEO. / THOMAS S. MILLINGTON
VICAR.

On the plaque, both the cross and the first letter of some of the words are red; all other inscribed work is filled with black.

In documents recently discovered at St Paul's is some indication of the generosity of Sir William. From the above we know of his funding of the South Transept, he purchased the organ. To this must be added (from Jones and Willis) the lectern, and the brass communion rail. One tantalising item that is no longer here, was a 'red silk velvet altar cover, handsomely embroidered'. This was half as dear again as the lectern. At this time, a font was purchased from the same supplier of Caen stone with Red Devonshire columns. From another supplier Heaton Butler and Baine we have Sir William's payment for two coloured glass windows.¹

¹ Please see the banner and website page for 'William Salt, Maplewell Hall and St Paul's' for more information about William Henry Salt.



Memorial 3 – William Henry Salt



Lectern donated by William Henry Salt (By David Morley)

4. Harry Beaumont Heygate, Lieut. R.N. d.1897 (Upper Memorial)

Description

Brass sheet, 0.2" (5mm). Dimensions 24" x 15" (610 x 380), screwed to the wall with inscribed lettering. An outer framing of leaves between parallel lines closed at each corner by a quatrefoil, where is centred a round-head crossed slot screw, by which the memorial is fixed to the wall. Within is the inscription, beginning with a centred cross. Both the cross and the first letter of the major words are red; all other inscribed work is filled with black.

Inscription

IN LOVING MEMORY OF / HARRY BEAUMONT HEYGATE. LIEUT. R.N. / BORN AT ROECLIFFE, FEBRUARY 8 1872 / DIED AT SHANGHAI (CHINA) JULY 19. 1897. / MAY HE REST IN PEACE.

Born Roecliffe 8/2/1872, d.Shanghai 19/7/1897.²

Joined the Royal Navy 15/1/1885.³

Navigating Officer of HMS Algerine.⁴

Son of William Unwin Heygate (memorial 16).

It would appear from Naval Record Sheet 213 that he was shot in the head and no-one else was involved; suicide suspected.

This memorial is thought to have caused the local Heygate family to move from Swithland to Woodhouse Eaves Church.⁵



Memorial 4 – Harry Beaumont Heygate

² Saturday, July 31st, *The Colonies and India from London*, p. 14.

³ *The National Archives*, ADM 196/43/212, Heygate, Harry Beaumont. See catalogue entry at <http://discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk/details/r/D7602537>.

⁴ 'HMS Algerine (1895)', *Wikipedia* [[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HMS_Algerine_\(1895\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HMS_Algerine_(1895))].

⁵ Please see the banner and website page for 'The Heygate Family' for more information about the Heygate family.

5. Captain Claud Raymond Heygate d.1916

(Lower Memorial)

Description

Plain sheet of 0.2” (5mm) brass, without borders. Above the inscription and centred is a small inscribed KOYLI Regimental badge. Dimensions, 26.4” x 12.9” (670 x 327mm).

Inscription

IN LOVING MEMORY OF CLAUD RAYMOND HEYGATE / CAPTAIN KINGS
OWN YORKSHIRE LIGHT INFANTRY / SON OF MAJOR W.H.B. HEYGATE
R.A. OF ROECLIFFE / MANOR WOODHOUSE EAVES KILLED IN ACTION AT
/ THE BATTLE OF THE SOMME 1 JULY 1916. AGED 29

Greater love hath no man than this that / a man lay down his life for his friends.

Entered Radley College (Radley, Oxon) 1900.

Passed on to Sandhurst.

Regiment: Kings Own Yorkshire Light Infantry.

Killed in Action, Fricourt, France.

Obituary in Radlean magazine of 27/7/1916.

Commonwealth War Graves Commission reference: 191163.

Buried: Gordon Dump Cemetery, Ovillers-la-Boisselle, Somme, France Sp. Mem. BII (3).

Note that the gravestone indicates that the whereabouts of the body in the cemetery are not known.

Other members of his family were more fortunate. His elder brother, Gerald, was also educated at Radley College, passing on to the Royal Military Academy at Woolwich. Joining the Royal Artillery, he was mentioned in despatches and attained the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. He won the DSO, dying in 1954.

His younger brother, Lionel Clement, also survived the war, attaining the rank of Major and dying in 1947.⁶(19)

⁶ ‘Major Lionel Clement Heygate’, *The Peerage* [<http://www.thepeerage.com/p41920.htm#i419198>].



Memorial 5 – Claud Raymond Heygate



Photograph of Claud in military uniform

6. Sarah Jane Ellis (nee Bowley) d.1896

Location: Beneath and centred on the Ellis window

Description

White polished marble 4'-0" x 6"x0.9" (1220 x 150 x 22mm)

Inscription

IN LOVING MEMORY OF SARAH JANE ELLIS WIFE OF ALFRED ELLIS OF THE BRAND / SHE DIED AT MAPLEHURST MARCH 14TH 1896, AND WAS BURIED AT BELGRAVE. / "And GOD shall wipe away all tears from their eyes, there shall be no more death, neither sorrow nor crying".

(Revelation KJV 21:4)

Sarah Jane's plaque is sited beneath the window depicting The Good Samaritan, which is dedicated to her husband.

Her father was Samuel Bowly, a banker in Cirencester.

She was widowed in February 1879.

At the Census of 1881, she is recorded as being at Longdale Hall, 'Woodhouse' with 2 daughters, a niece, and her father, Samuel Bowly. This was the Ellis's name for the major house of the area, before it became The Brand when purchased by the Martin family.⁷ We know that Robert Martin, had bought some 'Brand land' in 1880 and then secured the remaining estate in 1887. Also we know that he did not take possession of the property until 1892.

Having died at Maplehurst in the village, Sarah Jane was buried at Belgrave Church in an outside area which is set out on a raised plinth adjacent to what is still called the 'Ellis window'. Her white marble monument, which is on the southern side is now damaged but still carries its inscription. Alfred's tomb is a long one to the north of her. There are three other smaller memorials in this area which may relate to members of their family.

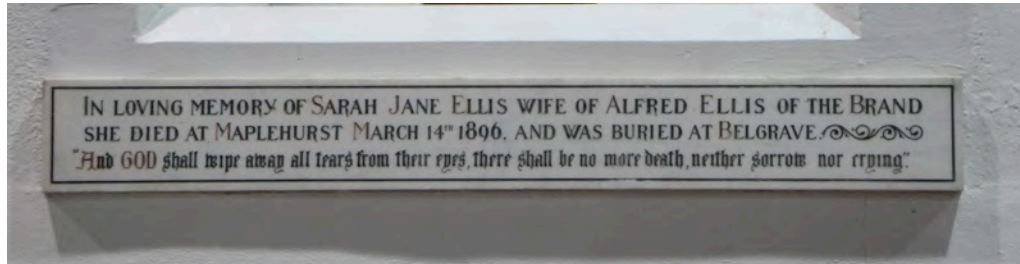
(Maplehurst is a house on Maplewell Road).

Name of 'The Brand'

With regard to 'The Brand', R.F.Martin of Anstey Pastures was informed by Thomas Hodges (1843-1911) that his father Matthew said that he recalled a gate across the road at the Woodhouse end which was to prevent stock in the forest straying on to the street. Cattle were rounded up twice yearly in three places on the outskirts of the forest, near Breedon, Thorpe Acre and Woodhouse for marking ownership by branding.⁸

⁷ 'The Brand: List Entry Summary'. Historic England [<https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1074602>].

⁸ Horton, R.A. and Osborne, R.B. *Swithland: Church and Estates. The Story of a Leicestershire Village* (Swithland Parish Press: 2011) p. 32.



Memorial 6 – Sarah Jane Ellis

Samuel Bowly (Father of 6)

Samuel Bowly, was a banker in Cirencester.

In addition to this, he was prominent in fighting slavery, to the degree that, his portrait is clearly shown in the painting of the 1840 World Anti-Slavery Convention in London.⁹

⁹ ‘Samuel Bowly’, *Wikipedia* [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Samuel_Bowly].

7. Colonel Sir Robert Edmund Martin d.1961

Location: Midway between the Ellis and Chandler Fox windows.

Description

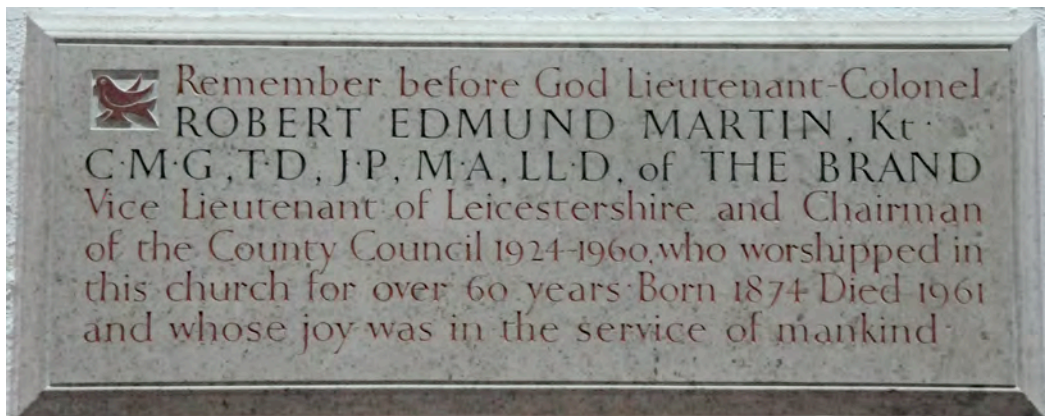
Mid-grey limestone with inclusions, 3'-5.8"x16.5"x1" (1060x420 x 25mm). Chamfer all around edge of complex form. Decorative inscribed line inset all around outer surface between bevel and inscription. Top L/H corner of inscription panel depicts a Martlet vert.

Inscription

Remember before God, Lieutenant – Colonel / ROBERT EDMUND MARTIN, Kt. / CMG, TD, JP, MA, LL.D, of THE BRAND / Vice Lieutenant of Leicestershire and Chairman / of the County Council 1924-1960, who worshipped in / this church for over 60 years. Born 1874 Died 1961 / and whose joy was in the service of mankind.

Sir Robert was born on 1 December 1874 and was the son of Robert Frewen Martin who bought the Brand. He fought in World War 1 and was mentioned in despatches and wounded.¹⁰

He was the elder brother of William Francis Martin (memorial 2).
In 1895, he was made a Freeman of the Borough of Leicester.



Memorial 7 – Colonel Sir Robert Edmund Martin

¹⁰ Please see the two Martin banners and website pages for more information on the Martin family ('The Martins: A Military Family' and 'The Martins of the Brand', both by Robert Martin). For more information about Robert, see also E. Turner, *Robert Martin of the Brand* (Leicester: 1985).

8. Colonel Sir Andrew St George Martin d.1993

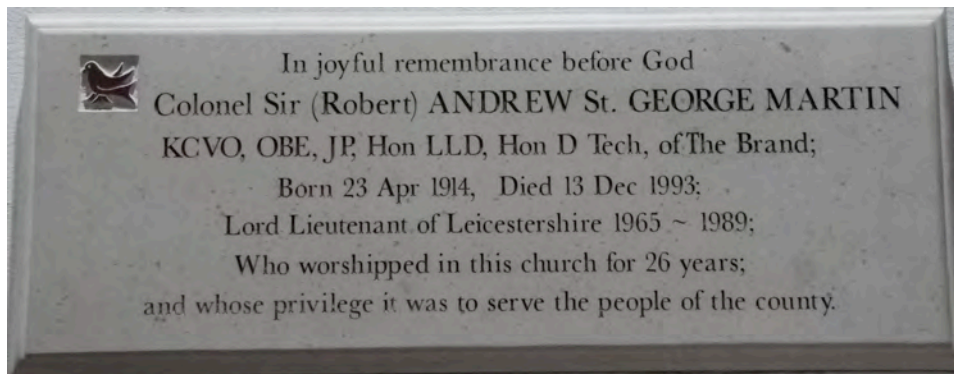
Location: In alignment with 7 and between the Chandler Fox and Mothers' Meeting windows.

Description

Dimensions and description as 7 except the limestone is lighter grey and the inclusions finer.

Inscription

In joyful remembrance before God / Colonel Sir (Robert) ANDREW St GEORGE MARTIN / KCVO, OBE, JP, Hon LLD, Hon D.Tech, of The Brand; / Born 23 April 1914, Died 13 Dec 1993, / Lord Lieutenant of Leicestershire 1965-1989; / Who worshipped in this church for 26 years; / and whose privilege it was to serve the people of the county.



Memorial 8 – Colonel Sir Robert Andrew St. George Martin

NAVE – WEST WALL

9. Charles Allsop d.31/8/1836

Location: Centrally on the panel midway between the South wall and the doorway outer frame.

Description

Over-all dimensions, 7'-6"x2-4"x8" (2300x711x203mm)

This is made of limestone and marble and sits on two corbels on which rests a step which supports the rest of the memorial. At each end of the step are two marble columns. On top of the columns is a broken triangular pediment. The lower edge is interrupted by two quarter arches, on which is a semi-circular arch. On top of the pediment is a trefoil (of marrows?). A plant, leaf and fruit theme is present on the pediment and column capitals. The central panel carries the inscription. Both the columns and the panel are marble, the remainder is limestone.

Inscription

SACRED / TO THE MEMORY/ OF/ CHARLES ALLSOP, ESQUIRE, F.G.S./
FORMERLY OF WANLIP,/ AND AFTERWARDS OF BROOMBRIGGS/ NEAR
THIS PLACE:/HE MARRIED THE ELDEST OF / THE TWO DAUGHTERS AND
COHEIRESSES OF / GEORGE WATKINSON ESQUIRE, / OF WOODHOUSE/
AND HAD BY HER SIX CHILDREN./ HAVING BY HIS ENERGY AND
INTELLIGENCE, / AND GREAT AGRICULTURAL KNOWLEDGE, / BROUGHT
A LARGE PORTION OF THE / SURROUNDING DISTRICT OF CHARNWOOD
FOREST / INTO A HIGH STATE OF CULTIVATION. / HE DEVOTED THE
LATTER YEARS OF HIS LIFE / TO THE IMPROVEMENT OF / THE SOCIAL,
MORAL, AND RELIGIOUS CONDITION / OF THE INHABITANTS OF THE
PLACE: / THROUGH HIS MUNIFICENCE / ALSO THE ADJOINING
PARSONAGE WAS BUILT, / AND THE CHURCH SCHOOLS FOUNDED AND
ENDOWED. /HE DEPARTED THIS LIFE / ON THE 31ST DAY OF AUGUST
1836. / IN THE 56TH YEAR OF HIS AGE, /

Charles Allsop esq. of Broombriggs, High Constable for the Hundred of West Goscote, was a man universally respected for his superior talents, and private worth.¹¹ He was the son of Thomas Allsop of Wanlip, near Leicester who farmed the largest acreage of all the estate farms for Sir Charles Hudson at Wanlip Hall.

Thomas was highly regarded by his landlord and it would appear that his son was equally skilled in producing good farmland.¹²

He married Mary Heanes Watkinson (d.1826), the elder daughter of George and Mary Watkinson of Woodhouse.¹³ He survived her as well as their several children. He was a Fellow of the Geological Society: and had left in Manuscript a Geological Survey of

¹¹ Potter, T. R. *The History and Antiquities of Charnwood Forest* (London: 1842)

¹² Smith, M. *A Very Fine Thing. The Story of Wanlip: A Closed Leicestershire Manor* (Birstall: 2008).

¹³ Hodge, M. *St Paul's Church, Woodhouse Eaves. A Guide to the Church* (2006).

Charnwood Forest.¹⁴ He also wrote an “able pamphlet in refutation of the Gracedieu Miracle” of which two editions were printed.¹⁵

“Broombriggs the creation of the late Mr Charles Allsop, forms a fair specimen of the agricultural capabilities of the Forest”.¹⁶

On his death, he left sufficient funds for the building of a parsonage and school house.¹⁷ The gravestone of Mr Allsop and his family can still be found in the centre of Woodhouse churchyard.



Memorial 9 – Charles Allsop (By David Morley)

¹⁴ Potter, T. R. *The History and Antiquities of Charnwood Forest* (London: 1842).

¹⁵ Urban, S. ‘Obituary. August 31st 1836’, *The Gentleman’s Magazine. Volume VI. New Series. July to December 1836* (London: 1837), p. 444.

¹⁶ Potter, T. R. *The History and Antiquities of Charnwood Forest* (London: 1842) p. 90.

¹⁷ Hodge, M. *St Paul’s Church, Woodhouse Eaves. A Guide to the Church* (2006).

Memorial in Woodhouse Churchyard:

Sacred
TO THE MEMORY OF
CHARLES ALLSOP ESQUIRE
OF BROOMBRIGGS
WHO DIED AUGUST 31 1836
AGED 56 YEARS
AND OF MARY HEANES HIS WIFE
ELDEST DAUGHTER OF
GEORGE AND MARY WATKINSON
WHO DIED JULY 1826
AGED 34 YEARS
They Rest From their Labours and their
Works do follow them (Rev XIV 13)
CHARLES WATKINSON ALLSOP
SON OF THE ABOVE DIED AUGUST 1829
AGED 16 YEARS
MARY ELIZA THEIR DAUGHTER
DIED 1823 AGED 6 YEARS
LUCY ANNE FRANCIS GEORGE AND
CHARLOTTE AND MARY HEANES ALLSOP
DIED IN THEIR INFANCY

10. Wall Plaque – Re Bells

Location: Directly beneath 9

Description

Brass sheet 26”x19”x0.2” (660x483x5mm) fixed with eight screws.

Inscription

IN THE YEAR 1904 THE TOWER OF THIS CHURCH / WAS STRENGTHENED,
THE UPPER PART ENTIRELY / REBUILT & A PEAL OF SIX BELLS PLACED
THEREIN.

THE INSCRIPTION ON THE TENOR BELL IS AS FOLLOWS, / TO THE GLORY
OF GOD AND IN MEMORY OF / QUEEN VICTORIA THIS PEAL OF SIX
BELLS WAS / ERECTED BY PUBLIC SUBSCRIPTION. A.D. 1904.

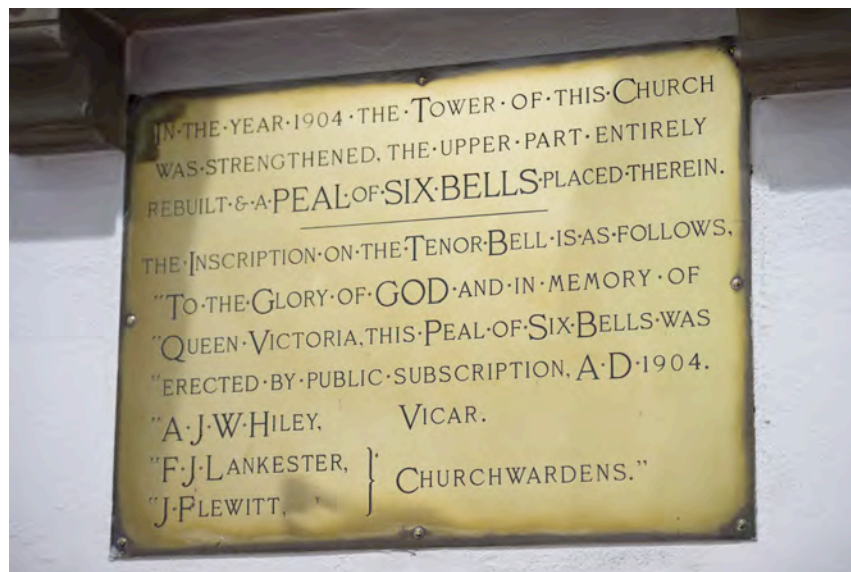
A.J.W. HILEY

VICAR

F.J.LANKESTER

J. FLEWITT

CHURCHWARDENS



Memorial 10 – Peal of Bells (By David Morley)

11. Rev. R. W. & Mrs C.E. Close

Location: Centrally on the panel midway between the North wall and the doorway outer frame.

Description

Memorial has an outer panel of black marble to which are affixed three limestone items, namely the pediment, the upper panel, (Caroline) and the lower panel, (Robert). Caroline's panel is tapered inwards towards the pediment.

Pediment: 2'-5"x9"x2.3" (686x229x57)

Upper Panel: 2'-2" to 2'-0"x2'-8"x1" (660 to 610x813x25)

Lower Panel: 2'-5"x12.5"x2.3" (686x318x5)

Inscriptions

11a. Caroline Elizabeth Close d.1850

THIS TABLET / WAS ERECTED BY THE / CONGREGATION OF
WOODHOUSE EAVES / IN MEMORY OF / CAROLINE ELIZABETH / THE
BELOVED WIFE / OF THE REVD R. W. CLOSE, B.A. / INCUMBENT OF THIS
DISTRICT / TO TESTIFY THEIR AFFECTIONATE REGARD / FOR HER MANY
/ AMIABLE AND CHRISTIAN VIRTUES. / SHE SLEPT IN JESUS 22ND
JANUARY 1850, / AGED 35 YEARS. / "THO' DEAD SHE SPEAKETH." / BE
NOT DECEIVED, GOD IS NOT MOCKED: / FOR WHATEVER A MAN
SOWETH THAT SHALL HE ALSO REAP GAL.VI.7.

11b. Rev Robert William Close d.1852

THE REVD ROBERT WILLIAM CLOSE B.A. / DIED DECR 18TH 1852, AGED
42 YEARS. / THE PARISHIONERS / AMONG WHOM HE LABOURED FOR 15
YEARS / IN GRATITUDE FOR HIS FAITHFUL MINISTRY / AND SINCERE
REGRET FOR HIS LOSS, / INSCRIBE THIS TABLET TO HIS MEMORY.

Son of Major Close RA and nephew to Rev Francis Close, Vicar of Cheltenham. BA 1832 Cambridge/Queen's.

Ordained Stipendiary Curate at High Wycombe, 22 December 1833, becoming Priest 18 December 1834. In 1838, he came to Leicestershire, becoming the first Perpetual Curate for both Copt Oak and Woodhouse Eaves until his death at Woodhouse Eaves in 1852.¹⁸

The remains of their combined tomb is in the graveyard, SE of the church but regrettably is in a ruinous condition.

¹⁸ Correspondence via email with Jessica Hudson, Lambeth Palace Library (19/7/2016).



Memorial 11 – Rev Thomas and Caroline Close (By David Morley)

12. Wall Plaque – Re Clock

Location: Directly beneath 11

Description

Brass sheet 24”x15”x16 Gauge (610x381x1.6mm),
engraved inscription is filled with black.

Inscription

TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND FOR THE USE / OF THE INHABITANTS OF
WOODHOUSE EAVES, / THE CLOCK / WAS PLACED IN THE TOWER OF
THIS CHURCH/ BY / ARNOLD JAMES WATKINSON HILEY / NOVEMBER
1904 / VICAR

This was part of the package to commemorate the life of Queen Victoria, (Victoria Memorial Subscription Fund – 1903-7). In order to ensure one part of this project, Mr Hiley paid for this personally – hence the wording.

The Clock is a remarkable device, based on the design produced for Big Ben by Lord Grimthorpe and made by John Smith and Sons of Derby.¹⁹



Memorial 12 – The Clock (By David Morley)

No's 10 & 12 - Supplementary Note

These plaques were supplied late in the Church rebuild, in 1906 by Elgood Brothers a Leicester Company. Two years earlier they had already supplied brass fittings for the flagpole. The brothers were also well known as local artists.

¹⁹ Please see banner and website page on 'St Paul's Church Clock' for more information on the clock.

NAVE – NORTH WALL

13. Catherine Elizabeth Wade

Location: Beneath and centred on West window

Description

Brass strip is affixed to the wall and the inscription, which is in gothic characters is in two rows and within a scribed border. Dimensions: 18.5”x3.7”x0.2”.
(470x92x4.8mm). Secured with four round-head screws.

Inscription

In Memory of Catherine Elizabeth Wade / this window is dedicated by her children.

Catherine was the wife of George Hayward Wade, wine merchant, and in 1851 they lived next door to Albert and Sarah Jane Ellis. In the 1861 and 1871 censuses, George and Catherine remained in Belgrave but moved to Mill Hill, where they lived next door to the Vicar and raised their children, George L (1850), Kate(1857), and Christiana (1860). It seems that they were close friends, as the Wades moved to the Brand with the Ellises.

In the Chancel Bundle was a document dated November 1879 which showed Principal Landowners in the parish and this listed G.H.Wade of The Brand, (and also the Ellises).

Catherine died aged 62 late in 1889.

George died in 1907, aged 82.



Memorial 13 – Catherine Elizabeth Wade

14. Arnold James Watkinson Hiley – Appreciation

Location: Between Eastern window and boundary of St George’s Chapel.

Description

Brass plate 18”x9”x0.2” (457x229x5mm) inscribed with Roman characters. The lettering has been blacked. Secured to the wall with 4 round head screws.

Inscription

THIS TABLET IS ERECTED BY THE MEMBERS/ OF THE FREE CHURCHES/
OF THIS VILLAGE TO THE MEMORY OF/ ARNOLD JAMES WATKINSON
HILEY, M.A./ VICAR OF THIS PARISH 1898-1929/ AS A TRIBUTE TO HIS
SIMPLE FAITH AND BROADMINDED CHARITY/ AND TO THE CORDIAL
RELATIONSHIP WHICH CHARACTERISED/ THEIR FELLOWSHIP IN
CHRISTIAN SERVICE/ BLESSED ARE THE PEACEMAKERS/ FOR THEY/
SHALL BE CALLED THE CHILDREN OF GOD



Memorial 14 – Arnold James Watkinson Hiley

CHANCEL – NORTH WALL

15. Arnold James Watkinson Hiley – Memorial

Location: Midway between the two windows

Description

Over-all dimensions are 39.8”x30” (1010x762mm), plaque of limestone. Inscription is within a frame inset 1.5” (38) from the stone’s edge all round. A border is then created by parallel lines 1” apart within which is carried the inscription (see illustration). The commencing line (IN MEMORY) is balanced below by an inscribed 4-leafed flower in a rectangle.

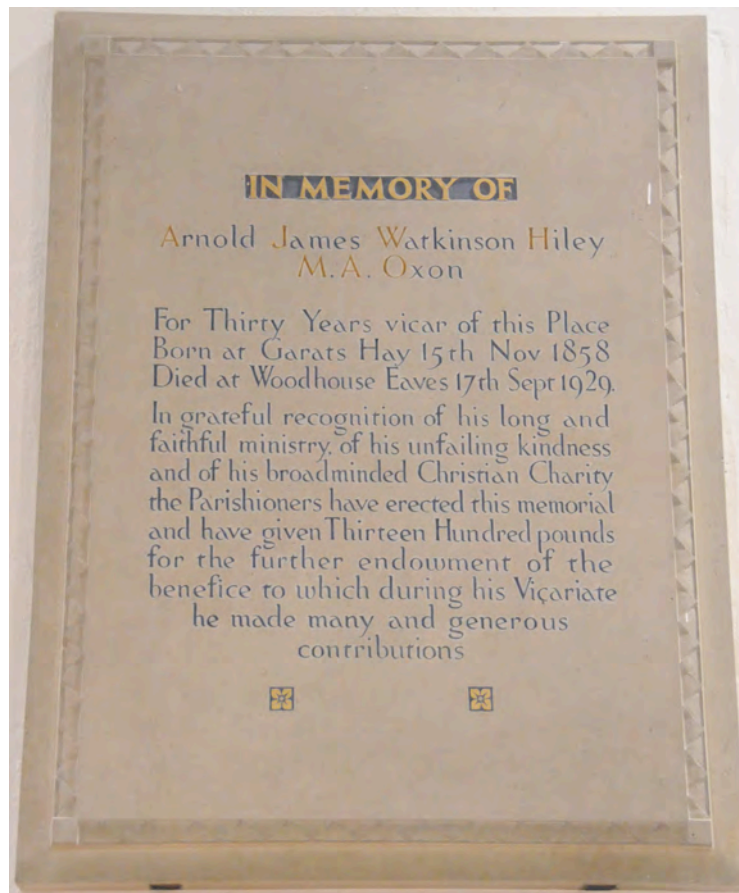
The first line, and the capitals on lines 2 & 3 are picked out in gold, the remaining lettering is painted black.

Inscription

IN MEMORY OF / Arnold James Watkinson Hiley / M.A. Oxon. / For Thirty Years
vicar of this Place / Born at Garats Hay 15th Nov 1858 / Died at Woodhouse Eaves
17th Sept 1929 / In grateful recognition of his long and / faithful ministry of his
unfailing kindness / and of his broadminded Christian Charity / the Parishioners have
erected this memorial / and have given Thirteen Hundred pounds / for the further
endowment of the / benefice to which during his Vicarate / he made many and
generous / contributions

Arnold James Watkinson Hiley is someone who lived in the area for all his life and his father was priest at Old Woodhouse. Mr Hiley deserves the quote of Sir Christopher Wren’s son, regarding St Paul’s Cathedral “If you would see his monument, look around.” This time, not at the fabric of the building but the plaques of the church, regarding improvements he added, and even more important, his very high esteem amongst all church and chapelgoers in the community.

It is he that is to be thanked for creating and piloting to success the project for new bells and clock in the early years of the last century as a memorial to Queen Victoria’s reign and a long-enduring benefit for our village. The Taylor’s bells are always a joy to hear, and the Smith clock is still a timepiece of surprising accuracy.



Memorial 15 – Arnold James Watkinson Hiley

OUTSIDE (BY BOUNDARY WALL)

16. William Unwin & Constance Mary Heygate

d. 2/3/1902 & 7/10/1929

Location: Among the line of gravestones along the wall shared with the vicarage. When in the Churchyard and facing South it is the third whole gravestone on the left.

Description

Erect cross mounted on two rectangular steps of diminishing size. Material: pink granite. Dimensions, Lower base, 24"x24"x7" (610x610x178mm), upper base, 18"x18"x7" (457x457x178mm). The cross rises from the centre of the bases and over-all height is 4'-4" (1320mm) the arms and upright of the cross are 6"x6" (152x152mm). At the cross intersection I.H.S. inscribed in Roman capitals.

Each step carries an inscription as follows:

Upper Step: WILLIAM UNWIN HEYGATE/ BORN MARCH 12, 1825. / DIED MARCH 2, 1902.

Lower Step: AND OF CONSTANCE MARY HIS WIFE / BORN JULY 25, 1834, / DIED OCT 7, 1929.

Second son of Sir William Heygate of Southend (Bart), and father of Harry Beaumont Heygate (memorial 4) and grandfather of Claud Raymond Heygate (memorial 5). MP for Leicester 1860-65; MP for Stamford 1868; MP for South Leicestershire 1870-80.

In 1899 he was Treasurer of the Billesdon, Blaby, Hinckley and Barrow on Soar Union Workhouses. William Heygate inherited Roecliffe Hall sometime after 1845* the year of his father's death.²⁰ In our burial records, Mrs Heygate is recorded as having died at Cole Orton Hall. Presumably she had returned to her family home.

*Assumed as Roecliffe was eventually inherited from him, by his first son. This was the only example found in this family that any property did not pass down the senior line. William Unwin's elder brother, Sir Frederick William Heygate of Southend, had married an heiress, Marianne Gage of Londonderry and, presumably, chose to simplify his life by transferring Roecliffe to his younger brother.

Perhaps before this, when William Unwin was seeking a base in the area he rebuilt Maplewell Hall (1864 onwards). If so, his sale of this property in 1868 may be the time that he had secured Roecliffe from his brother.²¹

²⁰ Harris, D. *A History of Maplewell* (2009) (CD) pp. 63-73.

²¹ Harris, D. *A History of Maplewell* (2009) (CD) pp. 63-73.



Memorial 16 - William Unwin & Constance Mary Heygate (By David Morley)

Constance Mary was the daughter of Sir George Howland Willoughby Beaumont, 8th Baronet and Mary his wife, of Cole Orton Hall

Sir William Heygate Baronet of Southend, was Lord Mayor of London 1822-3. He led a public campaign to create Southend Pier (and one of the pier trains is still named after him!). MP for Sudbury 1818-26.²²

James Heygate (1747-1833), who was in banking, bought land at Roecliffe from Augustus Richard Butler Danvers in 1815 and built Roecliffe Hall.²³

Augustus Richard Butler-Danvers, 1776-1820, had a 'fatal propensity for getting into debt' and was in the hands of the money-lenders. After years of stupidities, his son, George John agreed to his father selling local property in order to clear £28,000 of debts. There was an auction at the Crown Inn, Mountsorrel on 30-31 October 1815 and James Heygate bought Roecliffe at that time. Having finally cleared his debts, Augustus was then exiled to France!²⁴

So ends our guide to the Memorials and other wall items in Woodhouse Eaves Church. Usually nearly all of us enter and leave the church without noticing them very much. We hope that you have found this interesting enough to look a little closer.

²² 'Sir William Heygate, 1st Baronet', *Wikipedia* [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sir_William_Heygate,_1st_Baronet].

²³ Horton and Osborne, *Swithland: Church and Estates*.

²⁴ Horton and Osborne, *Swithland: Church and Estates*.