

JOHN CHARLES WENN

John was born in March 1850, in Wisbech, the son of Charles and Rebecca Wenn.

He married Emily Penelope Turner in Derby on 11th November 1879. They had no children.

In 1872, he entered the Primitive Methodist ministry which was primarily spent in Derby.

He came to Maidenhead in 1907 and spent five years in the district.

Several newspaper records deal with his subsequent ministry in Derby

Charles's mother Rebecca died on the dawn of Easter Day 1917

Mrs REBECCA WENN

Just before the dawn of Easter Day our aged and beloved sister, Rebecca Wenn, passed to her great reward.

She had a twofold link with our ministry, being the daughter of the late Richard Howechin, who travelled at Upwell in 1848-9, and having given one son to our ministry in the person of Rev. J. C. Wenn, now superannuated, and residing at Derby.

The unanimous testimony concerning her in the place where she lived practically the whole of her long life is that she was "a good woman." In the days of her strength she was most regular at the means of grace, always taking part, in the fellowship meetings.

It is a characteristic that a few Months before she died, whilst out in a bath chair, she expressed a desire to-see the inside of our chapel again, and was wheeled into the building, and with tears in her eyes expressed her joy at being once again in the dear old sanctuary.

The interment took place on Wednesday, April 11th, at Outwell Cemetery. conducted by Rev. W. H. Curtis.

A long but a triumphant life.

(Primitive Methodist Leader April 19 1917)

John's wife Emily died in December 1925

The remains of the late Mrs. Wenn. wife of the Rev. J. C. Wenn, of 31. Reginald street, were laid to rest in the Nottingham-road Cemetery an Friday.

The first part of the service was held at Traffic-street Chapel. and was conducted by the Rev. W. Goldstraw, Rev. A. Herod, and the Rev. J. Bradbury. The Revs. C. L. Tudor and Chapman were also in attendance.

The coffin was of polished elm and mounted with brass appointments. the nameplate being engraved. "*Emily Penelope Wenn, born December 8th 1857, fell asleep 6th Decemberr, 1925*".

The principal mourners wer Rev J. C. Wenn (husband), Mr. Turner. Mr., Mrs and Miss Bostockk. Mr and Mrs Henry Ward, Mr. F. Wenn, Mr. A. Wenn, Mr A. West, Mr. Raine, Mr. Judge, Mrs. Bailey. Miss Mosley. Mnr Morrell, Miss Fawcett. Rev. W. Goldstraw and Rev. A. Herod.

Beautiful floral tributes were sent by the husband, Mr. Turner, Mr and Mrs. Bostock and family. Mr. and Mrs. Henry Ward,. Mr. F. Wenn, Mr. A Wenn. Mr, A. West, Mr. Raine, Mrs Morrell, and Miss I Fawcett.

The funeral arrangements were carried out by Messrs G Wathal and Son.

(Derby Daily telegraph 14 Dec 1925)

Emily Wenn was a lady of substance and her will makes interesting reading:

Probate has been granted of the will of Mrs. Emily Penelope Wenn, of Willowmere, Reginald Street, Derby, wife of the Rev John Charles Wenn, retired Primitive Methodist minister. The will has been proved at £2,897 16s. 5d., the net personality being £415 6s, 5d.

Mrs. Wenn bequeaths to her husband all her household furniture, plate, linen, china, glass, books, pictures, prints, and other household effects, and watches and jewelry.

All her real estate and residue of personal estate is left in trust to her husband and on the death of her husband to pay the following legacies free of duty:

To nieces Emma Elizabeth Turner £250,
Emily Eliza Bostock £250;
her nephew Francis Bostock £150:
to the Temporary Home for Lost and Starving Dogs Battersea Park-road, London. £50
National. Industrial Home for Crippled Boys, Kensington, £50:
Dr. Barnardo's Homes. £50
R.S.P.C.A.. £50;
Royal Deaf and Dumb Institution. Derby.£50
and the residue between the Primitive Methodist Superannuated Ministers, Widows and Orphan Fund
and the Primitive Methodist Itinerant Preachers' Friendly Society.

(Derby Daily Telegraph 28 June 1926)

John speaks of the influences of his early life

LITTLEOVER P.S.A.

Mr. H. Marriott presided over a fair attendance on Sunday.

The speaker was the Rev J C Wenn, who spoke of men influential in and on his early life. The great Spurgeon came first, and the speaker sketched a vivid picture of the impression received in a Tabernacle service. Principal Cairns was named as another; in this instance it was the masterly reading of Ephesians 2 without the slightest comment which indelibly impressed and still influenced after nearly half a century.

The orchestra gave three suitable selections. Easter hymns were heartily sung. The secretary announced the monthly musical service next Sunday

(Derby Daily Telegraph 18 April 1927)

John married a second time to Louisa Fawcett in Derby March 1929

John's earlier ministry at Littleover is remembered

CHURCH AT HOME AT LITTLEOVER COMING OF AGE CELEBRATIONS

A successful "At Home" was held at the Littleover Primitive Methodist Church last night, in connection with the 'Coming of Age' celebrations.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Hebb acted as host and hostess, and Mr. E. Spencer was president of the gathering.

Mr. Hebb recalled how, in November, 1903, the Rev. J. P. Maynard conducted the opening ceremony.

The approximate cost of the building was £900. It was erected to the memory of the Rev. J. C. Wenn, a retired minister of the church.

The following ministers had served during the last 21 years: Revs. G. P. Maynard, Martindale, T. McKenzie, J. Norton, W. Brown, J. Bradbury, T. Buttery, G. E. Sales and C. F. Gill.

Among other sources of income, £101 had, since 1904, been raised by carol singing, and they were indebted to the late Madame Aspley for £38 2s., the proceeds of concerts.

A musical programme included solos, and duets by the Misses Jeffery; pian forte duet, Mr. and Mrs. Tomlinson; humorous recitation, Miss Constance Brooker.

(Derby Daily telegraph 12 Nov 1929)

John recalls a double celebration

DUAL ROMANCE RECALLED DERBY EX PASTOR'S ANNIVERSARY WEDDING JUBILEE

There is a little touch of romance as well as goodness the way in which the Rev J C Wenn a superannuated Primitive methodist minister of Derby, celebrated Armistice Day.

This year is the anniversary of a double wedding in which Mr Wenn figured. His wife died in 1925 but his sister in law and her husband - the other two of the double wedding - are still alive.

Mr. Wenn told a Darby Daily Telegraph representative today "I keep this Armistice day celebration in a double sense. I invariably attend the Armistice Day service in the Market Place - then I go to the graveside in the Nottingham road cemetery to keep that other anniversary alone..

WED IN DERBY.

Mr. and Mrs Francis T Bostock, of Homecroft Whobeley, Coventry, who celebrate their golden wedding on Monday were married at Traffic street church, Derby, on November 11th 1879 with Mrs. Bostock's sister Emmie Penelope Turner, whose bridegroom was Mr. Wenn.

Mr. Wenn, said that his wife and Mrs Bostock were daughters, of Mr. John Turner, basket and wickerwork manufacturer for the old Midland Railway in Derby.

Mr. Wenn's hobbies are reading and walking. "I do a deal of walking," he remarked. "I used to keep a dog," he added. "but I've had my last pet, I will never have another. Pets tend you when you lose them because they become almost a part of yourself" Etc

(Derby Daily Telegraph 9 Nov 1929)

In June 1931 the Primitive Methodist Conference met in Derby and the Derby Daily Telegraph devoted its front page to pictures of personalities. John Charles Wenn featured as part of the illustrious band



John died in January 1940

REV J C WENN
Funeral of well-known
Methodist Minister

The funeral of the Rev John Charles Wenn (90) of 31 Reginald Street, took place at Nottinham road cememetry. Ministers taking part in the service at Traffic Street Methodist Church were the Rev E Ball, the Rev L S Cheshire and the Rev C F Gill.

The last named spoke in warm terms of Mr Wenn's 68 years valuable service as minister I the Methodist cause. Mr A Judge was the organist.

Mourners wer: Mr J C Wenn (widow), Mrs Ward (sister), Miss Fawcett (sisiter in law), Arthur Wenn (nephew), Rev A J Herod.

Other present ... (etc)

(Derby Daily Telegraph 10th Feb 1940)

**John's wife Louisa relocated to Loughborough shartly after John's death
(where she later died in September 1944)**

Mrs J C Wenn of 31 Reginald Street, Derby on leaving Derby, wishes to express her sincere thanks to the many friends who have sent her words of sympathy and comfort in her recent bereavement. Letters were so numerous that it has been impossible to acknowlege separately.

(Derby Daily Telegraph 12 April 1940)