

CURATOR'S NOTES #7

(An occasional series of notes from the Curator of Bampton Heritage & Visitor Centre)

BAMPTON'S CHAPELS

The Methodist Chapel in Mary Lane was converted into two houses in the 1990's – I have a collection of photographs showing what it looked like before, but I have no artefacts from this chapel.

The Baptist Chapel at the top end of Luke Street was converted into a house many years ago (anyone know when?) – I have several artefacts from the old chapel but no photographs. I have heard that the Lion Hall in Back Street was a Plymouth Bretheren chapel before it was the village hall – can anyone confirm this? I have a splendid electrical font warmer that was used for full immersion baptisms – is there any evidence that either of these sites had a bath big enough for adult full immersion baptisms? I have heard that there may be a baptistery underneath Lion Hall.

THE WIDE BAND OF CLOTH....

...seems possibly to be a roller towel – perhaps in a military installation of some kind. Angela wrote to me that her friend saw a similar item in an auction which indicated that it was a government issue towel in 1943 - it had many of the same symbols. The auction house stated that it was produced for the armoured Royal Train – but I have no idea why they thought this!

