

An account of the opening ceremony for the Parish Room

from the Burton Observer of Thursday August 25th 1910.

Reprinted from the Parish Magazine, October 2016

"The first function held in the new Parish Room at Horninglow took place yesterday, when a sale of work was opened by the Mayoress (Mrs. T. Jenkins). The arrangements were made by a committee consisting of the Vicar (the Rev. T. A. Lewis), the churchwardens, and other workers, and were excellently carried out. It was hoped to raise between £50 and £60 by the effort, and this was to be devoted to the Curate Fund, the Sunday schools, and to other parochial undertakings. The interior of the room looked charming, the stalls containing the articles for sale being placed alongside the walls.

Amongst those present at the opening ceremony, which was presided over by the Vicar, the Rev. T. A. Lewis, were the Mayor and Mayoress (Councillor and Mrs. Jenkins), the Rev. A. A. Auden (Church Broughton), the Rev. R. F. Way, the Rev. J. Skinner, Mrs Lathbury, Mrs Auden, Mrs. and Miss Turner, Mrs. Jos. Coxon, Mrs. Woodward, the Misses Lathbury, Mrs. and Miss Marshall and Messrs. G. Sanders, A. E. Hall, A. W. Harman and G. Hubbard.

The stall-holders were as follows :-

FANCY STALL – Mrs. Goode, Mrs. Hall, Miss M. King, and Miss Dunn PLAIN WORK STALL – Mesdames Harris, Morris, and Bull; Miss King ORIENTAL STALL – Mesdames Lewis, Cox, Fogg, and Finch; Miss Lathbury PLANT STALL – Mesdames Harman, Udale, Hall, and Hubbard SWEET AND PROVISION STALL – Misses Cotton, Hubbard, L. Cotton, Bellhouse, Coxon and Abbotts REFRESHMENT ROOM – Mesdames Angell, Mallen, Sanders, Eaton, Newbold, H. Knight; Misses M. Lathbury, C. Smith, E. Summerton, and L. Forbes

The Chairman, opening the proceedings, said that the Mayoress was much better known to the assembly than to himself, but he felt sure that she was present to show her interest in the work of the parish, and her sympathy with himself, a new-comer.

He understood that the sale of work had been an annual effort for some time. They had to make up £80 for the Curate Fund, and the speaker here paid a tribute to the work done by the Rev. J. Skinner, the curate, £16 for the Sunday Schools, besides other parochial expenses. He did not himself consider that a sale of work was the best, or the ideal, means of raising money. They were, however, trying to obviate the difficulty by the free-will offering scheme which had recently been adopted. They would not by that means have to depend upon one or two people, but the poor would be able to contribute as well as the rich. If only they could draw into the scheme 200 people in the next six months they would be able to do without the sale of work. (Hear, hear.) The Parish Room was entirely provided for, and the Vicarage partly, from the kind bequest of the late Mrs. J Hopkins, and he congratulated the architects and the contractors upon their work. The Vicarage and the other buildings would be lasting monuments to the Hopkins and Auden families for the interest they took in the welfare of the parish. (Applause.)

He thanked the stall-holders and all who had helped to make the sale a success, and announced that Mrs. Auden had thoughtfully provided a piano for the room, and an anonymous donor had given crockery to be used at teas, etc.

He concluded by thanking the Mayoress for attending. Mrs. Jenkins said it gave her great pleasure to be present, and said the attendance of so many people must give the Vicar cause for thankfulness. She hoped the sale would be a success. (Applause.) It also gave her great pleasure to open the Parish Room, which she trusted, would become the centre of life in the parish. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. G. Sanders proposed a vote of thanks to the Mayor and Mayoress, and said it was pleasing to have their hope of getting a parish (room?) realised. (Hear, hear.) He trusted that the sale would be a financial success. (Applause.) Mr. Hall seconded, and the motion was carried.

The Mayor returned thanks, and said it was a delight for himself and his wife to be present to welcome the vicar at the first public function.

The vicar said that he did not think a sale of work was the ideal way of raising money, but he (the Mayor) considered that they ought to be very thankful to the ladies for their hard work. (Applause.)".