

A History of Montacute Methodist Church 1862 - 1982



It was in June 1846 that the Rev. William Longbottom, the first Wesleyan Minister to come to South Australia, conducted the first service at the old Montacute Copper Mine at the Sixth Creek. For some time afterwards, services were held in private homes, later a church was erected and services held therein until the mines closed.

In April 1861 a block of land was procured a few kilometres away on Montacute Road, Fifth Creek. A stone church was erected and services were held continuously from 1862 until 1982.

The "Observer" of 4 January 1862 reports "The new Wesleyan chapel at Montacute Road was opened for public worship on Sunday last (29 December 1861). The building which stands in a most romantic and picturesque situation on the left-hand side of the road to the mine, is erected of beautiful stone, obtained in the neighbourhood, and covered with an iron roof, and is neatly finished inside. After the public meeting which followed the service, a collection was made, which with the previous collections and subscriptions, paid the entire cost of the erection, and left a surplus of about five pounds for the purchase of books and requisites for the Sunday School."

In 1982 with attendance low and increasing difficulty in obtaining a Minister to conduct services, the Montacute congregation agreed to become part of the Newton congregation and the final service of thanksgiving was held on 10 April 1983.



The Corkscrew Road, Montacute

"And for those who seek
for healing,
For calm, and air,
and fruit,
Must journey up the
Corkscrew Road
and visit
Montacute."