

CHAPTER 6

The Church

TO THE RESIDENTS IN GLENMORE ROAD AND THE NEIGHBOURHOOD

We earnestly invite you to attend a Meeting to be held by kind permission, at the residence of Thomas Broughton Esq., at 8 p.m. for the purpose of considering what steps can be taken to provide for the Ministrations of the Church of England, including the erection of a Church, in your district.

ZACHARY BARRY, LL.D.

Minister of St. Matthias',

Paddington

January 31st, 1889

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That was the notice of which 450 copies were printed and no doubt that number was distributed and at the meeting resulting from it on Monday, 4th February, the following were present -

The Rev. A.W. Pain, Minister of St. John's Darlington - in the chair

The Rev. J.D. Langley

The Rev. Arthur Killworth

Messrs. Thomas Broughton T.B. Walcot James Green

Walter Hedges Peckett Joseph Jones W.L. Docker

W. Chadwick D. Jones R. Gilder

William Lees John Carter G. Evans

Henry Tolley (17 in all)

There were letters of apology from the Primate, the Rev. Dr. Barry, and an apology was made for Mr. John Colyer.

The Rev. Arthur Pain opened the meeting with prayer and briefly stated the object of the meeting and referred to the unanimous wish of those present that something should be done without delay with regard to establishing a church in the area.

The Rev. Langley also strongly urged that something should be done immediately and he spoke encouragingly of the prospect.

Mr. Walcot moved the following resolution which was seconded by Mr. Hedges, supported by Mr. Joseph Jones and carried unanimously -

"That the meeting, having in view the large recent growth of the population in Glenmore Road and the neighbourhood and the distance from any existing church, is of the opinion that steps should be taken to provide for the ministrations of the Church of England including the erection of a Church and resolved that steps be taken forthwith."

A Committee was elected comprising all those who were present at the meeting (except the Rev. J.D. Langley) and the committee was given the power to add to their number, therefore the following were nominated to be added to the committee -

Mr. Robert Hills of Elizabeth Bay
Mr. John White of Goodhope Street, Paddington
Mr. Worrall
Mr. James Broughton, "Lammermuir", Glenmore Road
Justice Henry Matthew Stephen, "Glen Ayr", Glenmore Road

Mr. Worrall does not appear in any Sands Directory showing Eastern Suburbs residents at about that time, but, as only names of actual householders are listed, it must be assumed Mr. Worrall was a resident of the area but not a householder.

Messrs. Walcot and Hedges were elected secretaries.

Mr. William Chadwick was elected Treasurer.

The question of a suitable site for a church was then discussed. The Chairman informed the meeting he had called upon Mr. Thomas Broughton, firstly in company with Mr. Justice Stephen and later in company with the Primate, with a view of negotiating for a small portion of the Broughton Estate, but Mr. Broughton had expressed his inability to enter upon such negotiations. Later the Rev. Killworth had advised him some of the Duxford Estate was still available, namely:

Lots 4-9 inclusive having 120 ft. frontage to Glenmore Road at £14/-/- per foot

Lots 12, 13, 14 and 15 having frontage to Gurner Street and Duxford Street at £15/10/- per foot, reckoning a frontage of 80 ft.

Lots 17 and 18 having 40 ft. frontage to Duxford Street at £12/-/- per foot.

A lengthy discussion followed, but eventually the following sub-committee (viz. Messrs. Hedges, Walcot, Lees, Chadwick and Green) was appointed to make further inquiries about a site and to report to the full Committee a week later.

A cordial vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Thomas Broughton for his kindness in allowing the meeting to be held at his house and the meeting closed with the Benediction.

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The second meeting on Tuesday, 12 February was also held at Mr. Broughton's home at 8 p.m.

Mr. E.C. Hopkins was proposed by Mr. Gilder as a new member of the Committee, seconded by Mr. Green and unanimously accepted.

The sub-Committee which had been formed to follow up the sites available reported that Lots 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9, the 120 ft. site fronting Glenmore Road at £14/10/- per foot seemed the most suitable and they therefore recommended the site be secured as soon as possible, the price being £1,680.

After some discussion as to how the money could be raised, several of the gentlemen present volunteered to donate varying sums of money, which totalled £94/1/- and one member promised a further £25 towards the building.

Then some members volunteered to canvass subscriptions from householders in the following streets -

<i>Committee Member</i>	<i>Streets to be canvassed</i>
Messrs. Walcot & Hopkins	Glenmore Road
Hedges & Green	Gurner, Duxford, Suffolk
Mr. Thomas Broughton	Norfolk, Cascade, Windsor

Paddington, Underwood

Messrs. Gilder & Chadwick

Begg (Ormond), Olive Heeley
Cambridge

Mr. John White

Brown, Cooper, Hoddle, Good Hope
(Note Good Hope was two words then)

As a result of canvassing, at the next meeting it was announced that £86/2/6 had been collected and 2 residents in Duxford Street (names not given) had promised £20 and £50, on condition that the church was erected on land fronting Duxford Street. It was decided the Secretary should write thanking them for their offer, but advising that, due to the nature and shape of the land in Duxford Street, it would cost a lot more than £70 to prepare it for a building.

The fourth meeting met on 26th February and it was announced £109/2/- had been collected. In addition, the Secretaries and Mr. Hopkins had met the Primate the day before and he was very earnest in the matter and gave them a donation of £20 towards the cost of the site. The Primate also advised he proposed to write to a few wealthy church people, asking for assistance and he was pleased to hear the Committee had already been promised £300 and he thought this was very encouraging for two weeks' canvassing.

The Primate also advised he had £1000 trust money in hand which he could lend after 24th March at 5½% or 6% for an unlimited period. He also thought the Secretary should apply to St. Mark's, St. Philip's Glebe and the Church Society for assistance.

Members were advised the Secretaries and Mr. Hopkins had also seen Mr. Greg of Richardson & Wrench, who had said they would be quite satisfied to accept £100 sterling as a deposit for the Glenmore Road land, the balance to be paid on completion of the deal.

It was decided an account with the Commercial Banking Co. in the name of the Glenmore Road Church should be opened and that all amounts to be drawn to be signed by the Treasurer and one of the Secretaries. At the following meeting on 5th March, the Treasurer

reported the cheque account had been opened with a deposit of £131/19/0 and he reported that he and the two Secretaries had visited Richardson & Wrench's office and paid £100 deposit on the land. Richardson & Wrench had pointed out that the actual frontage was 123'9" meaning the actual selling price was £1,732/5/-, but after some negotiation the bargain was closed and the contract signed for £1,680/-/-.

The Rev. Pain announced Mr. Knapp, a surveyor, had volunteered to survey the land free of charge and Mr. Colyer had promised to act for the Committee as regard the conveyancing of the land to the trustees and Messrs. Walcot, Chadwick, Hedges and Hopkins be the persons to whom the land be conveyed, on condition that they sign a deed of trust.

It was also announced by the Rev. Pain that the Church Society had granted £100 towards the cost of the site, and that Mr. Colyer had said he could not stipulate any actual sum for the conveyancing, but it would be very little. (Unfortunately Mr. Colyer died shortly after this meeting, but his successor, Mr. Roberts, said he would keep as near to the promise made by the late Mr. Colyer as possible with regard to the cost of conveyancing and arranging the mortgage which he understood the Committee intended to raise on the land.)

At the meeting of 2nd April, 1889 the Rev. Pain reported he had made an application to St. Mark's and St. Philip's Glebe for assistance and the letters had been handed to the Primate to forward them together with a covering letter from the Primate.

The plan and elevation of the proposed school/church building was then fully discussed and finally it was moved by Mr. Green and seconded by Mr. Broughton that the chairman and Messrs. Walcot, Hedges and Hopkins be a committee to interview the architects Drake & Walcot and arrange with them to draw up the plans and specifications under the Committee's instructions.

At the same meeting it was decided that a Sale of Work be arranged for the express purpose of raising money for the building,

but "that the element of chance be most rigidly excluded". Members of the Committee were asked to ascertain which ladies would be willing to help in connection with the Sale of Work.

At the meeting in the week following, the Rev. Pain advised the Church Loan Building Fund was willing to lend an amount of £500 free of interest to be repaid in 14 half-yearly instalments of £35/15/- each, on condition that there be 2 additional bondsmen to sign the contract. The bond was duly signed by Messrs. Walcot, Hopkins, Hedges, Chadwick, Jones and Green and the Rev. Pain undertook to forward the bond and to request that the £500 be made available immediately. The architects were subsequently asked to provide a sketch of the proposed building and also to advise the additional cost if a side porch were added. (The architects advised a few days later the cost would be £40.) It was moved by Mr. Hedges and seconded by Mr. Green that a wall be run across under the floor to form a storeroom. It was also moved by Mr. Hopkins and seconded by Mr. Jones that Mr. Hedges' offer to supervise the erection of the building free of charge be accepted with thanks.

On 16th April members were advised that £500 had been paid into the church's bank account by the Church Loan Building Fund and the Primate's cheque for the £1,000 being the amount of the mortgage on the land was also to hand.

The Chairman reported he had received a statement from Mr. E.K.N. Knapp for the survey of the land, putting in pegs, etc. amounting to six guineas, the same being receipted and a note accompanied it saying this sum would represent Mr. Knapp's donation to the Building Fund.

On 24th May, 1889 the following advertisement appears in the "Sydney Morning Herald" -

T O B U I L D E R S

TENDERS are hereby invited until noon on

MONDAY, the 10th June

for the Erection of a

BRICK CHURCH ON THE
Glenmore-road, Paddington

- - - - -
Plans, specifications and full particulars may
be obtained at the offices of the undersigned,
to whom endorsed tenders must be forwarded on or
before the above date.

DRAKE & WALCOT
Architects

109, Pitt-Street

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At the meeting on 25th June Mr. Hedges moved that several of
the lowest tenderers be asked to quote for the back portion of the
building as far as the first buttress on the west side of the side
porch, the unfinished end to be boarded up temporarily. The Rev.
Pain and Messrs. Walcot, Hopkins and Hedges were requested to call
on the tenderers selected in the hope of receiving a revised quote
by the next meeting.

Regarding the Sale of Work: Mr. Walcot reported that the
ladies of the Sale of Work Committee had requested 400 Circulars
advertising the Sale of Work be supplied and it was agreed this
would be done.

It was decided the Sale of Work should be held on 21st August.
Mr. Broughton said Duxford House could be used for the Sale, if it
were not occupied by that time. (N.B. Mr. Broughton had bought
John Gurner's home "Duxford House" upon the death of the last of
Gurner's three unmarried daughters in 1885.)

It was not until the meeting of 2nd July that Mr. Walcot
presented the five revised tenders for the rear section of the
church only and they ranged from £636 to £751. It was decided to
ask the Architects to accept the tender of Messrs. Knowles & Smith,
if they were in agreement with this firm carrying out the work and
failing that, to accept the next lowest, which was Sattler's for
£660.

It was decided the Dean should be asked to lay the foundation stone on 27th July, if that date were convenient for him. A notice appeared in the newspapers a short time after this announcing -

GLENMORE ROAD - (New School Church)

A tender for the erection of a portion of the new school church has been accepted, and operations have already begun. The Very Rev. the Dean had kindly consented to lay the foundation stone. In our next edition we hope to give the date. The site for this church has been purchased at a cost of £1,680; a further outlay of about £800 is, on the lowest computation, necessary before a building can be opened for divine service. About £2,000 has been raised by gift, grant, and mortgage. We hope many of our readers will help raise the £480 still wanted. We rejoice that this matter has been taken in hand, and we commend it with all the power we possess. The treasurer is Mr. W. Chadwick, Gurner-street, Paddington

At the meeting of 9th July it was announced the Architects were agreeable to accepting Messrs. Knowles & Smith's quotation, so they were instructed to accept the tender for £636.

The Dean had signified he was willing to lay the foundation stone on 27th July, but owing to the inclement weather, it was postponed until 3rd August and the Dean was kind enough to agree to the changed date. He had also advised he would use a trowel and mallet which he possessed. After considerable discussion it was decided the Dean should be asked to choose the name for the church from the two selected i.e. St. George or St. Thomas.

All sorts of preparations were made for the Stone Laying Ceremony, some of which were -

- A large calico sign advertising the event
- The possibility of having a choir for the occasion
- The hiring of a piano
- Supplying refreshments

At this meeting it was also decided somewhat similar preparations would have to be made for the Sale of Work. The Sale would be held in St. John's School Grounds, subject to the approval of the Ladies' Committee. Apart from the 400 circulars requested, the ladies had also asked for:

- Tables on which the goods could be displayed
- A piano and a platform for the piano

A large tent.

Mr. Walcot said he would enquire as to whether we could borrow the tables from St. Peter's and arrange the loan of a piano.

At the next meeting it was advised the Dean had approved of St. George's being the name given to the church and also Messrs. Paling & Co. had consented to lend a piano free of charge, also that St. Peter's would lend 10-12 tables for the Sale of Work.

Mr. Hedges said he was still trying to locate a suitable tent for erection on the site on 27th July and he intended to ask St. Matthias' Choir if it would attend the ceremony to lead the singing. Also he had asked Mr. Tolley if the clergy could change into their surplices in his home. Mr. Hopkins said he was still making enquiries about a band.

The Rev. Pain said the cost of supplying refreshments to those attending the Stone Laying Ceremony would be quite expensive, if supplied by caterers, so Mr. Hedges announced his wife and friends would make tea, bread and butter, etc.

Mr. Hedges reported he had that day paid a cheque for £220 to the contractors and he had also seen the Architects regarding the roofing to be supplied. For durability they preferred fine tiles, but for appearance they preferred either slates or shingles. Shingles would cost £58, 12" x 20" Welsh slates £75 and Zinc Tiles £83. It was therefore proposed by Mr. Green and seconded by Mr. Jones that Slates be adopted, in preference to either shingles or tiles.

The Rev. Pain reported he had instructed Sun Tung Shing Ho to make a sample seat of cedar and the price was 30/- for the long seats and 28/- for short ones and 4/- each less if made in pine. Muks & Harder's price for a seat as per sketch supplied was 20/- each in cedar and 16/- each in pine. He was requested to obtain a sample from Muks & Harder as the one made by Sun Tung Shing Ho was not acceptable.

The Sale of Work was to be advertised in "The Sydney Morning Herald" and "The Daily Telegraph" on the following Saturday and Thursday. The advertisement to read:-

ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH - GLENMORE ROAD

A SALE of WORK in aid of Building Fund of the school-room will be held in St. John's Schoolroom, Darlinghurst on WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY and FRIDAY, 21st, 22nd and 23rd August, 1889 from 2.30 to 5.30 p.m. and from 7 to 10 p.m. each day.

Vocal and Instrumental Music each evening
Admission: 1s. Children half-price.

The Secretaries have not reported anything about the laying of the Foundation Stone in the Minutes of the meeting following that ceremony, except to move a vote of thanks to the ladies for providing the refreshments and a report of the expenses incurred, but both "The Australian" and "The Sydney Morning Herald" gave a very detailed report on all developments between the first circular inviting interested people to a meeting in the home of Thomas Broughton to the laying of the foundation stone by the Dean of Sydney, who was the Very Reverend William Macquarie Cowper, and the address by the Rev. Dr. Zachary Barry, the minister at St. Matthias' Church and they also mentioned there was still a balance of over £500 to be raised to pay for the building of the Church/School and urged everyone to help financially so that the church would open with as little debt as possible. Both newspapers stated: "The Rev. A.W. Pain with his usual perseverance and energy had gathered a number of workers together to help him in this matter and they had that day laid the foundation stone of a building, the work in connection with which would probably grow until it became necessary to have a separate parish". The reports in both newspapers were practically identical, so it must be supposed the Secretaries of the Church Committee had handed the reporters the history of the happenings up to that date. As a matter of interest: the Very Reverend William Cowper was the first Australian-born Anglican Minister.

In the Minutes of the meeting of 12th August a vote of thanks was expressed to the ladies and gentlemen who had led the singing at the laying of the Foundation Stone Ceremony and the only matter of interest in the Minutes of 19th August was that the proposed band to be hired for the three evenings of the Sale of Work would have cost £10/10/-, so it was decided to dispense with it.

There is also no report in the church records about the Sale of Work on 21st, 22nd and 23rd August, other than the total amount collected, which was £145/11/1 plus 9/6 for subsequent sales, less £25/0/1 for expenses. However, a newspaper report on the first day of the function gave the impression it was very successful. The article read:

"A Sale of Work in aid of the building fund of St. George's schoolroom, Glenmore-road, was held in a large and commodious marquee adjoining St. John's schoolroom, Darlington yesterday. At Half-past 2 o'clock in the afternoon the Rev. A.W. Pain declared the bazaar open, and from that time till the hour of closing 10 o'clock the marquee was crowded. The efforts of the ladies to dispose of articles were very successful. During the evening an impromptu concert of songs, recitations and instrumental music contributed greatly to the enjoyment of visitors. The following Ladies presided at the stalls:- Mrs. D.C.L. Scott, Mrs. Walcot, Mrs. Chadwick and Mrs. J. Jones, Mrs. White and Mrs. Sharkey, Mrs. D.S.K. Miller, Mrs. McNamara: refreshment stall Mrs. Hopkins; and they were assisted by Misses Dugiud, Wittle, Hilliard, Hollander, Walcot, Paige, Chisholm and McNamara. The articles in the fancy-work stalls were nicely arranged, and the flower stall, which looked the prettiest of all, received a large share of attention. The sale will continue to-day and to-morrow."

At the meeting on 17th September it was announced that Mr. Thomas Broughton was moving away from the district (he moved to Glebe) so the meetings could no longer be held in his home. Mr. Walcot kindly offered his home as the future meeting place and the Committee decided to meet there in a fortnight's time i.e. 1st October.

At that meeting the Committee realized plans would have to be made in an immediate sense for the official opening of the new building, as it would soon be ready for occupation. It was decided the opening ceremony would take place on Saturday, 2nd November, if

that date would be suitable for the Dean and if the Rev. J.D. Langley and the Rev. A.W. Pain would be able to conduct the church services on the following Sunday.

Plans were made regarding the following:-

A musical instrument for the church: It was decided to send a circular letter to all the ladies in the neighbourhood asking if they could combine to purchase an instrument, the same to be considered as the ladies' gift to the church.

A font: Mr. Green said he knew a mason who might be prepared to make one free of charge.

The seats: The Rev. Pain reported the sample seat was satisfactory and therefore 45 seats in all had been ordered. However, as it was considered they should have a book rest in some convenient position, it was decided the Rev. Pain and Mr. Hedges should make the necessary arrangements with Muks & Harder.

Guttering at the rear of the building: Mr. Hedges reported having visited the building with Mr. Green and finding guttering next to the lane so low that it would always be out of repair because of children pulling at it and, after consulting with the Rev. Pain, he instructed the Architects to have it altered and a parapet wall built in its place with a lead gutter at the back.

At every meeting small sums of money were handed to the Treasurer, so apparently the members of the Committee were regularly collecting from those living in the streets they had offered to canvass.

At the meeting of 8th October the Rev. Pain reported Mrs. Docker had offered to give a Harmonium for use in the church.

Mr. Hedges reported he and the Rev. Pain had arranged for Muks & Harder to put book rests on all seats at an added cost of 2/- per seat.

A reading desk: The matter of choosing a suitable desk was left to the Rev. Pain.

Kerbing: It was also reported a section of kerbing and guttering should be done in front of the new building.

At the meeting the following week the Rev. Pain advised he and Mr. Hedges had ordered a wooden font to be made which, without the basin and polishing would cost £1/7/-.

Invitations: 500 Invitations for the opening ceremony were to be ordered by the Rev. Pain.

Austrian chairs: Mr. Green undertook to make enquiries as to the cost of Austrian Chairs for the Sunday School.

Meeting of 22nd October: The Rev. Pain reported Mrs. Dean had presented a Silver Wine Chalice valued at £10/-/-, which he had chosen at her request, and it was decided it be engraved with the following inscription "Presented to St. George's Church by Mrs. Dean of 'Flinton' November 2nd 1889".

Seating in Church: It was agreed that every alternate seat should be free and the remainder let at 20/- per sitting per annum.

Lighting: It was decided that the Rev. Pain and Mr. Hedges make the best terms possible with Mr. Moore, Manager of the Albo Carbon Lighting Company, to light the building with Albo Carbon Lights, providing same will be removed at their cost, if the lights prove to be unsatisfactory.

Insurance: The Treasurer was instructed to insure the building for £650 on the most advantageous terms.

The Invitation Cards: were given to the Committee Members present for them to distribute as soon as convenient.

Advertising: The Secretary was to advertise the opening of the building in "The Sydney Morning Herald" on Saturday, 16th October.

It was decided 36 small Hymn Books and 13 large Hymn Books and Psalters be purchased for the Choir and printed labels be applied to each.

A special meeting was set down for Monday, 27th October, at which the following arrangements were made:-

Mr. Hedges was to insert Advertisements in the Wednesday and Saturday "Sydney Morning Herald" newspapers.

The Rev. Pain was to have the building cleaned, to obtain Carpet for the Chancel and to endeavour to obtain a tubular bell.

Messrs. Chadwick and Green undertook to obtain 12 Austrian Chairs for the Sunday School.

Mr. Hedges undertook to obtain a table for the vestry and to fix hat and coat hooks in the vestry.

Mr. Chadwick undertook to ring the bell for the opening service. Messrs. Walcot and Hedges undertook to take up the collections and Messrs. Green and Hopkins would show people into seats.

It was also arranged that a Public Meeting be held on Monday at 8 p.m., the business to consist of the Treasurer's Report and an appeal would be made for further monetary assistance, also the letting of seats and assistance in the Sunday School, a Tea Meeting, etc.

Mr. Walcot was to ask Canon Moreton to address the meeting.



Rev David Laseron