

Rev. Brinley H. Howells, Chaplain, 1957-64

Born in Maerdy, Glamorganshire, Wales on 3 Nov 1906 to Thomas Howells and Margaret Howells, Brinley Hughes Howells married Mary J Frowd and had 2 children.

He served as a chaplain in the RAF Volunteer Reserve during WW2.

From: <https://www.rafcommands.com/database/awards/details.php?qnum=86998&qname=HOWELLS>

HOWELLS, S/L Brinley Hughes (RAF 86998) - Member, Order of the British Empire - No.33 Air Navigation School, **Hamilton, Ontario** - Awarded as per London Gazette dated 1 January 1945 and AFRO 89/45 dated 19 January 1945. Appointed Squadron Leader (Chaplain), 11 October 1940; **retired 10 February 1954**.

This Chaplain, by his exceptional enthusiasm, ability and energy, has gained the greatest admiration and confidence of all ranks. The very fine example he sets in both work and play is worthy of high praise. His tireless efforts and cheerful and co-operative spirit have been a most valuable source of inspiration to all with whom he come in contact. He has exemplified the noblest qualities of his profession in all that he has done.

THE LONDON GAZETTE, 12 NOVEMBER, 1940 CHAPLAINS BRANCH.

The undermentioned are granted commissions for the duration of hostilities with the **relative rank of Squadron Leader**: — nth Oct. 1940. **The Rev. Brinley Hughes HOWELLS, B.A. (86998). 12th Oct. 1940.**

Rev. Howells appears to have been appointed to Holy Trinity several years after he retired from the RAF in February 1954.

It was during the period Rev. Howells was our Chaplain, that the need for a church hall was discussed and a project initiated to make this a reality.

Quoting from Dyne Steel's booklet: The History of the English Church in Geneva, Chapter VIII, The Great Stride Forward (1957–1985):

After the difficult post-war years, Holy Trinity entered a period of great activity and progress which has continued to this day. For a long time there has been a need for a Church Hall, as any gathering too large for the Chaplain's flat had to be held in the hall belonging to the American Church. The Americans were extremely co-operative in providing Holy Trinity with accomodation, but there was a great longing for total independence among members of the Congregation. For many years the Ladies' Working Party had worked extremely hard to raise money for the construction of such a hall.

*A general appeal was launched in **1964**.*

Pam Creffield a current parishioner, who arrived in Geneva in 1957 to work as an au-pair mentioned a weekly HTC group for Au-pairs at that time. Rev. Howells had also prepared, John Buffle, another current parishioner for Confirmation.



Rev. Howells passed away on 22 Nov 1976 in Lewes, East Sussex, England.

St. Andrew's Churchyard
Alfriston, Wealden District, East Sussex, England
From: findagrave.com