

Articles from St Michael's Parish Magazine 2021

[The Petits of Ettingshall and Lichfield.](#)

[The St. Michael chalice of 1684](#)

[Lichfield's first station master](#)

[A hideous and unnecessary aftergrowth...so substantial a deformity - The church restoration of the 1840s](#)

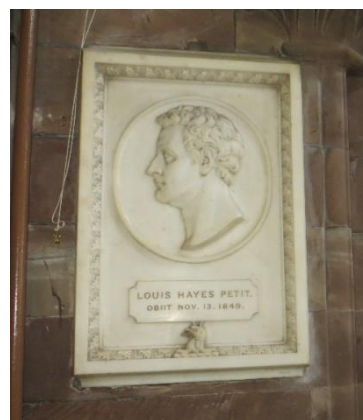
[James Jordan Serjeantson - Rector 1868 to 1886](#)

The Petits of Ettingshall and Lichfield.

The monument commemorating Louis Hayes Petit is very prominent at the front of the nave in St Michael's, and recently a display board commemorating the life and work of his nephew, John Louis Petit has been erected in the graveyard close to the tomb of him and his siblings. But who were the Petit's? In this short article I will give a brief history of the family from the time they first left France up to the death of John Louis and his siblings in the late nineteenth century.

The first of the Petit family to arrive in England was Lewis Petit (1665-1720), a member of the ancient Norman family of Petit des Etans, who, with many other Huguenots, fled to England from Caen on the revocation of the Edict of Nantes in 1685. He served in the British army as an engineer, rose to the rank of brigadier-general and was appointed lieutenant-governor of Minorca from 1708 to 1713. He was later involved in the suppression of a revolt by Highland clans. He had two sons, John Peter Petit and Captain Peter Petit. The former married Sarah, daughter of John Hayes of Wolverhampton, the owner of the Ettingshall Estate near Sedgley, and they occupied the manor of Little Aston from 1743 to the early 1760s. John Hayes died in 1736, and left Ettingshall to his son, another John Hayes. This John himself died in 1745 and the estate went to Sarah and her sister, and thus ultimately to John Peter Petit. Ettingshall was a large, originally arable estate, that even at that stage was beginning to be exploited for its coal and ironstone reserves. It is from that estate that much of the Petit wealth derived.

John Peter and Sarah's only son, John Lewis Petit (1736-1780) qualified as a doctor in 1767 and was physician to St. George's Hospital from 1770 to 1774, and to St. Bartholomew's from 1774 until his death. He was a Fellow of the Royal Society from 1759 and was clearly regarded as a leader in his profession. He and his wife Katherine had three sons John Hayes Petit (1771-1822), Peter Hayes Petit (1773-1809) and Louis Hayes Petit (1774-1849), but clearly lacked imagination in the giving of names. Peter Hayes was a lieutenant-colonel of the 35th Foot and died of a wound received at Flushing in Holland during the Napoleonic war. Louis Hayes (he of the monument) became a barrister and, from 1827 to 1832, was MP for Ripon. He bought property at Yeading, Middlesex, and a house in Tamworth Street, Lichfield. After ceasing to be an MP, his remaining years were largely devoted to literary and philanthropic pursuits.



The eldest of the three brothers, John Hayes Petit (1771-1822) inherited the Ettingshall estate, but also followed an ecclesiastical career. He was ordained priest in Chester in 1798 and served a curacy at Ashton under Lyme near Stalybridge in Cheshire. During his time there he married Harriet Astley of the nearby town of Dukinfield. Harriet was born in 1779 to the painter John Astley (1724-1787) and his third wife Mary Wagstaffe (1760-1832). John Astley had a colourful life, painting portraits of many 18th century notables, arousing strong passions of admiration (mainly in women) or distaste (mainly in men). His first wife was an unknown Irish lady who died in 1749. The second was Penelope Dukinfield Daniel (1722-1762) widow of Sir William Dukinfield Daniel, 3rd baronet, and a daughter of Henry Vernon, former High Sheriff of Staffordshire. John and Penelope were married with some rapidity after she intimated that the original of the portrait he was painting of her would be available if he wished. On Penelope's death, and the death of his stepdaughter, Astley inherited the substantial Dukinfield and Daniel estates in Cheshire and was able to lead a life of some luxury and idleness thereafter. Harriett was one of three sisters, known as the Manchester beauties, and her

marriage to John Hayes would have brought him both a beautiful wife and a substantial supplement to his already considerable income.

In 1811 John Hayes Petit was appointed Curate of Donnington, and then in February of that year he was also appointed as a Perpetual Curate at Shareshill, to the north-east of Wolverhampton. Around 1817 he leased Coton Hall at Alveley in Shropshire from Harry Lancelot Lee, which was a very substantial property that once belonged to the Lee family. In 1636, Richard Henry Lee had emigrated to the US, and the family became rich through the ownership of tobacco plantations with a large slave population, and from whom the US Confederate General Robert E Lee was descended. It would not have been a cheap place to lease. After John Hayes Petit's death in 1822, Coton Hall was bought by James Foster (1786 -1853), the very successful and wealthy ironmaster and coalmaster of Stourbridge. After his death his wife Harriet and her unmarried daughters moved to the house in the house in Tamworth St, Lichfield that was owned by her brother-in-law Louis Hayes Petit.

John Louis Petit, the artist, born in 1802, was the eldest of John and Harriet's nine children. He inherited the Ettingshall estate on the death of his father in 1822, and also inherited the bulk of the estate of his uncle Louis Hayes Petit when the latter died in 1849. In total they formed a very



substantial estate in the Wolverhampton area, that was being heavily exploited for coal, iron ore and limestone. He and his sisters also had a less tangible inheritance from his mother and his grandfather – the passion and the ability for painting and sketching. After he graduated from Trinity College in Cambridge in 1825, John Louis Petit firstly pursued an ecclesiastical career being curate at St Michael's in Lichfield from 1825 to 1828, under the Perpetual Curate Edward Remington, and then curate at Bradfield and Mistley in Essex from 1828 to 1834. During his time at St. Michael's, the registers tell us he carried out 61 baptisms, 35 weddings and 163 funerals, as well as presumably leading the Sunday worship – a not inconsiderable load. He married Louisa Reid, the daughter of George Reid of Trelawny in Jamaica in 1828. The Reid family derived much of their wealth from slave

plantations in Jamaica and the family received considerable compensation for their lost income when slavery was abolished in the 1830s. He gave up his post in Essex in 1834 and from the mid-1830s onwards he devoted his time to his painting and architectural criticism, and his story is told elsewhere. His artistic career is well described on the website of the Petit Society - <http://revpetit.com/>.

The Petit tomb in the churchyard hold the remain of John Louis and his siblings. The inscription reads

LOUISA PETIT sixth daughter of the Rev. HAYES PETIT deceased and HARRIET his wife. From a life of almost uninterrupted suffering which she bore with true Christian patience and cheerfulness she was released by a merciful providence on the 30 day of November in the Year of our Lord 1842 aged 30. Also of LOUIS PETER PETIT of Lincolns Inn, Barrister at Law, third and youngest son of the Rev. JOHN HAYES PETIT, and HARRIET his wife. He died on 28th May 1848 aged 32 years. PETER JOHN PETIT Lieutenant Colonel of Her Majesty's 50th Regiment died February 15th 1852 aged 46 years. ELIZABETH HAIG daughter of JOHN HAYES PETIT born September 11th 1810 died July 5th 1895. Hic Jacet quod mortal e est viri Reverendi JOHANN LS LUDOVICI PETIT AM, died 2 Dec. 1868 aet suae 67. EMMA GENTILE PETIT born August 7 1808 died January 30 1893. SUSANNA PETIT died February 12 1897 aged 83.



Chris Baker

The St. Michael chalice of 1684

A short historical article this month. In “A History of the County of Stafford: Volume 14, Lichfield” we read the following in the section devoted to St. Michael’s church in Lichfield.

....a silver-gilt chalice and paten of 1684 were acquired. They were sold (by the Church Wardens) with a pewter flagon and plates in 1852 to a Birmingham firm in part payment for a new set of plate. The chalice and paten of 1684 were bought the same year by St. Clement’s, Oxford.

Clearly this was later regretted and we read.

... attempts in 1892 and 1923 to recover them for St. Michael’s were unsuccessful.

And there I might have left the matter, perhaps as a sort of parable on the foolishness of Church Wardens, and the futility of the pursuit of modernity, but for the all-seeing eye of Google. A quick search of “chalice / St Clements / Oxford” let me to “An Inventory of the Historical Monuments in the City of Oxford” from 1929 in which I found the rather poor photograph of the 1684 chalice shown below. It is rather fuzzy, but I think the motif is clear enough – the winged archangel trampling over the devil at his feet. I can’t read the caption, so if any reader can enlighten me on this I would be grateful. The question arises as to where the chalice and its associated paten are now. To find the answer to this would I am afraid take more than a quick Google search. Perhaps one day....

Chris Baker

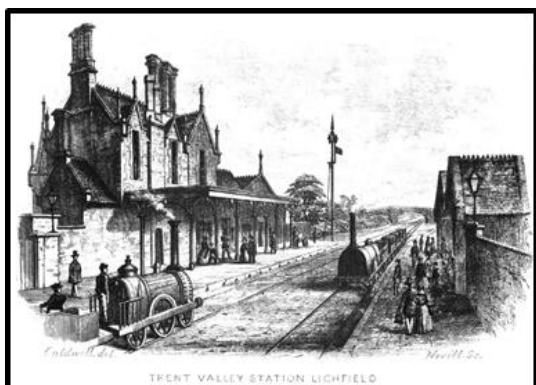


Lichfield's first station master

On the floor by the side of the pulpit at St. Michael's, there are tile memorials to the Durrad family of Streethay. The head of the family, William John Durrad was Lichfield's first station master, a churchwarden of St. Michael's and a notable figure in 19th century Lichfield Society. In this article we give a brief sketch of his life and times as one of the more publicly visible members of St Michael's in the nineteenth century,

William John Durrad was born in 1817, the second child of John and Ann Durrad of the village of Welford in Northamptonshire and baptised in the parish church. The Durrad name has a long history in that area, with a John Durrad of the nearby village of Misterton (d1726), being part owner of the Lordship of the Manor and a considerable donor to local charities. William's father, John (b1780), however seems to have been of humbler stock and is described at William John's baptism as a weaver.

In the early 1840s William John and another somewhat younger William Durrad, who were probably cousins, were owners of a bookshop in Eccleshall in Staffordshire, with William John, at least at first, being the senior partner. It was there that they met the vicar of the parish Rev Henry Moore, later Archdeacon of Stafford, who was something of a bibliophile. From that meeting, the influence of the clergyman was enough to find the elder William a position in the London and North Western Railway in 1845 as the company's agent in Lichfield representing the interests of the railway as it was being constructed, being paid £100pa.



By the time the station opened in 1847, he was the designated Station Master, on a salary of £120pa. He was also at that stage a married man, having married Elizabeth Lowe, at Tettenhall in April 1846. The original Lichfield station was situated on the west side of the Lichfield / Burton Road which the railway crossed on the level, i.e. on the opposite side to the current station. The picture shows the rather grand style that was adopted by the architect John William Livock. The station building contained not only the

passenger facilities and offices, but was also the Station Manager's House, for which William John paid £15 a year in rent. To the east of the station and the Burton Road, from 1849 the railway was crossed by the South Staffordshire Railway (now the Cross City line). This had a station to the north of the crossover entitled Lichfield Trent Valley junction. The South Staffs Railway was leased to the LNWR in 1861 and absorbed into the company in 1867. Clearly having two stations was inconvenient for passengers and both stations were closed in 1871 and a new station, with low level and high-level platforms, opened at its present site. William was the Station Master for the entire life of the original Lichfield station, with a wide range of responsibilities for the passenger and freight traffic, and for a significant number of staff. - clerks and the porters as well as yard staff. William and Elizabeth's children were born at regular intervals over the first decade and a half of his tenure as Station Master, and all were baptised at St Michael's church, the station being situated in Streethay, a township at the northern end of the parish. He was churchwarden for a couple of years in the 1850s and the churchwardens accounts in his neat copper plate hand, still exist in the Records Office.

He resigned from his post as Station Master in June 1871, by which time his salary was £150pa. Why is not at all clear – but perhaps the fact that he would be required to move into less palatial accommodation when the new station was built may have been a factor. There was a collection for a testimonial in the town, announced in the press, that raised a considerable (but not specified) sum. In the census of April 1871 all his children were still living at home. William Henry (22) was cashier at Lloyds Bank in Rugeley ; Aethur (20) was an undergraduate at Jesus College, Cambridge (and presumably on vacation); Walter (19) was also a bank clerk; whilst Emma (17) and Bertram (11) were identified as scholars. Both Arthur and Bertram attended Lichfield Grammar School and Loughborough School – and this may well have been the case for William junior and Walter too. Arthur and Bertram were ultimately ordained and took up a clerical career and served in parishes mainly in northern England; Walter and William junior continued in the banking world in Rugeley and London respectively whilst daughter Emma became a governess and companion in Cambridgeshire.

After his resignation William, Elizabeth and Emma moved to Misterton Cottage. This is on the corner of Trent Valley Road and Wissage Road and still exists – as Holly Lodge – in the grounds of the Samuel Johnson Hospital. Its name is of course an echo of the Durrad's roots in Northamptonshire. It was a substantial property. When it was eventually sold in 1890 it is described as being comprised of

Entrance Hall, Two reception rooms, Kitchen, Scullery, Pantry, Cellar, Four bedrooms, dressing room and WC. Well laid out gardens and a quarter of an acre of land.

Shortly after his resignation from the railway, William took up the post as High Bailiff at Lichfield County Court, based in St. John's Street, which he was to retain for the rest of his life. In this role he was responsible for executing warrants and court orders. He also had ecclesiastical responsibilities that may have dated back to his time as Station Master. Firstly, he was Apparitor to Archdeacon of Stafford (Henry Moore as noted above), with the responsibility to summon witnesses and execute the orders of the ecclesiastical court. Secondly, he was sub-librarian in the Cathedral library, so he obviously retained his bibliographic interests. Both of these positions would have supplemented the pension from the LNWR. In his civic roles he appeared regularly, if briefly each time, in the local press in the 1870s and 1880 – at the Mayor's luncheon, the Sheriff's breakfast and the perambulation of the city. He was also active in the St John's Freemasons Lodge and held office there – as Junior Deacon in 1870 and as Junior Warden in 1876.

1882 saw the death of William junior in Rugeley where he was a bank manager, from "*congestion of the lungs*". A muffled peal of bells was rung at St Michael's after evensong on a following Sunday, where both William junior and his father had been regular ringers. The following year William's wife Elizabeth died from heart disease. William Durrad himself died in January 1889. His obituary records that he had been ill for several weeks beforehand following an operation from which he was never to recover. The funeral was a full choral service and at the burial the choir gathered around the grave and sang the hymn "Now the Labourer's task is o'er". William, his wife Elizabeth and William junior are buried together in one grave in the graveyard of St Michael's church. It is currently (February 2022) somewhat overgrown and difficult to access. Nonetheless its design is rather unusual as can be seen from the picture.





They are also commemorated in floor plaques in the church at the front of the chancel beneath the pulpit, These are positioned (deliberately?) on the opposite side of the chancel to two similar plaques commemorating the lives of two of the 19th century Bishops of Lichfield (Selwyn and Lonsdale). I strongly suspect this placement was deliberate on the part of the family and church leaders. This is perhaps a final indication of the perceived importance of the Station Master in Lichfield society at the time.

In his will, with the clergy children Arthur and Bertram named as executors, William's effects are said to be worth £3138, a very considerable sum. What this refers to is not clear, but probably includes Misterton Cottage and its contents, some land off the Walsall Road as well as his personal effects and any other savings. The year after the funeral his daughter Emma married Frances Carver of Meldrith in Cambridgeshire (for whom she had worked as his daughter's teacher and companion), Misterton Cottage was sold, and the Durrad family finally severed its connections with Lichfield.

Chris Baker

A hideous and unnecessary aftergrowth...so substantial a deformity. The church restoration of the 1840s

When first built, the entirety of St. Michael's church had a height roughly equivalent to the height of the current chancel. By the time of the Reformation, the high clerestory windows had been added, and the height of the chancel increased. The 1833 view of the church from the north shown in the picture shows the high line of the chancel - at the same level as the current nave. The original roof line can also be seen in the gable. Now a number of drawings exist in the William Salt library of the outside and the inside of the church in the mid-nineteenth century that are of some historical interest. From these it can be seen that at that time, there were box pews throughout the church, including part of the chancel. The main three decker pulpit and reading desk were situated in the south east corner of the chancel, near the current vestry door.

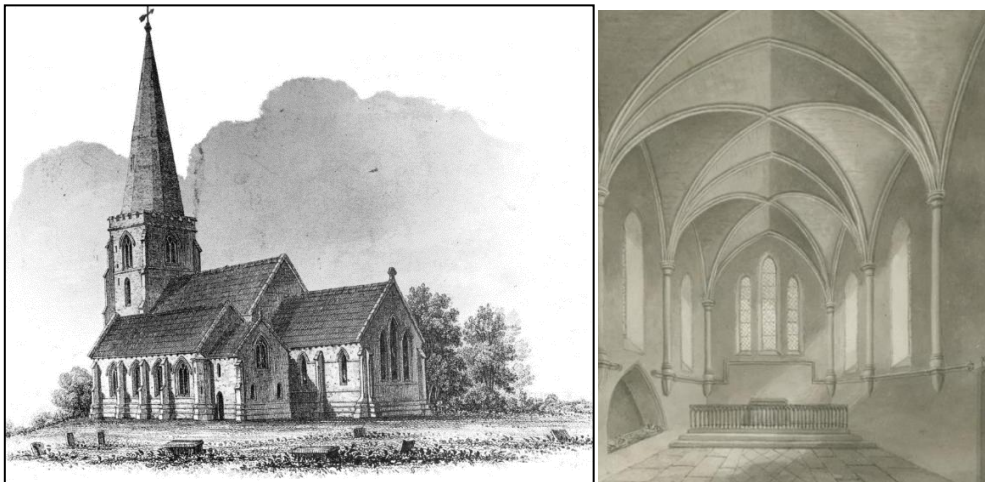


By 1841 however, it was clear that major work was needed on the church and in particular the chancel area. Part of the reason for this seems to have been the lack of care to maintenance given by the Dean and Chapter who were felt to have some responsibility as many of their endowments were within the parish. A request to them for support however seems to have had little effect and an appeal was launched to finance the rebuilding. A church rate was also levied which was probably far from popular. The architect Thomas Johnson from St. John's Lodge was retained and drew up a list of urgent repairs. However, Johnson persuaded the Vestry to go much further and restore the church to the Early English style. In this the Vestry were much influenced by the banker Richard Greene, a churchwarden and also the secretary of the Lichfield Society for the Encouragement of Ecclesiastical Architecture, founded in 1841, which seems to have viewed the early English gothic style as the only acceptable style for churches.

The work that was carried out by a local builder, Mr. J Johnson from Wade Street, was extensive, and to allow this to take place the church was closed from Easter 1842 to July 1843, with the congregation worshipping in the chapel of St. John's Hospital. The roof of the centre aisle was completely replaced, and the roofs of the side aisles extensively repaired. The singer and musician's gallery at the west end of the church was taken down and the organ placed in the chancel. The door on the south side of the church was closed and replaced by a window, and a new north porch was added. Structurally unnecessary buttresses were added to the south aisle. The mausoleum of the Donegal family of Fisherwick Hall was replaced by a stokehole over which a clergy vestry was built with doors into the chancel and the south aisle; and an organ loft was built over the vestry.

But that was not the end of the matter, The next part of the church in line for restoration to the Early English style was the chancel and further work was carried out to the design of Sydney Smirke. This part of the work amounted, in my totally objective and unprejudiced view, to large scale church vandalism, in the search to make the church conform to a theoretical ideal. The chancel was lowered, with the upper row of windows removed, the walls-plastered and a fanned ceiling built.

The side windows became single lancets and the east window was turned into a three-light window, presumably removing much medieval glass. The finished article can be seen from the inside and outside in the figures below.



An interesting illustration of the passions aroused by church architecture at the time can be found in a letter from Richard Greene, the churchwarden and banker mentioned above, to William Salt where he writes that Intends to remove the chancel clerestory, '*a hideous and unnecessary aftergrowth... so substantial a deformity*'. Such were the tastes of some of that time, odd as they might seem to us.

Richard Greene was to influence the rebuilding further. On the north wall of the chancel we find the memorial to his grandfather - Richard Greene, Surgeon and Antiquary (d 1793) who is buried in the Cathedral, and many of the younger Richard's family, who died in the 1830s and 1840s were interred in a tomb in the centre of the Chancel. The hater of the original chancel seems to have taken the opportunity of the rebuild he financed to install a family vault in the process.



Over the following decades the work of the 1840s came to be increasingly regretted. Major repair and restoration work was carried out in the 1890s, with cracks in the Tower being repaired, the lancet window at the west end being reopened, and much of the 1840s work on the chancel undone between 1891 and 1893. The plaster was taken off to reveal the stonework and the ceiling was replaced with an oak roof. The lancet windows at the east end were replaced by a new three light window, but it was not until 1897 that a new stained glass window could be afforded. and finally in 1899 the current clergy desks and choir stalls were added in the chancel, which then assumed its present form, which is very far from being “a hideous and unnecessary aftergrowth”!

Chris Baker

James Jordan Serjeantson - Rector 1868 to 1886

From the early 18th century until 1867, the clergy at St. Michael's were "perpetual curates" - appointed by the incumbent of St. Mary's. These were paid a cash stipend, but had no income from tithes and glebe lands, and were often of lower social standing than Rectors. At the start of December 1867, the then perpetual curate, Thomas Gnossall Parr, who has been in post as a Perpetual Curate since 1831, was made the first Rector of the parish. He was not to enjoy that title for any length of time and fell ill and died shortly afterwards on December 23rd 1867. He was succeeded in June 1868 by the first to actually be appointed to the post of Rector- James Jordan Serjeantson (pictured).



Serjeantson was born in Liverpool in 1835, the son of a Liverpool merchant and an Irish mother and attended Liverpool Grammar and Rugby Schools. In 1854 he matriculated at Trinity College in Cambridge and was awarded his BA in 1858 and his MA in 1861. He was a rowing blue and part of the University crew that lost the boat race in 1857 by 11 lengths. There have only been six larger losing margins in the 190-year history of the race, so I doubt it was an experience he relished. He was ordained deacon in 1859 and priest a year later, both at Lichfield Cathedral. He served a curacy at Stoke from 1859 to 1868 before coming to St. Michael's. He left Stoke in June 1868 to high praise from his incumbent and the Archdeacon, with gifts (including a hall clock) from parishioners and Sunday School children. He married Elizabeth Buckley, a clergyman's daughter in August that year and they were to have seven children.

It is clear from the records we have that he was an assiduous, hard-working parson, much admired and respected by his parishioners. In June 1877, he notes in the service register that "this is the 1000th sermon I have preached in this church". In June 1983, he was to write again "this is the 2000th sermon I have preached in this church". This is an average of around 130 per year! Some indication of his activities can be judged from the activities of Holy Week in 1882 shown below. In total there were 16 sermons or addresses that week, all preached by Serjeantson.

Palm Sunday	Morning	Holy Communion with 15 communicants
	Afternoon	Sermon on Philipians 2.8
	Evening	Sermon on John 15.13-14
Monday	Unspecified	Address "Christ suffered and died as a sacrifice for sins."
Tuesday	Unspecified	Address "Christ suffered and died to make atonement."
Wednesday	Unspecified	Address "Christ suffered and died as an example."
	Evening	Sermon on St Mark 14. 71-77
Thursday	Unspecified	Address "Christ suffered and died to enable us to live a holy life."
Good Friday	7.00	Sermon on Romans 4.25
	9.00	Sermon on St Matthew 26.39
	Morning	Sermon on Isaiah 53.3
	Afternoon	Sermon on Two words from the cross
	Evening	Sermon on the last words
Saturday	Unspecified	Address "Christ suffered and died that we might have life eternal."
Easter Day	8.00	Holy Communion with 43 communicants
	9.30	Holy Communion with 17 communicants.
	Morning	Sermon on Isaiah 38.16 and Holy Communion with 49 communicants
	Afternoon	Sermon on Colossians 3.3 and baptism of five children
	Evening	Sermon on 1 Corinthians 15.14
Monday	Unspecified	Baptism of four adults
Wednesday	Evening	Sermon on Romans 5.2-21

He presided at the pastoral offices - 1123 baptisms, 1189 marriages and 215 funerals in total over the years of his incumbency and also presented 20 to 30 young people each year for confirmation. One of the more memorable funerals was that of William Corfield and his wife Theresa, his elderly mother and four young children who all died from suffocation in a house fire on Breadmarket Street, next to Dr Johnson's birthplace in January 1873. The press reported that James Serjeantson's voice trembled

with emotion as he read the words of the funeral service around the grave before the coffins were lowered one by one.

Theologically, he seems to have been very much against the ceremonial associated with the Anglo-Catholic Oxford movement and is recorded as a signatory of a letter of 1875 to the bishops that argued against legalizing the use of eucharistic vestments and the eastward position for celebrating the eucharist. Some aspects of current worship at St. Michael's would have certainly made him uncomfortable! The service register indicates he was a strong supporter of the Melanasian Mission, formed by Bishop Selwyn, the former Bishop of New Zealand, and indeed one of his curates, Rev John Still (1869-1871), left Lichfield to become a missionary in the South Pacific, at a time just following the martyrdom of Bishop John Patteson in the Solomon Islands.

Serjeantson had gifts other than his preaching and pastoral abilities. Within twelve months of arriving in the parish he was awarded the prize for the best variegated geraniums at the annual flower show (which almost certainly didn't go down well with some of the more established exhibitors!) and he was also a valued member of the bell ringing team. His name can still be found on a number of memorial boards in the belfry, that commemorate the ringing of specific peals - for example he was part of the team that rang a complete peal of Grandsire Minor in 1876. He also served as a Workhouse Guardian and took an in various educational initiatives within the city.

In 1881 he and his wife, their two sons, Cecil (10) and Ronald (7), and three daughters, Mildred (5), Edith (3) and Monica (1) lived at the Rectory on Mount Pleasant, with a housekeeper, cook and two servants. Two other children died as babies - Edward in 1870 and Joyce in 1884.

He died on New Year's day 1886 and was buried four days later with the Bishop of Lichfield presiding at his funeral. His final illness seems to have been short - he was still presiding at funerals two weeks before he died. Elizabeth was to outlive him by 33 years. Their graves, and the graves of their infant children, are, at the time of writing, currently inaccessible in the very overgrown area at the east of the old churchyard. I have not succeeded in identifying them, although I have received many bramble scratches in the trying. But James Serjeantson does have other memorials. A fountain on Greenhill that was erected in his memory in 1886 contains the inscription.

Erected by parishioners and friends in grateful and loving memory of the Rev J J Serjeantson MA, Rector of St. Michael's, Lichfield.



In addition, a plaque in the chancel at St. Michael's reads

To the glory of God and in loving memory of James Jordan Serjeantson M.A. for 17 years rector of this parish who by the sympathy and energy with which he fulfilled his ministry on Christ endeared himself to his parishioners and by the brightness of his manner and his cheerful readiness with which he brought out the stores of his varied learning won for himself the esteem and love of all classes. He fell asleep January 1st 1886 aged 50 years.

Both memorials speak eloquently of the high esteem in which he was held in the church and the city and the love that his parishioners felt for him. He perhaps deserves more recognition as the first to be appointed Rector of the parish.

Chris Baker

