

FULMODESTON METHODIST CHAPEL

The Primitive Methodist Church, was founded in 1812 by a group who had been excluded from main-stream Methodism for their support of open air preaching such as had been the practice of the 'primitive' (i.e. original) Methodists of John Wesley's day. Primitive Methodism first reached Norfolk in 1822. and a society of "Prims" (as members of the church were commonly called) was meeting in Fulmodeston as early as 1851. Always a church of the common man Primitive Methodism attracted members from the poorer folk in the village (it was a case of "master to church and man to chapel") and in the later years of the 19th and early years of the 20th many Prim chapels (including that at Fulmodeston) had close links with the agricultural workers' unions.

The present chapel was bought by the Primitive Methodists in 1865 but there is evidence that the building was already being used for Methodist worship at the time of purchase. The chapel was extended in 1902 and, apart from the introduction of electricity for lighting and heating, it remains pretty much as it was then.

In 1932, Methodist Union brought into one Church the Primitives, the Wesleyans and various other smaller churches into which, over the years, the Methodist movement had become divided. Fulmodeston Chapel is now a member of the Fakenham Section of the Central Norfolk Methodist Circuit which stretches from Wells and Blakeney in the north to Watton and Great Ellingham in the south. Our minister is Rev. Andrew King of Fakenham (tel: 01328 862 174).

Except in exceptional circumstances (eg when the congregation joins their Anglican friends for special services at the Parish Church) services are held in the Chapel at 2.30 p.m. on Sundays. Ecumenical links in the village are strong and Church and Chapel work well together

