

# George Smith

1827-1895

By Geoff Dickinson

## Early years

George was born on 14 January 1827 at Hogsthorpe, Lincolnshire.

Before his conversion, George had been attending both Wesleyan and established church services. He was converted through the ministry of James R Parkinson in 1847/8. Within a few months his name appeared on the plan. In 1849, George left Hogsthorpe to become under gardener at Ravesby Abbey, the residence of Banks Stanhope Esq. MP. In 1850, he was called into ministry by the Horncastle circuit.

## Ministry

George's obituary records that he was a quiet, steady, unassuming but intelligent Christian worker from the beginning to the end of his ministerial career.

He was instrumental in building chapels in Northwich, Pemberton (near Wigan) and in Peel. He also purchased a Baptist chapel at Moor Lane, Bolton for use by the Primitive Methodists. He did not feel any special call to building works but when required just got on with it.

He was a plain, earnest and understandable preacher; he meant what he said and said what he meant.

## Family

George married Ann Green (b abt1828) in the summer of 1856 in the Caister Registration District, Lincolnshire. Census returns identify five children.

- Hannah Maria (1857-1915) – married Henry Teare, a ships chandler
- Sophia Elizabeth (1859-1905) - a teacher
- William Green (1861-1882) – a bank clerk
- Frederick (b1864) - collector of the poor rates and assistant overseer in 1911
- Edgar (1868-1920) – a chemist

George died on 24 October 1895 at Tranent, East Lothian.

## Circuits

- 1851 Douglas
- 1852 Haslingden
- 1853 Bradwell
- 1854 Manchester III
- 1855 Bacup
- 1858 Ramsey
- 1861 Knowlwood
- 1863 Northwich
- 1865 Bolton
- 1868 Glossop
- 1871 Wigan
- 1874 Peel
- 1879 Lancaster
- 1882 Bradwell
- 1886 Skelmersdale
- 1888 Mexbrough
- 1891 St Neots
- 1894 Tranent

## References

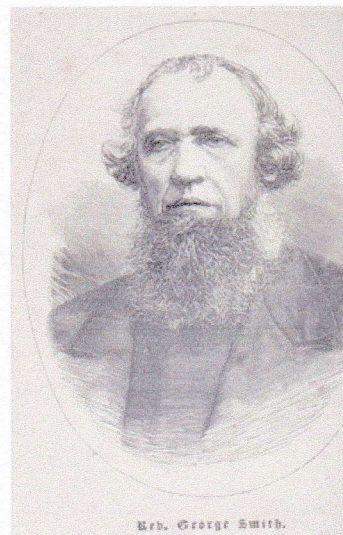
*Primitive Methodist Magazine* 1879 (portrait); 1885/129 (portrait); 1896/704; 1906/153 (Sophia)

*PM Minutes* 1896/30

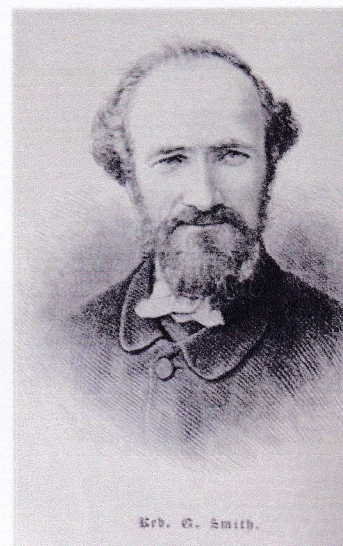
W Leary, *Directory of Primitive Methodist Ministers and their Circuits*, 1990

Census Returns and Births, Marriages & Deaths Registers

Note: There was another [George Smith](#) (1835-1897) who was a PM minister in the 1850-1890 timeframe. Leary ascribes both of the portraits in the *Primitive Methodist Magazine*, 1879 and 1885, to George Smith (1827-1895).



Primitive Methodist Magazine 1879



Primitive Methodist Magazine 1885