Memories of St Marks' Church Berlin Road Edgeley



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History of St Mark's

St Mark's Church was built in 1921. The land was gifted by the Sykes family, with voluntary contributions paying for the construction of the building. The foundation stone was laid by the Hon. Mrs Herbert Sykes (see later note about what we found behind this stone in 2014!)

St Mark's was created to meet the needs of a group of members from St Matthew's Church, Grenville Street, who wanted a more evangelical style of worship. The Bishop of Chester gave permission for the church to be built and after an initial "tin church" was built next to the Edgeley Institute in Castle Street, the church moved to the new building on Berlin Road.

For 90 years, St Mark's provided not only a place of worship but also a centre for the community. It had scouts and guides, dancing and drama, Rose Fetes, Easter parades, Whit Walks, shows and social gatherings, an active Mothers' Union and a banner group that created beautiful church banners (see later section for photographs).

If you would like to share your memories of St Mark's, in words or photos, please email them to info@edgeleyandcheadleheath.org.uk and we will share as many as we can through our website and Facebook pages. Please note that by sending us your stories, you are giving us permission to publish in this way.

Closure of St Mark's

It is very sad to see a church building close and be removed to make way for housing. For ninety years, St Mark's was a significant place for many people, but it was in desperate need of renovation. Following extensive deliberation it was decided that the best way to serve our local community was to concentrate the parish's activities on one site at St Matthew's. There was a final celebratory service at St Mark's on Sunday 17 April 2011, with the congregations of St Mark's, St Augustine's and St Matthew's churches coming together as one on Easter Day 2011.

A heart for the community

We are now a thriving worshiping community at St Matthew's on Grenville Street, just a short walk from St Mark's. Now that we are all together on one site we have been able to have a much bigger impact on our local community. We are building partnerships with lots of organisations to offer toddler groups, an exercise class, social groups for those who are isolated, support to families with twins or multiples, parents who want to carry their baby in a sling, as well as our holiday activities for children and families.

We also host regular surgeries with our local police team during our Saturday Cafe, as well as monthly drop-ins to meet community support groups. That's in addition to our table top sales, craft fairs, heritage and fun day, summer and Christmas fairs. We have big plans for the future

We are a very friendly church and welcome everyone to our services. We offer both a formal and a less formal service (with children's groups), signed services for our friends in the deaf community and a regular prayer event.

Parish Records

All records of baptisms and marriages for St Mark's are retained at the Chester Archives (add link).

The Foundation Stone

When demolition of the church began, a page of a very old newspaper was uncovered from behind the foundation stone. Here are photographs of the newspaper, The Cheshire Daily Echo, dated Monday 25 July 1921:







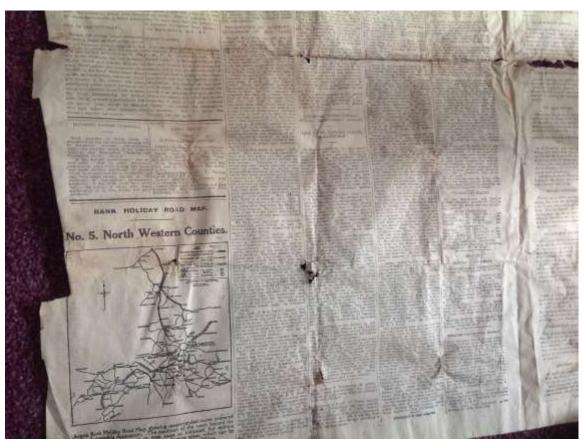






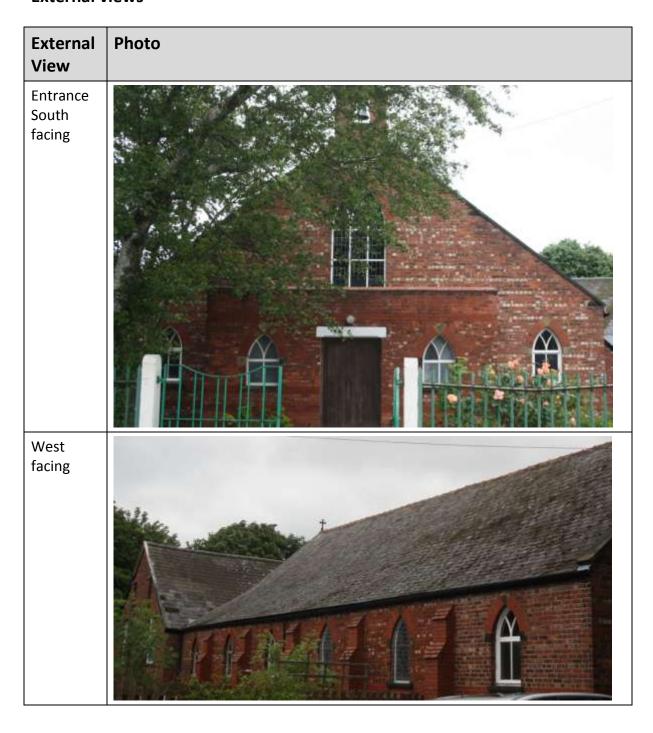


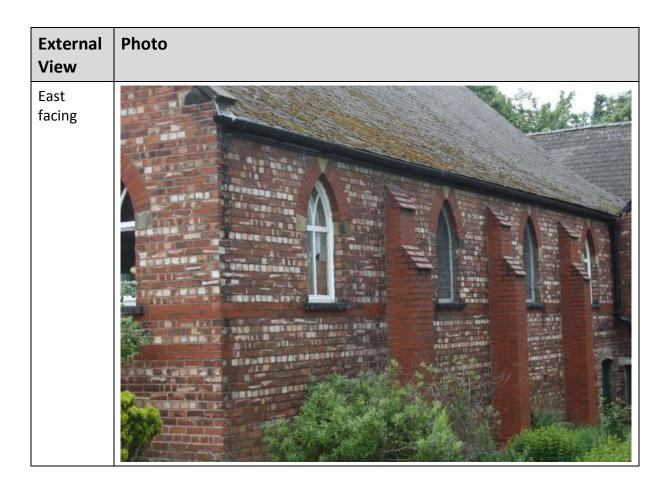


Photo Gallery

The photo gallery includes details of the inscriptions found on furniture and memorials around the church building. Some of these items have been retained at St Matthew's Church, Grenville Street, Edgeley.

External views





Internal memorials, fixtures and fittings

Item	Inscription?	Photo
Memorial to John Gresty	Yes, as shown	JOHN GRESTY, WARDEN, DIED DECEMBER 1419 1925, THIS TABLET WAS ERECTED BY THE CONGREGATION.
Dedication	Yes, as shown	The Parish was formed in 1911. This Church built on the Site given by Major H. R. SYKES. of Lydham Manor, Salop, was Dedicated by the Bishop of Chester on Nov. 5 ^{TR} 1921. E. Victor Dawson, B.A., T. K. Westerman, M.R.S., Vicar, J. Cresty, Wardens,
Memorial	Yes, as shown	IN LOVING MEMORY OF THOS. K. WESTERMAN, M.P.S. VICAR'S WARDEN 1919 - 1953. DIED SEP! 16th 1955. THIS TABLET WAS ERECTED BY HIS WIFE AND FAMILY.
Stained glass window	Yes "Dedicated to the loving memory of WW Jones who died in his 69 th year 1922. This window is erected by his widow. Whit Sunday 1923"	

Item	Inscription?	Photo
Vicar's board	Yes, as shown	DICARS OF ST. MARKS EDGELEY NOW THOMAS EGERTON BOTH JOHN R. RICHMONID SHE LEONARD GETHEN SHOO ELWARD V. DAWSON SHOOL SHOW THE SHOOL SHOO
Memorial to Robert Beresford Hind	Yes, as shown	ROBERT BERESFORD HIND MILLED IN CALLIPOLI DEC. III 1915. "Into Thy Hands O Lord."
St Mark's Church Roll of Honour Great European War 1914 –1918	No	SCALCIFICATION SOAL OF FINANCE SECURITY SEC

Item	Inscription?	Photo
Stained glass window	Yes "To the glory of God & in ever loving memory of Martha Ann Dawson who entered into rest June 30 th 1924 aged 72 yrs. This window is erected by her sons. Easter 1925"	
Stained glass window	Yes "To the glory of God and in loving memory of Julia Edith Booth who entered into rest March 1 st 1924"	
Small reredos	Yes "The Gift of Mr & Mrs F R Walker, Nov 5th 1932"	Marker R. Warker.

Item	Inscription?	Photo
Stained glass window	Yes "Dedicated to the loving memory of Annie Clayton who died in her 18 th year 1920. This window is dedicated by her parents. Easter 1923"	
Reredos	Yes "The oak work of this reredos is the gift of the Rev E V Dawson in memory of his mother 1927"	Chis do in remandrante et alle

Item	Inscription?	Photo
War Memorial First and Second World Wars	As shown	IN DIS CLEAP IN LIM AND IN SELECTION IN COMMAND IN COMM
Stained glass window	Yes "Dedicated to the loving memory of William Andrews Watts aged 69 years, Joseph Rickets aged 39 years, Sarah Jane Bullivant aged 40 years, Lily Blease aged 17 years, Hannah Josling aged 78 years. This window is erected by their relatives 1923"	
Stained glass window	Yes "In loving memory of Ellen Perry who died Feb 11 th 1951, aged 82 years, also her husband, Ernest Perry, who died June 19 th 1957, aged 85 years"	
Church bell	Unknown	

Item	Inscription?	Photo
Altar	No	VECTORISADE CO
Altar rail	No	
Pulpit	Yes "The Gift of Mr & Mrs F R Walker, Easter 1925"	
		VIP. TROPE WALLER

Item	Inscription?	Photo
Eagle lectern	No	
Prayer table (1)	Yes "In memory John Thomas Hill People's Warden 1929 to 1949 A Good and Faithful Servant"	
		JOHN WEMORY OF JOHN WHOMAS HILL PEOPLES WARDEN 1929 TO 1946 AGOOD AND FAMILIFUL SERVANT.
Font	No	

Item	Inscription?	Photo
Font plinth	Yes "In memoriam MMM 1927"	
		DIMEMORIAN PARIAL 1927
Mother's Union banner	No	ST MATERS
Sunday School banner	No	SHOAY SCHOOL BY MARKS STOCKFORT

Item	Inscription?	Photo
Organ (not in working order)	No	
Silver jug	Yes "In Memoriam M Edwards 1938"	
Silver patterns	One is engraved, "Easter 1923"	ESSTER 1925
	One is engraved, "The gift of Miss N Pownall 1916"	

Item	Inscription?	Photo
Silver chalice	Yes "In Memoriam ME Hill June 1 st 1914"	MINIMORIAIS ME. HILL NO. 15T 1914
Large brass altar cross	Yes "To the glory of God and in affectionate and loving memory of Mr and Mrs Walter Wheelton. This cross was given by their daughter and son-in-law Mr and Mrs J Dranfield March 1952"	PO THE GLORY OF 1800 AND THE WILLIAM BY WARREN AND SOMEWING ME AND SOMEWING MESSAGE OF THE AND MARCH 1952.
Brass baptism jug	Yes "In Memory of Jeanie Walker 1997"	
		In memory of Jeanie Weaver
Brass plate (large)	Yes "St Mark's Church The Emily Richmond Memorial"	

St Mark's Banner Group

Over the years, a dedicated group of ladies created a number of stunning banners for St Mark's Church. These banners have moved with us to St Matthew's Church where they are regularly displayed.

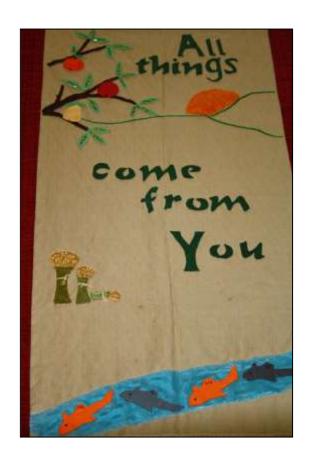
Here are photographs of just a few of these banners:







Memories of St Mark's







St Mark's in the local press

This article appeared in a local paper some years ago, unfortunately we do not have a record of the date or the newspaper it appeared in. If you have these details, please send them to us at:

info@edgeleyandcheadleheath.org.uk.

