

Know your Church

There are two stain glass windows close to the pulpit. One of these is dedicated to Xavier Peel Massy (spelt without an 'e'. He signed his name 'Massy' in the Register of Church Services.) His father, Edward Taylor Massy, owned property in both Ireland and Pembrokeshire. Massy was born in County Limerick in the late 19th century when all of Ireland was part of the United Kingdom. He studied at Trinity College, Dublin before crossing to England. His first curacies were in Bristol. During the second part of the 19th century various Episcopal Churches set up missions to serve the rapidly expanding city. The Episcopal Church at Damahoy (St Mary's) founded missions in Colinton and Balerno. The Colinton Mission first met in 1883 renting a hall once a month for an evening service. Communion was celebrated at 8 O'clock on Monday morning. The present building, much smaller in his time with no extended nave and no Lady Chapel, was opened in May 1889. Rev Massy became Priest in Charge. Three years later St Cuthbert's was no longer a mission church and Massy became our first rector. During some of his time as Rector he also served as a diocesan inspector of schools. At this time the Episcopal Church had their own schools in the city. There is a memorial to his wife carved in one of the pews. He left St Cuthbert's in 1906 and his successor was Frederick Haden, a Cambridge graduate from Wolverhampton.

The second window is dedicated to the memory of James Lindsay Auldjo Jamieson, the eldest son of George Jamieson formerly of Edinburgh. He died as the result of an accident at the age of only 24. At this time the family were living in Whitfield which is some miles south west of Hexham. I cannot find the link between the Jamiesons and St Cuthbert's.

John Peacock