

HOOK NORTON BAPTIST CHURCH

THE EARLY YEARS

Based on an original prepared by Ralph Mann

LOCAL EVENTS

James Wilmot born 1623

1642 Robert & John Wilmot take the Protestation Oath
23 October 1642 Battle of Edgehill.

2 Sept 1643 Parliamentary Army quartered in Hook Norton en route to Gloucester

Royalists defeated at Stow-on-the-Wold.

1646 Abiezer Copp chaplain at Compton Wynates

1650 Baptist Church at Bourton-on-the-Water

1653 Baptist Church at Oxford

1655 Baptist Association formed by Moreton-in-Marsh, Bourton-on-the Water, Hook Norton, Alcester, Tewkesbury, Derby and Warwick. 16 Articles of Faith agreed. James Wilmot and Matthew Wyton signed their names as "messengers".

1656-60 Baptist Association meetings at Moreton-in-Marsh:

James Wilmot & Charles Archer sent as messengers.

1660 Baptist Church at Stow-on-the-Wold

1664 James Wilmot & Charles Archer imprisoned in Oxford Castle. They were arrested again with Humphrey Gillett, and James Wilmot was imprisoned in Witney Gaol

1665 Seventeen Baptists from Hook Norton excommunicated.

1668 Quaker Meetings in Hook Norton

1669 "Return of Conventicles" shows 60 Baptists meeting in Hook Norton. Teachers were James Wilmot, Samuel Wilmot & John Lamley. 50 Baptists in Sibford (with Charles Archer)

1670 James Wilmot excommunicated again.

1673 Matthew Wyton dies

NATIONAL EVENTS

CHARLES I 1625-1649

1630

1640

Short Parliament: April-May 1640, Long Parliament: 1640-1653 & 1659-60

1642 The Protestation against growing Catholic influence

1642-46 First Civil War.

1643 Relief of Gloucester. Abolition of Bishops & The Prayer Book.

Presbyterian "Directory of Worship"

1645 Battle of Naseby, Charles's army defeated

1646 King Charles escapes the surrender of Oxford in disguise

1648 Second Civil War

30 Jan 1649 King Charles beheaded at Whitehall

1650

1649-53 ENGLISH COMMONWEALTH

1653-9 PROTECTORATE under OLIVER CROMWELL

1660

1660 Restoration of CHARLES II.

1661-79 Cavalier Parliament .

1662 Bishops and Prayer Book restored.

"Clarendon Code" 1661-65 Four Acts of Parliament against Dissenters:

The Corporation Act (1661), The Act of Conformity (1662), The Conventicle

Act (1662) and The Five-Mile Act (1665)

1670

1670 Revised Conventicle Act - Nonconformist worship made illegal, even in private homes.

1672-4 Third Dutch War

1673 Test Act: Catholics and Dissenters barred from national office.

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1682 James Wilmot dies
 1682 Bishop of Oxford suspends the Curate of Hook Norton because of the level of dissent.
 1683 "Return of Dissenters" shows 36 Baptists in Hook Norton, 11 in Swalcliffe.
 1684 28 Baptists & Quakers in Hook Norton excommunicated.

1689 General Baptist Assembly meets in London. Charles Archer is one of two "messengers" from Oxfordshire.

1692 Daniel Wilmot Pastor at Hook Norton

1696 Charles Archer dies

1700 Daniel Wilmot's house is licensed as a "Public Meeting House for Protestant Dissenters" under the terms of the 1689 Toleration Act
 1705 Quaker Meeting House in Hook Norton
 1706 83 Members of Hook Norton Baptist Church

1716 Mrs Mary Skey's house registered as a Meeting House
 1718 William Harwood builds a Meeting House and provides a Manse, three almshouses and some land.
 1719 The new chapel is licensed for public worship
 1720 Burial ground purchased at Bury Orchard.
 Death of William Harwood, aged 76

1728 Daniel Wilmot draws up Ten rules of the Church.

1738 Bishop's Visitation return: 18 Baptist families in Hook Norton "of mean rank". Clearly there were other members from the surrounding villages.

1680

1679 Habeas Corpus Act codifies the common law on imprisonment.

1685 Huguenot Protestants expelled from France.

JAMES II 1685-8

1687 Suspension of penal laws against Catholics and Dissenters

1688 John Bunyan dies

1688 THE GLORIOUS REVOLUTION:

WILLIAM III 1688-1702 and MARY II 1688-1694

1689 Toleration Act permits most forms of Protestant worship under license.

1690

1689-1713 Wars with France

1694 Bank of England founded

1700

1701-14 War of the Spanish Succession

QUEEN ANNE 1702-1714

1704 Battle of Blenheim

1710

1707 Act Of Union: England and Scotland

GEORGE I 1714-27

1715 Jacobite Rebellion. Death of Louis XIV

1719 Repeal of the Occasional Conformity Acts permits Protestant Dissenters to establish their own schools and to hold local public office.

1720

1720 South Sea Bubble

1721-42 Robert Walpole: first Prime Minister

1730

GEORGE II 1727-60

24 May 1738 John Wesley converted

1739-40 War of Jenkins Ear against Spain

1740

1740-48 War of Austrian Succession

1744 First Methodist Conference

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- 1747-53 John Nottage Pastor at Hook Norton
- 1754-86 Benjamin Whitmore Pastor at Hook Norton
- 1755 46 Members of Hook Norton Baptist Church
- 1787 Chapel rebuilt: the present church building

	1745 Jacobite Rebellion: the "Forty five"
1750	
	1756-63 Seven Years War against France
1760	GEORGE III 1760-1820