



Historical List of Chapel Readers, Chaplains, Afternoon Preachers and Assistant Clergymen

This list is for quick reference. Should you have any queries, please [contact the Archivist, Andrew Mussell](#).

c. 1400 – unnamed "chapleyn de Grayes Inn" charged with assault

mid-1400s – Sir John Westley, "prist of Gray's In" named in list of benefactions to St. Andrew's, Holborn

Chapel Readers

Date unknown [before 1569] to 1574 (pensioned off) - Sir Jeffrey Evans, "the old preist" (d.1583/84)

1574 to 1603 (died) - Paul Bushe, "the newe Minister"

26 Jan 1603/04 to 1623 - Henry Bradley

3 Nov 1623 to 1670 (died) - Isaac Renoulds / Reynolds

Chapel Readers

6 May 1670 - Lionell Gatford (no further mention – apparently took another living instead)

20 June 1670 - Mr Colborne paid for reading services

25 Nov 1672 to 1683 (died) - Mr Spranger (would not preach in the afternoons)

18 May 1683 to date unknown - John Wogan

date unknown to 15 May 1702 (resigned) - John Colbron / Colborne

Afternoon Preachers

30 Apr 1673 - Dr Cradocke [the Morning Preacher] to provide Reader who is also Afternoon Preacher (none named)

Chapel Readers

12 June 1702 to 1715 (died) – Revd Adam Buddle (botanist)

23 May 1715 to Feb 1722 – Revd Anthony Jones

9 Feb 1722 to 1729 (obliged to resign) - Revd William Davenport (also Library Keeper from 10 Feb 1725);

Chapel Reader

14 June 1729 to June 1749 – Revd William Noble

Chapel Reader

10 June 1749 to 23 Dec 1764 – Revd William Noble, Chapel Reader and Afternoon Preacher

Afternoon Preacher

13 May 1729 to 1749 (obliged to resign) – Revd Edward Bannyer

Chapel Reader

18 Feb 1765 to 26 Jan 1803 - Revd Edmund Garden

Afternoon Preacher

18 Feb 1765 to 14 Dec 1802 (resigned) – Revd George Chatfield

Chapel Readers

26 Jan 1803 to 1824 - Edmund Garden, Chapel Reader *and* Afternoon Preacher after the resignation of Chatfield; substituted on full pay from 1814 (d 1824)

18 Nov 1824 to 26 June 1850 (retired on full pay) - Revd Edward Chaplin (previously librarian) (d 1858)

Assistant Clergymen

13 Nov 1850 to 14 March 1856 (resigned) - Revd Thomas Huntley Greene

30 Apr 1856 to 17 Nov 1858 (promoted) - Revd William Gray Watson

Readers and Afternoon Preachers

17 Nov 1858 to 31 Aug 1860 (died in accident while on holiday in Austria; death reported on 17 Nov 1860) - Wm Gray Watson (previously Assistant Clergyman), Chapel Reader and Afternoon Preacher after the death of Rev Edward Chaplin

14 Nov 1860 to 1861 (death reported on 6 Nov 1861) - Revd William Henry Hart

20 Nov 1861 to Good Friday 1884 - Revd Alexander Taylor

10 June 1884 to 1894 - Revd Stephen Phillips

19 July 1894 to 17 Nov 1904 (promoted to Preacher) - Revd Reginald James Fletcher

7 March 1905 to 17 May 1911 (took up a living in Wales) to 17 May 1911 - Revd Maurice Henry Llewellyn Williams

22 Nov 1911 to 13 Oct 1920 (resigned, as from 20 Dec 1920) – Revd John Leonine Phillips (Classical Master and Chaplain of St Paul's School)

Chaplain (the post of Preacher being held vacant)

appointed 24 Nov 1920 Revd Dr Walter Robert Matthews (Professor of the Philosophy of Religion, Dean of King's College)

Dr Matthews appointed Chaplain to the King as reported on 21 Feb 1923

Dr Matthews appointed Special Preacher for Hilary Term 1926

Preacher (combining the former posts of Preacher and Chaplain / Reader)

Dr Matthews appointed Preacher, with the status of Honorary Bencher, on 20 June 1928

(for information on the Preachers from this date, see the page "Preachers")

Honorary Chaplain

1980s – Revd Dr Gordon Huelin, Chaplain of King's College London, resident in the Inn, provided weekly services in the Chapel