

The Spiritualist Association of Great Britain

In remembrance and gratitude for the life of

Rev. George Vale Owen

Ordained minister, author and speaker

on the

150th anniversary of his birth

26 June 1869



Vicar of Orford, Lancs 1908-1922

The Spiritualist Association of Great Britain

Book of Remembrance

The Marylebone Spiritualist Association (now the Spiritualist Association of Great Britain) was founded in 1872 and during the 80th Anniversary year in 1952, our book of remembrance was inaugurated, with the following inscription:

Inscribed herein are the names of some of those arisen ones to whom we pay tribute for their outstanding service to the Marylebone Spiritualist Association.

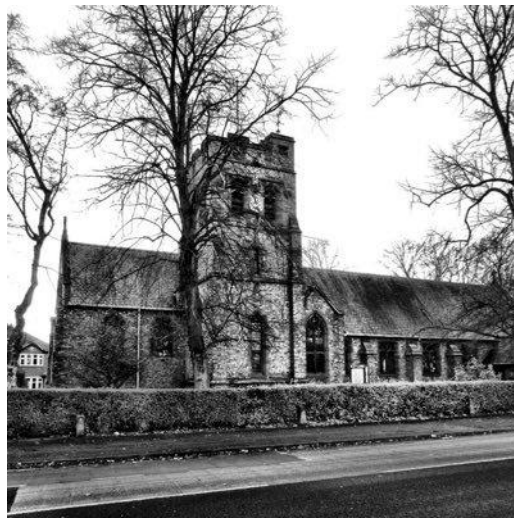
The Rev. George Vale Owen was an Honorary Vice-President of the Marylebone Spiritualist Association and is in our book of remembrance, which is on view below the portrait of Mrs St. Clair Stobart (1862-1954) in the William Stead (1849-1912) Room where our public demonstrations and talks are held.

In 1924 Mrs St. Clair Stobart founded the Spiritualist Community with Sir Arthur Conan Doyle as President. At the first Sunday Service of the Spiritualist Community, a short address was given by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle and the main address was given by the **Rev. George Vale Owen (1869-1931) on *Spiritualism and the Bible.***

Rev. George Vale Owen (1869-1931)

Some further notes

The Rev. George Vale Owen was an ordained minister of the orthodox church and was the Vicar of The Parish Church of St Margaret & All Hallows, Orford from 1908-1922.



The Parish Church of St Margaret & All Hallows, Orford.

The Rev. George Vale Owen was a brave pioneer of spiritualism and is remembered for his automatic scripts, *The Life Beyond the Veil*, in four volumes: *The Lowlands of Heaven*, *The Highlands of Heaven*, *The Ministry of Heaven* and *The Battalions of Heaven*, published April 1920 – April 1921 by The Greater World Association.

In the preface to the scripts, the Rev. George Vale Owen wrote:

There is an opinion abroad that the clergy are very credulous beings. But our training in the exercise of the critical faculty places us among the most hard-to-convince

when any new truth is in question. It took a quarter of a century to convince me – ten years that spirit communication was a fact, and fifteen that the fact was legitimate and good.

Initially the scripts were published by Lord Northcliffe in the *Weekly Dispatch* which was distributed all over the world. Nan Mackenzie (1882-1985), a trained nurse, read the scripts in the *Weekly Dispatch*, whilst in Siam (now Thailand) and this encouraged her to investigate spiritualism and she developed as a trance healer and medium who worked for the Marylebone Spiritualist Association (now the SAGB).

Lord Northcliffe wrote an appreciation at the front of the volumes:

...During the brief interview that I had with him I felt that I was in the presence of a man of sincerity and conviction. He laid no claims to any particular psychic gifts. He expressed a desire for as little publicity as possible, and declined any of the great emoluments that could easily have come to him as the result of the enormous interest felt by the public all over the world in the scripts.