

THE BENEFICE OF BOTHAL WITH PEGSWOOD and LONGHIRST



St Andrews Church, Bothal



St Margaret's Church, Pegswood



St John the Evangelist, Longhirst

Welcome to the diocese of Newcastle!

Thank you so much for your interest in this role, and I hope you enjoy reading the information contained in this brochure and will find it helpful for your discernment. These are exciting and challenging times in the Diocese of Newcastle. Exciting because we are at an early stage of a new season, challenging because like many dioceses we face conversations about our future and how best we use and deploy our resources. Our Deanery Development work has engaged every parish and benefice in renewed conversations about mission and ministry, and we are in a process of entering a new phase in that work, mapping out our renewed strategy and vision. Our outward facing values of 'seeking, sharing, sending' stem from a commitment to be a Church turning outwards in mission and ministry, and younger and more diverse by: **SEEKING** through being open to God's transforming love; **SHARING** through being generous with God's transforming gifts; **SENDING** through being engaged in God's transforming work in the world. I am looking for clergy who are excited about the opportunities and challenges we face, who are happy to work collaboratively and imaginatively with colleagues, and who can inspire communities to roll up their sleeves and get stuck into God's mission, by affirming, enabling, and encouraging lay and clergy together. As your Bishop, I am committed to your wellbeing and development, and I would love to explore with you whether God may be calling you to this role.



The Rt Revd Dr Helen-Ann Hartley
Bishop of Newcastle

The Diocese of Newcastle is the Church of England's most northerly diocese. This Diocese in the 'land of the Northern Saints' was formed in 1882 and comprises **169** parishes across **2,110** square miles. The Diocese covers the local authorities of Northumberland, Newcastle, North Tyneside and also small parts of County Durham and Cumbria. The **12** deaneries within **2** archdeaonries serve a population of about **831,600** people across a variety of communities ranging from sparse rural to large inner-city areas of deprivation.



The Benefice of Bothal with Pegswood and Longhirst.

The benefice of St Andrew's, St Margaret's and St John the Evangelist is part of the Morpeth Deanery.

Our benefice consists of two parishes with three churches. The parish of Longhirst is served by the church in Longhirst Village, St John the Evangelist. The parish of Bothal with Pegswood has two churches, St Andrews in Bothal Village and St Margaret's (shared with Methodists) in Pegswood Village. There is a Local Ecumenical Partnership between these two Churches. There are three congregations which come together to share worship. The Style of worship across the benefice varies from Central Anglican to low Church.

There are two separate Parochial Church Councils in operation, one for St Andrews and the other for St John the Evangelist.

We have one Authorised Lay Minister for the benefice based at St John the Evangelist, Longhirst Village.

The Rectory is situated in Pegswood Village, 1 mile from St Andrew's in Bothal Village and 1 mile from St John the Evangelist Church in Longhirst Village

The nearest town is Morpeth situated approximately 2 miles away, from Pegswood.

The current Pattern of Worship

1st SUNDAY of the month

St. John's, Longhirst 9.30am Holy Communion

St. Andrew's Bothal 4.00pm Evening Prayer*

2nd SUNDAY of the month

St. Andrews Bothal 9.30am Holy Communion

St. John's, Longhirst 4.00pm Evening Prayer*

3rd SUNDAY of the month

St. John's, Longhirst 9.30am Holy Communion

St. Andrew's Bothal 4.00pm Evening Prayer*

4th SUNDAY of the month

St. Andrew's, Bothal 9.30am Holy Communion

St. John's, Longhirst 4.00pm Evening Prayer*

5th SUNDAY of the month

St. Margaret's Pegswood 10.15 Holy Communion

***During the winter months Evening Prayer is currently held at St John's Longhirst at 4.00pm, fortnightly on the first and third Sundays.**

Wednesday Morning Service: St. Margaret's Hall, Pegswood 9.30am Every Week

Our New Rector

We asked the congregations the question 'What qualities and attributes are you looking for in your new Vicar?'

The responses are included in the following

- Developing our faith and the growth of our churches
- Involvement in the local community
- Reaching out and encouraging families and young people
- Supporting the needs of the congregation and providing pastoral care
- Connecting with and supporting people in the community including visiting the sick and providing Home Communion
- Supporting and developing wider initiatives, including discussion groups
- Supporting and valuing the Lay Minister and empowering church members to pursue their calling
- Ensuring that the two parishes can continue to work closely together
- Working with the Methodist Minister, currently Rev^d Anthony Oakley, with whom St Margaret's Chapel is shared through the L.E.P.
- Supporting and valuing the contributions of the Congregation in Church life
- Develop and Maintain links with other churches in our Deanery, bringing new ideas to build on what we have already.
- Accessible, inclusive, able to work as part of a team and able to relate to parishioners with a spectrum of ages and backgrounds.
- A personable, approachable, friendly and caring Rector who would enjoy being part of our church family and local community
- Who has a love of life and family, a sense of humour and a down to earth approach
- Be a good communicator and play a full and visible role in the benefice
- Able to maintain and grow links with the community and be welcoming to everyone, encouraging young people and families.
- Someone who is a team player - helping us develop our team to positively move forward in a time of challenge and change.
- Someone who would be a spiritual leader, not only of our current congregations but also of the wider community.

Our Area

The Benefice of the parishes of Bothal with Pegswood and Longhirst is situated in the county of Northumberland, which is a county with stunning landscapes, miles of unspoilt coastline and a proud history and heritage. With almost 320,000 inhabitants and just under 2000 square miles, Northumberland is one the least populated counties in England.

It is home to Europe's largest Dark Sky Park with observatories at Kielder and The Sill.

Northumberland National park covers almost one quarter of the county, it is known for its breathtaking scenery and wide open spaces. Whether exploring Kielder Forest or trekking in the Cheviots you can still feel completely alone amongst nature.

Northumberland has more Castles than anywhere else in England, from the well known Alnwick Castle and Gardens, Bamburgh Castle (the oldest castle in Northumberland), Lindisfarne Castle and Dunstanburgh Castle to the lesser known Edlingham Castle. Northumberland is also home to the Island of Lindisfarne (Holy Island) which is connected to the mainland by a causeway accessible during low tide. Northumberland is home to the UNESCO World Heritage site at Hadrian's Wall, and the coast is designated as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty which runs from Amble in the south to Berwick near the border with Scotland.

There is also the Aln Valley Heritage Railway and Museum which operates from Alnwick.

Journey Times (by car).

To Berwick – 1 hour

To Newcastle-upon-Tyne – 30 mins

To Hexham – 40 mins

To Alnwick – 30 mins

To Kielder – 1 hour 30 mins

To Wooler – 45 mins



THE PARISH OF St JOHN THE EVANGELIST LONGHIRST



Photographs from the Longhirst Village Open Gardens

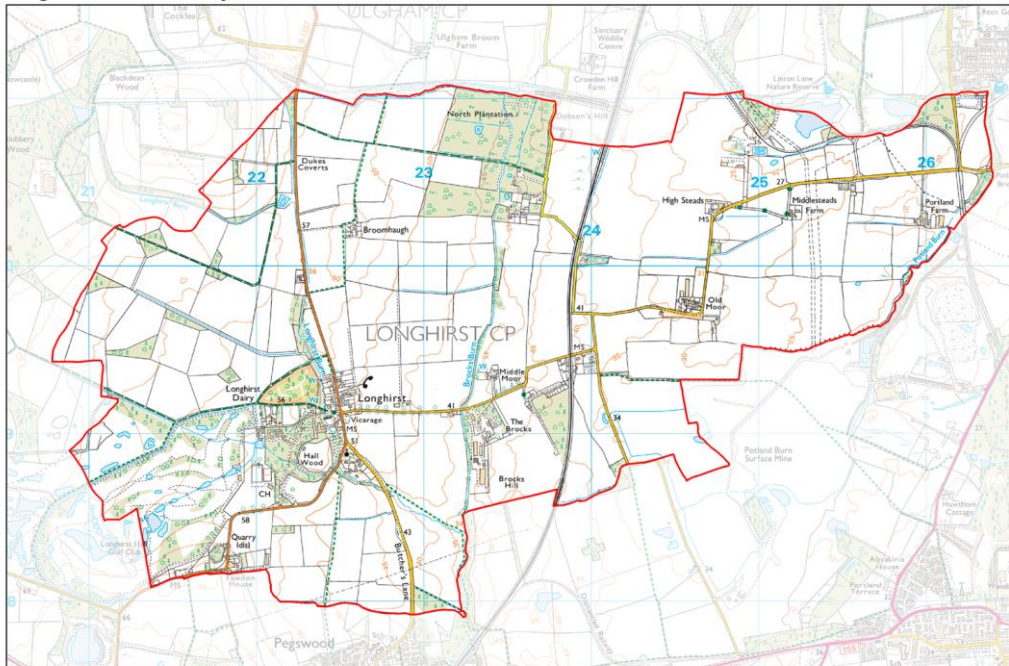


Website:

<https://longhirstchurch.chessck.co.uk/>

The Parish of Longhirst

Longhirst Parish Boundary



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Longhirst is a village in Northumberland approximately 3 miles North East of the market town of Morpeth. The village is in a conservation area but the parish itself is quite widespread, comprising outlying farms and the now defunct Longhirst Colliery. Originally the village was built to house the workers and tenants of Longhirst Hall, which has been developed to provide housing. In the past 10 years these housing developments have added an additional 74 properties. The current population is 435, with the majority over the age of 65 years.

There is a very active village hall which provides a variety of entertainments and is available for hire. An hourly bus service runs through the village providing easy access to Morpeth, Newcastle and/or Alnwick and Berwick

There is a library van which visits once a month, and a fresh fish merchant also visits on a weekly basis.

Longhirst Hall Golf course, Tennis Courts, Morpeth Hockey, Cricket and Tennis Clubs are all within walking distance of the village.

The nearby village of Pegswood, situated 1 mile away, has a number of shops which are easily accessible.

A local rail service to/from Newcastle operates to Pegswood Station twice a day.

There are excellent Schools in the Local Area and a new state of the art Leisure Centre in nearby Morpeth.

The Parish of Longhirst

Photographs of Longhirst Village:



Local Amenities in the nearby village of Pegswood

Valens Medical Practice
Pharmacy
Pegswood First School
Co op supermarket
Indian takeaway
Fish and Chip Shop
Community Centre – The Hub
Welfare Community Centre
Social Club
Hairdressers
Barbers
Bakery
Garage services
Doggy Day Care
Flooring centre
Fire Station
Sports Field for Football
Skate Park
Play Park
Railway station
Community Woodland and local walks
Walking group
Allotment Association.
Independent Retailer
Recycling Facilities
Cemetery

Our Church

Our parish church is St John the Evangelist, and is situated on the edge of Longhirst Village.

We are part of the Morpeth Deanery, which is made up of 22 parishes from Newbiggin in the east to Kirkharle and Kirkheaton in the west, the Deanery Synod is made up of Clergy and Lay representatives from each parish and meets approximately every two months

St. John the Evangelist Church is home to a living church which seeks faithfully to carry out its mission within the Parish and beyond. Alongside our neighbouring Churches we seek to encourage a more informed grasp of the Christian faith through study groups and to encourage children in the faith in our worship.



Churchyard:

St John the Evangelist has an open graveyard surrounding the church, which contains War Graves. In the springtime the Churchyard is amass with Snowdrops, Crocuses, Daffodils and Bluebells.



A little bit of History :

Longhirst, which means 'Long Wooded Hill', was no more than a very small hamlet until the early 1800's when coal was found in the area. The principal landowners were the Lawson family, and with the proceeds of drift mines on their land, they built Longhirst Hall in 1824, together with many of the buildings and walls that make up the village of today,. Longhirst Colliery deep mine was sunk in 1868 and this brought a significant increase in the number of people living in the parish which rose to nearly 750 persons. However, with the closure of Longhirst Colliery in 1905 the population fell back to between 185 to 225 for the next 100 years.

The foundation stone of St. John's church was laid in 1873 by Rev^d. Edward Lawson, son of Longhirst Hall's builder, and rector of Bothal at the time. The architect was Arthur Bloomfield of London, the builder was George Waterson of Morpeth, and the joiners were G.&C. Haswell of Morpeth, with the stone sourced from the nearby quarry at Fawdon, from which came, most of the stone for the Hall and village walls and buildings. The Church was opened for worship in September 1875 and the lands on which the Church and its churchyard stands, were consecrated by the Bishop of Durham & Northumberland in 1876 with Rev^d. Edward Lawson formally installed as vicar.

The Lychgate was added in 1885 by Edward Lawson's children in his memory. In 1887, the Longhirst Hall estate was sold to the Joicey family, who over the years, contributed much to the church. These have included the lectern, in 1887, the spire and bell tower with its carillon of 8 bells, in 1907, and the Organ, in 1936.



Also, the parishioners carved and erected the chancel screen in memory of Marguerite Baroness Joicey, in 1913.

Worship at St John the Evangelist:

We would describe our style of worship as Traditional Central Anglican worship.

The service of Holy Communion is celebrated in the parish on the first and third Sundays of the month. This is followed by coffee, cake and biscuits.

A BCP Evening Prayer is held at St John the Evangelist on the second and fourth Sundays during the summer months and during the winter months this changes to the first and third Sundays.

Lessons and intercessions are read by members of the congregation.

We have an Authorised Lay Minister at St John the Evangelist, who is able to lead the non- Eucharistic services.

We have a Fully functioning organ which is played at every service by our current organist. Our Full 8 bells are rung for special services and events.

All feasts and festivals are celebrated within the benefice on an alternate basis. Our other regular services held at St John the Evangelist are:

Harvest Festival Service, this is held in October on an alternate basis with St Andrews at Bothal, the proceeds of which are donated to the Wansbeck Valley Food Bank.

Remembrance Service, which is held at the War Memorial in Longhirst Village followed by coffee at the village hall.

Advent Toy Service, which is held on the first Sunday of Advent. The toys collected are donated to the Cedarwood Trust in North Shields.

Annual Carol Service, which is held on Christmas Eve, followed by sherry and mince pies. The proceeds of which are donated to a charity.

Midnight Mass Service, this alternates between St John the Evangelist and St Andrews, Bothal.



Our Church Family:

Our church members come from a wide range of backgrounds and experiences, the congregations of all three churches in the benefice worship together on a weekly basis.

On an average Sunday morning there are between 20 and 34 adults who attend the service, there are no regular under 16's who attend. The attendees come from the parish and surrounding localities.

We have a team of worshippers who regularly assist with the Chalice, lead intercessions, read lessons and welcome people into church as sides people.

For special services our congregation swells to approximately 75, some of which come from the surrounding areas.

There are 23 members on the electoral roll at St John the Evangelist church.

There is a small team of people who are responsible for the flower arrangements in the church.

We have a variety of Fundraising events throughout the year, see the later section.

In recent years we have fulfilled our parish share, see financial statement attached.

Our Team

We have an outstanding, hard working team of PCC members, who all work together for the benefit of the local community and our Church, we have very good links with other organisations in the village and church members are represented on other committees in Longhirst Village.

Our Parochial Church Council meets every two months, there are currently 8 members. These are:

Lay Chair

Churchwarden/Authorised Lay Minister/ Deanery Synod member

Secretary

Treasurer

Electoral roll officer

Safeguarding officer. - currently one for the benefice

4 Lay members.

Our Community and Outreach:

There is a good relationship between the Church and the village community and Church members are very much involved in all the community activities and fundraising events for the church which takes place in the village and the wider parish, typical examples are:

Longhirst Village Open Garden and Flower festivals

This is a much anticipated event which occurs every two years, where several residents open their gardens to the public. There is a variety of stalls and food is served in the village hall. St John the Evangelist Church is decorated by local flower groups and members of the congregation to host the Flower Festival.



The Church decorated for the Flower Festival



The Open Gardens and Flower Festival, attracts over 600 visitors over a two day weekend at the end of June. Visitors come from all over the local area and beyond.



Wildlife Watch Day

This is an annual event hosted in by a member of the congregation.

Afternoon Tea Party

This is an annual event hosted in the summer by a member of the congregation.

Wednesday Lunch Club

The lunch club occurs on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month, held in Longhirst Village Hall. This is well attended and appreciated by the local residents.

Broth and Beetle Evening

This is a well-attended, enjoyable social occasion.

Easter and Autumn Fairs

A variety of local stall holders attend this event, light refreshments are also served.

Christmas Coffee and Raffle

This is a festive social occasion, well attended by the local populace.

Various Coffee mornings

Coffee mornings are held in the village hall on a monthly basis throughout the year.

Carol Singing

This takes place over two evenings in the village and around the parish, the proceeds of which go to a local charity.

St John the Evangelist has good relations with the local First School in Pegswood, who usually visit the Church once a year, as part of the school curriculum.

Our Challenges:

The challenges we face in the parish are:

- Integration of the new Housing developments around Longhirst Hall and the rest of the community.
- Address the needs of an ageing community and encourage newcomers.
- This benefice has two separate parish identities, Longhirst and Bothal, with a tradition of working together. This needs to be maintained and enhanced.

Finances:

The latest financial statement attached as an appendix.

The upkeep of the Church has been underpinned by fundraising and gifts. The Parish share, which to date has been paid in full. Regular giving is partly done via Direct Debit and plate collections which enable Gift Aid to be claimed on all donations.

The Churches of St. Andrew's Bothal and St. Margaret's Pegswood

Parish Brochure 2024



Website: www.standrewsbothal.chessck.co.uk

Email: bothalchurch@aol.com

Welcome to our Parish Profile

This profile has been put together shortly after the retirement of our last incumbent in November 2023 by representatives from St. Andrew's Church Bothal and St. Margaret's Chapel Pegswood.

Thank you for your interest in becoming the next Rector of the parish of Bothal and Pegswood; an exciting opportunity to serve in this beautiful area of Northumberland as we open a new chapter in our mission will appeal to those seeking to serve God in unique historical churches and help the PCC's and congregations in the next stage of our journeys. We recognise that recent years have brought change in ministry with the financial situation of The Church of England and the Diocese of Newcastle contributing to new ways of working within in the benefice.

We, as a church community acknowledge the changes that we know must come and look forwards to working with our neighbouring churches and new Rector to promote an agenda of development and growth. We will fully support the new incumbent and work in partnership to serve the current and future needs of our parish.

Mission through Heritage

Our aim is to extend St. Andrew's and St Margaret's Christian witness within and beyond our parish via the medium of its thousand-year heritage.

The Area

Bothal Village



'Welcome to the sylvan, tranquil beauty of the village of Bothal, three miles to the east of Morpeth' Rev William Deeth, Rector of Bothal 1989-95

Bothal is a village in the civil parish of Ashington in Northumberland. It is situated between Morpeth and Ashington. There is a castle, a church, and some stepping stones over the river Wansbeck, and a few houses.

History of Bothal Village

Bothal Castle and Estate belonged to the Bertram family in the time of Henry II. It passed by marriage, first to the Ogles, then to the Cavendish family and thereafter

to the Cavendish-Bentincks, Dukes of Portland. Their descendants still own the castle and most of the houses in the village.

Half a mile upstream of the castle are the remains of a watermill that still had a working waterwheel up to about the First World War. It had a turbine for electricity production for the mill house from 1947 to 1980.

Further west from the church and castle, it is possible to walk along the river Wansbeck for some 30–45 minutes west towards Morpeth. Further along the footpath is the remains of an old chapel. Bothal Castle is the headquarters of the extensive Welbeck Estates in Northumberland.

Today the whole village, including the castle and the church, is a Conservation Area and all the buildings are listed which means they are of special architectural and historic interest.

Pegswood

Pegswood is village and township to be found in mid-Northumberland two miles northeast of Morpeth and 3 miles west of Ashington with a population of approximately 3302 (National Census 2021). It stands within the parish of Bothal and the rural deanery of Morpeth.

It is a historic mining village and civil parish in Northumberland, England, and the site of the former Pegswood Colliery. Pegswood is on a small hill above the valley in which Morpeth is situated, close to the river Wansbeck and to the small stream Brocks Burn.

History of Pegswood

Pegswood has also been known by the name Pegsworth, which in Old English is thought to mean the enclosure round a homestead of a gentleman called Pegg. Pegswood started as a small farming settlement, until the discovery of coal and the opening of Pegswood colliery in 1872 after which the village expanded to accommodate miners. The colliery closed in 1969, however the village is still classed as a pit village. All that is left today are the Pit Heap, now a park, and the entrance to the mine shaft, now in the Bothal Court estate. Coinciding with the coal industry, there was also a brickworks in Pegswood, which has since closed down.

After the original colliery closed, open cast mining continued until 1997. The Banks Group operated a 170-acre (0.69m²) site at Pegswood Moor, from which they extracted some 1.4 million tons of coal. In addition to coal, the site produced 84,000

tons of fire clay, a type of high temperature resistant clay typically found between the coal layers.

Mining there stopped in 2004, and the pit was converted into the Pegswood Community Park, the first phase of which included "a dedicated nature reserve, a new woodland and ponds." The second phase of the park's construction provided a "fishing lake, an amphitheatre sculpted out of the landform and a footpath link from Pegswood to Morpeth."

Like many other "former pit villages," Pegswood has benefited from increased interest among especially young families, who are attracted to such places for the countryside and the quality of education. Since 1969, when the pit closed, the town has welcomed new development plans and new housing estates have been built. More recent renewal efforts have included refurbishment of the Welfare Centre and a community garden with the colliery as its theme. Some typical colliery-style houses from the late nineteenth century still exist in Pegswood, however half of these have now been demolished to make way for new housing near the local pit heap or Colliers Hill as it now known.

In 2010, a sculpture funded by Welbeck Estates was erected on the Bothal Roundabout. Officially called 'Fire' but dubbed Robin of Pegswood (due to the Bentinck family's connection to Nottingham). A bronze figure stands near the top of a stainless-steel girder. The girder juts from the ground at an angle and its tip is curved into the shape of a bow with the bronze figure firing a "shovelled" arrow from it.

Schools

There is only one school in Pegswood, Pegswood Primary School. The school accepts children from the ages 3 to 11 with 158 pupils on the school roll. The last Ofsted inspection was in June 2022 where the school was assessed as being "Good". Secondary education is typically taken in either Ashington or Morpeth, the two closest towns.

Transport

Pegswood is served by Pegswood railway station on the East Coast mail line. Rail services link Pegswood to Morpeth, Cramlington Edinburgh and Newcastle. Arriva Northeast provide bus services to Morpeth, Ashington, Alnwick and Newcastle.

Pegswood lies on the A197 road at the same distance from Morpeth as from Ashington. In 2007 a bypass was built to the south and in 2017 a bypass was built to

the North which created much better links to major routes and reduced the volume of traffic passing through the village.

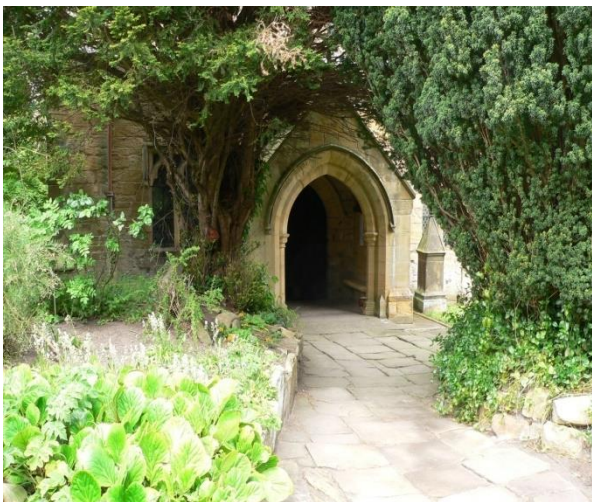
People

With a population of 3302 at the time of the 2021 census, Pegswood is made up of distinct communities, the descendants of mining families and people who have moved into the new housing estates. This has resulted in quite a diverse population of differing age and social/economic groups however it is a rural, friendly, caring community albeit not an especially church going one. Despite that there is great support for the churches in the parish.

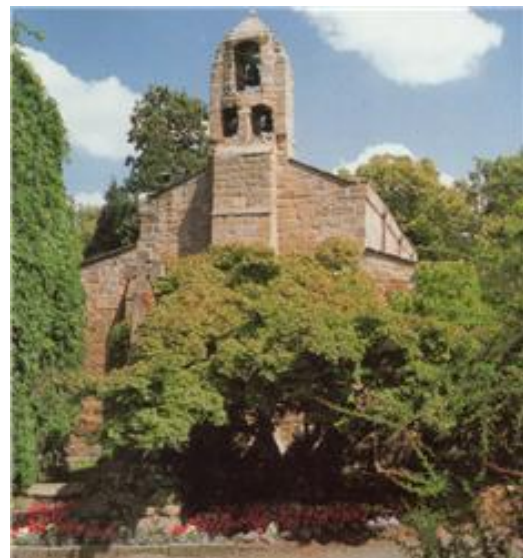
Our Buildings

St. Andrew's, Bothal

'.....more than a gem of medieval architecture. It is a treasury of Christian devotion' 'Rev William Deeth, Rector of Bothal 1989-95



St Andrew's



St. Andrew's is a Grade 1 listed building.

Much of the present building is 600 – 800 years old, however, part of an Anglo-Saxon cross and other stone fragments are evidence of a much earlier church. The site may have been used for worship as early as the seventh century. Dowsing has revealed foundations of a small stone church which perhaps dates from circa AD900.

The Anglo-Saxon building was replaced with a Norman one by Richard Bertram who became the first Norman lord to live at Bothal Castle in 1161. His son, Robert Bertram 1, significantly enlarged this building and adding the chancel in about 1200. In 1343, Robert Bertram IV received a licence to fortify the gatehouse keep at Bothal Castle and at the same time he added the south aisle to the church.

At the very end of the 14th Century Lord Robert's heiress Helen Bertram, Baroness of Bothal received permission to turn the south aisle chapel into a chantry which occasioned major changes. Both north and south aisles were heightened, flatter aisle roofs added and the trefoil windows we see today inserted. Fragments of 14th and 15th century glass can still be found in these windows. The walls above the nave arcades were also raised to create a clerestory of eight small windows. The nave roof with its arch braces and wall posts resting on stone corbels dates from this time and is therefore one of the architectural treasures of the church.

Two major restorations took place in the Victorian era. Rector Hopwood restored the chancel in 1857. In 1887, William Ellis (rector from 1861 until 1923) also restored the chancel. This involved completely rebuilding the south wall, heightening the others and adding a new roof. The entrance porch was also added at this time.

Significant Features

The porch was added in the late 19th century but the door itself is much older, with one inscription on it reading "WH 1576". The church organ was installed in 1892 by Harrison & Harrison of Durham.

The church windows in the north and south aisles (Annunciation window) contain a fine collection of medieval stained glass. The red, blue and yellow glass dates to 1400 and the gold glass to about 1500. Amongst other things they depict the Crucifixion and the Coronation of the Virgin Mary. The Victorian stained glass in the Chancel side windows depicts various New Testament authors and the east window depicts Christ the Good Shepherd.



The old east window frame now sits in the vestry.

The wooden communion rail dates back to the early 1600's and an unusually low window behind the Rector's seat in the chancel was probably a leper window.

The four carved stone heads above the pillars of the north arcade depict the ordering of medieval society: from west to east, a peasant's wife, a peasant, a king and a bishop and date to about 1200.



Grave slabs from the 13th and 15th Centuries (on the floor of the north aisle) are possibly for Roger Bertram I and Owen, Lord Ogle, respectively.

The Ogle Tomb is one of the outstanding features. It is made from alabaster depicting two figures: Ralph, Lord Ogle, a notable Tudor notable courtier (died 1513) and his wife Lady Margaret Gascoigne. Lord Ralph was charged with the task of accompanying Princess Margaret Tudor to Scotland in 1503 for her wedding to King James IV.



Features outside the Church

An old stone font is believed to have come from the Holy Sepulchre church, Sheepwash which was a ruin in the 18th century. The two medieval stone coffins would originally have been inside the church building.

The bell cote contains three bells, one of which is dated 1615.

The War Memorial is flanked by a weeping ash to the left representing the tears of the bereaved. On the right, the leaves of the Japanese Maple turn bright red in the autumn, symbolising the blood of the fallen.

'The aspect of this church is exceedingly venerable, reverend and devotional. The scenery around Bothal church is charmingly sylvan, tranquil and picturesque. The remains of the Bertram castle enhance its beauty...'

so wrote FR Wilson in "The Churches of Lindisfarne "(1870) and in the 21st century he would find the setting little changed.

Churchyard

Surrounding St. Andrew's church is a well-kept churchyard with many ancient stones. The churchyard has been mapped and an indexed file is kept at Woodhorn Museum. It is now a closed churchyard with maintenance by Northumberland County Council.

We have a small area designated for the burial of ashes however this is with no markers or memorials allowed.

St. Margaret's Chapel



There has been a strong Primitive Methodist presence in Pegswood from the 1870's though it is not clear where they held their services back then. The decision was taken c. 1905 to build a chapel, and to help pay for the building, supporters were invited to buy a brick and some of the names of benefactors can still be found on the walls. The Primitive Methodist Chapel' was opened in March 1908.

Standing beside the colliery rows and the mine it was for a very long time at the hub of Pegswood's life and activities. In 1995 it became St. Margaret's Chapel when the Methodist congregation united with St. Margaret's Church of England congregation to become one of the first so-called Local Ecumenical Partnerships in the area. Joint worship takes place weekly. Even after 100 years 'The Chapel' remains an important part of Pegswood community.

St Margaret's Church Hall



The adjacent St. Margaret's Hall (above) serves as a useful community facility.

The Rectory

The Rectory, built in the late 1970s is conveniently located in Pegswood village close to the local primary school. It is a brick built detached house with garage and a manageable area of enclosed gardens. In addition to a study, the house contains a large downstairs living room, dining room, cloakroom, kitchen and utility room. There are 4 upstairs bedrooms, a bathroom and separate WC. There is also a downstairs cloakroom. The central heating is gas fired.

Worship

Church Traditions & Congregations

St Andrew's and St Margaret's worshiping practice can be described as "low" church with the principal Sunday service a Holy Communion. We observe the Church's calendar of festivals and feast days. We have several people who assist in worship - readers, intercessors and administrators of the chalice.

We feel that our church wardens and sidespersons welcome visitors and friends to our church and help them feel at home.

At St. Andrews we have 48 people on our electoral roll with the average attendance at Sunday worship 27. As a Methodist mission St. Margaret's does not have an electoral roll. Their average attendance at their midweek service is 11.

Most of the worshippers are retired and represent a mixture of locals and people from neighbouring parishes.

Although we would like to attract younger people this has not been translated into any significant increased church attendance.

The Churches have a loyal and dedicated team of volunteers, but like many parishes the congregations are dominated by those over 60 and is seeking leadership to widen its mission in reaching out to all in the community, particularly the many young people and families in the benefice.

Service Figures

Holy Days - are recognised and upheld in one of the churches in the benefice

Statistics

	St. Andrew's	St. Margaret's
Average Sunday attendance	28	25 (4 Services a year)
Average Sunday communicants	27	25 (4 Services a year)
Average Weekday attendance	11	11
Average Weekday communicants	11	11
Baptisms	9	2
Weddings	3	0
Funerals	4	20
Electoral Roll	48	St Margaret's do not have an electoral roll

Prayer and spirituality

Study courses are held in Lent with clergy and lay people from the parish involved. The last incumbent held regular bible study groups open to all from the benefice.

Organisation & Administration

St Andrew's has two church wardens who support the Rector and the PCC in their work. The PCC meets every two months.

St Margaret's has one Steward.

Deanery

The benefice of St Andrew's, St Margaret's and St John's is part of the Morpeth Deanery. The area Dean is currently the Rector of the Holy Sepulchre Ashington, the Reverend Chris Grocock.

Community involvement

The previous incumbent was, on separate occasions, a member of Pegswood Parish Council and a governor at the local primary school.

Ecumenical relationships

St Andrew's and St Margaret's have been in a local ecumenical partnership since the 1980's. All three churches in the benefice work together and are represented on the Deanery Synod.

Finance

We have always paid our full parish share, although we must rely on reserves to achieve this. We are fortunate to have a healthy balance of reserves available to use because of several legacies received over the last 10 years. We have no debts. A copy of our latest Accounts (2022) is attached.

Conclusion

We look forward to working with our new incumbent and we can assure you of a very warm welcome if you choose to join our church family. Our new incumbent will join a long line of Rectors dating back to 1228. Those predecessors can be found in the Appendix. We will leave it to one of them, Rev William Deeth (Rector of Bothal 1989-95) to sum up the spirit of the Parish and of St Andrew's Church in particular:

'It is a treasury of Christian devotion.....for more than a thousand years, parishioners have brought their babes to be baptized, their young men and maidens to be married, and their dead to be buried; and those who worship God, in spirit, and in truth, have found this place a gateway to heaven.'

Appendices

Rectors of Bothal from 1228 to 2023

Name	Date of appointment
John Relfe	1228
John Sylvester	1230
Roger Bertran	1311
William Emeldon	1333
Richard de St Quinton	1357
Thomas Tutman	1363
Cuthbert Ogle	Dates unknown
William Thymby	1411
John Smeton	1441
John Gineton	1442
Humphrey Singleton	1492
William Heryson	1546
William Duxfield	1563
Robert Copperthwaite	1579
Martin Dale	1598
Henry Johnson	1609
John Thompson	1647
Edward Prowse	1660
John Booth	1667
John Coates	1678
John Pye	1685
Christopher Stafford	1691
Christopher Hobson	1730
Robert Hay Drummond	1736
George Smalridge	1761
Luke Heslop	1804
Edward Otter	1810
William Henry Parry	1837
Henry Hopwood	1845
Edward Lawson	1859
William Charles Ellis	1861
Thomas Pears Gordon Foreman	1924
Sidney Arthur Crawford	1945
Leslie Carr	1961
Robert McGregor Henderson	1964

William Dobson	1975
John Alan Pyle	1978
James Wheatley	1984
William Deeth	1989
Keith Trivasse	1995
Stephen Liddle	1998
John Charles Park	2006

Parochial Church Council of St John's Longhirst
Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2023
Receipts and payments accounts

Receipts

Planned giving	£5626
Plate collection	£3126
Interest	£240
Fund raising	£3451
HMRC	£1195
Fees	£598
Churchyard maintenance	£660
Donations	£429

Totals for year **£15325**

Payments

Heating and lighting	£2075
Church costs	£3777
Clergy expenses	£1432
Parish share	£8000
Insurance	£2706
Churchyard maintenance	£445
Fees paid	£600

Totals for year **£14996**

Total Receipts	£15,325.14		
Plus opening balance	£7,528.74		
	£22,853.88		
Minus expenditure	£17,704.42		
Closing Balance	<u>5,149.46</u>		
	Total assets		
	Bank Current		£5,149.46
	CBF		£4,210.50

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH BOTHAL

**REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE
PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

For the year ended 31 December 2022

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	01-Jan-22	To	31-Dec-22
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Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
Receipts					
Voluntary Income					
Tax efficient (gift aided) Planned Giving	5,939			5,939	6,555
Other planned giving	326			326	61
Plate Collections and loose cash	2,107			2,107	2,230
Other recurring giving/donations	1,770			1,770	1,000
Non recurring giving/donations	1,079	1,000		2,079	1,093
Tax recovered via Gift Aid	1,770			1,770	1,390
Legacies (Capital Value)	10,000			10,000	
Non-recurring Grants	1,959			1,959	12,046
Activites for Generating Funds	1,086			1,086	1,035
Investment Income (Bank Interest)	191			191	124
Receipts from Church Activities					
Parochial Fees	3,751			3,751	2,774
Income from other Church Activities	305			305	1,978
Other Income	68			68	
Sub total	30,351	1,000	-	31,351	30,286
Asset and investment sales					
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	30,351	1,000	-	31,351	30,286
Payments					
Church Activities					
Diocesan Parish Share	13,486			13,486	13,486
Fees Paid to Diocese	1,324			1,324	348
Clergy Expenses	691			691	135
Organists Fees	200			200	-
Organ Maintenance	147			147	173
Website Fees	80			80	72
CCLI Licence Fee	259			259	248
Premises Costs					
Rectory Rate and Water rates	3,231			3,231	2,933
Church Insurance	2,982			2,982	2,884
Heating Oil	1,399			1,399	600
Electricity	1,386			1,386	457
Security Cage for Heating Oil Tank	2,979			2,979	
General Repairs and Maintenance	1,823			1,823	2,155
Mission/Outward Giving	500			500	180
Governance					
Audit Fee	336			336	336
Miscellaneous	146	-	-	146	59
Sub total	30,969	-	-	30,969	24,066

Asset and investment purchases	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	30,969	-	-	30,969	24,066
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 618	1,000	-	382	6,220
Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds last year end	43,604	-	-	43,604	-
Cash funds this year end	42,986	1,000	-	43,986	6,220

Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
Cash funds	TSB Current Account as at 3 January 2023	3,713	-	
	TSB Business Saver as at 3 January 2023	39,273	1,000	
	Total cash funds	42,986	1,000	
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))		1000	OK
Other monetary assets	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	

**ST ANDREWS CHURCH
BOTHAL
NORTHUMBERLAND**

ALL RESERVES - MOVEMENT-2022

Reserves carried Forward from 2021			£ 43,605
Divided Into			
Monies in TSB Business Saver Account as @ 31.12.2021	£	38,082	
Monies in PCC Current Account at TSB as @ 31.12.2021	£	5,522	
			£ 43,605
<u>Reserves added up to 31.12.2022</u>			
Legacy from R Dixon	£	10,000	
Grant from Eddershaw Trust (Restricted)	£	1,000	
Interest on TSB Business Saver	£	191	£ 11,191
Total Reserves available for use in 2022			£ 54,796
<u>Reserves Used up to 31.12.2022</u>			
Unrestricted Reserves used for Security Cage for Oil Tank	£	2,979	
Unrestricted Reserves used for Central Heating Maintenance	£	147	
Unrestricted Reserves used for Church Insurance	£	2,982	
Unrestricted Reserves used for Buildings Maintenance	£	875	
Unrestricted Reserves used for General Expenditure	£	3,827	£ 10,810
Total Reserves carried forward as at 31.12.2022			£ 43,986
Represented By			
Monies in TSB Business Saver Account as @ 31.12.2022	£	40,273	
Monies in PCC Current Account at TSB as @ 31.12.2022	£	3,713	
			£ 43,986