

Named Rooms in Methodist Central Hall Westminster

Following major refurbishment at Methodist Central Hall Westminster (2004 – 2005) a number of rooms have been renamed to commemorate prominent Methodists who have been associated with the building during the Twentieth Century. Rooms have been named after the following: -

Dinsdale Young (1861 – 1938)

Revd Dinsdale Young was Superintendent Minister of Methodist Central Hall Westminster from 1914 – 1938. He was President of the Wesleyan Methodist Conference in 1914. He was a gifted preacher, lecturer, administrator and writer and travelled over ten thousand miles annually preaching and lecturing. He was never known to speak unkindly of any man and was still ministering at his beloved Methodist Central Hall at the time of his death at the age of 77.

William Edwin Sangster (1900 – 1960)

Revd William Edwin Sangster was Superintendent Minister of Methodist Central Hall Westminster from 1939 to 1955. An outstanding preacher, pastor and prolific writer he is remembered with great affection by the hundreds of people who took shelter in the Methodist Central Hall basement for over 1,000 nights during the Second World War. He was President of the Methodist Conference in 1950.

Maurice Barnett (1917 – 1980)

Revd Maurice Barnett was Superintendent Minister of Methodist Central Hall Westminster from 1964 until his untimely death in 1980. A world famous evangelist, he preached the good news in USA, Australia and Fiji. An ecumenist, Maurice developed close links with Westminster Abbey, Westminster Cathedral and the Houses of Parliament. During his ministry the debt which Methodist Central Hall had carried since 1912 was finally cleared.

Donald English (1930 – 1998)

Revd Donald English who had the unique distinction of being elected President of the Methodist Conference on two occasions (1978 and 1990) was based at Methodist Central Hall Westminster when General Secretary of the Division for Home Missions (1982 – 1995). An outstanding preacher, teacher, writer and administrator, Donald was a sought after speaker throughout the world by Christians of all denominations. He championed the move to transfer the ownership of Methodist Central Hall Westminster to the Methodist Church nationally.

John Tudor (1930 -)

Rev John Tudor was Superintendent Minister of Methodist Central Hall Westminster from 1981 to 1995. A great preacher, indefatigable administrator and innovator, John oversaw the re-leading of the Dome, the external cleaning of the building, the interior decoration of the building, including the Great Hall and the expansion of the Hall's conference facilities as well as the transfer of ownership of the building to the Methodist Church nationally to ensure its long term future.

Sir Robert Perks (1849 – 1934)

Sir Robert Perks was a prominent Wesleyan Methodist layman and Member of Parliament who proposed the setting up of the One Million Guinea Fund to expand the mission of the Wesleyan Methodist Church. Part of the proceeds would go towards the erection of a world centre for Wesleyan Methodism and include a central mission hall and conference facilities. He oversaw the planning and construction of Methodist Central Hall Westminster and was Treasurer from 1898 until his death in 1934. He was elected the first Vice-President of the Methodist Church at the Uniting Conference of 1932.

George Thomas (1909 – 1997)

George Thomas, Viscount Tonypandy of Rhondda, was speaker of the House of Commons from 1976 to 1983, Vice-President of the Methodist Conference in 1959 and Chairman of the National Children's Home for many years. A Methodist Local Preacher of distinction, George preached at Methodist Central Hall Westminster on several occasions and was a Trustee for some years. He greatly encouraged the close links between Methodist Central Hall and the Houses of Parliament.

Martin Broadbent

Revd Martin Broadbent was the Chair of the London South West District of the Methodist Church from 1992 – 2002. During his chairmanship, Methodist Central Hall Westminster became the responsibility of the Methodist Church nationally. Martin was the first Chair of the newly formed Methodist Central Hall Westminster Managing Trustees serving in that capacity from 1994 – 2006.

Aldersgate Room

Named after the street in London where on 24th May 1738 John Wesley underwent a remarkable 'conversion', which was to lead to the Methodist Movement, becoming part of the great religious revival of the 18th Century.

Oxford Room

Named after the city where John and Charles Wesley went to University and where in 1729 they formed a group which met regularly for prayer and meditation and doing pastoral work and which was given the nickname 'Methodist'.

Westminster Foyer

Named after the city in which Methodist Central Hall is situated and also the school nearby where Charles Wesley was a scholar in the 1720's.

These rooms are of varying sizes – the George Thomas and Robert Perks Rooms seat 150 persons, the Donald English and William Sangster Rooms seat 140, the Dinsdale Young, Maurice Barnett and John Tudor Rooms seat 50 and the Martin Broadbent room 30.

Hiring

Further information on how to hire these rooms as well as the Great Hall, Small Hall, Library, Aldersgate and Oxford Rooms can be obtained from the Methodist Central Hall Westminster Business Centre link site www.c-h-w.com or by email info@c-h-w.co.uk or by telephoning 020 7 222 8010.