

## New Independent Chapel 1854

### 1828 New Baptist Chapel Opened

On Wednesday last, a new Baptist Chapel was opened at East Knoyle, in this county, when three sermons suited for the occasion were preached by the Rev Messrs Walton, Newman and Evans. The Chapel was numerously and respectably attended.

Salisbury & Winchester Journal Monday 15 September 1828

### 1854 Foundation Stone Laid

The congregation of Protestant Dissenters that had assembled for nearly thirty years in the old Chapel in East Knoyle, being compelled to quit the same in 1849, have, from that period, to their great inconvenience and disadvantage, met for worship in a private house. After many fruitless attempts, they succeeded in purchasing a very eligible freehold site. The foundation stone of a neat and substantial Independent Chapel, Gothic style, was laid on the 8<sup>th</sup> inst, by George Haden, Esq, of Trowbridge, who delivered an appropriate and impressive address to a large and respectable assemblage of persons from the village and the surrounding neighbourhood.

Salisbury & Winchester Journal Saturday 20 May 1854



"A neat and substantial Independent Chapel, Gothic style"

### 1854 Dedication of New Chapel

On Thursday the 5<sup>th</sup> inst., this village was enlivened by the arrival of great numbers of persons to attend the religious services of the dedication of the new Independent Chapel. Knoyle, being the birthplace of Sir Christopher Wren, the father of British Architects, the originators of the building thought that that circumstance should give some character to the fabric. Accordingly, they have erected a beautiful and substantial gothic edifice from the plans and drawings generously presented by Thomas Carter Esq, London.

An additional degree of interest in the estimation of Protestant Nonconformists is connected with this village from the fact that it was the scene of devoted and pious labour of the Rev Samuel Clifford, MA of Magdalen College, Oxford, one of the eminent ministers ejected from the Church of England on the memorable Bartholomew day. For many years the congregation has been in Christian fellowship with the church at Shaftesbury and under the gratuitous superintendence of its pastor, the Rev T Evans.

The solemnities of the day were commenced by prayer, in which the building was dedicated to the worship of the Holy Trinity. After singing and reading suitable portions of Holy Scripture, and a general prayer, the Rev Eustace R Conder, MA of Poole, preached from Psalm 87 iii, "Glorious things are spoken of thee, O city of God". In the sermon, the Rev R Brindley of Bath, preached from John ? xii "I am the light of the world, he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of Life". At the close of the afternoon service, upwards of 300 friends retired to an adjoining field, and took tea under a spacious tent engaged for the occasion.

As the attendance on the preceding services was too numerous to get within the walls of the chapel, it was resolved to hold the evening service in the tent. After singing, reading the Holy Scriptures, and prayer, the Rev E R Conder, M.A. preached from Cor. 1 xxiii, "But we preach Christ crucified". It was a truly gratifying circumstance and regarded as an omen for good, that the place, though a tent in a field was novel as a place of religious worship, and there were present not less than 500 persons; yet the greatest decorum and seriousness characterised the assembly.

The most marked and devout attention was paid throughout to the grand and solemn truths that fell from the lips of the preacher. Long will the day be remembered as one of hallowed pleasure and profit. The following ministers assisted in the services or were present: The Revs R P Erlebach, H M Gunn, W H Aylen, J M White, C Baker, T King, W Mearns, C Harrison, A Bisenti, W Mace, T Evans. The collections were very liberal.  
Salisbury & Winchester Journal Saturday 14 October 1854