

The History of a Moorland Chapel

Enniscaven

Compiled by
Mr. J. Liddicoat

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**1. Outside the old chapel -
Raising funds for the new chapel.
Picture taken approx 1907**

It was in the late 1820's or early 1830's that the first known meetings for worship were held in the little hamlet of Enniscaven situated between St.Dennis and Roche on the edge of Goss Moor. The hamlet was very small in those days consisting of approximately twenty-five cob built cottages.

The first meetings were held in the homes of the new Christian people, travelling to each others home for worship. One can hardly imagine the hallelujah's and amen's that were raised by the newly converted Christians.

The numbers increased and soon it was too large for what we would term today house-fellowships.

The next meeting place was the barn situated in the centre of the village. It is not known how they managed their seating arrangements or how the singing was led, perhaps a concertina or a flute was used.

Again the congregation was too large for this building and some other meeting place was needing urgent erection. A plot of land 35ft. in length and 20ft. wide was leased for a number of years at one shilling or by today's terms 5p a year, in the year 1840.

Building the new Chapel commenced immediately, being constructed of cob and stone, having a window on each side and two in the end, but being half the size of the building as we know it today.

At a date not known, extensions to this building were carried out bringing the Chapel to its present size, having two windows on each side with a slightly raised platform for concerts, etc. It is thought that at this time a porch and furnace house were built, the water passing through a pipe into the main building. The furnace house was also used for the storage of seats, etc. used for outdoor occasions.

In the year 1844 the Sunday School was founded using the same building. The Chapel was used for services, Sunday School and many other events including the Band of Hope meetings.

Not much is known of the happenings within the Church until the early 1900's, when with the numbers still increasing thought was given to the building of a bigger and more modern Church. What consideration it must have taken both in finance and labour. In 1906 the decision was made and a site for the new premises was sought. It is understood two sites came up for consideration, the first being land a little further up the road from the old Chapel - this was found to be very wet and badly drained - not at all suitable.

The second site was where our present Chapel is built.

The land was leased by the Lord of the Manor, the rent being one shilling or today's 5p per year.

The cost of the deed £3.3s.0d. and dated 4th December 1906. Work commenced and what a task. No modern machinery, no modern drills, no lifting tackle, no means of transport but a pony and cart, and one would wonder how many tons of stone was needed to build such a beautiful place.

The stone was obtained from rough land at Carne, this having a dual purpose - the land-owner wanting the stone removed to make grazing land and the willing workers needing the stone to build God's House. The stones were all shapes and needed a lot of work done to them to make them square for the coigns and

important places. This work was carried out by using a jumper to make a hole before inserting sets of rippers and feathers and using a heavy hammer on them.

During the Fiftieth Year Anniversary of the opening of the Chapel the preacher, the late Mr. E.R. Mennear spoke about the building of the premises and made special mention of Pol the pony who was attached to the cart that brought most of the stones for the project. He said if there are any animals in Heaven - Pol must be with them.

The stone laying ceremony was held in May 1907, when a large crowd gathered for this special occasion.

The Rev. J. Spillet presided over the proceedings when the stones were laid by persons representing interests in public life, many local people, as well as the Sunday School, Band of Hope and local Preachers of the Circuit. An evening meeting followed presided over by Mr. C. Varcoe, the speaker being Rev. H. Pollard.

The proceeds of the day were over £60.

The building commenced to rise and all was well until trouble was experienced with the gable end which had to be demolished and rebuilt using a different design. Messrs Jolly of Roche were the masons and Mr. Bullock of St.Dennis the carpenter.

During the finishing of the mouldings and date etc. on the front of the Chapel the masons were experiencing trouble when a traveller of the roads known as a tramp in those days volunteered to assist with the work and stayed until it was completed.

The Chapel was completed at the cost of £500.



2. Stone laying - new chapel.
1907

The greatly anticipated occasion of the opening of the Chapel took place on Easter Monday 1908, when a large crowd gathered and the Rev. A. Hancock, a native of Withiel and former President of the Bible Christian Conference preached the sermon. He was supported by four other ministers and many people from the Circuit and district brought greetings. A Bazaar and other activities followed and many contributions were received.

The Organ was not installed at the time of the opening of the Chapel, but it was built by Mr. Trudgeon of Trelavour Road, St.Dennis and installed at a later date at a cost not known.

It has been noted that the Church was Bible Christian at the time of the stone-laying but became United Methodist when the new place of Worship was opened.

The building was heated by two large slow combustion stoves. Later these were removed and valor oil heaters were used and today calor gas heaters have replaced them. Six brass oil lamps suspended from the ceiling supplied the lighting.

For the next two decades the congregation almost filled the Chapel for the services at 2.30pm and 6.00pm, when the preacher would be planned for both services. A Tea Rota was compiled where the preacher received hospitality between the services. On special occasions three services were held.

The Choir filled the seats supplied at most times and gave special items and services when required. Mr. Silas Liddicoat was the organist and choirmaster for many years, beginning before the new building was erected until the early 1930's.

The debt on the new Chapel was fully paid on August 4th 1926. The previous building was now known as the Sunday School, and during the period previously mentioned, with a little variation, about seventy children attended, taught by several Christian folk. A Bible Class of about twelve young men with ages ranging from fourteen to twenty were among that number.

Sunday School Anniversary weekend was a date to be remembered in the calendar of the Church. On the Saturday evening previous to the Anniversary, old and young gathered at the Sunday School to erect a stage in the adjoining field for the choir and preacher to lead the open-air service at 6.00pm on Anniversary evening. If the weather permitted, seats for the congregation would also be erected, if not all helped on the Sunday before the service. An organ was borrowed and brought to lead the singing.

The morning and afternoon services were held in the Chapel - the afternoon service would be a Service of Song given by the scholars. Many memories will be retained of those occasions. On the following day would be the tea treat. Teachers and scholars would meet at four o'clock and headed by St.Dennis Band march with the banner and flags flying around the village and then proceed on the St.Dennis Road - a little way on the Gothers Road, returning to the Sunday School. The Band would play selections during the evening with a well earned break for a cup of tea.

The children were provided with a traditional saffron bun and a cup of sugary tea. The public had a laid tea which was charged for.



3. Opening day of new chapel.
1908

The evening continued with sports for the children, thus gaining some prize money to spend on wares to be obtained at the stannons or mobile shops outside the Sunday School. These were generally lit by oil amps or flares. Generally hot chips and ice creams were obtainable.

For the teenagers and younger folk the evening ended with games of two's and three's, followed by kissing rings.

The Sunday School was used for many social and fund raising events within the Church such as concerts, socials, and the watch night service following the New Years Eve event. Band of Hope meetings were also well attended, the entertainment often given by local talent.

The Band of Hope outings were days much enjoyed by young and old. Charabancs and later coaches would convey almost the whole population of the village and friends to the seaside, perhaps Watergate, Perranporth, or later St.Ives. During the Charabanc days it was a treat to see the sea and a shout of delight was heard when all the children saw the sea.

The War Memorial was erected in the early 1920's and one Sunday during August was known as Remembrance Sunday. On this day the British Legion members of the St.Dennis section would march to Enniscaven headed by the Band for afternoon service. The Parade would be dismissed in front of the War Memorial to attend the service, after which it would be reformed for the wreath laying and silence, before marching back to St.Dennis behind the band.

Seat rent was collected for the Chapel seating from the date of erection until Christmas 1926 when all the seats were free.

In September 1933 the Enniscaven Brass Band had permission to practice in the Sunday School on condition they supplied the oil for the lamps and gave their services at the Sunday School tea.



4. Interior of chapel before organ was installed.
1908

During 1934 the Chapel changed from the old hymn book to the hymn book used today. It is recalled that choir had practices to get familiar with the new tunes.

The organ had its first overhaul during this year by a Mr. Dickenson and was re-opened by Mrs. Hearn of Bodmin, a well known musician of those days who also gave a recital on the organ. A tea followed the opening with a musical service in the evening.

The Sunday School was used by the County Council as a Library over a period from 1930 with a local librarian in charge.

The Chapel was licensed for marriages to take place with a Registrar present in November 1920, the licence was obtained by the late Mr. J. Truscott so that his daughter Myrtle could be married to Mr. Henry Williams on November 20th.

The present organist of the Chapel was appointed joint organist with the previously mentioned Mr. Silas Liddicoat in 1930, and with the help of other musicians has completed sixty two years of loyal service to the time of writing. Thanks to Mr. R. Runnalls.

During 1932 the different named Methodist Churches, i.e. Bible Christian, United Methodist and Wesleyan, became known as the Methodist Church.

There was a lot of unemployed people around the area in 1931 and the Trustees gave permission for the Sunday School to be used by the Officer known as the Means Test Official to enquire into these unfortunate peoples means and to save them travelling to some other location.

On March 14th 1935 it was necessary to renew the Trustees of the Church - nine new names were added.

On September 26th 1935, the Trustees decided to build a new Sunday School. They had a Trustee meeting prior to this date and had called a well attended Public Meeting to make it a combined effort. Mr. Arthur Bullock was asked to make a sketch of what was required. A Mr. Reed was later appointed as Architect and asked to get tenders for the building. Mr. Magor of Padstow was engaged to do the work.

At a meeting held a little later it was decided to commence building the following spring but owing to the delay and time lapse the builder required a 10% increase on his original tender.

A Ways and Means Committee was formed and worked in every way possible to raise the urgently needed money - Roche, Trezaize and St.Dennis were visited, visiting each house seeking donations.

The site was prepared for July 1st 1937 when the Stone Laying Ceremony took place. Large preparations were made for the occasion, two marquees were erected, one behind the Chapel and the other in the meadow across the road. The catering for three hundred people was a large task, especially having high and ordinary teas. It is interesting to note that 25 lbs. of Beef, 3 Tongues and 15 lbs. of Ham were obtained and a large portion of it cooked. The water for the event was boiled at a neighbours house and the young men were detailed to keep an ample supply going for the ladies serving the large gathering.

The Chairman of the District was invited and other Ministers from the Circuit and District. Thirty Five stones were laid, some in memory of loved ones, some old scholars, the Sunday School, Circuit, Band of Hope, Ex service men, Enniscaven Band, Visitors and Members of the Church. Donations for the stone laying were Seventy Eight Pounds and Ten Shillings. After all had an ample supply at the tea tables and no doubt a good chat seeing many old friends, the folk assembled in the Chapel for the evening service. The Chairman was the senior Circuit Steward, assisted by the Ministers and the musical items were given by Mrs. Hearn and friends from Bodmin.

The building of the new Sunday School began in earnest as an opening date had already been fixed. The men of the church and village would go with the lorry to a sand tip and load it and unload it at the site to keep an ample supply of sand for the masons.

A water main was also laid from the rear of the new building to the front of the Chapel with some hope of having mains water some day. This day actually came in 1969.

The opening of the new Sunday School took place on September 22nd 1937 when another large gathering was expected. The marquees were erected in the same positions and the catering was the same format as on the stone laying day. Several dignitaries were present for the opening including the tea and evening service.

The children marched from the old building to the new Sunday School headed by the Superintendant and Secretary carrying the flag "Enniscaven for Christ". The children were supplied with saffron buns and sugary tea after the building was opened.

On March 22nd 1938 the sum of Forty Five Pounds was still outstanding on the building contract - this was borrowed as an interest free loan and the contractor was paid in full. The Ways and Means Committee still worked hard and the debt was cleared.

The new premises costing Five Hundred Pounds included a furnace house for the purpose of supplying hot water for all functions.

Electric lighting was installed in the Sunday School during 1940 and black outs made for all the windows to comply with wartime regulations. The lighting in the Chapel being installed during 1945. It is expected some can remember switching a certain light on - perhaps for a donation !

The old Sunday School became a Reading Room or Institute in 1938 and was well used by all ages of men.

During the war the Home Guard and the Enniscaven Band used the premises being the new Sunday School with its black outs. The noted Enniscaven Flower Show also used it for many years. Also during the war the Gothers Works were used as a R.A.O.C. Stores and base. The company used the Chapel for their Church Parades.

On Saturday July 29th 1944 the Centenary Celebrations of the Sunday School commenced with a Reunion Gathering of old scholars and friends. Short addresses were given by some of those present and letters read on behalf of those on service for the country. The following Sunday was a day to be remembered. The preacher for the day being Mr. E. R. Menear. At 11.00am a Parade of the Civil Services took place, followed by a service in the Chapel.

The children gave a Service of Song in the afternoon, and at 5.30pm an Open Air Service of Remembrance and Witness was held at the old Sunday School. The gathering then formed a procession and marched to the Chapel for evening worship.

The singing was led at this service by a choir of former members and scholars. Many old hymns and tunes were sung.

During 1947 consent was given by the landowner that a doorway be cut in the wall behind the Chapel so that access to the field adjoining could be obtained. This proved useful on many occasions.

The manual operation of the organ bellows became redundant during this year when an electrically operated blower was installed. A special evening was arranged for the switching on of the blower.

Two young men from the village lost their lives during the Second World War and the names of Maurice Grigg and George Hick were added to the names already on the War Memorial.

It was around that period that the ladies purchased and covered some of the Chapel seats with felt.

The organ needed urgent repairs during 1949, but only temporary repairs could be done and the organ made playable. A special evening was arranged for the opening - the usual ceremony - tea and concert.

During 1951 the organ received a complete overhaul, having been dismantled and given every attention and made ready for the opening on March 1st 1952. An old scholar had the honour of unlocking the organ, to be followed by a recital by the late Mr. Russell Kessell. The congregation then gathered in the Sunday School for tea and chat before returning to the Chapel for the evening concert.

1958 contained another red letter day in the history of our Chapel. It was the Golden Jubilee of the building held on April 19th and 20th . Proceedings commenced with a high tea attended by 150 people. Speeches were given at the tables bringing support from many sources. A concert was given by a choir from St. Austell in the Chapel later, after which we all returned to the Sunday School for the usual tea and chat.

The Sunday services attracted large congregations, the preacher being Mr. Menear. The children assisted at the morning service. The Treviscoe Male Voice Choir paid a special visit in the afternoon, and previous to the evening service, community singing of Sankey Hymns was enjoyed. The augmented choir led the singing at the evening service when the preacher gave a little history of the Chapel.

On the table in front of the rostrum was placed a container decorated with primroses.

A lady had been taken to Tresaddern to pick the flowers and decorate the same container as she had done in 1908 when the Chapel was opened. The Chapel was full for these services with not a space for another seat.

In 1961 new lamp shades were fitted throughout the Chapel and the old ones transferred to the Sunday School.

The Sunday School Anniversary of 1962 was made another well remembered event in the history of our Church, this being the Silver Jubilee of the new school. The Saturday before Anniversary Sunday another well attended high tea was enjoyed with ministers and councillors bringing their greetings. A concert followed given by Currian Vale Quartette with supporting artistes.

The Sunday again welcomed well attended services with Mr. Mennear the preacher at 11.00am and 6.00pm. Treviscoe Male Voice Choir gave the afternoon concert - the congregation joining in community singing prior to the evening service when the children assisted the preacher.

1962 was also the year when the notice board was erected in the lobby of the Chapel.

During 1963 the ladies had permission to obtain replacements of crockery, a table cloth, and some other articles for use within the Church.

A pulpit fall, the pulpit light and a light in the vestry were donated in memory of loved ones.

The Trust was renewed again during the year.

The water main that had been laid during the building of the Sunday School was used in 1969 being connected to the main outside the gate and the existing pipes in the building.

During the next decade several smaller repairs were done. The organ blower had become very noisy and required replacing. A sponsored walk of eight miles took place raising enough money to replace it. The walk raised £203.18s.4d, plus £11 by selling the old blower and the replacement costing £96.0s.0d. The occasion of the opening of the blower also added £8.0s.2d. to the successful event. Decimal currency was introduced around this period.

The Sunday School had been used by the local R.D.C. for many years previous to this time for the purpose of collecting the rates, but commencing in 1974 to the present time it has been used as a Polling Station for the local and Parliamentary elections. A new floor was laid in the kitchen by a local volunteer who replaced the deteriorating wooden floor with a concrete one.

A new window was required for the Chapel. The Sunday School scholars and teachers did another sponsored walk of three or four miles raising the sum of £78.00p.- the window costing £74.38p. Carpet was laid during 1972 covering the aisles and around the communion rail, also at that time tarmac was laid outside the Chapel wall and the portion of yard inside the gate.

During the 1970 decade a new calor gas heater was purchased.

The Chapel was redecorated in 1978, minor repairs carried out, and the interior walls and ceiling being given a coat of sealer and two coats of emulsion. This work being carried out by a contractor at a cost of £1037.97p. The seats and woodwork were varnished by voluntary labour. Following this effort the Sunday School received attention, the walls were brushed and remarked with charcoal - that is the block effect. The ceiling, chairs, and woodwork all varnished by the same volunteers including the minister who helped and encouraged.

The Chapel was re-opened on March 22nd by the oldest member of the Church, followed by a concert given by the Goonhavern Quartette with the minister as chairman.

Several other repairs followed, new doors were made and fitted to the Sunday School, all new windows fitted to the same building and a picture rail erected to enable Arts and Crafts Exhibitions to be held.

The gentlemen of the Church renewed the Store-house roof with galvanised sheets obtained from ECC at a moderate price. The water main and pipes installed at the time of the building of the Sunday School had deteriorated and were all replaced by modern piping.

The kitchen also received attention, the units were obtained and fitted to half of the kitchen, and at a later date a kind friend donated the units fitted to the other half including the fluorescent light. The Sunday School also had fluorescent lighting fitted during this period.

A piano was purchased for the Sunday School in 1984, with money donated in lieu of flowers from the family of a well respected lady member of the Church, and at a later date, money was again donated at the death of her husband, when carpet was purchased for the stairs in the choir seats of the Chapel. Other gifts were donated in the same way - namely, a chair for the pulpit, a chair for use when services are held in the Sunday School, a hymn board, rugs in the Sunday School, and a clock in memory of a lady of the Church.

The organ stool had deteriorated and was renewed with one of the same pattern made by a local craftsman. Curtains were purchased and fitted in the Sunday School, making it warmer and more homely for the Winter occasions. Fire Extinguishers for the premises were installed and new seat coverings for the Chapel were purchased at a cost of £198.00p.

1987 brought another celebration to the Church, it was the Golden Jubilee of the building of the Sunday School. Great efforts were put into this event. All scholars possible who had attended the new building were contacted, many personally, over a large area. It was noted that about two hundred scholars had attended over that period.

Saturday, July 25th came, when at 5.00pm a short service was held in the Chapel conducted by our Minister who welcomed all. The large crowd stood and sang grace before leaving for the Sunday School. A three course meal was prepared by the ladies and 165 people partook of it. It was necessary to have two sittings and the ladies worked hard to limit the time between.

At 7.00pm community hymn singing was led by the District Youth Officer. A concert followed, given by the Bay Quartette, presided over by the Circuit Steward.

Sunday was another busy day. Service at 11.00am, and a concert by the Mid Cornwall Ladies Choir in the afternoon. Tea for all in the Sunday School, followed by the evening service when the preacher was the Vice President of the Methodist Conference. Of course the usual cup of tea and chat before departing.

A local contractor visited the Chapel about this time for a christening and noticed the state of the land adjoining the then small car park. He later made contact and offered to excavate the waste land, fill it with ballast and sand, and enlarge our park free of charge.

Before work could commence, it was necessary to determine the owner of the land. It was found to be common land, enabling work to commence. The contractor excavated the site to a depth of two feet, removing twenty one loads of approximately ten tons per load. The County Council then made catch-pits and laid down drain pipes on the edge of the road and the Chapel folk were responsible to purchase and lay the pipes down from the catch-pit to the present outlet. The County Council covered the pipes they had laid with concrete, thus allowing the road to be straightened. The contractor then returned with ballast and sand and completed the job.

The bank at the rear of the park has been cultivated by a local man, planting shrubs and trees which friends had given him. It is a worthy transfiguration that the work has made.

The heating in the Sunday School was improved at this time when Quartzray heaters and step-slats were installed at a cost of £1566.90p.

At the time of writing the Chapel is being painted on the exterior by a local tradesman who is also doing necessary repairs.

The window beside the organ also needed replacing, this window was always covered on the inside by a sheet of hardboard to keep the sun from damaging the organ. The Church Council decided to have the window removed and the space built up as the mason thought most secure. A mason was engaged, and with a willing group of volunteers, the job was completed using concrete blocks creating a cavity between them. The blocks were then plastered both inside and outside of the new work.

The premises received its first Quinquennial Examination on July 21st 1992. The premises have been cleaned on a voluntary basis since 1956, but before this a caretaker had been engaged at a nominal fee.

The following statement cannot be assumed as correct, but it is stated that when the Chapel was built in 1908, preparation was made for the doorway into the Sunday School to be erected at a later date. The lintel and coigns were installed and the doorway built with stones and plastered to be in keeping with the Chapel wall. This foresight was very useful when the new building was erected.

Another asset that was installed during the original building are the concrete moulded windows in the front of the building needing no maintenance or repairs, just a coat of paint to keep a good appearance.

The sign on the front of the Chapel was donated in 1984, in memory of two loyal workers for the Church. It bears the name of the building, time of services, and

other particulars. A lady who had been responsible for placing flowers in the Church for a long time previous to 1978, owing to ill health was unable to continue. A Flower Rota was then compiled involving someone each Sunday, this has proved very successful.

A Sick Fund has been in operation for many years financed by the retiring collection taken at the service held on the first Sunday of the month. Any person within a given distance of the Chapel who becomes sick receives a gift of fruit. This applies to any member of the community and not confined to those who attend worship.

Owing to the lack of local preachers and declining congregations, Sunday services were reduced to one, being held at 2:30pm in 1983.

The Sunday School has had mixed fortunes in children attending, at one point just one little girl came along. Numbers have varied since that time and at present seven are attending, taught by two loyal ladies. Of course, the number of children living within the district has greatly reduced.

The Sunday School tea treats have changed over many years - a lot different from the style previously mentioned when a parade headed by the local band took place. A band was engaged until 1977, but numbers dwindled and it became necessary to manage without it. Games and Competitions have been arranged for the children after being given a tea as requested, and a table laden with sweets is supplied where they can purchase anything they fancy. The latest addition was a barbecue, when Hot-Dogs were enjoyed by old and young alike.

The Chapel Anniversary takes place in April, when two services are held, the afternoon event being a musical service. Prior to 1990, morning service was also included, but owing to the small attendance it was decided to have two services.

Re-union Sunday is held in May, this is the day when every endeavour is made to get old scholars and friends to return for a day of fellowship. Two services are held - the afternoon one being a musical.

The last Sunday in July is known locally as Enniscaven Sunday School Anniversary, which follows the same format for services. When enough children attended the Sunday School, the afternoon service was rendered by them, although now a concert party is engaged. Prior to the evening service community hymn singing is enjoyed by all.

The Harvest Festival services are held in October when the Chapel is decorated with flowers, fruit and vegetables. Tinned produce and groceries are also displayed in abundance. A Thanksgiving service is held in the afternoon, which is well attended. Community hymn singing sets the atmosphere prior to the evening concert which has been given for thirty consecutive years by the St. Dennis Male Voice Choir.

A Faith Tea is provided in the Sunday School between the services held on the days mentioned above - no charge is made. The tables are prepared with the food brought by all those partaking.

The Harvest celebrations are continued on the following Tuesday when after a short service the produce is auctioned for Church Funds.

On the Sunday before Christmas, the service consists of Nine Lessons and Carols. The lessons are read and the hymns announced by members of the congregation

the leader possibly being an old scholar of the Sunday School. The children also render some items.

The Sankey Evening held in April is another noted occasion within the Church calendar - this is when we are joined by many groups and organisations coming from a large area. It is surprising to note that our last event contained friends from Penzance, Polzeath, St.Teath, Polruan, St.Blazey and of course many more local people. The Chapel is full for this event and supper is served by the ladies before all leave for home.

The Sunday School Scholars Reward Presenting Evening has taken a new look over the past few years. A Three Course meal has now replaced the old format, commencing with soup, followed by mashed potatoes, ham and tongue, together with all the necessary pickles and sauces, and of course a roll and butter. Jellies and Trifles are enjoyed to make the meal complete, not forgetting a cup of tea. Games are organised in which the old and young take part.

Fellowship Meetings are held approximately each fortnight during the Winter months in the Sunday School, where the fire burns in the grate and with the heaters it is really warm. Quite a variety of entertainment is given such as slides, a quiz, a talk on a particular subject or a cookery demonstration or possibly a concert. These meetings are well attended and again food is brought to accompany a cup of tea before we all depart for home.

On two occasions during the year fund raising efforts are held to raise funds for the upkeep of the buildings. One takes place in early December when the goods on a Bring & Buy Stall are auctioned and followed by a concert. The other effort takes place in March, when a large egg is opened and envelopes removed which have been distributed and collected from a large area. Again this is followed by a Bring & Buy stall auction and a concert. Of course, both events conclude with the friendly cup of tea and chat.

One evening as near as possible to Christmas the Fellowship Group of the Church visits the Hollies Rest home at Roche to bring a little cheer to the folk there. Carols are sung, readings given and joining with them in singing their own favourites - you can be assured they are not all carols. Previous to the evening, the names of all the old folk are obtained and a parcel made up correctly marked for each one. The parcels are donated by each member of the Fellowship. Father Christmas goes with us in full regalia to present the parcels and have a friendly word with each recipient. The ladies carry enough food for everyone to have supper together and any surplus remains at the home for the following day's tea.

A service is held on Christmas Day at 9.30am, which sets the day into the right perspective.

During the Winter months the services are held in the Sunday School which can easily be heated using the new heating system. The gift of an electric organ from a Chapel that was closing has been a great asset to lead the singing.

For many years the Good-Friday service was held in the morning, but recently the evening has been preferred.

Sometimes within the Church humour takes place when not intended. During the varnishing of the Sunday School chairs the volunteers varnished a chair and put it aside for removal to the Chapel for drying, but it was noticed one of the number had completed three chairs and the others were still on their first. Of course a joke was made of this and another who had been varnishing sat on the so called finished chair with no ill effect. The secret for the haste of the gent was that he had to complete a given number of chairs before a cup of tea would be supplied.

At the time of the opening of the Sunday School the chairs were donated by individuals at a cost of Seven Shillings and Sixpence a chair.

It is now about One Hundred and Sixty Years that the Gospel has been preached at Enniscaven under many conditions, but we are thankful that today we have a Chapel to be proud of - Let us all work and pray that the work will continue for many years and numbers will be added to the Church.

May the Grace of Christ our Saviour,
And the Fathers boundless love,
With the Holy Spirit's favour,
Rest upon us from above.

Thus may we abide in union,
With each other and the Lord,
And posses in sweet communion,
Joys which earth cannot afford.



**5. Church officials.
1958**