



Blyth and Scrooby with Ranskill

Parish Profile





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WHO WE ARE



Four rural villages on the border of North Notts and South Yorks

We are a welcoming community on the border of North Notts and South Yorkshire – **Blyth and Ranskill with Scrooby**. Traditionally a popular coaching stop on the Great North Road, we have warm hospitality in our DNA. We live in a landscape of legendary stories – did you know the pioneering **Mayflower Pilgrims** came from here – our Christian Heritage is something we'll be celebrating in 2020 on the 400th anniversary? It's a good place to be right now with lots of positive changes happening in the area. We're surrounded by a patchwork of fields and there's plenty of breathing space to enjoy.



That's why many of our residents work outside the area in the towns and cities



– everything's so easy to reach from here and you can come back to our patch for some time out. We have great connections with A1 and M1 road links to Sheffield, the Peak District, Leeds, Nottingham and Lincoln. It's 90 minutes by train to London directly from Retford and it's simple to escape on holiday from Robin Hood airport. Everything's on the doorstep – whether you're after the great outdoors, shopping, a bit of culture or some of the best UK universities. Our Pre-Schools and Primary Schools attract many families to our villages, keeping a lively buzz about the place.

We all have good village shops, pubs and takeaways, most of the big supermarkets deliver, fibre broadband is pretty good now and getting better.

We have enjoyed a 5 year period of stability where we are used to standing on our own two feet but we are missing a Priest-in-Charge to keep the momentum going and lift everyone's spirits. We are looking for someone who can build on the strength and cohesiveness of this community, but who can also grow, and continue to develop and encourage us to deeper faith.



The congregation welcomes involvement in services and embraces change.



We have 3 Licensed Lay Ministers, several organists, guitarists, hand-bell ringers, experienced preachers and a Self-supporting minister living in Parishes. We have an amazing group of helpers for opening up, catering, coffee mornings, holding stalls, Family Services and Messy Church - both very popular with families with young children. Traditional services also have a loyal following. There is a desire to continue to evolve with new and varied styles of worship including using modern media and the wider skills of the congregation.

There are regular fundraising and community events throughout the year:

□ Harvest Festival □ Scrooby Show - children's activities and stalls □ Remembrance Sunday with the local British Legion □ Christingle □ Ranskill and Torworth Village Festival with Scarecrow Competition □ Foodbank collections. □ Blyth Advent Fair □ Traditional Carol Service □ Posada □ Wassail □ Brass Band Concerts

WHO WE ARE

- 2 very distinctive neighbouring and unique thriving Parishes
- 3 communities of mixed congregational diversity in worship together
- 4 Villages, 2 Parishes and PCCs and 1 Benefice
- 3 partnership Churches - 3 very different Places of Worship and mission
- 2 Parishes working together and following the Diocesan Strategy ...

Living Worship – giving God the glory and honour in our life together and out in the world

Growing Disciples – seeing more people become followers of Jesus and Jesus' followers more humbly confident in their faith

Seeking Justice – working for a fairer world for everyone both locally and globally, marked by God's justice



OUR NEW PRIEST-IN-CHARGE - ROLE PROFILE

We are a worshipping community that is truly all age. We join together in a variety of types of worship over the month at 3 very different church buildings and our family is inclusive from our older generation to our newest arrivals. There are tremendous opportunities for outreach and mission to our growing community and we want someone to lead us in this challenge.

WHAT ARE THE PRIORITIES FOR THE ROLE?

- To provide inspirational, creative and collaborative leadership across all areas of worship, teaching, mission and pastoral care.
- To be flexible and open to new initiatives.
- To recognise the skills and efforts of others, especially our Church lay teams who welcome constructive advice and support.
- To build on the strong foundations and stability of the current all-age congregation, exploring how faith can be deepened, worship enhanced and outreach extended.
- To work closely with our schools and pre-schools to reach out to families and children, to offer them the chance to learn more about Jesus and to welcome them into the church community.
- To be visible in the local community, showing a strong presence in the diverse aspects of parish life.

ABOUT YOU

You will be firmly rooted in your own prayer life and relationship with God and probably have (or seek to have) experience in Leading a diverse and all age congregation Leading church growth Working with children and young people Building and developing effective teams.



YOU WILL HAVE THE FOLLOWING ABILITIES AND SKILLS

- Ability to create an inclusive all age worshipping congregation encouraging every-member ministry.
- Collaborative and participative leadership style.
- Ability to develop and nurture faith in all, encouraging the formation of small groups for fellowship, bible study and prayer.
- Creative, innovative and inclusive approach to worship.
- Ability to develop positive and constructive relationships with local schools.
- Ability to work with young people to increase their participation in church life.
- Ability to develop positive relationships with non-church going communities within the Parish.

WHAT WE CAN OFFER YOU

- Support and PCC commitment to ensure you have a good work-life balance, with regular weekly time off and holiday breaks.
- Two financially secure Parishes.
- Commitment to meeting your training and development needs, including spiritual refreshment.
- A spiritually mature, capable congregation with a wide range of gifts.
- Well-maintained church buildings and churchyards.
- Growing population with opportunities for discipleship and mission.
- A really lovely place to live and work.



THE NEW VICARAGE

St Martins Close, Blyth, Worksop, Nottinghamshire S81 8DW



The 1980s property has 4 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, separate WC, lounge, dining room, kitchen, study, downstairs cloakroom/WC, utility room. Garaging for one car with hard standing for further vehicles. Large garden at rear.

The New Vicarage is on the other side of the village from the Church and is on the quiet cul-de-sac St Martin's Close so you can be very private. There are key-holders to all the Churches other than the vicar and there's no obligation to hold PCC meetings at home – these are usually in Church or at a PCC member's house. You can walk to the schools, pubs, Indian takeaway/restaurant, village shop (open 7 days 5am to 10pm), doctor, dentist, chiropractor, cricket club, Blyth Care Home, and of course Blyth Church. It's at the end a well-lit tarmac drive with 4 neighbouring houses, with friendly neighbours that will take in a parcel or lend a cup of sugar.



OUR STRENGTHS AND STRUGGLES

All who come into our 3 churches comment on the warm welcome and atmosphere of friendship and history.

The Churches are in pretty good condition. We're used to teaming up and helping ourselves. You'll find we have a daring spirit, a will to make things work, we're problem solvers and we're financial savvy.

Significant number of very mature and experienced Christians who are playing key roles in ministry and lay leadership.

Strong team of PCCs and Church Wardens. Potential to become one PCC.

An open community – people come to us via natural touch points – the schools, nurseries and coffee mornings.

Our seeker-friendly and open style has put the emphasis upon 'journey' rather than conversion. This has been affirming and welcoming but has struggled to bring significant numbers to discipleship and personal salvation.

There are different opinions in our diverse congregation, with some wanting more focus on in-depth teaching and others valuing a more seeker-friendly style.



CURRENT SERVICE ARRANGEMENTS

HC = Holy Communion, MP = Morning Prayer, BC = Book of Common Prayer,
FS = Family Service

	Blyth	Ranskill	Scooby
1st Sunday	11am HC	9.30am FS	9.30am MP
2nd Sunday	8am BCHC 11am HC	9.30am HC	
3rd Sunday	11am HC	9.30am MP	9.30am HC
4th Sunday	8am BC 11am FS	9.30am HC	
5th Sunday	Joint service that rotates between the 3 churches		





OUR CHURCHES - ST MARY & MARTIN'S CHURCH BLYTH



Search Blyth, Scrooby and Ranskill Churches on Facebook

The Church was originally Blyth Priory, dating from 1088, with many historical features such as the medieval Doom painting. It has a bell tower, an organ, a new kitchen, a new WC, new heating and is in good repair. Blyth features in many books on church trails and architecture. The original nave, now the North aisle, is an open space used for hospitality. Tours and meals are offered for visiting groups and story-telling, history tours, concerts and time-travelling events are often held.

Trinity College Cambridge is the historic patron of Blyth Church and is still very much involved; there have been reciprocal choir visits and the college has helped a little with expenses. Over 900 years old, good hospitality offer with new kitchen/WCs and therefore **popular for weddings, funerals and baptisms**. Needs £30k of high-level roof and tower repairs. Not critical for another 5-10 years so



we're applying for grants and forming a fundraising campaign. Looking to start a new bell ringing group as last tower captain moved to North East.



The Blyth Village Setting - Traditionally an estate village and coaching stop on the Great North Road with lots of inns, Blyth still has 4 pubs today and is surrounded by working farms. Barnby Memorial Hall (managed by the Parish Council) which hosts village functions, an outstanding Pre-School, dances, classes, amateur dramatics from the Blyth Players, WI and Mothers Union meetings, badminton and snooker. There is an active Bowls and Cricket Club, both with pitches in the village.



Monthly Luncheon Club

Monthly All Age Service

Monthly Coffee Morning

Weddings, Funerals, Baptisms

School & Group Visits

Concerts, Murder Mysteries, History Talks

Bell ringers, Hand bells,

Mothers Union

Advent Fair, Flower Festival

Quarterly **Blyth Bulletin** – our incumbent contributes an article

Monthly **Church newsletter** is sent/emailed to everyone in the village FOC

Blyth sponsor a child in Africa and have a WC twinned with a WC in Africa

Wedding collections are shared with the couples chosen charity

Church Wardens:

John McDermott 01909 591 876 & Graham Robinson 07711 763 124



OUR CHURCHES - ST WILFRID'S CHURCH SCROOBY



Website: scrooby.net

The Church is a 13th C limestone church. The tall early 15th C tower and steeple is Scrooby's focus. The west window is also early 15th C. The south aisle was added in the early 16th C. The church's roof, pews, font, pulpit and east window were restored in 1864 after a period of neglect. The east window received stained glass in 1889. It is in a good state of repair and decoration. It hosts concerts, a flower festival, Scripture Union Schools' R.E. days. It has a kitchen but needs a WC (key holder gets access to Village Hall nearby).

Village Population – 300 (approx.) and wide demographic of age groups.

Agriculture and Livestock - Scrooby has long had an association with agriculture which has concentrated on arable crops and livestock husbandry in particular. There are 2 farms and a livery yard. On the west side of the village is a racing stable and more horse owning establishments.



Business Enterprises

Several small enterprises in and around the village - dog kennel maker, two catteries, a landscaping business and a car sales garage. At the northern boundary, there is a complex which includes a garden centre and a fishing equipment outlet. A number of individuals carry out work from their homes. There is a local quarry and lakes for fishing. 'Scrooby Enhancing for Greater Access' - a 2007 Project made improvements to the village.

Amenities

- The village has a pub, two B&Bs and a small farm shop. The travelling library visits regularly. Scrooby is a key contributor to the monthly STAR magazine/newsletter which is provided free to each house in the villages of Scrooby, Torworth and Ranskill.

The Village Hall

- Well-used and provides a focus for village activities used by the Film Club. The Harvest Supper and the old people's party are regular events there. The kick-boxing club, Keep Fit, an Art club and the Scrooby gardening club meet there regularly. The hall is currently used by the Ranskill explorers, scouts, cubs, beavers, brownies and rainbows.



In 2008, as a major part of the above Project, we upgraded the village hall with new windows and doors, and renovated the WCs and kitchen, and installed a new heating system. The Project also made extensive improvements to the exterior of the village hall and included new paths a tiled entry area and a stone-clad patio at the rear.



William Brewster.

Home to William Brewster – Mayflower Pilgrim - In 1620 Brewster boarded the Mayflower as the elder of the Separatist Church members; they later became known as the Pilgrim Fathers and were the founders of the Plymouth colony in New England. Brewster died in Plymouth in 1644 aged 78. Scrooby is a place of pilgrimage, especially by American descendants of the Pilgrim Fathers. As such it attracts American tourists who visit this area as part of their UK tours). Thus it can be argued that the principles and ideas of liberty which drove the foundation of the United States had their origin in Scrooby.

The Village Setting - Scrooby is situated one mile to the south of Bawtry, and two miles to the north of Ranskill Village, astride the Great North Road. The village is bounded by the East Coast railway line, the Great North Road and the river



Ryton (a tributary to the river Idle, which in turn runs into the river Trent). The settlement measures approximately half a mile from north to south with the village Church at its centre. Footpaths and bridleways, in particular the Millennium Footpath, shared with Ranskill and Torworth, provide wonderful walks. The playground next to the Croft is a great feature for younger children.



Historic and Listed Buildings - The church, the Old Vicarage and the Manor are obvious examples of buildings still in use that William Brewster would recognise. These are preserved as listed buildings.





OUR CHURCHES - ST BARNABAS CHURCH, RANSKILL



Website: ranskill.org.uk

St Barnabas Ranskill is a late Victorian church, refurbished in 2009 so that it is a flexible, open space, chairs instead of pews, with underfloor heating and level access throughout. It is the first building one encounters as you enter the village from the south, on the old Great North Road. It has a kitchen, WC and meeting room extension. It has 2 electric organs, one permanent, and one movable. Other music sources are used as required for more informal worship.



There is a regular time of worship at 9.30am on Sunday mornings, but this could be all age worship, with breakfast and activities, or Holy Communion, Morning Prayer, or a Service of the Word. There is an informal 'evening prayer' once a month. We have a link with the local Methodist Circuit, a minister comes approximately 4 times a year since the closure of the Methodist Chapel in the village. A well-established Messy Church meets after School once a month. We are a warm, welcoming congregation.



Community involvement

As the Church is the only main meeting place in Ranskill, it is well-used by lots of individuals and groups, from family birthday parties and celebrations, to a regular and well-attended group for parents and carers with their pre-school children; from a monthly Lunch Club to charity fundraising events; both Ranskill and Torworth Parish Councils meet there, and the local District Council and Deanery Synod use it for events; Ranskill Primary School use St Barnabas both for end of term services and for fundraising events. The church initiated the annual Village Festival, which now has a planning committee from the wider



community, but uses church for meetings and events. A Book Club and a Singing Group meet regularly, both of which have some members from the church fellowship and from the wider community. Mothers' Union meet here, and there are events organised as fundraising for church funds.

As a joint PCC with Scrooby church, we have sponsored a child through Action Aid for many years, currently a boy in Malawi.



We have had visiting speakers from Christians Against Poverty, Mission Aviation Fellowship, Christian Medical Fellowship. There is a local inter-church men's breakfast twice a year. The other community facilities are a Crown Green Bowling club and a Reading Room - now used as a snooker club.

Both Ranskill and Torworth have a pub and there is a combined village shop and post office in Ranskill with the fish 'n' chip shop next door.

The uniformed organisations come into church for Remembrance Sunday and Mothering Sunday, and we should love to see them more.

There is a free local monthly magazine, the STAR, which goes to all houses in Scrooby, Torworth, Ranskill and the hamlet of Serlby. St Barnabas hosts the printer for this, contributes to it, and benefits from the publicity.



People

Ranskill and Torworth villages have people across a wide age range - there are relatively new housing developments in Ranskill catering mostly for families who use either the primary school in Ranskill, or Secondary Schools in Retford, Gainsborough and a few to alternative venues. However there is also specialist accommodation for older people in both villages.

The regular Sunday congregation are mostly over 50, some considerably older, and a few much younger, however young families come to all age worship, often drawn in either through Messy Church or pre-school group, staffed mostly by church members.



Whether old or young, we are people committed to God and our community and can be quite lively! All PCC members are actively involved, and we meet in the church meeting room.



Church Wardens: Dave Hill 01777 818072 and David Stacey 01777 818303

Village Population – Torworth c270 and Ranskill c 1,400 (with planning applications for another 200 homes to be built in this area). Residents commute to local towns/cities of Retford, Worksop, Doncaster, Gainsborough and Sheffield. St Barnabas also serves the village of Torworth half a mile away. It has a pub, it's own Parish Council and runs the Cemetery with Ranskill Parish Council. **Community Clubs - The Reading Room** hosts the Snooker Club there is a Crown Green Bowls, Clubs, allotments. Village Festival, WI. Investment Group explorers, scouts, cubs, beavers, brownies and rainbows. The Church contributes to The STAR the local newspaper instead of a Parish magazine, and now there is an on line version of the Parish News.





SPECIAL SERVICES

Christmas: Each year there is a traditional carol service of lessons and carols on Christmas Eve at Blyth, Christingle at Ranskill Ranskill and Midnight Holy Communion at Scrooby (all standing room only) and Christmas Day Service rotates to a different Church each year.

Good Friday: Traditionally we have a Parish walk and Time at the Cross meditation service on Good Friday afternoon.

Remembrance Sunday: We welcome The Royal British Legion for the Act of Remembrance, alternating between the 3 churches.

Carols on the Green / Crib Service at the Red Hart





CHURCHMANSHIP



Our worship style ranges from BCP at Blyth 8.00am, to Common Worship at other times, to informal all age worship and Messy Church with a cooked meal

3 Licensed Lay Ministers in the Benefice, 2 at Ranskill and 1 at Blyth, but we all work across the 3 churches.

Church Wardens in all 3 Churches

Non-stipendary Priest to help cover holidays and sickness

Lay people licensed to administer the Chalice in all 3 churches

Willing helpers for flower arranging, catering, cleaning, occasional events

Readings and Prayers are done by members of the congregation on a rota

Vergers

Organists

Bell Ringers – Blyth needs a new team – tower captain recently moved

Team of handbell ringers

Deanery Synod Representatives

A Planned Giving scheme

Gift Aid Covenant Secretaries

Child Protection/Safeguarding links with the Rural Deanery

The Electoral Roll



2 PCCs meet 6 times a year – attendance is high and we're organised
Standing Committees deal with matters in between PCCs including ...

Buildings and Health and Safety

Church Yard and Gravestones

Cleaning and Flowers

Key holders

Finance

Organising Weddings, Funerals and Baptisms

Pastoral & Mission work

Links with the local school

Stewardships and Gift Aid

Special Events and activities

Traditionally our Priest has been a Governor of St Mary and St Martin's COE
School in Blyth and Trustee of the Almshouse in Blyth





OUR CURRENT POLICIES -

Parish Share – pay 100% to the Diocese on time.

Baptisms are encouraged and take place in a Family Service with a Presentation of a Baptismal Candle at the following Family Service.

Marriage: Weddings are welcome (Blyth is particularly popular) and arranged at the discretion of the Priest-in-Charge. Marriage admin and preparation includes the couple attending services regularly from the time of booking, preBanns and rehearsal. Blyth hosts a 'Space to Think' Day for couples preparing for their marriage.

Bereavement: Funerals and Burials are carried out with the reverence expected. Burial grounds are available in Blyth, Ranskill graveyard and also a cemetery run by Ranskill and Torworth Parish Councils. The Areas for Cremated Remains are 'lawn areas' with Books of Remembrance in each church.

Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults - We have a duty within the life of the church to look after all, especially those suffering from dementia and those caring for them. Children and young people should be encouraged to take an active part in the life of the church.



The PCC are open to reviewing, reconsidering and revising all the policies and



practices of the church in collaboration with the new Incumbent through teaching, prayer and discernment.

USEFUL WEBLINKS

www.southwell.anglican.org

www.the-star.org.uk

Facebook – Search for Blyth, Scrooby and Ranskill

www.experiencenottinghamshire

www.yorkshire.com

www.northnotts.co.uk

Electoral Roll	Blyth	Ranskill	Scrooby
	54	77	???

ACCOUNTS