

## GLAMORGAN RECORD OFFICE/ARCHIFDY MORGANNWG

**Reference code:** GB 214 DECONG16

**Title:** PONTYPRIDD, ENGLISH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

**Dates** 1901-1969

**Level of description:** Fonds (level 2)

**Extent:** 0.012 cubic metres

**Name of creator(s)** English Congregational Church, in Bonvilston Road, and the Mission Church, Pontypridd

### **Administrative/Biographical history**

The church began with a meeting of volunteers requested by the Revd W I Morris of Sardis Welsh Congregational church in 1880 in order to answer the requirements of English speakers. This led to the construction of an English church on Gelliwastad Field in 1881, but the Coedpenmaen area was still in need of provision and the District Congregational Council 1895 encouraged the English church to acquire land on lease from the Bassett estate in Bonvilston Rd in 1896 where a building, later described as the Mission Hall, was functioning mainly as a Sunday School. Services were added in 1898 and a Resident Missioners provided by the Congregational church in 1900. The Bonvilston Rd church formed itself as a separate church in 1920 with the initial support of the Gelliwastad church and appointed its own minister the Revd A C Gravelle in 1922 but the church struggled to survive during the Depression 1926-34. The problem was partly resolved by sharing pastorate with New Road Congregational church, Ynysbwl, from 1942 and benefited from the activity of the Revd D Brinley Richards 1945-47 but the church lacked a minister after his departure until 1969 and had to depend upon lay preachers and 'service' ministers. Falling congregation numbers led to a decision by the church meeting in March 1969 to close the church. Members transferred to the newly-formed Pontypridd United Church.

### **Scope and content**

Records relate almost entirely to committee administrative records formerly held by the church Secretary

### **Appraisal, destruction and scheduling information**

All records offered have been accepted and listed. Records were previously coded as D/D Xrw 1-52

### **Conditions governing access**

Open access

### **Conditions governing reproduction**

Normal Glamorgan Record Office conditions apply.

**Language/Scripts of material**

English

**Physical characteristics and technical requirements**

Good to fair condition

**Finding aids**

Detailed list available.

**Date of description**

Listed February 1970; relisted June 2003

**English Congregational Church, Bonvilston  
Road, Pontypridd.  
Minutes and membership**

DECONG16/1	Members Committee minutes book [1 volume; poor condition]	1906-1926
DECONG16/2	Committee minutes book [1 volume; poor condition]	1916-1928
DECONG16/3	Committee minutes book At end: minutes of Joint Pastorate 1934-43 and attached secretarial epistle by J Penry Thomas, Cardiff, no date [1 volume; fair condition]	1934-1943
DECONG16/4	Committee minutes book [1 volume; fair condition]	1943-1969
DECONG16/5	Deacons and Committee minutes book [1 volume; fair condition]	1943-1968
DECONG16/6	Minutes book of Annual General Meeting, and Annual Sunday School Meeting [1 volume; fair condition]	1956-1969
DECONG16/7	Minutes book of Annual and Ordinary Meetings of [Women's] Bright Hour [1 volume; fair condition]	1954-1969
DECONG16/8	Minutes book of Ladies Guild [1 volume; fair condition]	1952-1969
DECONG16/9	Roll of Membership, recording date of admission 1906-1962 and remarks 1902-1968 Earlier entries recording date of admission appear to have been copied 1946 [1 volume; fair condition]	1902-1968

**Mission Church. Annual reports**

DECONG16/10-26	Annual Reports: twentieth annual report to thirty- sixth annual report, including lists of members, pew rent accounts, missions accounts, savings bank accounts, and general accounts [18 booklets and 1 duplicate (1917); printed; fair condition]	1901-1917
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**Bonvilston Road Church. Annual reports**

DECONG16/27-33	First to Seventh Annual Reports [7 booklets; printed; fair to poor condition]	1920-1926
DECONG16/34	Annual Reports [1 booklet; printed; fair condition]	1927, 1928
DECONG16/35	List of members and balance sheet from annual report [1 file; stencilled typescript; poor condition]	1930 and 1931
DECONG16/36	List of members from annual report [3 papers; poor condition]	1935
DECONG16/37	List of members and balance sheet from annual report [5 papers; poor condition]	1936
DECONG16/38	List of members, accounts and balance sheet from annual report [9 papers; poor condition]	1937
DECONG16/39-41	Annual Reports [3 booklets; printed; poor condition]	1938-1940
DECONG16/42-45	Annual Reports [4 booklets; printed; fair condition]	1942-1945
DECONG16/46	Annual Report [1 booklet; printed]	1946, 1947

**Ordinations**

DECONG16/47a-c	Invitation booklets to Mr J Hembry and Mrs Davies, and reference copy, to ordination of Mr T Gwilym O Thomas (Memorial College, Brecon) [3 booklets; printed; fair to poor condition]	8 and 9 Jul 1942
DECONG16/48	Invitation booklet to attend ordination of Mr D Brinley Richards (Memorial College, Brecon) [1 booklet; printed; fair condition]	26 Jul 1945
DECONG16/49	Gwahoddiad i gyfarfodydd sefydlu y Parch TGO Thomas (Bethel, Gorseinon) mewn Eglwys Annibynol Bethel, Caerffili [Invitation to ordination of Revd TGO Thomas at Bethel Independent Chapel, Caerphilly] [1 booklet; printed; Welsh; good condition]	27 Tach 1947 27 Oct 1947

**PONTYPRIDD, BONVILSTON ROAD: ENGLISH CONGREGATIONAL  
CHURCH and PONTYPRIDD MISSION CHURCH**

**DECONG16**

**General matters**

DECONG16/50	Invitation and programme card of English Congregational church, Bonvilston Road, Silver Jubilee Celebrations (1920-1945), 4-7 February 1945 [1 paper; printed; fair condition]	Feb 1945
DECONG16/51	History of the English Congregational Church, Bonvilston Rd., Pontypridd, by Gladys M Cuff [1 booklet; printed; good condition]	Nov 1969
DECONG16/52	Photograph of Committee members of church including Revd A C Gravelle, pastor, and deacons [1 photograph on card; poor condition]	Oct 1923