

Records of Newbury Bartholomew Street Primitive Methodist Church,
1841-1983.

(32 vols, 29 bdls, 6 docs)

Deposited in July 1974 (acc. 1944 part); December 1977 (acc. 2271 part);
March 1979 (acc. 2369 part); October 1981 (acc. 2938 part); June 1988
(acc. 4238 part); March 1992 (acc. 4975 part); July 1995 (acc. 5652 part);
July 2007 (acc. 8072)

Cat : RH 10/1996; LS 4/2002; 10/2004; 8/2007

Introduction

This society dates back to the early 1830s when the adherents of Primitive Methodism first reached Berkshire. After the early open-air meetings and services held in local cottages and rented premises, the society bought Union Chapel in Union Court off Bartholomew Street in 1837, and moved into their newly-built Gothic church in 1877. The construction of this building, however, proved to be unsound. The roof was a constant source of trouble, and the church was declared unfit for use after the front gable collapsed in the early 1940s. Repairs were undertaken, but signs of movement detected in 1959 once again caused the church to be declared unsafe, and the hall to the rear was adapted and furnished for services to continue there. The church itself was demolished in 1962.

Attempts during the next ten years to find a new site on which to rebuild were in vain. There were also proposals to join up with other south Newbury societies in a new church. The need to sell the "Bart. St." site to finance a new building led eventually to an amalgamation with Stroud Green, begun in 1967 with the merger of the two Sunday Schools and then both societies' funds and membership. Morning services were held at Bart. St. and evening worship at Stroud Green, until finally the Bart. St. site was sold in 1971.

Bartholomew Street was the headquarters of the Newbury Primitive Methodist circuit until Methodist Union in 1937 (see D/MC 8, although few records survive). From 1937, it became part of the combined Newbury circuit (D/MC 9).

(See also D/EX 435/2 relating to Union Chapel; and Q/SO 14 p17 and Q/SO 15 p98 and p296 for registrations of religious meeting houses in Newbury. Apart from D/MS 2/8/1 below, no records survived at the church for the period up to 1877. Although Union Chapel had a burial ground, no burial records have been identified; see, however, MF 597 for burials of Newbury dissenters to 1837).

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NEWBURY BARTHOLOMEW STREET PRIMITIVE
METHODIST CHURCH RECORDS

D/MS 2

Schedule of accessions

Acc. 1944 (part) : 1A/3; 2A/4; 7C/1; 8/2; 8/6/10; 8/23

Acc. 2271 (part) : 5B/1-3

Acc. 2369 (part) : 2A/5; 2B/3,5; 8/1, 3-5; 8/6/1-9, 11-12; 8/7-22

Acc. 2938 (part) : 3D/1; 7A/2-5; 7B/1-7; 7C/2

Acc. 4238 (part) : 1A/1,2,4; 1B/1-2; 2A/1-3; 2B/1,2,4; 3A/1; 3D/2-4;
4B/1; 7A/1

Acc. 4975 (part) : 1A/5; 1D/1; 3C/1-2

Acc. 5652 (part) : 7A/6

Acc. 8072 : 8/24

Summary

Society administration

Trustees' meeting minutes, 1921-1974; trust accounts, 1944-1945; leaders' meeting, annual society meeting, and occasional committee minutes, 1921-1971; collection records, 1892-1968; Poor fund accounts, 1902-1971.

Society organisations

Women's Own minutes, 1951-1971; Band of Hope attendance register, 1902-1921; Young People's Guild minutes and other papers, 1925-1940, with Youth Committee minutes, 1944-1946; Girls' Life Brigade log, 1930-1934; Autumn Bazaar and Christmas Fayre minutes and other papers, 1966-1972.

Service of the church

Order of civic service, 1940.

Registration

Marriage registers, 1931-1966.

Sunday School

Anniversary programmes and leaflets, 1883-1887; teachers' meeting minutes, 1933-1967, with financial statements and reports, 1954-1967; accounts, 1953-1968; registers and related papers, 1951-1967.

Printed material/Miscellaneous

Primitive Methodist Magazine, 1841; jubilee handbook, 1927, and annual synod handbook, 1928; "Bart. St." news sheets, 1944-1971 (incorporated in the *Methodist Newsletter* 1963-1969); article written at time of church's closure, 1971; photocopies of documents relating to the history of the church, n.d.

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Records in other collections

Baptism register, 1831-1869	D/MC 8/7A/1	MF 10377
Baptism register, 1852-1880	D/MC 8/7A/2	MF 10378
Baptism register, 1877-1920	D/MC 8/7A/3	MF 10379
Baptism register, 1917-1957	D/MC 8/7A/4	MF 10380
Baptism register, 1952-1977	D/MC 9/7A/2	MF 10382

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NEWBURY BARTHOLOMEW STREET PRIMITIVE
METHODIST CHURCH RECORDS

D/MS 2

1	<u>Trustees</u>		
1A	<u>Trustees' meeting minutes</u>		
1A/1	Trustees' and leaders' meeting minutes, 1921-1923; trustees' meeting minutes, 1923-1933 (including more general business in addition to trust matters); with list of trustees, 1921, and new acting trustees, 1926.	1 vol	1921-1933
1A/2	Trustees' meeting minutes, 1933-1949, including annual statements of trust accounts, 1938, 1942 and 1943; with list of new trustees, 1935.	1 vol	1933-1949
1A/3	Trustees' meeting minutes, 1949-1966, including formation of new trust, 1966.	1 vol	1949-1966
1A/4	Trustees' meeting minutes, 1966-1972, including minutes of joint meetings with Stroud Green trustees, 1968 and 1970-1972 (the later meetings being held at Stroud Green).	1 vol	1966-1972
1A/5/1-19	Minutes of trustees' meetings, 1973-1974, with Newbury Commission report on the future of the Methodist churches of Newbury.	1 bdl	1973-1974
1B	<u>Accounts</u>		
1B/1/1-2	Annual statements of trust accounts, 1944 and 1945. [See also D/MS 2/1A/2 above, in which these were formerly loose.]	1 bdl	1944-1945
1D	<u>Correspondence</u>		
1D/1	Copy letter offering the pulpit and communion rail from Bartholomew Street Church to the trustees of Thatcham Methodist Church (D/MS 73).	1 doc	1973

2	<u>Leaders and society stewards/Church Council</u>		
2A	<u>Leaders' meeting/Church Council minutes</u>		
	[For minutes 1921-1929, <i>see</i> D/MS 2/1A/1.]		
2A/1	Leaders' meeting minutes, 1929-1938, with minutes of Circuit Committee, 1929, Men's Meeting, 1930, and Ladies', Men's and Guild Committees joint meetings, 1933-1934.	1 vol	1929-1938
2A/2	Leaders' meeting minutes, 1938-1949, including quarterly financial statements, 1942-1949, with minutes of Emergency Committee, 1939, church and annual society meetings, 1945-1946, and Church Renovation Committee, 1945; including also annual financial statement of society and trust accounts, 1945, and newscutting on the temporary closure of the church (unsafe), 1946; also, at front, manse accounts (Chesterfield Road), 1934-1941, and circuit accounts, 1935-1937.	1 vol	1938-1949
2A/3	Leaders' meeting minutes, 1950-1964, with minutes of annual society meetings, 1952-1964, and occasional special society meetings.	1 vol	1950-1964
2A/4	Leaders' meeting and annual society meeting minutes, 1964-1970, including occasional special society meetings, one held jointly with Stroud Green, 1965.	1 vol	1964-1970
2A/5	Leaders' meeting and annual society meeting minutes, 1970-1973 [known as Stroud Green from 1971], including special society meetings, and joint meetings with Northbrook Street and Wash Common.	1 vol	1970-1973

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D/MS 2

2	<u>Leaders and society stewards</u>		
2B	<u>Accounts</u>		
2B/1	Collections record.	1 vol	1892-1925
2B/2	Collections record, with class money receipts and occasional items of expenditure.	1 vol	1934-1940
2B/3	Collections record, with class money receipts and occasional items of expenditure, 1940-1946; also (at front) circuit daffodil bazaar accounts (held at Wesley Hall, Northbrook Street), 1939.	1 vol	1939-1946
2B/4	Collections record, with class money receipts and expenditure (more detailed from 1951).	1 vol	1946-1968
2B/5	Benevolent or Poor Fund accounts (initially accounts for Sister Hannah Brandon, 1902-1904). (From 1971, Stroud Green Accounts.)	1 vol	1902-1974

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	3	<u>Society organisations</u>		
	3A	<u>Women's groups</u>		
	3A/1	Women's Own meeting minutes, Bartholomew Street, 1951-1971, united with Northbrook Street, 1971-1972, and Stroud Green, 1973-1983.	1 vol	1951-1983 Closed until 2014
	3C	<u>Joint fellowship</u>		
	3C1	Autumn Bazaar and Christmas Fayre committee minutes, 1967-1972, with accounts, 1972.	1 vol	1967-1972
	3C/2/1-6	Autumn Bazaar and Christmas Fayre programmes and notices, 1966, 1967, 1970 and 1972. [Formerly in D/MS 2/3C/1 above.]	1 bdl	1966-1972
	3D	<u>Youth groups</u>		
MF 94500	3D/1	Band of Hope attendance register and subscriptions, 1902-1913 and 1921.	1 vol	1902-1921
	3D/2	Young people's Guild minutes, 1925-1940 (amalgamated with Northbrook Street, 1939-1940), including syllabuses and concert and drama programmes; Youth Committee minutes, 1944-1946.	1 vol	1925-1946
	3D/3/1-2	Member's card and syllabus, and annual report and financial statement, 1939. [Formerly loose in D/MS 2/3D/2 above.]	1 bdl	1939
	3D/4	Girls' Life Brigade minutes and log.	1 vol	1930-1934

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D/MS 2

4 **Service of the church**

4B Orders of service

4B/1 Civic service held at Bartholomew Street, 7 1 doc 1940
 January 1940.

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D/MS 2

5 **Registration**

[For registers of baptism for churches in the former Newbury Primitive Methodist circuit, including Newbury Bartholomew Street, 1831-1977, *see* D/MC 8/7A/1-4 and D/MC 9/7A/2].

5B **Marriage**

MF 94501	5B/1	Register of marriages no 1, December 1931 – December 1935.	1 vol	1931-1935
MF 94501	5B/2	Register of marriages no 2, January 1936 - April 1952.	1 vol	1936-1952
MF 94501	5B/3	Register of marriages no 3, April 1952 - July 1966 [register closed July 1971].	1 vol	1952-1966

[No burial records are known.]

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NEWBURY BARTHOLOMEW STREET PRIMITIVE
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D/MS 2

7	<u>Sunday School and Institute</u>		
	[Founded in 1837, amalgamated with Stroud Green 1967].		
7A	<u>Sunday School minutes and accounts</u>		
7A/1	Teachers' meeting minutes, 1933-1957, including financial statements, 1954-1956.	1 vol	1933-1957
7A/2	Teachers' meeting minutes, including financial statements.	1 vol	1957-1967
7A/3/1-5	Reports, 1955, 1966, and minutes and agenda, March 1960 [formerly loose in D/MS 2/7A/1-2 above].	1 bdl	1955-1966
7A/4	Sick Fund accounts.	1 vol	1953-1961
7A/5	Collections and outings accounts.	1 vol	1965-1968
7A/6	Accounts (receipts and payments), September 1956-February 1967.	1 vol	1956-1967
7B	<u>Sunday School registers and cradle rolls</u>		
7B/1	Admission register and record, 1955-1966, with certain admissions back to 1951; indexed up to 1961 [see D/MS 2/7B/2].	1 vol	1951-1966
7B/2	Admission register and record, 1966 - [?1967] with admissions and index back to 1961.	1 vol	1961-[?1967]
7B/3/1-4	Lists of Bartholomew Street and Stroud Green scholars (for new register), with covering letter [at amalgamation?]	1 bdl	n.d.[1967?]
7B/4	Attendance register (scholars).	1 vol	1957-1963
7B/5	Attendance summaries (teachers and scholars) and annual review.	1 vol	1957-1962
7B/6	Attendance summaries (teachers and scholars), 1962-1967, and annual review, 1963 only.	1 vol	1962-1967
7B/7/1-23	Lists of scholars, by class, 1958-1960, including cradle rolls, 1958-1959.	1 bdl	1958-1960

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NEWBURY BARTHOLOMEW STREET PRIMITIVE
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D/MS 2

- 7 **Sunday School and Institute** (cont.)
- 7C Other Sunday School records
- 7C/1 Printed anniversary service hymn-sheets, 1883 1 bdl 1883-1887
 and 1884, jubilee celebration hymn-sheet, 1887,
 and leaflet announcing 1887 jubilee effort to
 reduce outstanding debts on church and
 schoolrooms (built 1877).
- 7C/2/1-12 Correspondence from Reading and District 1 bdl 1972
 Sunday School Union relating to the annual
 scripture examination.

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8	<u>Printed material/Miscellaneous</u>		
8/1	<i>The Primitive Methodist Magazine</i> , 5 May 1841, containing an account by Henry Sharman of the original chapel's third anniversary services and the gift of £225 towards a new minister's house by Thomas Baker, Esq, of Reading.	1 doc	1841
8/2	Jubilee [of second chapel] souvenir handbook, with historical notes 1877-1927 and photographs.	1 doc	1927
8/3	Brinkworth and Swindon District annual synod handbook (the synod was held at Bartholomew Street church) with local information and photographs.	1 doc	1928
8/4/1-9	"Bart Street" news sheets [1st series] 2nd edition - 11 th edition [lacking 1st, 10th (and 12th?) editions].	1 bdl	1944-1945
8/5/1-11	"Bart Street" news sheets, 2nd series, editions 1-11.	1 bdl	1945-1946
8/6/1-12	"Bart Street" news sheets, 3rd series, editions 1-12.	1 bdl	1946-1947
8/7/1-17	"Bart Street" news sheets, 4th series, editions 1, 2, 7, 8, 11; 5th series, editions 1-4; 6th series, editions 4-12.	1 bdl	1947-1950
8/8/1-12	"Bart Street" news sheets, 7th series, nos 1-12.	1 bdl	1950-1951
8/9/1-12	"Bart Street" news sheets, 8th series, nos 1-12.	1 bdl	1951-1952
8/10/1-11	"Bart Street" news sheets, 9th series, nos 1-12 [nos 8/9 combined].	1 bdl	1952-1953
8/11/1-12	"Bart Street" news sheets, 10th series, nos 1-12.	1 bdl	1953-1954
8/12/1-11	"Bart Street" news sheets, 11th series, nos 1-12 [nos 8/9 combined].	1 bdl	1954-1955
8/13/1-11	"Bart Street" news sheets, 12th series, nos 1-12 [nos 8/9/ combined].	1 bdl	1955-1956
8/14/1-11	News sheets, vol 13 no 1 and vol 12 [sic] nos 2-11. [The numbering of volumes slipped back to 12, an error perpetuated thereafter.]	1 bdl	1956-1957
8/15/1-11	News sheets, vol 13 nos 1-11.	1 bdl	1958

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8	<u>Printed material/Miscellaneous</u>		
8/16/1-11	News sheets, vol 14 nos 1-11.	1 bdl	1959
8/17/1-11	News sheets, vol 15 nos 1-11.	1 bdl	1960
8/18/1-10	News sheets, vol 16 nos 1-11 [lacking no 2].	1 bdl	1961
8/19/1-14	News sheets, vol 17 nos 1-11 and vol 18 nos 1-3.	1 bdl	1962-1963
8/20/1-75	News sheets, vol 18 nos 4-11, vol 19 nos 1-11 [lacking no 2], vol 20 nos 1-11 [lacking no 8], and vol 21 nos 1-8 [reverting in error to "vol 20" at no 4], all incorporated into the Methodist Newsletter.	1 bdl	1963-1966
8/21/1-52	News sheets, new series nos 11, 15-34, 36-37, and 39, Bartholomew Street and Stroud Green combined, incorporated into the Methodist Newsletter.	1 bdl	1967-1969
8/22/1-36	Newsletters, new series continued, nos 40-56 to May 1971, Bartholomew Street and Stroud Green combined [the Methodist Newsletter having ceased publication].	1 bdl	1970-1971
	[For newsletters from June 1971, <i>see</i> Stroud Green (D/MS 15).]		
8/23	Leaflet reprinted from an article in the <i>Newbury Weekly News</i> , 28 January 1971, on the history of the church demolished in 1962 and subsequent events until closure.	1 doc	1971
8/24/1-10	Photocopies of documents relating to the history of the church, 1877-1968. (Includes photocopies of leaflet soliciting subscriptions towards the cost of building the church, with subscription list, and sale particulars of old chapel, 1877; Ordnance Survey map showing the church site, 1880; memorial plaque to the fundraising efforts of the Newbury Carollers, 1877-1898; photograph of the Carollers, n.d. [19C]; photograph of ladies seated in front of a patchwork quilt [made at the church and now held at West Berkshire Museum], n.d. [19C]; programme for <i>At Golgotha</i> , a religious play performed on Good Friday, 16 April [1954]; and press cutting obituary of Charles George Griffin, the church organist.)	1 bdl	n.d. [20C]

APPENDIX I

Concordance

Documents from accessions 1944, 2271, 2369 and 2938 (parts) were formerly referenced under D/N 4/1 and 4/4 and D/N 7 as follows :

<u>Old reference</u>	<u>New reference</u>
D/N 4/1/22	D/MS 2/8/19 (part), 20, 21
D/N 4/4/1	D/MS 2/1A/3
D/N 4/4/2	D/MS 2/2A/4
D/N 4/4/3	D/MS 2/2/A/5
D/N 4/4/4	D/MS 2/7A2/
D/N 4/4/5	D/MS 2/7C/1
D/N 4/4/6	D/MS 2/3D/1
D/N 4/4/7	D/MS 2/8/2
D/N 4/4/8	D/MS 2/8/6/10
D/N 4/4/9	D/MS 2/7A/4
D/N 4/4/10	D/MS 2/7B/1
D/N 4/4/11	D/MS 2/7B/2-3
D/N 4/4/12	D/MS 2/7B/5
D/N 4/4/13	D/MS 2/7B/4
D/N 4/4/14	D/MS 2/7B/7
D/N 4/4/15	D/MS 2/7B/6
D/N 4/4/16	D/MS 2/7A/5
D/N 4/4/17	D/MS 2/7C/2
D/N 4/4/18	D/MS 2/8/23
D/N 4/4/19	D/MS 2/2B/5
D/N 4/4/20	D/MS 2/2B/3
D/N 4/4/21	D/MS 2/8/1

APPENDIX I (cont.)

Concordance (cont.)

<u>Old reference</u>	<u>New reference</u>
D/N 4/4/22	D/MS 2/8/3
D/N 4/4/23/1	D/MS 2/8/4-19
D/N 4/4/23/2	D/MS 2/8/22
D/N 7/5/1	D/MS 2/5B/1
D/N 7/5/2	D/MS 2/5B/2
D/N 7/5/3	D/MS 2/5B/3