



ST. JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, CARRYING PLACE

The congregation of this church will start their 150th anniversary celebrations with a birthday party in Canterbury hall Saturday, January 12. — Photo lent by Rev. D. Hawkins.

Carrying Place Church Marks 150th Birthday

A giant birthday party will be held in Canterbury Hall Saturday January 12. Anglicans from all over this area will salute their mother church as it celebrates its 150th anniversary.

It was in 1824 that an Irishman Rev. John Grier established the first local parish of the Church of England at Carrying Place. He also conducted services at Picton, Rossmore, Wellington, Hillier, Consec, the Trent and Brighton. He left Carrying Place in 1841 and went to St. Thomas Church, Belleville. He died at the age of 80 and his wife at 90. They had a family of 13 children.

Since that time 29 priests have served the Church of St. John. Rev. David Hawkins, former member of the British Air Forces is the 30th Minister at St. John's.

In 1885 a new church was built to replace the first one that burned. The corner stone was laid by Reuben Young, E.V.

(Ted) Young an active member of the church who has done a lot to organize the 150th anniversary still has the silver trowel in the possession.

Miss Amelia Hayes, Trenton, was the organist for many years. When the new organ was installed, the old organ was given to Miss Hayes. Her father made it into a desk which she still has in her home at Trenton.

The following is a complete list of the clergy who have served St. John's Parish Church; John Grier; R.V. Rogers; P.G. Bartlett; G. Brown; J. McIntyre; F. Padfield; H. E. Plees; E.H.M. Baker; C.P. Mulvany; I.A. Morris; J.W. Forster; B.F. Byers; J.de P. Wright; S.E. Morton; J.A. Poston; W.J. Gratton; F.G. Kirkpatrick; A.E. Tavener; A. Strothers; S. Coleman; F.C. Beazer; G. Rennison; O. Johnston; J. Rogers; A. Wakeling; A. Semple; R. Nash; M. Soultter; G. Kingley; and D. Hawkins.



Rev. David Hawkins with Anniversary Plate

Carrying Place Church Marking 150th Birthday

CARRYING PLACE — These days, Rev. David Hawkins has plans for pushing plates.

It's only one detail of the program the busy Anglican priest has been plotting in the past year celebrating the 150th anniversary of St. John's church here.

Physically and spiritually, St. John's is a Quinte landmark. As a pioneer mission on the strategic Indian Carrying Place portage, linking the

Bay of Quinte and Lake Ontario, it fostered congregations in later district settlements.

In more recent years, when rural churches have been disappearing, it still remains an active centre of community worship.

Its future promises to be even more energetic, believes its rector.

Mr. Hawkins — particularly in this anniversary year — is proof that a country parsonage is not necessarily a placid charge. His parish of Kente also includes Wellington and Ameliasburgh, organized since his appointment in 1971.

Kente parish counts about 140 families; approximately one third are centred on St. John's.

St. John's, he says, has "a lot of potential for the future — to match its past."

Credit for its historic start goes to an Irish cleric, John Grier, who travelled throughout Prince Edward County, to meet the religious needs of early settlers. As the only clergyman once he had the melancholy task of conducting his infant daughter's funeral.

The present St. John's was built in 1885. What happened to the first edifice is a mystery since there are no records. Fire is accepted as the likeliest answer.



CUTTING THE CAKE — The anniversary cake is being cut jointly by Rev.

David Hawkins (left); E. V. (Ted) Young, Chairman of the Anniversary Committee;

and Bishop J. B. Creegan, during celebrations Saturday night.

St. John's Anglican Church, Carrying Place, is 150 years old this year. Members of the congregation, fellow parishioners of the Parish of Kente, Rector David Hawkins, Bishop J.B. Creegan, former parishioners, and well-wishers from many of the area's churches, gathered together Saturday night in Canterbury Hall, King St., Trenton, in a giant birthday celebration. It was the first of many planned events for the year to mark the occasion.

Focal point of the evening's celebrations was a giant cake in the form of a church building which was on display for most of the evening before refreshments were served.

E.V. (Ted) Young, Chairman of the Anniversary Committee, addressed the crowd of close to 100 people, who listened attentively while he said "A year ago it was just a dream to us and tonight we are trying to fulfill that dream". He was speaking about the preparations for the Anniversary celebrations.

Mr. Young's ancestors arrived in the area in the late 1700s, about 1780 or 1790. They have been members of the St. John's congregation ever since. It was Mr. Young's ancestor, Reuben Young, who laid the cornerstone for the new church built in 1885. He was presented with a trowel in memory of the occasion, which Ted Young still has today.

Mr. Young pointed out the importance of a Women's group within a church. He said "St. John's has had some very lean years and had it not been for the Guild, or the ACW as it is known today, we might have been out of business."

A buffet-style dinner was served to conclude the birthday celebrations.

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