

The Sunday School - a historical note 1940s-1980s

During the 1940's the children were taught by the Rector. They studied the Prayer Book, Collects and the Catechism. A decade earlier the Rector had taught these subjects in the village school.

Candidates for confirmation went to the Rectory for their classes. Towards the end of the 1940's the Sunday School was taken by Mr Vernon Ashford. He was a chemist with a shop in St Leonard's Road, Far Cotton. The name can still be seen on the corner opposite the Co-op. He was always known as Uncle Vernon; Sunday School classes were crowded because he brought Bible stories to life using felt pictures and other props.

The Sunday School was held in Quinton Methodist Chapel, a very small wooden hut in the field behind the bus stop. It long ago disappeared. Uncle Vernon used to ride his bike out from Far Cotton every Sunday. He continued his work for 14 years. The chapel was cared for by Mr & Mrs Sharp who also organised tea parties, picnics and outings. Uncle Vernon and Mr Sharp can be seen in a photograph of the Sunday School which is kept in the children's corner in the church. Around the time Uncle Vernon retired, the chapel closed and the new Rector, Martin Young, moved the Sunday School back into the church. Helped by the older children and some adults, he ran a flourishing group which lasted into the early 1980's.

Frances Piercy