

The "Staff" of St Paul's Chapel 1800

There are a number of Birmingham Directories of this period and, unusually, one of them, Chapman's Birmingham Directory of 1800, shows the names of the people occupying positions in the two churches, St Martin's and St Philip's, and the three chapels, St Bartholomew's, St Mary's and St Paul's. The entry for St Paul's is as follows:-

"Revd W T Young A.M. St Paul's Square
Curate Revd Rann Kennedy A.M. Colmore Row

Wardens Mr Joseph Moore St Paul's Square
Mr Charles Cross ditto

Organist Mr Jeremiah Clark M.B. Great Charles Street

Clerk Thomas Cobb Livery Street

Sexton Thomas Hawkes Bartholomew Row

Beadles Jacob Wilson Moor Street
Thomas Hawkes Bartholomew Row
George Allen Thorp Street"

Disappointingly, this organist is not the Jeremiah Clarke of "Trumpet Voluntary" fame. He lived a century earlier. The entry for St Philip's reveals that Jeremiah Clark was also the Organist there!

It is surprising that there were three Beadles, albeit one of them also Sexton. We know that one of them, George Allen, was Beadle, and Cryer, in 1835 and with William Ketch as Beadle for over 50 years, we probably know the names of all the Beadles in the 19th century.

John Sawkill
February 2011