

"In a little chapel on Winnoth Dale Way we used to worship and to pray"

Remembering the "Chapel in the Valley"

NESTLING in one of the Moorlands' most beautiful landscapes, Winnoth Dale Chapel was once a focal point of country life.

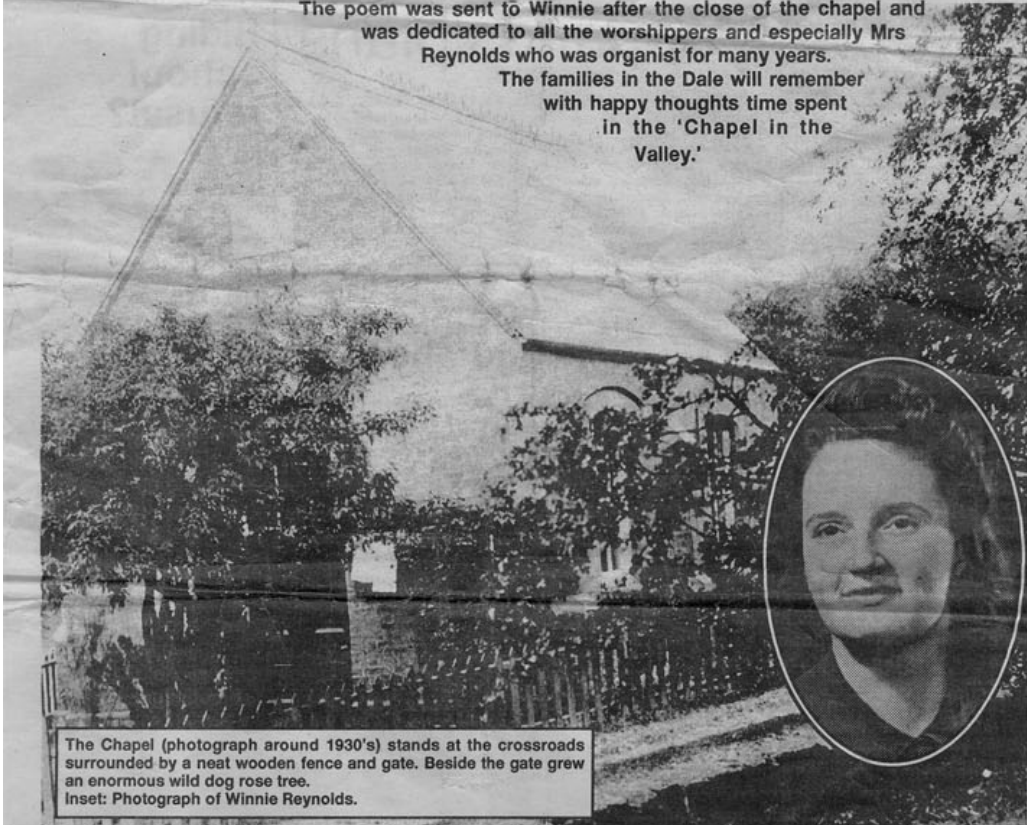
It was after much endeavour and great sadness that the chapel closed its doors in 1969, 70 years after its birth. Many attempts were made to keep the chapel open but to no avail.

A poem penned by a life-long worshipper at Winnoth Dale was sent to Mrs Winnie Reynolds, nee Kinder, of Hawfinch Road, Cheadle, formerly of Winnoth Dale.

The recent sad death of Winnie saw the poem passed to her brother-in-law, Mr Alec Hurst.

The poem was sent to Winnie after the close of the chapel and was dedicated to all the worshippers and especially Mrs Reynolds who was organist for many years.

The families in the Dale will remember with happy thoughts time spent in the 'Chapel in the Valley.'



The Chapel (photograph around 1930's) stands at the crossroads surrounded by a neat wooden fence and gate. Beside the gate grew an enormous wild dog rose tree. Inset: Photograph of Winnie Reynolds.

In a little chapel
on Winnoth Dale way
We used to worship
and to pray.
And though in later years
When only a few did meet
Our faith, our hopes, our fears,
We laid at the master's feet...

And in this sacred hour
The preachers spoke of Heaven
They spoke of love and power
And all our sins forgiven.

Our organist sweetly played
Hymns of praise and love
Our hearts and voice we raised
To him who dwells above.

Happy memories we hold
And thoughts that will ever last
of dear ones gone to the fold
Who worshiped there in the past.

We do not know what next may come
Across our pilgrim way
We do not know tomorrow's road
Or see beyond today.

But this we know, that in our Lord
Shall all our needs be met
And we can trust the heart of him
Who has not failed us yet.

O love divine, that will not let us go,
Keep us in the life, the truth, the way,
May our heart to thee o'er flow
Until the everlasting day.

Although the doors are closed,
And we no longer meet,
We own thee still our Lord,
And find our lives complete.



Photograph Winnoth Dale Chapel around 1910/11. Centre girl is Alice Kinder (nee Hudson) along with other Dale families.



1936 outside chapel - probably chapel anniversary. 3rd from left on back row is Winnie (Kinder) Reynolds organist for many years.