

St Bartholomew's Church Extension 1995

An extension to provide more facilities for St Bartholomew's had been needed for a long time, but it was not until the 1990s that this became a possibility. In 1990 it was decided that Quorn United Church could not maintain two separate church buildings and the Methodist Chapel on High Street was sold. £60,000 of the proceeds was donated towards an extension, leaving a further £70,000 to be found from grants, gifts and fundraising. The contract for the extension was signed in May 1995 and it was completed later that year. The architect was Paul Roberts of ADW Partnership from Leicester who also lived in Quorn. The builders were D W Hicks Building Co Ltd of Leicester and the stonemason was James Toon of Woodhouse Eaves.

During construction, Robert Beardsley, from New Quorn House (5 Loughborough Road, next to Rawlins), took photographs and these are reproduced in this album.



Left: Before work commenced.

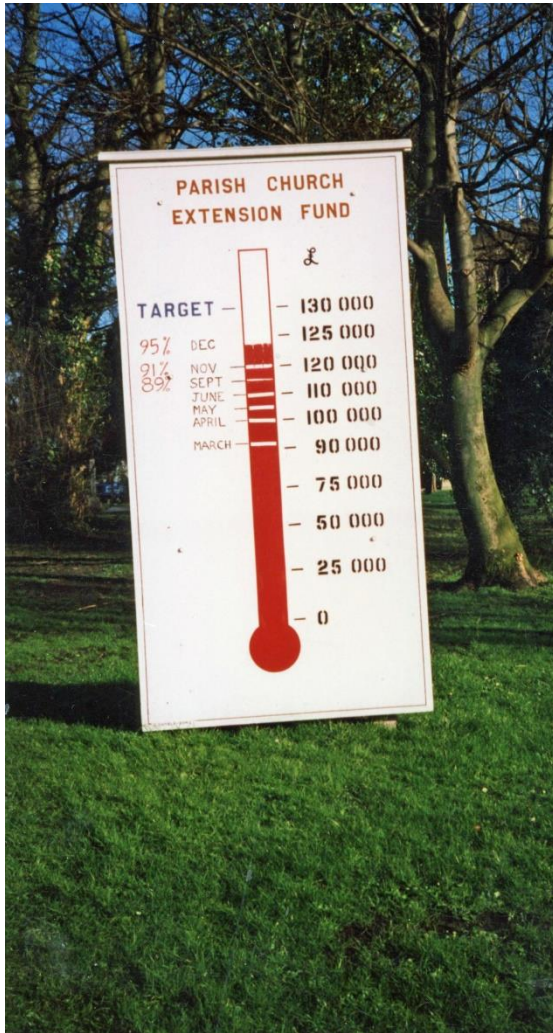
Right: Lesley Whitwell (Church Warden) signs the building contract, watched by other signatories - Rev David Bowler, Colin Chapman (Church Warden) and Paul Roberts (architect).



Left: The funding target is set!

Centre: Rosemary Conley cuts the first turf.

Right: The workmen trenching for mains and drains.



Left: Work begins – June 1995..... **Right:**And progresses.....



Left: In-filling of the underground boiler house before the new floor was laid. The boiler was moved to the unused north porch.

Centre: The stonemasons – James Toon of Woodhouse Eaves and his sons.

Right: The keystone of the circular window is set in place.



Left: The window is in place.

Centre: The work nears completion.

Right: Paul Roberts, project architect – a partner in ADW Architects, Leicester.



To enable access and construction of the extension four gravestones were moved to the north side of the Church, but exhumations were not required as the graves themselves were not disturbed.

During construction the bones (below left) were discovered. These were reinterred.

Right: David Bowler conquers his fear of heights to 'top out', accompanied by Geoffrey Stuart, Director of Hicks.



Left: How well the 20th century extension blends with the 14th century tower.

Right: Members of the Extension Sub-Committee:

Standing: Colin Chapman, Robert Northage, Derek Snelling, John Siddons, Neil Fuller, David Slater, Michael Jones.

Seated: Lesley Whitwell, Stewart Friis, Robert Beardsley.

Other members: Rev. David Bowler, Geoffrey Gibson, Norman Walter, Dereck Loble, Terry Stirling, Marianne Gilbert.



A dedication ceremony was held on 17th March 1996, attended by Bishop Thomas.

Right: Bishop Thomas and Rev. Edward Lacey (Chairman of Leicester and Oxford District).

