

Plaque unveiled at church site



Pictured at the unveiling of the memorial plaque are (from left) Mr. and Mrs. A. Smith, Mrs. Liddiard, Mr. Gordon Adey, Mrs. S. Stone, Mr. J. Barrett, Mrs. E.M. Millard and Mr. C. Jarvis. They are all former members of the old church and their average age is 90 years.

Photograph: Keith T. Cook.

Memorial service at old church site

A memorial and thanksgiving service held

A memorial and thanksgiving service held at the Bald Hills (Sheoak Hill) site of the old Congregational Church and cemetery was conducted by the Revs. J.A. Cameron and R.E. West on Sunday, 10th October.

More than 300 people were present and among-

were present and amongst them were former members of the church, including Mrs. Enid Mary Millard, grand-daughter of one of the former lay preachers of the church. A memorial stone was unveiled by Mrs. Millard.

Following the service the gathering viewed a

the gathering viewed a display of old books, photographs and relics from the church which closed in 1905. These were on show at the Inman Valley Methodist Church.

Today, the old graves and crumbling church walls are all that remain to remind us of the past. Where once the congregation sat, three sheoak trees grow. They have done well to survive in the stony ground but now they have topped the walls to sway in the wind and sun.

The placing of a granite boulder and memorial plaque at this historic site is a suitable and lasting reminder of a staunch group of people united in the Christian faith.

The inscription on the plaque reads:

"To commemorate the Pioneers of the Balds Hills Congregational Church, 1856-1905. Dedicated 10th October, 1976."