

ST LAURENCE CHAPEL 23/02/2011
WARMINSTER

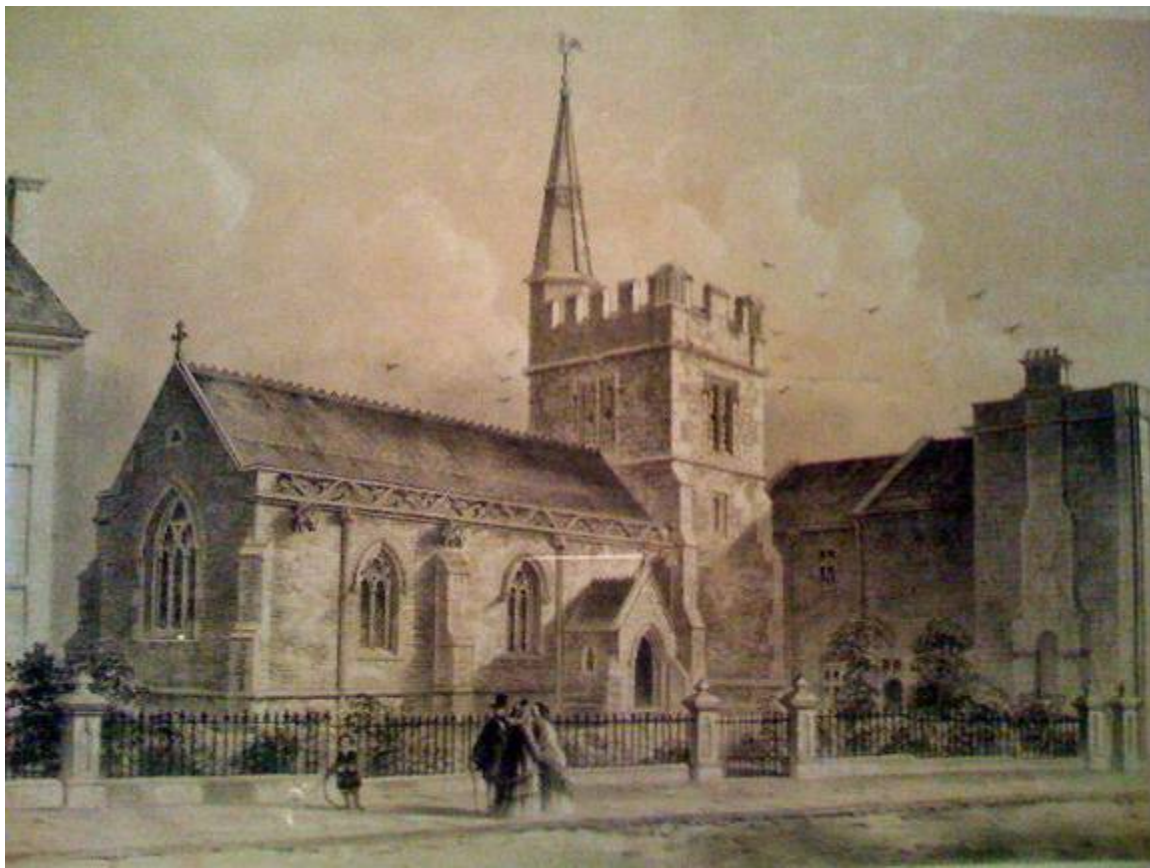
*A synopsis of the history of the chapel using recorded archives
(To be read in conjunction with the archives)
Ref numbers are Wilts record office*

Over the last 200 years, many guides of the history have been written and some of these published, my thoughts are to encompass all written facts, and using the copies that I have made from the historical records held at the county archives, take the reader through the chapels colourful history year by year, chronologically, to include those everyday items that were purchased just to keep the building nice and tidy! Not withstanding some of the heated discussions that took place within the members named as FEOFFEES (trustees), also the discords with the general public and clergy! Confirming with the archives many facts that have been recorded, and to shed light on those facts that have been assumed, also to dispel the hearsay and myths.

There exists several paintings and prints of the chapel, and until this year another has been discovered by the author, at the museum in Devizes!, all are on display in the chapel to show how the building and its surrounds have changed over the years.



1804 by John Buckler from south under the directions of Colt Hoare



Dedicated to Rev Prebendary Fane by W.H. Tayler



Before the new building was erected by Mcewan Porter

I may repeat the already written words by other authors, so to save rewriting what has gone before, I will advise the reader to refer to these original manuscripts for further reading.

Please forgive me if any reader can prove I am wrong, by producing evidence to the contrary of the contents, I welcome their efforts to further our knowledge of our town's chapel of ease!

To this end one secret that has come to light after 500 years, is the scratch dial on the south wall only discovered only in 2007!

FEOFFEE is a historical term relating to the law of trust and equity, referring to the owner of a legal title of a property when he is not the equitable owner; the modern equivalent of a FEOFFEE is the trustee, one who holds a legal and managerial ownership for the enjoyment of the beneficiary.

The history appears to have commenced in the year of Edward I (1272_1307) for a deed to a parcel of land is recorded in 1290 as lying in the St Laurence mead next to chapel Style, Daniell records thus, in his the history of Warminster 1879, the chantry of St Laurence in Warminster was founded by the lords of Warminster, during early Plantagenet days and endowed with 29 acres of land, as the parish church of Saxon/Norman times was so far to the west of the town, a chantry became a necessity. Many deeds of endowment are shown whereas land was given for the upkeep of the chapel and to defray the costs of a priest.

FROM THE CHANTRY ROLLS

There is a chappell called s Laurence chappell, standynge in the myddle of the towne of Warminster, wherin the inhabitants of the said towne founde a preste to singe for the ease of them, bycause the parishe church standith a quarter of a myle owte of the towne, and converted all the landis afore written in Warminster to that use and purpose, and bare the reste of his wagis of their owne purses, which saide towne of Warminster is a very good market towne, and a grat parishe, wherin 800 people which receive the blssid communion, and no preste besides the vicar to help in administration there, savyng the said chapel preste, whose name is Christopher james, a man well able to serve a cure, in consideration whereof the said inhabitants deseire the kings most honourable council to consider tham accordynglye.

These chapels , or chantrys, appear to be privately founded, this one by maiden sisters named Hewitt, in 1438 Walter lord Hungerford convened a meeting in the chapel to enquire as to the state of the chapel in Upton Scudamore also of the chantries at Upton Calne, and the free chapel at Corton, in the parish of Hilperton should be united to the chantry at Heytsbury

The reign of Henry VIII and Edward VI saw that the chapel was sold under the act of 1545 and 1547 that defined chantries as representing misapplied funds and misappropriated lands ,the act further stated that all chantries and their properties would belong to the King for as long as he should live! , and so it was held by the Royal commissioners and sold to a Richard Roberts of London , who then sold it on again, eventfully ending up in the ownership of John Wardoure of warm ester, the saving grace for the building was that the lead should remain on the roof so as to safeguard the town bell, but in 1571Henry Middlemore was given power to seize the bell of St Laurence's as it had been concealed from her majesty queen Elizabeth, and in 1574 it was sold to Chidiock Wardoure for £3.6.8d selling on again the next year to john Wardoures son, Thomas, who then purchased the chapel in 1562, thus it was then in the hands of one

owner, chapel, bell, small house adjoining and the small burial ground.

There is a strange anomaly to this sequence of events, in that a deed of enfeoffment was drawn up in 1570 5th april whereby Thomas Hewett, possibly a relation to the founders, appointed John Gifforde, William Myddelcote and Henry Gerrard as Feoffees to the lands of the chapel, whereas the deed of enfeoffment was not drawn up for the chapel until it was purchased by the town in 1575!.

The towns people saw the opportunity to try to buy back their chapel and appointed three of their most prominent citizens, namely, , William Myddlecot , Henry Gerrard, Laurence Pilchard, Laurence Hyde, and Christopher Eyre purchased what was left of the crumbling building in 1575 from ThomasWardoure, for the sum of £38.6.8d.

It was recorded thus, all that my late chapell of Saynt Laurence, and all that my grownd wherin the sayed chappell ys scituate, and also my tenement cottage or chamber sett and beyng at the west of the sayed chappell, together with the great bell, commonlye called the towne bell, with all and singular the appurenances, to the only proper use and behoof of the sayd Wylliam Myddlecott, Henry Gerrard, Laurence Pilchard, Laurence Hyde, Christopher Eyer, and their heirs for ever, to be holden of the chief lord and lords of the fee.

Thus the chapel of St Laurence in the town of Warminster became the chapel kept and maintained for the inhabitants of the town, by the appointed Feoffees acting in trust for time for ever!

Services recommenced once the fabric of the chapel was restored, the bell was rung and the priest in charge of the parish, St Denys, officiated as this was the chapel of ease.

The original six continued to act on behalf of the towns people until, possibly through death, their number dropped to three, so in October 1592 they drew up an indenture to make provision that in future for all time a trust of twelve trustees, Feoffees, be perpetuated, these names, and the ensuing names of all Feoffees are written on the boards in the chapel for all to see.

Every time those numbers reduced to four, a new indenture was formed and the last remaining feoffees resigned, this continued up to the last indenture of 1876, when hence forth the number of Feoffees was maintained by local allocation, that the chairman would, on the show of hands, welcome onto the board any good and honest man of the town suggested of being worthy of the title feoffee.

As Stated in the indenture, the chapel, with tower and bell there hanging, seems to clarify the onus as to the roll of the trustee, to maintain the building, with the financial help of rents and tithes of land donated to the chapel, one further covenant was that the bell, should sound the curfew each evening at 8 by the clock and Stricken or tolled on every lords day at 9 o'clock in the forenoon , there is also mention of maintaining the clock therein, but whether this reference was to the clock that existed at the time of the deed, it was installed in 1765, or a previous clock is unclear.

At all times the spiritual well being of the parish and in particular the chapel, fell to the clergy at the parish church of St Denys, any offiating that took place in St Laurence's was by invitation of the Feoffees, for as a peculiar, no intervention was allowed from the establish church, although when times got hard for the Feoffees to carry out repairs, or purchase coal for the fire, them recourse was made on many occasions to the parish chest at St Denys!.

We may now Start to bring the readers attention to the written notes by previous others, of which no collaboration is forthcoming, but it is assumed to be correct; Colt Hoare in

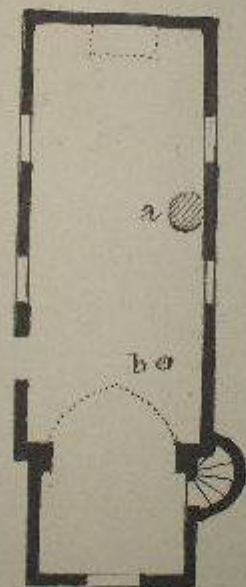
his history of Wiltshire States many interesting facts, (many collected by his coadjutor rev offer whose name will be mentioned again)

- 1642 The Steeple was rebuilt the north side of the tower was taken down above the uppermost window and the corners of the chapel next to William Eldertons was new built the and £5.00 was allowed out of the parish rate
- 1657 The town bell tolled £1.6.0d paid to the sexton
this bell was cast by John Lott in the common close in 1657 and is Still in the tower,(it must have replaced the original bell of 1547,) it has been quarter turned possibly in 1783 when it had a new frame , to even out the wear.
- 1765 The town clock built by Tilliam Rudd (not Thomas) was put up by public subscription of £30.9 .0 (this appears to replace a clock mentioned in the deed of feofeement in 1694, which would have made it one of the earliest clocks)
- 1770 A new roof was put on the tower £25.7.3d
The old west door had carved on it HR V11
Its length was 59feet 6 inches its breadth 18feet 4 inches with no inscriptions within
- 1725 . The specification was length 59 feet 6 inches its breadth 18 feet 4 inches with no inscriptions within it, rebuilt in 1725 by the architect William Leigh (Calvin) for the sum of £85.00 to be 20feet high, length and breadth as before, four windows 10 feet high and 4 and half in the clear, to be roofed in Norton tiles
- 1775 -----
-
For further repairs and beautifying the tower and chapel £37.7.4 when the weather cock was repaired and new guilt
- 1776 -----
-
New paving the chapel cost £16.12.0 prayer book 15s.6d and a new surplice for the chaplain £3.18.6

St. Margarets, Warminster.

Length 59.6

Breadth 18.4



a. Pulpit
b. Font.

Note:

The bell, which was the saviour of the chapel needs a little explaining!, it was a replacement for a earlier bell, as it is recorded that it was cast by John Lott at his foundry in the common close in 1657, how it was hung cannot be ascertained, but it is thought to have been hung to swing as a conventional church bell is. The present frame was made in 1787, for £24.15.9, a substantial oak bell frame consisting of sills, diagonal braces, king posts, jack braces and short frame heads together with transoms at the pit ends across the braces. Construction is of mortise and peg type there being no tie-rods. The whole frame sits upon north-south sills set against the walls. This design is of an ancient type and thus it seems reasonable to suppose that the present frame was copied from a previous frame which had become unserviceable, and the bell rehung.

Made of bronze, Its weight is aprox 16.5 cwt and measures 45.5/8 inches at the mouth, tuned in the note E , although there are no signs of any tuning marks, it was cast and not tuned in any way!, cast with canons or supporting loops by which it hangs, cast in crown staples hold the clapper, at the time it was rehung, it was quarter tuned as the wear was considerable at the point of impact with the clapper, thus a new wrought iron staple had to be fitted, this is often the cause of older bells cracking!, although this one hasn't yet.

It still has its original wooden-topped clapper, and is suspended from its original timber headstock which is fitted with strap gudgeons running in plain brass bearings let directly into the frame heads. A full wheel is fitted, although this is clamped to stop the bell from swinging.

During the 1990s the slider was replaced, the four rods holding the bell via its crown to the headstock were replaced, as well as the rope wheel, the present one was ex st Marys Redcliffe Bristol, and the whole unit clamped for safety.

Method of ringing and chiming was as follows, the ringer would have stood under the bell in the clock room and by pulling on the rope, made the bell swing in an arc, causing the clapper to swing, catching up with the bell on its return, later in the early 19th century, more pulleys were installed to divert a longer rope down to the ground floor of the chapel by the tower entrance door, thus allowing it to be rung from there, later again in 1854, a ellcombe bell hammer was installed to strike on the outside of the bell with a rope passing through the wall, through a wooden conduit and into the wall of the sextons cottage, thus by pulling on the rope a hammer would strike the bell.

The present method for sounding the curfew was installed by Mr Poolman and is an electrically driven angelus.

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|-------------------------|--|
| Item 1206/1 | Grants of land and property to the chapel |
| Item 1206/10 (1550) | Copy of the grant by Edward VI to Richard Robertes of the former chapel |
| Item1206/45 (1694/1832) | Copy feoffment 1694/1832 |
| Item 1206/11 (1718) | Detail letter regarding boundaries of chapel land. (This gives a good picture of what buildings stood adjacent to the chapel at the time, building 273 on the 1782 map) with lessees |

from 1642 to 1807.

Item 1206/24 (1764-1824) Chapel account book extracts as follows:

- 1764 *List of Feoffees and rents received from tenants*
September paid Thomas Pain thatcher his bill 10/6
paid will Hooper for ½ load of Straw 10/0
paid Biggs ½ year salary to Lady Day 1.0.0
ditto oil for clock one year 2/0
paid for taking the thatch off the chapel 1/6
paid Mr Middlecott for a load of tiles 1.17.0
paid Mr Butler for part of a load ditto 1.0.0
paid peter cockey and king for lime 1.2.0
paid James Townsend bill carpentry 6.14.07
paid John Davis bill tiler 7.2.06
paid Ralph Barkers bill glazing 3.6.02
paid John Harris bill mason 1.0.0
paid Jno Hills blacksmith £0.5.0
paid postage of two letters from glister bat bells £ 0.0.9
paid carg of the 2 bells from Bristol £0.4.0
- 1765 paid to Lovett repairing the tower as per bile £ 4.6.6
paid Franc Tyler for the quarter bells as per bile £15.15.00
paid Ralph Barker repairing the tower lead £17.4.00
Tillm Rudd in part for the clock £26.14.6
may 24 by cash received by sundry subscriptions for a new clock 3 29.11.03
- 1766 paid Tillm Rudd the remainder for the clock £3.5.6
For cash for mops and besoms £0.1.0
- 1767 Wm Ingram's bill repairing the tower £ 0.7.8
Ralph Barker repairing windows £ 0.4.7
- 1769 oil and mending of bell rope £ 0.1.0
paid Harry Dew for plastering £ 0.1.6
To cash of Mr Lewis for the old clock £1.1.0 (which clock and by whom was it made is not known, suggested built by Edward Cockey, but was before Cockey's time!) this was the clock of 1651/94
- 1770 expense of a new roof and lead on the tower, paid masons and labourers 1.0.9
a load of Stone and carriage £ 0.6.6
a cart load of sand and carriage £ 0.6.6
- 1771 warning the Feoffees £0.0.6 (I assume this is to tell them to attend a meeting)
- 1773 paid for oil for the bell 0.1.0

- 1775 by cash paid sundries for repairing and beautifying the tower and chapel
 Harry Dew plasterer 9.18.6
 Ralph Barker plumber 0,10.7
 James Townsend carpenter 0.3.6
 Thomas Lovett Stonemason 0.2.10.0
 James Crook Stone and carriage 2.4.6
 Edwd Langley for lime and carr 0.2.6
 John Shore for paint 1.14.6
 Robert Bush ditto 1.3,5
 James Rogers for hair 0.16.6
 George Turner for scaffolding cords 0.15.6
 Will Brown for scaffolding poles 0.7.6
 John Hill blacksmith 0.7.11
 Landfear for gilding the cock 0.3.2
 2 men for unloading the freestone 0, 1, 0
 Mrs Townsend for beer 0.4.4
 2 women cleaning the chapel 0.4.0
 TOTAL £36.19.10
- 1776 Thomas Lovett for new paving the chapel his bill £16.12.0
 Ditto for 22 ½ feet of stone at 10p £ 0.18.9
 Two women cleaning £0.2.6
 Mr Throne exp for oil for ye clock and bell £0.2.3
- 1779 wm marks repairing the clock (Warminster and Salisbury clock maker)
 £5.0.0
 oil for clock and bell £0.0.6.
- 1781 by cash paid Wm Marks for the care of I year of the clock £ 0.10.0
 Mr Cockey for christening bason £0.2.6
- 1783 paid Tho Magg for painting the roof and whitewashing the chapel as per bill
 £2.2, 0
 Jam Edwards for 28 bushels of lime at 6d £ 0.14.0
 Paid Roger Townsend bile for hanging the bell anew frame and other matters
 £24.15.9 (the bell was quarter turned when it was rehung)
 A pint of oil and besom 0, 1.3 beer for the carpenter £1.2.3
- 1786 paid Lang Glo for new hanging the bell his bill £ 6.5.6
 Geo Tinker a new rope £0.5.7
 James West blacksmith his bill £3.7.4
 Wllm Cackerele for beer for the men £ 0.2.6
- 1790 by paid Bathsheba Gulliver washing the surplice £0.2.6
 By paid for one mop £0.1.2
- New Feoffees chosen and appointed 22 may 1790 by john Langley, john
 Bennett and Richard Randall
 Edward Middlecott, John Slade, James Ludlow, Francis Bennett. Thomas
 Buckler, William Wansey, Edmund Halliday, Edward Butler, Thomas
 Warren, Charles Aldridge, John Hughes, John Thring.

- 1793 for mending the key of the chapel belfry 0.0.6
- 1807 payed for tin box for deeds, and painting
- 1810 by paid Mr Vardy for Stationery 0.4.6
- 1810 (1206/13 purchased in part by the Feoffees on behalf of William Daniell, and gifted in part by the Marquis of Bath for demolition to open up the front of the chapel later in 1854, it stood on the right hand side of the now path to the chapel where there is a tree)
- 1817 (1206/48) copy of letter of public meeting held to ask Mr Halliday to produce trust deeds and accounts
- 1820 by paid Edward Curtis Styling and beautifying the chapel 3.5.7
- 1823 invoice from Amelia Hill for looking after the chapel and purchasing brooms 1.6.9
- 1823/24 letter to Messrs Phelps and Tring regarding having drawings made of all property owned by chapel
- 1824 contract of employment and tenancy of cottage to William Hill as sexton
Invoice from Betty Pearce for washing the chapel linen 0.10.00
by paid Kemp and Stint on account of building and repairs of the cottage near the chapel and the chapel to £60.0.0 (the balance of £61 .00 was paid in 1825)
- 1824 J Hughes to repairing the pinnacle door 0.4.6
- 1825 Invoice from U Brodribb for mop
at a meeting on 28th February 1825 attended by only Thomas Buckler and John Hughes it was suggested that if the chapel was to be enlarged, then the question of the curtlage of buildings in front of the chapel should be secured by the Feoffees before work could commence.
invoice from Kemp and Stent to build the cottage and to repairs on the chapel
invoice from Kemp and Stent to include ruffcasting the end of chapel tower
- 1828 (1206/24) maps of all land and properties owned by the chapel; showing on plan 8 the dwelling leased to James Allies with the joint use of pump, garden, privy and dust well dated 1828; as with (1206/13) to be demolished in 1854.
(Plan 7 as of 1840 shows the chapel following the front garden opened up to the Street)
- 1828 To quote, when the chapel was applied according to original purpose, it is probable the adjacent ground was appropriated as a cemetery, for the founders family perhaps, or the officiating ecclesiastics, as the remains of several corpses have from time to time been exhumed from what may be called the chapel yard; in 1828, when workmen were excavating cellars in the contiguous buildings belonging to the chapel, parts of coffins and several human bones were discovered. This circumstance, through superstitious or other motives, was endeavoured to be kept private, and consequently no researches were made for antiquarian purposes; but the writer of this then saw three skulls there at one time.
(This was before the houses built in front of the chapel were demolished)

- 1829 meeting with the Steward and only feoffee John Hughes agreed to have the spire rebuilt as well as work to the tower and many parts of the chapel works to be carried out by Isaac Norwell, and the floor relayed by Hugh Holman, Mr Harris to reglaze and decorate.; also that the Feoffees name board be set up in a niche at the east end of the chapel; also to obtain a font and make space at the east end for christenings.
 Invoice to paint name boards and reguild weather cock £22.3.0
 Invoice to replace roughcast on outside of tower, and retiling one side of roof £23.2.1
 Stewards account for repairs amounting to £ 250.15.9
 bill from R Noyes for new weather cock
- 1830 letter to rev William Dalby to say the chapel is now ready to use for worship the new draft deed of enfeoment was ready and John Hughes instructed that the Steward Mr Phelps or Mr Tring go to visit Mr Edmund Halliday at Dinas in the Kingdom of France to obtain his execution of the document.(he didn't go as Haliday died))
 this exercise cost an enormous amount of money £43.5.8d due to the following extract from the reort of the charities commission,
 due to only three Feoffees still alive the new deed was drawn up but as Halliday resided in France and refused to sign the document as he wanted to name all eight of them himself! This was refused and was only enfeod upon his demise!
 Invoice to paint Ten Commandments board and Lords Prayer £17.10.0
 Letter from Rev William Dalby asking permission to use the chapel for Sunday worship whilst the Minster church is rebuilt.
 Invoice from M A & R Tayler for Irish
- 1831 census taken 6115 inhabitants (daniell)
- 1832 the new enfeement was enacted
- 1837 it was confirmed that one of the houses at the front of the chapel was 3/5 owned by Lord Bath 2/5 to the Feoffees.
 Resolved to resite the pulpit and install heating Stove as long as it is paid for by the clergy and also the fuel as no costs will be accepted by the Feoffees.
 to supply of beer when pulling down old buildings in port way invoice from g chambers for £1.11.51/2
 To Stewards bill for attending meeting of the Feoffees at London inn to include paid for room 5/0 servant 1/0
- 1838 To build three new cottages in port way at a cost of £292.6.0 and rented at £10/12 per annum to invoice to remove pulpit by Hugh Holman £12.0.0; (it appeared as though this was financed by a loan from a Miss Whitchurch) this debt was paid of in 1854.
 11th June I have this already registered (officially) one hundred and thirty one deaths in this parish, in one hundred and thirty one consecutive days! (Daniell)
- 1841 bill from Amelia Hill for needle work and cleaning the chapel £1.0.0
 Invoice from Ubsdell and price for hassocks and a chair £1.7.4
- 1843 an agreement for a tenancy of a house in high Street, as between Robert Robertson esquire as agent for and on behalf of the most honourable Harriet

Marchioness of Bath and the right honourable Alexander Lord Ashburton (guardian of the most honourable Alexander Marquis of Bath minor) etc etc

- 1846 permission requested for the inmates of the workhouse to attend Sunday worship in the chapel
- 1848 the rev Arthur Fane requested that the doors be removed from the pews
invoice from J B Hayden for coco matting
- 1852 Rev Fane asked the meeting to discuss the late Mr John Daniells bequest in his will (copied) to purchase and to remove the corner house so the chapel can be seen from the Street; also Rev Fane asked if the pews could be removed
Invoice from C Giles lace and threads
Invoice from W H Tayler leather cover for 8 prayer books, lettered St Lawrence,
- 1853 received £62.0.0 from railway company for sale of land
Receipt from Marquees of Bath for 3 new barrs of iron and nails weighed at 14lbs at 3 ½ per lbs at Mr Dodmans 0.4.1
- 1854 Mrs Daniell asked the Feoffees to approach the Marquis of Bath re the corner house, the value is £37.10.00, the Feoffees to pay £18.15.0.

Invoice from Samuel Fatt for bell rope and altering clapper.

The chapel was used extensively for baptisms from 1840 through to 1845, the records show thus_1825-133bapt, 1826-172, 1827-147, 1828- 163, 1829-131, 1836- 149.

The baptism registers also show the inhabitants of the dwellings to each side of chapel lane as it fronted the chapel, 1821 George Knight, 1822 William Hardy, 1826 James Moody, 1827 James Broadribb, 1828 George Edwards, 1829 George White.

Even the vicar of the parish church preferred to have his children baptised there, 1830 William Dalby Chris Harriet, and again in 1833.

The only break in the use was from July 1830 till Jan 1831, all baptisms were carried out at the church (the Minster) whilst the chapel underwent alterations.

No records of baptisms exist after 1858.

A WALK IN THE TOWN - CIRCA 1750-1850

We will Start by Standing outside the chantry, looking up towards the top of the High Street where it meets with the Market Place, as we walk up, to our left is a small footpath called The Close,(now a busy road), and to the right-hand side of it, the London Inn,(demolished to allow the road to be built), used on many occasions by the Feoffees for their meetings, as also the building Straight in front of us, right in the middle of the road, where the traffic island and keep left signs are, this is the town hall, built of oak beams,(and standing on stone pillars, not unlike the old bell), referred to as a wool hall, it was built by subscription and a date was on the west end 1711, before this was built there existed a earlier town hall recorded in 1656, that four way men were sworn in on April 1st,it is supposed to be the same old house as became the plume of feathers inn later the

kings arms, the 1711 building had a large room upstairs used to hold the court leet, meetings, and sometimes the assembly of the Steward and Feoffees.

Incidentally, the parish office in 1711 consisted of- one head constable and two sub constables, three tything men, two church wardens, four overseers, and one superintendent and or perpetual overseer.

20th January 1832 this week the town hall which has stood near the market place in this town for (it is supposed) ages, was pulled down it appeared still strong and in good condition, being built of oak, and would most probably have stood for ages longer (“daniell”), continue up the incline and to the right we can see the large house of Edward Cockey, well respected member of the town and famous clockmaker, it Stands on the site of what was the dwelling of the priest who officiated at the chapel, later demolished, and replaced by this large house, soon to be changed into a haberdashers, then, (today, the YMCA charity shop!)

Looking up we can see the spire of a church, its weather cock, looking more like a pigeon than a cockerel!, pierced with the letters W.W (replaced later with a more suitable bird)on each of the s/w, n/w and n/e corners are small spirets rising from the battlements , the lower part of the tower was obscured by houses in front of it, some built as early as 1651!, the first house, to the left of the aforementioned, is a single dwelling, rented to Thomas Morgan , the butcher, by Lord Bath and sub let to Richard Noyes, which affronts the edge of the road, to the left of this property is chapel lane, and to the left of the lane are two more cottages, ,in very poor condition, all jointly owned by the chapel and lord bath the first, is a shop and house, rented by Edward Moffatt, the second , a drapers and grocers shop, the rear of this rented again by Edward Moffatt, and sub let to James Allies, ironmonger, extended right around the left-hand side of the chapel and included the area of garden and a stable at the back, the sextons cottage was also rented out to Edward Moffatt , and sub let by the feoffees to William and Amelia Hill in exchange for tolling the curfew bell and keeping the chapel clean..

All the cottages at the front had common use of the garden of the sextons cottage as also the water pump from the well, the privy and dust well!

This area at the front, originally the resting place of many souls departed, before the desecration of having these dwellings built, now is the sacred graveyard once again and memorial garden)

Walking up and entering the small lane that leads to the chapel, to the left a Stone wall from the cottages going back and joining the walls of the nave!, to the right a garden and yard, in front of us is the wall of the nave and base of the tower, in a very sad State, much of the Stucco plaster, which was coloured white with lime wash, has fallen off to reveal the weathered Stone work, the tower, as we look up, is in the same State, the roof. Once thatched, but now replaced with Norton tiles, many broken; at which point we turn right, then left, to go passed the west entrance door into the chapel, to continue along, next on our left is the sextons cottage, a small brick and Stone dwelling, with attached stable, again thatched in its earlier life but now proudly showing of its tiled roof having been recently rebuilt in 1824 as a dwelling only, (no stable,) to continue our walk, to the left is the rear garden at the back of the cottage owned by Mr Cockey and so on through St Laurence’s Mead, a small footpath that takes us across the river were, (now the emporium of Mr Morrison’s!), and right up to the next hill where there was to be built a new place of worship, Christ Church.

Let us now trace our Steps back, turning right into the garden of the sextons cottage we will notice a beam, or shoot, coming out of the wall of the tower, dropping down and then going into the wall of the dwelling near the little window!,(recently renewed), this is the conduit that carries the rope from the hammer that Strikes the town bell to call people to

service, and of course the” raison d,etre” for the chapel, to sound the curfew, at 4am, and 8pm ,an act of Elizabeth 1 never rescinded!

In 1880 a rope and bell hammer was installed to avoid the sexton going out in all weathers, climbing the Stairs and swinging the bell via a rope, this alteration meant he or she, could pull the rope from within the comfort of their home and sound the bell according to the terms of the Feoffees.(or the fire brigade!) walking forward, we pass the well with its pump Standing betwixt the chapel and cottage, (sadly removed) passed that, and to our right, at the rear of the dwelling is an extension which houses two privies, now a little explanation here!, at one time their was only one, but with the agreement of the Feoffees, the occupants of the two left hand cottages at the front of the chapel, with the proviso of paying £ 2.00 per annum, could use the facilities!, the single dwelling at the front had its own private privy!.

We return now and walk towards the entrance to the chapel.

We are confronted by two large oak doors curved at the top to follow the arch that they open into, across the top section are carved two shields, one in each corner, the left one with the letters H.R, the right one V11, between them a line of laurel leaves ending in the middle, some graffiti also scratched on has the date 1641, these doors fell apart in 1841 and were removed to a safe place! (Where?), you can still see the two corbel stones each side of the doorway.

Open the door and enter in, dark and gloomy is your first thought, the window above your head, simple glass, but with the building next door so close it restricts the light showing through, the floor is littered with fire buckets, brooms and usual church requisites!, to the right is the door that leads up to the tower, used by all an sundry!, the sexton to wind the clock, ring the bell, the clock repairers, the public and musicians, to gain entry to the gallery just inside the chancel.

We go through a curtain that is pulled over the narrow archway that leads us into the chapel proper, (this arch was later widened I believe in the 1725 alterations), inside, we lookup and see the gallery above our head , in front, to the left and right are rows of dark wooden box pews, some three or four feet high with doors to each, , the only light there was what appeared through the four round arched windows ten feet high by four and a half feet wide with plain glass ,(although the light through the north windows was reduced due to the chapel houses built so close to the walls of the chancel,) that were installed at the 1725 restoration, at the east end is the altar, raised up on a oak table, to the right is the high pulpit, recently resisted on the request of the vicar from the left hand side, next to that the reading desk, to the right, aprox where the organ now stands was the font, nothing adorns the walls other than gilded boards proclaiming the lords prayer and the ten commandments. The roof is some twenty feet in height.

THE VILLAGE LABOURER - CIRCA 1789

The cost of living in Sherborn Dorset as follows:

Expenses per week	
Bread	3/s
Salt	1, 1/2p
Meat	8p
Tea etc	2p
Cheese	7p
Milk	4p
Soap	2 1/2p
Candles	6p

Thread etc	1p
Total	£0.5.8
Amount per annum	£14.14.8
Rent	£2.0.0
Fuel	£3.18.0
Clothes	£1.0.0
Total expenses per annum	£21.12.8

Earnings per week:

The man	£0.6.0
The woman	£0.2.6
Total earnings per annum	£ 22.2.0

ST LAURENCE'S SEXTONS WAGES ETC

1788, paid w ^m hill a quarters salary to the day	£0.13.0, = 1/s per week!
Bathsheba Gulliver washing surplice, quarters salary	£0.2.6 = 2p per week!

Recommencement of records

1855 The Warminster Miscellany letter from Rev A Fane regarding the restoration
 May of the chapel.
 (He was also involved with archaeology excavating a Saxon burial at Sherrington in 1856)
 ditto comments re the old buildings being pulled down
 paid Mrs Elliott for washing and Jane Howell appointed
 1206/11 survey of owners of the adjacent properties from 1801, (ones that were using chapel lands and access) to be used in conjunction with enclosure map of 1781

A PICTURE OF THE OUTCOME

Standing, as we were, outside of the chantry, the view we now have has changed for the better!, gone is the town hall, gone are the cottages in front of the chapel, to be replaced with tall stone pillars, one on each corner of the grave yard, and two in the middle holding up two wrought iron gates, the wrought iron railings surrounding the whole site, as we approach the chapel we notice the elaborate stone parapet that surmounts the north wall, like a balustrade, underneath at three points are the most grotesque gargoyles that you could imagine!, the whole building is resplendent in clean natural stone, pointed with lime mortar , bereft of any plaster or white lime wash, a front porch greets us a more convenient entrance than using the old west door, these doors rotten beyond restoration being removed and the entrance filled in with stone work, new windows replace the Georgian ones, although their presence was noticed in 2006 when the internal plaster was replaced on the north wall.

A footpath leads from the gates to the new porch, flanked each side by a lawned garden, which also has trees planted in it, no need for the chapel lane to walk to the top of

sambourne road as in 1830 the new road called Weymouth Street was formed.

- 1856 List of costs to rebuild chapel as entered in parish church account books, (who paid the bill is not clear; it probably was met out of parish funds!)
- 1856 Mrs Howells appointed sexton and to live in the cottage in exchange for tolling the bell and cleaning the chapel.
Letter December 1 (Warm Misc) re the gargoyles on the parapet of the chapel
- 1857 Ditto January 1 poem by Peter Pindar of the restoration of the chapel.
Ditto January 22 the chapel was re-opened by the Lord Bishop of the Dioceses
Paid Mr Bedford for relative to distress on John Ford?????
- 1858 advert in Warminster miscellany by Nelson Hall organ builder (as maker of the SCUDAMORE organ in the chapel)
Invoice from Price and Watts for new bell rope (one in July another in August!)

From 1840 until this date over 250 baptisms were carried out in the chapel, and covered all areas of not only the town but also the villages, the services carried out by Rev Fane, Rev Offer, many curates and even vicars from the villages, such as Norton Bavant

- 1860 invoice from John Barden
To clean gutters on chapel and rebuild the pump and well at cottage
- 1860 sat 2nd June Warm Herald, article re the new organ as purchased by public subscription
- 1866 minutes of meeting writing to Mr Gibbs who had presented the cock informing him of the necessity of taking it down and that another would be put up and considered as his gift. (although he queried the credit for the old one!)
Mrs House has reported the board that covers the bell rope from the cottage to the chapel has blown down.
- 1866 invoice from J B Hayden to clean stove pipes and to install new weather vane, replace piece of lead on tower roof, repairs to spire
To James Grant for shovelling snow from the roof
- 1867 a undated letter to the inhabitants to ask for donations to rebuild the boundary wall that had blown down in the gale, with a list of donations
- 1868 a donation from Mrs Seagram in the Warminster Herald
sale of dwellings in Back Street (Emwell St) on behalf of the feoffees
- 1869 (1206/44) partition against Romish practises,
- 1872 invoice from N Dawkins repairing pump at the chapel st Lawrence's cottage
New bucket and set of leathers and labour, smith work new pin and key, putting on bucket and shortening rod
- 1876 (1205/45) new indenture of Feoffees===== see 1916
- 1877 (1206/21) copy of property owned, details of lessees from 1575 (pages 2/3 relate to chapel cottages)

Letter re drains for the British school in Portway.

- 1878 invoice from S J Haden repairs to copper pan of font
invoice from R White to 2 wood rollers 1 screw bolt plus nut and steel spring
and fixing to large bell 0.6.0
- 1880 invoice from B Parsons to prepare, fixing and painting the new shoot to
protect fire bell rope
Bill from B Parson to fit new roof, windows and general repairs to chapel
cottage
James Grant to shovelling snow from roof Jan 17 march 20
- 1881 invoice from John Warner and sons for chime hammer and rope including
fixing at st Lawrence's chapel
James Grant to clearing snow from roof (Jan 22/ 29
- 1882 letter from a Mr Jones re offering a new altar table and cloth and requesting
to move the altar rail further west
Note was made as to the state of the chapel yard, it was agreed to spend
£3.3.0 during the year
- 1883 meeting at town hall to discuss letter from Mr F Wright Anderson re
improvements
As per list.....and drawings, to form new altar
- 1887 decided that town water be laid on to the cottage and heating in the chapel to
be inspected by the Longleat clerk of works
Quotations for heating and drawings
- 1889 invoice from Harraway and Scott for garden
invoice from J N Greenland to paint railings around chapel gardens
- 1890 invoice for coke for the stove
- 1891 Mr Graham Awry to inspect tower and get estimate from preferred builder
Mr P J Ponton for the works, also to see if chimney from stove could go out
through the tower instead of chapel roof
- REPORT ON TOWER
Invoice from G Knight to repair the clock
Payment of money in lieu of tithes to the Vicar
Ditto to the Marquis of Bath tithes
- 1892 arrange to borrow money from bank to pay for repairs, and to stop paying for
the coke to heat the chapel for the present
Bill from Ponton and what work was carried out
- 1893 invoice from Edward Lewis for dusters
Invoice from S L Cordon (late Haden) for cleaning stove pipe
- 1897 (1206/37) the spire was struck by lightning, full report and costs (it would
appear that the spirets were not replaced!)
- 1898 invoice from Herbert M Turner for sextons furniture
Invoice for lighting conductor

Copy of LAW fire insurance certificate
Estimate to improve ventilation of chapel due to the coke stove

Letter to the vicar to invite him to preach, but that he has no legal right in the chapel to preach

Invoice from Mr Ponton to filling earth closet and fit pan and pipes to cottage

Invoice from w g vowels to rebuild organ after damage

1899 (1206/38) inventory of chapel goods

(1206/31) Letter from Sir James Phillips asking if they could have back the gas lamps that they donated to the chapel as they are no longer being used
~~~ extract from the Warminster directory 1899, Warminster volunteer fire brigade, the apparatus is kept in the urban council yard, George Street, and in case of fire application should be made to the officers, who will call the brigade together; to Mr A F Long, Waterworks manager, The Chestnuts, Port way; to the Superintendent of Police, Ash Walk; and to the person in charge of the bell at st Lawrence's Chapel

1900 invoice from Mrs A Butler to repair flag  
Invoice from Wilson and Mayo for brooms etc  
ditto P J Pontoon to clear snow from roof February

1902 question of selling all properties discussed  
And the organ was in a bad state could it be repaired?  
The well at the property at 49 Boreham was repaired  
Invoice from Wilson and Kennard for broom etc

1903 invoice from Joseph Gaisford to fit notice board  
The steward attended a public meeting regarding the Chapel's charities

1904 comment on organ repair and as to curtain to keep out dust  
Vicars letter re cattle in the stream of field owned by the chapel  
Complaint from public about tolling of curfew bell at funerals

1905 estimate and drawing for organ curtain from F Curtis and son  
copt of enclosure award charges to vicar  
Copy of tithe award charges to Marquis of Bath

1906 invoice from Hole and Roberts for rainwater pipe

1907 to purchase a harmonium and sell the organ  
To have the Ladies at st Denys Home make new altar cloths

1911 tenement agreement for the position of sexton to Annie Penn at 2s per week and use of cottage  
Application for sexton job from Mrs Isabella Gunston

*THE GREAT WAR 1914 STARTS*

1914 specification to enhance chapel and install wood panelling at each side and

drawings

- 1915 invoice from R Butcher and son to refix cross
- 1916 invoice from F Curtis for works to decorate chapel  
Addresses of Feoffees  
Legal advice re selling properties  
  
(1206/45) new indenture of feoffees
- THE END OF THE GREAT WAR 1918*
- 1919 the Feoffees refuse to allow the memorial to the dead of the Great War to be in the front of the chapel
- 1920 invoice from R White and co for repair work  
invoice from F Curtis and son to carry out temporary repairs to bell pulley of fire bell
- 1921 invoice from Fredrick Whatley to dig out river bank  
Invoice from R Butcher and son to make and fix oak box  
Invoice from O B Chambers to supply brass alms dish  
letter from Sister Ida of C S D requesting items  
agreed by Feoffees to sell property  
  
(1206/45) new indenture of Feoffees
- 1922 All properties sold and amounts gained (discussed for 7 years!)  
estimates from Curtis and son to repair shute, and notice board , also Mr Chambers estimate to wind clock  
invoice from F Curtis to repair roof on cottage  
  
(1206/30/52) typed schedule of documents
- 1923 invoice from john g day to make st George 's flag  
letter from Mr Chambers to say as times were hard he will reduce his bill  
letter of complaint about jackdaws on tower roof
- 1924 electric light installed in the chapel  
invoice from F Curtis to make new bell Shute from tower to cottage  
invoice from Walter M Monk for electrical wiring
- 1925 letter re the heating and lighting bills to the new vicar  
invoice from Uriah White and son to sharpen the lawnmower  
invoice from Herbert J Luke to paint railings
- 1926 discussion re moving old font from Minster to the chapel  
invoice from Wheelers for garden maintance  
invoice from John Hall to supply paint  
  
(1206/41) meeting and faculty to move font held at MinsterHall  
invoice from W E Greenland re decorating

- 1927 invoice from Egerton strong to move font
- 1925 (1206/38) inventory of church goods  
 letter from Vicar re cost of heating and lighting, and the request of a piscine for washing vessels, also the curtain that draws across the west end from the chancel is rotten  
 invoice from James Colmer ltd for 12 tapestry  
 Invoice from Egerton strong for a piscine  
 reply re jackdaws  
 invoice from R Davis and son for mops and cloths  
 invoice from Sidney Day re altar cloth chest  
 Invoice from O B Chambers for clock  
 The Sisters accounts for running the services at the chapel
- 1929 invoice from Warminster Co-operative Society Ltd for house cloths
- 1930 invoice from Culverhouse bros for stonework repairs
- 1932 letter from Culverhouse re the state of the south wall of the cottage with fruit trees growing up  
 letter to Mrs Day 3 high street re her fruit trees  
 invoice from J Gay to repair lawnmower  
 invoice from Warm Coop for broom head  
 Letter from vicar re heating  
 Reply to vicar stating feoffees will pay to install system they will not pay for fuel or maintance cost
- 1933 estimate for heating from R White and co  
 quotation for fuel from J Button and sons  
 ditto Birds and Bryer ash  
 invoice from Coop for brooms
- 1934 Estimate for electricity in the cottage from Walter M Monk, as they are still using candles and oil lamps!  
 invoice from O B Chambers for rebuilding the clock
- 1936 report on rotten state of chapel floor  
 (1206/42) specification of new floor  
 estimate from Culverhouse to put watermain to cottage, as existing comes off Mrs Days shop next door (no 3)
- 1937 invoice from Lucas and Foot ltd for bunting flag  
 invoice from G Bush and co for 3 new rush chairs, one for organ blower, and one for priest the other for the vestry
- 1938 letter re having the lightning conductor checked

*THE START OF THE SECOND WORLD WAR 1939*

- 1939 Mrs A Penn the sexton died, Mr Penn has carried on, and Mrs Pens daughter in law has applied  
 The chapel was to be the only church to be used during blackout periods  
 Mr Penn asked for a rope for the bell to sound it for fire as the siren was only

- for air raids  
The clock was stopped for the duration of the war
- 1942 a water supply tank to be sited in the church yard
- 1944 May 14/15, a window on the Southside has been blown in due to air raid, (this window had stained glass in it, and was repaired with plain glass as none was available), the same happened to the shop of Walkers Store
- END OF SECOND WORLD WAR 1945*
- 1942 a water supply tank to be sited in the church yard
- 1946 letter re state of churchyard following removal of water tank
- 1948 appointment of new Feoffees  
Mr A J Grace offered to repair the clock and reinstate the chimes  
Letter from the Council re the same  
Complaint about clock if it was made to strike again  
Note O B Chambers died whilst winding the clock.  
Workman's insurance to be taken out for Mr Grace and Mrs Penn and third party for the Feoffees
- 1949 discussion re the removal of the railings  
Report on state of the chapel received  
Restoration fund set up
- 1950 suggested sale of the SCUDAMORE organ
- 1951 the old font in the tower to be repaired and replaced in chapel and the one from the Minster returned
- 1952 the old 17c font repaired and reinstated  
The boards with the Feoffees names should be brought down from the tower and fitted on the wall
- 1953 discussion re the damaged window on south side  
remove row of pew seats  
New electric hot water heating installed
- 1954 the organ offered to Christ church  
a request to put Christmas crib in front garden refused  
Offer from Urban District Council to take over the upkeep of the front garden
- 1955 the offer from UDC refused  
Notice given to Mr& Mrs Penn to quit as they must leave to allow new tenants
- 1956 the new vicar Rev Freeman questions why he has to ask permission from the Feoffees to preach
- 1957 more augments between Feoffees and the Rev Freeman
- 1958 The vicar of St Johns has removed the lectern! to be used at Bishopstrow

## Church

- 1960 it was agreed the railings be remove except west and east sections  
Electric radiant heaters installed and light in porch  
Rev Freeman requested if the organ could be restored
- (1206/23) agreement from UDC for garden maintainance
- 1961 the caps on top of the pillars and the north parapet were discussed and held over to next meeting
- 1964 The question of caps left for time being!  
Parapet still being discussed  
Again the crib was refused!
- 1966 the parapet was inspected and agreed it was not dangerous
- 1967 letter received to ask if the Feoffees would sell the chapel
- 1969 discussion re building a bathroom on at the cottage  
All feoffees with the exception of Rev Johnston suggested demolishing it
- 1971 still discussions re the future of the cottage
- 1972 an offer to use cottage as museum  
  
(1206/51) inventory of repair works
- 1973 the north parapet to be replaced  
Frame of west window replaced  
Discussion on the fonts  
Spot lights installed
- 1974 the Feoffees name boards to be brought down front tower and erected in chapel  
The organ restored and fitted with new blower motor, (discussed for 67 years))  
More discussions on the font  
suggest younger Feoffees as the others never turn up to meetings
- 1975 Mr Grace the sexton retired Mrs Barge to be asked as a replacement  
The organ repair now completed paid for by an ominous donor  
The local council has agreed to maintain the south garden as well as the front  
Still discussing the font  
Mr Poolman has completed the repair of the curfew bell, it was discussed that Mr Poolman and Mr Grace should be acknowledged by a small tablet in the chapel
- 1976 still talking re the font  
Tablet in church for messrs Poolman and Grace  
Plaque to be fitted in clock room
- 1977 The font and the old harmonium to be advertised in the journal, (this was resolved in 2008! 82 years later!)
- 1978 the harmonium sold for £40 but not the font

- 1979 The tablet to include O B Chambers service to the clock, (this action was never completed!)
- 1980 the old Kendrick's building to be demolished and replaced with new
- 1981 new alter rail suggested  
Repairs to tower required  
Mr Gerratt suggested a friends of st Lawrence be formed  
New altar rail by an an ominous donor  
A chalice has been found at the Minster inscribed st Lawrence  
A dowser checked for graves at front and back of chapel, (no report!)
- 1982 The alter rail should be ready soon!
- 1984 The name boards in the tower are to be brought down and painted, (this discussion started 34 years ago!)
- 1985 to request planning permission for a clock face, and comments re the collusion of certain elected members of the council
- 1987 list of duties and organization of chapel  
Deed of appointment
- 1990 specification of SCUDAMORE organ by an estimate to repair
- 1998 report and survey of the bells by Nicholson ltd

### ***THE VIEW TODAY 2009***

Standing as we were outside the chantry, looking up to the road junction with Weymouth Street, a new road built in 1830, we see the chapel in all its splendour, gone are the chapel cottages, also gone are the large stone pillars that were built to support the wrought iron railings that went all the way around the now opened grave yard, put there in 1856 following the restoration, the tops of the pillars are now at ground level, a small stone path leads us up to the new porch.

Looking further up the street, and next to the chapel is a hideous brick building that so called planners gave permission to be built, totally out of keeping with the town hall and the chapel, many of the original shops/houses still exist but have changed hands and retail many different items than the 1850s!

Chapel Lane still exists, albeit it only goes as far as the sextons cottage, for from there onwards is the supermarket built on what was st Laurence's mead!, but just look at the 1804 painting by buckler!

*MINUTES OF MEETINGS AND RECORDS OF THE ACCOUNTS UP TO THE PRESENT TIME 2009, ARE HELD BY THE STEWARD, AND CAN BE VIEWED BY APPLICATION TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE FEOFEES*

## CHAPLAINS OF ST LAURENCE

1360 John Langton  
1396 John Michel  
1396 John Hewett

1540 Stephen James retired on a pension of £5 on the suppression of small chantries

## *SEXTONS OF THE CHAPEL*

Their role appears to have been to keep the chapel clean, light the stove fire, wash surplices, keep the garden tidy and to ring the bell for services and for fire alarm, for this the payment, before the cottage was built in 1824, a pittance!, following, free accommodation!, the wages were still poor, we can trace the families involved;

|      |                 |      |
|------|-----------------|------|
| 1764 | Thomas Phillips | 1768 |
| 1769 | Edith Phillips  | 1782 |
| 1783 | Dan Lawrence    | 1787 |
| 1788 | William Hill    | 1805 |
| 1806 | Elizabeth Hill  | 1809 |
| 1810 | William Hill    | 1823 |
| 1824 | Amelia Hill     | 1854 |
| 1855 | Jane Nowell     | 1866 |

( her husband was a bell ringer at the parish church  
1862 paid J Nowell knells for prince consort 5/0d)

|      |            |      |
|------|------------|------|
| 1867 | Mrs House  | 1897 |
| 1898 | Mr House   | 1911 |
|      | Mrs Penn   | 1947 |
| 1948 | Mrs a Penn | 1966 |
| 1967 | Mr Grace   | 1975 |
| 1981 | Mrs Barge  | 1986 |

## Recorded as washing surplices

|      |                    |      |               |      |              |
|------|--------------------|------|---------------|------|--------------|
| 1876 | Miss Jarman,       | 1781 | Sarah Morgan, |      |              |
| 1783 | Bathsheba Gulliver | 1793 | Mary Hill     | 1810 | Betty Pearce |

## *DATES OF DEEDS OF ENFEOFEEMENT*

(or and amendments)



1570 1575 1592 1613 1651 1694 1724 1764 1790 1832 1876 1916 1939  
1948 1952 1969 1987 ( ANNUALLY AS REQUIRED)

**THE FEOFFEES**  
(All from Wereminster unless stated)

5 APRIL 12 ELIZ 1570  
**OF THE LANDS**

|                                                                             |               |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| FEOFFEES                                                                    | APPOINTED BY  |
| JOHN GIFFORDE GENT<br>WILLIAM MYDDELCOTE CLOTHMAN<br>HENRY GERRARD CLOTHMAN | THOMAS HEWETT |

16 JUNE 17 ELIZ 1575  
**OF THE CHAPEL**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                             |               |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| FEOFFEES                                                                                                                                                                                                    | APPOINTED BY  |
| JOHN GIFFORDE, GENT,<br>WILLIAM MIDDELCOTE, CLOTHMAN,<br>LAURENCE PILCHARD, YEOMAN,<br>HENRY GERRARD, CLOTHMAN,<br>LAURENCE HYDE, of westberye, ESQUIRE;<br>CHRISTOPHER EYRE, of Upton skudmore, GENTLEMAN. | THOMAS WARDER |

26 OCTOBER 34 ELIZ 1592

|                                                                                                                                                  |                                                     |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| FEOFFEES                                                                                                                                         | APPOINTED BY                                        |
|                                                                                                                                                  | JOHN GIFFORD<br>WILLIAM MIDDLECOTTE<br>HENRY GERARD |
| GEORGE GIFFORD, later of muncion devrill, GENT;<br>WILLIAM GIFFORD, GENT;<br>WILLIAM BLAKE, YEOMAN;<br>WILLIAM BLAKE JNR, of smallbrooke YEOMAN; |                                                     |

WILLIAM RAWLYNES, YEOMAN;  
JOHN STANLAKE, GENT;  
WILLIAM BOYES, MERCER;  
FRANCIS RAWLYNES, YEOMAN;  
WILLIAM TAYLOR, YEOMAN;  
HENRY WANSYE, GLOVER;  
HENRY GERRARD JNR, YEOMAN;  
WILLIAM MIDDLECOTT JNR, YEOMAN.

10 DECEMBER 10 JAS 1612

WILLIAM GIFFORD, of boreham also burton ESQUIRE;  
EDWARD MIDDLECOTT, GENT;  
JOHN BENNETT, of smallbrooke and steeple ashton GENT;  
WILLIAM MYDDLECOTT JNR afterwards of boston co Lincoln GENT;  
EDWARD SLADE, MERCER;  
JOHN BLAKE, YEOMAN;  
STEPHEN BLAKE, YEOMAN;  
JOHN BOYES, MERCER;  
WILLIAM WILTON JNR, YEOMAN;  
JOHN WANSEY, YEOMAN;  
WILLIAM BAUNTON, YEOMAN;  
WILLIAM PERRY, YEOMAN.

28 MAY 2 CHAS 11 1651

EDWARD MIDDLECOTT, GENT;  
FRANCIS BENNETT, GENT;

BENJAMIN GIFFORD, of boreham, GENT;  
THOMAS SLADE, GENT;  
JOHN BUTCHER, MERCER;  
HUMPHREY BUCKLER, YEOMAN;  
JOHN WANSYE, YEOMAN;  
WILLIAM WILTON, YEOMAN;  
WILLIAM BLAKE, YEOMAN;  
JOHN SLADE, MERCER;  
WILLIAM CHAUNDLER, YEOMAN;  
WILLIAM DAVIS JNR, YEOMAN.

21 DEC 6 WIL & M 1694

EDWARD MIDDLECOTT, GENT;  
THOMAS BUCKLER, GENT;  
JOHN BENNETT, of smallbrooke GENT;  
THOMAS LULOWE, GENT;  
WILLIAM SLADE, GENT;  
JOHN BUTCHER, MERCER;  
JOHN SLADE JNR, MALSTER;  
WILLIAM CHANDLER, GENT;  
WILLIAM ADLAM, MALSTER;  
GERRARD WILTON, MALSTER;  
JOHN HODGES, GROCER;  
JOHN WANSEY, hill deverell, YEOMAN.

35 MARCH 10 GEO 1 1724

JOHN GIFFORD, of boreham ESQUIRE;  
THOMAS BUCKLER, GENT;  
EDWARD MIDDLECOTT, GENT;  
JOHN HALLIDAY, GENT;  
JOHN SLADE, GENT;  
JOHN BENNETT JNR, GENT;  
THOMAS LUDLOW, GENT;

JOHN FRENCH, CLOTHIER;  
GEORGE PERRY, MALSTER;  
WILLIAM ADLAM JNR, MALSTER;  
JAMES WILTON, MALSTER;  
SAMUEL PIKEMAN, MALSTER.

27 JANUARY 4 GEO 111 1764

WILLIAM BUCKLER, of boreham ESQUIRE;  
WILLIAM SLADE, CLERK;  
JOHN LANGLEY, CLOTHIER;  
BENJAMIN LUDLOW, GENT;  
RICHARD SAMUEL WYCHE, GENT;  
JOHN BENNETT JNR, GENT;  
JOHN WANSEY, GENT;  
RICHARD RANDALL, afterwards of chicklade, CLOTHIER;  
JOHN MASKLYN JNR, WOOL-STAPLER;  
WILLIAM WANSBROUGH, GENT;  
EDWARD COCKEY, WINE MERCHANT;  
JOHN BLEEK, MALSTER.

22 MAY 30 GEO 111 1790

EDWARD MIDDLECOTT, ESQUIRE;  
JOHN SLADE, GENT;  
JAMES LUDLOW, GENT;  
FRANCIS BENNETT, GENT;  
THOMAS BUCKLER, LINEN DRAPER;  
WILLIAM WANSEY, CLOTHIER;  
EDWARD BUTLER, CLOTHIER;  
THOMAS WARREN, GENT;  
CHARLES ALDRIDGE, MALSTER;  
EDMUND HALLIDAT, GENT;  
JOHN HUGHES, GENT;

JOHN THRING, GENT.

NOVEMBER 8 2 WILL 1V 1832

JOHN BLEEK;  
JOHN RAVEN HILL Magistrate's footnote#;  
THOMAS DAVIS, LAND AGENT;  
JOHN TIVITOE THRING;  
JOHN EDMUND HALLIDAY, GENT;  
MATHEW DAVIS JNR, GENT;  
WILLIAM FROWD SEAGRAM, SURGEON;  
EDMUND LEIGH LYE, GENT;  
JOHN DANIELL, SURVEYOR;  
CHARLES BLEEK, SURGEON;  
CHARLES TAP GRIFFITH, REV OF GRAMMAR SCHOOL;  
WILLIAM SLADE, REV.

A very hard judge! Look up court sessions for this period, seven years deportation for stealing two watches from a jewellers shop!

JULY 21 VIC 39 1876

CHARLES BLEEK;  
GEORGE BUSH, SURVEYOR, TAX INSPECTOR;  
WILLIAM CHAPMAN, GENT;  
THOMAS CRUSE, LAND AGENT;  
WILLIAM FELTHAM;  
PHILLIP GRUBB, SURGEON;  
JOSEPH HINTON, SURGEON;  
HENRY PARR JONES, LAND AGENT FOR MQS OF BATH;  
THOMAS PONTING, CLERK TO COUNCIL;  
JOSEPH SMITH, CORN FACTOR;  
GEORGE VICARY;  
CHARLES WHITE.

1916 (1921)

HUGH WAKEMAN SOLICITOR,  
CHARLES BLEEK GENT,  
ALFRED COATES STATIONER,  
JOHN FOREMAN TAILOR,  
ALBERT LONG SURVEYOR;  
WILLIAM MARSHALL, SOLICITOR;  
WILLIAM BLAXTER, HEADMASTER LORD WEYTH SCHOOL;  
WILLIAM RANDALL, REGISTRAR;  
SIDNEY SMITH, CORN MERCHANT;  
HUGH .A. WAKEMAN, SOLICITOR;  
HENRY WHEELER;  
WILFRED HOGAN, SURGEON;  
GEORGE AITKEN, LAND AGENT TO MQS OF BATH;  
CHARLES WHITE.

1939

ALFRED COATES;

1952 (1954)

HERBERT BARBER,  
ALFRED COATES,  
HEDLEY CURTIS, BUILDER,,  
RONALD GRAHAM CAMBELL DOCTOR  
, HERBERT KNIGHT,  
WILLIAM MARSHALL,  
EDWARD SYMES  
,WILLIAM WICKHAM.,

WILFRED HOGAN, INSPECTOR OF HEALTH WUDC;  
WILLIAM MARSHALL, SOLICITOR;  
G.E. VICARY, SOLICITOR.

1948

WILLIAM MARSHALL, SOLICITOR;  
ALFRED COATES;  
HERBERT BARBER;  
C.G.T. COLSON, VICAR;  
RONALD GRAHAM-CAMPBELL, DOCTOR  
; HERBERT KNIGHT, SOLICITOR;  
WILLIAM WICKHAM, AGRICULTURIST;  
EDWARD SYMES, GENT.

ARTHUR 1969

BEAVEN, PROPRIETOR,  
DESMOND BISHOP, PROPRIETOR,  
FREDRICK BYRNE CIVIL SERVANT,  
ROBERT CULVERHOUSE,  
RAYMOND GERRETT,  
GERVASE NICHOLLS SOLICITOR,  
GEOFFREY TOUT CIVIL SERVANT

1987

RONALD GRAHAM-CAMPBELL; DOCTOR,  
GEOFFREY BUTCHER; BUILDER,

JOHN BAXTER; RET COL,  
ROBERT BUTCHER; BUILDER,  
FREDRICK BYRNE;  
ROBERT CULVERHOUSE; BUILDER  
, RAYMOND GERRETT;  
PHILLIP HOWARD;  
ROGER SHARPE, VICAR;  
HAROLD STILES; PROPRIETOR,  
DUDLEY STONE; PROPRIETOR,  
GEOFFREY TOUT. WUDC

Memoirs of Mrs Amy Penn aged 92 dictated 29<sup>th</sup> March  
1987

(Mrs Penn was sexton from 1939 to 1949 and lived in the chapel cottage to the rear)

My father in law John and Ann Penn lived in the cottage at the rear of St Laurence's Chapel. They originally came from High Wycombe where he worked as a furniture maker.

When they arrived in Warminster they saw there was a job with accommodation as caretaker to the Chapel. They lived there some 30 years

John's job was to look after the garden in the front, the rear garden he grew vegetables in. he also chopped the wood for the stove in the chapel, the wife's job was to clean the buildings and to toll the curfew bell. John also wound the clock.

I recall the spire being struck by lightning in 1897 and all the balustrade on the roof coming down into the garden at the front.

During the First World War I went to Islington and worked there as a seamstress, eight other people went with me, making uniforms for the soldiers.

I came back to Warminster and worked for Mr Byfield until I got married on 10 November at the age of 33 and took in sewing at home, when I did work at home I used to get 1/2d for a dozen shirts and 4/3d for a dozen gloves.

I lived in new town as the common was the called, we lived in many streets, as the houses became unfit to live in we moved. I lived in chapel street, bread street, brook street, kings street, in bread street we lived with my brother and sister, the house in that time was just one bedroom up one room down and toilet up the garden, they had a water pipe outside the front.

My father was George Clifford and mother Amy, George was a bricklayer and built the bank opposite the post office in market place.

I remember Mr Chambers, he used to wind the clock every evening, and he lived over the shop in market place. I recall there was another jeweller called Mr Gray.

The chapel was never used that much, in the early years of the 1920s, it was like a tip, the only who was interested was the rev freeman. During the Second World War the window by the altar was blown in by a bomb. I think the bomb fell down at jobs mill, Mr Fear replaced the glass. I stopped ringing the curfew in 1968 when I came to live in the almshouses.



Appointment of Mrs Penn as Sexton as from 1<sup>st</sup> November 1939 to 25 December 1939  
To wages and gardening for 55 days from 1<sup>st</sup> November 1939 to 25 December 1939  
Wages £3/5/0 per quarter gardening 15/0d do =£2-10-6  
During the winter month's wages improved as an additional payment was given for  
firewood at 2d per week!

(The payment book referred to is now in the possession of the Feoffees)

22/02/2011