



The Jefferies family on there last Sunday in Gibraltar, they served the church and the people of Gibraltar through some quite significant changes from 1966-1977.

Connection to British Methodism

The Gibraltar congregation has traditionally been part of the Methodist Church's overseas work and maintained close links with Methodist circuits in Britain. Ministers were often appointed from the British Methodist Conference.

Twentieth century

Throughout both World Wars, the church ministered to service personnel stationed in Gibraltar, as well as local residents affected by wartime evacuations and military activity. It continued to provide pastoral care, youth work, and community outreach after the wars.

The Modern era

Today, the Methodist Church in Gibraltar is a small but active congregation. It welcomes worshippers from a range of nationalities and denominations, reflecting Gibraltar's multicultural character. The church works closely with other Christian churches on the Rock through ecumenical partnerships, sharing in community events and charitable initiatives.

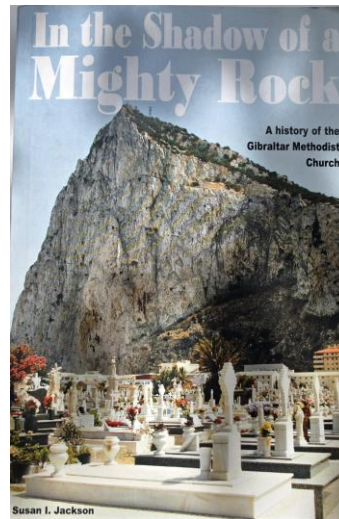
The Methodist Church has played an important role in Gibraltar's religious life by:

- Providing a spiritual home for generations of British residents and military personnel.
- Supporting education and youth activities.
- Promoting ecumenical cooperation among Christian churches.
- Engaging in pastoral care and community service.

Although smaller than the Church of England and the Roman Catholic Church communities in Gibraltar, the Methodist Church remains a valued part of the territory's Christian heritage, continuing a ministry that has lasted for nearly two centuries.

Further Reading –

A full and in-depth history of the Methodist Church in Gibraltar can be found in Sue Jackson's book 'In the shadow of a mighty rock'. This book shows how the church was faithfully served by ordinary men and women who did extraordinary things in order to preach the Gospel to members of the armed forces, to the local population and when able those also living in Spain. This church given its location at the gateway to the Mediterranean and so close to North Africa, has been visited and loved by so many over the years. It is indeed a special place where the presence of God is so apparent.



If you are visiting Gibraltar or someone who is beginning their journey of faith here, then you are most welcome. If you get the chance to come and worship with us on Sunday, please do, you will be very welcome.

Our Superintendent minister is the Revd. David Barrett, if you would like further information. Please do make contact via our website contact page:

www.methodistchurchgibraltar.org



Church Services: Sundays at 10:30 am

Address: 297 Main Street Gibraltar

The Methodist Church
in Gibraltar

Serving God on The Rock Since 1769



Welcome to the Methodist Church Gibraltar.

We have a rich and proud history on the rock, where the church has changed and adapted to the way Gibraltar has changed over the past 257 years. This leaflet is designed to tell you a little bit about the Churches history, but please do take a moment to just sit in this simple but beautiful sanctuary, whilst you pray or reflect on the presence of God. Please do also sign our visitors book so that we are able to hold you in our prayers.

Methodism in Gibraltar began in 1769 with a group of soldiers, the best known of which was Sergeant Major Henry Ince, who himself was a Methodist preacher.



Periods of growth were interspersed with times of challenge, with numbers falling when service personnel were relocated and soldiers on the Rock were banned from

attending Methodist gatherings. Henry Ince was joined by other soldiers, Henry Hall of the Royal Scots and then later his brother Morton. In 1792 they were joined by other soldiers led by Andrew Armour.



In 1804, the first Methodist Minister was appointed and and in 1809, the first church was built on Prince Edward's Road at a cost of £120 (there were 50 members at that time); this is thought to be upon the site of Sgt. Maj. Ince's army quarter. During the mid and late 19th Century, Methodist work spread from Gibraltar into Southern Spain where a congregation was established. A Methodist School was established in Gibraltar and upon its closure in 1895, the premises were used to expand Methodism's social work among service personnel. Three years later, this work moved into premises on Main Street Called 'The Welcome'.



On 27th April 1951 disaster struck when the ship RFA Bedenham blew up in the harbor. The Bedenham was an ammunition ship and the huge explosion effected almost every building on the rock, including the Methodist Church premises on Prince Edwards Road, effecting the roof, windows and building structure.

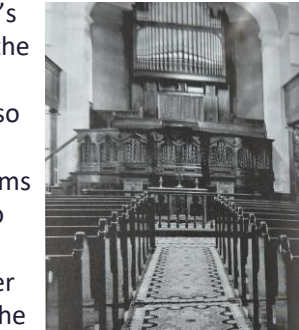
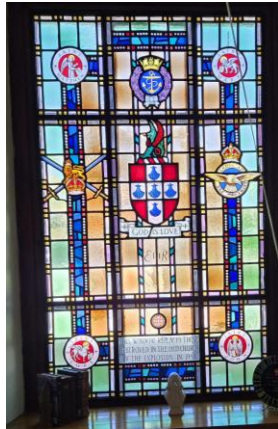
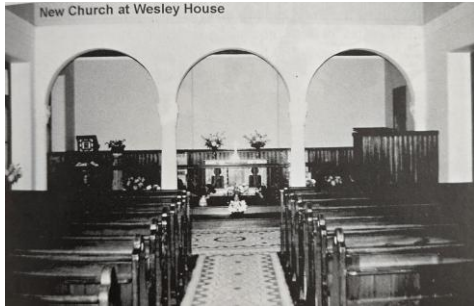


The damage so extensive there was danger that the Church may have to close but the Admiralty paid £2,823 towards the repairs. However, the memorial stained glass

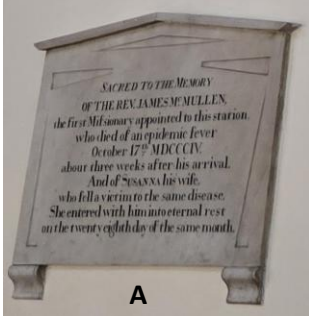
windows, remembering the bravery and faith of Corporals James Lamb and Richard Russel who were flogged and persecuted for practicing Methodism on the rock over a hundred years earlier. The Church on Prince Edward's Road was sold in 1956 when the Main Street premises were adapted so that they could also accommodate regular Methodist Worship. Many items from the old church moved to the new church including the pipe organ and pews. The alter table and chairs also remain the Church to this day.



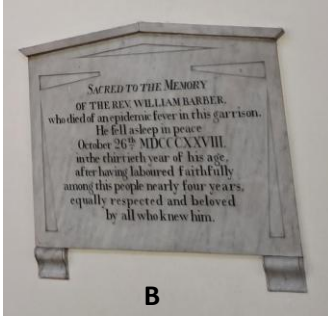
The memorial windows blown out in the RFA Bedenham disaster were replaced with a new memorial window in the new Church at Wesley House.



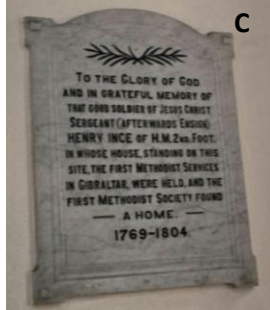
The Church sanctuary as it was in the 1950's until the mid 1980's when the orientation of the Church changed.



A) In memory of the Rev James McMullen, the first missionary appointed here, he died of fever in an epidemic along with his wife Susanna on 17th October 1804.



B) In memory of the Rev William Barber aged 30, who died of fever in an epidemic in the garrison on 26th October 1828. He served for 4 years.



C) In memory of Sergeant Henry Ince of H.M. 2nd Foot In who's house standing on the site of this Church (Church in Prince Edwards Rd) the first Methodist Services were held. He served his regiment and those who called themselves Methodist here for 35 years.

The last services in the old church were held on 10th June 1956, soon afterwards the then minister Rev Jackson and his family moved down to the Welcome, renamed The Wesley House. The new Church along with the manse on the top floor and restaurant on the ground were funded by the sale of the old church and buildings and a loan from the Methodist Property and Development fund.