

SJN

St John's Newland

ST. JOHN NEWLAND, KINGSTON UPON HULL

PARISH PROFILE



SJN

St John's Newland



Greetings in Christ's name!



Thank you for prayerfully discerning God's calling to St John's Newland and also to the East Riding Archdeaconry in the Diocese of York. We trust this profile will begin to give you an understanding of the church and its parish, but above all, we welcome you to come and meet us here!

This post has become available at a very significant time in the life of the Diocese.

We have committed together in *Living*

Christ's Story to being people who tell the story of Jesus' life death and resurrection and who also tell the continuing story of what Jesus has done through his church, which includes what Jesus has done and continues to do through each of our own lives. These are times that require us to be simple, humble and bold.

To make the vision of *Living Christ's Story* a reality, our diocesan goals are:

- Becoming more like Christ
- Reaching people we currently don't
- Growing churches of missionary disciples
- Transforming our finances and structures

Our vision and commitment to this journey can be explored on our Diocesan website.

St John's has been on a remarkable journey itself in recent years and I rejoice at seeing God at work amongst them. They are committed to their large and varied parish and have an important student ministry. They are a church family that rejoices in its diversity and through reflection on the bible, and their own experience, have developed shared values and a Spirit-inspired vision – all of which will be clear as you read their Profile.

As a Diocese we pray together the prayer of Teresa of Avilia, "Lord, what do you want from me?" This is our prayer for *Living Christ's Story*. We pray this prayer particularly for you in this time of discernment. We hope that you will hear Christ's call clearly and we look forward to prayerfully sharing this discernment with you.

Please do contact Archdeacon Andy Broom by phone (01482 881659) or email (ader@yorkdiocese.org) if you have any questions or would like a fuller picture than the Profile offers. We want to do all we can to support you as you explore and discern this call.

With our prayers,

+Eleanor

(Bishop of Hull)

St. John's Newland Parish Profile

Introduction



St John's Newland (SJN) is a newly re-formed, growing, diverse, informal Anglican Church family which is situated in the Newland area of North Hull and has Hull University close by in its parish together with a local church primary school. The interregnum period began in September 2024. We are fortunate to have a curate Jenny Rankin and a salaried part-time administrator Helen Robinson. We also have funding for a Student and Young Adults worker. However, at present this role is being carried out voluntarily by Ed Tilling.

We are praying for a new Vicar who shares our values and who is able to build on the foundations laid over the past four years, both within the church family and by taking on the role of the University of Hull chaplain and also in the community, the schools, the Deanery and with other churches in the area.

Experience of training a curate, student work/university chaplaincy, school governance, and management and development of church buildings would be desirable but not essential. The desire and commitment to work collaboratively with our church family to share the love of Jesus with our community is essential.

Above all we are looking for a person who feels God's Spirit leading them to apply for this post and who is excited and motivated to take on the challenges of seeking to grow an evangelical and Holy Spirit led church family and to establish God's Kingdom here in Hull.

It's Never Dull in Hull!



Kingston upon Hull stands on the north bank of the Humber Estuary, with the beautiful Humber Bridge linking it to Lincolnshire. Affectionately known as Hull, it received its Royal Charter in 1299 from Edward 1. It is a lively, vibrant, port city with over 250,000 residents. Names associated with Hull are William Wilberforce, Amy Johnson and poets such as Andrew Marvell, Carol Rumens, Andrew Motion and Philip Larkin. Hull has a Marina, a Minister, The Ferens Art Gallery, two theatres, a City Hall and it has several museums of national importance including the Deep Submarium. Hull was the City of Culture in 2017 and is proud of its fishing heritage, two rugby league teams, football team and stadium. Hull hosts a number of annual festivals including the Hull Fair, Freedom Festival and Hull Jazz Festival. The railway has direct trains to London and Manchester and the ferry will take you to Rotterdam. The Humber Estuary at Spurn Point provides a massive nature reserve and some stunning views across the river.



History of St John's Newland (Where we have come from)



SJN was built by Avison Terry a leading evangelical layman and prominent citizen of Hull. He raised public subscriptions to pay for the construction on a site close to his home of Newland Grove at a cost of £1650. The church was consecrated by the Archbishop of York on 23rd September 1833, as a daughter church to St Mary's in Cottingham. The first Vicar of St John's was appointed in 1862 and a year later the vicarage and parish school were completed. The church has served the parish under a number of different

Vicars since then and modifications to the church building have been carried out. More recently the pews inside the Grade 2 listed church were removed and the 'front' of the church turned 90 degrees so that the space could be used for many different things.

In 2020 the church had a large congregation of about 250. On the retirement of the then vicar, he and the remaining leadership team along with all the congregation, apart from about 10 people, left the Church of England and set up a new church nearby as a member of AMiE (Anglican Mission in England).

With much support from the Archdeacon and Diocese and an interim minister, the remaining church family continued to meet together until in July 2021 the Reverend Richard White was licensed as the new leader of the church. Over the last four years the church family has grown from about 10 regular members to a congregation of about 60 to 80. We have a service on a Sunday morning and evening and four separate home groups that meet on different evenings during the week in homes, on-line, or in the church living room. We also host regular Alpha Courses and occasional 24-hour prayer rooms.

Our Vision and Mission

Our vision and mission is to become the sort of church family that God wants us to be in the community of Newland in Hull. We want to be humbler, simpler and bolder as we trust in the leading of the Holy Spirit to guide us and journey with us and help us to love and support each other and serve the local community, sharing Jesus with those we meet.



What is SJN church like? (Where we are now)

A church family



We are **A growing, newly re-formed church family** over the past 4 years coming mainly from new believers and seekers from a non-church background.

We are **Focussed on “church as family”**, seeking to grow in our care of one another, friendliness and sense of belonging to one another. We have a strong sense of ‘family’ not just in words but in experience. We welcome all with a ‘come as you are/be yourself’ attitude. Love is

tangible, visible and unites us all and reaches out to others outside the church family.

We are **Diverse** in age 0 -90+, with children, teenagers, students and **young adults**. Around half of our adults are under 50 and we typically have between 10 and 20 children on a Sunday. We are also diverse in our backgrounds, ethnicity and worship preferences.

We are **Community focussed**, reaching out and building links with our local community, such as school, Brownies, Scouts, university students and chaplaincy and social events.

We encourage **Participation** and many members are actively involved in contributing to our church life in acts of service. We have a ‘No one size fits all’ approach and each person and each home group is encouraged, guided and enabled to develop their own journey of faith and discipleship.

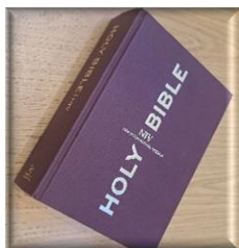


A worshipping church



We have a strong emphasis and expectation that the **Holy Spirit** will be at work in our lives, both individually and corporately in everything we do and we are encouraged to listen to and seek the Spirit’s guidance, gifts and fruit in all we do. There are opportunities for receiving prayer during some services.

We are an informal and relaxed Anglican church with a simple form of service but incorporating a variety of different types of service including prayer spaces and informal Compline, all-age services, evening services and services for special occasions such as Crib services.



Preaching from the Bible is an essential and important part of our worship and growth in Christlikeness as a church and is undertaken both by women and men. Preaching provides opportunities for lay member participation and training, as well as sometimes seeking to engage the congregation in working together in group discussions on the scripture passage during the sermon.

Music is usually provided by a worship group and uses contemporary worship songs and reworked older hymns. New people are very welcome to join the group.

Children worship together with adults in church and are valued and included in every morning service. Currently age-appropriate activities and teaching are provided during the services and once a month we have an All-Age service.

What we value and aim for



Whole life Christianity that is empowered by the Holy Spirit, enabling us to live a lifestyle as individuals and together as a church that demonstrates '**Simplicity, Humility, and Boldness**'.

Unity in Jesus, by His Spirit, to love and serve God and others and to grow more like Jesus as we seek to follow Him.

Reaching out to others, including Alpha courses, bonfire services, craft fairs, uniformed groups, school and student involvement.

Equality in that all people are equally loved by God and are welcome in God's family. Also that women and men can hold all leadership roles in the church.

Diversity and Inclusion of people and their unique life stories and backgrounds and journeys of faith, of cultures and of different forms of worship and prayer, with the humility to acknowledge that we do not have all the answers. Where we interpret the bible differently, we respect each other's views but also commit to working together for a shared understanding of God's Word. This enriches the quality of our life together as a church and of our worship of God and of our witness to others.

Building Relationships that are primarily concentrated on having a person-centred, relational, community-building focus, rather than building organisations or structures.

Servant leadership where the needs of the church family and community are listened to, understood and valued, in a spirit of loving care and pastoring.

The values and skills we are looking for in the new Vicar



We are looking for a new Vicar who will share our values and will be faith-filled and expectant that God will grow our church and be a prayerful disciple who loves to tell others about Jesus.

They will also be open to the work of the Spirit and have a Spirit-inspired vision and be a preacher and teacher who values the bible.

They will have a servant and pastor's heart, be welcoming and inclusive in their approach to people and be a careful listener to the needs of the church, community and prompting of the Spirit. They will share the desire and commitment of our church family to show the love of Jesus to our community.

Additional desirable but not essential skills would include the experience of training a curate, student work/university chaplaincy, school governance, and management and development of church buildings.



St John's Parish



The Parish of Newland St John's is in the north part of Hull along one of the main routes in and out of the city centre and has a population of 21,564 excluding the university students. To the east of the Parish lies the River Hull and to the west the village of Cottingham. The northern part of the parish encompasses the village of Dunswell. The Parish is predominantly residential with a diverse culture and has a deprivation ranking in the top most deprived quartile of parishes in the UK.

The Parish includes the University of Hull with over 14,500 students currently enrolled. There are six primary schools within the boundary: Newland St. John's Church of England Academy, Dunswell Academy, Parkstone, St Nicolas, Sidmouth and Endsleigh Holy Child VC. There are two secondary schools: Newland School for Girls, St Mary's College and Frederick Holmes Special School.



Newland St John's Church of England Academy



The church has strong links with Newland St. John's C of E Academy, part of the Hope Sentamu Learning Trust. Staff from church regularly lead worship at School and participate in RE lessons. The incumbent is Ex-Officio a School Governor and the current Parish Administrator is a Foundation Governor. The church hosts school services for Harvest, Christmas, Easter, Pentecost and the Year 6 leavers' service as well as the Foundation and Key Stage 1 nativity and also offers other joint events such as Advent and Easter journeys. The church also has links with Dunswell Academy.



University



SJN is the parish church for the University of Hull and the new Vicar will be uniquely positioned as the official Chaplain for the University of Hull – a historical link between the university and the Church of England. This combined with the close proximity of St John's to the university means that there is great potential for not only a student ministry but a ministry towards staff and the wider university community as a whole. The role of Chaplain can be shaped around the time available to the Vicar with the

commitment needed likely to vary at different points in the year. We have had a steady cohort of postgraduate students and a few staff members in attendance over the last few years, with initiatives started during the University's Freshers Week aimed at developing this ministry. This has taken the form of an informal Sunday evening gathering, a regular young adults home group, weekends away and a variety of outreach events.



Whilst SJN remains in a period of interregnum the university chaplaincy rests under the care of Reverend Vicky Earll of The Ascension & St Thomas (AST; Church of England) in the neighbouring parish of Derringham Bank. This ensures that the links with the university are kept open and initiatives such as drop-ins, prayer groups, pastoral support, an on-campus carol service hosted by AST and SJN and an on-campus Alpha course for students can take place. The new Vicar at SJN would therefore be able to step-in and continue the positive work of the chaplaincy, as well as bring to it their own ideas and initiatives.

Uniformed Groups

The church has strong links with the local Brownies, which meets in the church building.



There are also growing links with Beavers, Cubs and Scout groups, who are all church sponsored units.



Church Buildings



SJN church has a prominent place on Clough Road. The church sits back from the main road and has two entrances – one for pedestrians and one for cars that leads to a car park. The church grounds are kept in good condition by members of the congregation. There is a large lawn area at the front of the church and also a graveyard at both the front and the rear of the church. The graveyard is

now full but there is a small area set aside for the burial of ashes.

To the rear of the church is the parish hall which has not been used for a number of years. However recent investigations show that the hall is not in as much disrepair as once thought and there is a working party in place, led by one of the church wardens, to get the hall back into use.



The Vicarage



There is a large vicarage on the site of the church which consists of two reception rooms, an office/study, toilet and a large modern kitchen on the ground floor. Upstairs has four double bedrooms, a small office/nursery room and a bathroom. To the rear and one side of the vicarage there is a large well-established garden. There are also several outbuildings used for storage.

There is a flat attached to the side of the vicarage that has its own separate access and has a long-term tenant in place. This is all dealt with through the diocese and has no impact on the vicarage.

Church Finance

SJN's unique situation in 2020 with the mass resignation of the PCC, the migration of most of the existing congregation and its financial support transferred to the Newland Christian Trust, coupled with the Covid pandemic, resulted in more or less a re-boot of the church finances. To assist in cash-flow an interest free loan of £5,000 was negotiated with the Diocese which proved invaluable. The result at the year-end 2020 was a modest surplus of just over £3000 in unrestricted funds.

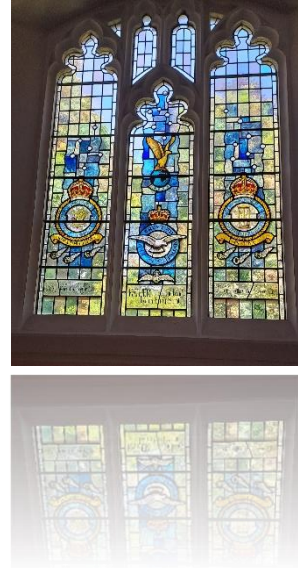
A full year of 'New Church' in 2021 gave grounds for significant optimism, with a surplus of almost £18,000 in a year of continuing challenge, allowing the DBF loan to be repaid and in 2022 there were encouraging increases in membership, which in turn led to increases in regular giving. The sale of a daughter church building, St. Faith's Dunswell, in 2022 resulted in a significant boost to funds, the majority of which were allocated towards replacing the heating system and repairs to the roof.



We have been blessed with generous donations and grants to support our student work and have begun to see an increase in income for the hire of the church for events. The PCC agreed to a strong commitment to paying the Diocesan Freewill offer, which in 2024 was £30,000. The current unreserved balance is about £99,000, with a significant final payment for the heating system still outstanding and a commitment to essential roof repairs.

In Summary

God has blessed us with a growing and varied congregation over these past 4 years, many of whom have newly started on their journeys of faith. Last year we had 13 baptisms, both adults and children and a number of confirmations. We have a united, committed, creative staff team, dedicated church wardens and a committed PCC with many opportunities opening up at the University, in our local schools and in our local community. As a church family we are keen to grow numerically and spiritually and to share our versatile church building with the community, together with the renovation of our parish hall. We are looking for a Vicar who shares our vision and values and who is equipped to help us discern God's plan for this next chapter in our church family life. Our prayers are that under new leadership and guided and empowered by the Holy Spirit and through prayer and teaching from the Bible, we will continue to be a loving, growing and welcoming church family living boldly, simply and humbly.



We are grateful for your interest and your consideration of this vacancy.

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www.stjohnnewland.org.uk



Hull Deanery



Area Dean
Revd John Cowan



Lay Dean
Dr Tim Scott

Hull Deanery is a family of 28 parishes and we're delighted that you're considering joining us here - in the largest Deanery in the country by population! We're on a journey of bringing to fruition our vision of being a local network of churches, inspiring, influencing and leading mission and ministry. The latest stage of this is that we're now in the process of delivering our Hull Deanery Plan as part of the refreshed Diocesan vision 'Living Christ's Story'. And we recognise that enthusiastic people bringing new life, distinctive gifts and fresh ideas can really enhance what we are working on together.

We are a predominantly urban and suburban deanery, though our boundaries do extend well beyond the city boundary (especially to the west of Hull) into the East Riding of Yorkshire, and we are socially and economically diverse (including significant areas of deprivation). Our churches vary in their churchmanship, and in this we seek to learn from one another and bring out the best in each other. Hull is a pioneering city and we seek to be a pioneering deanery - we've long had a Fresh Expressions Adviser and new forms of pioneer ministry continue to be added, especially under the banners of the innovative new Diocesan initiatives 'Mustard Seed' (growing disciples in places where life is tough) and 'Multiply' (pioneering new worshipping communities among those in their 20s to 40s). Alongside this, there is a commitment to revitalising existing parishes and seeking healthy church growth.

Hull Deanery consists of three sub-areas – East, West and Central&North – each with an 'Associate Dean'. Whilst we have one Deanery Synod and one Deanery Leadership Team, the size of the deanery means that it's helpful for some things to happen within these sub-areas including clergy chapter and some mission initiatives. Examples of this include the 2020 'Come and See' mission, and the previous 2017 missions with Archbishop Sentamu – missions which have helped take forward our working together for the sake of the gospel. Churches in Hull also work together ecumenically under the banner of 'Believe in Hull' – originally a 2013 mission initiated by former Bishop Richard, then reinvigorated to make the most of the opportunities of Hull being UK City of Culture 2017, and continuing to develop outreach opportunities since then. (A related initiative SEARCH helps us in social engagement.) And some churches are involved with Hull 2030, a partnership of churches

inspiring and encouraging church planting initiatives. We also rejoice in the particular role that Hull Minster is developing since being named as a Minster in 2017 – a source of growing blessing to the city and to the wider deanery. Hull Deanery is a creative and vibrant place to be!

We are excited about the new possibilities being explored in our Hull Deanery Plan for mission and ministry (developed during 2022) as we build on the good things already happening, yet seek: a new empowering and equipping of both lay and clergy, a more kingdom-shaped sharing of resources in solidarity with one another, improved communications to further deepen our sense of partnership, and a greater encouragement of one another in gospel outreach, all grounded in a renewed reliance on God in prayer.

In the past 18 months we've put on a series of gatherings (lay and clergy) for mutual support and learning in particular areas of mission and ministry (midweek all age congregations; outreach among older people; digital transformation; lay ministry) and have also established a pattern of two Deanery Services each year to bring us together in worship. The latest progress is that we've been able to increase our capacity to take forward and develop this plan (under the banner of 'Heart for Hull', with the possibility of seeking further national funding) by employing a Heart for Hull Enabler and an Administrator. And our next workshop will be on 'Wholeness in tough places'.

Hull Deanery is an exciting place in which to live and minister – we'd be pleased to welcome you here!