

# CHRIST CHURCH



## The Parish Church of Prestatyn

The original building, was designed by T H Wyatt of London and built by Chesters & Sons of Everton at a cost of £1374, plus a further £560 for the neighbouring vicarage and ancillary items. It included the present nave and entrance porch with its steeple, together with a much smaller chancel, and a north aisle with a vestry at the end.

Until the early part of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century the entrance to the church was by means of a stepped pathway from the lych-gate. Just inside the church was the font, but this was later moved to the south aisle to make way for the churchwarden's pew. The short north aisle was separated from the nave by two arches supported by round pillars, and pews were arranged facing the nave so that the former stone pulpit on the south side could be seen. A chancel arch, much lower than the present one, was beautifully decorated with the words:

*Gogoniant yn goruchaf I Dduw ac ar y ddaear tangneffed I ddynion ewylas da*  
(*Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace, goodwill towards men*)

There have been three major extensions to the original building. In 1905 the wall on the south side of the nave was replaced by the present arches and the south aisle was added at a cost of £1453. To mark this, a memorial stone was laid on Ascension Day, 1 June 1905 by WJP Storey JP, High Sherriff of Flintshire. Shortly afterwards in 1907 a pipe organ, built by Messrs Abbot & Smith of Leeds was installed.

In 1910 the north aisle was extended to its present length and a small chapel created at the east end, as a memorial to the then late Vicar, the Rev'd O J Davies.

The third and largest alteration came in 1926 when the nave was extended to the east and a new chancel was built. The nave roof was re-slatted and the original plaster ceiling was removed to show the wooden roof that can be seen today. The Lady Chapel was also created at this time. New vestries for clergy and choir were added on the north side of the chancel and a new oak pulpit replaced the old stone pulpit. The total cost of this work came to £7000. As a result of all of these changes, the seating capacity of the church was increased to 350. All the work was completed in 1927, with the keystone of the new chancel being placed in position on Christmas Eve, 1926

A Service of Re-Consecration took place on 1 July 1927 when the preacher was Dr A G Edwards, first Archbishop of Wales.