

## WILLIAM HOWARTH

William Howarth was born in Halifax in 1862 the son of Timothy Howarth a Plush Weaver. He spent three years at Didsbury College and entered the ministry in 1891.

He married Margaret Ismay Scott in Bromsgrove in September 1898 and together they had five children.

Newspaper records are sparse. The Derby Telegraph for 2nd September 1911 records that

*“The circuit obtains a strong appointment in Mr Howarth, who has had successful terms in Exeter, Liverpool (Wesley), Weston-Super-Mare, Newport (Mon), and other good circuits”*

**A few newspaper notices having some interest are below:**

*“In the evening the newly-appointed pastor Rev W. Howarth, occupied the pulpit, and took as his text. Nehemiah. 8. 10 ‘The joy of the lord is thy strength’. In the course of a brilliant sermon the reverend gentleman emphasised the duty of Christian joyfulness. He stated that if men would but realize the divinity of work, work in itself would make men happier and the world better because it was a duty ordained by God”.*  
(Southernhay September 1907)

### **CREDITON**

*“At the service on Sunday morning, after the hymn “Peace, perfect peace”, had been sung, the preacher (the Rev W. Howarth) made a most sympathetic address on the loss this country had sustained by the death of her King, who had proved himself one of the greatest of monarchs, and who aslo endeared himself to all during his short reign. He asked that the prayers of the Church might be offered, on behalf of the bereaved Queen and Royal family, and especially for the new King that he might have grace and wisdom to rule aright. At the close of the service the organist (Mr A.T. Stoye) played the Dead March in “Saul”, the whole congregation reverently standing”* . (10 May 1910)

*“At Southernhay Wesleyan Church, Exeter on Monday, Rev W. Howarth was the recipient of a silver teapot, the gift of the members of the Wesley Guild and friends. The Secretary of the Guild, in making the presentation, expressed the appreciation of the members of the good work done by Mr Howarth during his three years’ pastorate, and conveyed to him their best wishes for his success in his new sphere of labour in Bolton. Mr Howarth, to whom the presentation came as a complete surprise, suitably thanked the donors, and spoke feelingly of his happy associations with the Guild and the church generally”.*  
(August 1910)

*“One can open at random “Songs at Sunset” a collection of poems by the Rev William Howarth, and be certain of discovering verses that will give pleaseure.*

*It is a collection of poems written at odd times and on odd subjects. Their common quality is charm, for Mr Howarth’s poems are songs; and its construction is always simple.*

*“Give us men”, “Heaven - a forcast”, “November the Eleventh”, “Friends we never see”, “Lonely People”, “A Call to Service” - these titles should give an indication of the nature of the book.*

*Though one must also mention “June Days”, “A bunch of snowdrops”, “Snow in Summer” and “Ode to the Lily”, to show the author in different mood”*  
(Sussex Agricultural Express 1932)

**William Howarth died in 1957 aged 95**