

Methodist Chapel

- **'The Methodist Chapel'**
Introduction by Stuart Miller, 2011
- **'Writings belonging to premises', 1831, 1862**
By courtesy of Alex Jennison
- **Conveyance, 1968**
By courtesy of Alex Jennison
- **Haverhill and Disrict Sunday School Union
Visitation Reports, 1950-1959**
By courtesy of Haverhill & District Local History Group
- **Press cuttings**
The newspapers are acknowledged on each cutting

The Methodist Chapel

Nonconformity is first recorded in Horseheath in the late 1500's with three people 'presented' before the Church Court for refusing to attend church in 1582. This continued with further single presentations in 1587, 1591 and 1601. At least 13 Quakers were presented in the 1650's and 1660's for refusing to contribute to Church repairs and burying their dead in private gardens. In 1663 11 people did not attend church and in 1669 meetings attended by 50 or 60 people were held in a private house, although only 8 nonconformists were recorded in 1676. By 1728 there were 20 Independents or Presbyterians and houses were registered for Independent worship in 1742 and 1749.

By 1807 some non-conformists used a barn in Town Street (now West Wickham Road) as a Meeting House and by 1825 the congregation had grown to about 100, including two of the principal farmers. The Meeting House stood on the site of the front building of what is today 'The Old Chapel'. This belonged to Sam Swann of what is now no.2 Springfield Cottages.

On his death in 1831, his executors sold the house and adjacent land to Daniel Fitch but excluded 'The Little Meeting House', which they rented to the 'Trustees of The Cambridgeshire Society'. At this time no.2 was a detached property, as no.4 was not added until the late 1830's.

In 1858, David Cornwell, a grocer in Horseheath and a Trustee of the Meeting House, paid £23.16s.6d for the Chapel, "formerly in the occupation of The Denomination of Independents and which for some time past has been held by the Primitive Methodists at a rental of £2.10s per annum." He further agreed to transfer it to "the authorities of the Saffron Walden circuit of the Primitive Methodist Connexion" following payment in instalments by the trustees - John and Henry Linnett of West Wickham, Labourers; John Himus, Brewer; Louis Roope, Cordwainer (shoemaker); Richard Ely, Labourer; William Linsdale, Labourer; Charles Bowers, Labourer; all of Horseheath.

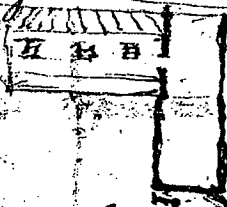
A brick Chapel (the building next to the footpath) was built in the 1860's and by 1897 it was estimated that a quarter of the village attended.

The adjoining stable was converted into a thatched cottage after worshippers complained of the smell. This cottage was called 'By the Way' and in later years was occupied by Mrs. Minnie Parker (nee Stinton), who had been a teacher at Horseheath School for many years. The Cottage was demolished in the 1960's and replaced by a flat roofed extension to the Chapel. However attendance started to decline with the Chapel finally closing about 1990 and the extension was demolished later in the 1990's when the Chapel was extended and made into a dwelling. The brick Chapel now forms part of 'The Old Chapel'.

1831

1831
1831
1831
Executors Sam Swann

Dan² Fitches purchase of
the old House and purchase
of the Outdoor premises except
the little meeting House and right
in a straight line
of entrance to the little Barn.



also Messrs Windus's Bill
respecting Taxes &
conveyance

Executors of Sam Swann

Dan Fitches purchase of
the Old House and purchase
of the Outdoor premises except
the Little Meeting House and right

in a straight line
of entrance to the little Barn
^

Sam Swann Esq
Epping
Essex

Writings belonging to Premises sold
to Mr. Fitch and to Meeting-house
retained.

South

Alexander

Ditch

Barn

West

West

Yard

Late Danl Fitch now Rev. J. C. Percival

Meeting House

30 x 47

Yard

8 Feet

North

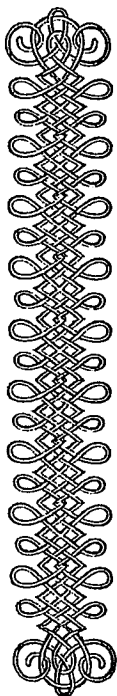
Stable

17 x 17

Late D. Fitch now Rev. J. C. Percival

Town Street

East



COUNTY FIRE OFFICE,

50, REGENT STREET, LONDON.

Policy No. 369044.

Received this 11th day of April 1862, for the
Directors of the above Office, of Mr David Forman
the Sum stated in the margin, being for One Year's Premium on £ 50
Insured in this Office from Lady-day, 1862, to Lady-day, 1863.

Received, at the same time, the Sum stated in the margin, for Duty
on the Insurance for the above period.

Wm R. S. Thurgood Agent.

Premium . . . : 5:

Duty : 1:6

£ . . : 6:6

WHEREAS the Returns to the Insured in this Office, under the First Condition indorsed on the above Policy, have never averaged 25 per cent., and the Capital and Investments of the Office have been and are such as to authorize the variation of the aforesaid Condition to the effect hereinafter contained, and to increase and render certain the Returns to the Insured, and a general Rule or Regulation has been passed for that purpose. Be it remembered that the above Premium has been received, and the said Policy continued on the Terms that the Insured who, on the completion of each successive period of Seven Years' Insurance, shall continue insured in the Office, and who shall not have been Claimants on the Office within that period, are entitled to receive a Return of 25 per cent. upon the actual Amount of Premium paid during such period.

DATED

3rd August

1968.

MRS. M. STINTON

-to-

THE TRUSTEES OF THE HORSEHEATH
METHODIST CHURCH

Conveyance

-of-

a freehold cottage and premises situate
at Horseheath in the County of Cambridge
and lately known as "By the Way".

Bates, Ellison & Morris,
1-4 Lower Downs Slade,
Haverhill,
Suffolk.

This Conveyance

is made the

Third



day of August One thousand nine hundred and sixty eight BETWEEN MABEL STINTON of 2 Springfield Cottages Horseheath in the County of Cambridge Widow (hereinafter called "the Vendor") of the first part THE REVEREND GEORGE WILLIAM SHARMAN of "Fairleigh" 5 Wrattling Road Haverhill in the County of Suffolk (the present Superintendent Minister of the Circuit of the Methodist Church in which the property hereinafter described is situate) of the second part and BETTY STINTON of Chapel View Horseheath aforesaid Spinster DAVID STINTON of Chapel View Horseheath aforesaid Retired CLIVER GEORGE TABRAM of 21 Audley Way Horseheath aforesaid Roadworker FREDERICK BARKER of 7 Audley Way Horseheath aforesaid Farmworker EDITH ALICE TABRAM of 21 Audley Way Horseheath aforesaid Married Woman WILFRED EDWARD NEEDLE of "Eldeen" Horseheath aforesaid Retired ENID MAUD COWDREY of Cardinals Green Horseheath aforesaid Widow FRANCES MARGARET HIRON of 3 Allington Walk Haverhill aforesaid Married Woman JAMES HERBERT BULLER of 2 Jersey Cottages Horseheath aforesaid Farm Worker CHARLES ALBERT JARVIS of Rowley Bank Sturmer in the County of Essex Manufacturing Jeweller and DAVID CHARLES MIZON of 13 Clements Lane Haverhill aforesaid Retired (hereinafter called "the Trustees") of the third part.

WHEREAS the Vendor is seised of the property hereinafter described for an unincumbered estate in fee simple in possession.

AND WHEREAS the Trustees who are the present trustees of the church lands situate at Horseheath aforesaid belonging to the Methodist Church are desirous of purchasing the said property to be held as part of the said church lands and accordingly to be settled upon the trusts and in manner hereinafter mentioned being the trusts which are applicable to the said church lands and have for that purpose agreed with the Vendor for the absolute purchase of the said property for the sum of Three hundred pounds.

AND WHEREAS by a Deed (known as the Model Deed of the Methodist Church) dated the Fifteenth day of December One thousand nine hundred and thirty two and made between The King's Most Excellent Majesty of the first part The Commissioners of Crown Lands on behalf of His Majesty of the second part and James William Oliver Sheat and twenty-three others of the third part and recorded in the books of the Charity Commissioners for England and Wales on the Thirtieth day of January One thousand nine hundred and thirty three a parcel of land with the appurtenances situate on the East side of Oaks Lane Hainault in the said County of Essex was settled for use of the Methodist Church.

NOW THIS DEED WITNESSETH that in pursuance of the said agreement and in consideration of the sum of Three hundred pounds now paid to the Vendor by the Trustees (the receipt whereof the Vendor hereby acknowledges) the Vendor as BENEFICIAL OWNER (with the approbation of the said George William Sharman as such Superintendent Minister as aforesaid testified by his executing this Deed) doth hereby convey unto the Trustees ALL THAT freehold cottage with the outbuildings garden and appurtenances thereto belonging situate

at Horseheath aforesaid adjoining the Methodist Church there and lately known as "By the Way"
ALL WHICH said premises are for the purpose of identification only more particularly
delineated on the plan hereto annexed and thereon edged red TOGETHER WITH FULL RIGHT AND
LIBERTY for the Trustees and their successors in title and all persons authorised by them
(in common with the Vendor and the persons deriving title under her and all persons
authorised by her or them) from time to time and at all times hereafter and for all
purposes connected with the use and occupation of the property hereby conveyed and also the
said adjoining Church to pass and repass with or without motor cars and other vehicles over
and along the piece of land coloured brown on the said plan but subject to the liability
of the Trustees and the persons deriving title under them to pay a rateable proportion
according to user of the expense of keeping the same in good and sufficient repair TO HOLD
the same unto the Trustees in fee simple BUT NEVERTHELESS upon such trusts and to and for such
ends intents and purposes and with under and subject to such powers provisions declarations
and agreements (in such manner as if the same were herein repeated but made applicable
to the said property hereinbefore conveyed) as are expressed declared and contained or
referred to in and by the said Model Deed AND the Vendor hereby acknowledges the right of the
Trustees to production of the documents specified in the Schedule hereto and to delivery
of copies thereof and hereby undertakes for the safe custody thereof AND THE PARTIES HERETO
certify that the transaction hereby effected does not form part of a larger transaction or
series of transactions in respect of which the amount or value or the aggregate amount or
value of the consideration exceeds Five thousand five hundred pounds _____

IN WITNESS whereof the parties hereto have hereunto set their hands and seals the
day and year first before written _____

THE SCHEDULE before referred to

7th November 1888

CONVEYANCE of this date made between The London
and County Banking Company Limited of the first
part and Allen Kettle of the second part and Isaac
Ling of the third part _____

4th September 1930

CONVEYANCE of this date made between Bertie Allen
Kettle and Oliver Kettle of the first part the
Vendor of the second part and Frederick John Kettle
John Kettle and Eva Pearson of the third part _____

SIGNED SEALED AND DELIVERED by the said }
MABEL STINTON in the presence of : }

[Signature]

SOLICITOR
HAVERHILL

SUFFOLK

SIGNED SEALED AND DELIVERED by the said }
THE REVEREND GEORGE WILLIAM SHARMAN in }
the presence of : }

[Signature]

Haverhill, Suffolk.
Solicitor.

SIGNED SEALED AND DELIVERED by the said }
BETTY STINTON in the presence of : - }

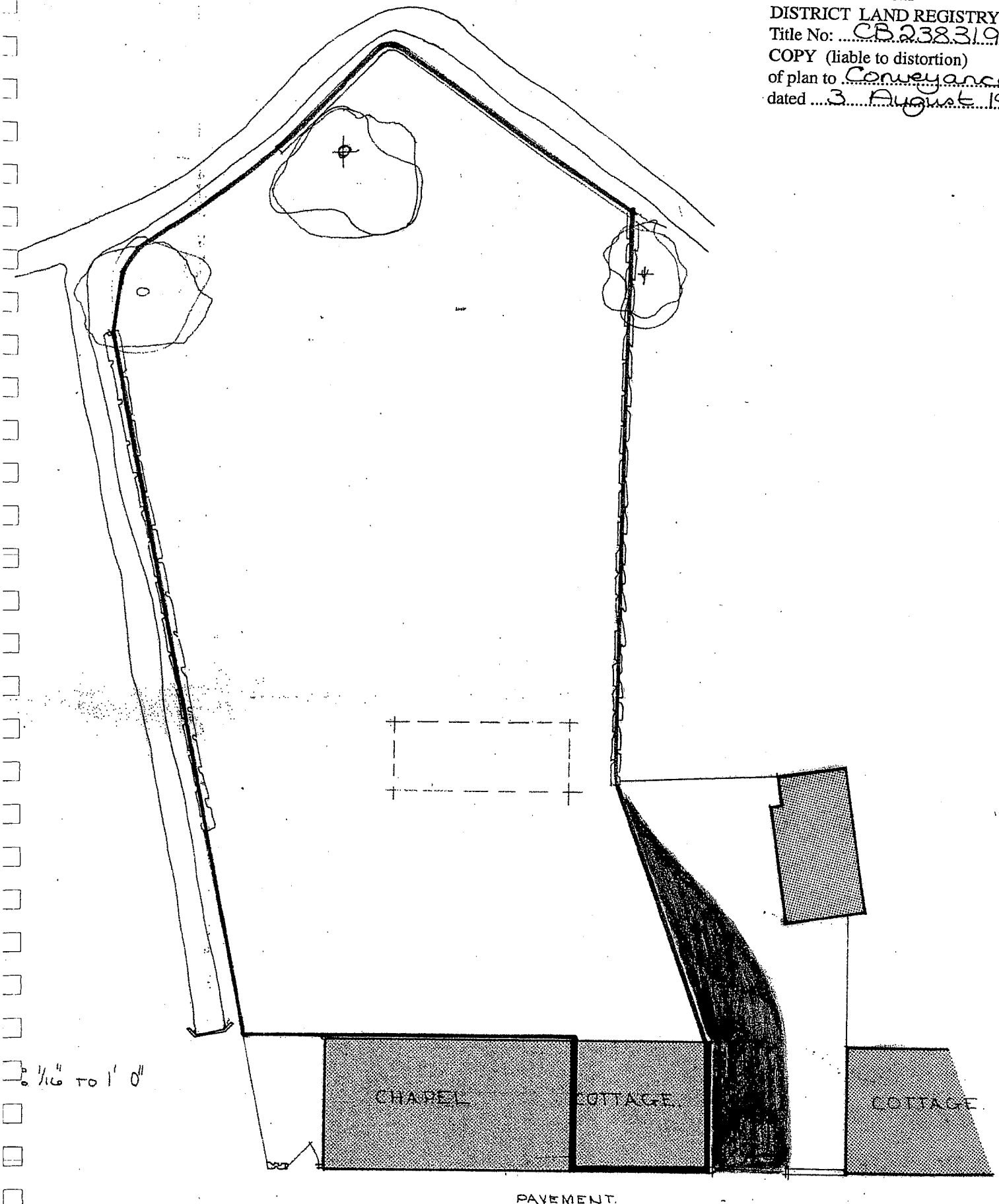
J.R. Elliott.
24 ST. JAMES COURT,
HAVERHILL, SUFFOLK.

Mabel Stinton

G. B. Sharmar

B Stinton

H
OFFICE COPY issued by
PETERBOROUGH
DISTRICT LAND REGISTRY
Title No: CB 238319
COPY (liable to distortion)
of plan to Conveyance
dated 3 August 196
(Re



METHODIST CHAPEL HORSEHEAT

HAVERHILL DISTRICT SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION
VISITATION REPORT

28751

School Kings Heath

Visitor Grace Gurney

Time of Opening 2.15 pm

Date June 1950

Supt. Mr & Tabram

This School continues its good influence
for a good group of children - boys & girls -

Interesting lessons are given by the
Tabram family preceding the afternoon service
the scholars stay on to the first part of this.

Mr Tabram leads the opening school & takes
the senior class. Mr Tabram the younger &
their daughter is pianist for school & church.

May Gods blessing rest upon this
family & the work which they are doing

Punctuality & state of attendance excellent.

Grace Gurney

This Report should contain comments upon Punctuality, State of Register, General Management
and Conduct of the School.

Secretary's Remarks:—

HAVERHILL DISTRICT SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION
VISITATION REPORT

School Roseheath

Visitor Mr H. L. Litch

Time of Opening 2.15 p.m.

Date Sept 7th 1952

Supt Mr E. Galum

It was a pleasure to visit this school on Sept 7th.
I received the impression that good work is being done under somewhat difficult circumstances. The principal difficulty being inadequate premises. There is no schoolroom; the lesson being held in the little church.

It was unfortunate that I chose an extremely wet afternoon. in consequence the number of schoolers was considerably reduced. There were about 40 schoolers on the register, of which 22 were present. At lunch at the register I found that general attendance is good. I stayed for the Service after school and was glad to see that all the school stayed for the first part of the Service.

Regarding the conduct of the school. The schoolers were well behaved and reverent and the teachers presented the lesson in an interesting and able manner.

There is only one criticism. The Session is too short. The Service follows at 4.45. This is very difficult to remedy. The only answer is to change to a morning Session. Does not seem whether this is practicable or not.

Roseheath School is doing a good work in teaching the children in Christian discipline. May the teachers receive every encouragement.

Secretary's Remarks: —

HAVERHILL DISTRICT SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION.
VISITATION REPORT

School Horseheath

Visitor W. B. Suchling

Time of Opening 2-15 PM.

Date Sept 5 - 1904

Dear Sept.

This was my first visit to your school and I thoroughly enjoyed the time spent with you on that lovely Sunday afternoon. All were punctual & the singing & behaviour were excellent & as a visitor I could tell that this was not just put on especially for me but that the school was a really well conducted school year in & year out.

There is a very happy fellowship between the teachers & scholars and I was quite certain that here in your school scholars were being won for Christ.

Almost thirty scholars were present and it is good to know that this work is being carried on faithfully Sunday by Sunday.

Yours sincerely
W. B. Suchling

Secretary's Remarks: —

HAVERHILL DISTRICT SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION

VISITATION REPORT

School Horseheath

Visitor E. L. Hurrell RST 1

Time of Opening 2.15 p.m.

Date 10th July 1955.

Supt Mr E Tabrum. It was a pleasure to visit Horseheath Sunday School for the 1st time. The school has about 30 scholars, with age group 10 years and over in majority all being present except 2 on holidays. Scholars + teachers were there 15 minutes before school was due to commence. Some walking $\frac{3}{4}$ mile. The school meets in chapel, as there is no school room, and after 2 Hymns and responsive Service, divide up into classes for the lesson. Scholars all stay for part of the afternoon service, leaving just before the sermon. Hymns are sung brightly with Miss Tabrum at the Organ. Scholars took part in the Scripture Exam, and gained several Certificates. I felt that Mrs & Miss Tabrum and friends were doing a good job of work.

Secretary's Remarks: — in the Village

E. L. Hurrell

HAVERHILL DISTRICT SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION

VISITATION REPORT

School Horseheath Visitor E. R. Willis
 Time of Opening 2:15 p.m. Date 18 Oct. 1959

Rept. Mr. C. Tabrum

The School at Horseheath meets for about thirty minutes previous to the afternoon service. Unfortunately the school is without an organist. Numerically there are fewer children at present on the roll several older scholars having left some months ago.

After hymns and prayer and an opportunity for the Union's greetings from the visitor, children formed two groups or classes led by Mr. Tabrum (seniors) and Mrs. Tabrum (younger ones). The school owes much to these two loyal friends and the interest of the scholars is commendable. The lesson period led on to the service and it is pleasing to note that the scholars usually stay to the first part.

All good wishes.

Secretary's Remarks: —

V. Horseheath
brog indopz

Cambs. Independent Press

Death of much loved circuit preacher

21.0.23.11.1971
The village of Horseheath and the Haverhill Methodist Circuit lost one of its well known and much liked members and local preachers by the death of Mr. Oliver George Tabram at his home 21 Audley Way.

It was only two weeks previously that 150 members of the Methodist Circuit gathered at Haverhill to celebrate and give thanks for Mr. Tabram's completion of 50 years as a local preacher.

Mr. Tabram was born in Horseheath, one of a family of seven. After leaving school he went to do farm work at The Green. After his marriage in 1925 he went with Mrs. Tabram to London, and took a position of chauffeur-gardener for two business families running consecutively until 1936, when they returned to Horseheath.

After a few more years as a farm worker Mr. Tabram changed to roadwork for the Cambridgeshire County Council and remained in that job until retiring in 1967.

He met the young lady he was later to marry for the first time at a service at West Wickham Methodist Chapel, and since that time both have worked with great energy and much faith in the Haverhill Methodist Circuit.

Mr. Tabram had been superintendent of the Horseheath Sunday School for many years and society steward for even longer. He was a man of compassion, and immensely kind, always helping people whenever he could. His cheerful manner and good sense of humour made him a very inter-

esting man to listen to and converse with.

The funeral service took place in the parish church, instead of the Methodist Chapel because of its very limited seating, on Wednesday. The priest in charge, the Rev. Cartwright and the Rev. G. W. Sharman conducted the service, with the address being given by the Rev. Sharman. Interment followed in the churchyard.

The family mourners were: Mrs. O. G. Tabram (widow), Mr. and Mrs. R. Tabram (son and daughter-in-law), Miss Gladys Tabram and Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Hiron (son-in-law and daughters), Robin, Petra, Oliver and Karl (grandchildren), Mr. and Mrs. L. Tabram and Mr. and Mrs. J. Tabram (brothers and sister-in-law), Mrs. L. Boreham (rep. Mr. Boreham), Mrs. J. Kettle (rep. Mr. Kettle), Mrs. E. Chapman (rep. Mr. Chapman, sisters), Mrs. A. Martin (sister-in-law), Mr. and Mrs. J. Snelling and Mr. D. Tabram (nephews and nieces).

A large gathering of friends from all walks of life were present, almost completely filling the church. There were a large number of floral tributes from the family, friends, acquaintances and the Methodist Church. The funeral arrangements were by H. J. Paintin Ltd., of Linton and Haverhill.



Horseheath scripture prizewinners, back row, from left: Samantha Knowles, Victoria Greenaway, Pauline Newman, Gillian Blackmore, and Catherine Howe; front row: Russel Ellicott, Jonathan Knowles, Jonathan Suggett, Martin Knowles and Simon Wilton.

SCRIPTURE AWARDS

ELEVEN children from Horseheath Methodist Sunday School have gained honours certificates in the recently held scripture examination organised locally by Haverhill District Sunday School Union.

The children and marks are Junior A (oral): Simon

Wilton 98; Junior A (written): Russel Ellicott 100; Jonathan Suggett 89; Martin Knowles 86; Junior B: Trina Morley 93; Pauline Newman 93; Victoria Greenaway 92; Jonathan Knowles 95; Senior A: Samantha Knowles 87; Senior B: Gillian Blackmore 97; young people: Catherine

The children were presented with their certificates by Mr R. J. Cook, president of Haverhill District Sunday School Union. Mr Cook also led the Sunday School anniversary service during which readings, recitations, songs, music and a short play were given by the scholars.

about 1976