LAYING OF THE FOUNDATION STONE OF THE TRINITY CHAPEL

The following is extracted from ‘Trinity College Chapel—Horsfall Memorial Consecrated’, The Argus, 1 October 1914, p. 5.

“In the history of Trinity College, Wednesday, September 30, 1914, will rank as one of its most auspicious days. The foundation-stone of the Memorial Chapel of the college, which has been given, at a cost of £10,000, was laid by the donor, Mr. J.S. Horsfall. The ceremony, which was both solemn and inspiring, was attended by between 200 and 300 interested people. At half-past 3 o’clock a procession was formed at the classical lecture-room of Trinity College, and moved towards the chapel site in the following order:—Choir, college chaplain (the Rev. G.E. Aickin), clergy, dean, Archbishop Clarke and chaplain (the Rev. Canon E.S. Hughes), warden (Dr. Alexander Leeper), donor of the chapel (Mr. J.S. Horsfall), chairman of the college council (Dr. Carty Salmon), members of the college council, members of the college (past and present), doctors, masters, bachelors, and undergraduates.

“Upon reaching the west end of the chapel, the occasional hymn, “Christ is Our Corner Stone,” was sung, after which Mr. E.F. Mitchell, K.C., chancellor of the diocese, on behalf of the donor, presented to Archbishop Clarke a petition to consecrate the memorial stone of the chapel. Mr. Mitchell briefly outlined the incidents leading up to the munificent gift of the chapel by Mr. Horsfall, and disclaimed any other share in the matter than that of intermediary between the donor, whose identity at the outset was not disclosed, and Dr. Leeper, warden of the college. Mr. Horsfall’s gift had been made spontaneously, and quite without any suggestion or solicitation. Mr. Horsfall’s modesty was as great as his generosity, and he was particularly desirous that very little should be said that day about his donation. He (Mr. Mitchell) hoped that Mr. Horsfall would for many years be able to contemplate the memorial, and assured him that his name would be held in regard among the students of Trinity College from generation to generation. (Applause.)

“Dr. Leeper, warden of Trinity College, read a specially-prepared record of the occasion, which contained much interesting history of the college, and memorialised the splendid gift of the chapel. A copy of this record was enclosed within a casket wrapped in a Union Jack, and embedded in the cemented cavity beneath the memorial stone. Upon the stone is the following inscription:—“This chapel was erected by John Sutcliffe Horsfall, to the glory of God, and in affectionate remembrance of his beloved daughter, Edith; born June 4, 1903; died January 20, 1908; wife of Colonel the Hon. Rupert Carington, D.S.O., C.V.O., September 30, 1914.” Archbishop Clarke, as Metropolitan of the Church of England in Victoria, and Dr. Carty Salmon, on behalf of the college council, expressed the appreciation and thanks of the church and college to Mr. Horsfall for his gift. The ceremony was concluded with prayer and the benediction, and the guests were subsequently given refreshments in the college hall.”
Spencer Shier (1884–1946), Procession to lay the foundation stone of the Chapel, 30 Sep. 1914; glass-plate negative, no. 548; State Library of Victoria, H37823/112