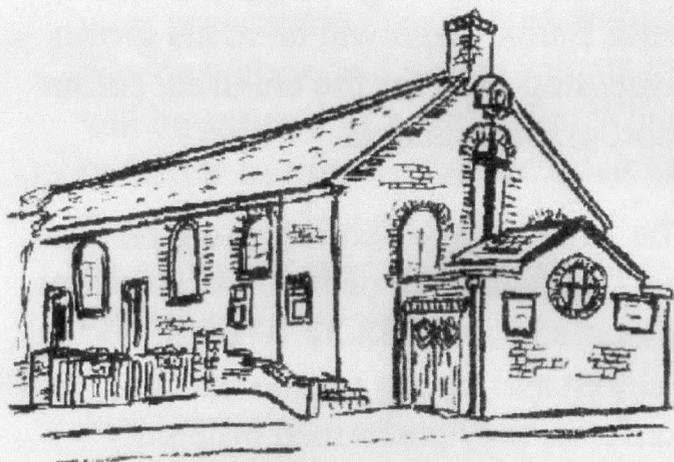


Ragged School

(Cradley)



NEWSLETTER

NO 6

the standard of work. Thanks to
Shen Bullock, Architect and Mike
Dooly for their help. The final invoice
has been received and is £23,581. 28. This
has left the Chapel finances in a precarious
position, so again we are asking for your
financial support to prepare for the second
stage of the refurbishment, decorating the
interior and replacing the windows in the
day School.

Every warm welcome to new members
who have joined the congregation during 1997,
your presence is appreciated and any
enquiries who would like to join us in 1998
will be assured of a welcome. What could
be better to prepare for the week ahead
than by spending an hour in God's House
on Sunday evening between 6.00 and
7.00 p.m.

For the statistically minded. In 1997
Baptisms
Weddings
Funerals



Forthcoming Events - At a Glance

Saturday 29th November
Christmas Fayre 12.00 p.m. - 4.00
p.m.

Sunday 7th December
Christmas Gift Day Service 6.00
Choir:- Greenfield Singers

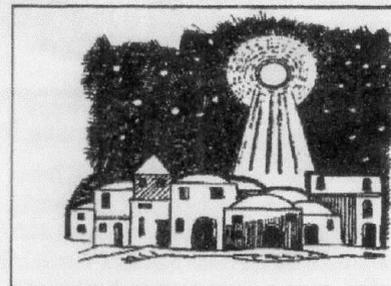
Sunday 14th December
Nativity Service 6.00 p.m.

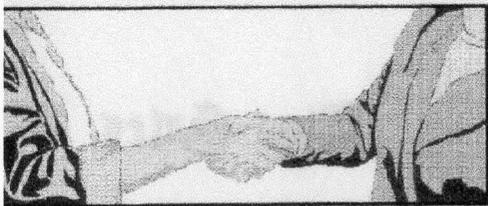
Sunday 21st December
Candlelight Carol Service 6.00 p.m.

Christmas Day
Morning Service 9.00 a.m. - 9.30
a.m.

Sunday 28th December
Evening Worship 6.00 p.m.

Wednesday 31st December
New Years Eve Service 11.45 p.m.
12.15 a.m.





WELCOME

We would like to offer you a warm and sincere invitation to our Christmas Fayre on Saturday 29th November. We are open from 12.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. With hot food, bargains and various stalls, Santa Claus will be in his grotto dispensing gifts for the children, colour photograph available.

The Anniversary Services were held on the 22nd and 29th of June. Collections amounted to £1,388.32. We had 35 children and young people on the platform, they performed brilliantly under the guidance of Albert Slater, organist. The only disappointment was the fact that so few people were in the congregation, probably the worst attended service in the last fifty years. WHY? The answer is with you!!!

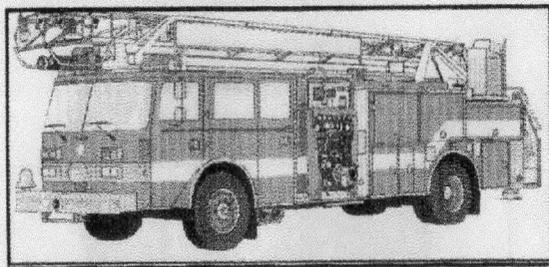
Saturday 5th July was the day of the Anniversary "treat". Some 48 children and friends had a very happy day at Drayton Manor Park in glorious weather.

The Anniversary songs were repeated again on Monday 30th June when twenty children entertained the residents of Woodlands Gate Rest Home, their visit was much appreciated.

On Sunday 6th July Mrs Jane Raybould took over as Primary Department leader, our thanks to Jane and best wishes for her future success.

The refurbishment of the Chapel began on 24th July, This entailed re-pointing the whole of the building and replacing the wooden windows in the Chapel. This is the largest undertaking since the alterations of 1953.

Scholars from the Sunday School were taken to Halesowen Fire Station on August 20th and were entertained by the brigade and allowed to use the hoses and



equipment. A very informative evening for the children.

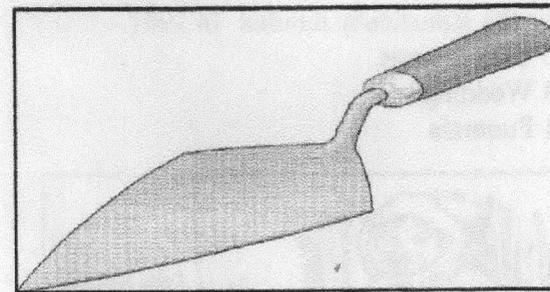
September 1st, some 80 members of the Kingswinford Historical Society visited the

Chapel to hear the History of the Ragged Schools and Cradley.

Since launching the book 'Cradley a History' on May 17th the refurbishment fund has benefited to the extent of £3,320.00.

Following the tragic death of Diana, Princess of Wales in Paris on 30th August, evening fellowship on September 7th took the form of a memorial service, conducted by John Hackett, there was quite a large congregation.

The Harvest Festival was held on the 12th October a good sized congregation were entertained with songs by the Pedmore and Wychbury W. I. Choir. The sale of goods on the following evening was well attended and collections and sale amounted to £282.00.



The builders, Holloway and Connolly Ltd. who were awarded the contract for the refurbishment finally finished work early in November. Comment has been very favourable both from members and friends.