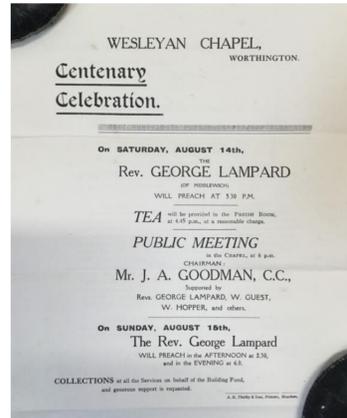


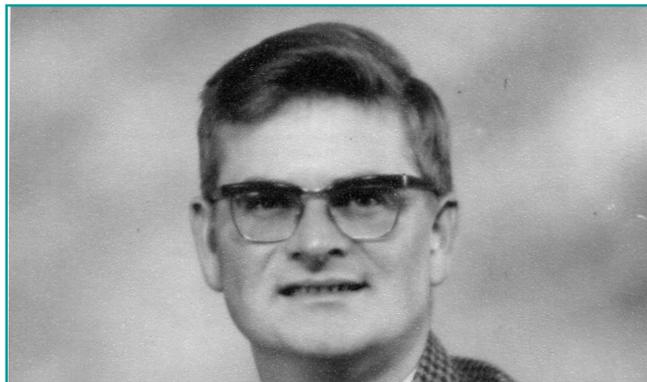
# Hello Heritage...

## Worthington Chapel, as remembered by the Wardle Family



Writing in 1920 for the Chapel's centenary, John Wardle Jr. said that the Chapel was built by the Primitive Methodists, but soon bought and given to the Wesleyan Methodists by Miss Colborn. She was a servant who was part of a Wesleyan group flourishing in a room attached to the home of Mr Gilbert, a farmer who became the first Wesleyan Class Leader. He was succeeded by John Franks, then John Wardle, then John Wardle Jr. whose parents, John and Sarah moved to Worthington in 1856. He said the brick floors were boarded and the backless benches were replaced with pews while his father was Class Leader.

Picture shows a Worthington centenary invitation



Over the years, the lighting progressed from a chandelier with tallow candles, to wax candles, then a paraffin lamp. There was great amusement if the tallows had to be snuffed out during a service. He told of a thriving Sunday School being started in 1864-5 with the help of his mother and others, but singing was unaccompanied until the Chapel borrowed his parents harmonium.

John Wardle Jr. moved to Derby in 1905, but was still a trustee in 1920. In 1960, his grand-daughter moved to Ashby, when her husband, Stuart Cato, took a job inventing recipes such as Cheddars and Hobnobs for the biscuit factory. He was a local preacher who regularly took services at Worthington until 1977.

Picture shows Stuart Cato



His daughter (Jane, to whom we thank for this account and photographs) remembers, with fond affection, coming to services as a child, playing in the pulpit afterwards, and then having tea at Mrs Campion's with Mary Lacey and others. Today the pews and pulpit are gone, the floor is concrete, and the lights are electric, but don't be surprised if you hear angels! When Joseph Walker, a member of the Chapel, passed way, his neighbour told John Wardle Jr. That he heard beautiful singing over the room where Mr Walker passed away.

Pictures shows Sarah Wardle (nee Ratcliffe)

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