The Word on the Street

Conservation and heritage projects in The Street Benefice (North Yorkshire)
The Street Benefice

Southern Ryedale
The Rev Beryl Bowes

The Rev Martin
Allwood

The Slingsby Team
Margaret Mackinder (Architect)
Maurag Carmichael PCC Treasurer

http://www.thestreetparishes.org.uk/
Six parishes; seven churches

Above: All Saints, Slingsby

Left, from top:
St. Michael and All Angels, Barton-le-Street
Coneysthorpe Chapel
All Saints, Appleton-le-Street
St. Helen’s Amotherby
St. George, Scackleton
All Saints, Hovingham

• The Street: Roman, Anglo Saxon origins
• Domesday and Romanesque churches
• Victorian rebuilding
• Worsley and Carlisle estates
Common issues

- Rural population
- Small congregations, mostly elderly, predominantly ladies!
- Difficult to attract younger members of congregation, family commitments (including those of grandparents)
- Small numbers of individuals acting as churchwardens, PCC Secretaries, Treasurers, sidesmen
- Larger numbers involved in cleaning, flowers, churchyard maintenance
- Music Group, Cell/Home Groups
- Benefice ‘culture’ and interregnum
- Clergy – demands of service schedule, size of benefice, rural poverty, bereavement, isolation
- Parish share - Freewill Offering
Church Buildings

- Cost of maintaining, heating, lighting
- Outdated heating, lighting, audio
- No toilets, kitchens
- Restricted disabled access
- Competition for fundraising
- Lack of knowledge of funding schemes and strategies
- Lack of awareness of potential
- Resistance to change?
Initiatives

• Joint PCC/Benefice Council audit of church buildings (Margaret Mackinder)
• The Rev Dr Peter Bowes PhD 2012 *Future church: envisioning the Church of England in Southern Ryedale in the second decade of the 21st century*

Dr Dav Smith, University of York
2009 MA Archaeology of Buildings Barton-le-Street Church
2012 PhD Vandalism and social duty: the Victorian Rebuilding of ‘The Street’ parish churches, Ryedale (North Yorkshire)

2015 Angela Morris St. Helen’s Amotherby: significance and need, MA Conservation Studies

Churchcare – Dr Joseph Elders
• Church Heritage Record
• Open and Sustainable churches

Outcomes:
• Awareness of issues and potential of closure
• Regrading of All Saints’, Slingsby and St. Michael and all Angels, Barton-le-Street
• Qualitative research to inform statements of need
• Scholarly research to inform statements of significance
• New guidebooks, display boards, Local History and fundraising lectures
Slingsby

- Entirely rebuilt 1867-9
- Incorporates re-used north aisle arcade and numerous funerary monuments
- Reproduces medieval architectural phasing
Slingsby – sources
Slingsby – medieval church

C12 (earliest known phase)
c.1200 (addition of north aisle)
c.1200 (addition of north aisle)
Late C15 – extensive remodeling
Slingsby – post-medieval

Stonegrave

- C17 Pews & communion table
- C18? Gallery or minstrel’s loft
- C18 Sash windows & porch?
- 1803 Bells
- 1835 Chancel
- 1838 Clock
Slingsby – Victorian rebuilding

Darker ink of tower indicates its retention.
Nb. Newel stair

Middle-pointed Gothic style
South-east view of Slingsby church, c. 1840, artist unknown

Slingsby – old vs. new
Slingsby – re-used material
All Saints’ Slingsby

- 2008 Quinquennial inspections reveal major problems with tower pinnacles and parapets – threat of closure
- Corrosion of iron embedded in joints in 1867-9 rebuild and absence of through-stones
- Problems with roofing (attempted lead theft) and guttering
Grant applications

2009 English Heritage and Heritage Lottery Fund
Stage 1 costs £18,789
offer of £14,000

Stage 2 costs (repairs and fees) £102,753
in principle offer of £55,000

Margaret Mackinder, architect
Fundraising: Grants

120 applications

National Churches Trust £10,000
All Churches Trust £3000
Yorkshire Historic Churches Trust £3000
Earl Fitzwilliam Charitable Trust £3000
Calmcott Trust £200
Coutts Charitable Trust £500
George Martin Trust £1000
Shepherd Charitable Trust £500
The Victory Lodge £100

Individual donations from parishioners, families connected to Slingsby, patron range from £10-£250
Fundraising activities £25,000

Local History weekend – watch our YouTube video!

- Auction of promises
- May Day Teas, Churchyard market
- Concerts (St. John’s Ranmoor, Sheffield)
- Gardeners’ Question Time
- Slingsby Film Evening
- Beetle Drive
- Chocolate evening with Thornton’s!
- Launch of Friends of Slingsby church
- Tom Nesfield (age 14) marathon £410
- Leafleting every house (300)...twice!

The Triangle Magazine
Slingsby Village website

Challenges 2011 VAT changes
New weather vane?
An additional £17,000?
Work in progress...
Re-dedication service

The Rev Beryl Bowes with Bishop Martin of Selby and our mason Master Mason Mathias Garn
http://www.matthiasgarn.com
With the Slingsby cake slice...ahem....trowel!
Legacy

- Friends of Slingsby church
- Annual ‘Big church clean’
- Restoration of Village Bier, excavation of Time Capsule
- Wider fundraising community
- Local History group and annual festival
- *Slingsby Then and Now*
- Village Design Statement
- Village Trail
Legacy

All Saints – structurally sound
LEADER funding of railings
2016 new audio system
2016 new church guides

Future plans and grant applications
Local History Centre
Pew removal
Kitchen
Toilet
Lighting
Heating
Legacy
Slingsby School

Learning Today; Leading Tomorrow

Church Explorers 2016
York Archaeological Trust

Here be Dragons!
Childrens Guide and Tours

http://www.slingsbyschool.org
Legacy

Church heritage funding
- Model on SPAB
Maintenance Co-operatives?

Pickering parish church wall paintings
- HLF bid *Let There Be Light*...
- Fr Antony Pritchett
- Tobit Curteis Associates
- Launch evening, lectures
- Research ......!

https://pickeringchurch.com/contact/
Thank you!

National Churches Trust

heritage lottery fund