

# Trelights Chapel

The first Bible Christian Society in Trelights was established in the home of Nicholas Carveth in 1820. The cottage meetings continued until 1837 when a Bible Christian Chapel was built in. It closed in 1907, to become a home that is now called Chapel Villa.

Associated with the Trelights Chapel was a small building for worship at Port Quin, which was quite a fishing community then - after its closure there was a house fellowship in Port Quin until well into the 1900s when the Steward of Trelights Chapel, would walk down on a weekday evening of the week to conduct a fellowship service.

The Methodist Schoolroom was built, as a Chapel, in 1831 by subscriptions and the deeds drawn up in 1833 in a somewhat unorthodox manner. Trelights was one of six Chapels whose deeds were defective from the Wesleyan point of view so they could make no claim on them. This meant that after the 'disruption' of 1834-35 when the Wesleyans held on to their Chapels or reclaimed them, the 'reformers' (Methodists) built new ones, as in Port Isaac.

In 1887, the Brown family, who were carpenters in Trelights for generations, built a new Methodist Chapel, the Chapel on the Hill, in the space adjoining the old building. Seating a congregation of about 50, it is built against the south wall of the first Chapel and connected by a removable panelled screen. The old building became the Schoolroom.

In 1907 the Bible Christians merged with the Worshippers on the Hill, the Methodists. The Bible Christians took their lamps, harmonium and hymn books and the Chapel became their new home. This united group were known as the United Methodists and in 1932 the Methodist Union came with the Wesleyans.

Two Sunday services were held in the Chapel up until the late 1980s when it was decided that a single 6pm Sunday service would be more suitable. This arrangement continues with a monthly Chapel Friends Evening.



The Schoolroom continues to function well when suppers are provided after Harvest Services and Sankey evenings and also as a meeting place for coffee mornings, Christmas and Summer Fayres plus local community groups and choirs.

The present Chapel worshippers feel privileged to have the stewardship of this lovely building and have welcomed many visitors over the years. They are grateful for the loyal support of the local community in recognising this as a valuable part of the heritage of Trelights.