



Leatherhead Methodist Church.

The present church stands in front of the original "Iron Chapel" building erected around 1880 although no plans are in existence of it or the new church which now faces Church Road. It is thought that the present building differs very little from the original plans.

The church was opened on 4th October 1893 at a cost of £2,074.00 with the first wedding in June 1896. By the 1900 the building had expanded and now included an upper and lower halls with extra rooms. Between 1900 and 1910 a new huge pipe organ was installed which lasted until 1969 when the whole of the front of the church was revamped the pulpit removed and the organ replaced with a Compton and then an electronic one.

On the outside of the hall is a replica "bronze" plaque which commemorates the fact that John Wesley preached his last sermon in Leatherhead. A local Craftsman, George Foreman, carved one of the beautiful wood carvings which are present in the church.

In 2004 the whole of the interior of the church was re-ordered at a cost of around £30,000.00 with the removal of the pews, new flooring and general tidying up of the interior. The pews were replaced with comfortable wooden chairs with seats of differing pastel shades and the interior decorated to make a warm and welcoming environment.

When we visited the church we were surprised at the amount of additional rooms and halls that were available. As well as the large worshipping space there are two halls, one on the first floor and another behind the worship space. Ample extra rooms, kitchen and toilets.

We were met by Fred Meynen, one of the church elders, who gave us a very interesting talk about the history and current issues facing the church. Although they have a lot going on, the numbers are falling and a merge with the Leatherhead United Reform church is a reality in the not too distant future.