

HIS CANDLESTICK AND A LIGHT AMONG THEM

Foreword

A University professor, under whom I studied at one stage, often lamented 'the lost masterpieces of the twentieth century'. In this he was chastising learned colleagues who were expert in their field of study but never made time to write down such knowledge. Thus their expertise died with them.

Few would describe this booklet as 'a masterpiece of the twentieth century', but I am conscious of the knowledge about the history of individual churches held by many who have supported them during their lifetime, but the knowledge may die with them.

This booklet is an attempt to tell the history of two church congregations (one of which has unhappily ceased to be), based upon recorded information from many different sources but amplified by the memories of many who lived and worshipped there throughout their lifetime.

In particular I am grateful to Elsie Burling, Joyce McCombie, Queenie Pegram, Winnie Reeve and the late Dolly Walters for confiding memories of Great Chishill, and also to Lucy King, Ruth Dellar and Rosie George who did the same for Barley. Jack Wilkerson was kind enough to allow me to draw upon his book 'Two more ears of Barley', and Michael Livings drew the sketches which illustrate the narrative.

At the Tercentenary Supper on 29th January 1994 we saluted the 400th anniversary. If the next chapter is not written until then, I trust that the next chronicler may find ample information within.

Rev. Reginald Rooke

April 1994